

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

North Santiam Watershed Council

July 18, 2023

**DRAFT**

## **Our Mission:**

*Providing opportunities for stakeholders to cooperate in promoting and sustaining the health of the watershed and its communities.*

### **Directors Present:**

- Suzette Boudreaux (Director - Little North Fork Subbasin Representative – President)
- Brent Stevenson – (Director - Water Control District Representative – Vice President)
- Jan Irene Miller – (Director – Lower North Santiam Subbasin - Secretary)
- Kathy Bridges – (Director – At Large - Treasurer)
- Rebecca McCoun – (Director – General Representative)

### **Directors Absent:** None

**NSWC Staff Present:** Brandin Hilbrandt (Executive Director), Amy Knutson (Office Administrator)

**Santiam Shared Staff Present:** Marie Heuberger (Wildfire Adapted Communities Specialist)

**Technical Partners:** Elijah Welch (City of Salem - Watershed Coordinator), Becky Pineda (Marion SWCD); Darrin Neff (USFS-Detroit Natural Resource Officer); Mark Richardson (USFS – Detroit District Hydrologist)

**General Members & Guests Present:** Kevin Dial (Santiam Long-Term Recovery Group), Jennifer Mongolo (General Member), Michael Bradley (City of Stayton); Amy Borba (General Member)

### **Approval of June 2023 board meeting minutes:**

Jan Irene made a motion to approve the June 2023 meeting minutes. Kathy seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor and June 2023 minutes were adopted.

Suzette announced Council Capacity Grant awarded to NSWC. Postfire Riparian Restoration Grant extended through 2023-2025 biennium. Review shirt design and vendors.

### **Breitenbush Floodplain Restoration Project Update:**

Mark Richardson updated attendees on USFS floodplain project that will be occurring during 2025. USFS is in the planning and design stages now (80-90% planned). Making good progress on cultural survey, in-house. Logs will be acquired from wildfire areas. Talked about how the council could be involved. An Agreement between two entities will open up OWEB funding opportunities, and potential capacity building for NSWC staff.

Jan Irene asked that more information is needed on the floodplain restoration project, magnitude of the project. Rebecca asked about the USFS effectiveness monitoring plan for the project. This information will allow best decision for NSWC support and partnership on this project.

**Executive Director Update:** See attached.

**Wildfire Adapted Communities Specialist Update:** See attached.

**Announcements:**

Jan Irene brought up information and report on City of Lyons planning commission relating to Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), expanding in riparian and floodplain corridor. Rebecca mentioned that with the 3 Basin Rule, ODEQ will be involved. More information was requested. Rebecca provided a link to review of plan. Brent commented on remaining non-advocacy per the watershed council mission.

**Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:** *August 15, 2023*



# NSWC Project and Council Operations

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Brandin Hilbrandt

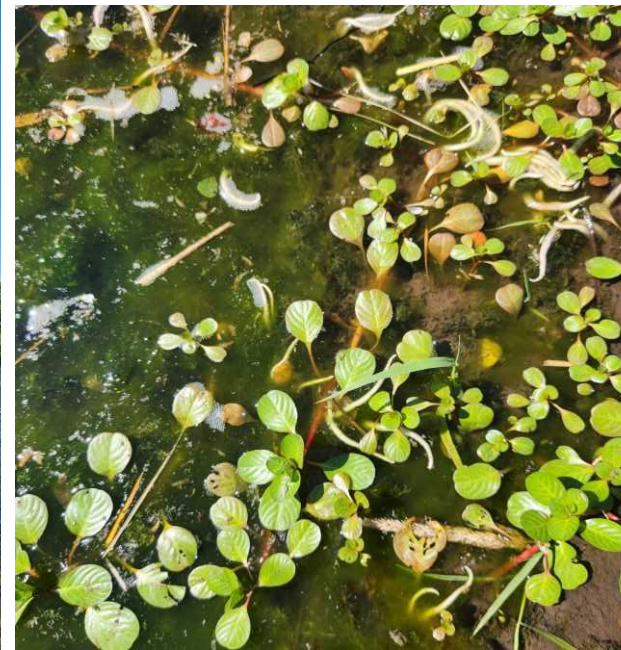
Executive Director Updates

July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Breitenbush River near Detroit, OR



