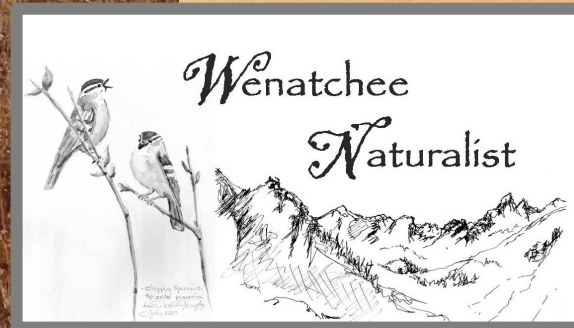


Meet the 2022 Class of Wenatchee Naturalists

Photos and text by Susan Ballinger, program lead





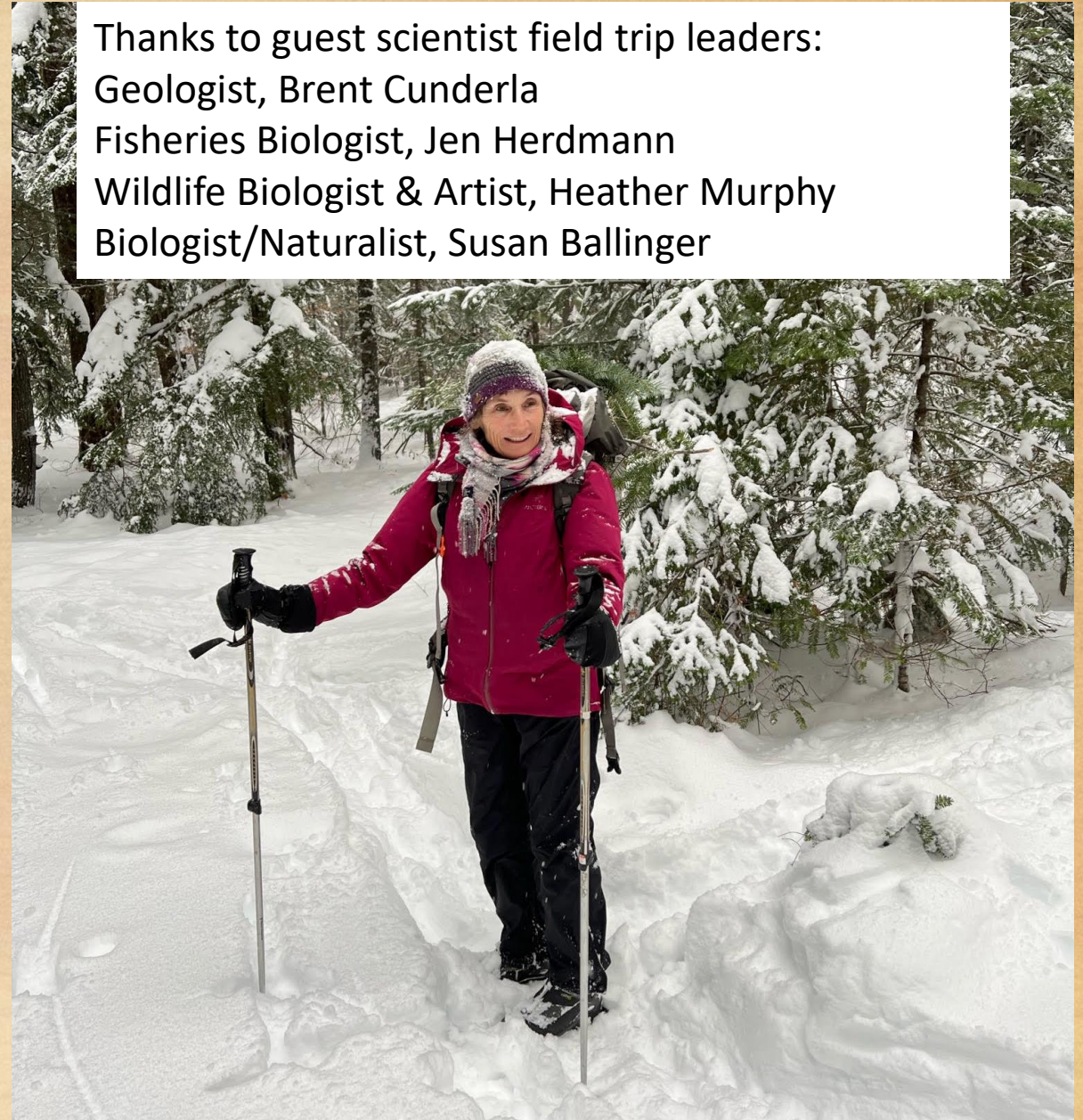
We used Nature Journaling as an observation tool to enhance learning



We traveled
together on four
field trips in the
Wenatchee
Watershed



Thanks to guest scientist field trip leaders:
Geologist, Brent Cunderla
Fisheries Biologist, Jen Herdmann
Wildlife Biologist & Artist, Heather Murphy
Biologist/Naturalist, Susan Ballinger



