

*the  
Spring  
Creek  
Project*

*for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word*



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2017-2018**

The Spring Creek Project  
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Front cover photo by Deb Merchant  
Taken during the spring 2018 Trillium Project

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This has been a year of transition for Spring Creek Project.

Charles Goodrich, Spring Creek Project director, retired in June 2017. Charles had been creating culture-shifting programming with Spring Creek Project for 13 years—first as program director from 2005 to 2009 and then as director from 2010 to 2017. Charles remains committed to our work and mission, and he joined the ranks of the Spring Creek Project Senior Fellows.

When Charles handed me the reins, one of my first projects was to hire a program coordinator. We received an inspiring 119 applications for the position. Special thanks to Jessica McDonald, Michael Paul Nelson, and Kathleen Dean Moore for serving on the hiring committee with me. After months of reading cover letters and doing interviews, we offered the job to Shelley Stonebrook.

Shelley is an editor, writer, gardener, and environmental advocate who believes in the revolutionary power of a vegetable garden as much as she does the mind-altering potential of great writing. She enjoyed six years as *Mother Earth News* magazine's senior editor, helped build Mother Earth's Facebook audience to more than 2 million followers, and wrote the Green Gazette section at the beginning of each issue. Originally from Oregon, Shelley holds a BA in English from Western Oregon University and a Master of Arts in English from the University of Kansas.

Spring Creek Project also moved offices this year. We said goodbye to the azaleas and rhododendron surrounding Hovland Hall 101 and welcomed the treetop view from Ballard Extension Hall 330 in the new College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Engagement and Applied Humanities Suite. The move to our new office included a new institutional home too. Spring Creek Project is now situated in the Environmental Arts and Humanities Initiative instead of the School of History, Philosophy, and Religion. Our staff titles changed as well. The previous "director" position is now the "program manager," and the previous "program director" position is now the "program coordinator."

With our new staff, new titles, and new office, we decided to add a new approach to programming too. We branched out into online programming by co-organizing the weeklong Permanent Peoples' Tribunal Session on Human Rights, Fracking, and Climate Change. The online format allowed people from all over the world to courageously tell stories about how fracking is affecting everything from the bedrock beneath their homes to the health of their children. After piloting this online format with us, the esteemed Permanent Peoples' Tribunal, based in Rome, Italy, plans to offer this option to groups in the future because it has the potential to be more inclusive and equitable than traveling to an in-person tribunal to testify.

While a lot changed this year, you'll see in the following report that the bones of Spring Creek Project remain strong. Environmental writers, artists, and thinkers continue to join us for readings, conversations, and residencies that help us creatively imagine how to live on the earth we love.

—Carly Lettero, Program Manager

# Highlights



## New Offices

After more than a decade in Hovland 101, Spring Creek Project moved to a new “College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Engagement and Applied Humanities Suite” in Ballard Extension Hall 330. We share the suite with the CLA Research Office, the Environmental Arts and Humanities Initiative, the Corvallis Maker Fair, CLA Extension Collaborations, Creative Oregon, the Contemplative Studies Initiative, and SPARK: Arts + Science @ OSU.

## Record Number of Residencies

We provided writing and artist residencies to more than 100 people at the Cabin at Shotpouch Creek and at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, including:

- ◆ 10 collaborative residencies
- ◆ 60 Trillium Project residencies
- ◆ 17 graduate student residencies
- ◆ 5 affiliated faculty residencies
- ◆ 5 sojourner residencies
- ◆ 7 writing and artist residencies



## Cornerstone Events

- ◆ Spring Creek Project co-organized the historic Permanent Peoples' Tribunal Session on Human Rights, Fracking, and Climate Change.
- ◆ Leading up to the Tribunal, we presented the Bedrock Lectures on Human Rights and Climate Change, a 20-week online lecture series.
- ◆ Sandra Steingraber gave the keynote address on the opening day of the Tribunal at the Whiteside Theatre.

