

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Council turned 20 in 2015, and we logged a record 1,425 volunteer-days. Volunteering and community support have been the driving forces behind restoring the largely urban Johnson Creek, a stream many people had written off decades ago. From the first stream cleanups in the 1970s, where volunteers snagged trash while riding on inner tubes, to the Johnson Creek Corridor Committee in the 1980s, to our volunteer army of today, the creek's new life has been about the community. Volunteers have planted hundreds of thousands of native trees and shrubs in the past twenty years.

For many folks, Johnson Creek is "that creek that always floods." On December 7, a record rainfall brought more water to Johnson Creek than did the massive 1996 flood, yet the flooding damage was less. Now that is worth celebrating!

We had several board and staff transitions in 2015. We welcomed new board members Tim Crawley, Mary Ann Schmidt, and Ken Nichols. We said good bye to board members David Scharfenberg, Russ Mantifel, and Tom Skiles. Daniel Newberry replaced long-time Executive Director Matt Clark. After a year as our AmeriCorps member, Danielle Miles took over the Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator position from Amy Lodholz. Katie Songer joined us as our Restoration Project Manager, filling the position left by Robin Jenkinson. Janel Hull is our new AmeriCorps member.

We published our new ten-year action plan in 2015. In that plan, we established six focus areas: people, riparian forests, wildlife, fish, water quality and watershed science. On the next two pages, you'll see what we've got going in each of those six areas.



Clean up on Earth Day at Milwaukie Riverfront Park



JCWC Board & Staff, February, 2016

Rear (l to r): Katie Songer, Janel Hull, Dick Schubert, Kirk Wilson, Mary Ann Schmidt, Marie Walkiewicz, Daniel Newberry, Noah Jenkins, Bruce Newton, Tim Crawley.

Front (l to r): Bob Sanders, Melanie McCandless, Danielle Miles, Carol Zvyatkauskas, Katie Holzer, Roy Iwai, Cathy Geiger.

Missing: Lauren Senkyr, John Nagy, Erik Carr, Ken Nichols

People

Engaging our neighbors in restoration and monitoring not only increases our capacity to care for the watershed, it builds community.

- * With 1,425 volunteer-days in 2015, totaling 7,300 hours, we set a record in 2015 for volunteer support.
- * Our signature event—Watershed Wide Event in March—attracted 410 volunteers.
- * We assisted Portland Urban Forestry in inventorying street trees in the Powellhurst-Gilbert neighborhood.
- * 19 interns—mostly college and high school students—helped with project and office work.
- * Staff & volunteers represented JCWC at 29 outreach events.
- * Together with the local Native American community, Crystal Springs Partnership and the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, we helped organize the 2nd annual Salmon Celebration, which drew over 2,000 visitors!



Volunteers prepare to march with the JCWC float in the 82nd Avenue of the Roses Parade in April.

Riparian Forests

High water temperature is likely the biggest threat to salmon in our streams. Planting and caring for trees and shrubs is the most cost-effective and long-lasting strategy to cool the streams.

Our efforts to shade Johnson Creek and its tributaries continued apace in 2015. Working with funding from East Multnomah SWCD, Clackamas SWCD, and OWEB, we installed over 15,000 native trees and shrubs on properties throughout the watershed. These new plantings will shade over a mile of streams. We also removed invasive plants on more than 10 acres in preparation for future plantings, and signed up 11 new landowners to participate in our CreekCare program.



Wildlife

We embarked on our fifth year of coho spawning surveys. More than 50 volunteers were our eyes on the creek. Coho redds or carcasses were found in Crystal Springs Creek and on the mainstem near Gresham.

Plans are underway for additional monitoring by community volunteers for 2016: surveying beaver and migratory dragonfly activity and an Eco-Blitz in Powell Butte Park.

Together with agency partners in the Johnson Creek Interjurisdictional Committee, we surveyed 34 sites for macroinvertebrates as one measure of habitat quality.



Fish

In 2014 we finished a watershed-scale survey of 273 culverts, of which 75% were found to be partial or complete barriers to fish passage. We targeted 18 culverts to replace, remove, or retrofit in the next 10 years. In 2015, design and funding for the #1 priority barrier—on Badger Creek at the Springwater Trail—was completed. Replacement is scheduled for 2016. In September, we held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new boardwalk at the Tacoma St. Max/Orange Line station. The boardwalk overlooks a stream habitat restoration project we completed in 2013, and has five interpretive panels telling the history of Johnson Creek. Along with agency partners, we began planning for addressing fish passage in the entire North Fork Johnson Creek sub-watershed.