At our final class,
we enjoyed a
potluck and each
person shared
their final project



Pierre Dawson



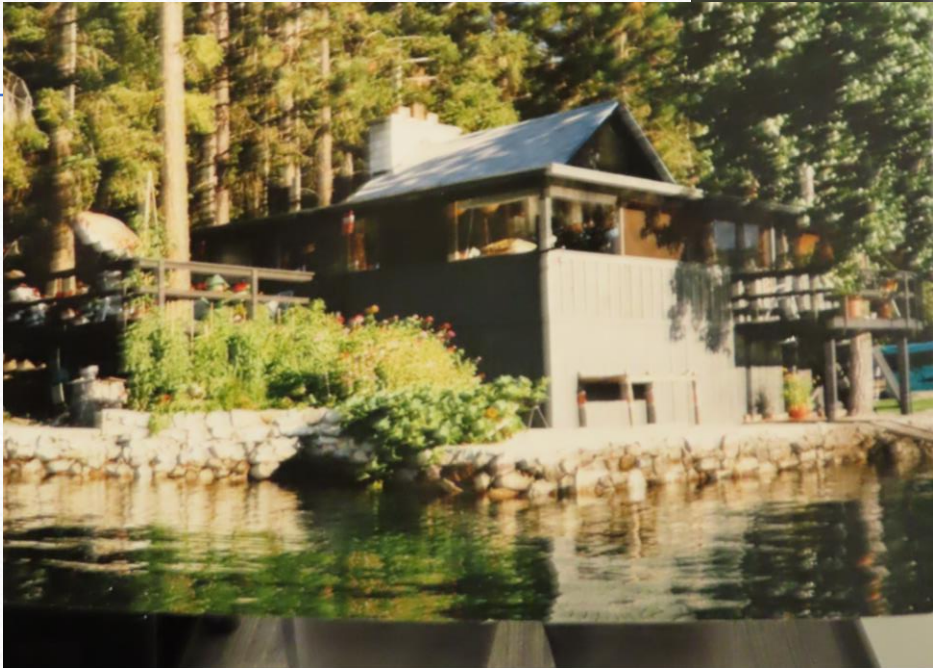
Pierre constructed and filmed a model watershed and created a You-Tube time-lapse clip at <https://www.youtube.com/@waronerror5824/featured>

Carrie Pruitt



Carrie created a slideshow titled, "[Oh The Places We Can Go.](#)" She features mountain biking trail explorations within the Wenatchee watershed and references her new insights as a naturalist.