## THE PERMANENT PEOPLES' TRIBUNAL Session on Human Rights, Fracking and Climate Change

*Co-Organized by*

The Environment and Human Rights Advisory

Spring Creek Project

Oregon State University Environmental  
Arts and Humanities Initiative

*with the assistance of*

The Global Network for the Study of  
Human Rights and the Environment

## Other Events

We hosted more than 40 other campus and community events, including:

- ◆ Two sessions of Working and Writing the Woods
- ◆ The Chepenefu Lecture Series
- ◆ Film screenings of *Look & See: A Portrait of Wendell Berry and Living Downstream*
- ◆ Readings with poets and authors, including Nancy Lord, Lex Runciman, Maggie Chula, Paul Bogard, and Robert Michael Pyle
- ◆ Keynote lecture by David R. Montgomery
- ◆ Musical performance and reading by Lisa Schonberg

# Highlights

## Partner Organizations

We partnered with more than 20 organizations throughout the year, including:

- ◆ Organizations that co-released the Bedrock Lectures on Human Rights and Climate Change with us:

- 350 New Mexico
- Australian Tribunal into the Human Rights Impacts of Unconventional Gas
- Backbone Campaign
- Center for Humans and Nature
- Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund
- Corvallis Sustainability Coalition
- Law at the Margins
- Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
- San Juan Citizens Alliance
- U.S. Climate Alliance

- ◆ Grass Roots Books & Music
- ◆ Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club
- ◆ Greenbelt Land Trust
- ◆ NW Chapter of Society for Photographic Education
- ◆ On-campus partners:

- OSU Center for the Humanities
- School of Arts and Communication
- School of Forestry, Ecosystems, and Society
- School of History, Philosophy, and Religion
- School of Writing, Literature, and Film



## Growing Spring Creek's Reach

This year, we connected with new audiences through outreach and expanding into online programming.

481

New followers on our Facebook page

Total video views on our new YouTube page

14,000

248

Followers on our new Instagram page

New subscribers to our newsletter list

120

# Online Programming

As a global community, we have agreed that every person deserves basic human rights—the right to life, food, water, health, housing, culture, and self-determination. Yet for millions of people, these basic rights are threatened by climate change and fossil fuel extraction. During the winter and spring of 2017-18, Spring Creek Project focused on the intersection of human rights and climate change with a lecture series and international tribunal. For the first time in Spring Creek’s history, we held this programming online so that people across the world could watch and participate.



So far, the Bedrock Lectures and Tribunal sessions have been viewed more than

**14,000 times**

on Spring Creek Project's YouTube channel.

## Bedrock Lectures on Human Rights and Climate Change

From January 31 to May 30, Spring Creek Project presented weekly, online lectures featured leading writers, scientists, attorneys, community leaders, activists, and artists. Thank you to these participating lecturers:

Kathleen Dean Moore  
Jacqueline Patterson  
Reverend Fletcher Harper  
Julia Olson  
Robin Bronen  
Bill McKibben  
Stephen Trimble  
Debra Marquart  
Don Anton

Anthony Ingraffea  
Jacqueline Keeler  
Kyle Powys Whyte  
Josh Fox  
Winona LaDuke  
David James Duncan  
Mary Wood  
John Knox  
Anna Gear

## The Permanent Peoples' Tribunal Session on Human Rights, Fracking, and Climate Change

In partnership with Tom Kerns of the Environment and Human Rights Advisory and OSU's Environmental Arts and Humanities Initiative, Spring Creek Project co-organized the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal Session on Human Rights, Fracking, and Climate Change from May 14 to 18. The Permanent Peoples' Tribunal is a respected international forum that grew from the Russell-Sartre Tribunal to investigate whether breaches of human rights norms occurred during the Vietnam War. Since then, it has conducted a series of high-profile hearings around the world to determine whether human rights standards were abridged.

We were honored to help host this Tribunal because it closely aligned with Spring Creek Project's commitment to working on the most daunting and urgent environmental issues of our times. The format of a Tribunal was new to Spring Creek Project, but at its core, the Tribunal was about storytelling. We heard from dozens of experts and citizens who told courageous stories about how the fracking industry has impacted their health, homes, lands, waters, clean air, food, livelihoods, and human rights. We hope these stories will help shift the trajectory from environmental devastation toward a future that is just and restorative for all living beings.

