



PACIFIC RIVERS FREE FLOW

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Photo: Robert Sheley

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mike Morrison - Board President

Pacific Rivers has continued to work hard to fulfill our mission since I last reported to you in the Fall issue of Free Flow. I am pleased to be addressing you now with news of some of our current accomplishments. But I think any report to the Pacific Rivers community must begin by marking the very sad, sudden passing of our friend, longtime Board Member and former Treasurer, Jon Kurtz. Please take a moment to read the In Memoriam piece in this issue. We will all greatly miss Jon for his big heart, strong environmental convictions, and for making all he encountered feel a bit better.

Pacific Rivers has been an active force in the North Umpqua Coalition, a very successful collaborative effort of eight environmental partners that waged a months long effort to seek greater protections for the North Umpqua River's imperiled summer steelhead—which run suffered its worst return rate on record in 2021. On April 22, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission voted to terminate the summer steelhead hatchery program on the North Umpqua, providing an increased chance for this iconic run to succeed. Pacific Rivers and the rest of the Coalition understands that, while this development is momentous, it is but a step in a long process that will necessarily include working with partners to improve those variables we can control—such as habitat. We stand ready to keep up this fight.

Pacific Rivers has long spearheaded important data gathering work by way of snorkel surveys on Steamboat and Canton Creeks, surveys designed to learn the abundance and location of salmonid smolts within those streams. Canton Creek is a tributary of Steamboat Creek, which is in the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Sanctuary. These streams are the stronghold for spawning summer steelhead. The surveys will continue in 2022, and with the added importance of documenting the effect of last summer's devastating fires in the area—in fact, forest closure made surveying Steamboat Creek impossible. Moreover, management regulations for the Sanctuary have not yet been drafted; our hope is to spur that along, informed by the years of snorkel surveys we have completed.

Our Fire/Drinking water project continues to move forward. We have been working with the Geography Department at Portland State University to complete the mapping and look forward to finalizing the report soon. Our hope and expectation is that we will be able to provide important guidance to those many communities that rely on fire-affected forest lands for their drinking water.

We are looking forward with great anticipation to the release of Pacific Rivers' and Shane Anderson's newest film, "The Lost Salmon." The film will send an impactful message about the plight of spring Chinook salmon and will educate many thousands about why these fish are unique and why they are so important to so many people and places. We will be using the film as a springboard for a public action campaign on behalf of early run salmon along the entire Northwest Coast.

Your volunteer Board has been busy and committed. Each member of the Board is pitching in to make sure that the important work of the organization continues to restore and protect healthy watersheds. Please keep turning the pages of this newsletter—you will find reports from individual board members updating you on the status of ongoing projects for which they have accepted responsibility. I assure you that our rebuilding is on track, our stature in the environmental community continues, and the work we are doing is both rewarding and vital. We cannot thank you enough for your ongoing support—it is both literally and figuratively what keeps us going.

Thank you,

Mike



Photo: Shane Anderson - The North Umpqua River suffered its worst return rate on record in 2021 for summer steelhead.

Pacific Rivers and Partners Reach Settlement Agreement With The State Of Oregon Regarding Water Quality Certification Of The Hells Canyon Dam Complex

Bryan Lessley - Board Treasurer

Pacific Rivers and its coalition partners have settled a lawsuit brought against the State of Oregon, challenging the State's issuance of a Clean Water Act section 401 certification for the relicensing of the Hells Canyon Dam Complex. The settlement calls for reduction in water temperature in the Snake River, reintroduction of spring chinook and summer steelhead within the Complex above the Hells Canyon Dam, and reduction of mercury and methylmercury concentrations in fish tissue. The settlement also calls for reintroduction of sockeye into Wallowa Lake.

