

**UNWC ANNUAL MEETING  
4.28.2022 AGENDA  
Vernonia Grange & ZOOM Hybrid**

**5:30 - Call to order.**

**In Attendance:**

- Michael Calhoun, Chair
- Rick Osborne, Vice-Chair
- Eric Dewitt, Treasurer
- Diane Turner Maller, Secretary
- Susan Schmidlin, Board Member-at-large
- Maggie Peyton, Executive Director
- Susan Spicer Pond, Office Administrator
- Corrie Aiuto, Outreach Coordinator Contractor

**Meeting minutes change:** Scribe, please use this agenda as your template. Fill in the sections below as the meeting progresses. When complete, change the title (above) and the file name (use "Save As") from "agenda" to "minutes" and email to Maggie and Corrie.

- **Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)**
  - Board of Directors
  - Staff
  - Attendees and General Council

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION (1 hour 10 minutes)**

- *A Year in Our Watershed: 2021 Annual Report Presentation - Maggie Peyton, UNWC Executive Director*
- **Discussion and Q&A**

**BREAK (10 minutes)**

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS (35 minutes)**

- **Public Comment**
- **Announcements**
- **Minutes - read and approve**
  - January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- **Agenda - revisions - as provided**
- **Reports/Actions**
  - Executive Director
  - Treasurer Report
  - Education & Outreach
  - Fundraising/Events Committee
- **Unfinished Business**
  - Fishhawk Lake - update - as provided
  - Land Acknowledgement
  - Board Training: "Governance of Nonprofit Organizations"
  - Committee Training: "Amplify Social Impact"
- **New Business**
  - Establish Council Membership 2022/2023
  - Bylaw Amendments
    - Review draft
    - Vote
  - Election of Board of Directors
    - Member-at-large position, 2-year term
    - Member-at-large position, 2-year term

**7:15 – For the good of the Order**

- Quarterly Board meetings
  - July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm
  - October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm
  - January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm
  - April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm - ANNUAL MEETING

**7:30 – Adjourn – Be well!**



**UNWC QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING  
1.27.2022 MINUTES  
ZOOM MEETING**

**5:30 – Call to order.** *Michael Calhoun called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.*

**In Attendance:**

Corrie Aiuto Maggie Peyton Diane Turner Maller Michael Calhoun Eric Dewitt Rick Osborne Spence Kroll Susan Spicer Pond Stephanie Beall

**Absent:**

Brenda Lisle  Susan Schmidlin

*Michael Calhoun called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Corrie noted that three board members were present, but a fourth board member was needed to establish a quorum. On that basis no official decisions would be able to be made. Maggie suggested that we move forward with the meeting anyway and move through the topics that did not require a full quorum for decision making. When Rick Osborne joined the meeting, we had a quorum of four board members and could proceed with any official business.*

**Meeting minutes:**

*Diane Turner Maller respectfully submits minutes from the January 27, 2022 meeting.*

**• Welcome and Introductions**

*Introductions were made by all who were present. A guest in attendance was Stephanie Beall, Recreation Coordinator for Forest Grove and Tillamook District State Forests. All were participating by zoom.*

**• Public Comment**

*No public comment*

**• Announcements**

- Winter Steelhead coming to a stream near you!
  - Be on the lookout. They should be showing up soon.
- Website rebuild on a more streamlined platform
  - Corrie reported that the Website is down. This turn of events is similar to the last time the website went down. It involves a site migration with GoDaddy that went sour.
  - This is an opportunity to move forward with a migration to a completely new hosting platform. This is something that we have talked about in the past and has been difficult to do because we share a domain with the Lower Nehalem Watershed Council. Corrie and Maggie will discuss with the LNWC how to move forward. We're hoping for a much more streamlined platform and this may be a blessing in disguise.
  - No timeline yet to get website up again. We already know what we want the website to look like and have all the content ready to bring to the new platform so we won't be completely starting from scratch. Maggie's email still works.

- **Minutes - read and approve**

- October 2021, Diane made a motion to approve, Eric seconded the motion and there were no objections.

- **Agenda - revisions - as provided**

- Michael brought a question about the Cottonwood trees at Hawkins Park that were cut down, fell down on one of the trucks at the Jamboree. Is there a restoration plan in place? Are we involved in that or the Soil District?
- A second question from Michael was brought up at his public works meeting on Tuesday. There was discussion about the culvert replacement on Bear Creek. It was reported that there is a septic pipe under the creek. Michael also learned that Vernonia Falls is not a natural feature but is actually a septic pipe.
- Maggie responded to both questions. There is no current plan for Hawkins Park. The funding didn't work out. We have not yet re-applied to do anything with the City at Hawkins Park. It still needs to be done. Maggie is on the Parks committee so she could bring it up there when they meet next February. Maggie could look into writing a small grant.
- The culvert at Anderson Park on Bear Creek was a project we had funding for years ago but it turned out that there we didn't have enough funding when the size of the project turned out to be much bigger than anticipated. The grant expired because the cost went up when we discovered that the concrete in the stream was actually a sewer line. This is the same sewer line that crosses Rock Creek, above the creek. There is a natural feature that is further heightened by the sewer line. Maggie understands that the City of Vernonia may be planning to re-locate the sewer line. It would be a big expensive project. Once the city has completed the sewer line removal, we could seek funding to help restore the crossing.

- **Reports/Actions**

- Executive Director, Maggie reports that she and Susan have been holding down the fort and the Council has been able to build up some funding. Things are looking up.
  - **NBP to be funded**
    - Maggie was contacted by OWEB. The Nehalem Basin Partnership Proposal ranked fifth and there is enough money to fund it. Still waiting for the official word. Excited about this opportunity. There is a three-year planning process that will involve all our stake holders. Funding includes staff support for Maggie and for Zach Mailen of Lower Nehalem Watershed Council. A consultant will be hired to facilitate quarterly meetings. The main goal is to develop projects that are in the Nehalem Strategic Action Plan and prepare them for implementation.
  - **Project updates**
    - Tweedle Creek project will be implemented next summer and is fully funded.
    - Glassy Project is still on hold until NRCS gets caught up on their removal fill permit.
    - Been meeting with the Department of Forestry to restore and streamline our partnership so that restoration projects can follow a process that is in sync with the Department of Forestry. These discussions are showing progress.
    - The Riparian Restoration Crew is still maintaining the nursery and getting trees planted.
  - **Mini COVID grant**
    - The COVID grant from Columbia County will provide \$14,700. This will be very helpful to keep the nursery alive. It will also provide some staff support funding for Susan and Maggie.
  - **Grant writing support coming**
    - There is a collaboration in the North Coast Basin with other Watershed Councils. An OWEB grant is providing funding that is shared between the councils to hire a professional grant writer to help each council write grants.
    - The Upper Nehalem wasn't originally included because we weren't in the loop when they applied. Since then, other councils have requested to OWEB that we be included.
  - **Researching Nonprofit Association of Oregon (NAO) membership**
    - Maggie plans to have the Watershed Council join the Nonprofit Association of Oregon so we can gain more access to resources for board training and other resources that may be needed. They have a great website for members to check out.
- Treasurer Report

- Susan Spicer Pond reported for Eric DeWitt.
- At the end of September, we finished our regular fiscal year. The packet of financial reports for this meeting included three separate months that represented the approved interim budget to get us through Oct., Nov., Dec. to close the year so that we could complete the change from a fiscal year to a calendar year. All paperwork has been submitted to IRS and we assume that IRS will approve the change.
- As indicated on the balance sheet for Oct-Dec 2021, the closing figure on December 31, 2021 was \$74,018.03. This is the best Susan has seen since she has worked for the watershed. Several factors impacted the closing figure:
  - COVID impacts
  - Reduced hours for Maggie and Susan
  - Grants received from Columbia County
  - Stopped using Intuit for Payroll service. Susan does Payroll totally in house now and this saves \$500.00.
- We spent over-budget by 3% during the Operating Transitional Budget period. This amounts to \$620.00 is not a big deal. We can be thankful that there has been plenty of cushion.
- Susan presented the Profit and Loss Statement for Oct-Dec as a view of expenditures for that period. There were no questions.

