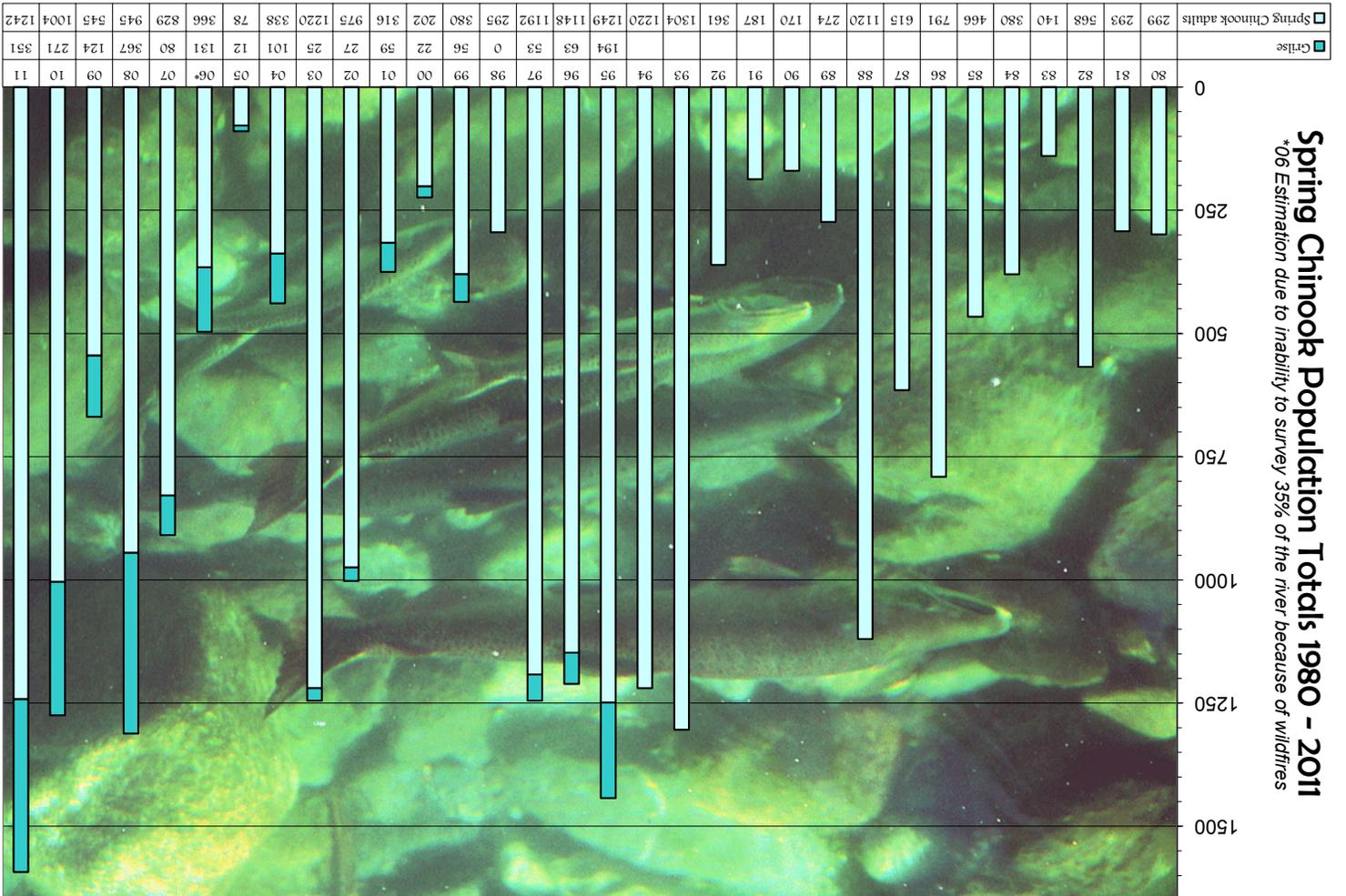


Spring Chinook Population Totals 1980 - 2011

*06 Estimation due to inability to survey 35% of the river because of wildfires



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Salmon River Restoration Council



Toothy grin of a Chinook carcass on the Salmon River

2011 Annual Report

Dear SRRC Community,

As I was driving to the Watershed Center in Sawyers Bar today I couldn't help but notice how much the Salmon River is in need of winter weather, and how when and if that winter weather comes, the rain and snow will then hamper my ability to traverse the river road. Finding the balance between what our surrounding natural community needs versus what the local human community needs is always a worthwhile endeavor, and as the new Executive Director of the Salmon River Restoration Council, helping achieve this balance will be my fundamental goal.

