The Spring Creek Project
for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word

ANNUAL REPORT
2011—2012
The Spring Creek Project
for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word
This autumn the Spring Creek Project turns ten. We look back with gratitude and, frankly, astonishment at the achievements of our first full decade of rigorous, imaginative inquiry into some of the toughest questions about the place of humans in nature.

The first public event organized by Spring Creek, in the autumn of 2002, was the field symposium, “New Metaphors for Restoration,” which convened at the Andrews Forest, then came to Corvallis for a public presentation. I was in the audience that sunny September afternoon, and I was absolutely entranced. Already in that first symposium were all of Spring Creek’s signature elements: the important question, the brilliant group of writers, scientists, philosophers, and others tasked with the inquiry, and the eloquent (and entertaining) testing of insights with a wider public audience.

In its most succinct form, the take-home message from that symposium suggested that to do restoration work, what we need above all is ‘re-story-ation’—new stories about our own relationships to natural and human habitats and landscapes. That insight—the need for new stories—is still central to all the inquiries we undertake. This year, for the symposium, “The Eye of the Storm: Re-imagining Ethics for a Changing Planet,” we applied that insight to the question: “What new moral systems can we fashion to help guide us through turbulent times and create flourishing bio-cultural communities?” We brought that quest for new stories to our work parties, residencies, and conversations at the Cabin at Shotpouch Creek, to the Great Work writing contest, and to workshops, seminars, and lectures on campus.

This year also brought significant changes to Spring Creek’s staff, as Kathy Moore, founding Director, succeeded to the position of Senior Fellow, joined by Fred Swanson and Michael Nelson. (see profiles, and more about the role of Senior Fellows, on page 23). In my new role as Spring Creek’s Director, I am boundlessly grateful to have the counsel of these brilliant and dedicated colleagues, the generous support of our Board, and the energetic involvement of hundreds and hundreds of Spring Creek followers.

With all gratitude,

Charles Goodrich, Director
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Highlights 2011-12

“Change, Continuity, Inspired Effort”

Collaborative Retreats, the Trillium Project, Witness Residencies and other events brought writers, scientists, artists, and philosophers together at the Shotpouch Cabin. Details begin on page 6.

The Great Work contest winners shared their work at the screening of the film, “Journey of the Universe.” Details on page 15.


Music of Environmental and Social Change was the theme for our spring term concert and symposium. Details on page 16.
THE CABIN AT SHOTPOUCH CREEK

The Cabin at Shotpouch Creek is a profoundly welcoming site for writing residencies, topical conversations, and gatherings of writers, artists, philosophers, ecologists, and naturalists. All who come here are reminded of the importance of place in the life of the mind, the formation of values, and the making of a sane and foresightful culture.

WRITERS-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAMS

Collaborative Retreat at the Cabin at Shotpouch Creek

Writers and artists come from all over the country to enjoy the peace and beauty of the Cabin and its setting. The two-week residencies support two people at a time—writers, artists, philosophers, scientists—who are involved in a collaborative project related to Spring Creek's mission. Much of the work by the residents is subsequently published or performed or in other ways becomes part of the public discourse about nature, culture, and the creative arts.

Collaborative Retreat Residents

Fall 2011

Ariel Burke and Tanya Lynn Willard
Danniel Schoonebeek and Allison Paty

Spring 2012

Matthew Dickerson and David O’Hara
Christy George and James O’Neil
Residencies for Graduate Students. The Spring Creek Graduate Student Residency provided uninterrupted writing time in a beautiful and inspiring place. It is open to an advanced graduate students (College of Liberal Arts or College of Science) whose work supports the Spring Creek mission.

2011-12 Graduate Student Residents

Alexis White and Karen Moon, Creative Writing, nominated by Karen Holmberg

Harmony Paulsen Burright, Geosciences, nominated by Hannah Gosnell

Witness Residencies

In June, 2011, cutting began on a one-hundred acre patch of forest directly across the road from our Shotpouch Cabin. Spring Creek has invited selected writers, artists, scientists, philosophers and scholars to do residencies at the Cabin during July—from a few days up to a week—to bear witness to the logging and reflect on the beauty and the harsh management of the Coast Range forests. We believe that witnessing can be a profound act of observation and compassion, and the thoughts and emotions of attentive people will be of deep and certain value.
The sixth annual Trillium Project gave more than two dozen local and regional writers, artists, photographers, musicians, and scientists to spend a few days wandering the land and steeping in the quiet and solace of the Cabin. Participants always remark on the light, the abundance, and the natural beauty of the Shotpouch land. This year’s participants completed a plant survey, poems, essays, photographic studies, and visual artworks of great intelligence and beauty. We intend for the Trillium Project to continue for many decades, so that the story of this beloved place becomes a tribute to human care for the land.

Partial List of Plants at Shotpouch in April, 2011

By Miriam Edell, Trillium Project

Bleeding heart - full bloom, but no insects seen
Dandelion - slugs were eating the blossoms
Indian plum - a few blossoms left, some small fruits
Nettles - abundant, not flowering, but tasty in soup
Equisetum/Horsetail - 1 with needles, the other without
Spring Beauty - just about finished blooming
Vine Maple - full bloom, being pollinated by ants
Salmonberry - dark pink blooms
Elderberry - beginning to bud
Wood violet - fully in bloom, abundant
Larkspur - plentiful, thick carpet of plants
Sword Fern - spores on the mature leaves
Bracken Fern - freshly unfolded
Horse Mint - pungent, no blossoms
Coral Bells - abundant, no blossoms
Curly Dock - fresh leaves, pink veins
Plantain—young tender leaves
Self Heal - no blossoms
Daisy's - coming up through the grass in the meadow
Columbine - no blossoms
Miners Lettuce - blooming
Red Flowering Current - full bloom/ with carpenter ants
Rue - leaves only
Huckleberry - no blossoms
Wild Ginger - buds
CONVERSATION AT SHOTPOUCH CREEK

“What Aldo Leopold can teach us about our work in the world.”

In November, in conjunction with Aldo Leopold Day, Spring Creek convened a conversation with special guests Michael Nelson and Curt Meine. Aldo Leopold’s mind ranged widely over a landscape of pinyon canyons, bird-graced marshes, and eroded fields. In the languages of science and sorrow, ethics and exuberance, he charted a new relationship with the land. What can his example teach us about how we might approach our own work? What are the advocacy responsibilities of scientists? How can evocative writing serve science? What is the scientific significance of wonder or the moral significance of love for the land?

Curt Meine, one of Aldo Leopold’s principal biographers, is Senior Fellow, Leopold Foundation, and Director for Conservation Biology and History, Center for Humans and Nature. Michael Nelson is the newly hired Spaniol Chair in the OSU College of Forestry and a Spring Creek Senior Fellow.

8th ANNUAL SHOTPOUCH WRITERS GATHERING

Camaraderie, good food, live literature—the annual Shotpouch Writers Gathering is a much-anticipated summer celebration for all the ‘nature’ writers in the Marys River watershed, and beyond. In honor of the riparian restoration work being done on Shotpouch Creek, the theme of this year’s Gathering was Stories of Restoration.

WORKING AND WRITING THE WOODS

The combination of manual labor in a beautiful place and imaginative writing with a gifted instructor make our twice-a-year Work Party and Free Writing Workshops among our most convivial. Our guest instructors this year were Henry Hughes, Oregon Book Award winning poet and professor of English at Western Oregon University, and Ana Maria Spagna, author of the recent OSU Press collection, *Potluck: Community at the Edge of Wilderness.*
Climate disruption and continuing ecological degradation will place great stress on the natural and human systems that sustain us—water systems, transportation systems, food systems, ecosystems. But the greatest stress may well be on our moral systems. Are our usual ways of thinking about our duties to other beings and to the future of Earth strong and supple enough to support the hard decisions we will have to make? Who do we aspire to be? Who do we need to be? What are the emerging forms of human goodness?

In November, The Eye of the Storm Symposium gathered some of the nation’s most creative moral thinkers—philosophers, activists, theologians, writers, poets, and scientists—to think collaboratively about the moral ‘pinch-points’ we will face and to imagine what a resilient ethic might look like. We hosted a small, invited symposium at a weekend retreat at the H.J. Andrews Forest. Then all the members of that symposium joined with a hundred citizen leaders to form a Thinking Community (see next page).

Our goal was to fashion a statement outlining a new ethics that would prove equal to the challenges that will come. The Blue River Declaration is that statement. See the Spring Creek website for the complete Blue River Declaration document.

Thinking Community Event

In *A Sand County Almanac*, conservationist Aldo Leopold wrote, “Nothing so important as a land ethic is ever written. It evolves in the mind of a thinking community.” The Thinking Community gathering, sponsored by Spring Creek, Oregon State University’s Environmental Humanities Initiative, with support from Oregon Humanities, was the public engagement element of the “The Eye of the Storm” symposium.

