

# CREEK: Construction expected to cost just less than \$2.1 million

Continued from 1A

brought their concerns in 2010 to the Union County Soil and Water Conservation District. Together, they launched a collaborative restoration project to address longstanding issues on roughly four miles of creekside property upstream of Union.

This summer marks the fourth and final phase what's become known as the Catherine Creek Complex, which includes an ambitious project by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation on the former Southern Cross Ranch. Bulldozers and heavy machinery broke ground in November, carving out a maze of pools and side channels where salmon can move off the creek's main stem to spawn. The tribes will also re-plant 44 acres of riparian vegetation to keep the water clean and cool.

Carl Scheeler, wildlife program manager for the CTUIR Department of Natural Resources, was involved in the tribes' purchase of Southern Cross last year. He said the property provided their best opportunity to restore a critical stretch of Catherine Creek to its original form.

"It benefits three species of threatened fish," Scheeler said. "It doesn't get much better than that."

Western Rivers Conservancy initially purchased Southern Cross in 2013, holding on to the land until the tribes and Bonneville Power Administration could complete the transfer. Money for the deal came from the BPA through its Columbia Basin Fish Accords with the tribes.

Allen Childs, project biologist with the tribes, is leading work on the ground at Southern Cross. He said the goal is to reintroduce badly needed habitat diversity for both adult and juvenile fish that migrate up Catherine Creek, a tributary of the Grande Ronde River.

"It's a combination floodplain and riparian restoration," Childs said. "We're reconstructing the main alignment, and reconnecting it to the floodplain."

The creek at Southern Cross was pushed back into a single channel sometime around the mid-1930s, Childs said. Without the ability to spread out over a floodplain, the stream acts like a power flush during seasonal high flows, sweeping away gravel beds where adult salmon spawn. Juveniles don't have any place to hold up and rest as they make their journey out to the Pacific Ocean.

Childs said they will quadruple the amount of habitat by reconnecting

**"There is a longstanding misconception that you either have agriculture or conservation. There is a balance, and both are very much possible."**

— **Kate Frenyea**, SWCD district manager

Catherine Creek to its floodplain at Southern Cross, giving fish at all life stages a better chance of survival. The tribes will plant in-stream boulders and log jams to create a variety of habitats for fish, and plant native vegetation along the stream such as cottonwoods, river birch, willows and red osier dogwood.

Construction is expected to cost just less than \$2.1 million. That funding also comes from the BPA Fish Accords. Childs said they expect to finish in August.

Southern Cross is just one of six properties involved in the Catherine Creek Complex. Other phases of work have so far led to the construction of 25 new pools, nine alcoves, five new side channels and 20 acres of new riparian vegetation. In addition, The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and Natural Resource Conservation Service also helped install 11,000 feet of new irrigation pipeline, allowing ranchers to remove four gravel push-up dams that had previously posed barriers to fish passage.

The Union SWCD is sponsoring the complex, with support from a number of local, state and federal partners. Kate Frenyea, district manager for the SWCD, said the complex has served as an effective model for bringing agriculture and fish interests together toward common solutions.

"There is a longstanding misconception that you either have agriculture or conservation," Frenyea said. "There is a balance, and both are very much possible."

Joe Smietana, restoration lead with the SWCD, agreed, commending everyone involved in the Catherine Creek Complex for their willingness to participate in voluntary conservation.

"Collaboration is king," Smietana said. "I think we can all come together for a common benefit."

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# Easter activities around the area

East Oregonian

Communities throughout Eastern Oregon are hosting a number of Easter-related activities.

The events include every from Easter egg hunts and visits by Peter Rabbit to a special musical drama, worship services and a live re-enactment of the stations of the cross.

Area events include (they are free, unless otherwise noted):

## Thursday

•Special needs Easter egg hunt, 6 p.m., Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. For children who need a calmer, more structured environment.

## Friday

•Living Stations of the Cross, noon to 2 p.m., beginning at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston, and traveling to Hermiston Butte. Bilingual re-enactment of the Easter story of Jesus.

