

**SPEAKER: STA hosts speakers in Bjarne Holm series**

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Asked to define “sustainability,” he replied that he sees it “as a lens through which we can evaluate alternative actions, wherein decisions reflect an attempt to balance social and economic values with the capacity of ecosystems to absorb impacts without declining ecosystem structure and function.”

In the context of recreation, he says, that means taking into consideration the full range of social and economic values associated with trails and other recreational opportunities in the ecosystems where those activities occur.

As senior natural resources instructor, Shinderman teaches OSU courses ranging from endangered species ecology to rangeland ecosystem management. He created and directs the Human and Ecosystem Resilience and Sustainability (HERS) Lab at OSU-Cascades, which works with the National Park Service on park management.

STA Board Secretary Chuck Humphreys had quite a bit to say about Shinderman’s upcoming visit to Sisters: “Matt was a key speaker at the Central Oregon Sustainable Trails Summit organized by the U.S. Forest Service last year. He opened my eyes to the complexity of ensuring that trails are socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable and

to the challenge of aligning our near-term expectations for trails with their long-term sustainability.”

Humphreys sees Shinderman’s field as something that cuts to the heart of Sisters trails. “Matt is someone who has thought long and deeply about the sustainability of trails on public lands, and his many insights can help inform our own dialogue on what trails to build and where to build them,” he said.

“I think Matt’s presentation on the sustainability of trails at the Central Oregon Trails Sustainability Summit last year was one of the most interesting discussions I’ve heard. He tackles the complexity of trails on public lands head on and encourages all of us to do the same. His framework can help us improve our dialogue on trails around Sisters.”

A principal question that Shinderman poses, and hopes to answer through his work at OSU-Cascades and discussions like next week’s upcoming forum, is “What are the important values and benefits to consider, and what limits might be imposed by

ecological values?”

In addition to the courses he teaches, Shinderman’s scholarly interests include sustainability in brewery and vineyard settings, ecological assessment of urban landscapes, ecological restoration, and species adaptation to climate change. He received his doctorate from Colorado State University where he studied ecosystem management at the wildland/urban interface, and his master’s degree is from Utah State University where he studied restoration of degraded sagebrush communities. His undergraduate work was at James Madison University in Virginia, where he earned double degrees in health science and environmental studies.

The HERS Lab at OSU Cascades is a trans-disciplinary unit focused on triple-bottom-line approaches to human community development and ecosystem management. Under the HERS umbrella, he is working with the National Park Service to develop a Park Studies Unit at the OSU Cascades Campus, which will serve as a nexus for research,

management recommendations, and curricula related to management of U.S. national parks.

The STA’s speaker series on environment and recreation is offered quarterly. Next week’s program is the thirteenth in the series, which has been named “The Bjarne Holm Memorial Speaker Series,” in memory of the late founder of the popular series.

These free public presentations are designed to promote outdoor public recreation and education in Sisters Country. This event will be held on Thursday, March 23, in the Sisters Camp Sherman Fire Station Community Hall in downtown Sisters at 355 S. Elm St. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the formal program will begin at 7 p.m. The program is free and open to the public. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

The Sisters Trails Alliance is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit community organization dedicated to the planning, constructing and



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Matthew Shinderman will speak next week on trails sustainability.**

maintenance of walking, hiking, cycling, and equestrian trails in Sisters Country. The STA believes that trails are an indispensable ingredient for the quality of life and economic vibrancy in Sisters Country. Volunteer help and new members are always welcome.

For more information about STA, performing volunteer work on trails, or other outdoor related projects visit [www.sisterstrails.org](http://www.sisterstrails.org) or call 541-719-8822.

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Encore of **“The Tempest”**  
Sunday, March 19  
3 p.m.  
Royal Ballet **“Sleeping Beauty”**  
Tuesday, March 21  
6:30 p.m.  
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**Spring Art Salon**  
**AT HOOD AVE ART GALLERY**  
to benefit **Circle of Friends**  
**THURS, MARCH 16, 6:30-8:30 PM**  
**Doug & Katie Cavanaugh**  
singer/songwriter duo performing original songs  
**THURS, APRIL 20, 6:30-8:30 PM**  
**Melanie Rose Dyer and Daniel Cooper**  
original music flavored with blues, folk-rock, Americana  
**THURS, MAY 18, 6:30-8:30 PM**  
**Patchwork Players**  
local theater troupe performing one-act plays  
Suggested donation \$10 (or more) at the door  
All proceeds go to Circle of Friends  
Appetizers & Cocktails available  
**357 W. Hood Ave. • info@hoodavenueart.com**  
Circle of Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization