



PACIFIC RIVERS FREE FLOW

Volume	05	No.	03
May	2020	Season	Spring

FEATURED INSIDE

Oregon's Proposed Timber Compromise

Feds Reject Breaching Lower Snake Dams

A Pathway to Lower Snake River Dam Removal

Chehalis - A Watershed Moment

Sanctuary!

Foreward

Greg Haller - Executive Director

Going forward, human history will be measured either as before COVID-19 or after. No other event— not war, not 9/11, not the global climate crisis—has affected every single human being on the planet at once, like the virus has and will. It has exposed the fragility of certain systems of governance and economics, and revealed where strength and resiliency reside.

Despite an uncoordinated and, in many ways, botched initial response to the outbreak, people and governments are now working collectively towards a single, worldwide goal: slowing the spread of the contagion. Seven billion people are more or less doing the same thing. This is a remarkable and unprecedented accomplishment in and of itself and offers hope for the future of humankind and the planet alike. Imagine if this same sense of shared purpose was applied to solving the climate crisis? Or even to a regional issue, like the fate of threatened Snake River salmon? The good news is, unlike COVID-19, these problems can be solved without massive economic and lifestyle disruption. Due to the virus, people are living with less—which has had positive impacts on the environment we all share. As a result of simply slowing our lives down, our air and water are noticeably cleaner. My hope is that after the virus crisis subsides, a new spirit of conservation will emerge and drive rapid action against the greatest environmental threats facing the planet. The virus has been a wake-up call, revealing what systems—human and environmental—absolutely need to function properly if we want our future generations to live happy, healthy lives.

During this slowdown in activity, please stay safe and healthy. Get to know your neighbors (at a safe distance). Reconnect with family and friends. Read a book. Tie some flies. Tend to your garden. And when the time is right, visit wild places and rivers to rejuvenate your mind, body and soul.

All the Best,





Photo: John McMillan

Juvenile coho salmon thriving in sanctuary waters.

Pacific Rivers Responds to Oregon's Proposed Timber Compromise

Megan Ponder - Board Member

Many of us listened intently when Governor Kate Brown announced a compromise deal that would bring Oregon environmental groups and timber companies together to update Oregon's timber practices. I want to share my perspective on this issue and why Pacific Rivers did not sign on to the proposed compromise agreement.

Rural communities disproportionately bear the brunt of Oregon's outdated and inadequate forest regulations. Our drinking water systems are at risk and our rivers are full of sediment, while slash burning and aerial pesticide spraying degrade our air quality. Pacific Rivers brought these impacts to light in the film *Behind the Emerald Curtain*.

Over the past several years, I've joined my friends and neighbors on the North coast in an effort to bring attention to the impacts of Oregon's destructive timber practices and to advocate for modernizing the Oregon Forest Practices Act. In 2019, Pacific Rivers crafted legislation to modernize the OFPA to protect drinking water, fish habitat, and rural communities. Despite broad support, the bills died in committee.

The Pacific Rivers Board of Directors was in full support of board member Kate Crump's 2020 ballot petition effort to effectively address aerial spraying and steep slope logging, and we were encouraged by the growing public awareness of these issues and support for the ballot measures.



Photo: Jason Hartwick

Industrial clear-cuts rise above the Town of Wheeler on the Oregon Coast's Nehalem River.



Photo: Jason Hartwick

Rockaway Beach Oregon's drinking watershed.

This grassroots effort, led by frontline communities, was undercut by a backroom deal that excluded impacted communities. The Pacific Rivers board was notified of the agreement on Friday, February 7 and asked to sign on to the compromise agreement within 48 hours. On Monday, February 10, Governor Kate Brown announced a deal between timber companies and environmental groups. The deal would prevent the public from voting on the ballot measures and limit our ability to speak out or engage on these issues in the future. We don't believe this deal effectively protects or includes those most impacted by timber practices. We are concerned about the long-term implications and viability of future action on these issues.

As Oregonians, we should seek to become a leader in healthy forest management. As it

stands, Oregon is far behind other West Coast states, and the timber industry has achieved regulatory capture in Salem—a position that it does not enjoy in Olympia or Sacramento. We need to increase buffer zones for streams, ban aerial spraying, limit slash burning and regulate steep slope clearcuts. These timber practices are already more effectively regulated in neighboring states.

Improving the Oregon Forest Practices Act depends on the participation of rural communities who are the most impacted by outdated timber practices. Pacific Rivers will continue to support frontline communities in an effort for these voices to be heard and reflected in policy decisions.

