2017 BY THE NUMBERS

90 RIVER STEWARDS IN 4 STATES

4,000 RIVER MILES | 174,000 SQUARE MILES OF WATERSHEDS

ACRES OF PUBLIC LANDS & PRISTINE FISH HABITATS PROTECTED

58,000 ACRES IN THE NORTH FORK SMITH RIVER AS THE NORTHWEST’S FIRST OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS

LAUNCHED THE RIVER STEWARD PROGRAM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

1 MILLION FEWER FACTORY FISH PLANTED IN OR. & WA. WATERSHEDS ANNUALLY THANKS TO SAVE SANDY SALMON CAMPAIGN

DEFENDED OUR 101,000 ACRE PROTECTION FROM STRIP MINING IN SW OREGON FROM POTENTIAL REPEAL BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

PROTECTED RECOVERING ROGUE RIVER WILD SPRING CHINOOK FROM OVERFISHING

LANDSLIDES TO LOGJAMs CAMPAIGN WAS LAUNCHED TO PROTECT SALMON HABitat ON OREGON’S STATE & PRIVATE TIMBERLANDS FROM CLEARCUTTING LOGGING ON STEEP SLOPES

WITH OUR PARTNERS, ADVOCATED SUCCESSFULLY THE OUR SOUND, OUR SALMON CAMPAIGN TO PHASE OUT ATLANTIC SALMON FARMING IN WASHINGTON STATE BY 2025

RALLIED OREGON GOVERNOR KATE BROWN TO ENGAGE IN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY IN THE LOWER DESCHUTES RIVER

LEVERAGED THE BEST-AVAILABLE SCIENCE & OUR MEMBERSHIP’S VOICES TO KEEP DAM REMOVAL ON THE TABLE FOR CALIFORNIA’S EEL RIVER
SALEM, OR | On June 14th, 2017, Oregon Governor Kate Brown signed the Suction Dredge Reform Bill (SB 3) into law, which established a permanent framework to manage in-stream motorized mining across Oregon. The bill garnered bipartisan support to permanently protect waters listed as essential salmonid habitat from the harmful effects of suction dredge mining, a practice that has been shown to negatively impact fish by vacuuming up river bottoms, trapping and killing aquatic insects, fish eggs and juvenile fish, and negatively altering salmon habitats.

“For the last four years, local communities across Oregon have called for reform on harmful suction dredge mining practices,” said Jake Crawford, River Steward Program Director, “and this legislation represents a workable, long-term solution to protect the state’s sensitive fish populations.” River Steward Charles Gehr notes, “Clean water and healthy salmon define our state and the rivers we love. The recreation industry is a vibrant and sustainable economic model for Oregon and this bill helps protect the streams that are the most vulnerable to suction dredge mining impacts.” The passage of SB 3 into law was a watershed moment for Oregon in the effort to protect and recover the state’s iconic wild fish, and we’re grateful for the dedication and years of hard work from our grassroots River Stewards, especially South Umpqua Steward Stan Petrowski, Rogue Steward Charles Gehr, and North Santiam River Steward Dave Carpenter, who worked with a broad coalition across the state to secure this win for wild fish and clean water.

Thank you to everyone who testified in front of the legislature, signed action alerts, and supported our work. With your help Oregon’s sensitive salmon, steelhead, and lamprey received permanent protection from suction dredge mining — safeguarding over 20,000 stream miles of fish habitat.

Wild salmon, steelhead, and trout need grassroots activism now more than ever! Visit nativefishsociety.org/membership to join Native Fish Society as a member and support grassroots activism for native fish across the Pacific Northwest.

In 2017, Stan received our River Steward of the Year award for his tireless work to protect native fish and his homewaters from the damages of suction dredge mining. Through Stan’s local leadership he not only helped secure protections for the South Umpqua but helped form a statewide coalition that permanently protected 22,000 miles of essential salmon habitat from suction dredge mining across the state of Oregon.
Flowing out of Southwest Oregon’s rugged Kalmiopsis Wilderness, the waters of the North Fork Smith River and its tributaries in Oregon are exceptionally pure, providing habitat for a diverse array of wild, native fish including steelhead, chinook, threatened coho salmon, and cutthroat trout. This remarkable arm of California’s Smith River also provides drinking water for communities downstream like Crescent City, California.

Despite its beauty, surrounding designated wilderness area, and Wild & Scenic status, the North Fork Smith River faced the threat of strip mining by the same foreign mining company also targeting the headwaters of Oregon’s Hunter Creek and Pistol River. In order to protect this remarkable place, a coalition led by a local petitioner in the Illinois Valley asked Oregon’s Department of Environmental Quality to designate all 58,000 acres of the North Fork Smith River as Outstanding Resource Waters.

The Outstanding Resource Waters designation is an element of the Clean Water Act, which allows states to place additional protections over waters that are exceptionally clean, provide remarkable biological values, or to protect critical habitats. Once designated, no land use action in the watershed can be permitted that could degrade water quality—like hardrock mining.

After a series of stakeholder meetings and public comment opportunities participated in by local River Stewards, members, and coalition partners, Oregon’s Environmental Quality Commission voted to approve the designation (the first in Oregon and the Northwest!) and EPA finalized the decision in October of 2017. A big thanks to our members, River Stewards, and NGO partners who made this victory for native fish and clean water possible!

Built in 1922 without fish passage, Scott Dam blocks over 200 miles of snow-fed salmon and steelhead habitat in the headwaters of California’s Eel River. In 2017, Scott Dam, Cape Horn Dam, the water diversion, and powerhouse, collectively known as the Potter Valley Project, began the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission re-licensing process. This is a critical opportunity. In just four years, we could be planning the removal of the most significant obstacle to the recovery of threatened wild salmon and steelhead.