• **Unfinished Business**

- Fishhawk Lake - update – as provided
  - DEQ SEP (Warner Creek, Tweedle, Riparian planting)

Maggie reported that all judgements are in. The three violations include 1) removal of fill, 2) water quality, and 3) fish mortality.

Fish mortality ended up costing the Fishhawk Community 3.6 million dollars. 2.4 million of this amount has been transferred to the Oregon Wildlife Foundation and that money is earmarked for Nehalem Watershed Restoration. We are direct in line to apply for these projects. This brings good news out of an unpleasant situation.

The DEQ water quality violation was \$190,000. The DSL violation amounted to approximately \$24,000. Maggie was uncertain of the specific amount.

The \$190,000 DEQ funding is already in play. Three projects are ready to be implemented.

Warner Creek: A large wood placement project on Warner Creek is ready to begin. Warner Creek is tributary to the Fishhawk Lake. It flows in from below the lake and is cooler than Fishhawk so it's a great rearing and refuge habitat for the Coho. Maggie has been working with Dept. of Forestry, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and Steve Trask, our restoration consultant to lay out the project. Dept. of Forestry is donating all the trees for this project. Because not all the money in the budget was used, amendments to the original DEQ violation document were made. \$15,000 was made available for riparian restoration and will pay our crew to get 3,000 trees planted along the Fishhawk system. We will also be able to buy trees from our nursery for this project.

Community Service: Two people are being required to serve 240 hours of community service. The Columbia County District Attorney is providing oversight for these two individuals in completing their service. One person will go door to door, up and down the Fishhawk Community and talk to landowners to gain as much cooperation as possible to do riparian restoration above and below the lake and around the lake.

Tweedle Project: Approximately \$50,000 or the 190,000 total will go to the Tweedle Project near Jewell. This funding completes what is needed to implement the project this summer. Maggie has been working on this project for 14 years. The project is fully permitted and has been through every regulatory loop possible.

Work on this project will require extensive monitoring because we're going to relocate a small stream through a wetland to connect with the Nehalem. Maggie will go out tomorrow to meet with Fish and Wildlife and with consultant to walk over the area and develop a riparian restoration plan. The Landowner is now allowing us to re-plant multiple acres into forest that is adjacent to our project. This is a lovely site in the Jewell area.

Discussion included questions from Rick about the individuals providing community service. Maggie provided information about extensive communication with these individuals as well as the district attorney. All concerned feel strongly about making sure the community service is fulfilled and helps the watershed with what wants to be accomplished. Corrie shared a Shade our Streams flyer that she created for use in the door-to-door recruitment efforts. Maggie will continue to bring updates to the Watershed board as the Fishhawk community moves forward.

#### Land Acknowledgement – Great talk from NWC board member and leader in the Chinook Nation, Rachel Cushman

Corrie and Maggie both attended a meeting held by the Necanicum Watershed Council where board member, Rachael Cushman, gave a talk. Corrie reported that she took away how important it is to really understand our position relative to the tribes when we undertake the creation of a land acknowledgement. The tribes are not just another stakeholder but need to be understood as sovereign nations.

Maggie also shared how she has learned a lot, not only from Rachael's recent talk but all through the time since last summer, when she has been helping with the Necanicum Watershed Council. As part of the Chinook Nation, Rachael was raised to be a leader and is currently doing a great job at that. She is bringing their history back to life.

From Maggie's research about the Upper Nehalem people, it seems that the remnant of that population was taken out of the area and moved over to the Grand Ronde Reservation. We need to go next to the Grand Ronde Reservation and find out more about those people and see if any still claim to be Upper Nehalem and then go from there.

As Maggie reflected, a land acknowledgment is more than just words. It goes very deep. Everyone's best interest would be served to understand and synchronize with the ancient tribal ways because they did manage the land a whole lot better than we are currently doing.

It is possible that a recording was made of Rachael's talk. Maggie also suggested that Rachael would likely be willing to talk with our group sometime in the future.

## • New Business

- Bylaw Revision discussion
  - Should we revise?
  - Must happen at Annual Meeting

*Discussion regarding by-law revision focused on the window of opportunity between now and 30 days before the annual meeting in April as the time for board members to work through a review and develop any revisions that are desired.*

- *Revised bi-laws need to be sent out to all stakeholders 30 days prior to the annual meeting.*
- *It has been quite awhile since the bi-laws have been reviewed and updated. Now is the time.*
- *There was discussion at the October meeting and at other times about changing the bi-laws relating to number of board members needed to have a Council and the number of board members needed to constitute a quorum.*
- *Members were updated about the current structure of the Watershed Council. Business meetings are now held quarterly. Committees are forming and beginning to meet more informally to discuss specific topics. Current committees include Shade our Streams and Salmon Festival Fundraising. The Fundraising committee met in December where it was decided to switch from a big event at Camp Wilkerson to having the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration at the Salmon Festival.*
- *It was decided to have a committee meeting in February to work through reviewing and revising the bi-laws. Rick and Diane committed to participate. A copy of bi-laws will be sent out after this meeting so all have a copy. Additional board members may be able to join in the February meeting.*
- Plan for Annual Meeting
  - *We usually have a presenter and then a business meeting.*
  - *April 28 - Everyone mark your calendars for this important meeting. You must attend in order to be a board member.*
- Committee Work
  - **Schedule next committee meetings**
    - Focus on bi-laws in February.
    - Re-group for Salmon Festival Fundraising in March.
  - **Fundraising Committee**
    - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Fundraiser
      - At Salmon Festival 2022
    - “Amplify Social Impact” Online fundraising course paid for and available. **Need to take the course. Who is interested?** Work towards a “Giving Tuesday” online campaign

- This course provides an opportunity to learn skills that enable you to reach out to an online donor base that does not have to be connected geographically.
  - Six months remain for the course to be available to a member who is interested in working through the modules. Corrie and Maggie plan to take the course.
- Find reliable funding source for “Shade Our Streams” riparian restoration program
  - Shade Our Streams Committee
- Board Training: “GOVERNANCE OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS” - 1 hour
  - Corrie will send out a link for this training video. Everyone promises to watch.
  - Good opportunity to benefit from training for new and old members alike.
- A few more highlights from Maggie
  - Wild Salmon Center, an important partner to the UNVNC, has acquired quite a bit of funding through a block grant that we have benefitted from. A lot of restoration work has been done as a result. They will be writing another block grant and some of our projects may qualify to be included.
  - The infrastructure money that is coming from the Federal government may also come into play for some of our bigger fish passage projects that are on county roads and state highways. Maggie intends to capture as much of the increased funding as possible.
  - Efforts toward participating in the Nehalem basin partnership is helping to build a foundation for launching future investment partnerships.
  - Maggie is doing some monitoring of projects now including:
    - Oak Ranch Creek fish passage.
    - Rock Creek, large woody debris project.
    - 2018 fish passage project implemented by Weyerhaeuser.