The new boardwalk at the Tacoma St Max station.

Water Quality

Our 8th annual Creek Cleanup—with partners Overland Park Coalition and Green Lents—netted 3.5 tons of trash collected by a record 160 volunteers. Six miles of Johnson Creek are cleaned up each year.

Along with our agency partners, we monitored stream temperature throughout the watershed. In Gresham, we knocked on many doors to promote the City's rain garden and downspout disconnect programs to reduce stormwater inputs.



Members of the Oregon Bhutanese Community Organization haul garbage out of Johnson Creek near SE Harney Road at the 8th annual Creek Cleanup.

Watershed Science

In 2015 we finished a multi-year process to chart our programs for the next 10 years. The 2015 to 2025 Action Plan provides a focus and road map to help the Council identify and prioritize our projects. We organized and held the 1st annual Science Symposium, bringing together academics and natural resource practitioners to share current science and restoration on Johnson Creek.

Our Science Talk on dragonfly biology drew a capacity crowd.

We completed a five-year basin-wide water quality report, gathering data from multiple agencies. Phase 1 of our online Science Hub—a one-stop-shop for scientists and community members to learn science in the watershed—is now available. It includes scientific documents referenced in our action plan.



Identifying dragonflies at Happy Valley Nature Park after the Dragonlies Science Talk.

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\$25,000+

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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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Clackamas Water Environment
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Clackamas Web Academy
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Green Lents
Gresham Chamber of Commerce
H. B. Lee Middle School
Immigrant & Refugee Community
Organization
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Lents Youth Initiative
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School

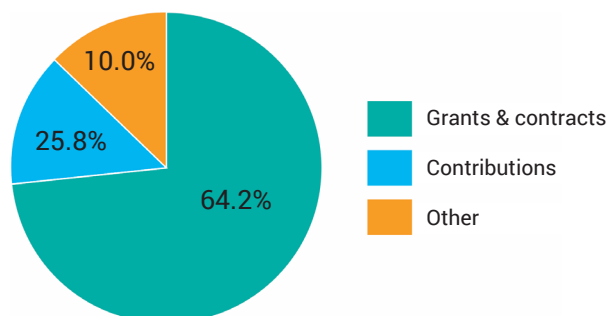
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Multnomah County Roads Department
Network of Oregon Watershed
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Non-profit Association of Oregon
North Clackamas Parks and Recreation
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NW Youth Corps
Oregon Bhutanese Community
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Portland Parks & Recreation
Portland State University
Portland Youth Builders
Portland Waldorf School
Reed College
River Network
Sellwood Middle School
Southwest Charter School
The Courts at Eastmoreland
Tivnu
Tryon Creek Watershed Council
Tri-Met
U.S. Geological Survey
University of Oregon Alumni
Association
University of Utah
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Conservation



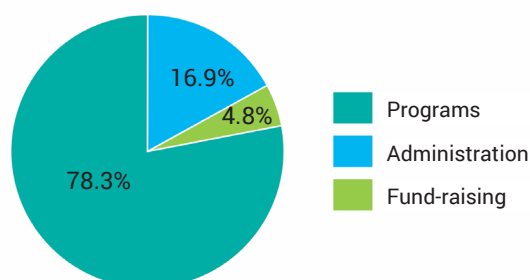
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Backyard Bird Shop	Recycling	MODA Health	Portland Timbers
Blue Kangaroo	Hopworks Brewing	Next Adventure	REI
Boggs	Laurelwood Brewery	Olive Garden	Sellwood Dog Supply
Brickhouse	Keen	OMSI	Shaylynn Davis
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Eternal Spring Massage	McMennamin's	Patagonia	Gary Wolff
Gisi Marketing	Walt Mintkeski	Pietro's Pizza	Worthy Brewing
Hoodview Disposal &	Justin Morrison	Popinos Swimwear	Whole Foods