Chad Henderson



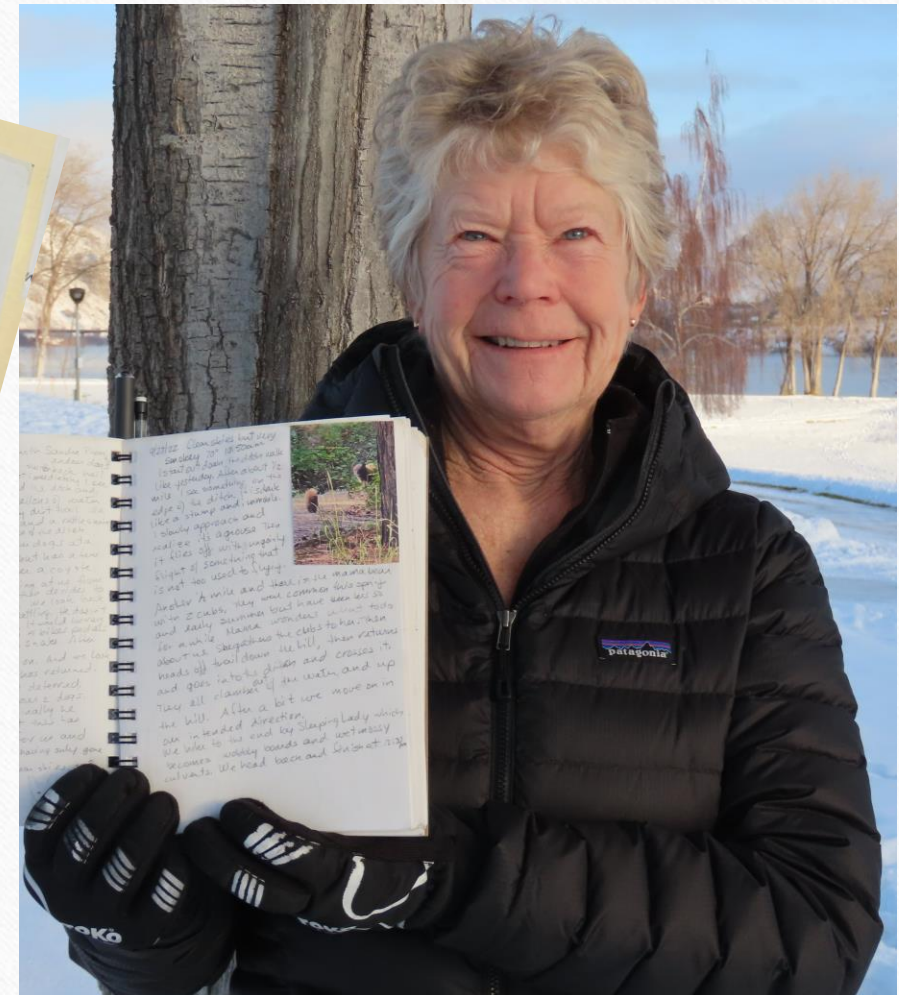
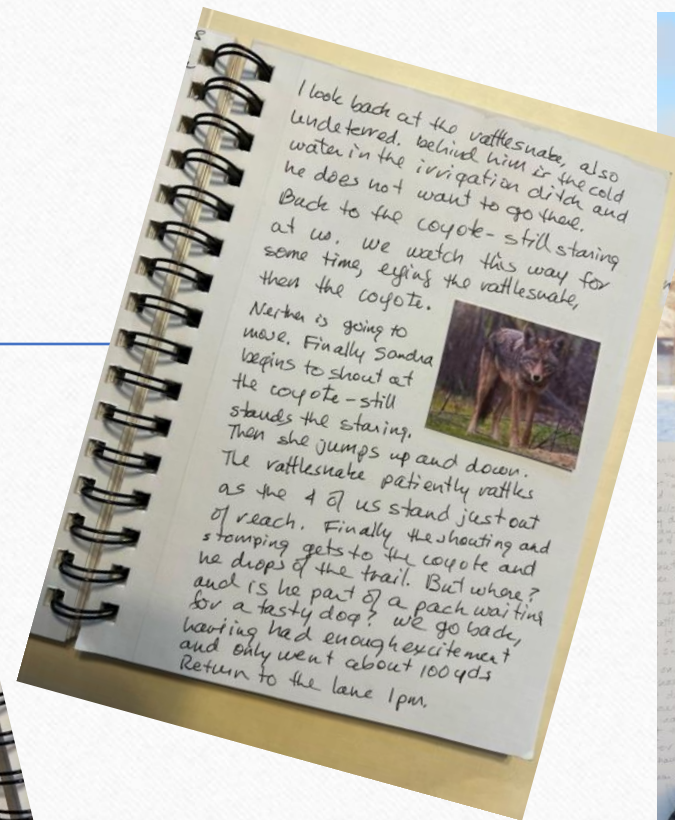
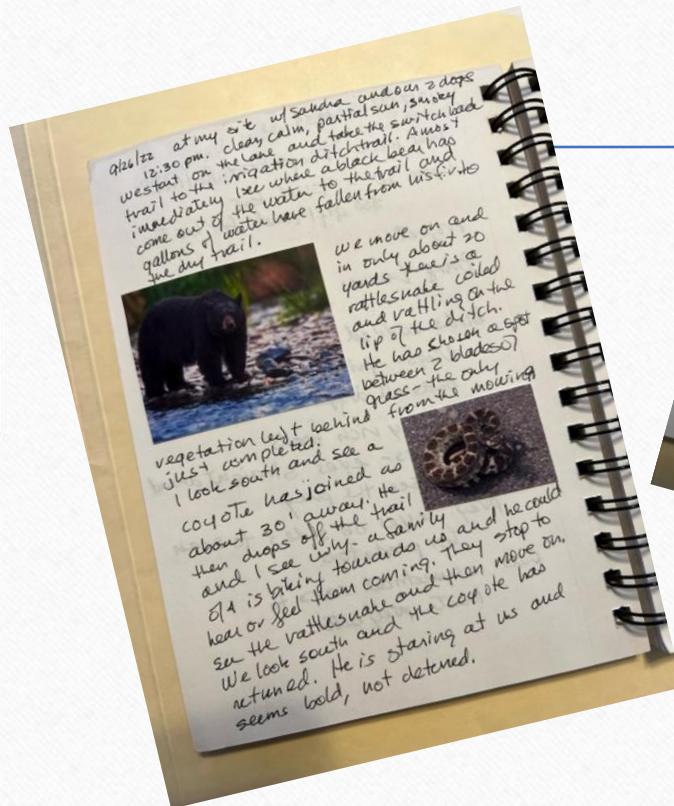
Chad started with course's "Learn 100" list of common plants and animals and catalogued their presence at his family's cabin on Lake Chelan.

Elizabeth Sollie



Elizabeth used her well-honed photography skills to document native animals and plants observed from her weekly journaling “sit spot.” Watch the [video collage](#) she created highlighting local biodiversity.