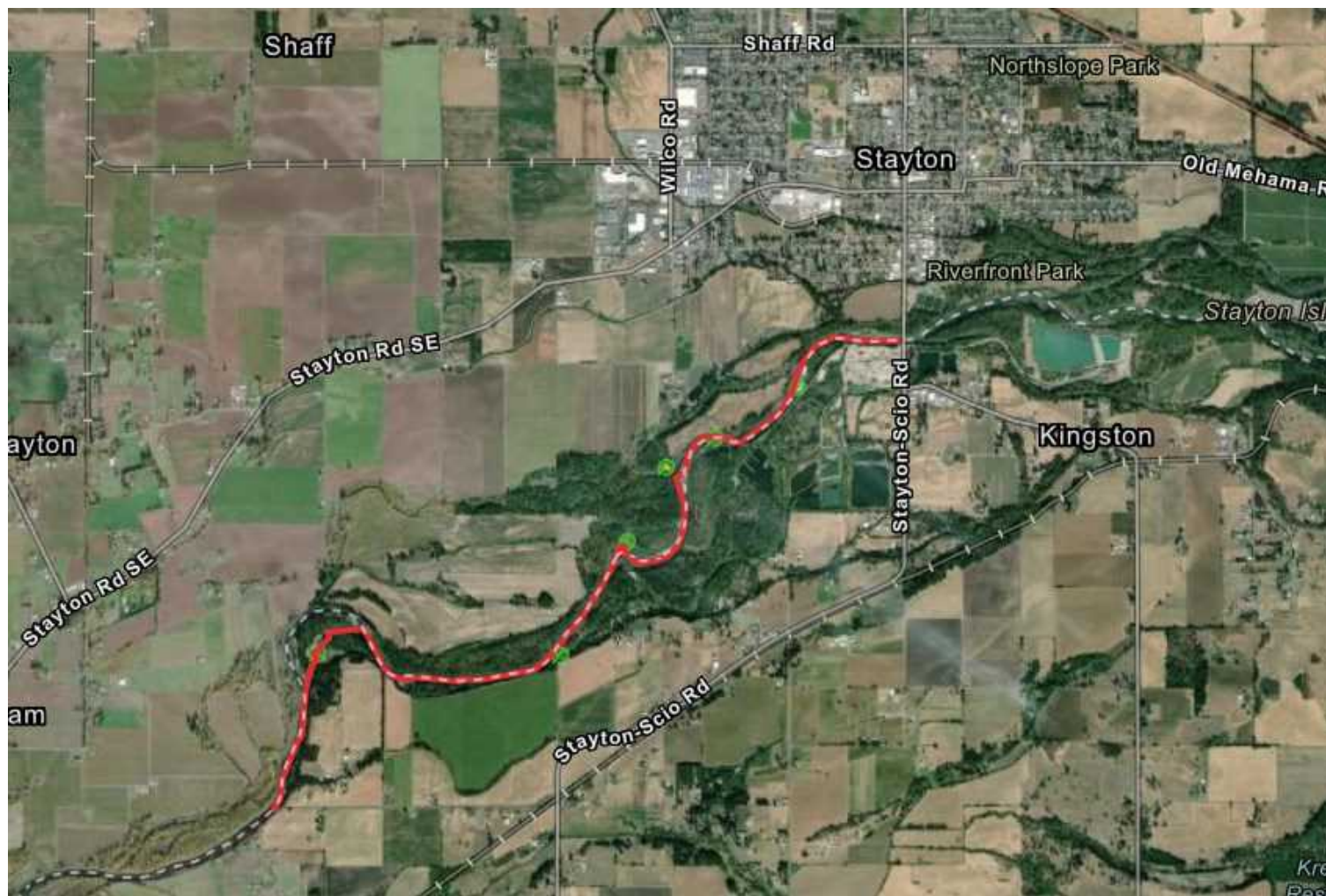


## Landowner Restoration



- Post Wildfire Riparian Restoration – Treatment at 12acre property occurred at the end of June.
- Primarily focused on Aquatic Invasives Project and EDRR treatments this last month
- 2-Week Public Notification signage was created, and signs posted around/in John Neal Park
- Additional outreach to landowners and site visits to ponds and side channels that are included in the Ludwigia Survey & Treatment Project
  - Chahalpam, Alder Creek, Chanakwan, Brand, Vavra, Mill City Private Pond, Knife River and ODOT Pond agreements signed, and sites visited for optimal treatment timeframe
  - Parrot Feather has dominated John Neal Park Ponds with Ludwigia infestations intermingled.
  - Met with IRM today at John Neal Park. Freres Ponds are looking great compared to the first aquatic invasives project.
- Survey of Lower North Santiam occurred on Wed, 7/12/2023 with Marie, and Marion SCWD staff
  - Lower half of the survey had knotweed, Ludwigia, meadow knapweed; Marion SWCD marked points of grandfather beard which was very significant at lower section.
- Site visit with USFW at Bear Branch EQIP site – mowing had occurred of blackberry (HBB) and scotchbroom (SB) under the Partners Program.
- BLM conducted Panther Creek Cultural Survey at the beginning of July!