Feds Reject Breaching Lower Snake Dams (again) in Flawed Environmental Analysis

The three federal agencies in charge of the dams and reservoirs that make up the Federal Columbia River Power System released their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the operation of the dams. Despite Judge Simon's admonishment that the system "cries out" for a new approach, the Army Corps of Engineers, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and the Bureau of Reclamation once again rejected breaching the four lower Snake dams to aid dwindling runs of salmon and steelhead. They did so despite the fact that their own analysis concluded breaching offers the best chance for reversing the trend towards extinction. Instead, the agencies put forward a plan known as the "flexible spill" operation, currently being implemented for 2020-2021 as part of a short-term detente between BPA, Oregon and the Nez Perce Tribe. Spill refers to water going through the dam spillway as opposed to the power generating turbines, and it has been the most effective passage option for juvenile fish migrating to the ocean. It could buy time until a breaching solution is worked out. It is not, however, a panacea to the salmon extinction crisis in the Snake. The EIS process was flawed from the start. The Trump-mandated timeline for completing the analysis was shortened by a full year in order to speed the inevitable conclusion: the dams will stay. One result of the truncated timeline is that the climate analysis is incomplete, leaving unanswered, critically important questions about how climate change will affect water temperature and salmon survival in the slackwater reservoirs, which are already dangerously warm and rife with predators.

So now what? The feds will put out a final impact statement this summer, followed by Biological Opinions from NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. After that, more litigation is virtually guaranteed. Regional dialog that brings together all affected interests and sovereigns has been going on in fits and starts for years, and it's the only way a comprehensive solution can be hashed out. But what does a comprehensive dam breaching look like?

CONGRESSMAN SIMPSON HAS SOME IDEAS. WILL OTHERS FOLLOW HIS LEAD?

\$16 billion has been spent on salmon recovery, yet salmon and steelhead are still on the brink of extinction. Meanwhile, BPA struggles to compete and has been in serious financial difficulty for years. This is what motivated Republican Congressman Mike Simpson to announce last spring that he would look at breaching and related issues to solve the salmon crisis and BPA's financial problems. Finally, a politician from Idaho (a republican no less) was stepping up to say the status quo was no longer acceptable.

The centerpiece of Simpson's plan is a rewrite of the 1980 Northwest Power Act, and BPA's role in marketing energy and managing the fish and wildlife mitigation program. The Power Act was created in response to poor electrical forecasting, the decline of salmon in the Snake, and a distrust of BPA and utilities. Forty years later, what's changed? To Simpson, salmon don't

stand a chance if BPA remains in charge of both marketing power from the federal dams and the purse strings to mitigate the impacts of the dams. As for replacing the power, and solving the irrigation and transportation issues associated with breaching, Simpson's proposed ideas like new, farmer-owned rail lines, investment in battery technology to support solar and wind development, new infrastructure to pump water to fields and an economic revitalization of the Lewiston-Clarkston Valley—which has been stagnant for years despite a booming economy in the rest of the state.

It's been a year since Simpson made his groundbreaking speech. No other politician appears to share his enthusiasm for a Northwest Power Act 2.0, or dam breaching. It's been dead silence from Washington

senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell. When Governor Brown sent a letter to Governor Inslee acknowledging that dam breaching offers the best chance of salmon recovery (without explicitly saying the dams should be breached), Washington's Republican House members went apoplectic, accusing the Governor of promoting extreme actions that would devastate the Eastern Washington economy. Senator Wyden publicly expressed a willingness to facilitate a conversation about dam removal, but dam removal doesn't happen without Murray and Cantwell, and he's not likely to get in front on this issue. Governor Little of Idaho convened a salmon recovery round table, but then quickly took dam removal off the table in order to find common ground in other areas. If the keys to breaching are in the hands of Murray and Cantwell, what needs to be done to get them to lead?



Spilling water at Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River to aid juvenile fish passage.

A Pathway to Lower Snake River Dam Removal in 10 Years

We think Congressman Simpson got it right: salmon don't have a chance as long as BPA has the dual responsibility of marketing power and running the fish and wildlife mitigation program. BPA is a New Deal-era behemoth, unable to respond to the dynamics of the 21st century power market or the urgent needs of salmon. A rewrite of the Northwest Power Act is the only way to restructure this relationship. But support for dam breaching amongst key Northwest politicians (DeFazio, Murray, Cantwell, Newhouse) is not yet high enough to get them on board for breaching, let alone a rewrite of BPA's role, if any, in managing the federal system.

Time is running out for salmon and for BPA. Covid-19 might provide an opportunity for funding the needed infrastructure upgrades necessary to make a deal with eastern Washington farmers and shippers to support breaching. But given the current political climate, we have a hard time seeing how this deal comes together without leadership from Washington. As an alternative, we think setting the region on a pathway to breach, much like the 200 Biological Opinion did, is the next best option.

HERE'S HOW THAT CAN HAPPEN:

1. Implement the flexible spill operation for a maximum ten year period.
2. Establish strong performance standards for juvenile passage survival and smolt to adult return ratios.
3. By year 5, if the data indicates the performance standards are not being met, the breach contingency kicks in.
4. Starting in year 6, BPA and the region would plan the transition to dam removal and infrastructure upgrades.
5. By year ten, construction to remove the first of the four dams begins.