The old, human-centered moral systems have allowed us to damage the Earth, to our own peril and the peril of countless ecosystems and species. Believing that we must find new ways to understand our moral responsibilities to one another, to the Earth, and to the future, we gathered some of the brightest, most dedicated minds in our community for an afternoon of communal brainstorming to jumpstart the evolution of these new ethics. Two groups came together: a hundred local leaders, thinkers, activists, and concerned citizens, together the twenty participants in weekend “Eye of Storm” workshop.

Just as the evolution of species requires lots of variety, lots of new ways of living, all tested against hard experience, so the evolution of ideas calls for the same wild diversity of ideas and the same time-tested wisdom. This is what we want to create in this thinking community, when the times call for the greatest exercise of the moral imagination the world has ever seen.
Workshop with Bill McKibben

In November OSU hosted author and journalist Bill McKibben for a number of events on campus. Spring Creek sponsored a workshop, "Creating Change: New Ideas for Inspiring Action for Climate Sanity," which asked participants to consider questions such as, What creates change? What gives people the courage and the vision to buck business-as-usual and stand up for what they believe in? Participants agreed that our efforts to create a wide-awake awareness of climate destabilization need to be honest and forceful, but also hope-filled and nourishing, so that we are sustained by our efforts as we inspire others.
Aldo Leopold Day, symposium and film screening

Spring Creek and several co-sponsors presented a screening of the award-winning new film, “Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time,” and a series of lectures and panel discussions considering the contemporary relevance of Leopold’s work.

Aldo Leopold Day
Monday, November 14
LaSells Stewart Center, OSU
Free and open to all

1-5 pm, LaSells Stewart Center, Ag Science Room

1 pm—“Connecting Conservation Across the Landscape: GREEN FIRE and the Legacy of Aldo Leopold,” Curt Meine (Senior Fellow, Leopold Foundation and Director for Conservation Biology and History, Center for Humans and Nature).

2 pm—“A Fierce Green Fire, Dying,” Cristina Eisenberg (OSU, College of Forestry) on the debates over wolf recolonization in the Pacific Northwest.

3-5 pm—“Killing as a Conservation Strategy,” a group discussion led by Michael Nelson (Fisheries and Wildlife, Michigan State University), with Dan Edge, Kathleen Dean Moore, Cristina Eisenberg.

7 pm—Film screening: “GREEN FIRE: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time” followed by Q&A with Curt Meine

Sponsored by
the Spring Creek Project for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word; OSU College of Forestry and Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; Kathryn and Will Switzer
OTHER PUBLIC EVENTS

Fall 2011

Reading: Brian Turner

Brian Turner, renowned poet and prose writer, and a former Poet Laureate of New Zealand, read from his work in October in a reading co-sponsored by the OSU Visiting Writers Series. Turner is one of New Zealand's most significant writers on landscape, environmentalism, and sports. Winner of all his country’s major awards, Turner's writing is funny, muscular, and unsentimental.

Reading: Hank Lentfer, Faith of Cranes

In early November, Alaskan native Hank Lentfer read from his new book Faith of Cranes, which includes stories stitched together by periodic visits from his totem animal, the Sandhill Crane. Hank also met with graduate students in Fisheries and Wildlife and Forestry to discuss his work.

Winter 2012

Film Screening: “Taking Root: The Vision of Wangaari Maathai”

Early in winter term, Spring Creek sponsored the opening film a series of events organized by the Woman Citizen: Past, Present, and Future Project to commemorate the centennial of woman suffrage in Oregon (1912-2012). “Taking Root” tells the dramatic story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Muta Maathai, who set out to fight both women’s poverty and environmental degradation through the simple act of planting trees.

Reading: Bill Porter with Eric Paul Shaffer

In January, a standing room only crowd at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library heard Bill Porter present a reading and slide show about his travels in China in search of Taoist hermits. Porter, whose renowned translations of ancient Chinese poetry and sacred texts appear under the name Red Pine, was joined the following day by Hawaii poet Eric Paul Shaffer for a reading in the Literary Northwest series.
Conversation: “Boats and Bones” with Kate Stirr and Kathleen Dean Moore

In February, Spring Creek partnered with the OSU Honors College to bring Bay Area sculptor Kate Stirr to Corvallis. She was joined by Kathleen Dean Moore in a rousing conversation about the creative impulse, the inspiration of oceans, the resonance of art and nature, sculpture and essay, and the artist’s work of wonder.

Spring 2012

Reading and Seminar: Ceiridwen Terrill

In April, Ceiridwen Terrill, author of the new book *Part Wild: One Woman’s Journey with a Creature Caught Between the Worlds of Wolves and Dogs*, gave a slide show at OSU and read at Grass Roots Books & Music. Terrill’s book recounts her adoption of a wolfdog—part husky, part gray wolf—named Inyo to be her protector and fellow traveler.

Film Screening: “Journey of the Universe,” and The Great Work contest

“The Great Work: Re-imagining Humanity as the Planet Changes” writing contest invited OSU students to imagine new ways of thinking about success, community, and happiness as climate destabilization and declining cheap energy lead to environmental, economic, and social disruptions. With a grant from the OSU Student Sustainability Initiative, Dylan McDowell, Spring Creek’s Intern, managed the contest. The winners shared their work at the screening of the new film, *Journey of Universe*, produced by cosmologist Brian Swimme and environmental philosopher MaryEvelyn Tucker. The writings of the six winners can be viewed on the Spring Creek website.
Concert and symposium:
“This Land Is Our Land: Music of Environmental and Social Change”

Music that motivates action on behalf of nature and social justice was the focus of a special concert and symposium in May. A big crowd reveled in the music of nationally acclaimed singer/songwriters Carrie Newcomer and Libby Roderick. The concert also recognized and honored Corvallis-area musicians who are working for cultural change through their music. An information fair featuring activist musicians, along with regional environmental and social action organizations, took place in conjunction with the concert.
LONG-TERM ECOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS

ANDREWS FOREST WRITERS RESIDENCIES

Since its inception ten years ago, nearly forty writers have participated in the Long-Term Ecological Reflections program. As we enter the second decade of an envisioned 200-year inquiry, LTEReflections has become a model for analogous programs around the country. The work of the Andrews residents, posted in *The Forest Log*, comprise a unique window into the changing forest. In 2011-12, writers came from across the country to spend a week or more as our residents at the Andrews Forest.

THE WRITERS-IN-RESIDENCE

Fall 2011

Andrews Forest Writers-in-Residence: Megan Snyder-Camp Lehman, Jessica Hahn-Taylor, Carla Wise

Blue River Writer-in-Resident: Brian Turner (see page 14 for more about Brian Turner’s visit, and page 19 for an excerpt from a poem he composed during his residency.)

Spring 2011

Andrews Forest Writers-in-Residence: Kristine Ziegler, Andrew Gottlieb

Blue River Writer-in-Resident: Sandra Alcosser

Co-sponsored by the OSU Visiting Writers Series, Sandra Alcosser, award-winning poet whose work has been called “feisty, accomplished, and mature,” read from her work in May. Alcosser’s seven books of poetry include *A Fish to Feed All Hunger* and *Except by Nature*, both of which were selected for the National Poetry Series. She is the National Endowment for the Arts’ first “Conservation Poet for the Wildlife Conservation Society,” and was Montana’s first poet laureate.
OTHER REFLECTIONS EVENTS

Network Building: Ecological Reflections Network

One of the goals of our successful Long-Term Ecological Reflections program is to help inspire other sites to begin analogous programs that invite artists, writers, philosophers, and others who work in the humanities to visit research sites and places of considerable natural abundance and help construct a long-term record of creative responses to those places. Following on our two-day gathering in May of representatives from twelve Long-Term Ecological Research and two other sites, Spring Creek volunteered to create an Ecological Reflections Network to foster communication and information for our emerging projects. The Ecological Reflections website lists site profiles, how-to information, featured art, and other useful documents. http://www.ecologicalreflections.com/

Workshop: Sharing Experiences with Humanities and Arts Programs and Discussing Networking

In September, Andrews Forest Director Mark Schulze addressed a meeting of the Organization of Biological Field Stations at Bodega Marine Reserve. A working group met to share insights from ongoing and planned arts and humanities programs at biological field stations.

