



CASCADIA
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONSERVATION QUARTERLY

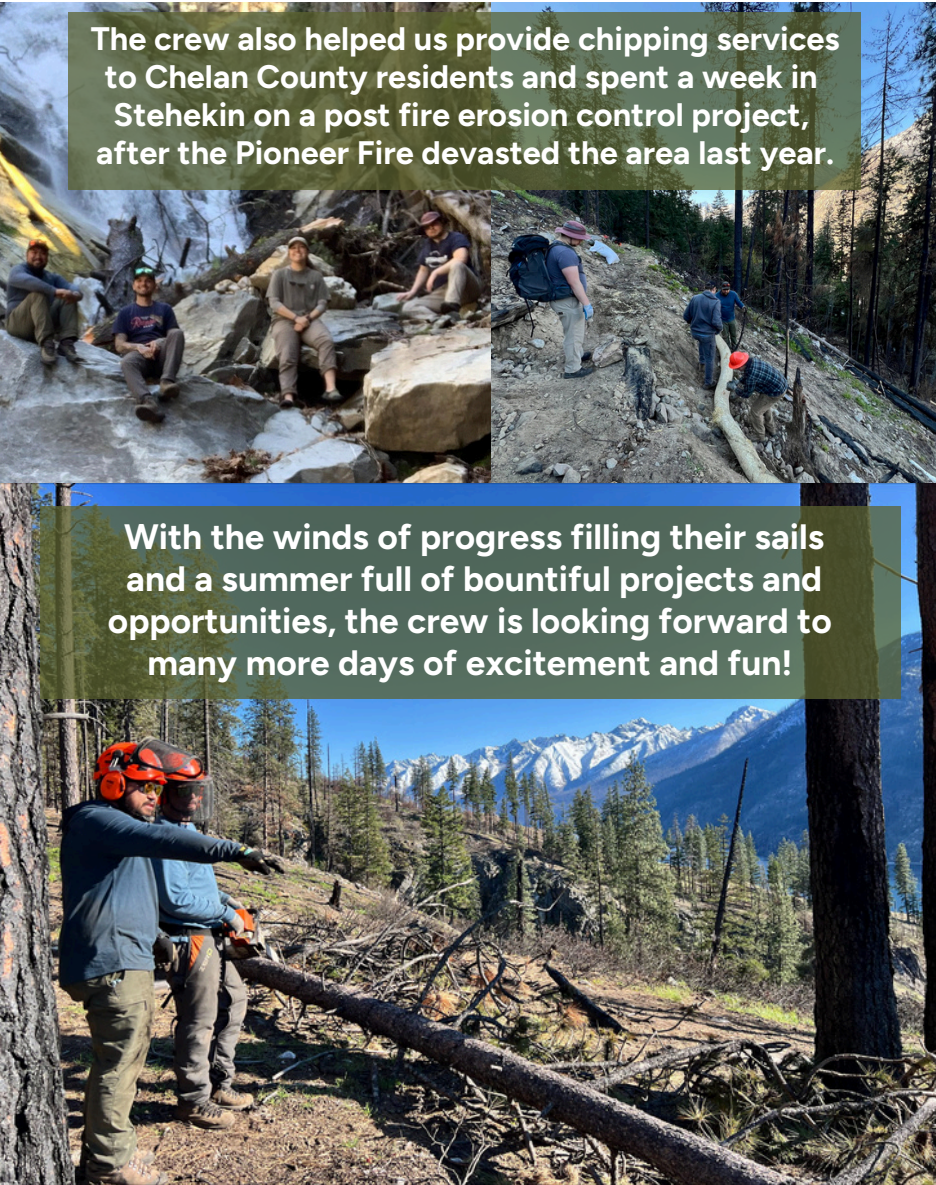
PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

BEAVER BELIEVERS: A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT OUR FIELD CREW IN ACTION

The 2025 field season is off to a great start! This year Cascadia CD was able to hire four seasonal Field Technicians: Miranda Boyd (Crew Lead), Chace Witmer (Assistant Crew Lead), Colby Johns, and Natalie Franco.