Just as the format of a Tribunal was new to us, the format of holding proceedings online was also new to this well-respected Tribunal. In the closing ceremony, Gianni Tognoni, Secretary General of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal, noted that this online format could set a precedent for convening to address urgent human rights crises in a more timely, inclusive, and international capacity.

All sessions of the Tribunal can be viewed on Spring Creek Project's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/springcreekproject](https://youtube.com/springcreekproject). A preliminary statement from the Tribunal's panel of international judges is available at [tribunalonfracking.org](https://tribunalonfracking.org).

*"Thank you for being the first institution in a decade that has listened to those of us impacted by this industry."*

*—Shay Dougall, presenter of the Australia pre-Tribunal briefs*

*"We have been fighting this monster since 2014 and we will continue to fight, because we want to be breathing this clean air and drinking this clean water."*

*—Witness testimony from the Tribunal*

# Community Events

## Summer and Fall 2017

### **Talk—Richard Heinberg, *Transitioning to a Post Carbon Society in the Age of Denial***

On August 30, Heinberg spoke at the Corvallis Public Library and was joined by the staff of the Post Carbon Institute, which recently relocated to Corvallis. As Heinberg discussed, we face a species survival problem: the need to transition society away from our reliance on climate-changing fossil fuels. He proposed local, grassroots action to build resilience at the community level. This event was co-sponsored by the Post Carbon Institute and the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition.

### **Full Moon Campus Ramble**

On September 6, Cub Kahn and Jill Sisson led a quiet twilight walk through the OSU campus to observe the sunset and full moonrise. While walking two miles at a leisurely pace, participants reflected through photography and writing on the perceptible shift of the seasons from summer's intense light and heat to autumn's mellow fruitfulness. Campus Rambles are always open to all levels of writing and photographic experience and interest.

### **Poetry Reading—Lex Runciman and Maggie Chula**

On September 26, Lex Runciman and Maggie Chula visited Grass Roots Books & Music. Runciman has published six books of poems, including most recently *Salt Moons: Poems 1981-2016*. An earlier volume, *The Admirations*, won the Oregon Book Award. Chula has published eight collections of poetry including, most recently, *Daffodils at Twilight*.

### **Reading—Nancy Lord, *pH***

Nancy Lord, former Alaska Writer Laureate, read from her first novel, *pH*, at Grass Roots Books & Music on October 10. From her many years of commercial salmon fishing and, later, work as a naturalist and historian on adventure cruise ships, she's explored in both fiction and nonfiction the myths and realities of life in the north.



## Keynote Lecture—Richard Misrach

On October 20, Richard Misrach presented a keynote lecture and slideshow as part of the Illuminate & Provoke conference. For four decades, Misrach has been a significant and influential photographer of the American landscape. In his talk, he spoke about “Border Cantos,” his collaboration with composer Guillermo Galindo, a major undertaking focusing on the U.S.-Mexico border.

## Reading—Robert Michael Pyle, *Where Bigfoot Walks*

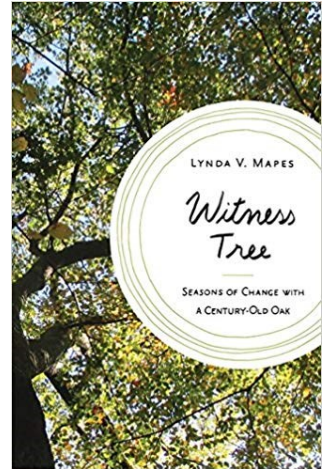
The newly reissued *Where Bigfoot Walks* by Robert Michael Pyle is a spectacular, moving, and witty narrative exploration of not only the phenomenon of Bigfoot, but also the human need to believe that something is out there beyond the campfire, and that wildness remains as well. He shared excerpts on October 22 at the Corvallis Public Library. Pyle has a PhD in butterfly ecology from Yale and is the author of 20 books, including *Wintergreen*, *Chasing Monarchs*, and *Sky Time in Gray’s River*.

## Reading—Lynda Mapes, *Witness Tree*

Lynda Mapes is an environmental journalist for the *Seattle Times*, an author, and an explorer and reveler in the natural world. In her latest book, *Witness Tree: Seasons of Change with a Century-Old Oak*, she documents a year living at the Harvard Forest Long-Term Ecological Research site to explore the human and natural history of a single 100-year-old oak tree while she was a Bullard Fellow. She gave an on-campus reading from her new book on November 2.

