

## 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 big dams on Evans Creek (a tributary of the Rogue River), one of three mountain creeks that flow through our property and about 25 miles upstream from 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.

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 finally 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 are our most recent dam removal projects:

[2021 Rogue River / Applegate River / Slate Creek Harboldt Dam Removal Project](#)

[2024 Rogue River / Evans Creek Williams-Whalen Dam Removal Project](#)