The three Hells Canyon dams – Hells Canyon, Oxbow and Brownlee – were built between 1958 and 1967, and completely block fish passage above river mile 247 of the 1078 mile long Snake River. The owner of the dams, the Idaho Power Company, has been seeking a 50-year relicensing since 2005, operating between then and now on a series of temporary annual licenses. Because the dams straddle the Oregon/Idaho border, the relicensing required a certification from both states that continued operation of the dams would comply with each state's water quality standards. After Oregon issued its certification in 2019, Pacific Rivers, joined by Idaho Rivers United, filed suit. That suit was consolidated with a similar suit brought by the Nez Perce Tribe, with whom they had been communicating. All three have approved the settlement.

The problem of methylmercury in the Dam Complex originates from agricultural lands in

the upper part of the river basin. Warm water runoff containing agricultural nutrients flows into the Brownlee Reservoir, the largest and furthest upstream of the three reservoirs. The nutrients in the warm water form toxic methylmercury, which is then released downstream through the Complex into the Snake and ultimately the Columbia River. The methylmercury accumulates in fish tissues and poses a danger to anyone who consumes the fish both within and below the Dam Complex.

The operation of the dams also results in warmer water releases in the fall and colder releases in the spring, both of those varying from pre-dam natural flows and both of those harmful to migrating salmonids below the dams.

The settlement agreement calls for Idaho Power Company to reduce water temperature below 16.5 degrees Celsius, and to take accelerated action if that goal is not reached in two consecutive years. The agreement secondly requires a process to reintroduce spring chinook and summer steelhead into Pine Creek, a major Oregon tributary above the Hells Canyon Dam but below the other two dams. This process includes a study period and a plan to transport juveniles downstream of the Hells Canyon Dam. The same provisions require a pilot program to reintroduce sockeye into Wallowa Lake, with the first releases of 35,000 sockeye smolts to occur at the Bonneville Dam in 2023 and to continue for four years.

Pursuant to the settlement, the State of Oregon and Idaho Power Company have contributed a combined \$1.5 million toward the study of methylmercury eradication, with a multi-step process to establish total maximum daily loads (TMDL's). The timetable of this is lengthy – completion of a study by 2023, initiation of an amelioration plan by Idaho Power Company in 2024, and further study of those efforts until Idaho Power Company submits an actual management plan in 2026.

Pacific Rivers and its litigation partners will be monitoring the activities of a working group currently engaged in the process of developing a modeling process for TMDL's that includes issue measurements and not simply water load limitations.

Pacific Rivers is proud of this substantial contribution to the restoration of fish habitat and to the health of the Snake and Columbia River watersheds.



Photo: Shane Anderson - Built in 1958, The Brownlee Dam was the first of three dams built as part of the Hells Canyon Dam Complex. It is part of a system that is completely blocking fish passage in the Snake River.

OUR WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

Rick George - Board Secretary

Two whitewater rafting guides who had witnessed the degradation of many of Oregon's most cherished rivers founded Pacific Rivers (then the Oregon Rivers Council) in 1987. Just one year later, Pacific Rivers celebrated its first significant success: crafting and helping pass the nation's largest federal river protection act, the landmark Oregon Omnibus National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. It added 40 outstanding rivers totaling 1,500 river miles to the National Wild and Scenic River system in Oregon. Now, 34 years later, with an expanded geographic reach and a name change, Pacific Rivers continues the all-important river protection work of adding new Pacific Northwest Wild and Scenic designations.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

About 2% - 1,917 miles - of Oregon's rivers are designated Wild and Scenic. These include some of the state's most recognized and beloved – the Rogue, Grande Ronde, North Umpqua, Sycan, Owyhee, Clackamas, Imnaha, Chetco, Illinois, Donner und Blitzen, Sandy and Nestucca Rivers, as well as many others that are not household names, but are equally important. In Washington only 197 miles are designated out of 70,439 total river miles – the Middle Fork Snoqualmie, White Salmon, Skagit, Pratt and Klickitat Rivers, as well as Illabot Creek. California currently leads all lower 48 states with nearly 2,000 river miles, about 1% of its total of 190,000, designated as Wild and Scenic, including such storied rivers as the Feather River, Klamath River, American River, Eel River, Tuolumne River and Trinity River. Idaho has only 891 miles designated Wild and Scenic – less than 1% - but they include some of the most recognizable rivers in the world – the Snake, Salmon, Middle Fork Salmon, Owyhee,

Clearwater and Bruneau Rivers. An excellent, very user friendly website on the history and rivers in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System is at <https://www.rivers.gov/wsr-act.php>.

