

1

R&E Board appointment

2

R&E and STEP Program updates

Marty Olson, R&E/STEP Coordinator
Dave Grosjacques, R&E Board Chair
Steve Janego, STAC Board Chair





Issue 1.

Appoint a new member to the R&E Board.



Oregon Department
of Fish and Wildlife

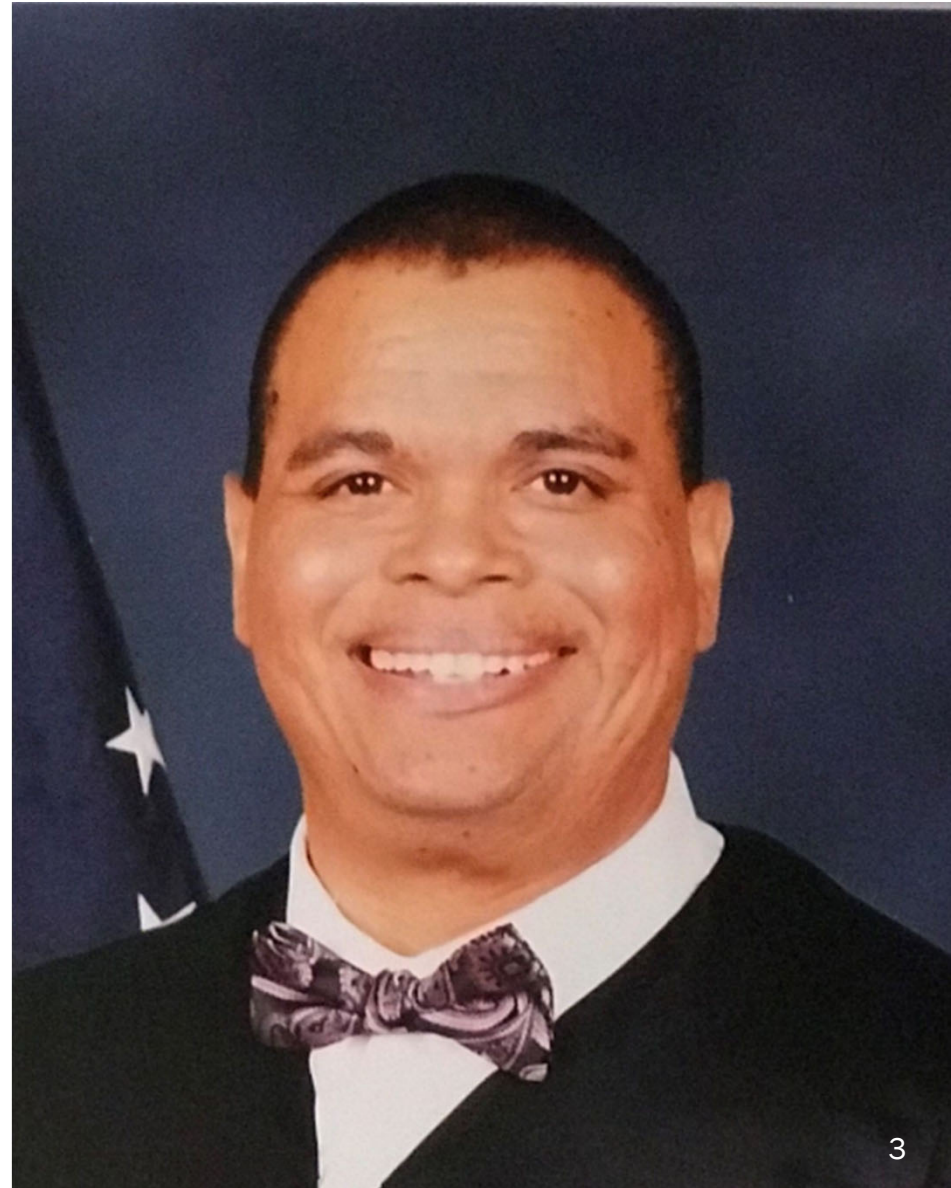


Winter Rhodes

Representing Public Interests

- Certified ODFW Hunter/Angler Ed. Volunteer instructor
- Retired US Navy Veteran
- Board of Trustees for Northwest Academy
- Board member for Soul River Inc.

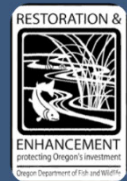
ODFW Staff Recommend the appointment of Winter Rhodes to the R&E Board.





Issue 2.

R&E and STEP Program Updates.



R&E Program

Restoration and Enhancement

- Developed by the Oregon Legislature in 1989
- Operating budget of \$4 to \$6 million per biennium
- Dedicated funding through license surcharges
- Overseen by a 7-member, citizen advisory board.





R&E Program



\$70,000,000

501 c(3)

Open to any public, or private non-profit entity.



