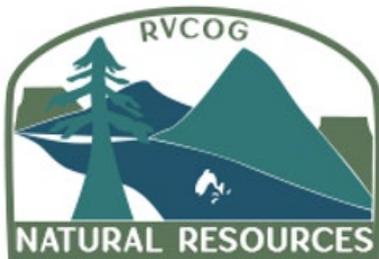


Stream Smart – Update January 2025



Greg Stabach & Amie Siedlecki
Natural Resources Department
Rogue Valley Council of Governments

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions (if needed)
- Advisory Committee Role Review
- Stream Smart “Key Areas and Programs”
- Activity highlights July 1, 2024 - December 31st, 2024
- Plans and needs January – June 2025
- AC Input/Questions

Advisory Committee Role

- Meet twice a year (smaller meetings are held throughout the year as needed)
- Sounding board
- Provide general direction (as needed)
 - Areas/Topics to pursue
 - Where updates are needed
 - Activities

Advisory Meetings Email List

- RVCOG
- RVSS
- DEQ
- Jackson County
- Josephine County
- RRK
- JSWCD
- Medford
- Central Point
- Grants Pass
- Who are we missing?

Key Areas and Programs 2024-2025

- Website and Social Media (Facebook and Instagram)
 - Pledges
 - Events
 - Blogs
- Salmon Watch
- Clean-ups
 - Bear Creek (2x)
 - Rogue River (1x)
- Adopt-A-Greenway
 - Central Point near Expo
- Adopt-A-River
 - Hog Creek Area
- Volunteer Programs
- Events/General Education

Other Program Areas/Partners

- Rogue Drinking Water Partnership (RDWP)
- Rogue Aquatics Invasives Network (RAIN)
- Jackson and Josephine CWMA

Activity Highlights

- Salmon Watch Logo



Website

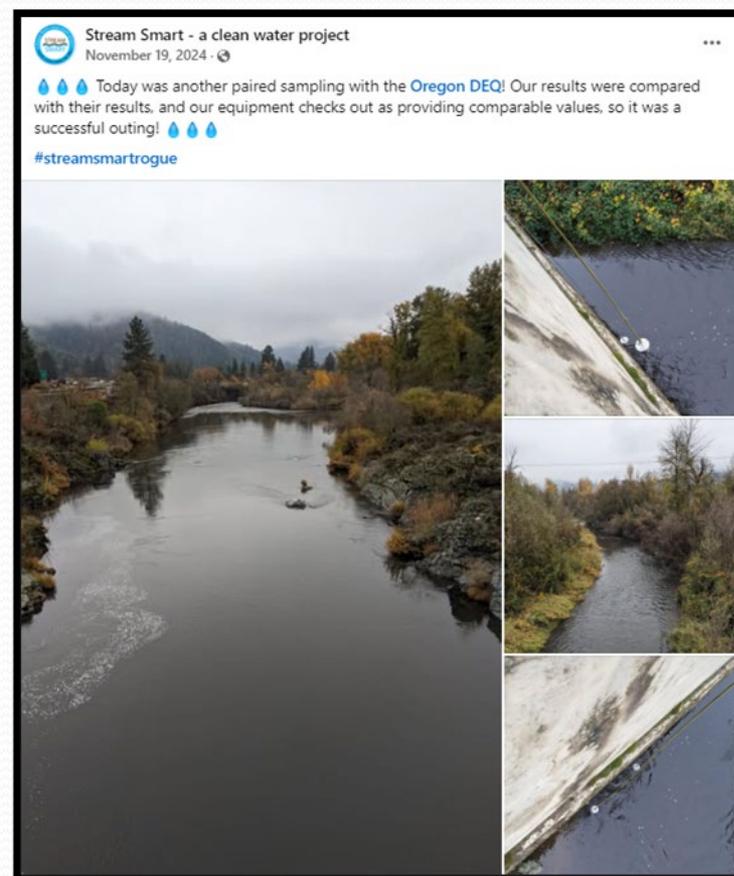
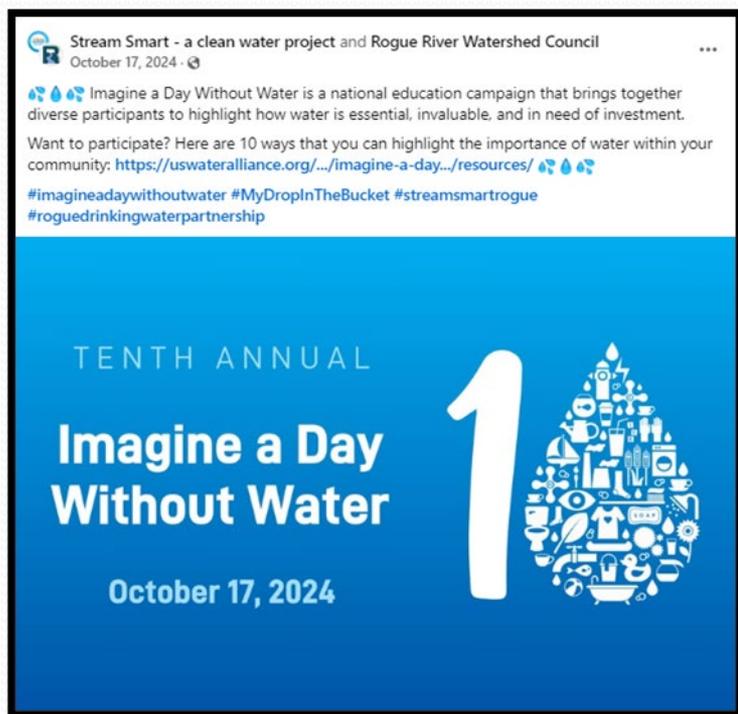
- Reorganized landing page. Goal was to make it more user friendly.
- Updated funders and sponsors