•Easter egg hunt, 2 p.m., McKay Creek Estates, 1601 Southgate Place, Pendleton. Treats for kids and parents, and a visit from the Easter bunny. Bring a bag or basket.

•Good Friday worship service, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 191 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.

•Good Friday experience, 7-9 p.m., Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave. Drop-in event



EO file photo

**Courtney Daniel and Tanner Daniel participate in a past Easter egg hunt sponsored by the Umatilla Chamber of Commerce at West Park near McNary Dam.**

includes the opportunity to take communion.

•"The Passion," 7 p.m., Pendleton Baptist Church, 3202 S.W. Nye Ave. Re-enactment of the last week of Jesus' life, including a portrayal of Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper."

•Flashlight Easter egg hunt, 8:15 p.m., Butte Park, 1245 N.W. Seventh St., Hermiston. For children 10 and under. Bring a flashlight and bag or basket. Parents should stay with their children, but allow them to gather their own eggs.

## Saturday

•Peter Rabbit Breakfast, 7:30-10:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 191 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$5 (free for 5 and under) and includes

pancakes, sausage, fruit and beverage; face painting, Easter egg hunt, crafts, balloons, a visit from Peter Rabbit and more.

•Easter egg hunt, 9 a.m., Til Taylor Park, 700 block S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton (ages 1-6) and Aldrich Park, 1011 N.W. King Ave., Pendleton (ages 7 and up).

•Easter egg hunt, 9:45 a.m., Yantis Park, Milton-Freewater.

•Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m. to noon, Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. Includes egg hunt, pictures with the Easter Bunny, egg dyeing, crafts and treats. \$1 admission.

•Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m., Coe Park, Stanfield. Open to ages 0-12. Younger children will get a 2-minute head start

to search for eggs.

•Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m., McNary Dam West Park, Umatilla. For children ages 2-10. Six lucky hunters finding special Easter eggs will win an Easter basket full of goodies. Bring a basket.

•Community Easter egg hunt, 10:30 a.m., Boardman Marina Park, 1 Marine Drive. For kids of all ages.

•"The Passion," 7 p.m., Pendleton Baptist Church, 3202 S.W. Nye Ave. Re-enactment of the last week of Jesus' life, including a portrayal of Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper."

## Sunday

•Sunrise Easter worship service, 6:30 a.m., cross on Hermiston Butte.

•Celebration of Hope, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., Living Faith church, 1611 Diagonal Blvd., Hermiston. Includes a drawing for an Easter basket and an egg hunt for kids.

•Resurrection Sunday breakfast and worship, 9:30 a.m., First Christian Church, 775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston.

•Faith Lutheran/Pilot Rock Presbyterian joint Easter service, 10 a.m., Community Presbyterian Church, 222 S.W. Third St., Pilot Rock. Special Easter service led by St. Anthony Hospital chaplain Rod Harwood will be followed by fellowship and refreshments.

•Easter Cantata, 4 p.m., First Christian Church, 518 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.

## COMING EVENTS

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24 ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Half-court basketball. (541-276-8100).

**COFFEE WITH THE CHIEFS**, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Sun Terrace Assisted Living, 1550 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Meet with local fire and emergency personnel and have questions answered. (Scott Stanton 541-567-8822).

**WALKING FOR WELLNESS**, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-276-8100).

**PRESCHOOL STORY AND CRAFT TIME**, 10:30 a.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247).

**BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St. Costs \$4 for seniors or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257).

**HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave. Costs \$4 or free for children under 10. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Meals on Wheels available. Transportation arranged by donation. (541-567-3582).

**PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).

**SKILLS FOR LIFE**, 3-5 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Includes gym activities and life skills for middle and high school students. Free, but registration requested. (Danny Bane 541-379-4250).

**ADVENTURE UNDER THE SEA**, 4:30 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Kids ages 3-12 make mermaid crafts and other under the sea-themed related treasures. Free, but registration required. (541-966-0380).