Though adding over 40 Oregon rivers to the Wild and Scenic Rivers system in 1988 was a huge success for Pacific Rivers, and still stands as the largest addition in the lower 48 states, Alaska has both the most total river miles at 365,000 and the most currently designated Wild and Scenic Rivers at 3,210 miles (but still less than 1%).

HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE

As we approach the 55th anniversary of the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act it's a good time to reflect on the importance of river protection. The Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968 as Public Law 90-542: 16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq. It was specifically intended to balance the then-rampant damming and development of the nation's rivers by explicitly prohibiting dams in designated rivers. Wild and Scenic River designations are intended to protect and preserve the "outstanding natural and cultural resource values" of designated rivers and streams.

In passing this historic river protection law Congress declared "...the established national policy of dams and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes."

That policy, new in 1968, has worked well to preserve and protect river sections and to keep new dams from being constructed. However, the Act hasn't worked nearly as well to protect the "outstandingly remarkable values" for which each river was designated. Values such as water quality and, in the Pacific Northwest, some of the most important natural and cultural resource values like salmon, steelhead and Pacific lamprey. These fish, which must migrate outside the designated Wild and Scenic River segments, continue to slide toward extirpation or extinction.

Why has Wild and Scenic designation not worked as well to protect these designated values? The answer is quite simple: many of the values are dependent upon river conditions upstream and downstream of the sections designated Wild and Scenic. Water quality degraded by watershed scale upstream human disturbances – roads, logging, channel relocations, urban developments – flows into the Wild and Scenic designated section.

Similarly, hydroelectric dams in the river segments below the protected designations decrease or in some cases even eliminate salmon and steelhead returns to the designated segments. Often, such as in the case of Northeast Oregon's Grande Ronde River and John Day River, both situations occur – downstream Snake River and Columbia River hydro dams threaten extinction of the wild salmon and steelhead protected by the "outstandingly remarkable values" in the designated segments, and upstream land uses increase stream temperatures and sedimentation in the downstream designated river segments. Conversely, pristine salmon spawning habitat in the upper Willamette River tributaries of the Santiam and McKenzie rivers is blocked by concrete flood control dams built seventy years ago.

What's the answer? Manage rivers with continuity from headwaters in the highest mountains to the river estuaries at the Pacific Ocean. Easy to say. Not so easy to do.



The Lower Rogue, one of the many designated Wild and Scenic Rivers in the state of Oregon.

A century of aggressive dam building, dewatering, ill-advised road-building, moving rivers out of their natural channels and into ditches, indiscriminate logging of watersheds in nearly the entire Pacific Northwest temperate forest and myriad other human changes have resulted in rivers that kill fish. The answer is to restore the segments of rivers that kill fish. Where those fish-killing segments connect to a river segment with good fish habitat, fish will have the opportunity to recovery and survive at higher rates. A sound example, with fish-saving results, is dam removal. From Condit Dam on the White Salmon River and Elwha Dam on the Elwha River, dam removals have had remarkable results in the restoration of habitat, halting the trend to extirpation and starting the recovery of salmon and other native fish. See this short National Geographic clip that includes video of the Elwha Dam removals which occurred from 2011-2014.

WHAT TO DO?

Native, wild Pacific salmon, steelhead, lamprey and other fish are not “at a crossroads” in 2022. They are on the verge of extinction. But there are many actions we can take and reasons we can hope for prevention of this globally significant mass extinction disaster.