Revenues



Expenses



Statement of Financial Position

		2015	2014
Assets			
	Cash	178,064	156,594
	Prepaid expenses	4,962	4,115
	Grants and contracts receivable	173,168	96,073
	Furniture and equipment, net	2,520	3,360
Total assets		\$ 358,714	\$ 260,142
Liabilities and net assets			
	Accounts payable	172,538	7,138
	Accrued vacation	3,100	5,137
	Deferred revenue	4,918	8,818
Total Liabilities		\$ 180,556	\$ 21,093
Net assets			
	Unrestricted	123,219	119,586
	Temporarily restricted	42,039	106,563
	Permanently restricted	12,900	12,900
Total net assets		\$ 178,158	\$ 239,049
Total liabilities and net assets		\$ 358,714	\$ 260,142

Statement of Activities

		Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total 2015	Total 2014
Revenue and other support						
	Grants and contracts	314,516	32,360	-	346,876	506,871
	Contributions	59,210	79,950	-	139,160	94,559
	In-kind contributions	54,180	-	-	54,180	54,180
	Interest income	98	-	-	98	103
	Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
		428,004	112,310	-	540,314	655,713
	Net assets released	176,834	(176,834)	-	-	-
Total revenue and other support		\$ 604,838	\$ (64,524)	\$ -	\$ 540,314	\$ 655,713
Expenses						
	Program Services					
	Restoration/Riparian	307,662	-	-	307,662	222,604
	Outreach	78,376	-	-	78,376	84,002
	Monitoring	84,746	-	-	84,746	96,352
	Total program services	470,784	-	-	470,784	402,958
	Supporting services					
	Administration	101,729	-	-	101,729	87,472
	Fund-raising	28,692	-	-	28,692	30,436
Total expenses		\$ 601,205	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 601,205	\$ 520,866
Change in net assets		3,633	(64,524)	-	(60,891)	134,847
Net assets, beginning of year		119,586	106,563	12,900	239,049	104,202
Net assets, end of year		\$ 123,219	\$ 42,039	\$ 12,900	\$ 178,158	\$ 239,049

By the numbers...

7,300



**# of volunteer
hours recorded**

1,425



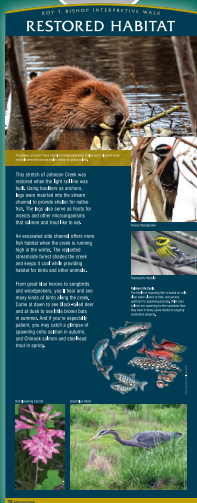
of volunteers

6



**# of live coho and
coho redds found
on Crystal Springs
Creek on
November 14**

5



**# of interpretive
panels at the new
Tacoma St.
boardwalk project**

1



**# flood events with
Johnson Creek
flows greater than
the 1996 flood**

1



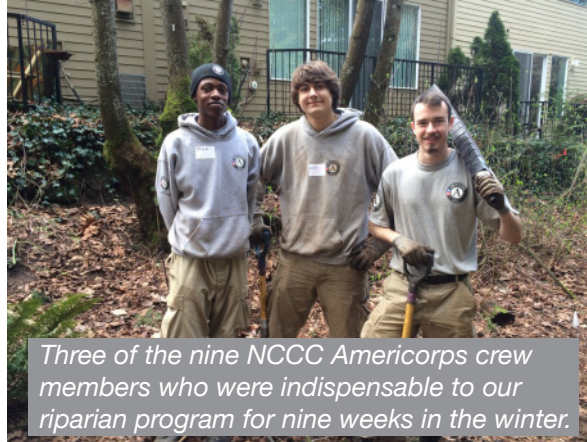
**# of kayakers in the
parking lot next to
the JCWC office
during the flood**

Youth: the future of restoration

In 2015, 21 schools and other youth groups came to us for service learning projects: tree planting, invasive plant removal, stream monitoring & job shadowing.

Youth groups we worked with in 2015:

Art Institute of Portland
Butler Creek Elementary
Centennial High School
Clackamas County Green Corps
Clackamas Web Academy
Duniway Elementary
H.B. Lee Middle School
Impact Northwest
Lents Youth Initiative
Lewis & Clark Montessori of Damascus
Milwaukie High School
Mt. Scott Learning Center
Native American Youth And Family Center (NAYA)
AmeriCorps NCCC
Oregon Episcopal School
Portland Waldorf School
Portland Youth Builders
Sellwood Middle School
Southwest Charter School
Summer Works / IRCO
University of Utah



Three of the nine NCCC AmeriCorps crew members who were indispensable to our riparian program for nine weeks in the winter.



A student at Butler Creek Elementary School in Gresham collects macroinvertebrates.



Portland Youth Builders plant trees at Mystic Woods in Boring.

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