## Talk and Musical Performance—Lisa Schonberg, *Documenting Ecosystems: Soundscapes and Music for Percussion*

Schonberg started playing drums as a child, studied ecology and entomology through college and graduate school, and has since traveled extensively to carry out fieldwork and perform. She integrates her interests through creative documentation of soundscapes, insects, and habitat. Lisa’s place-based compositions are performed by her percussion and noise ensemble Secret Drum Band, her duo Coordination, and in solo performance. Lisa co-directs Environmental Impact Statement, which interjects art into environmental policy. On November 2, Lisa discussed her interdisciplinary creative process and gave a percussion performance of a work-in-progress based on ant acoustics in the Brazilian Amazon.



# Community Events

## First Annual Chepenefu Lecture Series



Spring Creek Project was honored to partner with the Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club to present the 2017 Chepenefu Lecture Series at the Majestic Theatre. These three lectures honored the Chepenefu Kalapuya people who have inhabited the Marys River Valley for thousands of years and who continue their cultural traditions today. Both the Marys River and its valley were also named Chepenefu, which refers to the place where elderberry are gathered.

### **October 4—David Harrelson, *The Kalapuya Then and Now***

David Harrelson, Tribal Cultural Heritage Officer of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, shared the history of the local Kalapuya people, where the Kalapuya now live, and how they express their heritage and culture. David is a descendent of the Kalapuya people who lived in the mid-Willamette Valley.

### **November 8—Thomas Connolly, *Kalapuya Archaeology: The Cultural Record of the Willamette Valley before 1850***

Thomas Connolly, director of archaeological research at the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History, spoke about Kalapuya archaeology. His local research spans the Pacific coast, the associated Willamette valleys, the Columbia plateau, and the Great Basin high desert.

### **December 13—Natchee Barnd, *Native Space***

Natchee Blu Barnd discussed how indigenous communities and individuals sustain and create geographies through place-naming, everyday cultural practices, and artistic activism, within the boundaries of the settler colonial region. He is an OSU assistant professor in ethnic studies focusing on American Indigenous Cultures and the author of *Native Space: Geographic Strategies to Unsettle Settler Colonialism*.

## Ballard Suite Open House

On January 10, we welcomed friends and colleagues for an open house in Ballard 330, the new College of Liberal Arts Engagement and Applied Humanities Suite. We shared snacks, coffee, and conversations as well as enjoyed art installations from Andrew Myers, instructor of fine arts at OSU, and Environmental Arts and Humanities graduate students Samm Newton, Melody Owen, Tara Pierce, and Kali Doten.

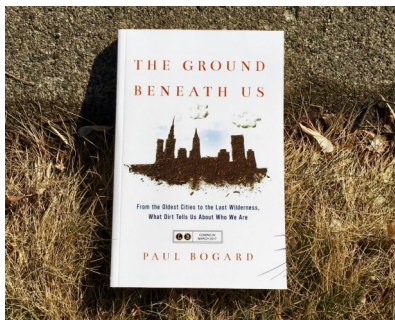
## Community Seed Exchange and Film Screening—*Look & See*

We partnered with the OSU Center for the Humanities and the Center for Small Farms & Community Food Systems for a screening of *Look & See: A Portrait of Wendell Berry* on February 23 at OSU's LaSells Stewart Center. We paired the film with a community seed exchange.



## Keynote Lecture—David R. Montgomery, *Growing a Revolution*

In *Growing a Revolution: Bringing Our Soil Back to Life*, renowned geomorphologist David R. Montgomery turns his attention to agricultural problems that are as old as civilization. He draws on visits to farms around the world that are at the heart of a brewing soil health revolution that could bring humanity's ailing soil back to life. Spring Creek Project co-sponsoring this keynote address at this year's Oregon Society of Soil Scientists conference.