Our family has recently returned to the river from Arizona and we are settling back into the routine of rural living. My wife Carley and I have three children and are expecting a fourth in March, so if you see us out and about, sympathy hugs are always welcome, volunteer babysitting is preferred! I am looking forward to meeting and interacting with members of the Salmon River community and hope to get a chance to hear your ideas and input into SRRC's community based restoration efforts.

Although my management background is not in a natural resources related arena, I am excited about the opportunity to utilize my experiences in non-profit and for-profit management. I have a lot to learn about current and proposed restoration activities, and I have a lot to teach about team-based approaches and cultivating growth through partnerships.

SRRC's commitment to protect our precious resources and provide economic opportunities continues to be an example for sustainable watershed restoration. I am honored and humbled to be a part of the Restoration Council's leadership team as we move into the coming year.

Joshua Saxon
Executive Director



SRRC Staff

Josh Saxon, Executive Director
Karuna Greenberg, Restoration Director
Lyra Cressey, Associate Director &
Monitoring Coordinator
Petey Brucker, Klamath Coordinator &
Noxious Weed Coordinator
Kathy McBroom, Office Manager
Brenda Hurlimann, Bookkeeper
Sarah Hugdahl, Program Assistant
Tom Hotaling, Fisheries Coordinator
Robert Will, Fuels & GPS Technician
Lorelei Holzem, 2010-11 Watershed
Education Coordinator
Mitzi Rants, 2011-12 Watershed
Education Coordinator
Michael Kein, Program Staff
Caterina Lewis-Perry, Program Staff
Bonnie Bennett & Isaac Baker, 2010-11
AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards

SRRC Board

Petey Brucker, President
Toz Soto, Vice President
Kathy McBroom, Secretary/Treasurer
Will Harling
Scott Harding
Ron Reed
Sharon Hoppas
Ben Beaver
Creek Hanauer

SRRC 2011 Crews

Daniel Adams	Steve Gunther
Steve Adams	Jessica Hanscom
Steven Addison	Sara Hayden
Clifford Benet	Daniel Hendrickson
Dominick Brown	Michael Hill
Sheri Campbell	Mike Kerrick
Gary Collins	Wyatt McBroom
Eric Cousineau	Daniel Miranda
Robert Cousineau Jr.	Shannon Monroe
Robert W. Cousineau	Riley O'Brien
Jesse Cullen	Pat O'Connor
Kyle Cousineau	Katie Reinhart
Timothy Darling	Adam Robinson
Kevin Dunbar	Joe Stoltz
Rudy Galindo	Jacob Sutter
Dawn George	Irie Swift
Demitrios Giannaros	Bob Webster
Laurissa Gough	

Thank You to our 2011 Members, Donors, Volunteers and Funders!



New and Renewed Members for 2011:

Spring Chinook Memberships -

Danny Hagans & Pacific Watershed Associates,
Frank Berry

Green Sturgeon Memberships -

Ethan Guerra, Sharon Hoppas & George Martin

Coho Memberships -

Bob & Denise Bearding, Millie Brucker, Vi Cafferata, Steven Durham, Don & Elaine Dvorak, Anna Hall, & Matt Cavin, Creek & Betty Ann Hanauer, Ken & Theresa Harris, Von & Claudia Holzinger, Jim & Suzanne Jennings, Earl & Trace Landberg, Ray Lingel, Bill & Patsy Marcy, Momentum River Expeditions, Monkerud Family, John Moriarty, Felice Pace, Richard Roggia, David & Paula Rose, Sandy Bar Ranch, Melissa & Bill Schroeder, Cedar & Mahaj Seegar, Robert Sonnenburg, Sowerwine & Carlson Family, Mary Strote, Dee Tolson, Van De Water Family

Fall Chinook Memberships -

Carol Dyer, Donna England, Yvonne Everett & Judee Mayer, Marie & Carl Flarity, Jennifer Silveira & Don Flickinger, Amber & Andy Getz, Kasey & Scott Gilroy, Bruce Hart, Specht & Hines Family, Dieter King, Jill Pizzuto, Liz & Jody Pullen, Scott Quinn, Anni & Kit Robinson, Steve Robinson, Barry Snyder, Steve & Lee Stefanki, Jared & Wilson Strote, Chris Walton