In Oregon nearly 4,700 miles of salmon and steelhead and resident trout rivers would be protected under the Wild and Scenic River Act in Sen. Ron Wyden’s “River Democracy Act” introduced last year. Many landowners in critical meadow and valley river environments are working with tribal governments and other partners to build back habitat complexity in hundreds of miles of Pacific Northwest rivers. And tribal governments have brought salmon and lamprey back to the Umatilla and Walla Walla rivers, the Willamette River tributaries, the Elwha River, and the Grande Ronde River.

There are also many, many opportunities to free rivers from their over-developments. Many of these developments are archaic. Many never made sense environmentally or economically. More don’t any more today.

Again, with an eye to fixing and reconnecting fish killing river segments to good river habitat – many of which are designated Wild and Scenic – we can restore native fish. Examples of some of the highest priority fish-saving restoration opportunities:

- 1) Remove four old and tired PacifiCorp Klamath River dams in Oregon and California, built between 1918 and 1962. This will reconnect 400 river miles of habitat to salmon and steelhead and other native fish.
- 2) Restore fish passage at the PacifiCorp series of diversion dams and flumes that were constructed nearly 75 years ago in the most critical Spring Chinook salmon spawning habitat in Oregon’s North Umpqua River (just upstream of the 33 mile 1988-designated Wild and Scenic River segment).
- 3) Remove the four federal lower Snake River hydroelectric dams in Southeast Washington to reconnect to the just-upstream Hell’s Canyon Wild and Scenic River section of Snake River and to the best remaining salmon habitat in the entire Columbia River Basin - Idaho’s Salmon River system (most of which is also designated Wild and Scenic).

4) Protect and restore the Chehalis River in southwest Washington that includes new Wild and Scenic River designations from headwaters to the estuary.

5) Pass the the River Democracy Act in Congress and make Oregon the nation's leader once again in river protection.

Rather than continuing to tinker around the edges of effective recovery of native salmon and lamprey, it's these and many other similar projects that have the potential to improve water quality and fish habitat and stop the slide to more salmon extinctions. These are the game changers. Pacific Rivers is excited to work with our tribal government partners and the citizens of these critically important watersheds to bring home the salmon, steelhead and lamprey to their traditional waters.

Let's do this!



Photo: Shane Anderson - Included in the River Democracy Act, the Williamson River in Southern Oregon is one of the headwater tributaries of the Klamath River. Known for its giant redband trout, the Williamson's clear, spring fed waters are awaiting the return of Chinook salmon. They've been blocked by the Klamath dams for a century.

SPEAK THE TRUTH ABOUT SALMON

Justin Hayes - Guest Contributor

Wild salmon and steelhead from the Snake River and its tributaries are in trouble.

That's a fact.

But if you have been listening to Washington Representatives Dan Newhouse and Cathy McMorris Rodgers, and the disinformation that they amplify, you'd think otherwise. Their statements would lead you to believe that wild Snake River salmon are doing great. The numbers tell a different story.

The Snake River used to have salmon runs that exceeded a million fish. Since the construction of dams, runs have dramatically declined. In an effort to protect and restore these fish, Snake River wild salmon and steelhead were placed on the endangered species list. Wild fish returning to wild places, not hatchery fish, are protected under the Endangered Species Act, and these are the populations to watch. The region has adopted recovery goals, which are the wild fish population targets that fish managers are trying to achieve to stave off extinction and return wild fish to abundance.

The target for wild Snake River spring/summer chinook is 127,000 returning adults. In 2021, an estimated 7,062 of these fish returned. For wild Snake River steelhead, 2021 numbers were equally alarming – only about 10,416 returned. Well below the goal of 105,000. Things were even more grim for the wild Snake River sockeye. Only 4 fish swam back to Idaho in 2021, far below the goal of 9,000.

The truth is that these wild fish are in real trouble, and Newhouse and McMorris Rodgers know it.

Dwindling salmon populations threaten many things – the livelihoods of people in Idaho and Washington, Tribal cultures and communities, and regional wildlife that feed on salmon, including the Southern Resident Killer Whales living along the West coast and in the Puget Sound.