## Reading—Paul Bogard, *The Ground Beneath Us*

On March 21, Bogard spoke at Grass Roots Books & Music about his new book, *The Ground Beneath Us*. In this book, he explores how human development and our cities' footprints are impacting our soils. From growth and life to death and loss, and from the subsurface technologies that run our cities to the dwindling number of idyllic Edens that remain, he shared the fascinating story of the ground beneath our feet.

# Community Events

Spring 2018

## Talk—Raj Patel

On April 6, we co-sponsored a talk by Raj Patel, one of the keynote speakers for the Radical Imagination conference. Patel is an award-winning writer, activist, and research professor with particular interest in global food systems. He co-taught the 2014 Edible Education class at UC Berkeley with Michael Pollan and was recognized with a James Beard Foundation Leadership Award in 2016.



## Film Screening—*Living Downstream*

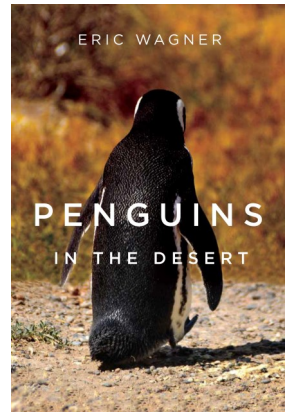
In anticipation of Sandra Steingraber's keynote lecture, we hosted a screening of *Living Downstream*, an eloquent and cinematic documentary based on her acclaimed book of the same title. This poetic film follows Sandra during one pivotal year as she travels across North America, working to break the silence about cancer and its environmental links. This event was co-sponsored by the Student Sustainability Initiative.

## Spring Campus Ramble

We celebrated the profusion of flowers, green leaves, and birdsong with a quiet morning walk through the OSU campus on May 6. Participants unplugged for a few hours to write and take photos as they reflected on their surroundings. Cub Kahn and Jill Sisson, both nature writers and photographers, led the Ramble.

## Reading—Eric Wagner, *Penguins in the Desert*

On June 7, Eric Wagner joined us at Grass Roots Books & Music to share his new book, *Penguins in the Desert*. In it, he chronicles one season in the remarkable lives of the Magellanic penguins of Punta Tombo, Argentina, and the scientists who track their every move.





## Keynote Lecture by **Sandra Steingraber**



### **Fighting with Your Whole Heart: Human Rights and the New Science on Fracking**

On May 14, we welcomed Sandra Steingraber to the Whiteside Theatre to present the keynote address for the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal Session on Human Rights, Fracking, and Climate Change.

Branded the “toxic avenger” by *Rolling Stone*, Steingraber is a biologist, science advisor for Americans Against Fracking, and co-founder of both Concerned Health Professionals of New York and New Yorkers Against Fracking. She is the award-winning author of three books, including the acclaimed *Living Downsteam*, and is the subject of the documentary *Unfractured*.

Before her keynote address, attendees viewed *Unsilenced: Art and Sounds of Resistance*, a listening room and exhibit featuring local and national artists. Steingraber's talk was also preceded by a live musical performance of an original song by Jan Michael Looking Wolf and Dana Reason.

# The Cabin at Shotpouch Creek

*"Thank you again for hosting us at Shotpouch. It was the most wonderful time, and we got so much done. My brain still feels good from all of that time off the grid."*

—Lisa Schonberg, Collaborative Retreat Resident

*"Ever deeper my gratitude grows, for Franz, for Shotpouch, and for the Spring Creek Project and its noble mission. Watching these cedars grow season by season, year by year is equal parts inspiration and instruction."*

—Tim Jensen, Faculty Resident

*"I wrote more than 50 new pages, and Randy revised a bunch of his stories. And somehow, we both managed to come back feeling refreshed and energized for the upcoming term. I don't think I've ever been more than productive than I was at Shotpouch!"*

—Andrew Zingg, Graduate Student Resident

## Collaborative Retreat Residents

### Summer 2017

Jessica Chiarella and Amy Holt, fiction writers

Joe Aguilar, writer, and Kate McIntyre, editor and teacher

Adelheid Fischer, writer, and Buzzy Sullivan, photographer

### Winter 2017

Lisa Schonberg and Kristina Dutton, musicians (pictured, above right)

Carol Soth and Chris Neely, writers and artists

## Faculty Residents

### Fall 2017

Tim Jensen, assistant professor of rhetoric and composition and the director of writing