Winter Steelhead Memberships -

Californians For Alternatives To Toxics, Ralph Cox, Crockett Sr. Family, Karen & Dean Davis, Pat & Joe Dougherty, Gold River Mining LLC, Sharon Goods, Ronn & Janet Harding, Sarah Jacobs, Peter Leaf Kleinert, Lieber, & Taubenfeld Family, Bill Meadows, Robert Menzies, Miriah Mining LLC, Pearlring Family, Martin Peterson, David & Valerie Van Scoyoc, Matt Van Scoyoc, Edna Watson, Hope Woodward

Kai (SRRC's youngest and most enthusiastic volunteer on the Noxious Weed work days) digging out a tall spotted knapweed plant he found

Thank you to our Funders:

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, CA Dept. of Fish and Game, US Forest Service, Karuk Tribe, Grants Clearinghouse, Strong Foundation, Firedoll Foundation, Norcross Foundation, Dancing Tides Foundation, Trees Foundation, Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, Siskiyou Dept. of Agriculture, Siskiyou County RAC, CA Dept. of Food and Agriculture, CA Dept. of Conservation

Thank you to all the people who donated what they could of their time, materials or money. All contributions whether in memory of our loved ones and family, signing up for the SRRC membership, sending us a check, or volunteering your services to the SRRC and the Salmon River are greatly appreciated.

The Salmon River Restoration Council's mission is to assess, protect, restore and maintain the Salmon River ecosystems with the active participation of the local community, focusing on restoration of the anadromous fisheries resources and the development of a sustainable economy. We provide assistance and education to the general public and cooperating agencies by facilitating communication and cooperation between the local communities, managing agencies, Native American Tribes, and other stakeholders.



Weed Crew and volunteers heading back after clearing spotted knapweed from Red Bank on the North Fork

News from the Watershed Center

After a couple of years of searching, we finally hired an Executive Director and a Restoration Director this December. Josh Saxon and Karuna Greenberg are both local community members, moving back to the area after some time away. They each bring different skills and backgrounds to the organization and we are very excited to have them on board.

We were also glad to have Michael Kein rejoin our staff this fall, after a year away. He is starting to take over coordination of our Watershed Education Program.

We did not get new Americorps Watershed Steward members this fall, for the first time in a number of years. Although we miss that influx of fresh energy, we are lucky to have new and returning staff to fill the void.

Financial support for the Watershed Center is never easy to come by, but we received the generous support of a couple of private foundations in 2011, in addition to our primary organizational support from the USFWS. Our membership and fund raising drives were quite successful this year and contributed much appreciated funds to the operation of the Watershed Center.