In the next year or so, these fish will (hopefully) catch a break. Ocean conditions will improve some. Maybe a few more fish will return this year, or next. When 8 wild sockeye return to Idaho, the disinformation crowd will put out press releases claiming 'Success – sockeye runs have doubled!' Or maybe next year we will get lucky and see a couple thousand additional steelhead. Either way – there will be false claims that wild salmon are doing great.

But a lucky break in the ocean or a blessedly good water year is only a momentary reprieve. A bad water year, bad ocean conditions, or sweltering water temperatures in the reservoirs will erase these fleeting gains and the decline will continue.

The disinformation crowd also likes to point to far away rivers with poor salmon runs and argue that it means all salmon are suffering from some vast malaise – anything but the dams.

Meanwhile, the truth can be seen just downstream – fish runs in the lower Columbia are doing better than those in the Snake. All Columbia and Snake River fish swim in the same ocean and are subject to the same commercial fishing harvest, sea lions, and other predators. The difference is that Snake River fish must migrate past 8 dams and their warming,

deadwater reservoirs, while lower Columbia fish swim past four or fewer dams. Each dam takes a toll, and the cumulative impacts caused by too many dams are driving wild Snake River salmon to extinction.

While we are all entitled to our own opinions, we are not all entitled to our own facts. For wild Snake River salmon and steelhead, the facts are irrefutable. Wild Snake River fish are far, far below the recovery targets and so close to extinction. Blissfully saying wild Snake River fish are doing well is a lie. The people of Washington deserve honesty from those who have been elected to represent them.

Those working to restore salmon and the communities and wild places that depend on them have been very upfront about wanting to work with those whose lives and jobs are tied to the dams. Salmon, orca, and Tribal justice advocates are committed to making all communities whole – those who have been reaping the benefits of the dams and those who have borne the costs. I can't say the same thing for Newhouse and McMorris Rodgers. Their refusal to step forward and look for solutions for all is harming the very communities that they say they are trying to protect. Change is coming, and as the saying goes, if you are not at the table, you are on the menu.

Justin Hayes, of Boise, is the executive director of the Idaho Conservation League, an Idaho-based, statewide conservation group working to restore salmon, tackle climate change and build a just, sustainable and prosperous future for all peoples in the Northwest.



photo: Shane Anderson - Wild Steelhead jumping upriver.

WE LOST A LEGEND

Kate Crump - Board of Directors

The ringing of my alarm woke me one Saturday morning but I realized I wouldn't have set my alarm; it was my phone ringing at 5:30 am. This typically signals bad news. Caller ID notified it was my friend and fellow board member, Megan, so I answered with trepidation. Her voice signaled the inevitable and she instantly broke the news to me that our fellow board member and friend, Jon Kurtz, had suddenly passed away. I felt the shock of losing someone you wished you'd had more time with.

As Megan and I spoke, we got to share how much we loved Jon. We swapped Jon stories and agreed that he made everyone feel special and created connections with all who crossed his path. It truly is about how you make people feel in this world and Jon led by example. He had a magical quality of bringing empathy to tough conversations and gently reminding people about what was important.

I had just spoken with Jon earlier that week about plumbing issues and every time I spoke with him I had this feeling of lightness. He was so helpful and willing to talk through the ideas I had. Talking to Jon, I was important and heard. After discussing the work things we always drifted right to fishing, even if the phone call was three minutes! He told me that while fishing with me the month before, even though we didn't catch anything he'd come back and do it again because it was so fun. And I remember telling him I was going to make it a point to come visit him and his wife, Janice, on the North Umpqua next winter to see their home he'd spent so much time rebuilding and spend some quality time drinking some fine wines. I meant it and I even daydreamed about the chance to hang with them, overlooking the river as the sun set.



As I grapple with the idea and permanence of death, I have this powerful feeling of indulgence that Jon went out on top. I remember last month when we were fishing and he told me he was 75 years old, I replied he was the oldest big kid I've ever met! He was planning a trip with Janice to bicycle around Holland during the tulip bloom.