Chris Clark



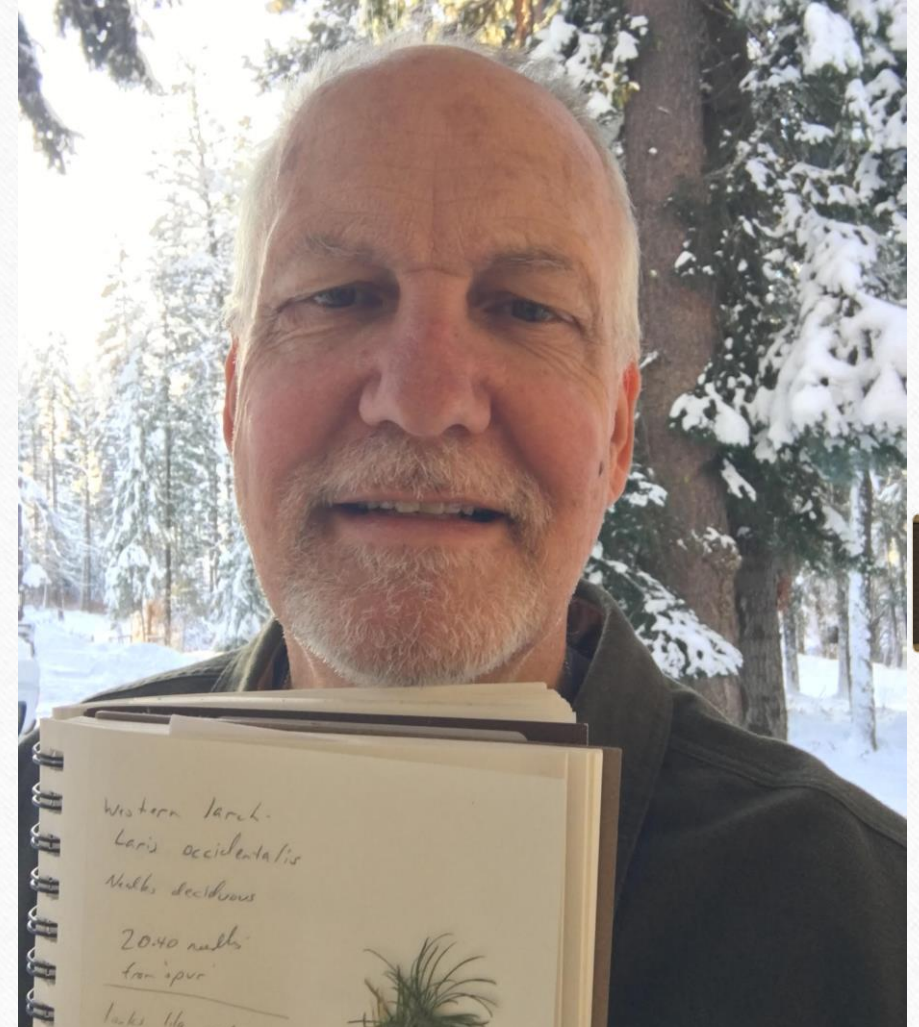
Chris wrote a detailed journal entry ([page 1](#), [page 2](#)), describing close-up simultaneous encounters with a black bear, a Northern Pacific rattlesnake, and a coyote, that interrupted a planned long hike near her home.

Dee Butcher



Dee assembled [repeat photo point images](#) taken at a favorite viewpoint over a two-year time period, documenting the habitat's change over time (phenology).

Derrell Ness



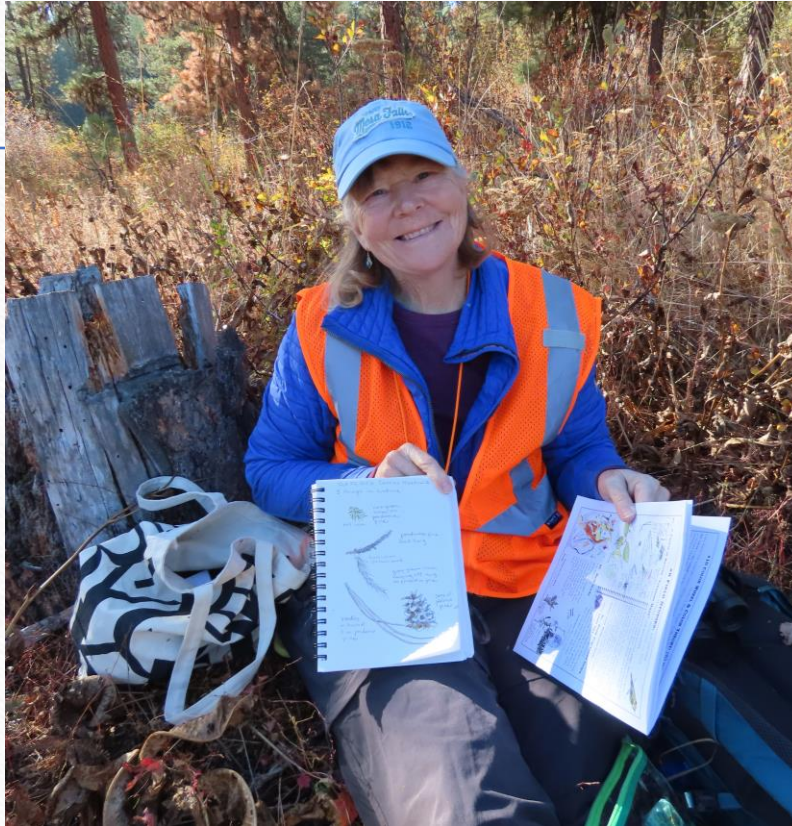
Derrell introduced our class to a local non-profit organization – [Holden Village](#). Derrell recently accepted a staff position for winter 2023, and will move to this remote east-side Cascade Mountains camp near Lake Chelan.