## Aquatic Invasives Survey and Data Collection

4 river miles from Stayton  
Bridge

Guided by FurSure Outfitters

Data included:

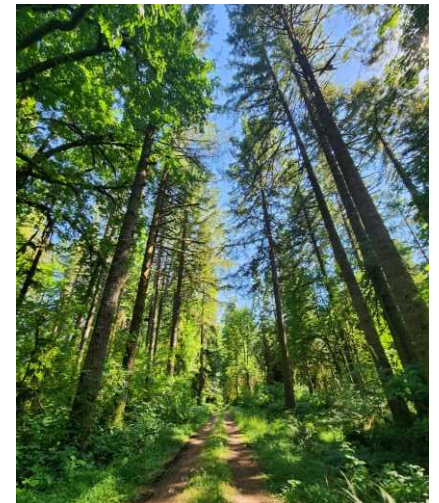
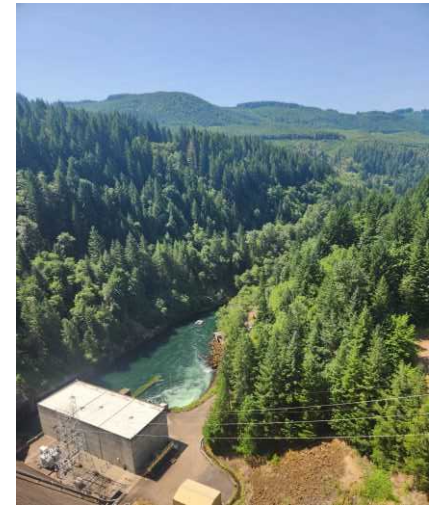
- Presence/Absence
- Plant Identification
- Density
- Georeference Point (green)

Map by Marie; data collected by  
all three of us. Will be  
consolidated and added as a  
deliverable to OSWB Grant



# Collaborative Partnerships

- Tour of Chankawan with Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde NR Staff and SSWC
- Tour of South Santiam Basin – Green Peter Dam and a few of SSWC Restoration Projects
- Tour of USFS – Detroit Ranger District projects to occur next week.
- Participation in reviewing Conservation Assistance Grant (CAG) for Marion SWCD first cycle.
- Coordinating and Planning for Partners of the North Santiam: Monitoring Framework.
  - Upcoming meetings will be held July 26, 11-noon and September 14th, 1-2pm.
- Council of Water Leaders – August 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting. GSI and I will do a short presentation on PNS efforts.
- Discussion with partnering with FurSure Outfitters and Marion SWCD on river clean-up.
  - FurSure Outfitters has used SOLVE for river clean-ups and there's interested in making the event larger – create more stewardship and incorporate education



