

# GROUSE HOLLOW NOTES

Fall 2020



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## OUT IN THE FOREST

Welcome to Fall 2020! WOW, what a year and we still have 3 months to go on what seems like a roller-coaster ride through the unknown. Anticipation, excitement, scary, quiet, isolated, new normal, firestorm, uncertainty, loss, torrential downpour, community outpour, bonding, healing, and opportunity are some of the words that describe the happenings here at Hopkins and maybe in some of your lives too. Our thoughts go out to our community members and partners with many thanks to the emergency responders, front line workers, teachers, and volunteers. However, through all the adventure and adversity so far this year, it is still amazing what the Hopkins Community and Forest Forever Inc. Board have accomplished.

Progress on existing projects continues to move forward and for those visitors returning, you will notice right away that the Lookout Tower is nearing the final stretch to being completed. New steps, railing, and safety

fencing has been added up the 65' tower and we will be able to schedule tours soon. Down in the forest, the Molalla Log House already has its second story added and the roof is currently being constructed. Behind the scenes the parts for the Pavilion adjacent to Hopkins Hall have been fabricated and final steps to begin its construction on the vacant concrete pad are in the works.



In addition to existing projects, Hopkins took advantage of an improved log market and conducted a 6.5-acre timber harvest along the Red Cedar Trail. As part of Hopkins Management Plan, this area was identified for harvest and the timing worked out well to help recover from the economic impact and fundraising income loss due to Covid-19. A

total of 31 log truck loads of conifer logs (western red cedar and Douglas-fir) and 2 loads of pulpwood were removed from the unit lying on the hillside below Grouse Hollow road. A total of 141,770 board feet of timber was harvested from the unit and the logging slash on the hillside has also been piled. The remaining brush located on the steeper slopes of the harvest unit needs to be slashed by hand in preparation for a fall burn and winter tree planting.

Thank you Hopkins Community for your continued support. We could not do this without you! Much like an individual tree's strength and ability to stand and grow tall comes from its own trunk and roots, it is a community of trees that help individuals stand and grow tall through adversity. We are all in this together and through these struggles as a community, we will stand and grow stronger too.

Peter Matzka

OSU Extension Forestry Educator/Hopkins Demonstration Forest



## HOPKINS COVID-19 RULES

1. Visitors welcome 7am-7pm or sun-up to sun-down
2. Please limit your stay to 90 minutes if parking area has more than 10 cars
3. Please keep vehicles and visitors 6' apart or more
4. Do not congregate or linger in parking area
5. Pack out all trash
6. Max group size of 8 & must arrive in same vehicle
7. Restrooms are *not* sanitized daily





## EDUCATION

### Summer Teacher in the Woods Program

The summer Teacher in the Woods program was a huge success and came with some sad news at the end of summer, but a future opportunity. Six participants embarked on a 5-day/40-mile over-night wilderness adventure that allowed for the exploration of high elevation alpine ecosystems, outdoor recreation management, and disturbance ecology. However, in the beginning of September, the Lionshead Fire burned through much of the areas we explored around Mt. Jefferson. While it is unknown what remains, here are some of the photos that were taken on our journey. When safe and able to return, a future teacher group will retrace our steps and learn from the impacts of the wildfire and observe recovery and succession. While saddened, from ashes comes new educational opportunities!



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### Some Programs Return to Hopkins While Many Still Online

With Clackamas County still in Phase I of Covid-19, some programs such as the Thimble Forest Preschool and Portland State University Capstone will still be coming to Hopkins this Fall with special conditions. Many of the 'typical' class based field study groups will be learning remotely as we begin to provide a virtual tour and video based lessons for classrooms to use as a supplement. Visit our 'public' Facebook or YouTube page (Hopkins Demonstration Forest) for more information as those videos and resources roll out.



## Upcoming Events (Fall '20):

**October 10th**  
Community Forest Day  
8:30am-2:30pm  
Lumber Milling & Schink Property Maintenance

**November 14th**  
Community Forest Day  
8:30am-2:30pm  
Harvest Unit Site Preparation, Red Cedar Trail Reconstruction & Lumber Milling

**December 12th**  
Community Forest Day  
8:30am-2:30pm  
Harvest Unit Site Preparation, Red Cedar Trail Reconstruction & Lumber Milling

**January 9th**  
Community Forest Day  
8:30am-2:30pm  
Lumber Milling & Schink Bench Construction

For More information:  
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## SCHINK PROPERTY PROGRESS & RIPARIAN RESTORATION



The Schink Demonstration Forest (located outside of Molalla) is getting closer to welcoming its first education program. A new entrance gate and sign welcome **invited** groups down the improved road to an ample parking area, newly constructed restroom and covered shelter. This fall we will be reaching out to area schools and invite them to be a part of the first educational cohorts that will make Schink their outdoor classroom and laboratory. Awaiting these groups is the opportunity to explore the recently restored side channels of the Molalla River as well as this riparian ecosystem. **For more information email: peter.matzka@oregonstate.edu.**



LEARN BY DOING—IT'S THE HOPKINS WAY WE MANAGE OUR FOREST!

[www.demonstrationforest.org](http://www.demonstrationforest.org)