Jane Lee



Jane painted a [series of watercolors](#) by watching birds using her backyard feeders. Her goal was to learn to identify and distinguish each species, especially the small brown sparrows and finches.

Karen Haire



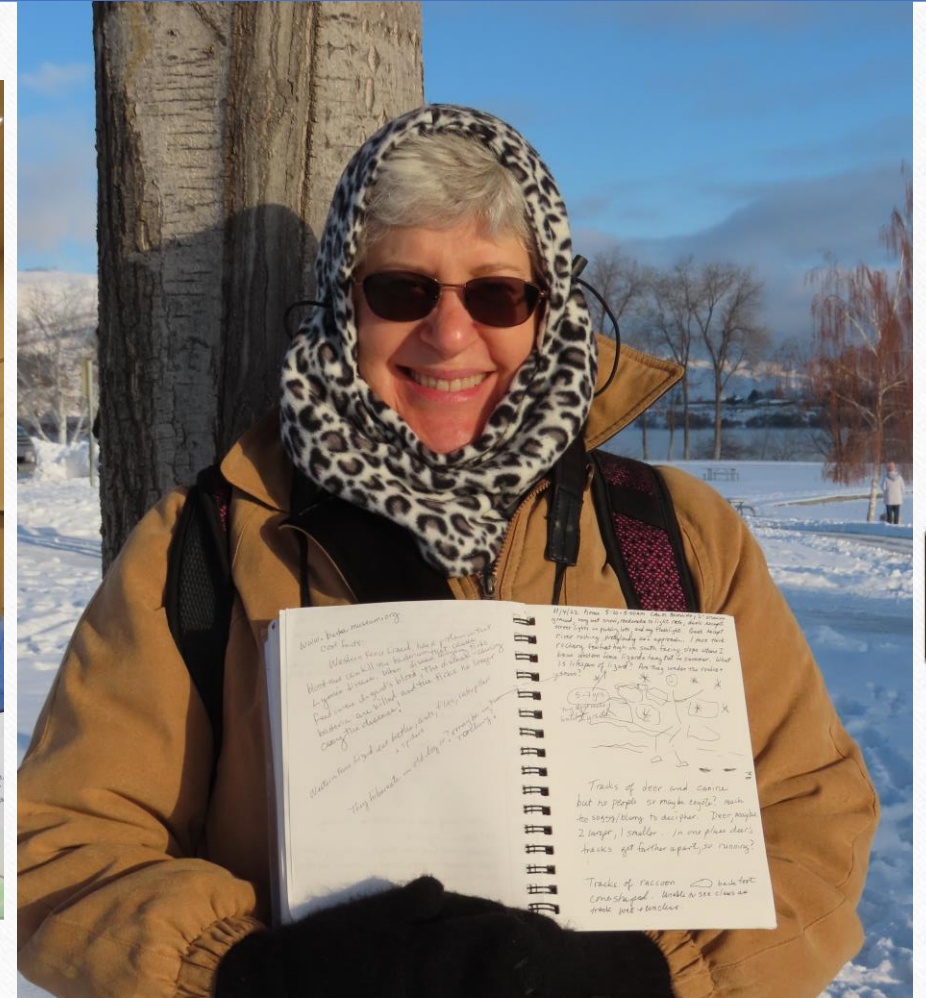
Karen told the life history story of her favorite bird – [the American Dipper](#)– using text and images.