With their help this spring, we have provided maintenance for many of our habitat restoration projects. This includes: beaver dam analog maintenance, live staking of native plants, and irrigation implementation.



The crew also helped us provide chipping services to Chelan County residents and spent a week in Stehekin on a post fire erosion control project, after the Pioneer Fire devastated the area last year.

With the winds of progress filling their sails and a summer full of bountiful projects and opportunities, the crew is looking forward to many more days of excitement and fun!



Grants & Cost-Share Available

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE PERSONAL CONSULTATION WITH ONE OF OUR EXPERTS!

Cascadia is commitment to community empowerment. Our programs and services are tailored to produce sustainable practices, protect natural resources, and engage communities in fostering a healthier ecosystem. When you partner with us, you aren't just investing in and improving your own land — you're benefiting the lands and waters your fellow community members and wildlife call home. We provide technical and financial assistance for soil, water, forest, fish, and wildlife conservation efforts. Contact us to learn more!

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PESHASTIN CREEK HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT: ONE PHASE WRAPS UP AND ANOTHER BEGINS SOON

Contributed by Cascade Fisheries



Work is moving forward on the Lower Peshastin Creek Salmon Habitat Restoration Project to clean up toxic lead waste, rebuild fish habitat, and preserve a critical cold-water refuge for salmon, where Peshastin Creek meets the Wenatchee River.

This work, led by Cascade Fisheries and supported by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), is located at the Dryden Dam Water Access Site, managed by WDFW. The lead remediation phase was completed in fall 2024, involving the excavation and processing of approximately 2,500 cubic yards of soil to remove lead contamination. Measures were taken to prevent further human contact with the contaminated soil and to protect groundwater, surface water, plants, and animals from lead exposure.



Contractors mobilized in April 2025 for the habitat restoration phase, expected to finish by fall 2025. This phase will restore the creek's channel to its historic location, expand floodplain connectivity, and enhance fish habitat with 34 engineered log jams, 13 floodplain rough wood structures, and 3,500 cubic yards of new streambed material. Riparian vegetation restoration will follow, covering approximately three acres.

An 1,810-foot interpretive trail will be built after habitat work concludes, with educational signage and a kiosk about the importance of salmon in Peshastin Creek.

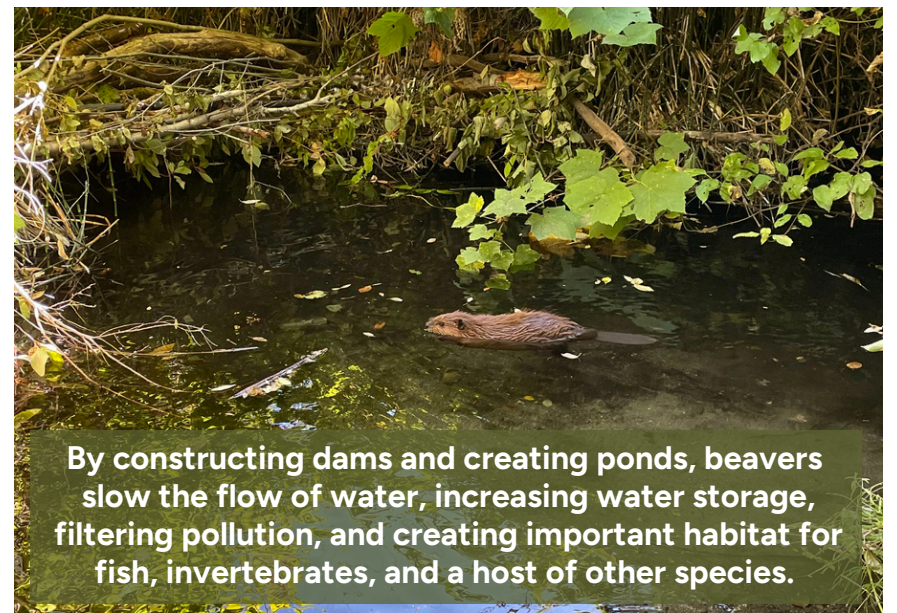
Partners include WDFW, Washington Department of Ecology, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and Bonneville Power Administration. The total project cost is estimated at \$3.5 million, with completion anticipated by fall 2025. **WDFW works to preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish, wildlife, and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish, wildlife, and recreational and commercial use.**