Sustainers

Provide primary funding for the program including coordination activities, program implementation, and fees (web hosting).



Social Media - Facebook and Instagram





Stream Smart - a clean water project

October 12, 2024 · 🌐

Come visit us at the Salmon Festival at North Mountain Park.



Stream Smart - a clean water project created an event.

January 14 at 1:06 PM · 🌐



Sat, Apr 19 at 8:30 AM

Bear Creek Stewardship Day!

Bear Creek Greenway - Jackson County
19 people interested

☆ Interested



Stream Smart - a clean water project

December 23, 2024 at 1:25 PM · 🌐

🌿🌿🌿 Get caught up on weeds-related announcements by checking out the December Jalo CWMA newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/060ccfccdc15/cwmasummer2022-6782649> 🌿🌿🌿
#streamsmartrogue



MAILCHI.MP

CWMA December Newsletter!

Resources Discovered During the Oregon Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium 2024! Durin...



Articles, Press, Blogs, and Presentations

- July – [Make It R.A.I.N!](#)
- August – [An Easy \(and Rewarding\) Way to Give Back to Your Community: Adopt-A-Street](#)
- October – [The Successes of Bear Creek Stewardship Day](#)
- December – [Release the Salmon!](#)
- [Bear Creek Stewardship Day at Blue Heron Park](#)
- Presentation to the RVCOG Board – RAIN/JaJo CWMA



PRESS RELEASE

Rogue Valley Council of Governments,
Natural Resources Department

CREEK SAFETY WATCH
Bear Creek Watershed – Jackson County
August 2nd, 2024



Important Note: This information is for select creeks in the Bear Creek Basin only – **IT DOES NOT COVER ALL CREEKS IN JACKSON COUNTY OR ALL CREEKS IN THE BEAR CREEK WATERSHED.** If you have questions about a specific creek, please call RVCOG (see contact information below).

Routine, monthly water quality testing results indicate that the following creeks have exceeded state bacteria standards for contact recreation (swimming, wading, etc.). Residents are asked to use caution when in contact with any waterways and especially to avoid ingestion (which may cause illness) and contact with open wounds (which may cause infection). Very young children should be fully supervised when playing in the water to avoid swallowing the water. It is important to note that contact with any water body – creeks, rivers, lakes, or swimming pools – carries some level of risk.

Possible causes of high levels of bacteria in the creeks include: 1) pet waste, 2) livestock waste, 3) wild animals, 4) leaking septic systems, 5) illegal dumping from portable toilets or RVs, or 6) any other activity that results in the discharge of fecal matter directly into creeks or through storm drains.