Christopher Nichols, associate professor of history and the director of OSU's Center for the Humanities



## Graduate Student Residents

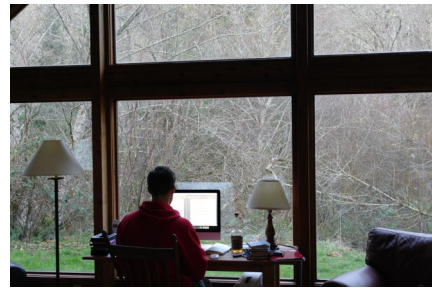
### Winter 2017

Randy Magnuson and Andrew Zingg (pictured right), graduate students in creative writing



Shane Scaggs, graduate student in anthropology, and Lucia Hadella, graduate student in Environmental Arts and Humanities

Zoë Ruiz, graduate student in creative writing



### Spring 2018

Natalie Villacorta and Ben Sandman, graduate students in creative writing



# The Cabin at Shotpouch Creek

## Working and Writing the Woods

Spring Creek hosted two “Working and Writing the Woods” days at Shotpouch Cabin. In the morning participants worked together on habitat restoration, trail maintenance, and cabin care, and in the afternoon they gathered for a free writing workshop hosted by a special guest.



In the fall of 2017, **Nancy Lord** hosted the writing workshop. Nancy makes her home in Homer, Alaska, and is passionate about place, history, and the natural environment. Nancy was honored as Alaska Writer Laureate for 2008-10, a term during which she traveled throughout the state to promote Alaska writers, writing, and libraries. Among her published books are three collections of short stories and five works of literary nonfiction, including the memoir *Fishcamp*, the cautionary *Beluga Days*, and the front-lines story of climate

change *Early Warming*. She recently edited the anthology *Made of Salmon: Alaska Stories from The Salmon Project*. Her first novel, *pH*, was just published from Graphic Arts/Alaska Northwest Books.



In the spring of 2018, **Karen Holmberg** was our workshop host. Karen’s poetry reminds one, Jonathan Farmer notes, of what might have been written by “amateur scientists of an earlier century—people implicitly authorized to explore everything around them.” Her early immersion in nature and the landscape of Connecticut has led to two collections, *The Perseids* and *Axis Mundi*, which also explore scientific figures, the war on terror, motherhood, and the complexities of marriage. Recently, her poems have been published in *Poetry East*, *New Madrid*, and *New South*, and her nonfiction essay on the collagist John Digby was a finalist for the Notting Hill Essay Prize and was published in its prize anthology. She teaches in the MFA program at OSU.

## The Trillium Project

The Trillium Project is an annual residency program that takes place during the spring wildflower season and focuses on the cabin and the Shotpouch land.

This year, more people participated in Trillium Project than ever before. During April and May, 60 participants ventured out to the Shotpouch land and cabin to paint, write, draw, build, sing, photograph, film, and create. From Shotpouch's first needlepoint work to a "Shotpouch Symphony," the completed projects were as varied as they were beautiful and inspiring. These offerings are archived at the cabin.



## Environmental Arts and Humanities Field Class

The Environmental Arts and Humanities Initiative welcomed the second class of master's students in September 2017 with a four-day field class at Shotpouch Cabin. When students arrived, they pitched their tents near the cabin then met Karen Fleck-Harding, retired landowner partnership coordinator at the Marys River Watershed Council, who took them on a walking tour of the Shotpouch Creek restoration projects. Karen was the first of 12 visiting environmental scientists and scholars who met the students at Shotpouch Cabin during the field class. Each visiting lecturer added a layer of complexity to environmental arts and humanities scholarship—including visual arts, philosophy, history, environmental science, literature, and creative writing.



