

SIUSLAW

WATERSHED COUNCIL

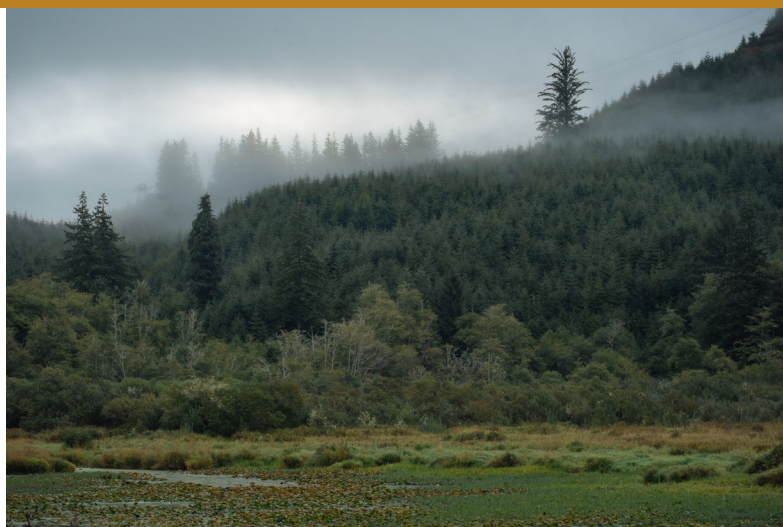
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

We're excited to say that we secured almost \$1.6 million in grant funds in 2019 to support restoration projects, outreach activities, our summer camp program, native plant distribution, habitat and water quality monitoring and partnership building initiatives. Furthermore, throughout 2018 and 2019 we spent two million dollars on contracted services, meaning we payed contractors, with a preference for local contractors, two million dollars to implement restoration projects or assist in design or engineering projects, creative projects to tell our story, developing our new website, completing our camp program, and so many more tasks.

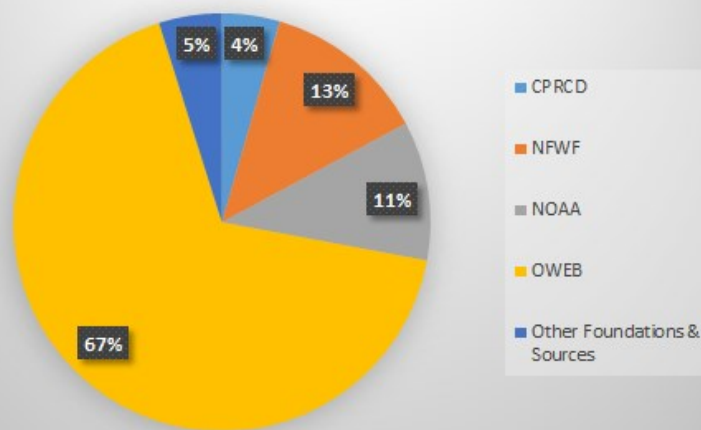
For every one million dollars we spend on restoration projects, we support 15-18 jobs by hiring local contractors, and supporting local organizations who partner with us on our projects. From research, we know that for every \$1 we spend on restoration work, we spur \$1.60 of economic activity in our local economy when contractors we hire purchase local goods and services, when they may stay at a local hotel or eat at a local restaurant, or when they repair equipment and purchase parts and goods in our local stores.

With the support from our watershed council members, we are able to continue investing in our local economy, in our environment, and in educating local community members about our awesome natural surroundings and the delicate natural processes that support habitat for fish, and a resilient landscape in the face of a changing climate.

Everyone who has supported the Watershed Council over the past few years has helped us leverage nearly \$1.6 million in grant funds in 2019, and in spending two million dollars which supported local jobs and businesses.



2019 Grant Awards



2019 Grant Awards include multi-year funding from the following sources: Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development (CPRCD), National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) through the Wild Salmon Center, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), and several other national and local foundations and sources.



2019 AND SOME OF THE NUMBERS

- Our Camp program in 2019 hosted 49 local youth to experience the Siuslaw's natural wonders, and participate in restoration work and trail maintenance, with the help of 19 volunteers.
- We worked with the Siuslaw National Forest to place whole trees throughout 8 miles of streams in the Indian Creek Watershed with a helicopter.
- We gave away over 12,000 free native plants to more than 150 streamside community members throughout the watershed.
- We surveyed over 8 miles of stream habitat, and conducted spawning surveys, juvenile surveys, and completed water quality monitoring throughout the watershed.
- We planted over 30,000 native plants at restoration projects throughout our area.



