The Eugene Natural History Society
Presents a Free Program



Kayla and Barley. *Mallory Vistnes*

The Scent of Science: What a Detection Dog Can Teach Us About Alaska's Island Wolves

Kayla Fratt

Quantitative Ecology and Genetics, Oregon State University and
K9 Conservationsts

Friday, 20 October 2026, 7:00 pm

A ball-crazed border collie and a budding ecologist walk into an animal shelter … and walk out as research partners. Years later, after working on dozens of projects finding hard-to-find samples across the Americas, the duo took on a PhD project studying wolves across 25 islands in Alaska's Tongass National Forest. Barley the dog's story highlights what it takes to be a conservation detection dog, what it takes to partner with these amazing dogs, and what dogs can teach us about wildlife and wild places. Kayla will also highlight how detection dogs partner with next-generation genetic sequencing and remote sensing to gain a fuller picture of Alaska's island wolves.

This month's meeting will be a hybrid of in person and real-time Zoom. The in-person lecture will be held at **7:00** in **221 Allen Hall, University of Oregon campus.** The Zoom lecture link is https://zoom.us/j/97499095971?pwd=eE9sdG9hSHMvOHhIUEJuU21wT20rdz09 or see our website at https://eugenenaturalhistorysociety.org/