

The Salmon River Restoration Councils Mission is to assess, protect, restore and maintain the Salmon River ecosystems with the active participation of the local community, focusing on restoration of the anadromous fisheries resources and the development of a sustainable economy. We provide assistance and education to the general public and cooperating agencies by facilitating communication and cooperation between the local communities, managing agencies, Native American Tribes, and other stakeholders.



Photo of Salmon River's chinook salmon by Janjaap



SALMON RIVER RESTORATION COUNCIL

This Annual Report includes updates on all of our projects, a list of our major accomplishments, news from the Watershed Center, and an SRRRC financial report for 2009. We all feel we have done a lot but there is still much to be done and funding for the work is needed. If you would like to support this grass roots restoration effort you can **Become a member, Renew or Upgrade your membership.**

Your membership dues allow us to pursue important work that may otherwise fall through the cracks of our grants and other funding. Mail us at the Watershed Center with your name and contact info. You can also go to the "Get Involved" page of our website, www.srrc.org to make a donation by Paypal.

Basic membership - \$25

Fall Chinook membership - \$50 (donate at this level or higher you will receive various gifts)

Coho membership - \$100

Green Sturgeon - \$250

Spring Chinook Lifetime membership - \$500 or more



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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009

Dear SRRC Supporters and Friends,

The Restoration Council had many rivers to cross in 2009 – from turnover in staff, to the loss of our program manager and technical director Jim Villeponteaux, and finally, at the end of the year, the dismantlement of our Watershed Center due to frozen and broken pipes. Despite the obstacles, we've somehow managed to continue to find our way.

With our Community Restoration Program (CRP-Program) as a foundation for all of our projects to grow from, we continue to work toward achieving our mission to protect anadromous fish and develop a sustainable restoration economy on the Salmon River. This work is made possible through the incredible insight and commitment of our staff, Board of Directors, community members, and other partners. Your interest, financial contributions and volunteerism have played an essential role in supporting our efforts. Thank you for your continuing assistance and reassurance that we are on the right path for our watershed.

There were a number of notable events and accomplishments in our work this past year, which are summarized and highlighted in this Annual Report. You will also find that we have welcomed new staff to the Restoration Council to fill in the gaps and increase our ability to carry out our mission for the Salmon River and our community.

We couldn't do it without you.
Thanks again and see you sooner,

Petey Brucker



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS:

US Fish & Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
CA Department of Fish & Game
US Forest Service
USDA Nat'l Fire Plan Grant through FSC
Karuk Tribe
Grants Clearinghouse
Bella Vista Foundation
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Ayers Family Fund
Strong Foundation
Shasta Comm. Regional Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Cereus Fund of the Trees Foundation
Siskiyou Co. RAC
CA Department of Food & Agriculture
Siskiyou Agricultural Department

AND 2009 MEMBERS

SPRING CHINOOK – LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
Cora Villeponteaux
Danny Hagans, PWA
Frank Colver
Les Harling
Robert Gale & Family
Peter Stiehler & Kate Chatfield

GREEN STURGEON MEMBERS

George Martin & Sharon Hoppas
Jon Grunbaum & Gail McDowell
Ethan Guerra
Robert Sonnengold

COHO MEMBERS

Sandy Bar Ranch
Richard Roggia

FALL CHINOOK MEMBERS

Ahni Robison
Barry Snyder
Bill Delaney
Creek & Betty Hanauer
David & Valerie Van Scoyoc
Don Flickinger & Jennifer Silveira
Don & Carol Monkerud
Donna England
Erica Terence
Foster Boone
Frank Berry
Liz & Jody Pullen
Melissa & Bill Schroeder
Michael Tierra
Pat & Joe Dougherty
Robert Lieber & Cheryl Taubenfeld
Shirley Hugdahl
Steve Gunther
Steve Robinson
Susanne Cardiff
Tera Palmer & Chris Hatton
Thalia Truesdell
Will & Ade Harling

THANK YOU..