To build the case for dam removal, in 2017 River Stewards collected the third year of temperature information from tributaries to the Eel River currently blocked by Scott Dam. All three years we’ve found significant cold water present in nearly a dozen tributaries all summer long. In partnership with Patagonia World Trout, NFS submitted study design recommendations that ensure PG&E will evaluate the climate change impact to water quality above and below the project over the next 50 years were it to stay in place.

Last, our vigilant River Stewards and dedicated members, helped us flood PG&E with comments when they tried to advance their FERC re-licensing without considering a decommissioning option. Together, our voices kept dam removal on the table!

To support the Eel River Headwaters Campaign head to nativefishsociety.org/get-involved.
Revenue & Expenses for Fiscal Year 2017

Financial results for fiscal year ending December 31, 2017

REVENUE: $509,676
EXPENSE: $500,847

Donations: $196,932
Grants: $91,885
Events: $162,806
Development: $60,198
Programs: $386,450
Membership: $58,053
Mgmt./General Expense: $54,199

For more information contact Executive Director, Mark Sherwood, at mark@nativefishsociety.org.

Grants & Foundations

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Coast to Clouds Foundation
Caryll & Norman Sprague Jr. Foundation
Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund
Maybelle Clark MacDonald Fund
Northline Wealth Management
Oregon Community Foundation
Patagonia Environmental Grants
Patagonia World Trout Foundation
Rough J Ranch Foundation
Sage Fund
Schwab Charitable Fund
The John & Francis Von Schlegell Family Fund
Smith-Welsh Foundation
Sol Duc Foundation
Spirit Mountain Community Fund
The Joseph & Catherine Johnson Family Foundation
The Lily Foundation
The Minneapolis Foundation
The Rainland Fly Casters
The Zephyr Charitable Foundation Inc
Timothy Boyle
Yvon & Malinda Chouinard

Business Donors

2 Towns Ciderhouse
900 Wall
A to Z Wineworks
Alder Creek Kayak & Canoe
Allen Ranch Angus Alpacka Rafts
Anadromous Anglers
Andras Outfitters
Andros South
Angler's Book Supply
Angler's Pursuit Guide Service
Ashland Fly Shop
Bahine Steelhead Lodge
Baranof Wilderness Lodge
Bartel Contracting Inc.
Base Camp Brewing Company
Bauer - Premium Fly Reels
BC West
Bend Fly Shop
Bendistillery
Bishops Barbershop
C.F. Burkheimer Fly Rods
Caddis Fly Shop
Cao Vito
Copper Bay Lodge
Costa
Daily Cafe in the Pearl
Deschutes Angler
Diablo Valley Fly Fishermen
DOC food+wine
Dog River Coffee
Double Mountain Brewery & Taproom
DoubleTree by Hilton
Dove Vivi
El Burro Loco
Emerald Water Anglers
Epic Waters Angling
Farbank Enterprises
Farlex Reels
Fish Head Expeditions
Fish the Swing
FishMadMan
Flowers River Lodge
Fly Fishing Collaborative
Fly Fishing Specialists
Fly Me A River LLC
Fly Rod & Reel
Fly Water Travel
Frontier Farwest
Garden Fever
Gino’s Restaurant
Glowing Greens
Gold River Lodge
Gorge Fly Shop
Grand Central Baking Company
Heart Rock Art Works
Higgin’s Restaurant and Bar
High Desert Museum
Holloway Bros Fishing
Hopworks Urban Brewery
Imperial River Company
Innovative Mechanical
James Reid Bamboo Fly Rods
Jefe Restaurant
Jefferson Rod Co.
KayakFlyAngler
Kroger
Lakeview Outfitters
Lange Estate Winery & Vineyard
Loon Outdoors
M&T Bank
McKenzie Fly Fishers
Mother’s Bistro & Bar
Mountain Rose Herbs
New Renaissance Bookshop
New Seasons
Nonna PDX
Northline Wealth Management
Northwest Children’s Theater & School
OMSI
Oregon City Brewing
Oregon Growers & Shippers
Oregon Outdoor Excursions
Oregon RFID, Inc.
Oregon Zoo
Orvis Bridgeport
Oscar’s Source for Adventure
OSU Press
Paloma Clothing
Patagonia Portland
pFriem Family Brewers
Peloton
Portland Center Stage at the Armory
Portland Nursery
Portland’s White House Bed & Breakfast
Postfly Box
Rainland Fly Casters
Rajeff Sports
Ransom Wine Co. & Distillery
Red Shed Fly Shop
Rep Your Water
River Runner Outfitters
Roamerica Rentals
Rogue Basin Partnership
Royal Treatment Fly Shop
Saraceno Fly Reels
Sasquatch Brewing Co.
Sazerac Company
Silver Cloud Inn - Portland
Smith Optics
Snake Guides Inc.
South Coast Tours LLC
Spin the Handle Guide Service
Standard Insurance
Steelhead Water Guide Service
Stone Rod Co.
Stuart Warren Fly Fishing
Swing the Fly Magazine
Tactics
Target Corporation
The Daily Feast PDX
The Fishwife Seafood Restaurant
The Merry Kitchen
The Miracle Barn
The Steelhead Diner
Thunder Island Brewing Co.
Toast, Inc.
Tourmesol Winery
Trailhead Cofic Roasters
TroutNV
Wanderlust Tours
White Rose Estate Winery & Vineyard
Willamette Valley Vineyards
Worthy Brewing
Yakuza Izakaya Japanese Pub
Yamhill Valley Vineyards
Z’IVO Wines

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Thank You Members

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Boom goes the wild steelhead.

PHOTO: Jeremy Koreski