ASSISTING LANDOWNERS: WITH BEAVER CONFLICTS

Contributed by Trout Unlimited Wenatchee Entiat Beaver Project (WEBP)

As spring progresses and Chelan County residents are busy with yard work, prepping fields and orchards, and making plans for the summer, one of our region's native aquatic mammals is getting busy as well. When the weather warms up, beavers come out from their lodges and the younger ones travel far and wide in search of a new place to call home.

Wherever they end up, these adolescent eco-system engineers have a profound positive impact on stream health and wetland habitat.



By constructing dams and creating ponds, beavers slow the flow of water, increasing water storage, filtering pollution, and creating important habitat for fish, invertebrates, and a host of other species.

Unfortunately, sometimes these industrious explorers set up shop in a place where their activities cause problems for humans. Farmers and landowners along waterways in Chelan County are no strangers to beavers chewing down trees and flooding out fields and backyards. In the past, the go-to solution was to lethally remove these beavers, solving the immediate problem while removing the associated habitat benefits, and often resulting in beaver's habitual return.

Thankfully, there is a better option. Since 2018, Trout Unlimited's Wenatchee-Entiat Beaver Project (WEBP) has provided beaver conflict management services to assist landowners and public agencies with beaver-related issues.

WEBP can help design and install pond leveler flow devices, tree protection, and culvert protection to prevent property damage while allowing beavers to remain in place. If that is not an option, WEBP can live trap beavers for release in other streams where they can do their work without coming into conflict with humans.

If you are having issues with beavers on your property, please contact Lisa with the Wenatchee Entiat Beaver Project at (509) 630-3733 or Lisa.Foster@tu.org.



WATCHING WILDLIFE: WITH THE ONE PLANET CLUB

This spring One Planet Club students deployed trail cameras in some of Cascadia's riparian restoration projects, which included beaver dam analogs (BDA) and plantings of native plants. The students attend Mission View Elementary School's, After School Program (MVASP) and have been using trail cameras for the past two years to observe wildlife along streams and rivers in the Wenatchee and Entiat watersheds.



Students realize the importance of using the cameras!

“

Jairo said, "Trail cameras are important because you record animals that you don't see".

Maci and Alex pointed out that, it's really fun to put up the cameras and see animals in the wild, like beavers, and deer chasing other deer!



The students have video-captured over 20 species including bobcat and coyotes stalking prey, a great blue heron catching a fish, bear in riparian restoration sites, a moose trotting in an aspen grove, beaver chewing branches, otters and mink along the river.

“

"Participating in the setup and viewing of the trail camera videos has been a rewarding experience for the students. They are eager to engage with nature, find ideal camera locations, and observe animals they don't usually encounter. This also allows them to gain valuable knowledge about the diverse species in the Wenatchee Valley. The students develop a sense of ownership and pride in what they capture. Furthermore, it fosters a strong camaraderie and a significant sense of belonging among the students and teachers."

-Mikela Kowatsch, MVASP Site Coordinator



Wildlife is all around us, even though we may not often see it.

The cameras and program are the result of a Watching Wildlife Grant from Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife and grants from Confluence Health, the Community Foundation and WA Recreation and Conservation Office.

**We thank them
for this meaningful
opportunity
for students!**

Check out WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife's Habitat At Home resources about the wildlife habitat around your home, even in urban settings. This newsletter's Kids Corner has activities for young children to help them observe wildlife at home. <https://wdfw.wa.gov/get-involved/educational-resources/backyard-habitat>

Nason Creek Alternatives for Salmon Habitat Restoration

PLEASE JOIN US!

