



Lower Deschutes River - Greg Burke

What You Helped Achieve, and What Remains To Be Accomplished

Starting in 2012, and even more so in 2013, a number of anglers and guides expressed concerns over changes in aquatic insect populations and their behavior on the lower Deschutes River. A group of stakeholders initiated a lengthy investigation process, including concerned anglers and guides, as well as state and federal agencies and Portland General Electric. The result of this process was the founding of the Deschutes River Alliance, and the science plan and investigation that we began to undertake. Detailed in this overview are some of the efforts that went into this process, and where we are today. Also included is a listing of the many donors to whom we owe a special thanks for their willingness to support the river we all love.


A Message From Our President



We founded the Deschutes River Alliance in August of 2013. We filed for our Internal Revenue Service non-profit status in October of 2013. As you'll see from the information in this update, we've come a very long way in a very short period of time. This is due to the hard work of a mostly volunteer staff and interns, many other volunteers, and the financial support of individuals, corporations, and organizations. Without this support, the accomplishments you will find described in this update just wouldn't have been possible.

2015 will continue in the vein of 2014. We have an aggressive work plan that includes the shift to becoming a science-based advocacy organization from a strictly science-based group. We will continue to seek collaborative solutions to the problems the lower river faces utilizing our relationships with all lower river stakeholders.

We need your continued support. As noted in our treasurer's report, we have maintained a disciplined approach to our budget, and we will continue to do so. But we still need support. Our efforts are paid for by the contributions of our donors. We are extremely grateful for that support.



Greg McMillan
President

The Scientific Foundation for Our Work:

As concerns grew a couple of years ago about changes in aquatic insect populations in the lower Deschutes, there were many possible hypotheses that were offered to explain what was being observed. We convened a number of meetings wherein experts from agencies and Portland General Electric were asked to make detailed presentations on factors that could possibly be affecting the health of the Deschutes River.

As a result of these meetings we began to document the changes in aquatic insect populations. We have found that algae populations in the lower river have changed. New species of algae now dominate the habitat of many of the aquatic insect species that were noted to be declining. There are many potential detrimental effects these algae can have on aquatic insects.

Experts in the study of algae suggested that the change in algae was likely due to a change in water quality, primarily in the amount, and possibly types, of nutrients in the lower Deschutes River.

Our focus in the past year has therefore been to obtain more detailed information regarding aquatic insects, document the extent and type of nuisance algae proliferation, and determine the water quality changes contributing to those changes.



Most Important Accomplishments in 2013 & 2014:

We have worked with state and federal agencies, and other stakeholders, to create a comprehensive science-based work plan for evaluating the health and status of the lower Deschutes River.

We have created a detailed water quality sampling protocol that meets Environmental Protection Agency standards and was created to guide our water quality evaluation program.

We initiated two 72 hour continuous water quality sampling events that were completed in July and August of 2014. Parameters examined included temperature, conductivity, turbidity, pH, dissolved oxygen, and chlorophyll A. This information will help determine potential sources of nutrients and the magnitude of water quality changes resulting from the algae proliferation.

In June of 2014, the DRA collaborated with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on a redband trout health study. DRA members performed trout stomach dissection and contents analysis. A report on these activities will be completed in the near future. This study may help provide information on the impact of lower river changes on redband trout.

The DRA contracted with Quantum Spatial to conduct thermal infrared and hyper-spectral imaging of the lower Deschutes River. The results of this effort will help us understand thermal influences in the lower river canyon, and help detect possible nutrient sources.

We collaborated with the Oregon Water Sciences Laboratory of the United States Geological Survey to conduct algae sampling and identification as part the DRA water quality initiative. Samples were collected from the Warm Springs Bridge down to Macks Canyon.

We conducted aquatic insect hatch surveys in 2013 and 2014, with the help of Deschutes River guides. The data from 2013 were published in a report and can be found on our website. In 2014 a new on-line app was developed through a contract with Ecotrust. Now participating guides upload hatch information directly onto any type of mobile device. Using this new on-line app, guides in 2014 have submitted 100 survey reports. A final report discussing the findings of this year's hatch activity will be available in December.



Gratitude

For any organization, of any kind, the first year is the most difficult. The challenges and barriers to success are many. Many don't make it past that first year. But we have been fortunate that a special group of donors recognized the importance of our mission and the need for the Deschutes River Alliance to succeed.

This group of donors went above and beyond in their support. We are grateful that in our first year, they recognized the need for our work and were willing to take a chance on us with their generous support. Their names will be enshrined in our history and the history of the Deschutes River.

Membership in the Founding Circle will close on December 31, 2014. Membership in the Circle will be limited to those who gave at least \$1000.00 during our first year.

Deschutes River Alliance Goals for 2015:

Continue to work to determine more precisely the causes and sources of the nutrient load related to the algae proliferation. We will conduct water quality sampling in Lake Billy Chinook to extend the reach of our efforts.

Monitor the algae population in the lower river for further changes.

Conduct a rigorous review of agency monitoring efforts to understand where those efforts need further support, and attempt to acquire that support.