There are many reasons why this plan is the only workable option to get to dam breaching in a reasonable time period. First, it will eliminate any doubt that BPA can spill its way to salmon recovery. If spill succeeds beyond our wildest dreams, great! Second, it gives the region time to plan for the transition to dam removal and our renewable energy future. Third, dam removal doesn't happen overnight, even with a deal, as dam removal on the Klamath, Elwa and Condit has proved. This deal locks in dam removal in 10 years. And fourth, it provides certainty for utilities, farmers, shippers, BPA, tribes and communities along the Snake. Without an immediate deal for breaching, we think our proposal is the next best option for salmon and communities.

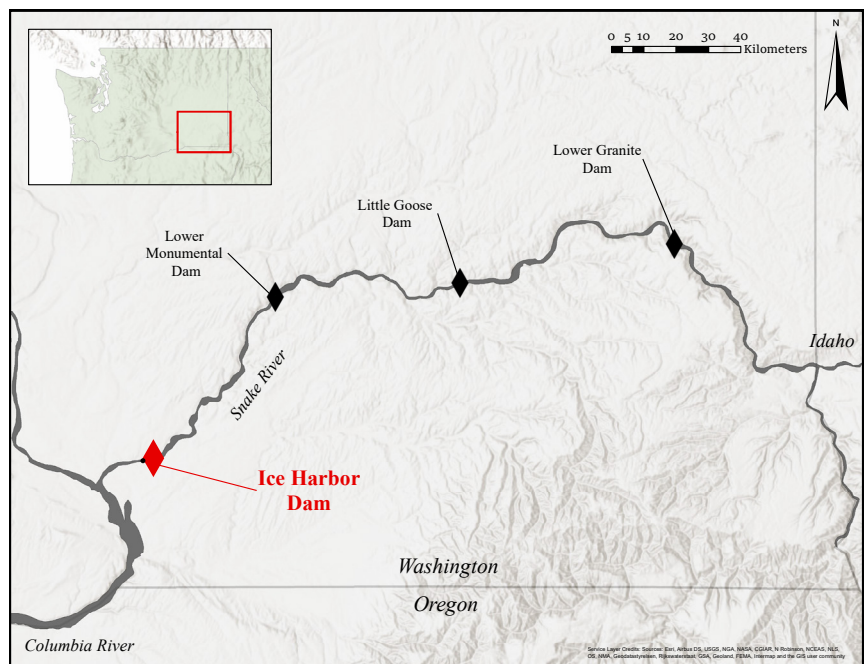
Lower Snake River Spotlight - Ice Harbor Dam

Katie Michel - Conservation Analyst

On the border of Washington State's Franklin and Walla Walla counties sits the 65-year-old Ice Harbor Dam, the first of four dams on the lower Snake River. While touted as a keystone of local agriculture through its supply of reliable irrigation water, Ice Harbor Dam only provides water for 35,000 acres, or 2.65%, of both counties' farmland. Is Ice Harbor's presence essential to the survival of these 35,000 acres? Or is the dam's necessity in the agricultural economy of southeast Washington due for a reevaluation, particularly as Snake River salmon runs are perilously close to extinction?

In 2017 the total crop producing acreage of Walla Walla and Franklin counties totaled approx. 1.32 million acres, generating \$206 million in profits from fruits, nuts and other consumable crops. Of those, roughly 35,000 acres (2.65%) of that land is irrigated by water diverted from the Ice Harbor Dam. What would happen if water from Ice Harbor was no longer available? Proponents of the dam's preservation claim that these particular 35,000 irrigated acres would fall into barren ruin without water from the Ice Harbor Dam. However, removal of the dam does not necessarily mean the end of irrigated agriculture for these farmers. Unirrigated acreage makes up a significant portion of both counties' croplands, and no studies have shown that these particular tracts of land would lose their value or profitability by producing unirrigated crops. There is no evidence that unirrigated crops would be less profitable on currently irrigated lands. If irrigation water is necessary to profitability, shifting infrastructure to support the storage and withdrawal of water from the Snake River could be the solution.

Considering the feasibility of changes in irrigation source, crop selection and land management, along with the distinct lack of reports delineating a lack of sustainable groundwater, it stands to reason that Ice Harbor's contributions to irrigation are less than necessary for sustaining a thriving agricultural economy in southeastern Washington, or for maintaining value for the lands currently being supplied irrigation water. Until there is further exploration of alternative methods of agricultural support without the Ice Harbor dam, it is impossible to create a complete assessment of Ice Harbor dam's dispensability in the preservation of this small portion of Washington's arable land.



Distribution of the lower Snake River dams within Lewis and Franklin Counties, SE Washington State.

