

2009 Annual Report

The Voice for Native Fish

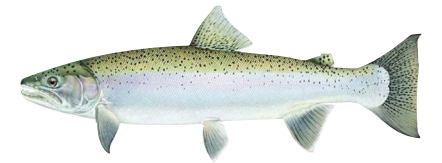


Conserving biological diversity
of native fish and protecting
their habitats since 1995

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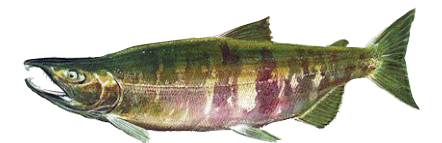
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Paul Engelmeyer, Mid-Oregon Coast
Ian Fergusson, Salmonberry
Will Govin, Johnson/Tryon creeks
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NATIVE FISH SOCIETY

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503-829-6202

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www.nativefishsociety.org

Dear Members and Friends,

Homewaters Run Deeper. That's the theme of the 2010 auction and banquet, celebrating 15 years that the Native Fish Society has been the voice of wild salmon and steelhead in the Northwest. It is also a fitting theme to describe our centerpiece endeavor, the River Steward Program. The program is based on the belief that the most passionate and effective advocates for wild fish and their habitats are the local folks who adopt a home river, a river of the heart. This may be a legendary river like the North Umpqua or it may be a tiny urban stream that provides refuge and rearing habitat for any number of salmon, steelhead or trout juveniles. The program has now grown to 31 Stewards and we plan a major expansion of the program in 2010.

We understand that it can be more difficult to capture an audience as an advocacy group and stand alone when necessary. We do it because the science is incontrovertible – safeguarding locally adapted native fish populations, river-by-river, creek-by-creek, is the last best strategy for insuring the future of wild fish. As the science continues to demonstrate, it cannot be accomplished through the sadly enduring myth of hatchery programs.

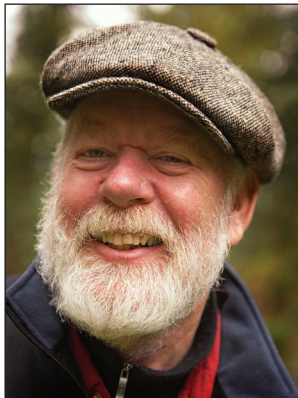
We continue to be extraordinarily grateful to our donors, whose generosity allowed us to survive, even prosper, in a miserable economic climate. In fact, we were able to build a small operating reserve, which will serve us well as we implement our 2010 projects and campaigns. For example, we will soon finish an exhaustive analysis of the habitat threats facing the reintroduction of salmonids in the upper Deschutes basin. In concert with ODFW and a public advisory committee, we hope to complete a conservation plan for Oregon south coast fall Chinook that began in 2009. Other 2010 projects include participation in a conservation plan for coastal winter steelhead; serving on the mid-Columbia winter and summer steelhead recovery plan implementation team; and working with other groups to secure Wild and Scenic status for the Molalla River in Oregon and the “volcano” rivers in southwest Washington, including the East Lewis, Green and Cispus rivers.

No small amount of credit for our success in 2009 belongs to our staff, which assumed additional responsibilities under budget restrictions and never missed a beat in their dedication to our mission. To our staff, to our Stewards, to our donors and to our foundation funders, we are most grateful. Your confidence in us has not been misplaced.