In 2019 we spent the first quarter of the year reworking our image to the community with our new logo, newsletter design, retooling of our social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, and now YouTube) and launching our new website.

The website design was set up to be a hub for our watershed community to find out about what we're dedicated to as an organization, to find out about important community events and to gather and communicate resources for watershed residents. Our new website has some exciting new features to explore, particularly under the Engage tab, where you can find out more information about how you can get involved with the Watershed Council and stay up to date on what we're doing! There's also a ton of new exciting content about why we're restoring the Siuslaw and Coastal Lakes Watersheds and what type of projects we're working on in our News feed.

Also in the spring, we launched our film series featuring several of our restoration partners. The videos highlight 7 partners' personal stories and how they relate to the projects they're involved in to restore our streams. The videos are featured on our new website as well as our YouTube and Facebook pages.

Engaging with our communities and providing education and discussion in an open public forum on regional watershed topics affecting salmon, water quality, and other topics is one of our most important goals. Meeting locations vary throughout the watershed so that we can engage with the many communities from the upper watershed of Lorane all the way out to the ocean in Florence. Meetings are generally held the last Wednesday of each month in the evening and are announced on our website, via social media, and press release. We usually have some light snacks and present an informative program along with Council updates and an opportunity to engage with each other.

We were grateful to host the following programs and speakers in 2019:

JANUARY — Ocean Acidification with Fran Recht, Coordinating Council at the Siuslaw Public Library, Bromley Room, Florence

FEBRUARY — Managing Non-Native Invasive Plants with the SWC Restoration Techs in Mapleton at the SWC Offices

MARCH — Stories of Restoring the Siuslaw SWC Film Series at City Lights Cinema with restoration partners Jesse Beers (CTCLUSI), Seth Mead (Siuslaw SWCD), Johnny Sundstrom (Siuslaw Institute), Bob Batemen (Bateman Forest Enterprise), and Graham Trask (Trask Construction), with videographer Brian Kelley and photographer Sean Gutierrez

MARCH—Fivemile Bell restoration project tour with Paul Burns, Fish Biologist with the Siuslaw National Forest at the confluence of Fivemile and Bell Creeks

APRIL — Small Scale Agriculture, Growing your farm or ranching business with Ecotrust's Ag of the Middle Manager, Maia Hardy in Mapleton at the SWC Offices

MAY — Beavers and Climate Change, Making a More Resilient Landscape with Kami Ellingson, Watershed Program Manager and Hydrologist with the Siuslaw National Forest at the Big Bear Camp and Retreat Center, Walton

JUNE—Fire Ecology and Management with Dan Gavin, Geography Professor at UofO, Maija Corliss with the BLM/USFS, and Tony Miller, SVFR at Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue, Florence

JULY—Learning from Our Tribal Partners with members of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians at Alesong Brewing in Lorane

AUGUST — Ocean and River Conditions Informing Salmon Returns and Fishing Limits with Laurie Weitcamp, Research Fisheries Biologist, NOAA, Northwest Fisheries Science Center and John Spangler, District Fish Biologist with ODFW at Siuslaw Public Library, Bromley Room, Florence

SEPTEMBER — Sauntering at Sutton Creek, a saunter through Sutton Recreation Area north of Florence with representatives from Siuslaw National Forest, Dunes Collaborative Restoration, and Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors.

OCTOBER — Stories of Restoring the Siuslaw SWC Film Series at Ecotrust, Portland with restoration partners Wild Salmon Center, Ecotrust and videographer Brian Kelley and photographer Sean Gutierrez.

DECEMBER — Annual Holiday Membership Potluck & Celebration at Deadwood Community Center. Sharing stories of the Siuslaw through poetry, word, and music inspired by our natural landscape. Awarding the Spirit of the Siuslaw to restoration partner Ecotrust for their invaluable support in 2019.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: INDIAN CREEK



In 2019, the SWC Habitat Restoration Technician team surveyed 10 miles of streams in the Upper Indian Creek sub-basin prior to a large woody

debris placement project. With long, low-gradient tributaries that are well-connected to their floodplains, this sub-basin contains some of the most intact coho salmon habitat in the watershed.