Citizens are asked to notify the appropriate agency of any concerns. Failing septic systems and other pollutants discharged into streams should be reported to the Department of Environmental Quality. Complaints can be reported to the complaint hotline at 1-888-997-7888 or online at <http://www.deq.state.or.us/complaints/rep.htm>. If you are unsure of whom to call or have questions regarding which creeks are tested, please call Amie Siedlecki (541-423-1371) or Greg Stabach (541-423-1370) from the Rogue Valley Council of Governments' (RVCOG) Natural Resources Department, or visit <http://rvcoc.org/what-we-do/natural-resources/>.

What you can do: 1) pick up after your pets, 2) keep manure, cat litter, and other waste material away from creeks and storm drains, 3) have your septic system inspected and repaired if failing, and 4) put toddlers in swim diapers.

More information is available from RVCOG's Natural Resources Department (<http://rvcoc.org/what-we-do/natural-resources/>), Stream Smart's Monitoring Water Quality in the Rogue Basin webpage (<http://www.stream-smart.com/monitoring-water-quality-in-the-rogue-basin/>), the Oregon Department of Human Services (www.egov.oregon.gov/DHS), and the Environmental Protection Agency (<http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/humanhealth/>).

The following creeks have exceeded state bacteria standards for contact recreation (swimming, wading etc.):

Walker Creek near Dead Indian Memorial Road (Ashland)
Bear Creek near Suncrest Road (Talent)
Jackson Creek from W. Ross Lane to Dean Creek Road (Jacksonville/Central Point)

Rogue Basin Salmon Watch Program

- 24 field days from September 19th through November 4th:
- December 19th Program: Hybrid Salmon Watch and Salmon Release
- April/Early May Spring Program:



Rogue Basin Salmon Watch Program Summary – Fall 2024

Another Successful Year in the Books!
In collaboration with partners and volunteers, we were able to provide 7 weeks of field trips, bringing students outdoors to learn about their local watersheds. Thanks to funding from the Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District and contributions from the water quality programs of local cities (Ashland, Central Point, Grants Pass, Jacksonville, Medford, Phoenix, and Talent) and counties (Jackson and Josephine), as well as seventeen additional partner organizations, we were able to provide no-cost field trips to students primarily in grades 3rd-8th from twenty-four different schools in the Rogue Basin. In addition, we taught mixed (1st through 5th) and AP high school classes. Collaboration and partnership make it happen!

of students served: 1,198
of schools participating: 24
of individual instructors contributing: 35

Coordinating agencies:



Thank you, Salmon Watch Partners!



And Salmon Watch Sustainers!

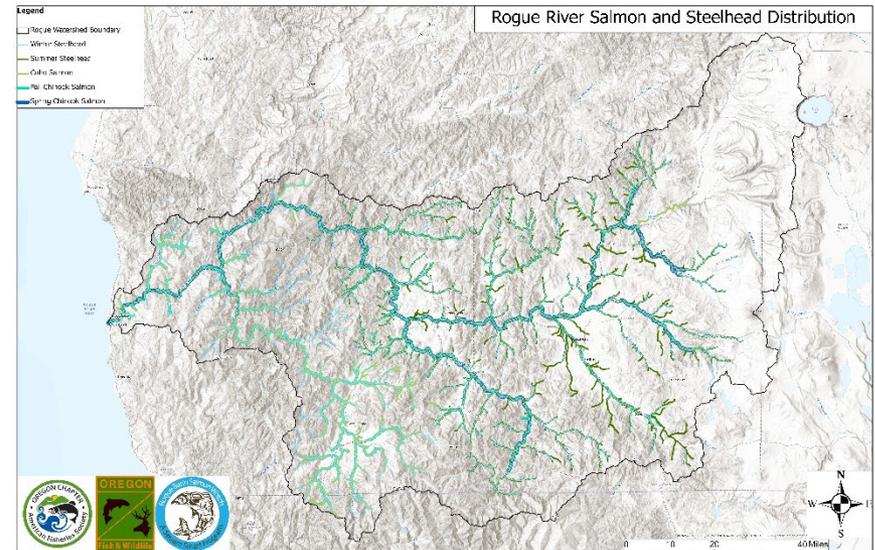


Rogue Basin Salmon Watch Program

- Changes to the training program
 - Immersion training
- Added in new modules and materials
 - Pollinators
 - Fire
 - Service Learning (re-established)
- New locations and partnerships
 - North Mountain Park (re-established)
- Post season meeting

