



# Friends of the Coos Watershed

P.O. Box 388, Coos Bay, OR 97420 | [www.cooswatershed.org](http://www.cooswatershed.org)  
 (541) 888-5922 | [friends@cooswatershed.org](mailto:friends@cooswatershed.org)

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*Interim Executive Director*

*Supporting environmental integrity and economic stability within the Coos watershed*

October 14, 2016

Rick Hoefling  
19315 Hwy. 42 SP#2  
Myrtle Point 97458

Dear Rick Hoefling,

As the late, great David Bowie once said, "ch-ch-ch-changes". That certainly rings true for the Coos Watershed Association as we transitioned from late 2015 into 2016. This past year, we experienced several ups and downs but persevered and we look to the future as a stronger organization. The biggest change to happen was the departure of our Executive Director, Jon Souder. Jon said farewell to CoosWA in October 2015 after developing the organization into one of the most successful watershed organizations in Oregon. Jon still offers technical assistance through his position with Oregon State University Extension as the Director of the Watershed Research Cooperative. Thank you Jon for your 15 years of service to CoosWA!

In the fall of 2015, the CoosWA community experienced a tragic loss – Teddy Villers, son of Mark and Adela Villers of Blue Ridge Timber Company, lost his life while working with his dad on the Timber Tangle restoration project. Teddy had a strong curiosity for the natural world around him and was often found working with his dad in the woods at restoration sites. To honor Teddy, we are establishing the **Teddy Villers Natural Resources Scholarship**, which will be awarded to a local student who is interested in pursuing a career in the field of natural resources. The scholarship application will be available in the fall and the recipient will be recognized at the CoosWA Annual Meeting held in March. You will note that your donation slip now contains a box where you can donate a portion or all of your Friends donation to the scholarship fund. The Villers family has graciously committed to donating \$500 every year to the scholarship. Help us honor Teddy's passion by helping a local student pursue their passion.

As we rang in the new year, CoosWA staff and board began preparations for two of the largest restoration projects implemented to date: The East Fork Millicoma Oxbow Reconnection project and the Ross Slough Channel and Riparian Restoration project. In total, these projects created over 2 miles of stream habitat, 8 acres of riparian buffer, 4.5 acres of enhanced wetland, 3 fish passage bridges, and opened up 16 miles of spawning habitat. Phew! Partners for these projects included the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Weyerhaeuser, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, the NRCS Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, private landowners, and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Rivers. Both of these projects were implemented during the summer of 2016 and had been in the works for years. Thanks to our excellent staff for project management and to the board for their support.

**YES!** I support watershed restoration, salmon recovery, and stewardship education as a 2016 *Friend of the Coos Watershed*.

Any amount is appreciated.

Gifts are fully tax-deductible!  
Federal Tax ID# 93-1146207

We do not sell or share donor names or addresses.

- |   |                                  |                   |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my cash donation.  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25    | <b>Individual</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my check made payable to "Coos Watershed Association."<br><b>Rick Hoefling</b><br><b>19315 Hwy. 42 SP#2</b><br><b>Myrtle Point, OR 97458</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50    | <b>Family</b>     |
| <i>Please note changes to name/address on back of form.</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100   | <b>Sponsor</b>    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500   | <b>Leader</b>     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000  | <b>Steward</b>    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ | <b>Other</b>      |

I would like my gift to be...

- in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_
- in the name(s) of: \_\_\_\_\_
- anonymous.

Gift Preference:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Intern Program    | <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Youth Program    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matson Creek Preserve     | <input type="checkbox"/> Coho Life Cycle Monitoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teddy Villers Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> Where it's needed most     |

Other highlights from this year include our 5<sup>th</sup> Oregon Youth Conservation Corps summer restoration crew, our 5<sup>th</sup> year of the Master Watershed Stewards program at Marshfield, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Conservation Stewardship Corps program at the Harding Learning Center, the first year of the Natural Resources Youth Leadership summer internship through SWOCC, and a new greenhouse at the Matson Creek Wetland Preserve, which was a Girl Scout Gold Project led by Mackenzie Stueve of Coos Bay. Our Coho Life Cycle Monitoring internship program also made great strides in 2016 with the help of three interns from OIMB and SWOCC and eight volunteers.

Now as we look towards the last quarter of 2016, change is on the horizon yet again. We will be welcoming our new Executive Director, Elizabeth Galli-Noble, in November. Liz hails from Montana and brings a wealth of experience in watershed health, invasive species management, and administration. Liz’s first big task will be to begin the next strategic planning process with input from board and staff.

As we move into the next era at CoosWA, we are asking for your support to continue our successful programs. Please make a tax-deductible gift to the Coos Watershed Association today by returning your cash or check donation (payable to “Coos Watershed Association”) with a completed donation slip in the enclosed envelope. Please let us know of any special notes or designations for your gift by selecting the appropriate boxes on the donation slip (or write us a note on the back of the slip).

We are excited to move into the future and hope you will join us on our journey!

Cordially,

Alexis Brickner  
CoosWA Interim Executive Director



Please use the space below to update us on any changes to your address, phone or email, or leave us a note (e.g. a new Friend suggestion, if you'd like to volunteer with CoosWA, or what you'd like to see CoosWA accomplish in its next 20 years)!

**DID YOU MIGRATE IN THE LAST YEAR?**