In 2018, the Siuslaw Coho Partnership (SCP) ranked Upper Indian high in their strategic action plan, recognizing that dramatic improvements could be made in the system by adding large wood. After training from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the SWC team set out to quantify habitat conditions on Forest Service land just months before the Council and FS implemented a large wood placement project.

SWC Technicians collected thousands of datapoints--channel geometry, wood volume, pool and riffle type and abundance, riparian vegetation and much more--and using ODFW's Habitat Limiting Factors Model (HLFM), they assigned a habitat rating to each stream segment. These ratings reflect a stream's capacity to support juvenile coho salmon during winter conditions which should increase as fish habitat improves (added complexity, riparian vegetation, floodplain connectivity, winter refuge habitat). The SCP will compare HLFM estimates within stream reaches before and after restoration to document the effect on coho habitat. These results will also be used to inform adaptive management throughout the basin.

Upper Indian Creek winter parr carrying capacity estimates based on SWC pre restoration surveys show low-to-moderate carrying capacity in these streams prior to restoration. The Council will go back into these creeks in the summer of 2020, and again in 2024, and conduct the same surveys to measure the effectiveness of the October 2019 helicopter LWD projects, anticipating we will see a higher rating for winter parr carrying capacity.

Following the surveys conducted by SWC technicians, the SWC project managers along with the Siuslaw National Forest staff contracted with Columbia

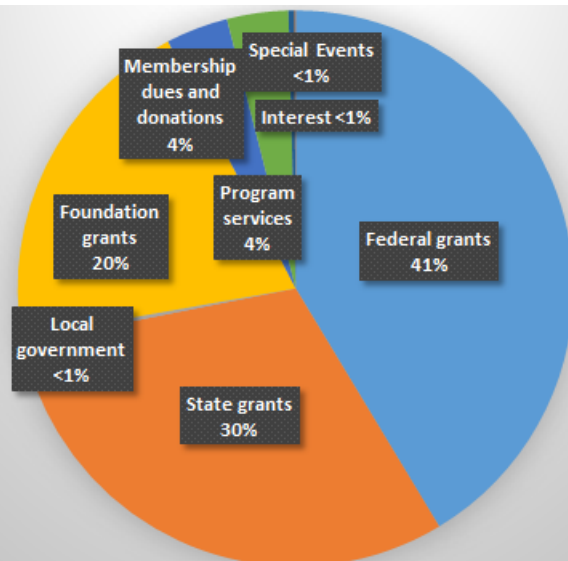
Helicopters to install large woody debris placements in selected tributaries in Indian Creek.

Projects like the 2019 placement of large logs in Upper Indian Creek and its tributary streams help to improve the winter habitat by providing obstacles to the fast moving water. The logs are arranged into log jams that provide resistance for the water, which slows it and diversifies the flow path, allowing for slow-water eddies that provide calm places for small fish to inhabit. Slower water cannot carry as much sediment, so sand settles out into the slowest spots, and gravels into other places. Other wood that the stream is carrying gets caught on the large logs, providing additional complexity to the habitat of the stream. As these sediments accumulate, they raise the bed of the stream, and the logs help direct the flow of water outside of the banks of the stream, where it slows down, adding another place that small fish can find refuge from the fast water.

By the summer of 2020, the creeks will have returned to relative docility. The logs that protected the fish from fast flows in the winter will now provide shelter from predators. The sands that dropped out of the slower water may now be hosting lamprey larva, and the gravels will be spawning beds for returning mature salmon in the fall.

This project required the coordination of many partners and was made possible through funding from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) through the Wild Salmon Center, the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB),

2019 Financial Report



REVENUES

Federal grants	\$335,736
State grants	\$247,461
Local government grants	\$2,767
Foundation grants	\$164,113
Program services	\$29,358
Membership dues & donations	\$28,893
Special events	\$2,847
Interest	\$555
TOTAL	\$811,730

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATION

In 2019, the SWC reaffirmed our commitment to education. Since our formation in 1997, education has been a pillar of our mission and a fundamental component of our work to restore salmon habitat and support a resilient community.

