

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ABBREVIATED MINUTES

May 12, 2011
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Present:	Jenny Tollefson	Mary Manning	Absent:
	Tim Aldrich	Maureen Hartman	Ethel MacDonald
	Bert Lindler	Gary Knudsen	Bob Clark
	Jeff Stevens	Adam Liljeblad	Beth Hann, Park Brd Rep
			Jed Little

Also Present: Jackie Corday, Open Space Program Mgr, Pelah Hoyt and Greg Tollefson (FVLT)

Boemlher Property in Upper LaValle Creek Area – FVLT Fieldtrip

Pelah Hoyt from Five Valleys Land Trust and members of the Boehmler family led us on a tour of the 160 acre property beginning at the small cabin that they built decades ago.



The family drove us up to the top of the hill so that we could see the transition from forest to grasslands and also get incredible views of the LaValle Creek Valley and how this parcel is surrounded by undeveloped lands.



The property is a great mix of conifer forest, grasslands, and a riparian corridor along LaValle Creek, which provides a good variety of habitat types. The Ponderosa pine forest includes many beautiful older trees, such as these . . .



We saw lots of evidence of elk use and even spotted a few in the distance as they moved away upon our arrival. The family informed us that the elk cross the property during seasonal movements between summer and winter range, and as many as 150 elk forage and rest here during cold winter months.

The family has tried hard over the years to manage the noxious weeds and their work is evident – knapweed is present, but appeared under control. There is a small pond created for irrigation along LaValle Creek. The water resources increase the diversity of plants, birds, and wildlife present on the property.



The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm with the next meeting date scheduled for 4:00–6:00pm on June 9th at Currents.