Chehalis Dam Proposal - State Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement

PUBLIC COMMENT OPEN FOR PROPOSED CHEHALIS RIVER DAM

The Washington State Department of Ecology released the draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed flood retention dam in the headwaters of the Chehalis River on Feb. 27. Just two weeks earlier, the state decided to shut down the prized winter steelhead fishery for the first time ever due to low returns for the fourth year in a row. Both the Quinault Nation and Confederated Tribes of Chehalis also closed their steelhead fisheries.

It's not just steelhead: This past fall, the runs of coho, fall Chinook and spring Chinook came in well below the official forecasts. New climate models predict that by 2080, 98% of the basin's water temperatures would rise to levels unsafe for salmon and steelhead.

Will the construction of the dam push these already struggling populations over the line and onto the Endangered Species Act?

The proposed dam is to be built in the headwaters of the Chehalis River at river mile 108. A large, concrete structure just shy of 300 ft tall, and spanning nearly a quarter mile, it is proposed as a temporary flood retention facility where flood gates would close during what hydrologists consider the 10 year flood. According to the EIS, a flood event of this magnitude would occur every 4 years by 2080.

In the first five years of dam construction, models indicate salmon and steelhead could see populations reduced above the dam site by 37-65% depending on the species. This region represents 3-4% of the basin's

2,400 square miles of habitat, yet produces 16% of the basin's wild steelhead. It is also a vital thermal refuge for all juvenile salmon in a watershed already suffering from warm summer water temperatures.

While the run of the river dam will not have a permanent reservoir, the clearing of the reservoir footprint could have significant cascading effects, including water temperatures rising up to 9 degrees fahrenheit, a reduction in dissolved oxygen and an increased sediment load and turbidity. It is hard to imagine how a mitigation plan will be successful with the predicted loss of salmonids, rising water temps and other water quality problems that would come with the proposed dam. The EIS repeatedly states: "There is uncertainty if the proposed mitigation is technically feasible or economically viable".

So what's Plan B when floods are expected to get worse and salmon are on a downward spiral?

"The Proposed Action would have significant and unavoidable adverse environmental impacts on the environment."
-Washington Dept. of Ecology

"There is uncertainty if the proposed mitigation is technically feasible or economically viable."
-Washington Dept. of Ecology



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Biologist Nick VanBuskirk surveys the Chehalis River for spring and fall chinook above the proposed dam.



Spring and fall chinook salmon hold in cold water refuge at the mouth of Crim Creek directly above the proposed dam site.



Dan Penn, Historic Preservation Officer for the Chehalis Tribe, looks up at the location of the proposed dam, which is also a significant cultural site.



A Chehalis River wild steelhead caught and released days before the river closed for the first time ever to winter steelhead fishing.



An angler fishes the Chehalis River in search of wild steelhead. In most years the Chehalis Basin is the top producer of wild steelhead; however, this is the fourth year in a row escapement goals have not been met.

We could do nothing and walk away from the Chehalis, but we know that will lead to a dismal future for the fishery, tribal culture, and all communities that endure these occasional floods.

There is no silver bullet to solve the flood issue. The dam itself is not intended to stop flooding but rather reduce flood levels from one of the many forks of the river that contribute to high water events. Flood levels are predicted to lower from 10ft to 2 inches depending on where you live in the basin, with a 1.5 ft reduction in the Interstate 5 corridor around the towns of Chehalis and Centralia. In the last half of the century, the dam is predicted to keep 43% or 1280 structures in the study area dry. However, the study area does not include any of the major tributaries or reflect the entire basin. Hence, the dam would not effectively prevent flooding from impacting many of the basin's residents and businesses.

The EIS evaluates what is dubbed "The Local Action Alternative," which includes a suite of solutions and a non-structural approach to build flood resilience within the study area (which excludes tributaries). Elements of this plan include improving floodplain function and increasing natural water storage through river restoration efforts, land use management actions, buying out or re-locating at-risk properties or structures, and improving emergency response.

The EIS states: "The Local Action Alternative does not identify specific projects because those decisions would be made by local governments. Therefore, the EIS does not analyze the feasibility or economic practicability of these potential actions."

This is an important information gap that needs to be addressed if the region is to make an informed decision about its future. There is an opportunity to look more in-depth into not

only these solutions but also combine other solutions to protect critical infrastructure such as building flood walls along Interstate 5 and raising existing levees around towns.

River restoration and floodplain connectivity can serve as a dual benefit to both mitigate flood impacts and recover salmon and other aquatic species. These benefits need to be analyzed as one action, rather than the current proposal that separates aquatic species restoration and flood mitigation.

Flooding is a natural phenomenon. Dealing with flood impacts is a national problem. Flooding is the number one cost to the federal government for natural disasters. At the center of this conversation is the concept of simply re-locating at-risk properties. In the long term this is the only surefire way to keep communities safe and reduce the cost to taxpayers. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/11/climate/government-land- eviction-floods.html>

The relocation of at-risk properties allows for the creation of greenways or corridors, areas in the floodplain where the river can meander and connect with its floodplain. These areas also create habitat, access and recreational opportunities.