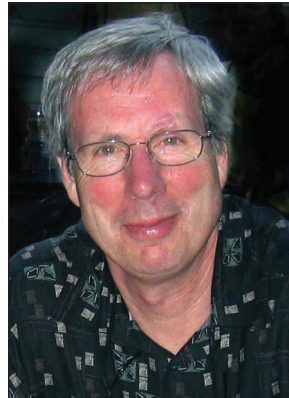
For a future with abundant wild fish,



Bill Bakke
Executive Director



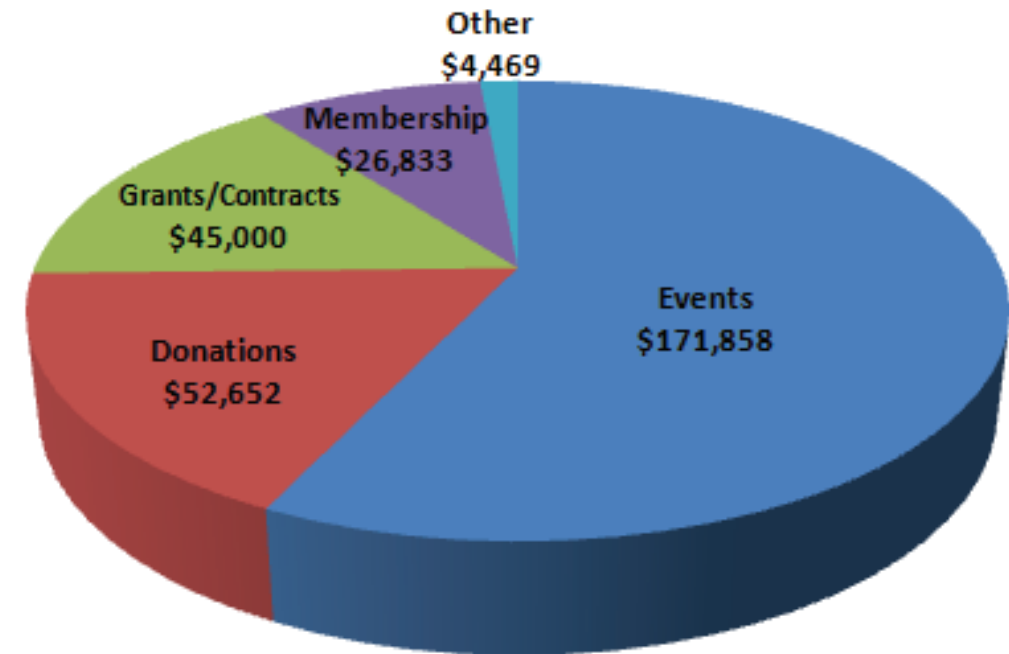
Peter Tronquet
Board President



Financial Review

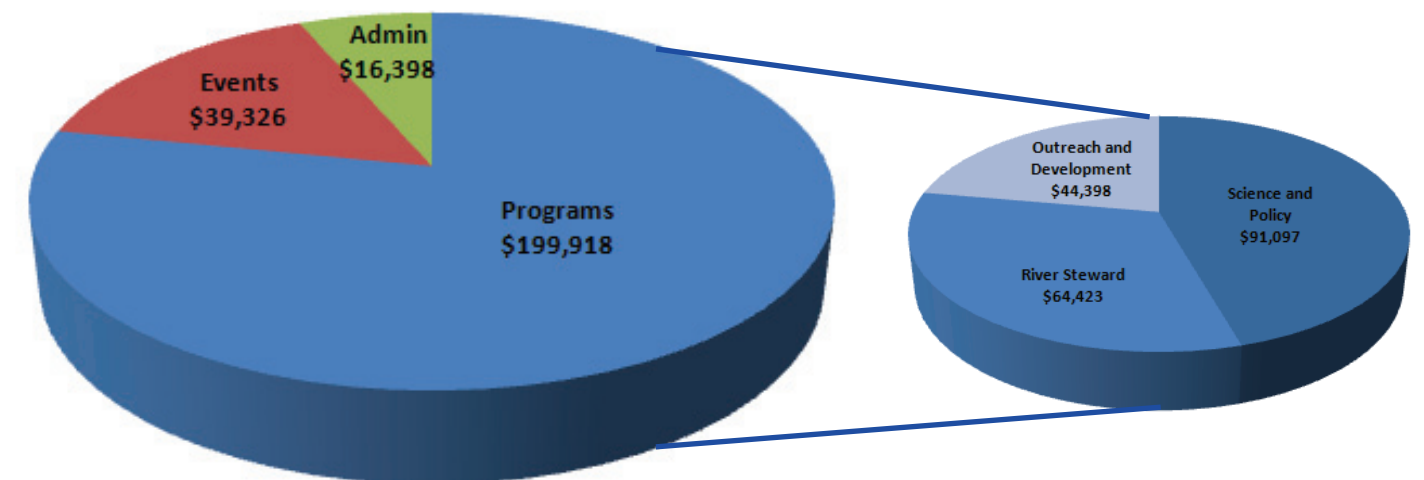
2009 Income

The Native Fish Society's total income for 2009 was \$300,812, a seven percent increase over the previous year. Eighty-four percent came from individual and business donations, including the annual Auction and Banquet, membership dues and gifts.



2009 Expenses

The Native Fish Society's total expenditures for 2009 were \$255,642.