### 7:15 – For the good of the Order

- Quarterly Board meetings
  - January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm
  - April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm – ANNUAL MEETING
  - July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm
  - October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 – 7:30 pm

### 7:30 – Adjourn – Be well!



## BYLAWS

### UPPER NEHALEM WATERSHED COUNCIL

AMENDMENT DRAFT APRIL 2022

#### ARTICLE I - Name

These Bylaws will govern the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council (UNWC) and its members.

#### ARTICLE II - Area, Purpose, Mission and Vision

##### A. Geographic Area and Land Acknowledgement

The UNWC serves a geographic area in the northwestern corner of Oregon, covering approximately 535 square miles, including parts of Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and Washington counties and the head waters of the Nehalem River west of the town of Timber.

In addition, we acknowledge that the land, water, and fruits of the region in which we work and live are the hereditary birthrights of the region's Tribal Nations and we strive to make space for their voices in Council conversations and work.

##### B. Purpose

The UNWC, originally established under The Governor's Coastal Salmon Restoration Initiative and House Bill 3441 (Oregon Legislative Assembly - 1995 Regular Session), is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the voluntary protection, preservation, conservation, enhancement and restoration of the Upper Nehalem Watershed.

A primary purpose of the Council is to represent the broad and diverse geographic areas and community interests in the Nehalem watershed and to work collaboratively with these interests, including engaging the local community to protect, restore, and enhance the watershed.

### C. Mission

To foster stewardship and understanding of the natural resources of the Upper Nehalem Watershed among the stakeholders of the watershed communities in order to protect, conserve, restore and sustain the health and functions of the watershed.

### D. Vision

A balanced ecosystem that supports a healthy watershed which provides for an economic base and viable watershed communities.

### E. Values

Our role is to establish and support the implementation of a Watershed Action Plan through a consensus building process. Our membership is broadly representative of those individuals and stakeholder groups having an interest in the ecological and economic productivity of the watershed and the health of the watershed communities. We seek to be inclusive rather than exclusive. We seek to maintain a balance of stakeholder group representation.

## ARTICLE III - Council Membership and Organization

Council membership can be established by signing in at a quarterly Council meeting and members of the Council shall represent a balance of interested and affected persons in the watershed such as:

STAKEHOLDERS	FOUR MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tribes</li><li>• State and Federal Public Lands</li><li>• Private Timber Industry</li><li>• Small Woodland Owners</li><li>• Agriculture</li><li>• Soil and Water Conservation Districts</li><li>• Environmental Groups</li><li>• Conservation Groups</li><li>• Local Government</li><li>• Citizens-at-Large</li><li>• Small Business Owners</li><li>• Local School Districts</li><li>• Youth Groups</li><li>• Recreation Groups</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public Lands<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ (e.g., Oregon Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management)</li></ul></li><li>• Industrial Landowners<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ (e.g., Private Timber Industry)</li></ul></li><li>• Small Landowners<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ (e.g., Agriculture, Small Woodland Owners)</li></ul></li><li>• Environmental Community</li></ul>

### A. General Council Membership Guidelines

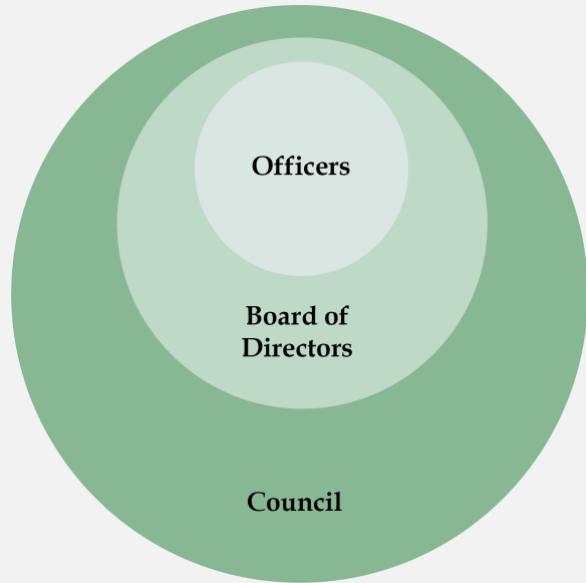
Membership is defined by being a stakeholder in the watershed and agreeing to the purposes, mission, vision and values of the UNWC. If the criteria are met, voting privileges will be

established by members signing in at a quarterly Council meeting. The UNWC is open to all people who fit those criteria regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, sexual

*The "Council" refers to the larger membership body which is established by attending a Council meeting, held quarterly.*

*The "Board of Directors" is a group of 5 to 13 individuals elected by the Council from among its members and tasked with managing UNWC business, meeting at a minimum of quarterly.*

*The "Officers" are elected by the Board of Directors from among its members to satisfy the obligations of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer offices.*



orientation, gender identity, disability, or age.

Members of the Council will:

- Adhere to these Bylaws and be responsible for their enforcement;
- Regularly attend meetings and events;
- Inform their respective agencies or constituencies of Council activities;
- Search for opportunities to develop group solutions and resolve conflicts;
- Treat other Council members with respect;
- Listen to and try to understand one another's views;
- Be effective Council advocates in the community.

To be a member in good standing each member must attend the Annual Meeting either in person, online, or if extenuating circumstances prevent attendance, by submitting a written declaration of intent to maintain membership.

## B. Powers and Responsibilities of the Council

The Council must:

- Annually elect the Board of Directors;
- Approve overarching organizational policies that define the authority and the functions of the Board of Directors;

- Ensure the adoption of and adherence to a Conflict of Interest Policy for members, Board of Directors and staff;
- Approve the Strategic Plan;
- Approve the Bylaws.

### **C. Meetings**

- The Council will meet at a minimum annually and at such time and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors that is reasonably accessible within the watershed.
- Notice of all meetings and a tentative agenda will be mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered to all members not less than 30 days prior to the meeting.
- Meetings will be conducted in the spirit of the Oregon Public Meetings Law (ORS 192.610 to 192.690).
- At each meeting, reasonable time will be set aside for general or public comment.

### **D. Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting plays an important role in Council functioning and shall be planned and conducted by the Board of Directors. The purpose of the Annual Meeting will be:

- The establishment and verification of membership;
  - Each Council member must attend the Annual Meeting to be a member in good standing,
- The election of the Board of Directors;
  - At each Annual Meeting of the Council, Board of Directors positions that will or have become vacant as of this meeting, be filled by a vote of the Council members present. Seats that are unfilled or vacant prior to reaching full term may be filled on an interim basis by appointment of the Board of Directors for the remainder of that term;
  - The Officers will be elected by the Board of Directors from among its members on an annual basis at the Annual Meeting;
- To gather input from the Council membership on UNWC goals and priorities;
- For the transaction of such other business as may come before the Council;
  - Amendments to the Bylaws may only be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Amendments will be proposed in writing and circulated at least one month in advance of the Annual Meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. The proposals for change must be included on the agenda and distributed in written form with the agenda materials.

