

HOMEWATERS CONNECTION TO PLACE ANNUAL REPORT 2017





2017 BY THE NUMBERS

90 RIVER STEWARDS
IN **4** STATES

safeguarding

4,000 RIVER MILES & **174,000** SQUARE MILES

of watersheds

58,000 ACRES OF PUBLIC LANDS & PRISTINE FISH HABITATS PROTECTED

IN THE NORTH FORK SMITH RIVER AS THE NORTHWEST'S FIRST OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS

LAUNCHED THE RIVER STEWARD PROGRAM IN



BRITISH COLUMBIA

PERMANENTLY PROTECTED

22,000 MILES

OF ESSENTIAL SALMON HABITATS IN OREGON FROM SUCTION DREDGE MINING

DEFENDED OUR



IN SW OREGON FROM POTENTIAL REPEAL BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

1 MILLION FEWER FACTORY FISH PLANTED IN OR. & WA. WATERSHEDS ANNUALLY THANKS TO

SAVE SANDY SALMON CAMPAIGN



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



A GRASSROOTS VICTORY FOR NATIVE FISH & CLEAN WATER

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.

RIVER STEWARD OF THE YEAR | STAN PETROWSKI

22,000 MILES OF HABITAT PROTECTED

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.



PROTECTING WILD FISH & CLEAN WATER

NORTH FORK SMITH RIVER, OR | 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.

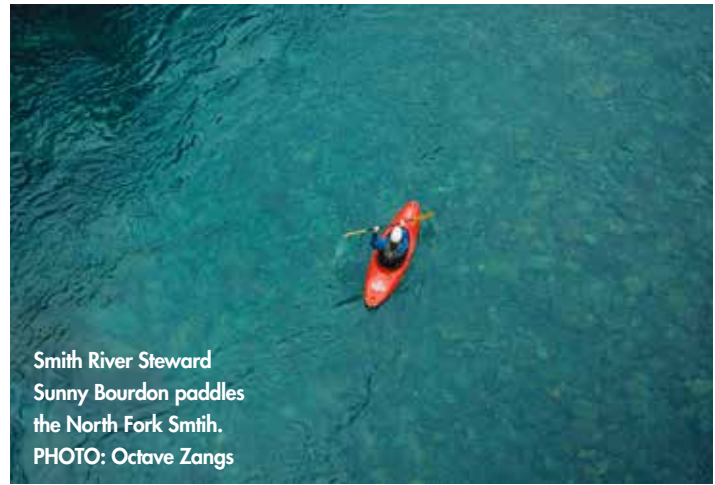
Despite its beauty, surrounding designated wilderness area, and Wild & Scenic status, the North Fork Smith River faced the threat of strip mining by the same foreign mining company also targeting the headwaters of Oregon's Hunter Creek and Pistol River. In order to protect this remarkable place, a coalition 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!

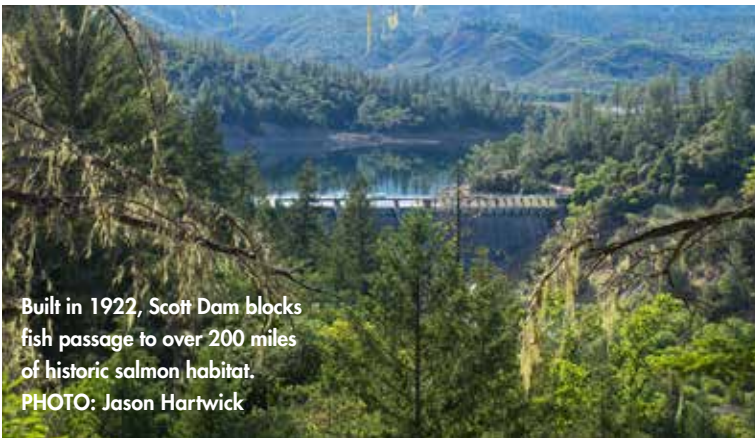


Native fish heaven:
Baldface Creek tumbles
into the North Fork
Smith River.
PHOTO: Ken Anderson



Smith River Steward
Sunny Bourdon paddles
the North Fork Smith.
PHOTO: Octave Zangs

KEEPING DAM REMOVAL ON THE TABLE



Built in 1922, Scott Dam blocks
fish passage to over 200 miles
of historic salmon habitat.
PHOTO: Jason Hartwick



Cold, clean water in the Eel
River upstream of Scott Dam.
PHOTO: Jake Crawford

EEL RIVER, CA | 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.

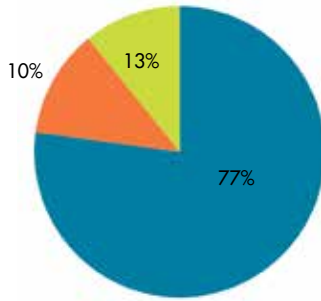
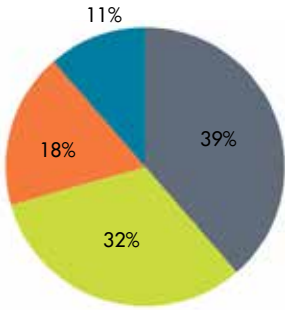


Revenue & Expenses for Fiscal Year 2017

Financial results for fiscal year ending December 31, 2017

REVENUE: \$509,676

EXPENSE: \$500,847



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

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

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(COVER)

Boom goes the wild steelhead.

PHOTO: Jeremy Koreski

2017 Annual Report Designed + Edited by Mark Sherwood



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Sai Steinberg, Van Duzen
Keith Stonebraker, Clearwater
David Thomas, McKenzie
Peter Tronquet, Yaquina
Walt Weber, Lower Columbia Tributaries
Scott Willison, Stillaguamish