New Materials Examples

- Oregon Chapter of American Fisheries Society – Funding for Educational Materials and Supplies



Clean-Ups

- SOLVE Adopt-A-River: Bear Creek Stewardship Day – September 21st, 2024
 - 98 volunteers
 - Removed approximately 1,500 pounds of trash
 - Treated 33,780 square feet of Himalayan Blackberry, Yellow Star Thistle, and other invasive weeds during the event
 - More involvement from Stream Smart in coordinating this event for the fall due to the main coordinator absence.



TWO EVENTS!

33RD ANNUAL ROGUE RIVER CLEAN-UP & LET'S PULL TOGETHER!

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH, 2025, 8:00AM - 1:00PM

Join us for a coordinated trash clean-up and weed-pull event along the Rogue River in Josephine County!

Volunteer Swag + Prizes! **Info Booths!**

Lunch, Snacks, + Water Provided! **Raffle!**

CHECK IN & CLEAN-UP	8:00AM - 12:00PM Hog Creek County Park
CHECK OUT & AFTER-PARTY	11:00AM - 1:00PM Indian Mary County Park
REGISTER	Stream-Smart.com/rogue-river-clean-ups



Volunteer Programs

- Cub Scouts at Reinhart Volunteer Park – Pollinator Garden Planting – 11/23/24
- Water Quality Analyses – OSU SWAT at Lynn Newbry and Blue Heron Park – 12/6/24 and 1/10/25.



Events

 **Stream Smart - a clean water project**
October 12, 2024 · 📍

Come visit us at the Salmon Festival at North Mountain Park.



Working to balance the needs of healthy natural systems with community well-being.



The Rogue Basin Salmon Watch Program Presents: **Salmon Watch Traveling Roadshow**

Thursday, August 8th, 2024

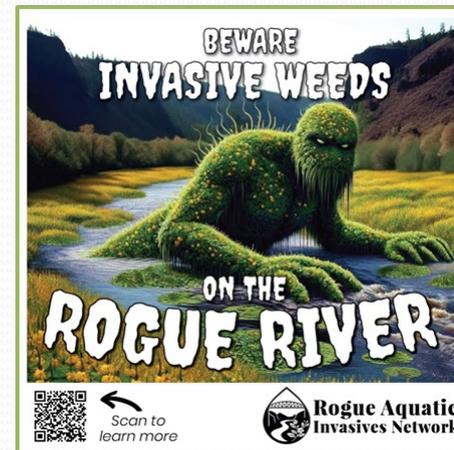
1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Jackson County Library Services - Medford
205 S. Central Avenue
Medford, Oregon 97501



RAIN Outreach

- Target Audience: Rogue River rafting outfitters.
- RAIN logos & river monster mascot (sticker) + Stream Smart website QR code.
- Parrotfeather & Ludwigia as primary aquatic weeds to target.
- Rogue River Rafting Outfitters Meeting February 5th, 2025.



Partners

Provide mostly in-kind support by offering programs and activities, teaching Salmon Watch modules, providing equipment, use of facilities, supplies, and other donations.



Partners



Plans January – June 2025

- Web revisions
 - Bear Creek Stewards website moved to Stream Smart
- Spring Salmon Watch Classes
- Social media boosts to increase interaction
- April Medford CO-OP Presentation/Tabling
- Bear Creek Clean-up (April 19th)
- Rogue River Clean-up (May 17th)

Plans continued

- Earth Day Events (April)
 - Rogue Valley
 - RCC

Clean-Ups

- SOLVE Adopt-A-River: Bear Creek Stewardship Day – April 19th, 2025
- 33rd Annual Rogue River Clean-Up & Let's Pull Together! – May 17th, 2025
- RRCU branded schwag



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AC Input/Needs

- Meeting frequency?
 - Do we need to meet more often than 2x per year
 - Working Groups/Topic specific needed
- Topics
 - Blog posts. Any requests?
 - Program areas to add into the program
- New Partners and events?
 - Meetings – Clean Rivers Coalition