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Dear CoosWA Supporter,

We sincerely hope this finds you and your family safe and well.

Thanks to the support of people like you and our local, state, and federal partners, we were able to bring in over 1.5 million dollars to Coos County this year! All the money we receive through grants and donations goes directly to improving watershed conditions in our basin so our ecosystems, community, and economy can thrive.

Despite the hurdles of 2020, our staff, board, and partners were able to work together to accomplish a variety of important projects. Below are a few highlights:

- Placed nearly 200 trees on 28 different stream reaches along the East Fork Millicoma River, which wrapped up a four-year project that ultimately placed over 700 trees along 6 miles of river. Placing whole trees in streams improves habitat quality for spawning and rearing salmonids and other aquatic organisms.
- Held a virtual Mayfly festival which included 14 partner organizations and safely engaged many individuals within the Coos watershed and beyond.
- Collaborated with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Coquille Watershed Association and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants to collect local tidal hydraulic data and develop a tool to help design replacement tide gates at projects that will improve drainage and maximize fish passage.
- Removed over 10 net acres of invasive species throughout Coos County with the help of a wide variety of partners.
- Improved vital infrastructure at the Matson Creek Wetland Preserve to support our restoration, monitoring, and youth crew programs and significantly expanded our native nursery so we can propagate more native plants for restoration.

Sometimes our most challenging projects are special opportunities that don't have ready grant sources—**that's where your help is most needed.** Through your indispensable contributions last year, we were able to:

- Revamp our website to make it more usable for the public.
- Provide critical skills training for staff and development training for our Board to increase our effectiveness.
- Hire legal assistance to improve our foundational policy documents.
- Begin saving to replace our hard-working crew truck and upgrade data collection equipment.

You made our first Birthday Bash Fundraiser last year a very fun and successful event! However, because of pandemic-related restrictions, we will be holding a different kind of fundraiser this year from October 23-30. We tried to keep it interesting and fun, and hope you'll join us again! This year's event will include:

Supporting environmental integrity and economic stability within the Coos watershed

We would like to extend a huge thank you to this year's event sponsors!

Watershed Hero's



Weyerhaeuser

Watershed Steward



Watershed Supporters



- **Invasive species pull challenge:** We are asking community members to help with the fight against invasive weeds by investing some time in pulling invasives out of their yards or other locations throughout the week. Please track the number of hours you invest and submit them via a comment on our Invasive Species Challenge Facebook event, or send an e-mail to cooswa@cooswatershed.org.

We will also be hosting two Covid-safe **ivy pull events** in collaboration with the Cities of Coos Bay and North Bend. In addition to getting outdoors with others to help, we'll have Coos WA staff and board members at these fun events to chat with you about our valuable work and answer any questions you may have. The first event will be **Saturday, October 24 from 10am-2pm at Mingus Park in Coos Bay**. The second event will be **Wednesday, October 28 from 2-6pm at Ferry Road Park in North Bend**. Please bring your mask, water bottle, and gloves, and dress for the weather. Most important, encourage your friends and neighbors to participate, too!

You're also invited to **sponsor** our invasive species pull by pledging to donate a specific dollar amount per hour invested by board, staff, and community members who are on the ground removing invasive species in the Coos basin during October 23-30. (You can choose to cap your donation at a certain dollar level.) All hours that are submitted via social media and e-mail, and tracked at the event, will be cumulated at the end of the week; financial sponsors will be billed according to their pledge. **Pledges are due October 22nd**.

And, yes, there are more ways you can support our vital mission today—or any time:

- Send us a check at the address on our letterhead.
- Send us a one-time or recurring monthly donation through the donation button on our website, www.cooswatershed.org. Please type your mailing address and phone number into the notes field so we can follow up with a tax deductible receipt.
- Use Amazon Smile and identify the *Coos Watershed Association* as your charitable organization of choice. (Amazon makes the contribution at no additional cost to you.) See our website for details.
- Link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to the Coos Watershed Association and they will donate a portion of sales to us! See our website for additional details.

Thank you so much for continuing to be such a valuable part of the Coos Watershed Association!

Randy Smith, President

Haley Lutz, Executive Director



26th Birthday Bash Fundraiser

If you would like to donate to the Association by making a pledge for the Invasive Species Removal Challenge or will be sending in a check donation please fill out this form and send it back to us. If you are making a donation on our website via PayPal please include this information in the note field.

Name _____ Phone number: _____

Mailing address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Please fill out the following information for whichever type of donation you are making:

Check: Amount of check \$ _____

Pledge (due October 22): I pledge \$ _____ per hour that CoosWA board, staff and community members spend removing invasive weeds from October 23-30, 2020. I choose to cap my donation amount out at no more than \$ _____. Once the event is over and the amount of hours have been tallied you will be sent an invoice according to the contact information above and may submit your donation via check or the donation button on our website.

*** All donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be sent to you ***

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