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENT

JULY 1, 5:00-7:00 PM

LAKE WENATCHEE REC CLUB

14400 CHIWAWA LOOP RD, LEAVENWORTH WA

To learn more visit:
<https://yakamafish-nsn.gov/restore/projects/yakama-nation-fisheries-state-route-207-project-chelan-county>

or

SCAN ME

For More Info

Comments for this project can be sent to:
YakamaNasonProject@yakamafish-nsn.gov



KIDS CORNER: HABITATS ARE HOMES

Use this Scavenger Hunt to find wildlife habitat near your home!

WILDLIFE-HABITAT FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT ADVENTURE

Looking for a close to home family activity this summer? Explore your neighborhood through the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) wildlife-habitat scavenger hunt!

Wildlife habitat includes vital things like food, water, shelter, and space. For this activity you and your family will picture yourselves as wildlife who live in your neighborhood. Where would you find food, water, shelter, and space? Explore your surroundings look for nearby trees and shrubs, berries, seeds, water sources, bird feeders, parks, empty lots, streams, and more. Make it a family mission to survey the area, noting what elements of wildlife habitat are in your community.

Use our scavenger hunt below and hit the sidewalks. Document everything you find—places to sleep, nesting materials, and more. Remember, wildlife habitat elements vary from high in the treetops to crawling in dirt patches, so keep your eyes peeled.

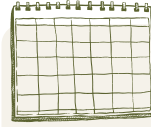
Once you've finished, reflect on your findings. Is your neighborhood wildlife-friendly? What makes it so? What challenges do wildlife in your neighborhood face? Brainstorm ways to enhance the habitat with your family and learn more at wdfw.wa.gov/habitat-at-home.

Scan the QR code to explore more free at-home family activities under our Stewardship at Home page.

Habitat at Home

Neighborhood Notes

ponds	bushes/shrubs	flowers	holes in trees	"toad abode" or amphibian home	butterfly pudding dish
berries or seeds	streams or creeks	vacant lots	bird nest	insects	bat house
trees or layered plants	rock or stick piles	wildlife eating from plants	bird house	bird bath	solitary bee hotel



Meetings & Events

CASCADIA CD BOARD MEETINGS

July 18, Aug 15, Sept 19 - 1:30-4:00 pm.

Call-in/Zoom options are available.

ENTIAT WATERSHED PLANNING UNIT MEETING

Aug 13, 4:00-6:30 pm, Entiat Fire Station, 2200 Entiat Way. Food provided.

Call/Zoom available.

Call (509) 436-1601 for details.

SEE MORE EVENTS ON OUR
CALENDAR AT CASCADIACD.ORG



Board & Staff

Staff Members

Administration:

Kathleen Deason, Finance Specialist II
Cindy Goodell, Program Director
Valerie Hampton, Finance Specialist II

Agriculture:

Marcy Bartelheimer, Resource Specialist I
Kelly Luebbering, Resource Specialist I
Elly McManus, NRCS Resource Specialist

Archaeology:

Mark Amara, Archaeologist
Kim Lancaster, Archaeologist

Education & Outreach:

Kirk Beckendorf, Environmental Educator
Amanda Newell, Education & Outreach II
Laura Rivera, Bilingual Education & Outreach II
Verónica Arroyo-Pérez, Edu & Outreach Tech

Forestry:

Patrick Haggerty, Forestry Program Manager
Joe Hill, Forest & Community Resilience
Isobel Woolner, Forest & Community Resilience

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Elizabeth Jackson, Program Director

Stream Restoration:

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Mark Ingman, Water Resource Specialist II
Lucas Lachica, Resource Specialist I
Chace Witmer, Technician

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The Conservation Quarterly is published on a quarterly basis by Cascadia Conservation District and reaches over 39,220 households in Chelan County.

This newsletter is funded in part by grants from the Washington State Conservation Commission and other public and private granting entities.

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CASCADIA
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A local hub of natural resource funding and expertise for all people in Chelan County.



We're non-regulatory. We work with landowners and community members as partners to conserve natural resources.



We provide funding and expertise that empowers people to practice conservation where they are, whether on a farm or in their own backyard.



We offer educational programming and resources for teachers, K-12 students and adults that strengthen connections to our natural world.

1350 McKittrick Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801

509-436-1601

info@cascadiacd.org