Research and Consultation: Engaging the Humanities with Wildland Fire Issues

With a grant from the Joint Fire Science Program, Spring Creek has been consulting on ways to integrate humanities perspectives with scientific approaches to understanding the role of fire in forest and other wildland ecosystems. Spring Creek Research Associate Nathaniel Brodie has completed a literature survey and identified potential partners to help the Joint Fire Science Program envision and implement projects to bring together the humanities and sciences for better understanding of the cultural dimensions of wildland fire. Our efforts will culminate in the symposium, “Words on Fire” to be held November 1-2, 2012. See page 20 for more details.
**Brian Turner**

from *Where the Forests Breathe*

In the Andrews Forest, Oregon

1

Before you enter the old-growth parts of the forest leave your 21st century ethos behind; rediscover the spirit you had before urgings to embrace the ephemeral took over and perpetual euphoria lurked and laughed, beckoned round every street corner.

2

Stop a while. Stop wrestling with all that bruises and batters. Admit the presence of solace that’s not asking to be solitary. Look up and let go. Down come fluttering showers of leaves that rustle and shuffle when the forest breathes. Now sort your convictions into what’s heartfelt or hurtful and leave one behind you: remember this place in other places.
UPCOMING EVENTS 2012-2013

Readings, Symposia, and Lectures

Symposium: “Words on Fire: Toward a New Language of Wildland Fire”

In early November, Spring Creek will host a major symposium with a keynote address by Stephen J. Pyne, environmental historian renowned for his works on wildland fire. The symposium will explore the contributions that insights from the humanities make to the ways we think about and act in relation to wildland fire.

The words we use to describe our terms of engagement with fire shape the stories we tell about it. And the stories we tell shape the way we act. As the future for many places promises to be hotter, drier, and more fire-prone, “Words on Fire” will consider the range of language we currently use to grapple with wildland fire, and look toward new metaphors and revitalized language that might help us forge ever more thoughtful, realistic, flexible, and creative relationships with wildland fire.

The symposium will include presentations by Colleen Morton Busch, author of Fire Monks: Zen Mind Meets Wildfire, who will speak on fire as ‘teacher’ and the story of the 2008 Tassajara Zen Center fire; Bill Anthony, US Forest Service (retired), will offer insights on the changing terms of engagement with wildland fire in a complex social/natural environment; Tim Ingalsbee will discuss the changing terms of engagement from fire-fighters perspective; and Mary Beth Leigh and Sarah Trainor will describe an Alaska initiative that weaves fire science and performing arts.

The program is funded by a grant from the Joint Fire Science Program, and sponsored by the Spring Creek Project, the School of History, Philosophy, and Religion, the Northwest Fire Science Consortium, and the College of Forestry.
Spring Creek is honored to host legendary poet **Gary Snyder** on October 26 for a reading in the OSU Visiting Writers Series. Mr. Snyder’s visit is part of the Long-Term Ecological Reflections program.

**Symposium—Honorable Harvest: Literature, Ecology, and Ethics of Farming and Gardening.** Our winter term symposium will emphasize the contributions of literature, ethics, and ecology to the challenges and opportunities of farming and gardening as political, cultural, and ethical issues. Possible speakers include **Gustave Speth**, author of the new book, *America the Possible*, and **Robin Kimmerer**, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*.

Renowned Native American storyteller, writer, and activist **Joseph Bruchac** will be our Blue River Writer in Residence at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, and will do a reading on campus at OSU’s new Native American Longhouse.

Spring Creek is uniquely positioned to sponsor lectures, seminars, and symposia that respond to opportunities and issues that emerge during the course of the year. In addition to events already scheduled, we expect to include others as possibilities arise.
SPRING CREEK PEOPLE

Director, Charles Goodrich

Charles Goodrich became Director on January 1, 2012 after serving for eight years as Spring Creek’s Program Director. Charles is the author of two books of poetry, *Insects of South Corvallis* and *Going to Seed: Dispatches from the Garden*, and a collection of essays about nature, parenting, and building his own house, *The Practice of Home*. He also co-edited, with Kathy Moore and Fred Swanson, *In the Blast Zone: Catastrophe and Renewal on Mount St. Helens*. In his writing and teaching, Charles tests the intuition that the world is entirely animate, and he likes to tell stories of relationships between humans and other animals.

Research Associate, Nathaniel Brodie

Spring Creek was fortunate this year to receive funding from the Pacific Northwest Research Station and US Forest Service to hire Nathaniel Brodie. Nathaniel has done a literature review of writings about cultural perceptions of wildland fire and has helped us establish the Reflections Network. Nathaniel is a recent MFA graduate of University of Arizona.

