

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

"If anything will level with you, water will" - A.R. Ammons



upcoming events

Morse Creek Monitoring

Morse Creek, Port Angeles
Volunteers needed for
summer days on beautiful,
restored Morse Creek!

Various shifts available.

August-September 2015

RSVP Reed: raubin@nosc.org or
379-8051

Summer Chum Stream

Surveys

WDFW offices; Pt. Hudson,
Port Townsend

Volunteers are needed to
count spawning salmon on
Chimacum Creek through
October.

Training held Tuesday,
August 20th

9am-12pm

RSVP Kendra:

outreach@nosc.org or 379-8051

Landowners!

Do you have
creekside property?
Do you have salmon
in your creek?

Discovery Bay Construction Begins...Again Restoring Salmon and Snow Creeks



Project Manager Kim Clark consults Discovery Bay construction crew at Snow Creek.

While you're cruising by Discovery Bay on Hwy 101 this summer, it will be hard to miss the massive construction work taking place in the estuary around Snow and Salmon Creeks (near the Hwy 20 intersection). First: Pay attention to the road! Once you have established unfailing control of your motor vehicle, then you can think about the project at hand.

The Snow Creek Estuary Restoration Project removes impacts of an abandoned railroad grade and dredge spoils from this important habitat. Once this material is removed, new tidal channels will be built in the marsh to replace those lost to development over the years. The project will restore 22 acres of natural processes around Salmon and Snow Creek estuary and recreate 1.5 acres of salt marsh that is currently buried beneath the railroad grade. These changes will benefit ESA-listed Hood Canal Summer Chum, coho salmon, birds, and marshlands.

A notable action that may strike you as odd will be the removal of a stand of alders growing out in the estuary. Maybe you're wondering why restoration includes tree removal. Doesn't the



If so, the North Olympic Salmon Coalition wants to help you remove invasive weeds and plant fresh native trees on your property for **free!**

Please call Sarah Doyle @ 360-379-8051 to find out if you are eligible for the Olympic Peninsula Riparian Recovery Program

Volunteers Needed for 25th Annual Dinner



When: Saturday, Oct. 3rd

Time: TBD

Where: Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's Red Cedar Hall

What: Set-up and take down of tables, parking attendant, and other duties

To volunteer, please contact Reed at raubin@nosc.org

NOSC is Hiring!

Education & Outreach Assistant

October 2015-September 2016

Salmon Coalition plant trees for fish?

Kevin Long, our Project Manager, has the answers: "There is an important distinction to be made here. The alders growing in the Snow Creek Estuary indicate a habitat problem; this is not good estuary habitat! These trees are growing on dredge spoils that were placed along the stream banks decades ago. These spoils increase the natural elevation above the elevation where tidal channels form and saltmarsh plants grow, and has allowed upland vegetation like native alders and invasive species like reed canary grass, Scotch broom and knotweed. The spoils create a dike along the creek which keeps the creek from interacting with the adjacent marsh and forces fish out of the creek system without access to the salt marsh, an important feeding and rearing area. In order to restore ecosystem function to the marsh, the trees and invasive weeds need to go so that the dredge spoils can be removed and taken to an upland location."

The Discovery Bay project is one that has been designed to balance both human recreational needs and salmon habitat recovery. Along the stretch of last season's Maynard Nearshore Project, the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) designs are nearly complete and with the budget the Washington State legislature passed on June 30th, the project is now fully funded. With this critical piece in place, Jefferson County has scheduled construction for the Summer of 2016. This first phase of the South Discovery Bay Segment of the ODT will stretch from Old Gardiner Road south to Salmon Creek.

For up-to-date information on this project, see our [blog](#).

Summer Chum Make a Splash with Volunteers Join us to walk Chimacum Creek, count fish!



Joshua Berger, Robin Van Dyke, and Laura Pollock take scale samples from dead chum on Chimacum Creek.

Photo by Rae Bronenkant

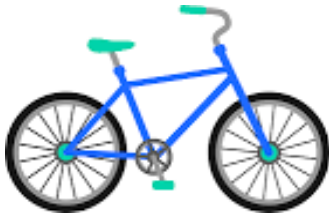
Here at the North Olympic Salmon Coalition, we offer a variety

This is a one year WA Conservation Corps (WCC), AmeriCorps position that assists with all aspects of our education program, coordinates spawner surveys, assists with volunteer coordination, and more. As a WCC member, many professional development opportunities are embedded in this position, including two week long hands-on training camps, paid job-shadow opportunities, and self-guided study with NOSC staff and other community mentors.

See our [website](#) for more information and how to apply. Applications are due

Friday, August 14th.

Bike Donation



The Salmon Coalition is asking for a bike to be donated and housed at our new native plant nursery for maintenance and transportation around the Brown Dairy Farm.

Washington Conservation Corps Crew



The Port Hadlock Crew has been working hard this year to help the salmon. By removing invasive plants such as Himalayan

of volunteer opportunities, but the event that really sweeps our volunteers off their feet is the [Summer Chum Spawner Surveys](#). How can we blame you? Salmon migration is one of the greatest marvels of our natural world, and as part of the spawner survey team you not only get to witness it, but you have the opportunity to migrate alongside the summer chum.

