

Methow Valley News

Online

Pond art features four local artists in joint project

Four local artists have been selected to have their work placed along the trails at the Twisp Ponds Project, the Methow Arts Alliance announced last Friday (Nov. 11).

The artists are wood and stone carver Bruce Morrison, metal sculptor Steve Love, sculptor Cordelia Bradburn and metal artist Dan Brown.

In a joint project, The Methow Arts Alliance and the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF) recently invited applications from local artists to submit proposals for site-specific outdoor public artwork for the Twisp Ponds Community Trails Project. The project is intended in part to boost the economic and cultural vitality of the valley by supporting local artists' work.

The pieces are currently being created and will be installed through this winter and next spring. The artwork will enhance fish restoration efforts on a trail system linking the community to educational efforts and public access. The project organizers hope to receive additional funding to support more public art initiatives in 2012.

Since its founding in 2002, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation has worked with the town of Twisp and local landowners to integrate its fish restoration efforts into the community. MSRF has created a trail system on site to encourage public access and awareness of the work being done to improve fish habitat.

The project sought freestanding pieces for installation along the trails. The artwork also must be able to withstand weather and be easily maintained.

Love's piece, entitled "Twisp," is 64 inches high and four feet across. He describes it as "a cast bronze spiral band funneling down to a cement and stone base on which four salmon lie." The salmon will be made of cast aluminum.

Bradburn's work, entitled "Blue Heron & Smolt," is a life-size heron (about five and a half feet tall) cast in aluminum.

Morrison's work is entitled "Beaver Totem," carved from a cottonwood stump found on the banks of the Twisp River. It is about three feet high and two feet wide.

Brown's piece is entitled "Bringing Home the Bacon/Salmon," a metal sculpture of an osprey bringing a fish to its nest. The installation will include an 18-foot high pole to represent a typical osprey platform.

To see an online slide show of the selected works of art, go to: methowvalleyarts.org/hot-topics/the-twisp-ponds-community-trails/.

Photo: "Blue Heron & Smolt" by Cordelia Bradburn

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