Successful because of people like you, the Salmon SuperHwy project is an unprecedented effort to restore access for fish to almost 180 miles of blocked habitat throughout six major salmon and steelhead rivers of Oregon’s North Coast — watersheds that represent some of the richest salmon and steelhead recovery potential anywhere in the lower 48 states. Created and maintained through a unique community partnership, we have removed over twenty barriers using a strategic approach that provides the highest conservation return on each dollar invested. Completion of these projects, and the ones remaining, is reconnecting historic habitat, reducing chronic flooding, improving recreation opportunities and stimulating the local economy — all while garnering an unexpected benefit, the uniting of a community. It’s not about people or fish; it’s both.
More than 270+ barriers throughout the Tillamook-Nestucca landscape block fish from spawning and rearing habitat, impede stream function, contribute to chronic flooding, harmful erosion, road wash-outs and other economic and safety problems for people. To fix them all could take nearly 70 years and $140 million in funding at current spending levels.

By using a strategic approach and focusing on the 90+ projects that provide the highest return on investment and by maximizing public and private funding leverage, we’re restoring access for six species of anadromous fish to 95% of their historic habitat and building climate-resilient roads at stream crossings to alleviate the problems listed above.

This network of projects, and the benefits it brings, is the Salmon SuperHwy. The partnership of people working to bring these projects to fruition is now focused on its second phase, different from the first in its use of experience, momentum and support to amplify funding for and expediting completion of the remaining projects.
With 20 projects completed, we’ve made impressive progress on the SSH priority list. A strategic approach focusing on the 70+ remaining projects with the highest return on investment has delineated nine projects due for completion in 2019 as well as the outline for a robust 5-year plan. Meanwhile multiple projects are in the planning stage for 2020 - 2021.

Recognizing the importance of the partnership and project, the Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership awarded the Salmon SuperHwy over $1 million in funding over three years through US Forest Service and Natural Resource Conservation Service. This funding supported survey, design, technical support, project construction, monitoring, and forest management. The Salmon SuperHwy serves as an example of how private landowners and local, state, and federal partners work together to accomplish conservation and management goals.

PHOTOS, clockwise from top: 1. Completed projects shown on map reflect the leadership and work of multiple SSH partners. 2. Salmon SuperHwy signs show where crossings have been improved. 3. Returning salmon will have access to previously blocked spawning habitat. 4. Construction underway at Boulder Creek.
**BOULDER CREEK HIGHLIGHTS**

Four miles of habitat for threatened Coho salmon, Chinook, Steelhead, Cutthroat trout, and Pacific Lamprey are now accessible on Boulder Creek, a tributary of the Nestucca River, after two undersized and failing culverts were replaced with bridges in 2017 and 2018, ensuring these populations will be more resilient to future impacts from weather events, climate change and management practices. The new bridge construction at the lower Boulder Creek crossing, flanked by a dairy farm on both sides, successfully minimized the chance of road failure during storms while making sure the dairy operations were not negatively impacted.

The project was a collaborative effort led by the Nestucca Neskowin Sand Lake Watersheds Council to improve fish passage in the watershed. Engineering was provided by US Forest Service. Construction companies included Carter and Company, Inc. (lower crossing) and Pacific Bridge and Construction (upper crossing).

**BENEFITS**

- 4 miles of threatened habitat remedied for 5 fish species
- Road failure due to storms minimized
- County road maintenance burden reduced

**PARTNERS**


**PHOTOS, clockwise from top:**
1. + 2. Before and after images showing the deteriorated culvert replaced by the Blankenship Bridge. 3. 2018 marks the year this stream was restored and traffic-crossing secured against storms. 4. A Tillamook milk truck crosses the newly constructed Blankenship Bridge.
Jewel Creek is a highly productive tributary for aquatic species and includes Coho, Chinook, Chum (historically), Cutthroat Trout, Steelhead, Sculpin, Pacific Lamprey, Pacific Giant salamander, Crawdads, and a variety of frogs, but three road crossings with undersized culverts in poor condition were limiting fish passage and natural stream function. A private landowner partnered with Natural Resource Conservation Services, Nestucca Neskowin Sand Lake Watersheds Council, and other partners to replace the upper two barriers on the stream. A third culvert on Sand Lake road will be replaced with a bridge in 2019, and with that, all 2.7 miles of spawning and rearing habitat Jewel Creek will be reconnected.