Kirk Beckendorf



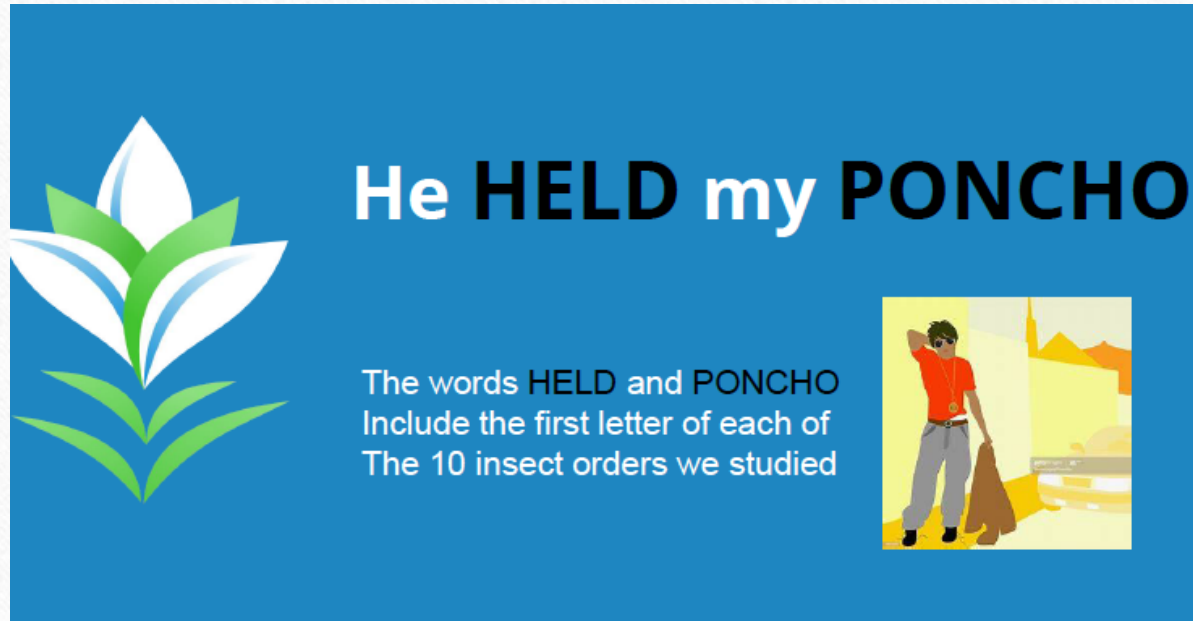
Kirk created an [ARC-GIS StoryMap](#) highlighting results of his field investigation measuring snow depth in forested and non-forested patches. He wondered how snow depth is impacted by tree cover which shades the ground.

Mary Austin



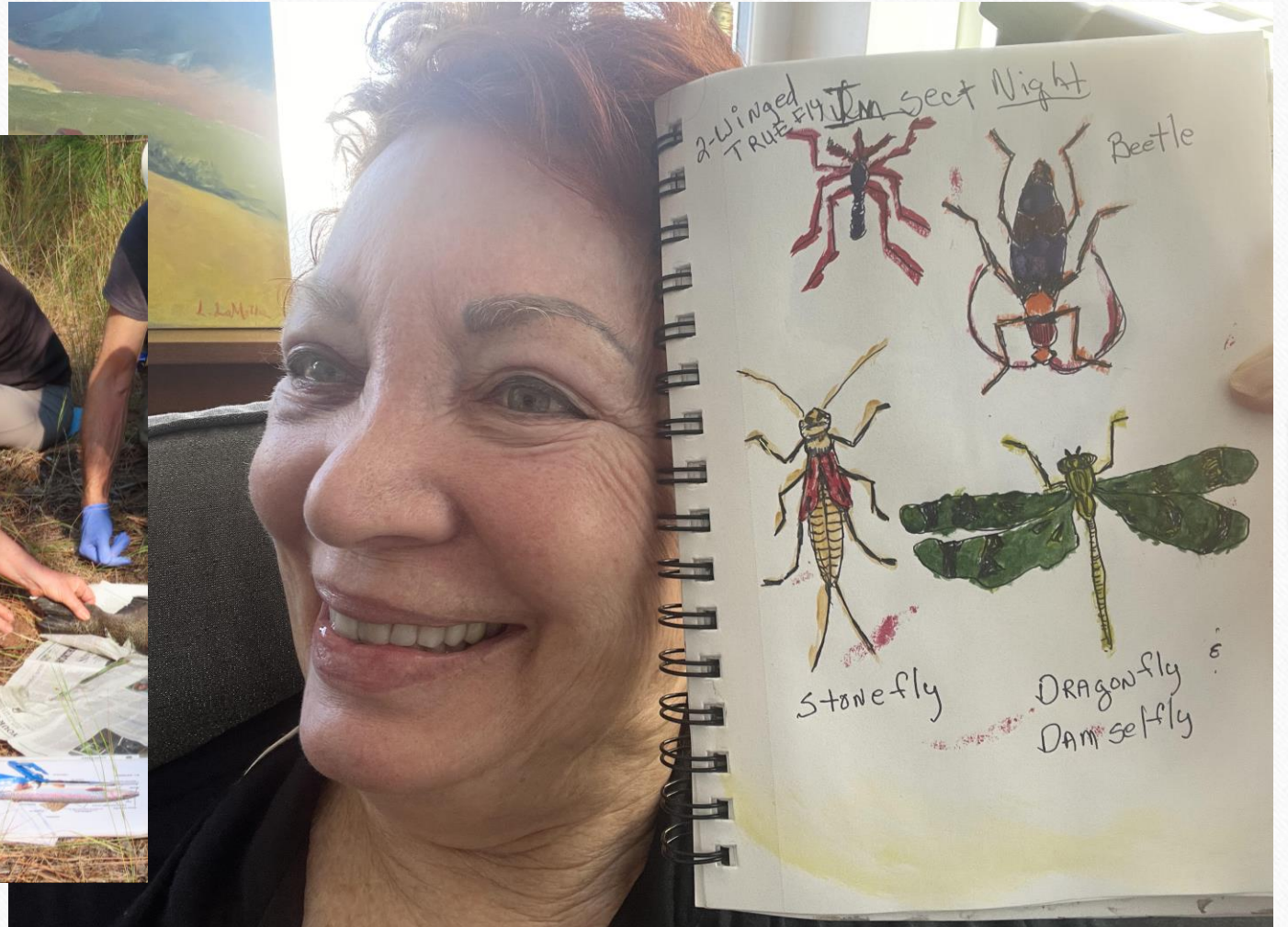
Mary read aloud and showed illustrations of her first draft of a non-fiction children's book that contrasts the wildlife species native to South Korea with resident species of the Wenatchee Watershed. This book will be a gift to a granddaughter who lives in Korea. Mary introduces nature journaling as a tool to share observations.