### **E. Decision Making**

UNWC Council decisions will be made in the spirit of consensus. “Consensus” means that all voting members that comprise the quorum are in agreement with, or are willing to accept, the same proposed resolution of an issue under consideration. These Bylaws recognize that there may be situations in which consensus is not possible and circumstances dictate that the Council reaches a decision in a timely fashion.

#### **F. Quorum**

To ensure balanced representation in Council direction, a quorum of the general Council is reached when a minimum of 7 individuals from diverse stakeholder groups are represented (e.g., representatives from Small Landowners, State Public Lands, and Citizens-at-Large).

If consensus cannot be reached then Robert's Rules of Order will be used and a simple majority of the quorum sufficient to pass (unless otherwise stated in the Bylaws). A simple majority is defined as 50% plus one, rounding down in the event of an uneven number of voters.

## **EXAMPLE:**

11 Council members are present to vote.

50% of 11 = 5.5 members

$$5.5 + 1 = 6.5 \text{ members}$$

Round down to 6

6 members is the simple majority in this example.

### Simple majority exception:

Revisions to the UNWC Bylaws will ideally be made by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached and majority rule is invoked, such a majority will be 2/3 (i.e., a super majority) of the voting members present at a regularly scheduled and duly noticed meeting of the full

## Council.

## **ARTICLE IV - Board of Directors**

Board members are elected by the Council from among its members in accordance with these Bylaws.

The Council intends its board to include a diverse range of geographic and community interest in the watershed in order to engage a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed as required by ORS 541.910(2).

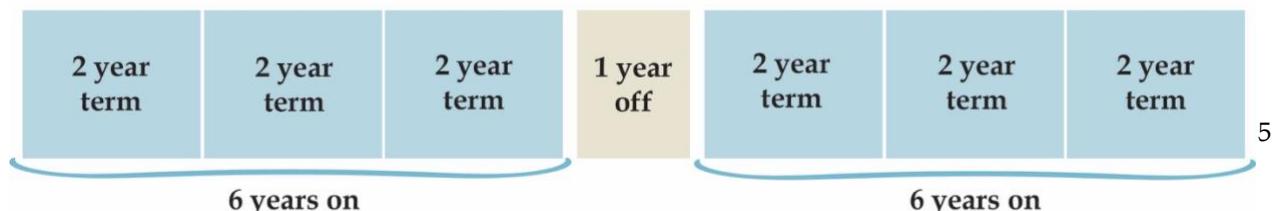
#### **A. Election and Term of Office**

A Board of Directors will be elected by the Council to have a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 13 positions to manage executive staff (i.e., Executive Director) and govern the regular business of the council, but subordinate and reporting to the full Council on not less than an annual basis.

A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be 50% plus one, rounding down in the event of an uneven number. The Chair of the Board of Directors only votes to break a tie.

Board of Directors term limits will be for three, two-year terms (for a maximum of six years in a row) with a one-year separation required between each 6-years of service. Subsequent terms may be served, with the requisite six year on, one year off requirement. Terms will run through the Annual Meeting in the year that the term is scheduled to expire: half (+/-1) of the positions to be elected in even-numbered years; likewise in odd-numbered years.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS TERM LIMITS**



At each Annual Meeting of the Council, Board of Directors positions that will or have become vacant as of this meeting, be filled by a vote of the Council members present. Seats that are unfilled or vacant prior to reaching full term may be filled on an interim basis by appointment of the Board of Directors for the remainder of that term.

## **B. Responsibilities and Authority of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is responsible for:

- Providing leadership of the UNWC on behalf of and in support of the Council;
- Overseeing the business of the UNWC as it arises between meetings of the Council;
- Approving the annual operating budget;
- Creating, reviewing and/or updating organizational policies as needed;
- Planning and conducting Council meetings (minimum of annually);
- Guiding the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan or Action Plans;
- Hiring, overseeing, evaluating, compensating and (if necessary) dismissing the Executive Director;
- Acting on behalf of the Council in emergency situations in which immediate response or compliance is required;
- Emergency actions of the Board of Directors will be reported to the Council in a timely manner;
- Serving as or creating subcommittees such as Human Resources, Finance, Fundraising, Program, etc. Subcommittee decision making authority will be determined by the Board of Directors as part of the subcommittee charge.

## **C. Board of Directors Meetings and Procedures**

- Meetings will be held at least quarterly at a regularly scheduled time and place;
- Emergency meetings may be called by the Chair with 24 hours notice;
- The agenda will be prepared by the Chair and the Executive Director;
- The Board of Directors will make decisions by consensus whenever possible; if consensus cannot be reached, Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail and a simple majority needed to pass a resolution;
- The Executive Director (and other key staff as requested) will be present, unless an executive session is called designed to exclude staff.
- Resolutions will not be made in executive session; the Board of Directors is required to come out of executive session before making and acting upon any resolution.
- Minutes, attendance and resolutions will be recorded and retained according to a UNWC records retention policy. Records of motions will include the persons making the motion, seconds, and the voting outcome (that consensus was reached, not reached, or a vote count).
- A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be **50% plus one, rounding down in the event of an uneven number.** The Chair of the Board of Directors only votes to break tie votes.
- Non-Board of Directors members of the Council or from the community are welcome to attend regular meetings of the Board of Directors as non-voting participants.

The Board of Directors shall have an attendance policy requiring a minimum of 75% attendance of regularly scheduled meetings within a 12-month period. Failure to adhere to this attendance policy may result in the dismissal of a member, based on a vote by the Board of Directors. An individual may also be removed from membership by the Board if that person repeatedly violates the mission, Bylaws, or policies of the Council.

#### **D. Officers of the Board of Directors**

The Officers will be elected by the Board of Directors from among its members on an annual basis at the Annual Meeting.

Officer positions shall include:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer

##### **a. Chair**

The Chair may preside, or with the consent of the Board of Directors appoint a facilitator to preside, at all meetings of the Council. The Chair will be responsible for:

- Conducting the meeting and the business of the Council and the Board of Directors;
- Preparing Board of Director meeting agendas with the Executive Director
- Serving as the Board of Directors' designee for direct oversight of the Executive Director in between Board of Directors meetings.

##### **b. Vice-Chair**

The Vice-Chair will serve in the absence of the Chair, performing all relevant duties and be subject to the same restrictions as the Chair.

##### **c. Secretary**

The Secretary will be responsible for assuring that:

- All the proceedings of the meetings of the Council and the Board of Directors are recorded;
- A current roster of all members is maintained, all records are properly retained and stored;
- That all notices are duly given in accordance with any provisions of these Bylaws;
- In general, perform all duties incident to the Office of Secretary and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Council. Staff maybe used to assist with these duties but the Secretary is ultimately responsible to assure the functions take place.

##### **d. Treasurer**

The Treasurer, working with and through the Executive Director, will be responsible for:

- Assuring that all financial records are kept current and available for internal or external review;
- Maintaining accurate records of income and expenditures of all grants;
- Ensure all bills are paid when due;
- Ensure that reports are provided to the Board of Directors or Council as reasonably requested by the Board (quarterly reporting at a minimum);
- Otherwise perform all duties incident to the Office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Council. Staff may be used to assist with these duties but the Treasurer is ultimately responsible to assure the functions take place.