Engage in a review of the state and federal requirements for water quality management and monitoring in the lower Deschutes River. Where there are violations of those requirements, seek solutions to ensure compliance.

Continue to seek to acquire increased state and federal agency monitoring and action in the lower Deschutes River.

Complete data analysis and report writing on our science-based investigations in the summer of 2014.



Cedar Island - Greg Burke

Financial Summary:

The Deschutes River Alliance took on a big job in 2013. Stewardship of the lower one hundred miles by the application of rigorous scientific study has already created a base of important data, and it will continue to do so in the future. Like many start-ups, we started up with nothing but our love for the river, but we knew that there were others who shared our love for one of the most special places in the Northwest, if not the world. In a place in history in which the economy is not at all certain, you have entrusted a portion of your wealth to us in furtherance of our shared mission.

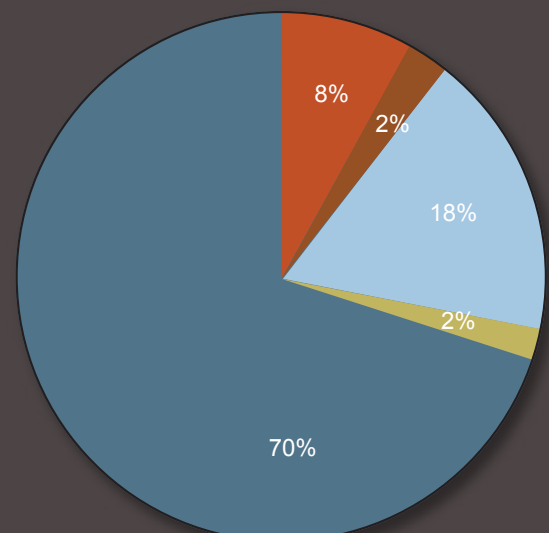
We have budgeted and planned aggressively, and we believe that we have made every one of your dollars count. The attached exhibit demonstrates that the vast majority of your funds have gone directly to scientific research.

We have one paid employee who has participated directly in the coordination and execution of our research projects, and we have several more unpaid volunteers who have contributed several hundred hours of their valuable time toward our initial goal of securing a thermal-imaging survey of the lower one hundred miles, as well as a water quality study.

The Deschutes River Alliance is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

DESCHUTES RIVER ALLIANCE PROGRAM & OPERATING EXPENSES - 2014

Administrative Expense	\$10,801**
Advertising & Promotion Expenses	\$3,154
Personel	\$23,333
Taxes, Fees, & Permits	\$2,461*
Equipment & Project Expenses	\$93,173*



* Includes expense for which DRA is obligated, but which is not payable until Q4

** Includes \$3,000 non-recurring expense associated with establishment of organization.

Acknowledging Our Contributors

Your generous support to the Deschutes River Alliance has made it possible to quickly organize and begin work on the problems we face on the lower Deschutes River. We are extremely grateful to the persons, organizations and businesses who invested early in the DRA, whom they have trusted to protect the river they love. Thank You.

Founders Circle

High Desert Society | \$5,000 +

Becker Capital Management
John B. Kingery
Gemini Lasswell and Joe Selivanoff
Flyfisher Foundation
J Phillip Frazier
Michael B. Gordon
John & Amy Hazel
The Orvis Company
Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation
Bob Thacker
Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District
Angus Wilson
Clark-Skamanian Flyfishers

Rimrock Society | \$2,500 - \$4,999

Central Oregon Fly Fishers
Gorge Fly Shop, Inc.
David and Suzanne Johnson
Damien Nurre
Oregon Council Federation of Fly Fishers

Canyon Society | \$1,000 - \$2,499

Benjamin Amott
David Baca
Michael Bacharach
John Becker
Pat Becker Jr.
Hunter and Elizabeth Brown
Jerry Brown
Kerry and Marianne Burkheimer
Chris and Shauna Daughters
Cameron Davenport
Costa del Mar Sunglasses
Jim Dunlap
Allen Ebens Jr.
Dan E Ellis
The Dalles Rod and Gun Club
Mel Fox
Paul Franklin
Mark Friedman
Walt Grebe
Campbell Groner and Ingrid Brydolf
Lisa Hansen
Peter Heitman
Robert Henshaw
Edward J. Hepp Jr.
Kaskela Ranch LLC
Doug and Deborah Klein
Steve Knebel
Calvin Knight
James Kreipe
Randy and Leslie Labbe
Clarke Leaverton
Charles Lilley
Steve and Carolyn Lindstrom
Bill Lum
Dale Madden
Curtis Marr and Janet Arenz
Murray and Leslie McDowell
Greg McMillan
David Moskowitz
Mark O'Meara
Phil and Debbi Paden
Patagonia, Inc.
Stephen Pool
Rainland Fly Casters
Greg Ralston
Scott Richmond
Jerry Roper
Nathan Sasaki
Ronald Selis
Roy Shanafelter
Randall Shannon
Eric Shoemaker
David Souther
John Souther
Leon Speroff
Frank and Carey Starn
Charles Starbuck
Mike Taylor
Jeff Thornburg
Rick and Leslie Trout
Tyrell Vance
Al Waitz
Washington County Fly Fishers
Randall Young
Stephen Zimmer

