

# North Olympic Salmon Coalition

"Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces us up, snow is exhilarating; there is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather."

-John Ruskin



upcoming events

## JCCD Native Plant workshop



**Come learn about native plants with the Jefferson County Conservation District! This is a free event!**

**Friday, Dec. 11, 9am- noon @ the Chimacum Grange**

## BINGO at the Hilltop Tavern!

-Every Wednesday in January. PREPARE YOUR

## Farewell to Reed



Reed Aubin, our Education and Volunteer Program Manager, has moved on to less fishy pastures.

Photo by Charles Espey

Reed is leaving the Salmon Coalition to take a job teaching Spanish and English at Chimacum High School. Reed's passion and enthusiasm for education has made a profound impact on our programs. He has brought real structure to our educational initiatives and aligned them with our restoration work. His love for our community and his cooperative spirit has been inspiring and while we wish

EXCITEMENT and look for announcements on our [website](#) and Facebook page.

### **Forage Fish Surveys**

- Survey salmon food!

Volunteers needed for forage fish spawning surveys on December 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-3:30pm and January 29<sup>th</sup> from 11-2:30pm. We will be conducting and processing samples (to be sent to WDFW for analysis) that will be collected at Chimacum and Maynard beach restoration projects.

Please RSVP to Emily Bishop [outreach@nosc.org](mailto:outreach@nosc.org) if interested as space is limited.

### **Volunteer Digitization Project**

-We need help digitizing 30 years of bird observation data collected in Kilisut Harbor. This is a project for a couple of savvy volunteers who are able to spend some time scanning hard copies of observations and entering data in excel.

For more details check out our [website](#). To sign up email Emily at [outreach@nosc.org](mailto:outreach@nosc.org).

### **Winter Volunteer Planting Events**

-Details to come! Pencil in the following days:  
Jan. 16th  
Jan. 30th

-Education Program upcoming plantings:

he were staying here at the Salmon Coalition, we are very happy that he is still a member, and we can find him just down the road, continuing to support our youth.

Reed, you will be missed. Cheers and best of luck to you!

## Holiday Shopping

T-shirts and hats. They go in stockings.



As the gift-giving season approaches, remember that Salmon Coalition memberships and merchandise make great gifts for your friends and family. It helps us and gives you time to get outside for a walk near your favorite stream. This is local shopping at it's best!

Give Nicole a call or come by the office if you are interested. We've got special membership + tshirt/tote/hat deals to offer. Happy Shopping!

You can also read more on [how your support makes a difference](#) and go to [nosc.org](http://nosc.org) to contribute.

THANK YOU!

Jan. 14th  
March 31st

Announcements will be on our [website](#) and Facebook page.

## We want your pots!



Potting season is approaching, and the NOSC nursery is expanding! We are looking for 400 2 gal. pots to house our native plants this spring. With your support we'll be able to meet our goal! Please help us by donating 2-gal. pots!

## FIN Love Help us help FIN



After 28 years FIN is getting new wheels so she can continue to swim easily off her trailer. This spring the trailer will also be needing a paint job so FIN can look her best for next season's

## Update on the 2015 Coho Spawner Season

Surveyors have had plenty of rain to get the fish heading upsteam! Currently, there are 5 teams of volunteers each assigned to survey and tag coho redds in different stretches of Chimacum Creek and its tributaries. A fish and a redd were spotted in a lower stretch during the third week in November, but it has definitely been a slow season. We're all wondering: where are the silvers??

## Education Program Highlights



Students from Joyce and Clallam Bay learn restoration techniques at Hoko River State Park.