**PENDLETON RELAY FOR LIFE PLANNING MEETING**, 5:30-7 p.m., St. Anthony Hospital

cafeteria meeting room, 2801 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton. Team meeting at 5:30 p.m., community meeting at 6 p.m. (Relayforlife.org/pendletonor)

**THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO**, 6 p.m. doors open, bingo starts at 7 p.m. 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-7615).

**FIDDLER'S NIGHT**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave. Join jam session or just listen. (541-567-3141).

**FRIDAY, MARCH 25 ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6-7 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Half-court basketball for adults. (541-276-8100).

**WALKING FOR WELLNESS**, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-276-8100).

**STORY TIME**, 10:15-11 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).

**TODDLER STORY TIME**, 10:15-10:45 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380).

**STORY & CRAFT TIME**, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 Bonanza St. Oct-May only

**AFTER SCHOOL STORY TIME**, 4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Older siblings welcome. (541-966-0380).

**VFW BINGO**, doors open at 6 p.m., games start at 7 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St.

**"WAR ROOM" SCREENING**, 6:30 p.m., Grace Baptist Church, 2809 S.W. Goodwin Ave., Pendleton. Movie highlights the power of prayer to change lives. Free. (541-276-3031).

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26 IMAC FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST**, 7:30-10:30 a.m., Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 N.W. Opal Place, Irrigon. Cost is \$4.50 per person. Proceeds benefit the Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center project. (Peggy 541-567-3806).

**LIL BUCKS OPEN GYM**, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. For students in first and second grade and parents/guardians. Free basketball skills and pickup games.

**FREE FOR ALL**, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Family art experience for children up to age 12. Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. (541-278-9201).

**FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOPS**, 10 a.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 850 S.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Workshops at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. (Jeanette Byers 541-667-7046).

**HIP & HANDMADE**, 11 a.m. to noon, Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free drop-in art project class for adults. (541-278-9201).

**SATURDAY CRAFT TIME**, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. Enjoy craft projects for children ages 5th grade and younger. Free.

**"RUMPELSTILTSKIN,"** 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., Windy River Elementary School gymnasium, 500 Tatone St., Boardman. The Missoula Children's Theater brings the classic fairy tale to life starring Morrow County youth. Free admission. (cniichael@gmail.com)

**SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILY TIME**, 3-6 p.m., Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. For children who may need a quieter, less crowded environment. Free for members/\$1 for non-members. Registration required. (541-276-1066).

**"THE GREAT NORTHWEST" SCREENING**, 3 p.m., Vert Club Room, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton. The 90-minute experimental documentary is based on the recreation of a 3,200-mile road trip made in 1958 by four Seattle women who documented their trip in a

scrapbook. Filmmaker Matt McCormick, who found the scrapbook in a thrift store, will be on hand for a Q&A session following the screening. Free. (541-966-0380).

**SUNDAY, MARCH 27 SPECIAL NEEDS OPEN GYM**, 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free for special needs children and families. (541-276-8100).

**FIDDLER'S NIGHT**, 2 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Join the jam session or just listen. (541-567-3141).

**ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free access for ages 16 and up. (541-276-8100).

The EO publishes a list of coming events as space allows. It's posted weekly at [www.eastoregonian.com](http://www.eastoregonian.com). All items are assumed free, nonprofit and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Coming events items should be submitted well in advance to calendar@eastoregonian.com or community@eastoregonian.com.

**Easter Basket Giveaway!**

Sat., Mar. 26th  
1:00 PM

Reserve your Baskets by Calling  
Faith Center  
541-276-9569

# Friday Meals

March 25 from 5 to 7:00 p.m.

@ the St. Anthony Hospital Blue Mountain Cafe

**Cedar Plank Salmon** - \$7.50/Adults - \$7.00/Children & Seniors  
with Rice Pilaf & Buttered Green Beans

**Baked Potato Bar** - \$4.00/with toppings All you can eat.

**Salmon/Potato Bar Combo** - \$11.50

**Clam Chowder Bread Bowl** - \$4.25  
Single Cup \$1.25



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