Steelhead Circle | \$500 - \$999

Mark Bachman and Patti Barnes
Kim Brannock
F. Joseph Brennan
Jeff Curtis
Stephen Egge
Gary Fowles
Rick Hafele
Tom Larimer
John and Julie MacDiarmid
John McGroary and Leslie Root
Steve Prybil

Redband Circle | \$1 - \$499

Matthew Baerwalde
Dean Baxter
Kevin Bulley
Nick Allen
Edward Beaty
Michael Benjamin
Bob Bickford
Richard Bourdon
Russell and Lynn Butkus
Larry Callister
Chris Carey
John Cartasegna
Sol Chin Media Group
William Ciz
Clackamas Fly Fishers
Philip Conti
George Cook
Michael DeWitt
Justin Denfield
Hans Doorn
David Douglas
William Dozier
Spencer Ehrman
Rob Elam
Cal Elshoff
Stephen Erickson
Sean Evans
Michael Feiger
Win Francis
Jeff Ferguson
Peter Fisher
Richard Fitterer
Mark Freshley
Michael Gabrion
Aaron Garale
Robert Gavlinks
Alex Gonsiewski
Michael Gordiniere
Abby Grant
David Griffiths
Scott Hagan
Charles Hammerstad
Dan Hires
Philip Holmes
Scott Hussey
Daniel Hutsell
Kenneth Janoff
Felton Jenkins
Eric Jensen
Jeff Johnson
Roger Joys
Robert Judice
Terri Kiker
Sport Kilt
Rob Kirschner
Lynn Kitagawa
Geoff Knight
Richard Kornbrath
Emile Labrousse
J Lee Lashway
Pamela Lass
Beverly Warren Leigh
Steve Light
Thomas Lofton
Wendy Manley
Larry Marxer
Joseph McCann
Matthew Millette
Michael Moody
Paul Di Napoli
Al Neves
Terry New
Roxana and Hamlet Newsom
John Nordstrand
Ben Otteson
Mike Owens
Mike Paiya
Howard Pay
Emily Pearce
Lucas Peterson
Michael Phillips

Zygmunt Plater
Tim Purvis
Gary Rawson
Redside Equities LLC
William Reinhardt
Chris Rich
William Reinhardt
Chris Rich
John Sanders
Chris Santella
John Schwartz
Robert Sheley
Craig Smelter
Carmen Smith
Brad Staples and Danny Haak
Terry Sternberg
Paul Stromberg
Richard Sutliff
Adam Taylor
Pamela Thalacker
Terry Thomas
Nicole Thompson
Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited
Anthony Ueland
Evan Unti
David Van Dyke
Jake Van Noppen
Dave Vella
Paul Waldram
Scott Wallace
Ron Walp
Mark Ward
Western Fishing Adventures LLC
Dennis Weston
Joe Widmer
Deborah Wittwer

Corporate and Organizational Donors (Cash)

Becker Capital Management
CF Burkheimer Fly Rod Co.
Caddis Fly Shop and Guide Service
Clackamas River Flyfishers
Clark-Skamanian Flyfishers
Costa Del Mar Sunglasses
Deep Canyon Outfitters
Deschutes Angler Fly Shop
Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop
Flyfisher's Club of Oregon
Flyfisher Foundation
Gorge Fly Shop, Inc.
Kaskela Ranch LLC
Larimer Outfitters
Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation
The Orvis Company
Patagonia, Inc.
Project 202 LLC
Rainland Fly Casters
Redside Equities LLC
Sol Chin Media Group
Trask Group Inc.
Tualatin Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited
Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District
Washington County Fly Fishers
Western Fishing Adventures LLC

In-Kind Contributors (Goods or Services)

Kristy Aserlind
Kim Brannock
Deschutes River Trout Unlimited Chapter #552
Charles S. Gauger, P.C.
Rick Hafele
Christian Hannig
Ed Hepp Graphic Design
Imperial River Company
Tom Larimer
Larry Marxer
Greg McMillan
David Moskowitz
Leah Nash Photography
Pine Environmental
Quantum Spatial
Robert Sheley
Simms Fishing Products
John Smeraglio
Steelhead Communications
Rick Trout
Wolfpk



Board of Directors

Greg McMillan President	Director Kim Brannock
Damien Nurre Vice-President	Cam Groner
Rick Trout Treasurer	Rick Hafele
John Hazel Secretary	Amy Hazel
	Tom Larimer
	Steve Light
	Larry Marxer
	Steve Pribyl

Science Advisory Committee

Rick Hafele, Chair
Bill M. Bakke
Larry Marxer
Bill McMillan
John McMillan
Steve Pettit
Steve Pribyl
Greg McMillan, Staff

Staff

David Moskowitz Executive Director	Science Work Interns Robert Casey
Greg McMillan Director of Science and Conservation	Kate Puddy



DESCHUTES
RIVER ALLIANCE

www.deschutesriveralliance.org