Infrastructure such as dams are big-dollar investments that have a finite life. With an uncertain climate future, it's hard to predict how these types of investments will pay off. They also could give a false sense of security and provide an incentive for further development in the floodplain.

The entire Chehalis Basin process, including the EIS, has been based on climate predictions up to 2080. What happens after that? How can we redesign our watersheds and communities to be resilient for the next seven generations?

Chehalis River - A Watershed Moment

Shane Anderson - Director of Storytelling

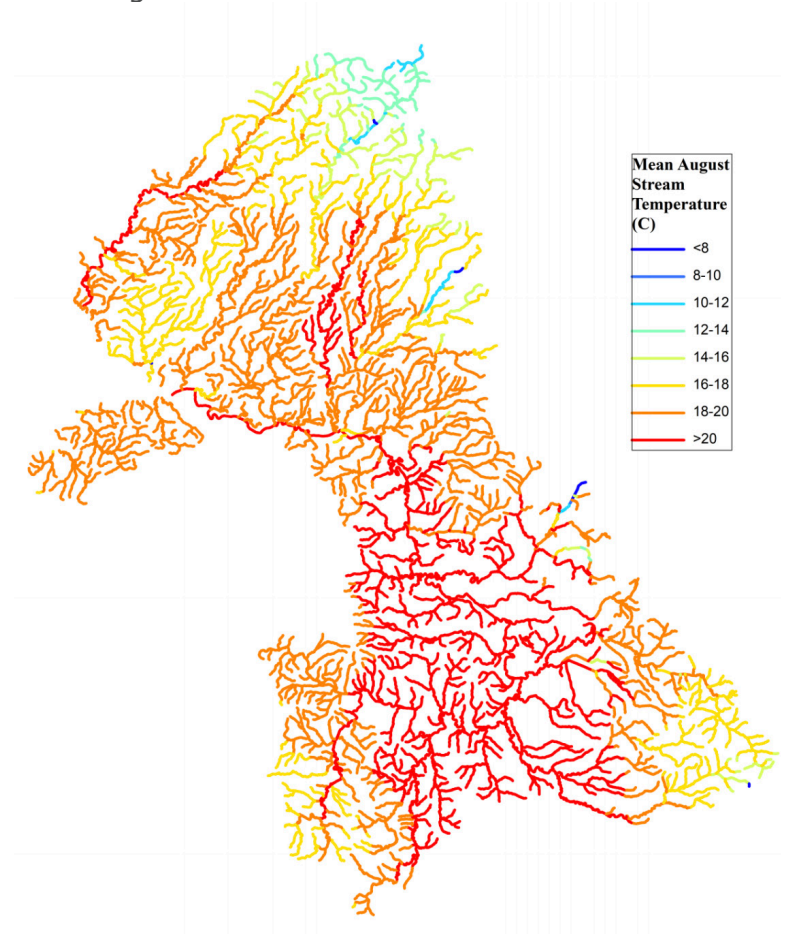
Two years after the cameras started rolling, we have completed our latest feature film *A Watershed Moment*. What started as a short video about a dam proposal on Washington's Chehalis River morphed into a story of how climate change is affecting the fabric of a typical working watershed in the Pacific Northwest.

The story of the Chehalis is applicable to so many river systems across America, which are healing from a century of resource extraction but are vulnerable to the impending effects of climate change. With global temperatures predicted to rise between 5 to 9 degrees fahrenheit by the end of the century, the fate of our freshwater ecosystems hangs by a thread. We have a short window to make decisions now that will have lasting effects into the future.

The universal solution to lessen the impacts of climate change on watersheds are the forests. We need to grow bigger trees with much larger riparian buffers than we currently have. Old growth trees provide needed shade and soil retention to mitigate erosion—which is a factor in worsening floods—and keep water temperatures regulated—which is essential to the future survival of fish in the rivers. The climate models for the Chehalis suggest that by 2080, waters will be so warm that 98% of the 2,600-square-mile watershed will fair too warm for salmon. Salmon are an indicator species of the ecosystem, meaning their health indicates the health of the entire zone. This rise in water temperatures will have cascading effects on the entire food web. The rising temperatures also will create more atmospheric river extreme rain events in the Pacific Northwest in the late fall through spring seasons. Scientists at the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group estimate an increase in rain from these

events of 11-26%. They don't anticipate more frequent weather events, but rather more intense rain during any given storms.

The climate science predictions should be considered when implementing building codes and land use decisions across the nation, while finding ways to restore our rivers and make them more resilient to these foreseeable changes.



Climate models suggest that by 2080 98% of the Chehalis Basin will not be thermally optimal for salmon and steelhead without significant restoration and protection efforts.