To celebrate May Day and make a MAY DAY call to the public, SRRC organized a community workday digging Italian thistle. 28 volunteers and the SRRC weed crew hiked up the mountain side around Forks of Salmon searching out the noxious weed.

...TO OUR 2009 MEMBERS, DONORS, VOLUNTEERS & FUNDERS!

All contributions whether in memory of our loved ones and family, signing up for the SRRC membership, sending us a check, or volunteering your services and to the SRRC and the Salmon River are greatly appreciated. Your commitment is essential to our well being, as we move through these amazing times of great challenge which energize commitment on the Salmon River

AND THANK YOU TO THE DONORS

Don & Margery Osterhoudt
John C. Schuyler
Nancy Kenyon
Nick & Marilyn Letsos
Richard Roggia



STAFF

Petey Brucker, Program Coordinator
Kathy McBroom, Office Manager
Les Harling, Staff Accountant
Christi Hadley, Bookkeeper
Shannon Monroe, Bookkeeper
Sarah Hugdahl, Program Assistant
Tom Hotaling, Fisheries Coordinator
Lyra Cressey, Monitoring Coordinator/Program Assistant
Mitzi Rants, Watershed Education Coordinator
Tim Darling, Noxious Weeds Coordinator
Robert Will, GPS Technician
Jason Clarke, Technical Assistance
Bill House & Michael Kein, AmeriCorps

Jim Villeponteaux

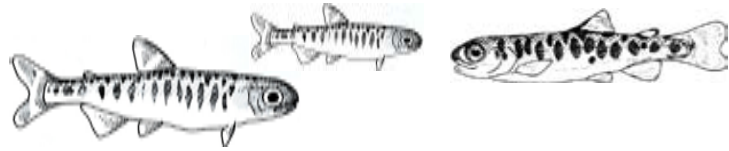


CREWS

Irie Swift
David Van
Cole Novatny
Kate Reinhart
Bob Webster
Laurissa Gough
Nathan Donnelly
Travis Eggimann
Jesse Cullen
Laurie Belle Adams
Miles Richardson
Jessica Hanscom
Scott Kingery
Pat O'Connor
15 to 20 locally contracted crew for fuels reduction

BOARD

Petey Brucker, President
Toz Soto, Vice President
Kathy McBroom, Secretary/Treasurer
Will Harling
Scott Harding
Ron Reed
Sharon Hoppas
Ben Beaver
Creek Hanauer



NEWS FROM THE WATERSHED CENTER

In October, our long time technical director and program manager, Jim Villeponteaux, passed away from pancreatic cancer. His passing was a huge loss to his family and friends, as well as to the SRRC and the larger restoration community. Jim is impossible to replace, and we were left reeling from his loss. We've gradually been trying to pick up the pieces and move forward without him.

We also added a couple of new faces to our staff in 2009. In May we hired a new fisheries coordinator, Thomas Hotaling. In October, we hired Mitzi Rants as our new watershed education coordinator. We are excited to have them both on board as program coordinators. In December, just as our entire office network had been disassembled due to a flood caused by frozen and broken pipes, Jason (colors) Clarke appeared in the nick of time to help us with technical support.

After several years of consideration we flew a job announcement for an SRRC Executive Director position this summer. We interviewed several candidates, none of which were quite the right fit. We plan to continue to look for the right person for this job, as well as find someone to fill part of Jim's shoes.

Financial support for the Watershed Center continues to be a struggle, but we received a couple of small general support grants from private foundations (The Clif Bar Family Foundation and the Trees Foundation) in 2009, in addition to our primary CRP support from the USFWS. Our membership and fund raising drives were quite successful this year and contributed much appreciated funds to the operation of the Watershed Center.

Otherwise, the Watershed Center continues to serve us well, and we are looking forward to another year!

