

KNOW YOUR WATERSHED

STAY CONNECTED!



A watershed is an area of land where all of the water drains to the same place. The Coos watershed is the 610 square miles of land that drain through Coos Bay into the Pacific Ocean. It includes all forks and tributaries of the South Fork Coos and Millicoma Rivers, and all of the sloughs and creeks of the Coos estuary.

Wherever you are in the world, hot or dry, forest or desert, mountains or sea level, you are in a watershed!



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COOS

Watershed
Association



Supporting environmental integrity and
economic stability in the coos watershed
since 1994

www.cooswatershed.org

ABOUT US

The Coos Watershed Association (CoosWA) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to restoration, monitoring, and education as a means of preserving watershed health in the Coos Basin. Our strength lies in collaboration: connecting and empowering our community to take an active part in ensuring a healthy future for our watershed.

To carry out our mission of supporting environmental integrity and economic stability, we employ 14 full-time staff and many other seasonal employees, interns, and contractors. Through our grants and projects, we bring an average of 1.5-2 million dollars to Coos County each year.

WATERSHED COUNCILS

The Coos Watershed Association is one of 90 watershed councils designated by local government across the state of Oregon. Watershed councils are defined as “locally organized, voluntary, non-regulatory groups established to improve the condition of watersheds in their local area.”

PROGRAMS



We strive to create healthy stream habitat through three restoration programs: restoring the channels themselves (in-stream restoration), restoring the area along the stream (riparian restoration), and restoring our urban areas that drain into the bay. All of these projects restore function and vitality to the streams in our watershed, providing numerous benefits to fish, people, and everything in-between.



Effective, on-the-ground monitoring is a key part of successful restoration. We monitor changes and trends in the Coos watershed through stream gauges, habitat surveys, electronic fish tagging, rotary screw trap sampling, seining, and more. These efforts help us measure current success and prioritize areas for future restoration.

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As native plants are removed and replaced by ornamental and invasive species, the ecological food web that depends on them begins to break down. We supply native species to our community through our nursery that can produce over 20,000 plants at a time. We also monitor and remove the noxious weeds that damage coastal habitats and economies. If you have noxious weeds on your property or are interested in landscaping with natives, please reach out! For info on monthly plant nursery volunteer days and other volunteer opportunities, join our email list:

<https://cooswatershed.org/#subscribe>



We connect with our community through volunteer events, nursery work days, festivals, workshops, and innovative career mentoring and internship programs for youth and adults. These programs aim to connect people to resources and foster a sense of environmental stewardship. For more info, give us a call or send us an email.