The Board may determine that an Officer should be removed prior to the next Annual Council Meeting for lack of attendance or violation of Council mission, Bylaws, or policies.

## **ARTICLE V – Administrative and Financial**

### **A. Fiscal Year**

The UNWC fiscal year will be from January 1 to December 31.

### **B. Bookkeeping and Records**

The appropriate Council members, Board members, or employees shall maintain complete records of accounts, notes, and decisions made by the Council, Board of Directors, and Committees and shall keep at its registered office a register of the names and addresses of all its members. All records and accounts of the Council may be accessible by following all applicable federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and state open meeting laws.

### **C. Conflict of Interest**

The UNWC has a Conflict of Interest Policy that Board of Directors members will adhere to that includes declaring any apparent or potential conflict of interest; if a conflict of interest exists, to absent themselves from discussion and voting on such matters; and act always in a manner intended to further the interests of the organization. Staff will adhere to a corresponding policy and standard, always acting in the best interests of the organization and proactively declaring when any apparent or potential conflict of interest may exist.

### **D. Use of Litigation to Pursue Regulatory Enforcement**

The Council will not use litigation to pursue protection, enhancement or restoration of watershed health through regulatory enforcement.

### **E. Media Relationships**

Public understanding and support for the Council is fundamental to our success. Specific media inquiries will be directed to the Chair and/or the Executive Director.

## **F. Non-Discrimination Statement**

No person shall be denied membership or office in the Council based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or age. No qualified persons shall be denied employment based on any of the above identifiers.

## **ARTICLE VI - Restrictions and Dissolution**

The UNWC is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. No part of the net earnings of the organization will inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization will be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof.

No substantial part of the activities of the organization will be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization will not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization will not engage in any other activities not permitted (a) by an organization exempt for federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon dissolution of the organization, assets will be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or will be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of will be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court will determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

## **ARTICLE VII – Adoption and Amendments**

### **A. Adoption**

These Bylaws are effective upon adoption or as amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the Council.

### **B. Amendments**

Amendments will be proposed in writing and circulated at least one month in advance of the Annual Meeting or special meeting called for that purpose. The proposals for change must be included on the agenda and distributed in written form with the agenda materials.

Amendments must be approved by the regular Council decision-making process as described herein.

### **C. Amendment History**

- Drafted and Approved, 1996
- Approved with Amendments June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016



# Upper Nehalem Watershed Council

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

**F**ounded in 1996 to help maintain the health of the waterways and wildlife in the Upper Nehalem Valley. Nestled in the northwest corner of Oregon, the UNWC works with other organizations, community members, and stakeholders to complete projects and share information. The UNWC provides a framework for all stakeholder voices to be heard and to coordinate efforts towards shared goals.

## OUR MISSION:

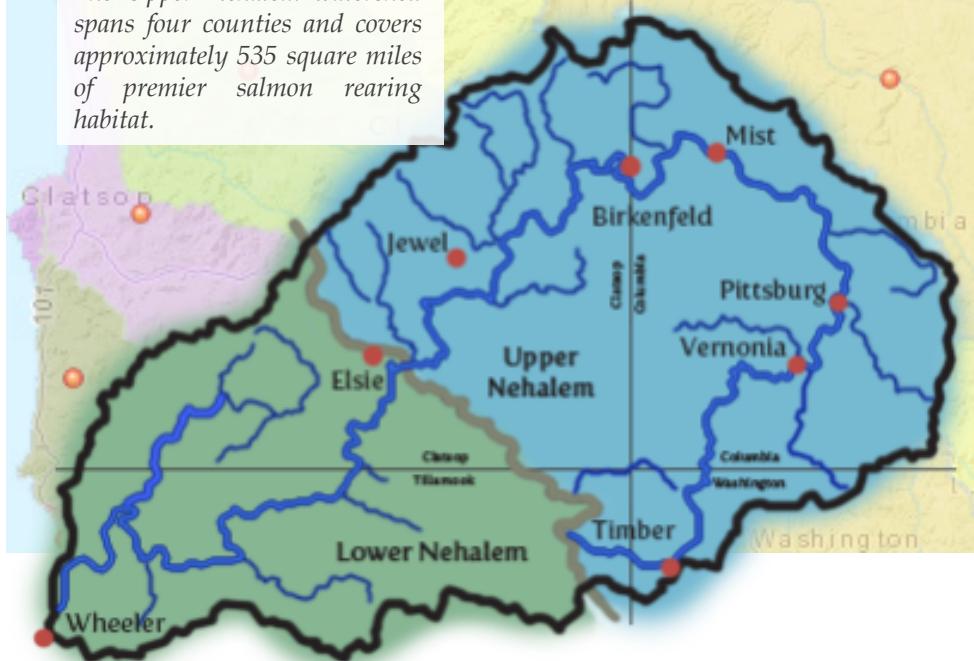
To foster stewardship and understanding of the natural resources of the Upper Nehalem Watershed among the stakeholders of the watershed communities in order to protect, conserve, restore and sustain the health and functions of the watershed.

## OUR VISION:

A balanced ecosystem that supports a healthy watershed which provides for an economic base and viable watershed communities.

## OUR WATERSHED:

The Upper Nehalem watershed spans four counties and covers approximately 535 square miles of premier salmon rearing habitat.



## OUR PEOPLE

Maggie Peyton  
*Executive Director*



Susan Spicer Pond  
*Fiscal Administrator*



Michael Calhoun  
*Board Chair*



Rick Osborne  
*Board Vice-Chair*



Diane Turner Maller  
*Secretary*



Eric DeWitt  
*Treasurer*



Susan Schmidlin  
*Board Member-at-Large*



## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Funding for the UNWC comes almost entirely from state and federal grant programs designed to fund the kind of work we do: salmon habitat protection and restoration, riparian plantings, fish passage improvements, etc. Some funds come from our partners and stakeholders in the private and public sector and some vital contributions are in-kind support on specific projects in the form of labor hours, plant materials, and specialized services.

When the COVID-19 pandemic became a life-changing reality in 2020, we saw our funding avenues shift, dwindle, or disappear, as did many of our fellow non-profit organizations. To compare: the previous fiscal year which ran from 10/1/2020 - 9/30/2021 had over \$350,000 for various projects, and our last fiscal year (see chart below) which ran from 1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021 had less than \$100,000. There were other

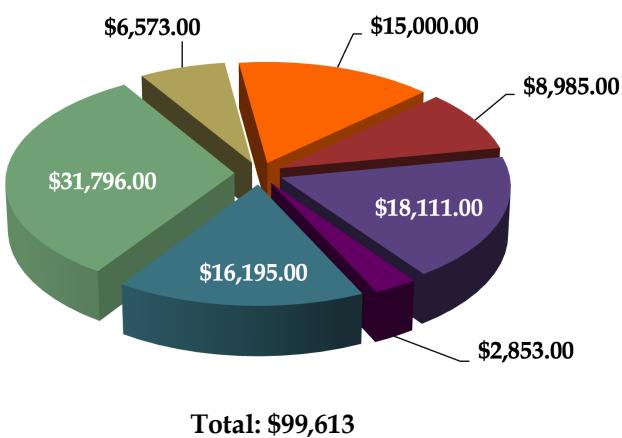
factors besides COVID which impacted our funding and how the numbers appear.