We have developed a unique partnership with Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors (ECO) to bring engaging ecology curriculum related to Oregon state standards to classrooms

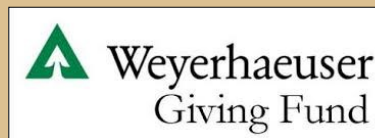


throughout the Mapleton, Siuslaw and Reedsport school districts and to pair the classroom education with field experiences throughout the watershed. These field experiences will connect local students with local natural resources professionals and open new pathways and opportunities for careers stewarding our natural resources and staying in our community.

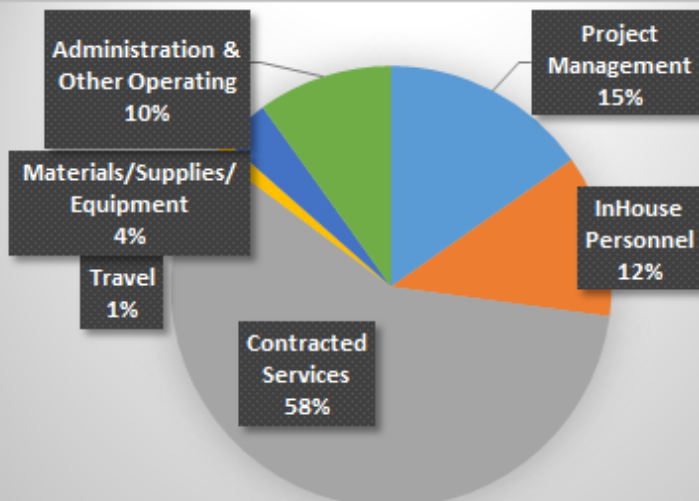
We're also consulting with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians to ensure that the place-based curriculum we are bringing to local schools is relevant in traditional ecological knowledge and informed from a perspective which was gained from folks who have lived in our area for thousands of years since time immemorial.

The SWC and ECO have been fundraising and grant writing to hire an Education and Outreach Coordinator at the SWC to lead this programming and have finally received enough funds to welcome our newest staff member, who will be spearheading this effort! It is due to the commitment of our membership through their generous financial support, and through volunteer time and energy that we've been able to support this program, and through granting organizations including the Chambers Family Foundation, the Gray Family Foundation, Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund, Trust Management Services, Banner Bank, PeaceHealth and Oregon Pacific Bank.

**Thank you to all of
our Education
program funders
and sponsors!**



2019 Financial Report



EXPENSES

Project management	\$145,592
InHouse Personnel	\$113,417
Contracted Services	\$553,884
Travel	\$12,040
Materials/Supplies/Equip	\$34,483
Administration & other general operating	\$94,366
TOTAL	\$953,782

Note: some expenses paid with income received in 2018

Thank you! To the funders, sponsors, contractors and partners who work to restore and steward the Siuslaw Watershed for future generations.

Banner Bank

Bateman Forest Management

Brian Kelley

Bureau of Land Management

Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development

Columbia Helicopters

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors

Ecotrust

ESA Engineering

Foundation Engineering

Habitat Contracting, LLC

Ian Whitmore

Kate Harnedy Photography

Mapleton Community Foundation

Mapleton School District

McKenzie River Trust

Melissa Delzio

Members of the Siuslaw Watershed Council

MBL Timber Services

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

National Forest Foundation

NOAA Restoration Center

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

OBEC Engineering

Oregon Community Foundation

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund

PeaceHealth

Rotary Club of Florence

Siuslaw National Forest

Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District

Siuslaw School District

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

State of Oregon Youth Authority

The Dunes Restoration Collaborative

The Ford Family Foundation

The Nature Conservancy

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality/EPA

The Outdoor Foundation (BOGS)

Trust Management Services, LLC

US Fish and Wildlife Partners Program

Volunteers of the Siuslaw Watershed Council

Western Lane Community Foundation

Wild Salmon Center

The Siuslaw Watershed Council Mission Statement

The SWC supports sound economic, social, and environmental uses of natural and human resources in the Siuslaw River Basin. The Council encourages cooperation among public and private entities to promote awareness and understanding of watershed functions by adopting and implementing a total watershed approach to natural resource management and production.