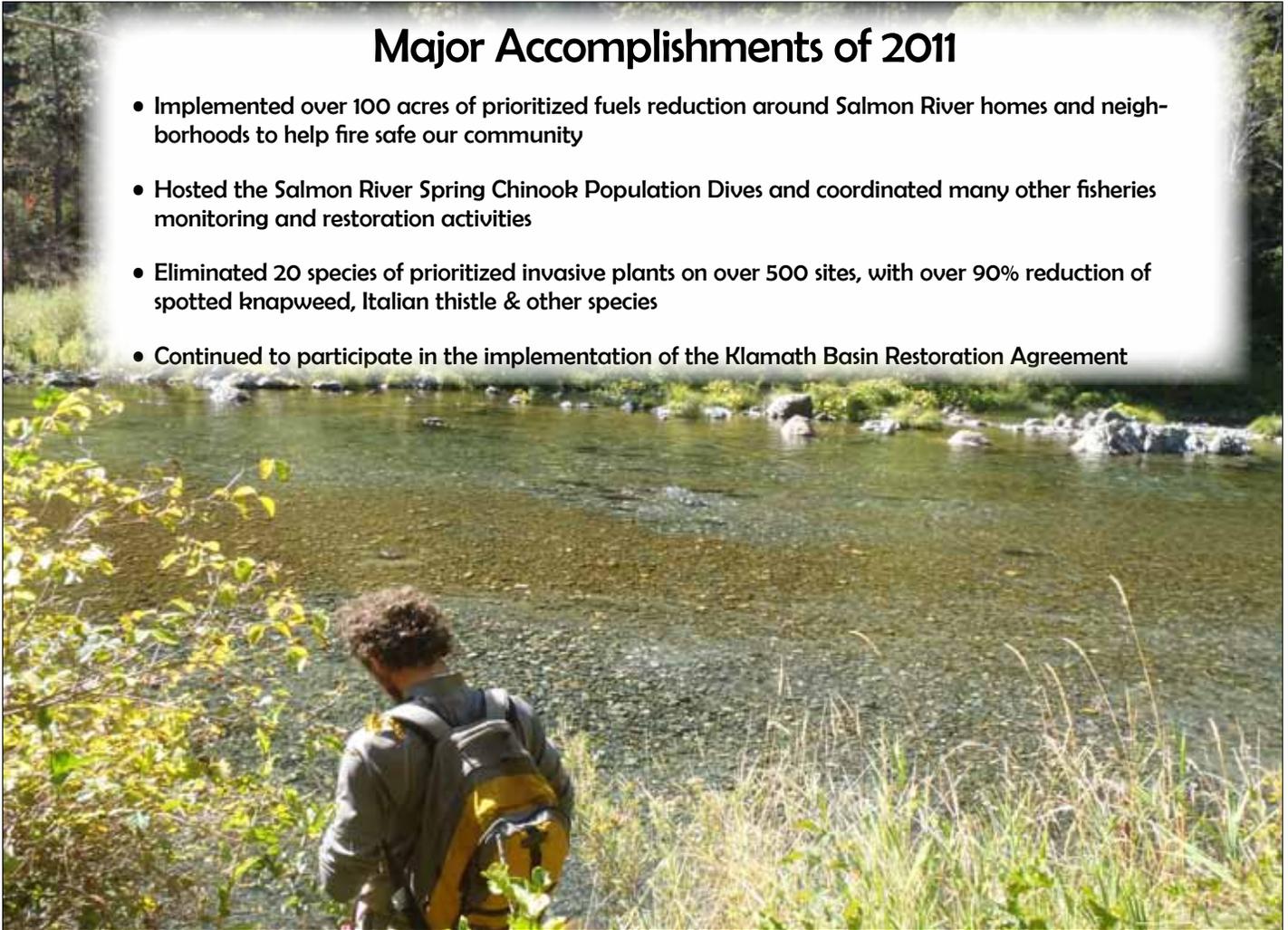
Overall, the Watershed Center continues to serve us well, and we really appreciate having such a wonderful work space.

Financial Report

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Contributions	\$6,823.31
Earned Income	\$3,854.95
Grants and Agreements	\$392,705.87
Miscellaneous Income	\$4,503.85
Reimbursed Expenses	\$1,182.40
Total Income	\$409,070.38
Expense	
Administration	\$8,470.64
Contract Labor	\$44,179.84
Miscellaneous	\$500.00
Operating Expenses	\$20,504.17
Payroll Expenses	\$253,417.26
Materials and Supplies	\$20,868.82
Travel Expenses	\$16,855.64
Total Expense	\$364,055.91
Net Ordinary Income	\$44,274.01
	
Volunteer Contributions	\$71,440.00

Major Accomplishments of 2011

- Implemented over 100 acres of prioritized fuels reduction around Salmon River homes and neighborhoods to help fire safe our community
- Hosted the Salmon River Spring Chinook Population Dives and coordinated many other fisheries monitoring and restoration activities
- Eliminated 20 species of prioritized invasive plants on over 500 sites, with over 90% reduction of spotted knapweed, Italian thistle & other species
- Continued to participate in the implementation of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement



SRRC Fisheries Program Coordinator Tom Hotaling taking data during the fall redd survey. A large salmon redd can be seen across the river.

SRRC Program Updates for 2011

Fisheries

This year's big news was that we had the largest run of spring Chinook ever counted on the Salmon River (since 1980 when population surveys first began). We had a wet spring and early summer on the Salmon and wonderfully high flows in the river through August. There was a great turnout of volunteers for the annual Spring Chinook Dive, and the final count for 80 miles of Salmon River habitat was 1,593 spring Chinook and 405 summer steelhead! We also had a very large run of fall Chinook this year. The large number of fish made for a busy carcass and redd survey season. A USFS crew surveying tributaries this fall saw 43 fish in Knownothing Creek and 63 in Methodist Creek. On Knownothing fish were spawning above the forks of the creek, which is the upper limit of their known presence.