First, several large project grants which had contributed to the budget in previous years were closed in 2021 and new projects, although being developed, did not yet have funding. When projects and their related grants fail to overlap, a dip or gap in funding is inevitable.

Second, we shifted our fiscal year from October 1 through September 30 to the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. This is important to remember when interpreting the budget.

We are happy to report that next year, in 2022, some new, major projects, all of which have been fully funded, are slated to begin. The rest of this report will fully explain how we not only maintained and survived, but found new opportunities in the face of great odds.

**FUNDS RECEIVED IN 2021**  
(1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021)



- Wild Salmon Center
- Council Support (OWEB)
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
- Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund
- Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Public Contributions

Upper Nehalem Watershed Council  
**Summary Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2021

**ASSETS**

<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	72,781.01
Accounts Receivable	
Grants Receivable	657,994.27
Total Accounts Receivable	657,994.27
Other Current Assets	224.99
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>731,000.27</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	341.15
Total Current Liabilities	341.15
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>341.15</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Retained Earnings	743,610.10
Net Income	-12,950.98
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>730,659.12</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
	<b>731,000.27</b>



# 2021

was an interesting year that provided us with abundant opportunities for fresh air and sunshine, watershed exploration, deep reflection, spontaneous inspiration, creative community building, and crucial innovation as we emerged triumphant from our collective corona isolation. In the midst of it all, we continued to plant viable seeds in rich soil with our bare hands and are now tending the tender shoots full of promise for a sustainable vibrant UNWC future in the heart of the Nehalem watershed. We remain productively engaged with a wide variety of dedicated volunteers, stakeholders, advisors, funders, students, academia, agencies, neighboring watershed councils, community groups and local government. Be well. Be encouraged. Be safe. Be involved.

Maggie Peyton, *Executive Director*

## ORGANIZATIONS

- Clatsop Soil & Water Conservation Dist. (SWCD)
- Columbia Soil & Water Conservation Dist. (SWCD)
- Lower Nehalem Watershed Council (LNWC)
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
- Necanicum Watershed Council (NWC)
- Nestucca & Neskowin Watershed Council (NNWC)
- North Coast Watershed Association (NCWA)
- Northern OR Restoration Partnership (NORP)
- One Tree Planted
- Oregon Wildlife Foundation (OWF)
- Tillamook Estuaries Partnership (TEP)
- Vernonia School District (VSD)
- Wild Salmon Center (WSC)

**THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS,  
FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS!**

## AGENCIES

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Clatsop County Land Use Planning
- National Oceanic Atmospheric Admin. (NOAA)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
- Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
- Oregon Division of State Lands (DSL)
- US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE)
- US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFW)
- US Geological Survey

## CONTRACTORS

- Aiuto Designs
- BioHabitats
- BioSurveys
- Trask Consulting, LLC
- Trask Construction and Design, LLC
- Zucker Engineering, Inc.

## LANDOWNERS

- Armstrong Family
- Berg Family
- Carmichael Family
- City of Vernonia
- Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community (FLRC)
- Fleming Family
- Galassi Family
- Hayes Family
- Johnson Family
- Justice Family
- Olympic Resource Management (ORM)
- Oregon State University - Blodgett Tract (OSU)
- Powers Family
- Schmidlin Family
- Weyerhaeuser
- Younger Family

## NEHALEM BASIN PARTNERSHIP (NBP)

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Nehalem Basin Partnership formalizes to implement the Nehalem Strategic Action Plan to improve Coho Salmon habitat.*

**PARTNERS:** LNWC, TEP, ODFW, ODF, USFW, Clatsop SWCD, Columbia SWCD, Weyerhaeuser, DEQ, Trout Unlimited, North Coast Land Conservancy, Lower Nehalem Community Trust

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** OWEB - \$149,512      CAPACITY

**TIMEFRAME:** 3 years



The Nehalem Basin Partnership formed between many agencies, organizations, and landowners to elevate implementation of the Nehalem Strategic Action Plan through improved outreach, coordination, communication, and stakeholder engagement. Working together under a memorandum of understanding the partnership will benefit from collaborative resource sharing, restoration project planning, project tracking and website development.

In 2021 OWEB funded the 3-year collaboration to hire a contracted consultant to provide dedicated NBP coordination, network communication, 12 facilitated quarterly meetings, and support the over-all

NSAP implementation planning process. Funds will also help align the NSAP with other regional plans, grants, and collaboration opportunities, identify a project management and tracking database, and contract a web developer.

The NBP seeks to achieve two long-term outcomes through the NSAP:

- 1) Protect and restore seasonal spawning, incubation and rearing habitats to produce detectable change in Nehalem Coho productivity, and
- 2) Protect and restore natural watershed processes like large wood and cool water delivery systems and beaver colonization that ensures habitat diversity and quality.

To protect species such as Oregon Coast Coho salmon, Chinook salmon, Steelhead, Pacific Coast Chum salmon and other native species, by 2040 we hope to:

- Add large wood to 60 miles of anchor habitats,
- Plant 100 miles of riparian vegetation,
- Have 20% of Coho-bearing tributaries colonized by beaver and creating pools in targeted areas,
- Reconnect 100 acres of tidal wetlands and other estuarine habitats,
- Restore access to 50 miles of slough and tributary channels, and
- Protect 536 acres of standing old-growth timber in the Nehalem River watershed.

## NEHALEM STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (NSAP)

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Nehalem Strategic Action Plan advances the Oregon Coast Coho Conservation Plan and the federal ESA Recovery Plan for Oregon Coast Coho Salmon by identifying priority locations where habitat protection and restoration would have the greatest benefit to watershed function and Coho Salmon conservation and recovery.*

**PARTNERS:** Columbia SWCD, LNWC, NOAA, DEQ, ODFW, ODF, TEP, Weyerhaeuser

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** OWEB/Wild Salmon Center - \$41,000      CAPACITY

**TIMEFRAME:** To be released Summer 2022



The process to develop this 121-page document began in 2015 when partners working to restore the Nehalem basin met to determine which locations would produce the best long-term results from habitat restoration and protection strategies and how to coordinate resources. This SAP also represents one of three pilot plans facilitated by the Wild Salmon Center and the Coast Coho Partnership.

We are excited for the NSAP completion this year and moving forward with implementation through the Nehalem Basin Partnership to advance protects and restore habitats for generations to come.

# COUNCIL CAPACITY

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** OWEB - \$131,465

## **TIMEFRAME:** 2021-2023 Biennium



OWEB's Council Capacity grant program is designed to assist Oregon's watershed councils with operational funding. Councils must demonstrate effective governance and management, planning and implementation of projects, and stakeholder engagement to be eligible for Council Capacity support and the funds are awarded in two-year cycles. For 2021

- 2023, OWEB found the UNWC met all the merit criteria and awarded full funding for the biennium.

The over \$130,000 will be used in the coming year to fund wages that support work with the Board of Directors, community education and outreach, and project development.



