

Rogue River Watershed Council

We are a proud sponsor of Rogue River Watershed Council:

Rogue River Watershed Council

Annual Celebrate the Rogue!



Watershed councils are locally organized, voluntary, non-regulatory groups established **to improve the condition of natural resources in Oregon's watersheds.** Unfortunately, many watershed councils are crony operations that often hinder conservation efforts in favor of protecting the interests of local businesses having poor conservation practices or creating paid staff positions for family members and relatives...all sanctioned by your County Commissioners and paid for with your taxes.

In 2015, four independent watershed councils: Bear Creek Watershed Council, Little Butte Creek Watershed Council, Upper Rogue Watershed Association and the Stream Restoration Alliance of the Middle Rogue merged to become the Rogue River Watershed Council. The Rogue River Watershed Council covers approximately 1,641,000 acres from the headwaters near Crater Lake to Mule Creek and encompasses the towns of Grants Pass, Merlin, Shady Cove, Eagle Point, Butte Falls, Central Point, Jacksonville, Phoenix, Talent, Medford, and Ashland...**essentially** surrounding the original Seven Basins Watershed Council area. The Rogue River Watershed Council is one of the few watershed councils that partners with WaterWatch and both these organizations actually accomplish significant habitat restoration. We applaud the honest efforts and significant accomplishments made by the Rogue River Watershed Council!

In 2015, we successfully removed the last two dams on Evans Creek (a tributary of the Rogue River).

Free the Rogue River

Two of Oregon's Worst Dams are Coming Down

Wimer Dam Removal Video

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife has subsequently confirmed that we now have Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Cutthroat Trout and Steelhead in Evans Creek (a tributary of the Rogue River) and in Spignet Creek (a tributary of Evans Creek) which both flow through our property which is about 25 miles upstream from the Rogue River.

In 2018, our local watershed council, Seven Basins Watershed Council, was dissolved for alleged business misconduct. In 2019, its replacement, Valleys of the Rogue Watershed Council (AKA, The Shayne Maxwell Foothill Creek Watershed Council), was allegedly created by vote rigging and staffed by cronies. Both the Oregon Department of Justice and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board were made aware of the situation. *Update: After 6 years of wasted effort/time, Valleys of the Rogue Watershed Council was dissolved and Seven Basins Watershed Council was merged with the Rogue River Watershed Council in late 2023.*

Nevertheless, alleged corrupt local politics aside, we still always try to stay engaged with some conservation effort somewhere. Here is our most current joint project of **removing three small dams and relocating the land owner's associated water right Point of Diversion:**

2021 Rogue River / Applegate River / Slate Creek Project