Native Fish Society 2009 Accomplishments



As we reflect on 2009, we see a year of tremendous focus and achievement. The Native Fish Society was, once again, the leader in the Pacific Northwest advocating for native, wild fish and their habitats, including:

- Completed work on the first draft of Oregon's next Native Fish Conservation Plan through the South Coast Fall Chinook Advisory Committee.
- Stopped threats to the Metolius River from destination resorts.
- Installed hatchery-fish exclusion weirs on the three most important wild steelhead spawning tributaries of the Deschutes River.
- Moved the Molalla River much closer to receiving Wild and Scenic designation, protections we expect to earn in 2010. The U.S. House voted to approve designation in November.
- Increased capacity of River Steward Program to 27 Stewards covering more than 50,000 square miles of Oregon and Washington watersheds.
- Created recovery actions for Molalla River spring chinook salmon and winter steelhead in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and a private fisheries consultant that are being incorporated in the Upper Willamette Recovery Plan,



including a reintroduction of wild spring chinook to the Molalla River.

- Reviewed new policy, commenting at the local, state and federal levels to encourage the legislature and agencies to make natural production, wild spawner abundance and water quality their top priorities. Comments made in 2009 included the Upper Willamette Recovery Plan, SAFE for Salmon proposal, Pacific Fishery Management Council Lower Columbia Chinook harvest, Mitchell Hatchery Environmental Impact Statement, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Fishery Management and Evaluation Plan for Coastal Coho, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy, Oregon Coastal Coho Endangered Species Act Status Review, and National Marine Fisheries Service Guidance for Monitoring Recovery of Pacific Northwest Salmon and Steelhead, among many others.
- Successfully defended catch and release of N. Umpqua wild winter steelhead.
- Testified 38 times on 25 different bills before the Oregon Legislature, helping to secure funding for marine reserves, aquatic invasive species check stations, and creating an emergency response fund for invasive species control. Legislative victories include requiring agency reporting on global warming pollution, scaling back of field burning, a pesticide reporting system update, increased penalties and restitution for poaching wildlife, establishing a more



- appropriate fee structure for water user groups to better fund the Water Resources Department, fought to protect the ODFW budget and passed legislation directing the agency to review their coastal salmon hatchery performance and evaluate the maintenance needs for these aging facilities.
- Conducted watershed restoration and salmonid recovery educational presentations to more than 500 people on Central Oregon Coast watersheds.
- Conducted spawning surveys of Salmonberry River winter steelhead and coho and Molalla River winter steelhead.
- Conducted temperature monitoring on the Molalla and Salmonberry rivers.
- Initiated a Whirling Disease Mini-Workshop in Bend.
- Placed angler education signs on the John Day, Molalla, Salmon rivers.
- Documented devastation caused by land use practices to the Salmonberry River.
- Participated in river cleanups on the Molalla and Wilson rivers.
- Expanded outreach through the Internet via Facebook, YouTube and blogging.
- Created a catch and release brochure in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.



Thank you to all our 2009 Members!

The following either renewed their membership or joined the Native Fish Society between Jan. 1, 2009 and March 15, 2010

Christine Abbott
Kevin & Laurie Adams
Tom Alkire
Ryan Allard
Rick Allen
Chip Ames
Henrik Andersen
Ken & Monica Anderson
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Glenn Zinkus

2009 Grants and Contracts

Jubitz Foundation
National Marine Fisheries Service
Patagonia
Resource Renewal Institute
Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program
Washington County Fly Fishers

Thank you to all our 2009 business Sponsors, Supporters and Donors!

The following businesses donated cash, goods or services in 2009

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All Star Rafting
Benchmade
Benton-Lane Winery
Bob's Red Mill
Cameron Wines
C.F. Burkheimer Fly Rods
Chris O'Donnell's Guide Service
Ciao Vito
Clearwater River Company
Cloudveil
Cold Springs Resort
Columbia Sportswear
Danalco Sealskinz
Deschutes Angler Fly Shop
Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop
Deschutes Brewery
Deschutes River Shuttles
Dennis' Seven Dees Nursery
Doug Campbell-Bill Naito Co.
Drake Magazine
Enchanted Forest
Fly Fishers Place
Fly Fishing Shop
Fly Rod & Reel Magazine
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Imperial Stock Company
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JD Love Guide Service
Jim Teeny, Inc. Products
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Karstetter Rods
Kaufmann's Streamborn
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Portland Nursery
Posh Pottery
Ransom Wine Company

Rajeff Sports
Red Hills Lake
Redside Development
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