### *OWEB map of Oregon watershed councils.*

# NORTH COAST WATERSHED COUNCILS RESTORATION ASSISTANCE GRANT WRITER

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** OWEB - \$73,240

**TIMEFRAME:** 2021 - 2024



As grants become more competitive it has become increasingly important to not only develop high priority, well-designed and researched projects but to also write clear, comprehensive grants that stand out from the competition and result in awarded funds. To assist in the grant writing process, in 2021 five Oregon north coast watershed councils, including the

UNWC, sought technical assistance funds from OWEB to find and hire an experienced grant writer for a nine-month period in 2022. This individual will write competitive grant proposals to OWEB and other funders on behalf of the five councils seeking funding for projects such as:

- Technical assistance for engineering designs,
  - Stakeholder outreach,
  - Road decommissioning,
  - Large wood placement,
  - Culvert replacement,
  - Beaver restoration,
  - Tidal/estuary restoration,
  - Tide gate removal/replacement,
  - And riparian planting projects.

The position could possibly be renewed for 2023 and 2024 and NNWC is the project manager for this collaborative endeavor. The job posting is scheduled to close on March 11, 2022.

## FISHHAWK LAKE – FISH PASSAGE & SPILLWAY

**DESCRIPTION:** *The fish ladder project at Fishhawk Lake will provide unconditional fish passage to all life stages of salmonids and lamprey as per engineered design approved by ODFW and NOAA.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** *Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc.*

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** *ODFW - \$ 105,238  
Weyerhaeuser - \$34,000*

**TIMEFRAME:** *Summer 2022 - 2023*

FISH PASSAGE



The Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc. is working to replace and improve the fish ladder and spillway at Fishhawk Lake, a project estimated at over \$6 million. To date, the UNWC was able to help secure \$140,000 towards the fish ladder.

The new fish ladder, designed by ODFW and NOAA, will allow anadromous fish like salmon and Pacific Lamprey to pass unfettered upstream to premier rearing and refuge habitat.

UNWC is assisting FLRC in writing grants to additional funders.



*Round spillway in Fishhawk Lake slated for improvements.*

## ANCHOR HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Anchor Habitat Enhancement project seeks to improve anadromous fish habitat and natural stream functions by building 55 Large Woody Debris structures and 9 Beaver Dam Analogues on the Upper Nehalem River Basin.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** *ODFW, ODF, Columbia County Parks*

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** *OWEB - \$237,406*

**TIMEFRAME:** *2020 - 2023*

ANCHOR

Anchor habitat improvements continues to be one of the most important and efficient ways we can improve conditions for aquatic life in high priority reaches. By placing Large Woody Debris (LWD) structures and creating Beaver Dam Analogues (BDA) we can reconnect missing pieces of the ecological puzzle like stream complexity, floodplain and side-channel connectivity, and enhancing riparian growth.

This Anchor Habitat Enhancement project, started in 2020, will install 64 new structures throughout the Upper Nehalem watershed in cooperation with ODF.

## ANCHOR HABITAT ENHANCEMENT, CONTINUED

In 2021 we pushed forward implementation by:

- Collaborating with new ODFW representative Derek Wiley and ODF representative Sarah Dyrdahl,
- Navigating ODF hierarchy reorganization,
- Navigating complex planning processes such as complications from the listing of Marbled Murrelet as endangered under the Oregon ESA, the advancement of the ODF Habitat Conservation Plan and synchronization with the Annual Operations Plan.



Steve Trask at a BDA site.



Large Wood structure at Deer Creek.

## TWEEDLE CREEK CHANNEL MEANDER

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Tweedle Creek Channel Meander project will relocate the creek into a low gradient stream and floodplain increasing off-channel habitat nearly fourfold.*

**PARTNERS/LANDOWNER:** OWF, ODFW, WSC, NOAA, NFWF/Carmichael Family

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** NOAA, WSC, NFWF, DEQ - \$338,000

**TIMEFRAME:** 2019 - 2023



The innovative Tweedle Creek project abandons 1,280 feet of lower Tweedle Creek to relocate it into a reconstructed relic toe slope. This channel, once restored, will provide 4,800 feet of low gradient stream and reconnect it with the associated floodplain, increasing the off-channel habitat in Tweedle Creek nearly fourfold, seasonally connect two fish bearing tributaries, and will flow into the existing wetland.

The project site was selected after snorkel inventories showed the presence of juvenile Coho in the

mainstem Nehalem River seeking refuge from summer heat in cooler channels.

By converting this farmland into a mix of diverse riparian and wetland complexes, installing 23 LWDs and two BDAs we can enhance Coho and lamprey production potential and provide the cool refuge juvenile salmon so badly need.



Aerial view of Tweedle Creek Channel Meander site.

## WARNER CREEK LWDs

**DESCRIPTION:** The Warner Creek project will construct 20 Large Wood Debris structures and plant native riparian beaver forage along 0.6 miles of Warner Creek, which is a Fishhawk tributary below the dam.

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** ODF, ODFW, OWF, FLRC

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** OWF - \$85,806

ANCHOR

**TIMEFRAME:** 2022 - 2023



This last year saw the development of a brand-new project area in the Fishhawk Lake basin. Warner Creek, a tributary to Fishhawk located below the dam, has been identified as essential habitat for Coho, Steelhead, Cutthroat trout, lamprey, and other aquatic species and the new project will install 20 Large Woody Debris structures over 0.6 miles of stream.

Each LWD is comprised of 3-5 whole conifers placed as logs with root wads and/or limbs that will help create complex instream habitat, improve sediment capture, improve water retention, storage, and hyporheic conditions, and improve hiding and foraging cover for salmonids.

Project development began in 2021 in partnership with ODF State Forest Division Aquatic and Riparian Specialist Sarah Dyrdahl and Astoria district, ODFW NCWD, and FLRC. With material sourcing, permitting, layout, and contracting completed by the spring of 2022, installation is slated for the summer 2022 during the instream work window in July and August followed by riparian planting and enhancement in the fall and winter. We are excited to work on this new project with our amazing partners.



Steve Trask and ODFW Restoration Biologist Derek Wiley inspecting the Warner Creek project site in 2021.

### VOLUNTEER Highlight

Our volunteers are always a vital part of UNWC work, but in 2021 we saw our board members step up in new ways. They covered the Salmon Festival booth, Zoom meetings, website updates, and even writing for our monthly column in the Vernonia's Voice, *A Word from the Watershed*. Our volunteers planted trees, attended the Vernonia Plant Sale, and worked in the nursery. A big thank you to:

- Board members Jim Crawford, Sye Laird, Jeff Walton, Brenda Lisle, Diane Turner Maller
- Community volunteers
- Landowners
- Vernonia Forestry Class, Faculty, and Students



## SHADE OUR STREAMS

**DESCRIPTION:** *Shade Our Streams is a riparian planting program that focuses on high priority salmon-bearing streams.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** *Multiple landowners*

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** *Varied*

RIPARIAN



**TIMEFRAME:** *Ongoing*

The Shade Our Streams riparian restoration and

landowner engagement program is a platform for riparian projects of all shapes and sizes. Through SOS we seek to bring the native plant stock, knowledge, and resources to landowners in the Upper Nehalem watershed to successfully implement their restoration projects.

In 2021 the Fishhawk Lake riparian restoration work fell under the purview of SOS as we went door-to-door seeking landowner cooperation.

## NEHALEM NATIVE NURSERY

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Nehalem Native Nursery is the UNWC's beautiful, on-site facility for growing and housing native trees, plants, and vegetable starts and is a favorite of our volunteers.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** *VSD & Forestry Class, BLM, ODF, NORP, WorkSource*

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** *BLM RAC - \$22,000*

RIPARIAN



**TIMEFRAME:** *Ongoing*

The Nehalem Native Nursery was fortunate enough to receive the BLM RAC grant funds again in 2021. This pays for crew labor to work on riparian restoration projects for the BLM and the operation of the nursery. We also received surplus seedlings from BLM and ODF.