# Upcoming Events:

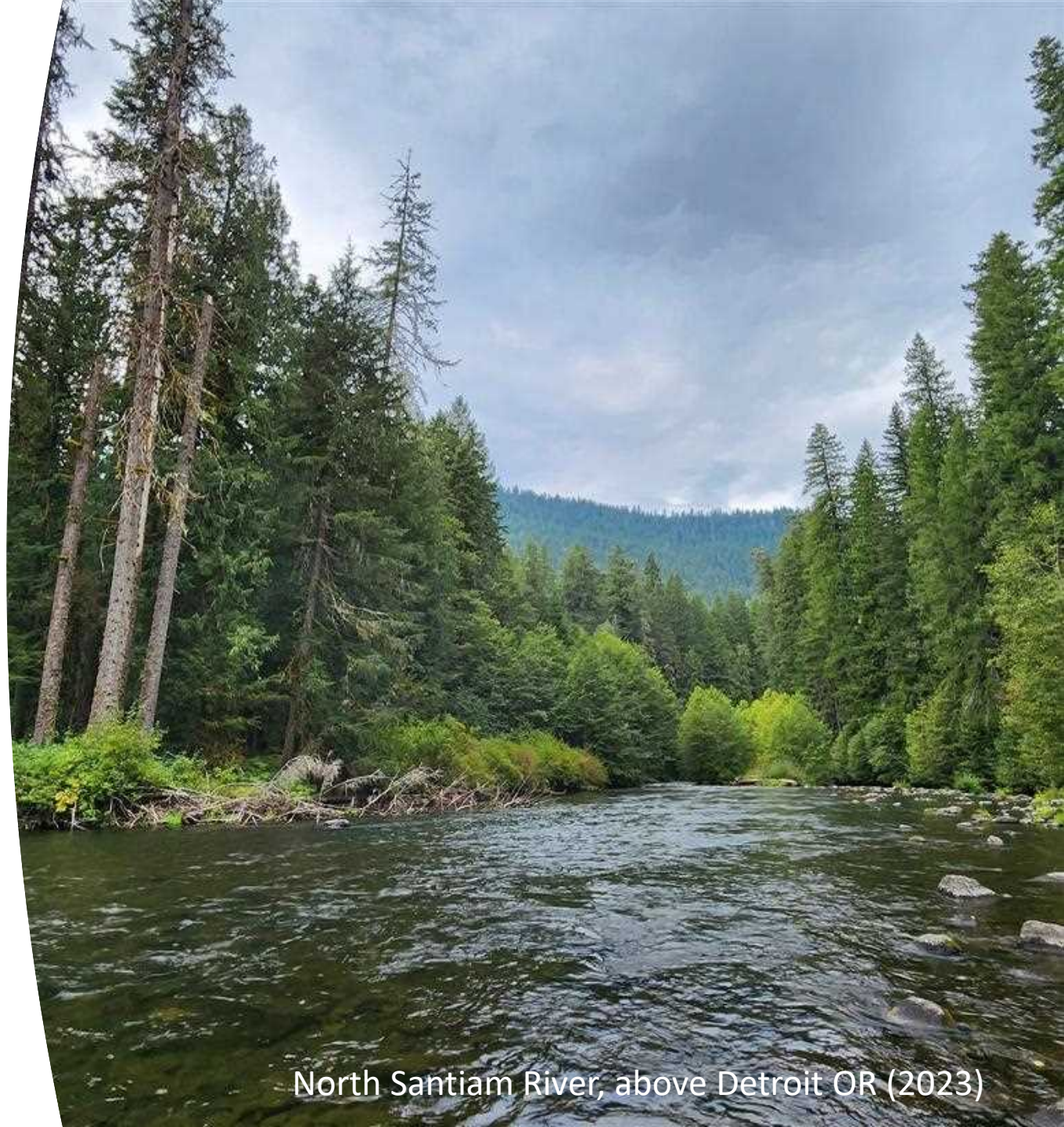
- **Santiam SummerFest – Downtown Stayton, July 29<sup>th</sup>**
  - Opportunity to share a booth with Marion SWCD
  - <http://www.staytonsublimitychamber.org/santiam-summerfest/>
- **EarthWISE Sustainable Business Summit - Marion County – August 11<sup>th</sup>**
  - Since NSWC is a partner, it's free to register if affiliated with NSWC.
  - Anyone interested in joining the coffee-networking hour?
    - 8-9:30am on **August 11 at the Keizer Civic Center**
  - <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/27bc65fc3e7447fd8698e4518377738e>
- **Dr. Emily Fairfax** is interested in presenting during Sept Board Meeting.
- Note other events on the agenda





# Council Operations & Other Updates:

- 2023-2025 Council Capacity Grant
  - Additional funds of \$34,000 to make a total of ~\$166,000 for next biennium
    - Update of application occurred early July
  - OWEB is meeting next week for final review
- Quickbooks Online Training with Amy and Ascension
  - Working on additional security
- With upcoming event opportunities, shirt and windbreaker with NSWC logo/name were ordered for both myself and Marie
  - Larger order of shirt/swag under next CC Grant?
- Monthly Documentation has been scanned and shared with Ascension for 990.
  - Drafted outline of 2022/2023 annual report.
  - First drafts of 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 reports.
- Reimbursement of USFS Collaborative Agreements have been approved.
  - Capacity for PNS, Council of Water Leaders approved
  - Panther Creek – looking to extend to increase success of implementation
- Reports all caught up except Council Capacity (annual reports need finalizing)
- Renewal of medical and dental insurance – met with Weis & Associates last week.