Nancy Dunn



Nancy created a clever [learning tool](#) to remember and describe features of ten insect orders.

Kay Lisch



Kay wrote a prose poem "[Sacred River Woman](#)" celebrating her experiences within the Wenatchee River.

Patti McGaughey



Patti shared contrasting Norse and Islandic folkloric stories about ravens and crows that captured each species characteristics. Both species are native to the Wenatchee watershed, and across the northern hemisphere.

Debra Bumgarner



Debra loves conifer cones, especially after learning about ponderosa, lodgepole, western white, and whitebark pine species native to the Wenatchee watershed. She designed a lovely hanging seasonal art piece using cones.

Ayla Medina Ulloa



Ayla is a collage artist, repurposing discarded textbooks. She created a two-page visual piece that included paper snippets from class field trips and labs over the twelve-week course.

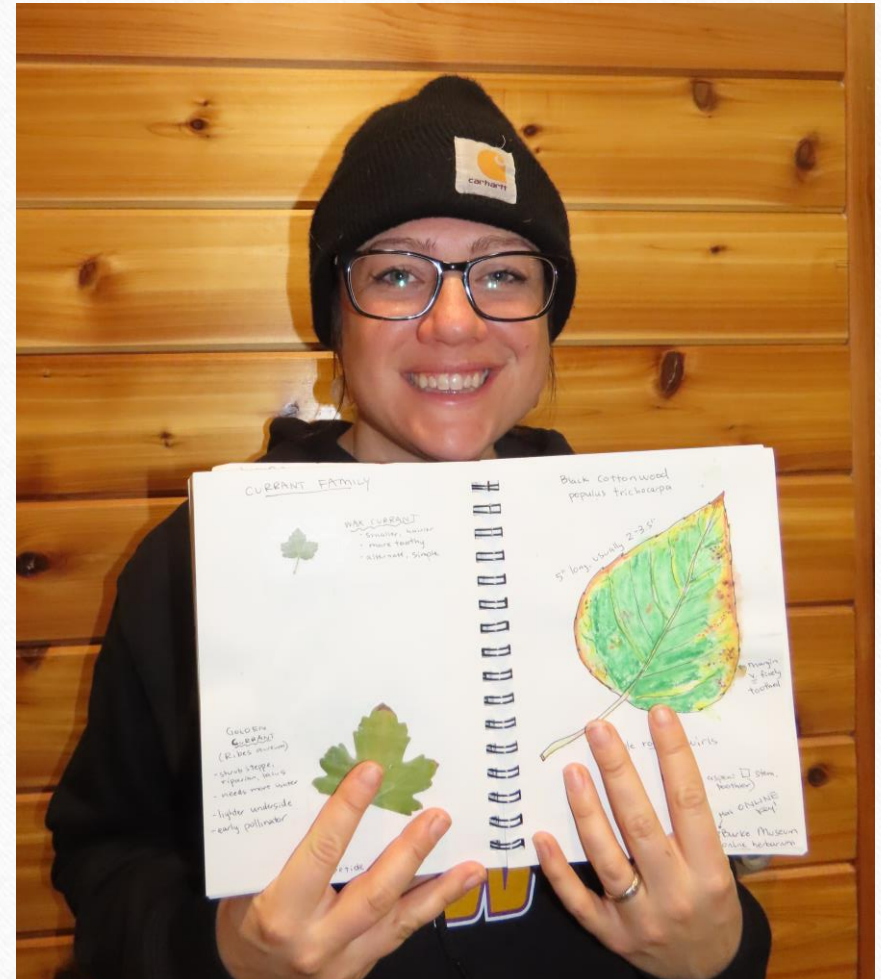
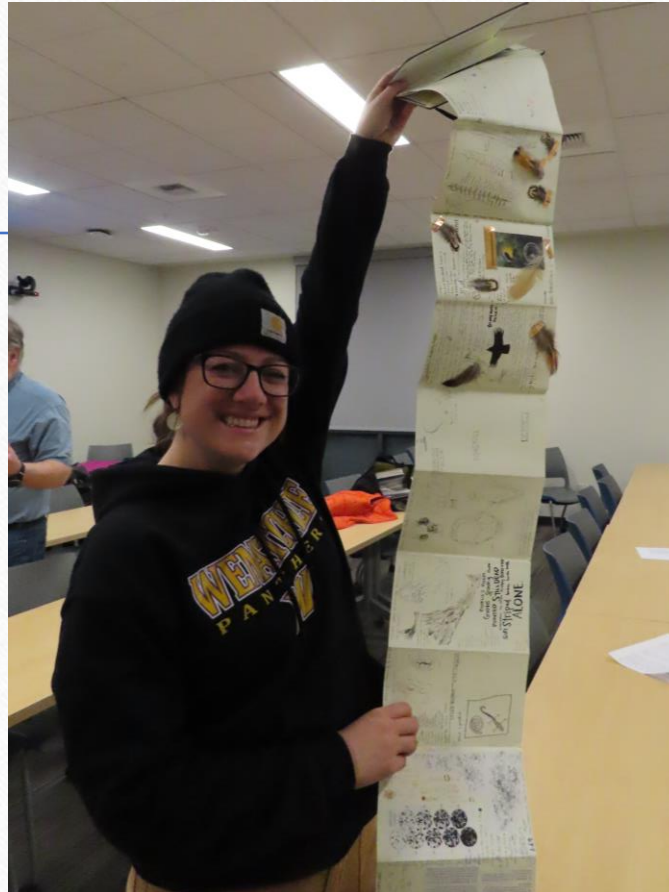