Photo by Tod Spedding

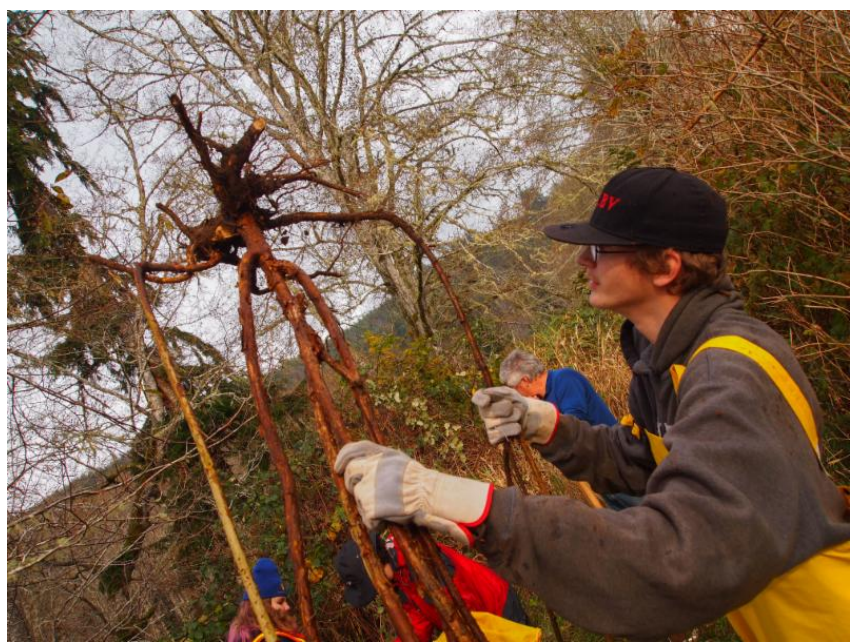


events. Make a donation today to help FIN! You can send a check, give us a call or go to [nosc.org](http://nosc.org).

## More for you salmon enthusiasts



Like us on Facebook 



Student shows off a blackberry root he dug up during a stewardship activity near the Hoko River.

Photo by Tod Spedding

## Centro de Atención de Voluntarios

Reed Aubin

From fearless leader of the Education and Outreach Program to special guest at future plantings and events!

### **NOSC: What achievements, here, are you most proud of?**

RA: Our Middle School Restoration Engineering program has really become a flagship program that links students with the best that the Salmon Coalition has to offer: we are able to involve students meaningfully in real work that we're doing. We've been able to work with Port Townsend as well as Crescent and Clallam Bay Schools, and the results have been overwhelmingly positive. It's so inspiring to see how the students understand the issues right away, stick with the challenges of finding real solutions, work hard in wet weather, and take ownership of their local streams.

### **NOSC: What did you love most about your work at the**

### **Salmon Coalition?**

RA: Working in jaw-dropping beautiful places with fascinating people in unfailingly perfect weather. It's a tie between the majesty of the salmon habitat and the high caliber of the staff, volunteers, students, and partners I have gotten to work with. Oh, and I really liked writing emails to try to get people to come play bingo or plant trees.

### **NOSC: Where can the best taco be found on the North Olympic Peninsula? What did you love most about staff lunches?**

RA: Oh, thank you for asking me about tacos. I really do love tacos so much. Fortunately, the taco outlook is improving quite a bit here on the Peninsula. I have heard that our WCC Crew member Angel Arreola makes some quality tacos at Fiesta restaurant in Port Townsend, where he moonlights. I think he cooks mostly on weekends. I went to try to get some tacos but I got distracted by the carne asada plate. So tempting. So good.

Yes, the staff lunch tradition at the Salmon Coalition is great - we get together and just relax. It has been shown that workers are more productive when they take actual breaks. It's also a great place to get information on hiking trails in the Olympics. The staff is a basically a bunch of mountain goats.

### **NOSC: A word to describe your time here?**

RA: Chummy. (forgive me!) But seriously, the friendship component of my time here has been just fabulous.

### **NOSC: Is there a message that you would like to give to future volunteers, interns or students?**

RA: This is crucial work. Thanks for taking an interest. Fish are magical beings.

**Reed brought his own brand of joy and humor to work with him everyday. Thank you for spending time with us and sharing your salty salmon-style, wily ways, witty words and of course, your meandering musings...**



**Check out previous newsletters to meet more of the awesome people the Salmon Coalition has had the pleasure of working with!**

**~See you in 2016!~**

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

*Community Partnerships, Collaborative Restoration*

[www.nosc.org](http://www.nosc.org)