Once again, big trees and timber in the form of logjams can help slow and distribute floodwaters. Most of our rivers and streams have been stripped of their woody debris by logging efforts, which has accelerated the flow of water downstream, rather than dispersing that energy throughout the watershed as the river would naturally do.

Making our watersheds messy again with woody debris—which occurs when trees live along the riverbanks, and pieces of trees fall into the water during storms or when trees die—would naturally slow the flow of the rivers. It would also give salmon a better shot at survival into the future, as logjams are essentially the coral reefs of the freshwater kingdom. They create deep pools within the river, provide sheltered zones for salmon to spawn and are a key component to recovering our wild salmon.

Building and planning for climate resilience in our watersheds needs to start immediately as restoration, policy and protection takes time to implement—and time is one thing we don't have much of.

Due to the Covid-19 virus the spring tour of our new feature length documentary film about the Chehalis river basin and proposed dam, *A Watershed Moment*, has been cancelled. We are planning on doing a series of virtual screenings in the coming months and KBTC (pbs) in Washington will be airing the film in June.



Photo: John McMillian

Juvenile steelhead rely on cold freshwater refuge for several years before migrating to the ocean.



Photo: Jesse Clark

Shane Anderson filming “A Watershed Moment”



Many parts of the upper Chehalis are scoured to bedrock from years of splash damming and a reduction of large wood and logjams that store gravel. These are priority restoration areas.



Jesse Clark along the West Fork of the Humtulpis documents what a river should look like with large wood, cold water and lots of spawning gravel for salmon.

Meet Jesse Clark

Cinematographer and Co-Director of A Watershed Moment

As a cinematographer by trade, I've been lucky enough to make my living through visual storytelling. I've always striven to find the most beautiful way to portray wild places. Depicting the beauty and value of these places through film has the power to help people form relationships with those places and inspire them to help preserve our natural heritage.

The contrast between the old-growth redwoods of Northern California and the clear-cut timberlands of the Pacific Northwest is what led me toward conservation filmmaking years ago. I reached out to Shane Anderson and Pacific Rivers to collaborate on this front because of their great work on the subject. Why start from scratch? While it's the big trees (or lack thereof) that drove me to align with this work, I found myself becoming part of a much bigger conversation about watershed health: the deep and timeless connection between trees, water, earth, and their animal and human inhabitants.

That conversation is alive and well on the Chehalis river, where Washington now debates the future of this beautiful and fragile system and what kind of river future generations will be left with. Our new film, *A Watershed Moment*, highlights the complex and interconnected worlds of people's cultural and economic livelihoods and asks the questions about who benefits from each decision made.

The wild spaces we still have left in this world remain wild because of the individuals who have worked hard to conserve them. My formal schooling as well as commercial experience has helped hone a level of visual quality that paired well with Shane's own

intricate knowledge of the Chehalis basin and watershed health at large. Striking a balance between entertainment and education, I'm committed to helping bring those wild places and creatures to the big screen (and all the small screens too), in hopes of educating and inspiring future and current conservation leaders in our communities. All communities will face their own watershed moments sooner or later.



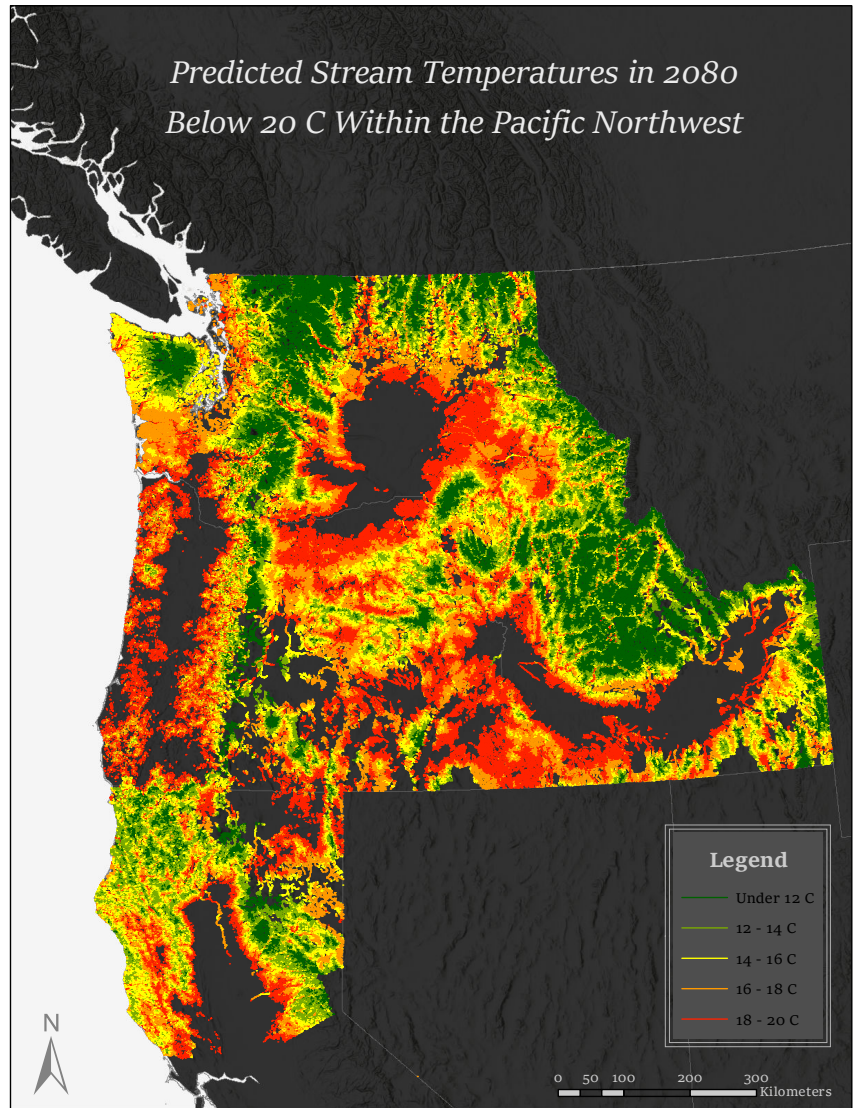
Jesse Andrew Clark in his element while filming “A Watershed Moment” in the Campbell Grove along the West Fork of the Humptulips River.