Spawner surveyors walk Chimacum Creek during the Hood Canal Summer Chum salmon run, counting live and dead fish, taking scale samples, and having a blast! The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) use data collected by Salmon Coalition volunteers to evaluate important parameters of the run that help guide salmon conservation for our local and state fisheries.

This is a one-day-per-week commitment, starting with our August training and lasting through October. We supply all the necessary gear and survey equipment. No prior experience is needed, just a willingness to support our mission to protect wild salmon and their habitat.

This year's Spawner Survey Training will be held on **Thursday, August 20th** from 9am-12pm in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife conference room at Point Hudson, Port Townsend. Due to the popularity of this volunteer opportunity, there is limited space. To attend, please RSVP to Kendra Krantz at outreach@nosc.org or (360) 379-8051.

NOSC Moves Native Plant Nursery

Taking root in the heart of Chimacum

blackberry, reed canary grass, Scotch broom and butterfly bush, the crew has made it possible for the salmon to regain shady, nutrient rich riparian habitats along the creeks and rivers in Jefferson and Clallam County. After planting tens of thousands of trees and shrubs over the years, the WCC crews have helped us reach our goals here at the North Olympic Salmon Coalition. Thanks for all of your hard work!

Join the crew!

Do you like salmon, working outdoors and being a part of an awesome crew?

Apply to be a WCC crew member for the 2015-2016 service year.

Contact Owen French @ ofre461@ecy.wa.gov to find out more about the Washington Conservation Corps



Jean Erreca, board member and Irrigation Specialist, installs irrigation at the new Salmon Coalition nursery.

Driving through Chimacum, it is hard to miss the hustle and bustle of the old [Brown Dairy Farm](#). The farm is being renovated to house various enterprises, including Finnriver Farm Orchard and Cidery, the Farmhouse CoLab, Organic Seed Alliance, and other groups. The Salmon Coalition is joining in with the relocation of our native plant nursery.

Over ten years ago the Salmon Coalition first developed our native plant nursery to support our riparian planting efforts, which, until a month ago, was graciously hosted on the property of farmer John Gunning in Center Valley. Plants at the nursery are nurtured for 1-3 years until they are ready to be planted in buffer areas throughout watersheds on the Olympic Peninsula.

Earlier this year, Salmon Coalition staff identified an opportunity to relocate the nursery to the Brown Dairy Farm and be part of this growing collaborative community. The new location is in the heart of Chimacum with easy access to Chimacum School (think kids growing plants!), the Chimacum Corner Store (think nursery volunteers eating delicious local snacks!) and Finnriver Cidery's new tasting room (think pints and pizza with your fellow

program.

Applications accepted beginning July 15th for an October start date.

Fish Tales

With Kevin's fish fully grown (see previous [newsletters](#)), Rebecca has decided to adopt an entire tank of new fish.

Boss

Named by Rebecca Benjamin, Executive Director



"Boss is the fish with 6 eyes. To be the boss of the fishes, you have to have your eye on all of the mischievous fish happenings at once. Boss has accomplished this not by multi-tasking, but by having 3 sets of eyes. Watch out, she knows what you are up to! Don't underestimate the power of a fish brain. She knows when the algae eaters are eyeing the new plants, when the school of neon tetras are planning an ambush of the new fish in town, and she certainly knows when the food supply is replenished, jumping exuberantly to the surface and splashing water onto the rug. Ok, so she creates a little mischief herself ;-). Boss, top-fish in NOSC's big tank."

TLC (Tough Little Cat)

Named by Kevin Long, Project Manager



"TLC is a bronze cory cat. Not much phases old TLC, she's happy picking about the bottom with her barbels on the hunt for scraps (she's very tidy), but zooms about grabbing food at feeding time too."

Whiskers

Named by Kim Clark, Project Manager

volunteers and NOSC staff after helping out at the nursery!)

Our new Project Manager Kim Clark spearheaded the move along with our Washington Conservation Corps Crew and it is looking spiffier by the day. Once complete, we plan to host public work events where volunteers will be able to enjoy the new location.

Farewell Miranda, Welcome Nicole!



Cheers and a hearty farewell to one of our fellow Salmon Coalition team members, Miranda Berger. Miranda has been working as the Salmon Coalition's Development Manager for over two years. We are grateful for all the hard work she has done for this organization and though we are sad to see her go, we are happy to know she is spending more time with her incredible family. Thanks Miranda!

At the same time, we are pleased to welcome our new Development Manager, Nicole O'Hara.

Nicole has worked for the Environmental Protection Agency and in the non-profit sector in New York. She lives with her Sequim-raised husband and their children in Port Townsend. The Salmon Coalition is thrilled to add Nicole as a member for our team!

Find out more about Nicole and the rest of our staff [here](#).

Volunteer Spotlight

Terra Girard



"I have not formally met my fish, but I think it has barbels of some sort, which makes whiskers a good name. Even if it doesn't have barbels, I think it's cute."

