

## FootZone donates \$18,000 to Land Trust, Skyline Forest

by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources

BEND, Ore. — With great excitement, the staff of the FootZone presented a check for \$18,000 to the Deschutes Basin Land Trust last Friday. The large donation was intended to support the Land Trust in their efforts to acquire Skyline Forest—a 33,000-acre forest between Bend and Sisters. The FootZone raised the funds by donating the proceeds from the 6th annual Dirty Half trail run on June 10th. More than 700 athletes from around the region ran the 13.1 mile race and race costs were off set by sponsorships from Dansko, Brooks, Smartwool, Patagonia, Chaco and Rebound Physical Therapy. The Deschutes Basin Land Trust is in the midst of an ambitious effort to acquire and conserve Skyline Forest, a 33,000 acre former tree farm between Bend and Sisters. Proceeds from the FootZone Dirty Half trail run will help the Land Trust as it prepares for a Skyline Forest transaction. Brad Chalfant, executive director of the Land Trust, commented that “The FootZone has been a great Land Trust supporter for several years. We’re pleased to be able to work with them and their sponsors to raise awareness and support for land conservation in Central Oregon and for the next generation of trails.”

FootZone, a shoe store in downtown Bend, has dedicated the last three Dirty Half trail runs to the Land Trust. The 2007 Dirty Half saw its largest registration yet. Teague Hatfield, owner of FootZone, noted that “We’re lucky to have beautiful, natural trails to play on in Central Oregon and the Land Trust is working to make sure that we will for generations to come. The community has overwhelmed us with support for the Dirty Half and we’re excited to benefit a great cause.” The Deschutes Basin Land Trust works cooperatively with private landowners and local communities to conserve and restore the lands and streams of the Deschutes Basin. Since 1995, the Land Trust has protected more than 6,700 acres.

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