Sanctuary!

Pacific Rivers is pleased to announce our new Sanctuary Campaign in conjunction with the release of our short film, Sanctuary. The film documents our snorkel survey project in the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Sanctuary on Steamboat Creek, our partnership with Soul River, and the healing power of nature.

You can watch the film on our website under Films.

It was our experience with Soul River that spurred the idea for the Sanctuary Campaign. There's no doubt that cold freshwater sources are in jeopardy from the effects of climate change. By 2080 much of the currently available salmon and steelhead habitat will be too warm to support these fish without action now. Our goal is to identify and protect the most climate resilient watersheds in the Pacific Northwest for the benefit of fish, wildlife and local communities. The campaign will mirror the strategy we employed on Steamboat Creek to create the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Sanctuary, which included partnerships with youth groups and schools for fish surveys, data collection and advocacy. By using Geographic Information Systems in combination with climate models and existing knowledge of wild fish populations, we will identify sanctuary watersheds for preservation throughout Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Northern California. We will integrate science, art and storytelling into our advocacy with new and unique perspectives to build support for permanent protection that ensures the values these watersheds provide today will continue into



By using climate models and GIS we can identify and map candidate cold water sanctuaries for protection.

the future. Ultimately, It means setting our watersheds on a path towards healing, and recognizing that these areas can provide powerful medicine in and of themselves to those that visit.

Right now we are creating an atlas of these potential sanctuary watersheds. We will share our findings with you soon. Stay tuned!



Photo: Jason Hartwick

Potential future sanctuary in the Umpqua National Forest.



Photo: Jason Hartwick

Wild summer run steelhead utilizing a thermal refuge in a Klamath River Tributary and potential future sanctuary.



Photo: Jason Hartwick

Chad Brown and the group from Soul River are amazed by the adult summer steelhead holding in the Big Bend pool in the heart of the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Sanctuary.

Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Update

Pacific Rivers continues our effort with Senator Wyden and a broad coalition to designate thousands of miles of Oregon rivers under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. We have been working with several tribes to identify streams worthy of protection, particularly in watersheds that can serve as climate resilient sanctuaries. We are especially interested in supporting the efforts of the Nez Perce Tribe to protect streams in Northeast Oregon, which are home to wild steelhead, rare plants, abundant wildlife and important cultural resources. We expect Senator Wyden to introduce legislation later this summer.



Joseph Creek and its tributaries in NE Oregon are prime candidates for protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Rich with the cultural history of the ni mii puu people, and home to wild steelhead, freshwater mussels, and abundant wildlife, the Joseph Creek watershed drains into the lower Grande Ronde River in Washington. This is one of the many watersheds in Oregon that Pacific Rivers is working to protect.

In Remembrance

WAYNE “DOC” MINSHALL

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our friend, mentor and long-serving board member, Wayne “Doc” Minshall. Wayne, or “Doc” as colleagues and students called him, led an extraordinary career at Idaho State University, where he taught for nearly four decades and founded the Stream Ecology Center. Internationally recognized as an expert in stream ecology and fire, he changed the way people considered rivers and their watersheds, and led groundbreaking research in Yellowstone after the 1988 fires. A great storyteller and historian, Wayne also wrote several books on early Idaho history. He retired as Professor Emeritus of Zoology and Ecology in 2003. Wayne’s experience and stature was a huge boost to Pacific Rivers when he joined us, and he helped develop our watershed focused perspective that defines the very essence of our organization to this day. Wayne is survived by his wife Judy, his son Jacob, and daughter Jennye. A memorial service will be planned after the Covid-19 crisis is over. We will miss Wayne greatly.