Sluggo

Named by Nancy Erreca,
Finance Assistant



"Because it looks like a big banana slug."

The Washington Association of Non-Anadromous Fish, Hadlock Chapter

Named by Reed Aubin,
Education & Volunteer Manager



Since this school of fish lives in an office dedicated to anadromous fish, they have banded together for increased visibility, bargaining power, and social networks. Chapter spokesperson Tetra de la Neona had this to say: "While we are enthusiastic supporters of anadromous fish and of restoring their habitat, we want the public to know that we non-anadromous fish have our own needs, dreams, and aspirations."



For July we wanted to recognize one of our newer board members, Terra Girard. Terra has a strong background in finance and marketing and has proved to be a huge asset to the Salmon Coalition team! She is a conservationist through and through and she has truly put her passion into her work. We are grateful for the impacts she is making with our organization and cannot wait to see what's in store next!

- **What is your favorite part about serving on the board?**
"Working with other people who have the same passion and commitment to salmon habitat restoration and preservation."
- **You are a huge asset with a marketing and financial background and many ties in the community. Every non-profit must want you on their board. Is there a reason you've chosen to serve for NOSC rather than another?**
"Upon my first exposure to NOSC (during [Beachwatcher](#) training classes), I was so impressed with the professionalism and productive record of this organization. The staff were so knowledgeable and loved sharing their passion for what they are doing."
- **What do you envision for the future of NOSC and our restoration efforts?** "I think we have some challenging years ahead of us due to the effects of our changing environment. The changing environment includes not only climate change, but the changing economic environment. The need for effective organizations like NOSC will be stronger than ever."
- **What are some organizational accomplishments you see happening?** "We have new personnel to train and integrate into our impressive staff. We will also need to really strengthen our fundraising efforts, as State and Federal funding becomes less certain. We are all aware of the continuing budget constraints on all levels of government. We will need effective fundraising to fill in some gaps in funding. We already have a wonderful group of volunteers with NOSC, but we will need even more volunteers to meet

Pisces

Named by Sarah Doyle,
Stewardship Coordinator



"I was going to go for Sushi, but I thought that might be a bit morbid."

Lou Henry Hoover

Named by Nicole O'Hara,
Development Manager



"The fish reminded of a vacuum cleaner with its mouth open the way it was which made me think of Hoover.... I Googled Hoover and Lou Henry Hoover popped up. She's an inspirational lady & I learned some interesting facts about her. She was married to President Herbert Hoover, the only First Lady to have spoken an Asian language, a Girl Scout president, the first First Lady to make regular nationwide radio broadcasts and she was an avid outdoors-woman (which seems fitting for a fish at NOSC)."

Carl

Named by Kendra Krantz,
AmeriCorps Education &
Outreach Assistant



"Carl isn't anything special. He's not the head honcho, but also isn't lowest on the totem pole. Carl is just a regular old fish that everyone likes to be around. He's the first fish you'd call if you wanted to take a swim with a pal."

**Share your notes
on North Olympic
Salmon Coalition
on Facebook.**

the challenges that all environmental groups will be facing. The need is going to grow for volunteers, if we want to continue to "make a difference."

- **What is something you have accomplished as a board member that you are proud of?**

"Wow! There is so much to learn about what NOSC does, and how it accomplishes its goals. I have been working hard to understand the very complicated accounting system that comes with multiple State and Federal funding sources. I have had the privilege to get to know Rebecca Benjamin, our Executive Director, and Tina and Pam, our accountants, and have been so impressed by their knowledge and commitment to accurate details. I got to observe the NOSC organization go through a mandated Federal Audit with flying colors. It was a huge learning curve for me to watch this complete process as a member for the Finance Committee."

- **What are the Salmon Coalition's greatest needs in the coming year?**"We need to be very flexible to make unexpected changes. We will need to support fundraising efforts and the growth of our volunteer base. I believe we can make a difference with salmon habitat restoration and preservation. However, I think it is going to take a lot of commitment and hard work to make things happen."
- **It has been said that you make a mean cobbler, care to share a recipe? Or tell us why it is your go-to dessert dish?**

"I honor my beloved Grandmother Sickbert each time I make cobbler. I spent a lot of time in the summers, as a child, with my paternal grandparents, who were the ultimate land conservationists. They held and taught environmental conservation long before it was popular to hold those beliefs. I learned to share their beliefs. My Grandmother was locally famous for her cobblers and pies. I am constantly trying to adapt or match her recipes while using the Northwest local fruits. Each cobbler is different and unique... I am always looking for volunteers to test my latest 'work of art'."

- **What have you found most exciting about serving on the board?**"I love the education programs! I am so excited to see the youth involvement. Reed and Kendra are doing a wonderful job working with local schools. Educating the public while getting them involved is a lofty goal. I am so proud to be part of that endeavor. Oh, did I forget to mention - it's FUN."
- **Any final comments on your experience with NOSC?** "I am so fortunate to get to follow my passion for salmon habitat restoration, preservation, and education, while using my professional skills with an organization that I respect and admire. I look forward to the hard work ahead."

Thank you, Terra!

To learn more about our board members, [click here](#).



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