

# The Nugget

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## Restoring Lake Creek flows in Camp Sherman

By Jim Cornelius  
Editor in Chief

Lake Creek once again flows unvexed from Suttle Lake to the Metolius River.

Once interrupted by irrigation diversions and dams, the creek now flows freely — while local water rights holders still get their water — thanks to a long-term project involving the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, and numerous partners, that removed the last diversion on the creek this fall.

Since 2007, the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, along with the Pelton Round Butte Fund and a variety of other project partners including the U.S. Forest Service, has been working with landowners on screening and fish passage projects on Whychus Creek and Lake Creek in Sisters Country. The results have created an “everybody wins” scenario, where streamflows, habitat, and fish populations have been restored, and recreational opportunities enhanced, while irrigators continue to get their allotments of water — often in a more efficient manner.

The Nugget visited the site of the last diversion removal



Cari Press and Jabus Smith of the U.S. Forest Service and Matt Maloney of the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) worked last week to finish up planting of native species in an area near Camp Sherman where a Forest Service road crew removed an irrigation diversion and headgate from Lake Creek.

PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

on Tuesday, November 2, as a Forest Service and Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) crew finished up restorative planting where a Forest Service road

crew had used heavy equipment to remove a headgate and a push-up dam and pull a roadbed back.

“We were trying to do as low an impact footprint as

we could,” said Cari Press, hydrologist with the Sisters Ranger District.

Part of minimizing impact

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## Sisters community fills food bank coffers

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

The Sisters Kiwanis Food Bank finds itself in an enviable position thanks to the generosity of Sisters community organizations, businesses, and individuals who have provided them financial support in the past. Theirs is a success story of having been in need several years ago, alerting the community, and receiving tremendous support.

Les Schwab Sisters Taylor Tire Center provided \$5,400; OnPoint Community Credit Union, \$10,000; Sinclair Oil Corporation, \$10,000; plus others; bringing the total to \$60,000 to \$70,000 collected within a week.

As the traditional holiday giving season approaches, Kiwanis wants the public to know that the Food Bank’s operating reserves

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## Students off to Europe as music ambassadors

By Ceili Cornelius  
Correspondent

Two Sisters High School students are journeying abroad with instruments in hand as Oregon Ambassadors of Music (OAM). Norma Quero and Justin Bowe, both sophomores at Sisters High School, were nominated by their band teacher, Tyler Cranor, to be a part of the Oregon Ambassadors of Music program in their respective instrument areas.

Quero will be performing on flute, and Bowe will play percussion. The OAM program takes nominations from across the state. According to their website: “The Oregon Ambassadors of Music has

been taking outstanding Oregon high school students to Europe since 1995. Through a director nomination process, students are offered the opportunity to join the OAM Choir or Band. After we prepare the music in a rehearsal day and a mini pre-departure camp, we travel and perform in select countries throughout Europe. We are truly Ambassadors. We bring our love of life and peace by sharing music and kindness throughout Europe.”

Quero has lived in Sisters since she was 2 years old. She started playing piano at age 8 and fell in love with

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## Winter starts with a blast – of fun

By Bill Bartlett  
Correspondent

It only took a few snow flurries downtown Saturday to signal the start of winter play season. Folks from Sisters Country took off in droves, destination Ray Benson, Santiam, and Potato Hill Sno-Parks, anything above 6,000 feet that got a nice dumping Friday night, and throughout Saturday morning.

Oregon Department of Transportation had already made a couple of sweeps as the weather changed seemingly by the minute, from hard-driving snow with 20 mph winds behind it, to pop-up sun and a wintry smorgasbord in between. As the 34 degrees at Suttle Lake quickly became 30 degrees a



Folks in Sisters — people folks and canine folks alike — were thrilled with an early taste of winter recreation last weekend.

PHOTO BY BILL BARTLETT

mile farther west, cars were found in the ditches and trucks crawling. Oregon State Police and Lynn County sheriff’s deputies rushed to the

summit to curb driver enthusiasm and render aid.

In the not-yet-opened

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