Multiple agency and partner personnel transported all the aquatic species out of the work area to safe stream sections prior to construction. Coastway Construction was the construction company and Natural Resources Conservation Services did the engineering.

**JEWE L CREEK HIGHLIGHTS**

- 2.7 miles of spawning and rearing habitat is reconnected, and stream processes restored
- Road failure due to storms minimized

**PARTNERS**


**PHOTOS**, clockwise from top:
1. Prior to construction, the work area is blocked off and aquatic species are captured and transported to safe stream sections outside the work zone.
2. Coastway Construction removing the old, deteriorated culvert.
3. The new bridge at Jewel Creek allows passage of aquatic organisms, high flows, sediment, and wood, restoring natural stream function.
Not all stream barriers are located at road crossings. The earthen Skookum Dam on Fawcett Creek, built in 1965 atop a natural slide, was at risk of failing, endangering homes and bridges downstream while cutting off access for numerous species to almost two miles of upstream habitat, including the Tillamook watershed’s only lake system. To avoid catastrophe and restore habitat, the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council and numerous SSH partners worked together to remove of the dam, rebuild the stream channel and plant the construction area with native vegetation.

Gravels are now moving in, legacy wood is emerging, and pools and backwaters are forming, setting the stage for spawning and rearing as fish move back into the area — while bridges and homes now stand in safety downstream. The restored system is an excellent example of a project with dual conservation and public safety benefits.

LKE Corporation was the construction company, and engineering was provided by River Design Group and Boatwright Engineering.

**SKOOKUM DAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Not all stream barriers are located at road crossings. The earthen Skookum Dam on Fawcett Creek, built in 1965 atop a natural slide, was at risk of failing, endangering homes and bridges downstream while cutting off access for numerous species to almost two miles of upstream habitat, including the Tillamook watershed’s only lake system. To avoid catastrophe and restore habitat, the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council and numerous SSH partners worked together to remove of the dam, rebuild the stream channel and plant the construction area with native vegetation.

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LKE Corporation was the construction company, and engineering was provided by River Design Group and Boatwright Engineering.

**BENEFITS**

- 2 miles of stream habitat plus the watershed’s only lake reopened to 5 fish species and other aquatic organisms
- Relief from danger of flooding to homes and bridges downstream

**PARTNERS**

Tillamook Bay Watershed Council, City of Tillamook, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, OR Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

**PHOTOS, clockwise from top:**
1. Skookum Dam on Fawcett Creek at the headwaters of the Tillamook River before being removed. Photo by LKE Construction.
2. With the reservoir drained, the watershed’s only lake begins to take shape once again.
3. Restored and newly replanted, the two mile section and lake are now open once again to fish and other aquatic organisms.
When people and fish both benefit, you know you’re doing something right. The Salmon SuperHwy is delivering on that promise. With every project completed, the list of stream miles reopened, construction companies turning a fair profit, residents and visitors enjoying safe wintertime travel, and local companies keeping deliveries moving grows longer.

Some benefits are immediate, like better stream habitat, safer roads and a boost to the local economy. We’ve seen salmon utilizing newly accessible spawning habitat the first fall after construction! Other benefits grow as the cumulative impact of high priority projects starts to show the return on investment.

As we continue to mend streams and roads we’ll be gathering data and success stories to share in hopes the Salmon SuperHwy garners more even support and funding — proving so successful that it becomes a long-term project along the entire coast of Oregon.

**REAPING THE BENEFITS**

**DIRECT EFFECT**

- Resilient infrastructure
- Economic boost + job creation
- Dairy + Agriculture
- Fishing
- Forestry
- Connected habitat
- Connected community

**PHOTOS, clockwise from top:**

1. Good habitat and strong fish are two of the most important aspects of our natural resource heritage. This brings people from all over to the Tillamook Nestucca area, boosting the local tourism economy.