Wayne’s experience and stature was a huge boost to Pacific Rivers when he joined us, and he helped develop our watershed focused perspective that defines the very essence of our organization to this day. Wayne is survived by his wife Judy, his son Jacob, and daughter Jennye. A memorial service will be planned after the Covid-19 crisis is over. We will miss Wayne greatly.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

DR. ROBERT SHELEY

After serving many years on the Pacific Rivers’ Board of Directors, Dr. Robert Sheley is stepping down. Robert was a thoughtful and supportive board member, who always lent a hand at our public events and with raising money for the organization. An avid angler and photographer, he contributed many beautiful photographs from his adventures around the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Thank you for your years of support, Robert!



WELCOME TO THE TEAM

KATIE MICHEL

We are excited to introduce Katie Michel, who started working in February as Pacific Rivers’ Conservation Analyst. Katie recently finished her degree in environmental science and urban studies at U.C. Irvine, and has worked in environmental science, conservation GIS and permaculture research. Katie is currently working on spearheading the GIS and scientific analysis efforts for our new Sanctuary Campaign.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

CHORDS FOR CONSERVATION

Chords for Conservation! The Fly Fishing Film Tour, Breedlove, and Pacific Rivers have teamed up to support clean rivers and healthy populations of fish and wildlife. Breedlove guitars, handcrafted in Bend, Oregon with sustainably sourced wood are a pure pleasure to play and deliver a warm and bright sound. When you buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of these beautiful handcrafted guitars, you will be supporting Pacific Rivers and their work to protect rivers and their watersheds. Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code or by visiting www.pacificrivers.org. The guitars will be on tour so come to a show and play guitar! Learn more about Breedlove at www.breedlovemusic.com



About the RAFFLE

Chords for Conservation! The Fly Fishing Film Tour, Breedlove, and Pacific Rivers have teamed up to support clean rivers and healthy populations of fish and wildlife. Breedlove guitars, handcrafted in Bend, Oregon with sustainably sourced wood are a pure pleasure to play and deliver a warm and bright sound. When you buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of these beautiful handcrafted guitars, you will be supporting Pacific Rivers and their work to protect rivers and their watersheds. Tickets can be purchased by scanning this QR code or by visiting www.pacificrivers.org. The guitars will be on tour so come to a show and play guitar! Learn more about Breedlove at www.breedlovemusic.com

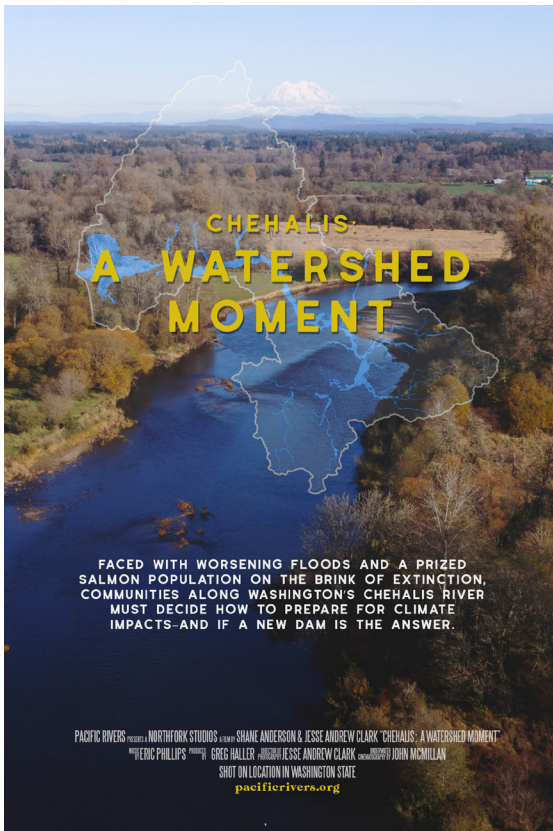
RAFFLE PRIZES

1. Wildwood Concert Satin Whiskey Burst CE African Mahogany-African Mahogany MSRP \$649
2. Signature Companion Copper E Torrefied European-African Mahogany MSRP \$665
3. Performer Concerto Bourbon CE Torrefied European-African Mahogany MSRP \$999



A WATERSHED MOMENT

Watershed Moment virtual world premier May. 17th and 18th on Pacific Rivers tv Youtube channel.



THANK YOU MONTHLY DONORS!

It's during these uncertain times that the power of monthly giving really shines through. Recurring monthly donations create a reliable source of income for our organization, which is important during normal operating conditions, and critical during times like these. Our monthly donors care deeply about protecting our freshwater heritage and they've put their commitment to work by supporting us throughout the year. Thank you for your dedication!



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