R&E Program



Project approval

496.289(6)(a)

(6)...the Board shall:

(a) Recommend a mix of projects that provide a balance between Restoration and Enhancement benefits.





R&E Program

2021/2023 Biennium

- Allocated \$5.72 Million to projects

2023/2025 Biennium

- Will allocate \$4.5 million to projects



Oregon's Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program
2021-2023 Biennium Report

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Phone: 503-947-6232

E-mail: Martin.P.Olson@ODFW.Oregon.gov

2021-23 R&E Legislative Report



Introduction

On June 29th, 1989 the Oregon Fisheries Restoration and Enhancement Act of 1989 was signed into law. The act established the Restoration and Enhancement Program (R&E Program) at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). The act allowed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to initiate a grant program that provides \$4-6,000,000 per biennium to projects throughout Oregon.

- Funding is used to improve recreational fishing and commercial salmon fisheries by:
- Restoring state-owned fish hatcheries,
 - Enhancing natural fish production,
 - Expanding hatchery production, and
 - Providing additional public access to fishing waters.

The program was made permanent by the Legislature in 2019, extending its benefits to Oregon citizens and state fish resources indefinitely. This report to the Oregon Legislature highlights program accomplishments for the 2021-23 biennium.



Junction City Pond (before)

- Very popular location in the Willamette Valley
- No ADA access
- Limited lakeside access



Junction City Pond (after)





Junction City Pond





STEP program updates.



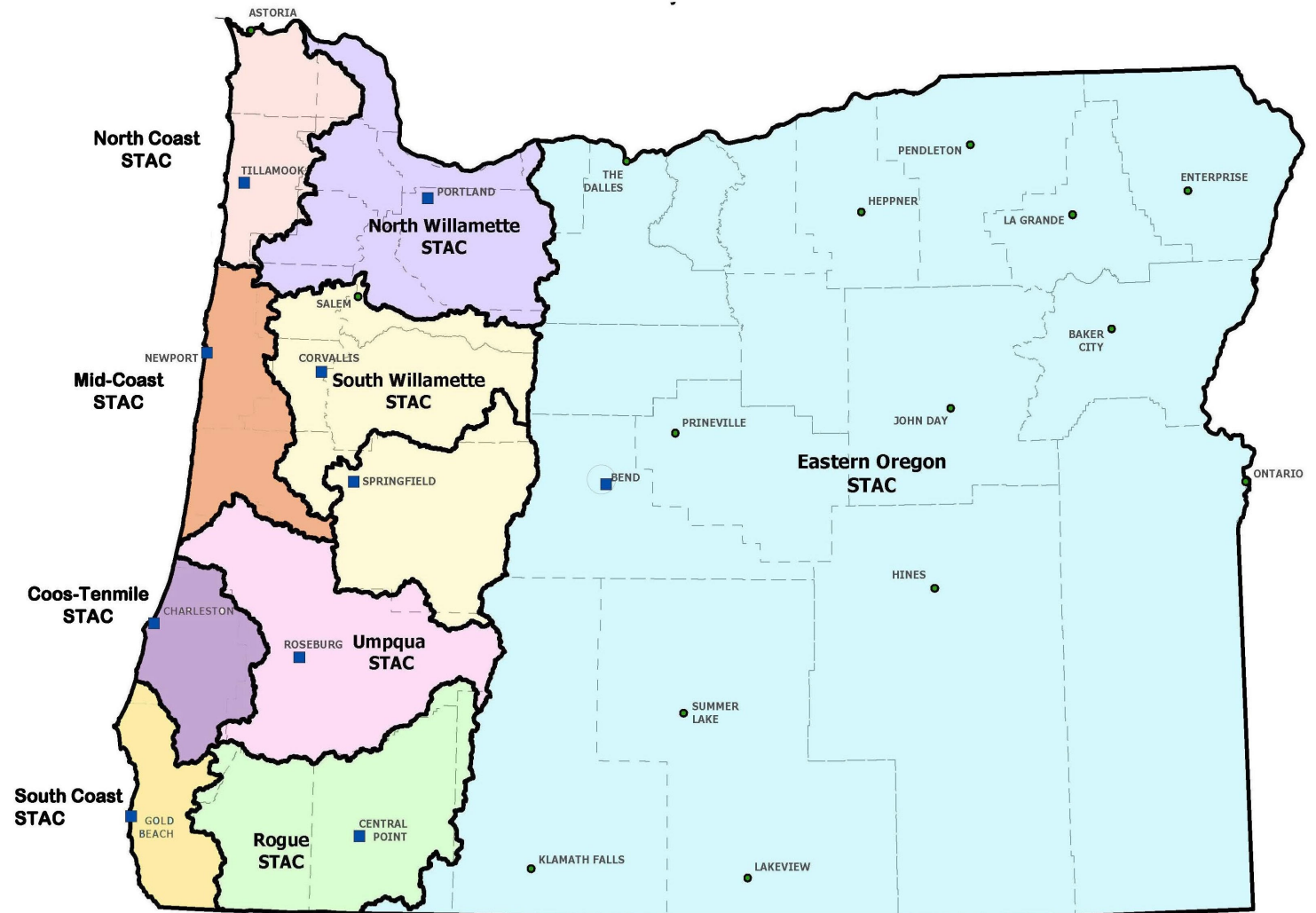
STEP

Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program

- Developed by the Oregon Legislature in 1981
- Rehabilitation
- Volunteer Participation
- Education



