



Are You Interested in Board Service?

Welcome

Friends of the White Salmon River (FWSR) invites committed community members who are interested in local level conservation action and results to join our Board of Directors. If you care deeply about watershed and ecosystem health, and you want to help shape long-term conservation outcomes in our region — we would love to meet you.

Board service at FWSR is hands-on, meaningful, and fun. It's rooted in action, science, and a clear-eyed understanding of the obstacles and opportunities. We work efficiently, with a small budget, and we bring our strength as a team to collaborate with neighbors and groups with similar goals. FWSR influences local environmental policy, land-use decisions, and shapes the future. Sometimes we succeed, sometimes we don't, but we are never discouraged.

Who We Are

Friends of the White Salmon River formed in 1976 to stop Klickitat PUD from building seven additional dams and generating systems on the White Salmon River north of BZ Corner. Through education, advocacy, science, and partnerships, FWSR is a leading voice for conservation in western Klickitat County and neighboring areas on the Washington side of the Columbia River.

In 2022, FWSR formally combined efforts with Friends of Mt. Adams (FOMA), expanding our mission to include protection and celebration of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest on Mt. Adams.

Our Mission

Protect, restore, and celebrate watershed health and biodiversity in Klickitat and Skamania Counties and the Mt. Adams Region; raising public awareness of threats and opportunities; speaking up for streams, forests, and wildlife; and supporting the Yakama Nation in the protection of cultural and natural resources.

Why Join the Board?

You make a lasting impact and build community power.

You help protect wild places and Native rights.

You work with dedicated knowledgeable people—and learn a lot!

Our Core Values

- Bottom-up change locally, through community collaboration and consensus
- Protection of native species and their habitats, including waterways
- Science-based and long-term thinking, strategy, and decision making
- Respect for Tribal sovereignty and values

Our Current Priority Areas

- Strengthening environmental land use planning, long-term viability, and threat response
- Restoring fish habitat and improving forestry practices affecting watershed health
- Monitoring and research on the White Salmon following Condit Dam removal
- Building public understanding and activism through community education and outreach
- Understanding and mitigating the effects of climate change on the local government
- Collaboration to align state policy and action with our goals and mission

What the Board Does

- Brings enthusiasm, knowledge, skills, and experience to FWSR's strategy and mission.
- Sets priorities for our limited staff and financial resources.
- Plans community education and outreach, and may present at these events.
- Reviews public policy proposals and contributes to comments.
- Develops and implements fundraising strategies.
- Selects the Executive Director.

What We Ask of Board Members

Volunteer board members' primary responsibility is fiduciary—the ethical and legal responsibility of board members to act solely in the interest of FWSR, with loyalty, care, prudence in financial and legal matters, and avoiding conflicts of interest. It means maintaining trust among board members and staff, and staying informed on issues related to FWSR work.

Other responsibilities include:

- Attend at least 75% of board meetings, in person as often as possible. Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month from 4pm – 6pm in White Salmon and online
- Commit four to ten hours per month on FWSR work
- Attend a one-day annual board retreat
- Serve at least one three year term

Skills and Knowledge We Seek

- Ecology, hydrology, fisheries, forestry, climate change mitigation, or GIS skills
- Community outreach or social media skills
- Ability to develop and use interactive educational materials
- Environmental advocacy, policy, or law
- Non-profit governance, financial management, or fundraising

Are you interested in joining our Board of Directors?

Call or email Pat Arnold (Executive Director) for a friendly conversation and learn more.

pat.arnold@friendsofthewhitesalmon.org / (509) 637-5749