I hate bicycles and his enthusiasm had me thinking I might even enjoy that vacation. As a skilled fisherman and caster, I was very proud to have his cousin, Mike, and Jon laying out long seamless casts and perfect swings with their single hand rods.

Totally old school and completely badass. Yet he somehow managed to get his fly wrapped so far into a tree none of us could see it. The three of us had a heck of a time getting it out of there, Jon fell in the boat, and we had a good hearty group laugh.

Jon brought a casual feel to life and his emotional draw is inspiring to see in a man. His dedication and generosity to conservation and watershed health was unparalleled. I will miss him greatly and I will try to live the examples he shared and demonstrated. He was a beautiful person and I'm so sorry for the loss of such a treasure in our world. I hope we can all dig a little deeper into our emotional well and bring empathy to difficult situations. Jon would be proud of us.

JONATHAN KURTZ

AUGUST 3, 1946 – MARCH 11, 2022

Jon left this world abruptly after a tragic accident March 11, 2022. He was 75. Jon was born in Stockton, California. After a few moves, he and his family ended up in Roseburg in 1962 where he resided almost his entire life. Unbeknownst to Jon at the time, his career began in high school. His girlfriend was the daughter of a local plumber named Ken Gum. He said one day to Jon, "If you're going to be spending so much time here with my daughter, I'm going to put you to work teaching you something worthwhile." Jon bought Ken Gum's Plumbing shop about 10 years later.

Jon majored in political science at the University of Oregon, but in the end, he operated the successful and respected company, North Umpqua Plumbing for almost 50 years. At the time of his death, he was in the midst of transitioning the ownership to his right-hand man, Brodie Miller, who worked for him right out of high school until now, 29 years later.

Jon was an adventurer. He traveled extensively, beginning with a multi-month, overland minibus trip from Europe to Afghanistan and over the Kyber Pass in 1971. He was a passionate and skilled skier and fisherman. He learned to fly fish his home river, the North Umpqua, and loved the Deschutes, Montana, trout streams, British Columbia steelhead rivers and saltwater fishing for tarpon and bonefish. Powder skiing was another passion and Jon frequented his local mountain, Mt. Bailey as well as the interior ranges of British Columbia.

Not only did he like to eat well and drink good wine, but he was also known for his culinary talents. He liked to bring extra accoutrements (to the occasional frustration of his companions) on backpacking trips such as an espresso maker, a milk frother, chocolate sprinkles and a selection of French cheeses and, of course, a bottle of good wine. He loved to have fun and was game to make life that way as much as possible for himself and those around him. Most of all he loved his friends and family. His wife of 24 years, Janice Matthews, shared his love of many of the same things. She loved her eccentric, plumber husband and felt fortunate that they had found each other.

Jon cared deeply about his community and environment. He generously devoted time and money to the protection of the North Umpqua River. He was a past president of the North Umpqua Foundation and on its Board of Directors, a Steam boater and on the Board of Pacific Rivers. Jon supported many local organizations; Family Development Center, Music on the Half Shell, the Community College, to name a few.

At the time of his death, he had been working hard to restore the damage done to his beloved home and land burned by the Archie Fire. He was excited after working nearly a year and a half to show his friends all that he had accomplished and talk about all that he was imagining for the future.

He is preceded in death by his mother, who raised him, Ruth Kurtz. He is survived by his first wife, Michael Ann Dowling, his present wife Janice Matthews, and sisters Joanne Krohn (Michael), Jane Kurtz, and Emily Robertson (Doug), nephew Paul Robertson (Amy) and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Jon was especially close to his sister Emily and nephew Paul Robertson, of Roseburg. Jon felt very honored when Paul and Amy told him they were naming their now, two-and-a-half-year-old, Arlo "Jonathan" Robertson after him.

A TRIBUTE TO ART

FORMER BOARD MEMBER ART JOHNSON DIES AT 94

Art Johnson, who served on the Board for 20 years, overseeing some of Pacific Rivers' greatest achievements and most difficult times, died March 10 at the age of 94.