Our hard-working crew, led by Mark Hall, with WorkSource participants Vance Landry, Sebastian Heselton and Ty Smith, continues to plant trees. Congratulations to Sebastian and Ty who both graduated from Vernonia High School this year!

Mr. Benassi, Forestry Class Teacher and Students participated whole-heartedly in nursery operations. Thank you, Forestry Class!



*Top: Mark Hall in the nursery.*



*Right: Sebastian Heselton in the nursery.*



*Top: Native plant materials outside the nursery.*



*Right: Mark Hall and crew prepping seedlings.*

## YOUNGER RIPARIAN RESTORATION

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Younger riparian project is an ongoing diversity planting of 24 acres along the Nehalem River, Beaver Creek, and Fishhawk Creek.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** *Younger family*

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** *OWEB small grants - \$30,000*

**TIMEFRAME:** *2018 - 2023*



*Left: Mark Hall and crew planting more seedlings.*

*Right: Little trees thriving at the Younger site.*

The Younger family owns 198 acres of farm and forest land in the Birkenfeld area of the Upper Nehalem Valley where portions of the mainstem Nehalem, Fishhawk Creek and Beaver Creek flow through the property. Once upon a time the floodplain and riparian areas were utilized to pasture dairy cows and were cleared of trees and vegetation. This allowed invasive plants like Reed Canary Grass and Japanese Knotweed to thrive.

Over the last six years the UNWC, in cooperation with the landowners, worked to improve riparian conditions by interplanting 8,000+ native plants and shrubs across 27 acres.

In 2021 the riparian restoration crew led by Mark Hall continued working at the Younger site, defending previous plantings and planting more native trees and shrubs. The trees are reaching free-to-grow size; a forest is born!

## FISHHAWK RIPARIAN RESTORATION

**DESCRIPTION:** *The UNWC oversees the riparian planting project and supervises the FLRC service workers who are court ordered to participate in the effort.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** *Multiple landowners, OWF, ODFW FLRC, DEQ*

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** *DEQ - \$15,000*



**TIMEFRAME:** *2022 - 2023*

The development of riparian restoration projects took front seat in 2021 and one such projects is the plantings at Fishhawk Creek, both above and below the dam and lake.

The \$15,000 project is conducted in partnership with Oregon Wildlife Foundation, ODFW NCWD, Astoria and Forest Grove ODF, and private landowners. The UNWC will oversee the project and supervise the community service workers.

Implementation is scheduled for the planting seasons in spring 2022 and winter 2023 and native riparian trees and shrubs installed will help improve habitat and water quality for salmon, lamprey and other aquatic species.

## GALASSI WETLAND ENHANCEMENT

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Galassi Project will convert 52.5 acres of farm land into wetland habitat through land contouring and reforestation along the mainstem of the Nehalem near Mist.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** BioHabitats, NRCS

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** NRCS - \$375,000

**TIMEFRAME:** 2022- 2027

RIPARIAN



The Galassi Wetland Enhancement project aims to convert pasture back to semi-forested wetland in Mist along the Nehalem over five years.

After two years of delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic we are preparing to move forward. The easement is finalized with the landowner and the wetland specialist is ready to begin work with the UNWC and contractor BioHabitats.

## BEAVER DAM ANALOGUE MONITORING

**DESCRIPTION:** *The Beaver Dam Analogue pilot project started in 2018 continues to be monitored in an effort to produce 10 years of BDA effectiveness data.*

**LANDOWNER/PARTNERS:** OWEB, Trask Consulting, LLC, NFWF, ODF, OWF, WSC, NOAA

**FUNDERS/AMOUNTS:** OWEB & OWF - \$156,768 (yet to be determined)

**TIMEFRAME:** 2018 - 2028

RESEARCH

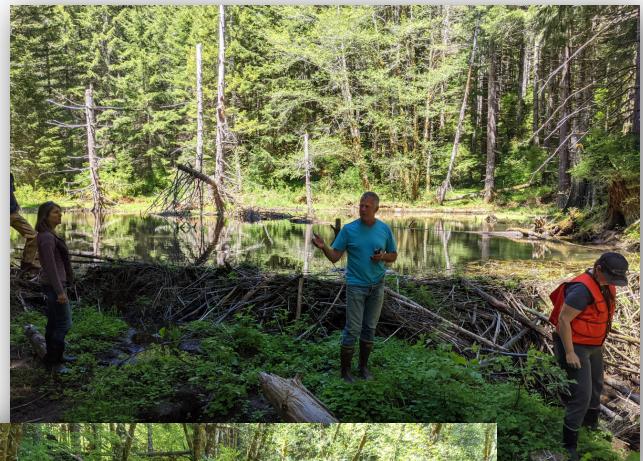


The Beaver Dam Analogue Pilot Project, which began in 2018, addresses the loss of legacy beaver habitat that at one time provided exceptional Oregon Coast Coho salmon rearing potential, by placing "fake" beaver dam structures in streams to entice beaver to return to their historic building sites.

The initial installation included 27 BDAs along four stream reaches with an additional 30 structures installed in 2019. The 2020 monitoring report found 15 out of 37 BDA sites were colonized by beaver with an additional 30 natural beaver dams constructed between the BDAs.

In 2021 we worked on grant applications that would fund continuing monitoring funds for all

existing BDAs for the next 7 years for a total of 10 years. By monitoring the BDAs we will have valuable data on rates of success and a better understanding of how, where, and when to use BDAs in the future.



Steve Trask and crew visiting two beaver-adopted BDAs from one of the pilot project sites.

## SNAPSHOTS



*Claudia Chinook returns to the Salmon Festival!*



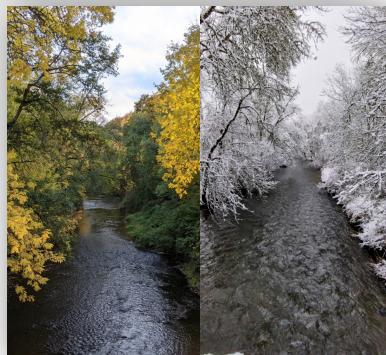
*2021 spring plant sale at Spencer Park in Vernonia.*



*Record-breaking heatwave in June caused instream temps to rise well above fatal limits.*



*Mark Hall inspecting a project site at Scaponia Park.*



*Seasons changing on Rock Creek.*



*Double rainbows at the Tweedle project.*



*Local community volunteers planting seedlings together.*

## Contact the UNWC

1201 Texas Ave. Suite A  
Vernonia, OR 97064  
(503) 396-2046

Maggie@nehalem.org  
unwc.nehalem.org



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Council Meeting**  
Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup> 2022  
5:30 – 7:30 pm - Location TBD

**Salmon Festival**  
Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> 2022  
10 am – 6 pm - Hawkins Park

**3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Council Meeting**  
Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 2022  
5:30 – 7:30 pm - Location TBD

**4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Council Meeting**  
Thursday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> 2023  
5:30 – 7:30 pm - Location TBD

**1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. Council Meeting**  
Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2023  
5:30 – 7:30 pm - Location TBD

**2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Council Meeting**  
Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> 2023  
5:30 – 7:30 pm - Location TBD