Lola Kemp



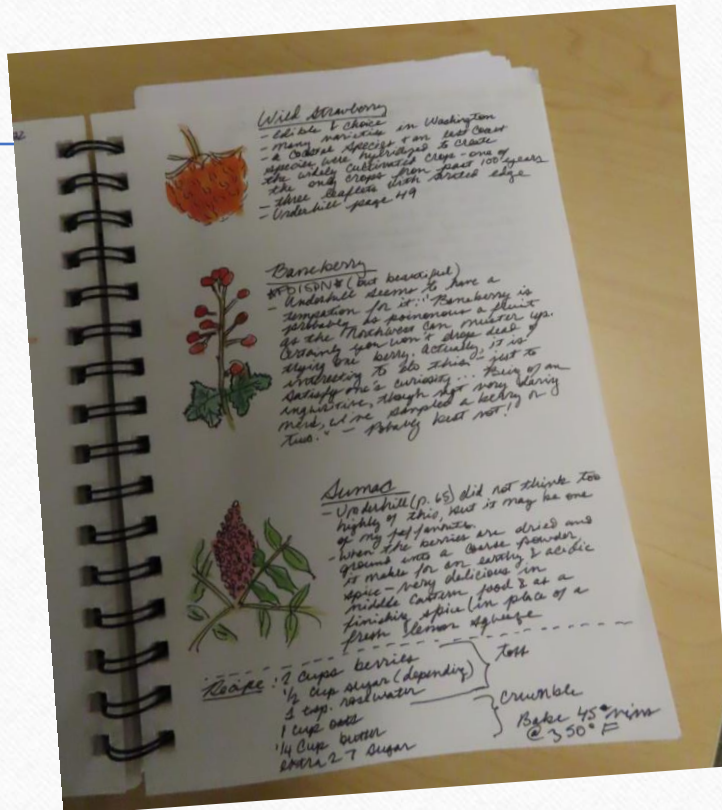
Lola introduced us to a praying mantis she first observed near her home, that peaked her curiosity. She used her nature journaling skills to document this species, and shared highlights of her research about this insect.

Shelly Forster



Shelly told the story of her seven-year learning journey, using nature journaling as a scientific inquiry practice. She displayed a filled-to-the-brim [accordion sketchbook](#) as an example of this powerful learning method.

Michelle Sutherland



Michelle highlighted her recent learning about native plant foraging. She opened by describing the ethical guidelines she uses to responsibly collect native plant parts to use for food or self-care.

Milt Douglas

The [Heritage Garden](#) certification program promotes low water use landscapes using native plants. Heritage Gardens are also designed to honor the cultural and natural heritage of the Columbia River Basin while utilizing sustainable gardening techniques.



Milt announced his next-step plans to transform a steep hillside on his property into a Heritage Garden, working with [Cascadia Conservation District](#).



Monica Valle



Monica demonstrated a lesson she created using all five senses to experience items from nature. As a Team Naturaleza staffer, she teaches science-based afterschool classes at local public schools.

Shellee Heron



Shellee Heron's focus was to learn more about birds, and she's found it rewarding to now be able to identify bird species in the field.