# Long-Term Ecological Reflections

## Andrews Forest Residents

### 2017-18 Blue River Fellow

**Ellen Bass** is a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets. Her most recent book, *Like a Beggar*, was a finalist for The Paterson Poetry Prize, The Publishers Triangle Award, The Milt Kessler Poetry Award, The Lambda Literary Award, and the Northern California Book Award. Her poems have frequently appeared in *The New Yorker* and *The American Poetry Review*, and many other publications. She was awarded fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the California Arts Council and received the Elliston Book Award for Poetry from the University of Cincinnati, Nimrod/Hardman's Pablo Neruda Prize, The Missouri Review's Larry Levis Award, the Greensboro Poetry Prize, the New Letters Poetry Prize, the Chautauqua Poetry Prize, and three Pushcart Prizes. Ellen founded poetry workshops at Salinas Valley State Prison and the Santa Cruz, California, jails. She currently teaches in the low-residency MFA writing program at Pacific University.

### Andrews Forest Writing Resident: Fall 2017

**Tom Montgomery Fate** is the author of five books of nonfiction, including *Beyond the White Noise*, a collection of essays, and *Cabin Fever*, a nature memoir. His essays have appeared in *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Boston Globe*, *Orion*, *Iowa Review*, *Sojourners*, and many other journals.

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*"The forest keeps rushing  
back to mind and  
feeling ... the place has a  
hold on me, one that  
will endure."  
—Matthew Battles,  
Andrews Forest  
Writing Resident*

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*"My time in the forest was truly  
transcendental. I went as high as I  
could, thanks to Rob and Grits  
and their ropes, and I went as low  
as I could thanks to a bare plunge  
into Lookout Creek."  
—Derek Sheffield, Andrews Forest  
Writing Resident*

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### **Andrews Forest Writing Residents: Spring 2018**

**Derek Sheffield** is a poet and teacher from Washington state who has garnered many poetry awards and honors. He has participated in two past field residencies with Spring Creek Project at Mt. St. Helens.

**Lisa Schonberg** is a writer, musician, and drum/percussion instructor whose work focuses on the intersection of ecology and art. At the Andrews, she spent time recording vegetation, streams, and other aspects of the soundscape, and composed new music. The photo above was one of Lisa's recording sites, a stream data recording station that is part of long-term research at the Andrews.

**Matthew Battles** is a nonfiction writer and the associate director of Harvard's metaLAB. His writing and research explores the long-term elements of cultural memory in the form of libraries and archives, and, more recently, the natural world. He writes an online column for *Orion*.

**Molly Sturdevant O'Donnell** is a fiction writer, essayist, and associate professor of philosophy at Saint Xavier University in Chicago. She also teaches in the university's Environmental and Sustainability Studies program. Her research and teaching interests bridge biology and philosophy, and she's interested in the history of natural philosophy and science.

# Spring Creek People

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## Spring Creek Project Staff

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**Program Manager Carly Lettero** is an interdisciplinary researcher, writer, and community organizer. She holds a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in applied ethics, anthropology, and sociology from Oregon State University and a BA in creative writing from University of Nevada, Reno. In addition to directing Spring Creek Project, she is also the program manager of the Environmental Arts and Humanities Initiative at Oregon State University. She co-founded Communities Take Charge, a grassroots program that encourages people to reduce carbon emissions and become active in local climate change movements. The Communities Take Charge program is being replicated throughout the Pacific Northwest.

**Program Coordinator Shelley Stonebrook** is an editor, writer, gardener, and environmental advocate. She earned a Master of Arts in English, with a special interest in environmental criticism and theory, from the University of Kansas. Originally from Oregon, she also holds a BA in English from Western Oregon University. Before joining the Spring Creek Project, she was a senior editor at *Mother Earth News* magazine. She's also worked as an English teacher, a freelance writer, and an organic farmer in the Willamette Valley.

**Intern Emily Grubby** assisted with event planning, writing program materials, marketing outreach, and more. She's a graduate student in OSU's Environmental Arts and Humanities Initiative, and she loves words and being in the woods. She was raised in Baltimore, but most recently her heart hails from the White Mountains of New Hampshire. There, she discovered a deep sense of belonging in place, and since moving to the Pacific Northwest, she's delighted to find the moral responsibilities of that sense actively shaping her graduate career.

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## Spring Creek Project Senior Fellows

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Senior Fellows carry out writing, speaking, teaching, and other activities that support our mission. 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. This year we welcomed Charles Goodrich as a Senior Fellow following his retirement from directing Spring Creek Project.