Below, part of the flood mess caused by frozen water pipes breaking



FINANCIAL REPORT	
Profit and Loss January-December 2009	
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Campaign Memberships	\$3,730.00
Co-op Agreement Income	\$42,508.00
Public Support-Contribution	\$118,732.53
Donations	\$2,527.73
Government Grants	\$357,248.31
Foundation Grants	\$27,082.00
Corporate Donations	\$39,984.09
Interest Income	\$27.10
Service Contract Income	\$8,884.10
Total Income \$600,724.13	
Expense	
Advertising	\$461.30
Bank Service Charges	\$20.00
Conference/Workshop	\$210.00
Contract Labor	\$226,089.21
Depreciation Expense	\$ 13,134.00
Dues, Fees and Subscriptions	\$388.50
Equipment Rental	\$13,265.55
Fund raising	\$1,076.98
Insurance	\$3,339.67
Licenses and Permits	\$827.00
Payroll Expense	\$99,673.50
Other Benefits	\$10,039.63
Payroll Taxes	\$10,651.98
Postage and Delivery	\$1,141.83
Printing	\$1,407.92
Volunteerism	\$112,440.55
Admin Expense of Public Support	\$6,292.25
Rent	\$3,350.00
Repairs	\$970.81
Supplies	\$27,117.07
Telephone	\$2,886.49
Travel	\$13,536.60
Utilities	\$4,124.38
Total Expense \$552,234.86	



Digging Italian Thistle before it can seed and spread.

Volunteers checking in at the Spring Chinook Dive and Symposium

The kids loved the hands on anatomy class with a fall chinook carcass!

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2009

Eliminated 20 species of prioritized invasive plants on over 500 sites with a focus on sites affected by the 2008 wildfires. Over 90% reduction of spotted knapweed, Italian thistle & other species

Hosted and Coordinated Spring Chinook and Fall Chinook Cooperative Spawning Surveys with participation from CDFG, USFS, the Karuk Tribe, Yurok Tribe, MKWC, Forks of Salmon, and Junction Elementary Schools

Coordinated Salmon River Fire Safe Council, developed the SR FSC's Community Liaison Program and promoted the development of a Pre-Suppression Fire Plan for the Salmon River for use as a template elsewhere

Thermal Infrared Flyover completed in order to assist in Riparian Restoration, Thermal Refugia Assessment, and Fisheries Habitat improvement to address the TMDL

Continued Negotiations in the Klamath Settlement Group for the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement and Agreement In Principle with PacifiCorp to remove the 4 Klamath Hydro-Power Dams and the reintroduction of spring Chinook to over 300 miles of historic habitat above the Dams

Second annual membership drive – Raised over \$6,500 from 55 new and renewing members

Employed nearly 50 people throughout the year



SRRC Fisheries crews manually enhanced fish passage at a dozen creek mouths

Planting trees increases winter rearing habitat at a side pool at Kelly's Bar on the North Fork



Redd survey crew on the South Fork Salmon in October



WHAT'S NEW? PROGRAM UPDATES 2009



FISHERIES Steelhead surveys took place in early spring '09, and focused on restoration effectiveness at tributaries having undergone barrier removal or creek mouth enhancement work. In July '09, the annual Salmon River Spring Chinook/Summer Steelhead Population Dives took place in conjunction with Salmonid Restoration Federation's annual Spring Chinook Symposium. Both events were a great success. Thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers who have donated time and energy to this event! Spring Chinook numbers were down from last year - total of 669 spring Chinook in the Salmon. SRRC operated Juvenile Outmigration Traps (screw traps) on the Salmon River and Klamath (Big Bar) from Apr-Nov in cooperation with the Karuk Tribe. Juvenile Coho were surveyed in rearing habitat and observed migrating through the traps in summer '09. As part of ongoing fish passage improvement efforts, SRRC Fisheries crews manually enhanced fish passage at a dozen creek mouths. With partial funding from the USFWS and help from AmeriCorps, we look to expand on the success of our fisheries program in 2010. *left, SRRC's AmeriCorp Kate scouting for winter steelhead on Black Bear Creek*



WATER MONITORING The SRRC and community volunteers are monitoring water and air temperatures at approximately 40 sites this summer. The long awaited Thermal Infrared Flyover was completed in July. It should give us very useful data on warm and cold water inputs to the river, which will help with prioritizing our riparian restoration work and fisheries habitat improvement. The SRRC has also continued to participate in the Klamath Basin Water Monitoring Coordination Group to develop a long term monitoring plan for the Klamath and its tributaries, which includes the Salmon River. *left, Lyra with a temperature monitoring device in its protective casing*



