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For Immediate Release – April 26, 2022

Bee Survey Gathering Planned

Whilamut Natural Area near Alton Baker Park to be site of 5th Annual Bee Survey

EUGENE, OR. – Bee City Eugene is hosting the 5th annual native bee survey at the Whilamut Natural Area in East Alton Baker Park. Join us for an afternoon of observing and identifying bees and contributing to the Oregon Bee Atlas with local naturalists, August Jackson and Kelsey Irvine.

Organizers will provide bug nets, identification guides, and naturalists to assist. All ages are welcome and no experience is necessary. Photographers will be welcomed to join the fun in order to upload images of bees to the iNaturalist app.

"We've been doing this native bee survey in the Whilamut Natural Area for five years now and I really enjoy connecting with the local community of bee enthusiasts and learning about native pollinator populations," says Krystal Abrams, primary organizer and Regenerative Ecosystems Manager for Beyond Toxics. *"Please come join the fun again this year!"*

Participants will meet along the east side of Pre's Trail, just north of the Knickerbocker bridge (type "Walama Restoration Project Site"; in Google Maps). This site is not open for vehicles and can be accessed by foot, bike, wheelchair, skateboard, scooter, etc. Parking is available along Walnut Rd. and the Heron Playground Parking Lot. Follow the path towards the river and towards Eugene. (10-15 minute walk on flat terrain). Look for our table and canopy beyond the I-5 overpass.

You can learn more about the statewide effort to catalogue bees here:

<https://www.oregonbeeproject.org/citizen-scientist>

WHAT: 5th Annual Bee Survey

WHEN: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 AT 12 PM – 2 PM

WHERE: Whilamut Natural Area (see map below)

WHO: All ages are welcome! No experience necessary and photographers are encouraged to attend to upload images of bees to the iNaturalist app.

Beyond Toxics provides leadership to build a community-driven environmental justice movement for a thriving and just Oregon. We envision a society where everyone has equitable access to healthy food and clean air and water, and underserved communities are included in decision making processes that affect them.