- Eastern Oregon
Steve Janego
- North Willamette
Morgan Parks
- North Coast
Michael Calhoun
- Mid-Coast
Jessica Eubank
- South Willamette
Rachel Ellison
- Coos/Tenmile
Mindie Wilson
- Umpqua
Dave Grosjacques
- Rogue
Carl Cole
- South Coast
Roger Lindquist



STEP Program

Champions for Volunteer participation

- STEP Hatcheries
- Egg To Fry program
- Salmon Watch
- Educational fishing events
- Christmas tree placements
- Nutrient enrichment
- Habitat surveys
- Invasive species removal



Since 1981:



Over 395,000 volunteers



Over 4 million hours donated



STEP Bio Influence

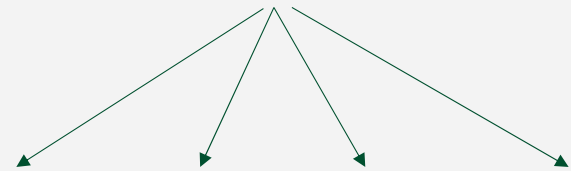
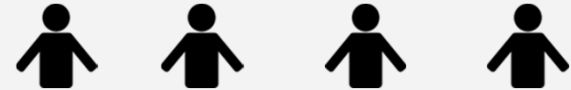
VOLUNTEER



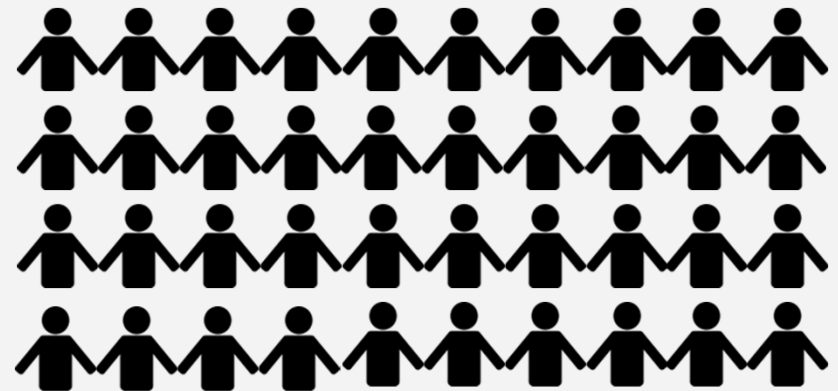
1 STEP Biologist



4 new volunteer recruits



Share the experience with their friends



STAC board

- Advise Department and Commission on implementation of STEP projects
- Serve on External budget advisory committee



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

This annual legislative report summarizes the activities and accomplishments of The Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. STEP activities are integral to accomplishing Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) fish management objectives. During the 2022-2023 reporting period, statewide STEP volunteer efforts involved 957 youth and 2,941 adult volunteers donating 52,909 hours of time, which is equal to approximately 25 full-time equivalents (FTEs). STEP volunteer efforts in this reporting period were valued at \$1,789,906.00.

The types of projects conducted through STEP reflect the diverse ways that volunteers can assist with fish and habitat management needs throughout Oregon. The issues and priorities within individual watersheds are often unique to those areas and the focus of STEP efforts can vary across the state. Generally, activities can be grouped into four main categories.



EDUCATION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

58,117 people participated in STEP educational activities

These activities include participation in trainings, classes, tours, presentations, workshops, egg to fry classroom projects, and public events.



INVENTORY AND MONITORING

Nearly **297** volunteers contributed to fish monitoring and inventory efforts

Participants logged 4,816 hours on 206 projects statewide, assessing sport fisheries, conducting fish passage inspections and surveying in-stream habitat.



HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

STEP volunteers improved **618** miles of waterways for fish

453 participants improved Oregon's fish habitat through fish passage, in-stream, riparian and fish carcass placement projects, and the Keep Oregon Rivers Clean (KORC) program.



FISH CULTURE

4.72 million Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, steelhead, and trout were reared or released by STEP volunteers

These fish were used for enhancement or augmentation purposes. Of these, 1.89 million fish were fed and cared for by STEP volunteers before release and 7,761 fish were collected for broodstock.



DRAFT MOTION:

Issue 1: I move to appoint Winter Rhodes to a four-year term as the Public at Large Representative on the Restoration and Enhancement Board.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1st, 2025.





Thank you!

