

THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE



A GREENPRINT FOR DESCHUTES COUNTY

Deschutes County in central Oregon is one of the nation's fastest-growing counties—yet in 2008, the community lacked a comprehensive plan to prioritize lands for conservation and recreation. The very same resources that attract entrepreneurs and new residents to the region were under increasing threat.

In response, The Trust for Public Land partnered with the Deschutes Land Trust, city administrators, and local parks and recreation departments to create the Deschutes County Greenprint.

TPL's role

TPL guided the collaborative Greenprint process, which included a thorough review of existing plans, two online surveys, in-person interviews, and two telephone polls of Deschutes County residents. This unique approach helped a stakeholder group of more than 60 people agree upon eight core goals for Deschutes County.

TPL experts displayed these goals on interactive maps that highlighted opportunities for new parks, trail corridors, natural resource protection, and conservation of working lands and forests.

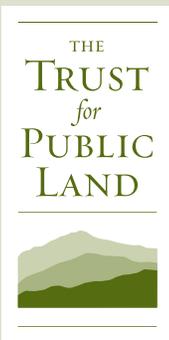
Project highlights

One of the first conservation opportunities to emerge from the Deschutes County Greenprint was the Miller's Landing project. The site of the original Miller Lumber barn and community post office, Miller's Landing reflects 85 years of Bend history. A critical link in the Deschutes River Trail, this property delivers many of the Greenprint goals, such as trail connectivity between the Old Mill District and downtown Bend, habitat restoration, access to recreation amenities, and greater protection of water quality. TPL, in partnership with the Bend Park and Recreation District, raised public and private dollars to acquire Miller's Landing in 2010.

The Greenprint also identifies the 33,000-acre Skyline Forest west of Bend and the steelhead spawning habitat of Whychus Canyon as critical places for conservation projects. The Deschutes County Land Trust is working with willing landowners to pursue these opportunities. Other partners are also exploring possibilities for new trails along the Deschutes River.

“The Greenprint can help preserve the quality of life in Deschutes County—the reason people move here. It will be a plus for the economy and the environment.”

—Bob Evans, developer, Trout Unlimited;
Deschutes Land Trust board member



The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come.

tpl.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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