Intern, Dylan McDowell

Dylan McDowell, undergraduate in Fisheries and Wildlife and Education, served as Spring Creek’s intern this year. He oversaw the Trillium Project and The Great Work writing contest, and helped to organize many events. Dylan is spending the next six months doing internships at wildlife refuges in Zimbabwe and Kenya.

(Incoming) Program Director, Carly Lettero

Beginning Fall term 2012, Spring Creek welcomes Carly Lettero as our new Program Director. Carly also works part-time as Program Manager for the OSU Environmental Humanities Initiative. She holds an MAIS in applied ethics, anthropology, and sociology and a BA in creative writing. Lettero has ten years of program design and management experience for environmental organizations and has co-founded a series of energy-reduction programs, including the Campus Carbon Challenge, the Community Carbon Challenge, and Classrooms Take Charge.
Spring Creek Senior Fellows

Senior Fellows carry out writing, speaking, teaching, and other activities that support the mission of Spring Creek. When called upon, a Senior Fellow may serve as a resource for ideas, information, and connections to people and institutions; collaborate on Spring Creek programs; and contribute to the discussion of future visions and programming.

Kathleen Dean Moore

Kathleen Dean Moore is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and co-founder of the Spring Creek Project. An environmental philosopher, Moore writes about moral, spiritual, and cultural relationships to the natural world. Her recent award-winning volume, *Moral Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril*, co-edited with Michael Nelson, addresses the question: Do we have a moral obligation to the future to leave a world as rich in possibilities as the world we inherited? Moore often publishes in professional journals such as *The Journal of Forestry* and *Environmental Ethics*, and in popular journals such as *Discover, North American Review*, and *Orion*, where she serves on the Board of Directors.

Michael Paul Nelson

Michael P. Nelson is an environmental scholar, writer, teacher, speaker, consultant, and professor of environmental ethics and philosophy. He holds the Ruth H. Spaniol Chair in Natural Resources and serves as the Lead Principle Investigator for the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest Long-Term Ecological Research program at Oregon State University. He is the philosopher in residence of the Isle Royale Wolf-Moose Project, the longest continuous study of a predator-prey system in the world, and is the co-founder/co-director of the Conservation Ethics Group, an environmental ethics consultancy group fusing ethics with social and ecological science.

Frederick J. Swanson

Fred Swanson is an Emeritus Scientist with the Pacific Northwest Research Station of the US Forest Service and Professor (courtesy) in the Departments of Forest Ecosystems and Society and of Geosciences at Oregon State University. As an earth scientist with a long history of research on physical processes in forest and stream ecosystems, he has been attentive to long-term changes in the land and our relationship with the land. Much of this research has been place-based work at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, where he helped launch the Long-Term Ecological Reflections program, a major component of the Spring Creek Project.
Anadromy

My grandma was pink-skinned, dark-eyed, mind like a magnet. She knew just where to go: all journeys lead you back home. With that up-river faith she leapt over obstacles with muscle and grace past vanishing forests past cow-trampled banks past claws and beaks and the rods and lines of men.

She knew about change as only a salmon can: how the body in its mutability must adapt from the wild dance of the ocean to the narrow creek bed cell by cell, scale by scale each step in its own time.

Hush, she would tell me, When my own compass needle had spun me off with its own centrifugal force. Cell by cell, scale by scale. Look for the strongest current Follow that.

~

As a graduate student in the OSU Creative Writing MFA program, Alexis White received awards in Spring Creek’s “Great Work” contest two years in row. This poem is her winning entry from 2010. Alexis died unexpectedly in June, 2012.
GRATITUDE

Our deepest thanks to the many supporters whose gifts of energy, wisdom, and moral and financial support help sustain our work.

Shotpouch Foundation Board: Jonathan Dolp, Laura Dolp, Jeff Hale

Special Thanks: John Laurence, Cindy Minner, Jim Sedell, Donald Hartline, Jack Lyford, Larry Rodgers, Ben Mutschler, Courtney Campbell, Dawn Jones

Spring Creek Special Friends: Alison Hawthorne Deming, Mark Hixon, Robin Kimmerer, Jennifer Gervais, Jerry and Martha Gatchel

Shotpouch Caretaker: Dave Lettero

Collaborative Partners

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College of Forestry
School of History, Philosophy, and Religion
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OSU Valley Library
Andrews Forest Long-Term Ecological Research Program
Pacific Northwest Research Station
Joint Fire Science Program
US Forest Service

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