ROADS In July, we began implementing our Private Roads Sediment Risk Reduction project, funded by BOR. We completed work on the Butler Creek and Bloomer Mine roads before the weather turned and hope to finish the rest of the properties this spring. In addition to the private roads project, we continue to coordinate the Neighborhood Road Stewardship Program, which encourages residents to perform light maintenance activities on public and private roads leading to private property, as well as monitoring and reporting problems before they get bigger. *left, looking over the finished road improvements at Butler Creek*



RIPARIAN RESTORATION The SRRC continues to bring stakeholders together to develop a program to realize the Salmon River TMDL Implementation Plan. The goal is to reduce water temperatures in the Salmon River for fish, prioritizing the most beneficial areas and developing restoration activities. We have nearly completed the final data collection for the sites in the identified high priority reaches for restoration. The priority reaches are the North Fork from Redbank to Sawyers, South Fork from Indian Crossing to Negro Creek, and South Fork from East Fork Campground to South Fork Trailhead. We will be working on cost estimates, engineering and NEPA on sites in those reaches this winter. This work has been funded by the Bella Vista Foundation. *left, Sarah collecting riparian data on the North Fork Salmon River*

NOXIOUS WEEDS In the spring of 2009 the Noxious Weed Program intensely managed Italian Thistle around Forks of Salmon, an area which burned in last year's fire. This year we continued to increase our efforts to control 20 priority species on approximately 550 sites and put a new focus on monitoring and eliminating prioritized weed species in areas where fires and their management occurred in 2008. In addition to removing weeds, crews collected native grass seeds for restoration of burned areas. The crew made progress in removing populations of Marlahan Mustard focusing on fire areas, trailheads, tanker fill sites and river access. Many thanks to community members who stop to notice, report, and pull/dig these weeds while driving the roads. And finally, the summer was spent combing the river bars, decommissioned roads, and on private lands for knapweed plants, an effort that has been so successful over the years that they are getting hard to find. The Noxious Weed program is better funded for 2010, with support from the CDFG/Siskiyou Agriculture Dept., USFS-BAER, and Siskiyou County RAC. *right, SRRC weeders working in the high country-Big Flat-BAER project*



FIRE, FUELS AND FORESTRY The Fire Safe Council (FSC) has initiated a Community Fire Liaison Program to work directly with incident management teams during wild fire events. The purpose of the team is to provide accurate local information to fire managers, and to provide the community with up to date fire news. The program had a successful trial run during the recent Backbone Fire. We continue to be engaged in planning and commenting on USFS forestry management projects in the Salmon. The SRRC and FSC work with stakeholders to develop an approach toward forestry management that can improve forest health by developing projects that better prepare private and public lands for wildfires. Approx. 80 acres were treated to create shaded fuel breaks, fire-safe residences and emergency access routes. Many piles were burned or chipped. For 2010, we have secured funding from the USFS and USFWS to complete 30 acres of broadcast burning and 120 acres of mechanical fuel reduction. *right, stakeholders meeting during smoky times on the path to creating the liaison team*



WATERSHED EDUCATION Students shared their work in watershed education with the community at the annual Watershed Fair in May. Along with learning many things about our watershed over the course of the year, Junction and Forks students participated in Fall Chinook spawner surveys this fall. Students collected scales, tissues, and otoliths from Chinook salmon carcasses and filled out their spawning and redd data forms. Junction and Forks Elementary School students studied a longitudinal section of a pine tree by measuring yearly growth between branch whorls. Forks' students were able to dissect the schools' Christmas tree to compare aging a tree by the number of whorls to aging a tree by counting the yearly rings. Future lessons include measuring flow and dissolved oxygen, orienteering, and learning how to identify local amphibians. The watershed education program is funded this year by CDFG. *right, Forks' students observing salmon fry hatched in their aquarium.*