**Alison Hawthorne Deming** is a Professor of English at the University of Arizona and the author of several books of poetry and nonfiction, including *Science and Other Poems*, *The Monarchs: A Poem Sequence*, *Genius Loci*, *Rope*, *Temporary Homelands*, *The Edges of the Civilized World*, a finalist for the PEN Center West Award, and *Writing the Sacred into the Real*. She has recently completed a nonfiction book titled *Zoologies: On Animals and the Human Spirit*.



**Charles Goodrich** went freelance in 2017 after serving as director of the Spring Creek Project. Before his stint at OSU, he worked for 25 years as a professional gardener to support his writing habit. He and his wife Kapa built their own house in southtown Corvallis, near the confluence of the Marys and Willamette Rivers. His gardening, home-building, and nature-reveling exploits are chronicled in a collection of essays, *The Practice of Home*, and in three volumes of poems, *Insects of South Corvallis*, *Going to Seed: Dispatches from the Garden*, and *A Scripture of Crows*. He co-edited the volumes *In the Blast Zone: Catastrophe and Renewal on Mount St. Helens* and *Forest Under Story: Creative Inquiry in an Old-Growth Forest*.

**Robin Kimmerer** is a mother, scientist, writer, and distinguished teaching professor of environmental biology at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, New York, and the founding director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment. Her writings include *Gathering Moss* and *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*. She has also authored numerous scientific papers on plant ecology, bryophyte ecology, traditional knowledge, and restoration ecology.

**Kathleen Dean Moore**, distinguished professor of philosophy (retired) and co-founder of the Spring Creek Project, is an environmental philosopher who writes about moral, spiritual, and cultural relationships to the natural world. Her books include *Wild Comfort*, *The Pine Island Paradox*, and *Moral Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril* (co-edited with Michael Paul Nelson). She publishes widely in professional and popular journals, and serves on the Board of Directors for *Orion* magazine.

**Michael Paul 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. With Moore, he co-edited *Moral Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril*.

**Robert Michael Pyle** is an independent biologist, writer, teacher, and speaker. He has published hundreds of articles, essays, papers, stories, and poems, and 22 books including *Chasing Monarchs*, *Walking the High Ridge*, and *Sky Time in Gray's River*. A Guggenheim Fellow, Pyle has won the John Burroughs Medal, three Governor's Writers Awards, and a Pacific Northwest Booksellers' Award, among other awards.

**Frederick J. Swanson** is an Emeritus Scientist with the Pacific Northwest Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service and a professor (courtesy) in the Departments of Forest Ecosystems and Society and of Geosciences at Oregon State University. Fred was instrumental in launching the Long-Term Ecological Reflections program, a major component of the Spring Creek Project.

# Gratitude

The Spring Creek Project is profoundly grateful for the generosity, wisdom, energy, inspiration, and moral and financial support of our many, many friends and colleagues.

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

**OSU and Community Members:** Kristina Beggen, Laura Bennett, Courtney Campbell, Sativa Cruz, Kali Doten, David Eckert, Mike Gamble, Julie Green, Anita Guerini, Lucia Hadella, Jacob Hamblin, Dawn Jones, Cub Kahn, Amanda Keener, Sarah Kelly, Carol Mason, Samantha Newton, Joseph Oroscio, Melody Owen, Tara Pierce, Dana Reason, Alex Riccio, Larry Rodgers, Jason Schindler, Jill Sisson, Allen Thompson, Tony Vogt

**H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest:** Brenda Hamlow, Mark Schulze, Tom Spies

**Agencies:** Bill Flood, Jan Aldrich Jacobs, Jessica McDonald, Brooke Penaluna

**Shotpouch Caretaker:** Dave Lettero

## **Collaborative Partners**

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- ◆ To **Gianni Tognoni**, Secretary General of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal, and **Simona Frau-da-tario**, Coordinator of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal in Rome, Italy.
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*the  
Spring  
Creek  
Project*

The challenge of the Spring Creek Project is to bring together the practical wisdom of the environmental sciences, the clarity of philosophical analysis, and the creative, expressive power of the written word, to find new ways to understand and re-imagine our relation to the natural world.



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