SRRC operated Juvenile Outmigration Screw Traps on the Salmon and Klamath rivers two to three days a week from April-December in cooperation with the Karuk Tribe. As part of ongoing fish passage improvement efforts, the mouths of creeks providing important fish habitat got an overhaul – small barriers removed, step pools created, and the benefit of cold water maximized, so that both juvenile and adult fish can utilize the habitat more effectively. This year's fisheries work was funded by the Karuk Tribe, US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Strong Foundation.

Noxious Weeds

This year we continued to increase our efforts to control 20 priority noxious weed species on approximately 550 sites. In late winter and spring of 2011 the Noxious Weed crew did some intensive management of Italian thistle around Forks of Salmon. This is a localized population of Italian thistle that we are attempting to keep from spreading to other areas in the watershed. Several small populations of oblong spurge were discovered on the Mainstem Salmon this year. We hope



Weed crew and volunteers search for Italian thistle above Forks of Salmon

that we will be able to keep it from becoming widespread. The crew made progress in removing populations of Marlahan Mustard, focusing on fire areas, trailheads, tanker fill sites and river accesses. As always this effort is made more effective by our "Drivers that Care" campaign. Many thanks to community members who stop to notice, report, and pull/dig these weeds while driving, biking or walking the roads. And finally, the summer was spent combing river bars, decommissioned roads, and private lands for spotted knapweed, an effort that has been so successful over the years that they are getting hard to find. SRRC's knapweed monitoring and removal has long kept the USFS from having to spray toxic herbicides to control this "Class A" weed. The 2011 Noxious Weed program was funded by Siskiyou Dept. of Agriculture, Siskiyou County RAC, and CA Dept. of Food & Agriculture.

Watershed Education

SRRC's Watershed Education Program integrates fisheries and watershed awareness into the curricula of our two Salmon River schools. Students at Forks of Salmon and Junction Elementary schools learned a lot about their watershed over the course of the year. They did an extensive unit on geology, including an introduction into local rocks and minerals. They also studied ecology and water quality, learning how to take dissolved oxygen and pH measurements. They raised salmon and trout in their classroom aquariums, and released them into the Klamath River.

Students shared their work in watershed education with the community at the annual Watershed Fair in May. The kids participated in the 2011 annual fall Chinook spawning surveys. The watershed education program was funded this year by CDFG and US Fish & Wildlife Service.



Forks School kids show off their aquarium in which they've watched hatchery salmon eggs hatch and mature

Fire, Fuels and Forestry



SRRC crews completed 105 acres of fuels reduction this year, creating shaded fuel breaks, fire-safe residences and safer emergency access routes. We had two crews working for much of the year. The Salmon River Fire Safe Council has continued to coordinate the Community Fire Liaison Program to work directly with incident management teams during wild fire events. The purpose of the team is to provide accurate local information to fire managers, and to provide the community with up to date fire news. Luckily, we were spared any major wildfires in 2011. We continue to be engaged in planning and commenting on US Forest Service forestry management projects in the Salmon. The SRRC and Fire Safe Council work with stakeholders to develop an approach toward forestry management that can improve forest health by developing projects that better prepare private and public lands for wildfires. This year's work was funded by the USFS/Grants Clearinghouse and the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Monitoring



The SRRC and community volunteers monitored water and air temperatures at approximately 50 sites this past summer. In addition to our long term sites, we had a contract with the US Forest Service to help them collect temperature data throughout the watershed for their Klamath National Forest Monitoring Plan.

The SRRC has also continued to participate in the collaborative Klamath Basin Monitoring Program to develop and implement a long term monitoring plan for the Klamath and its tributaries, which includes the Salmon River. This program was funded by the USFS and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

AmeriCorps Watershed Steward at a SRRC temperature monitoring site

Riparian Restoration

The SRRC continues to bring stakeholders together to develop a program to implement the Salmon River TMDL. The goal is to reduce water temperatures in the Salmon River for fish, prioritizing the most beneficial areas and developing restoration activities. This summer we selected two sites within the prioritized North Fork reach to begin restoration on. Pacific Watershed Associates is currently working on developing restoration designs for those sites. Our plan is to combine an increase in riparian vegetation and shading with the creation of new off channel fish habitat. Once the designs have been completed, we will begin looking for funding to implement restoration. This work has been funded by the Bella Vista Foundation and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.



Noxious Weed crew scouts for weeds on one of the bars being looked at for a future restoration project. Past mining operations and high water events have left vast deposits of cobble denuded of vegetation.