Art served on the Board of what was then called the Oregon Rivers Council, then the Pacific Rivers Council, from 1993 until 2013, including serving as Board Chair from 1995-1997. Art helped forge Pacific Rivers' commitment to a scientific approach to water quality, river conservation and the watershed approach. He helped create the Aquatic Conservation Strategy as an integral part of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan, and chaired the Board during the early years of the Plan's implementation. He presided over the launch of Salmon Safe in 1996, helped cause ESA listing for 16 wild salmon stocks in 2009, and helped the organization survive and renew itself following the difficult economic downturn. David Bayles, who served as Conservation Director, Executive Director, and Board member during Art's tenure, says of Art that he was one of the "towers of our Board for years and his political courage matched his love of the resource perfectly."

Pacific Rivers salutes and remembers Art Johnson.



BOARD MEMBER SPECIAL RECOGNITION

REBECCA DANIELS - FINANCE MANAGER

Pacific Rivers Finance Manager Rebecca Daniels celebrates 25 years of service to the organization this year. Rebecca joined Pacific Rivers in 1997 and has seen the organization through its triumphs and evolution since that time.

Rebecca expresses her gratitude for what she has been able to learn about what it means to restore rivers. She is especially personally proud of efforts to bring attention to the weaknesses of the Oregon Forest Practices Act and seek reform. "It is important that someone has brought attention to the terrible things that are allowed under that Act. I am really proud of PR for making that effort." Those efforts, of course, are ongoing.



One long-serving staff and Board member speaks for everyone in describing Rebecca as "primarily responsible for one of our strengths – our financial soundness always matches our scientific soundness and legal soundness. Only insiders and foundations appreciate this but our financial operations are always fastidious, and the foundations know this as part of our strength."

Thank you Rebecca for many years of good work and many more to come.

LAUREL ANDERSON

Join Pacific Rivers in thanking our communications guru, Laurel Anderson, for her many years of meaningful contributions. Laurel led our Outreach and Communications Team with creativity, innovation and passion. Laurel is an all-around brilliantly talented individual with a heart of gold. Prior to PR, she had a decade of being a professional dancer, followed by a degree in Interior architecture and design, and authoring a cookbook. Laurel not only created all of the plant-based recipes for the gorgeous cookbook 'Wild Plate', she did the food styling, photographs, and typography (and it was named Cookbook of the Year by VegNews in 2014)!



All of us at PR have nothing but gratitude for what we have all experienced working with Laurel. She's helped us to share so many stories, calls to action, and important conservation initiatives. Thank you for inspiring the Pacific Rivers Community, and helping us to reach people, make connections and build something more meaningful. We look forward to continuing our relationship with you and wish you the best in your upcoming endeavors!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We want to thank our many, many supporters for giving us the motivation, ammunition, and yes, funding, to tackle these challenging issues. We could not do it without our contractors, scientists, policymakers, friends and family to be eyes-wide-open and motivating change.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Pacific Rivers is to protect and restore the watershed ecosystems of the West to ensure river health, biodiversity and clean water for present and future generations.

OUR VISION

A future where healthy communities have access to clean, cool drinking water free from chemicals, and people can play in rivers and streams. A future where watersheds that store carbon are resilient to warming temperatures and other effects of climate change and are home to abundant populations of fish and aquatic wildlife.

PACIFIC RIVERS MERCHANDISE

Pacific Rivers is excited to team up with Yeti to make these beautiful Pacific Rivers branded insulated water bottles and wine tumblers! We also have dvd's, hats, and books for sale on our website under the store tab. All of the proceeds will go towards supporting Pacific Rivers' work to ensure free-flowing, clean water; advocate for Wild and Scenic river protections; build fire resilient forested watersheds; and recover the Snake River's endangered salmon before it is too late.



WWW.PACIFICRIVERS.ORG

1001 SE Water Ave., Suite 450
Portland, OR 97214
info@pacificrivers.org