2. + 3. These same natural resources are the backbone of our economy. From fishing to farming to forestry to construction, the Salmon SuperHwy helps keep industry moving.
“Thanks Salmon SuperHwy for bringing all of us together, fishermen, landowners, politicians and consumers to face this issue head on. Our efforts are more important than ever, especially after seeing how few salmon are making it back home.”
— Jeff Wong, Community Supported Fishery

“For Tillamook County, there is no better investment in a safe, resilient, transportation system than the Salmon SuperHwy.”
— Ron Newton, Tillamook County Public Works

“Reconnecting streams at artificial barriers and restoring connectivity allows fish access to habitat necessary for spawning, rearing, and/or migration while also re-establishing natural stream processes (such as gravel or wood recruitment). Together these contribute to sustaining natural populations of native fish species.”
— Robert Bradley, Tillamook District Fish Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
The Salmon SuperHwy braids our community together in exciting new ways. When you see a Salmon SuperHwy sign on a bridge, you can be sure a dedicated group of people made it happen. People that don’t normally get to work together are teaming up. Hundreds of locals and visitors are making a tradition of the Pelican Brewing Salmon Run to celebrate and support the Salmon SuperHwy. Some folks, previously skeptical any project could help the local economy as well as the fish population, now post selfies proudly showing off their SSH hats and sweatshirts.

Take great pride in the work we’re doing together. Working (and running) together, we’re investing in Oregon’s coastal resource legacy and creating a tighter community while we’re at it. Our Salmon SuperHwy is truly the confluence of all the tributaries of our community.

“Natural resources are at the heart of all we do in Tillamook County, from farming and forestry to fishing and tourism. The work of the Salmon SuperHwy helps support one of our most precious resources, the health of waterways, which forms the basis of so much we depend on in coastal Oregon.”

— Nan Devlin, Visit Tillamook Coast
From our public beaches to the Bottle Bill to our great parks, Oregon has always taken big steps together to protect what we value, an ethic that's especially evident along our coast. The Salmon SuperHwy project is a continuation of that bold spirit, uniting all Oregonians around one of our true iconic coastal landscapes and species of fish that define us.

By investing in the Salmon SuperHwy, you're supporting a bold effort that reflects Oregon's identity, legacy, and tradition of stewardship. Make a generous donation. Buy a hat or a sweatshirt and wear it with pride. Spread the word about this unique partnership. And know that with every act, you are investing in an Oregon treasure for today, tomorrow, and generations to come.

**THE BIG PICTURE**

**HOW TO DONATE**

- Visit www.salmonsuperhwy.org to make an online donation
- Donate via mail to: PO Box 740 Gladstone, OR 97027
- Call us at 503-801-1865 to talk about a larger donation
- Buy a beer! Pelican Brewing donates a portion of the profits from Five Fin West Coast Pilsner
- Run or walk in the Pelican Brewing Salmon Run celebrating and supporting the Salmon SuperHwy
- Purchase hats, shirts and sweatshirts on our website

**PHOTO: Netarts Bay**

**BECOME A SALMON SUPERHERO**

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<tr>
<th>Gift acknowledgment on website, social media and print materials</th>
<th>Notes from the field updates and sneak peeks at project progress</th>
<th>Invitation to all Salmon Superhero events with key elected officials</th>
<th>Framed photo of the Tillamook-Nestucca area by Russ Schnitzer</th>
<th>Permanent naming rights to project of your choosing</th>
<th>Private dinner at Pelican Brewery in Tillamook County</th>
<th>Opportunity for private field tour with key civic leaders</th>
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It takes a village. Or in this case, a county. Thank you to every one of our supporters, partners, funders and ambassadors. With your support, we have reconnected streams, improved infrastructure, tightened our community and invested in the future of our astounding Oregon Coast. Because of you, over 60 miles of fish habitat has been restored, while providing much-needed upgrades to road stream crossings. Together, we are building momentum that will amplify results in the next five years making the Salmon SuperHwy a historic turning point in the health of our coastal community and species we’re called to protect.

Visit our website at www.salmonsuperhwy.org for more information, videos, updates and details.

PARTNERS
- Tillamook County
- Tillamook Estuaries Partnership
- Tillamook County Creamery Assoc.
- Tillamook Bay Watershed Council
- Nestucca Neskonin Sand Lake Watersheds Council
- Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Dept. of Forestry
- Oregon Dept. of Transportation
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
- Oregon Fish Passage Task Force
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Trout Unlimited

SPONSOR
- Pelican Brewing

A BIG, BIG THANK YOU

LOCAL

STATE

FED

NGO