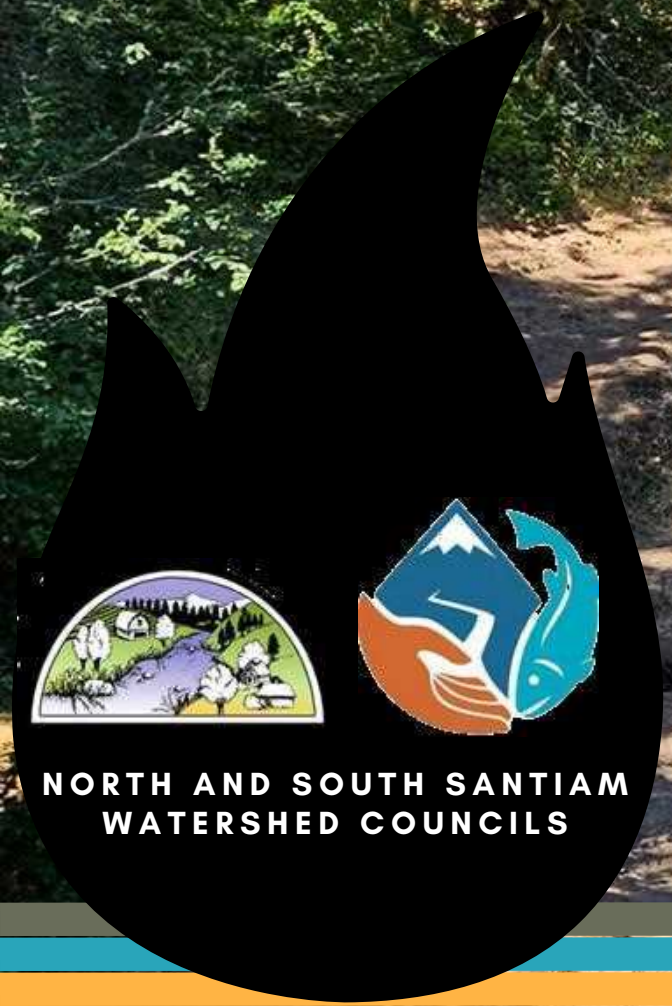


North Santiam River, above Detroit OR (2023)





JUNE-JULY 2023



NORTH AND SOUTH SANTIAM  
WATERSHED COUNCILS



# Stayton Farmer's Markets

- Total of 46 positive landowner interaction in two weeks
- Many folks interested in general watershed functions, but also great interest in fire resiliency as well
- Tabled collaboratively with Marion SWCD on July 5th







**BE WILDFIRE  
PREPARED IN  
YOUR WATERSHED  
BASIN!**



**NORTH AND SOUTH SANTIAM  
WATERSHED COUNCILS**



# **FIRE AWARE, FIRE PREPARED**

*With the South Santiam Watershed Council  
and Lebanon Fire Department*

Learn about preparing for  
wildfire this season!

RSVP using the QR code  
below:



Snacks and drinks will be  
provided!

**Monday, June 26th  
4:45-5:45pm  
Lebanon Library  
Community Meeting  
Room**

## **Fire Aware, Fire Prepared Night**

- Low attendance, but good participation from those that did show
- Valuable lessons about set, setting, and timing
- Continuing to build our relationship with the Lebanon Fire Department- opportunities for a volunteer program collaboration



# Landscape Resiliency Plan Grant Update

- No application this year, but building partnerships for future fuels reduction grants
- Hosted/attended several planning meetings in both the North and South Santiam basins for this opportunity
- Collaborating with local authorities to create a risk map of areas in the North and South Santiam basin that are feasible for fuels reduction projects and would benefit from certain treatments





# Ludwigia Surveying Rafting Trip



- Locations of Ludwigia and other invasives were marked using EDDMapS
- Small infestations were hand removed, various trash and detritous were also removed



- A map depicting the survey area and where Ludwigia was found
- Separate layer created to map other invasive species found (knapweed, knotweed, evergreen clematis).



- Some native Gall Wasp homes :)





✦ ✦ ✦ **DARWIN** ✦ ✦ ✦

| # | Accomplishment/Activity   | Quantity |
|---|---|----------|
| 1 | # of landowners contacted   | 46       |
| 2 | # of seedlings funded (funding from other sources)  | 45       |
| 3 | # of landowners engaged in post-fire reforestation  | 0        |
| 4 | # of attendees at events and convenings   | 11       |
| 5 | # of landowners served in post-fire recovery and/or risk reduction (eg. 15 landowners participating in reforestation projects and 5 landowners participating in fuels reduction projects) | 0        |
| 6 | Estimated # of acres for potential post-fire recovery and/or risk reduction.  | 352.5    |
| 7 | Confirmed engagement in OR FRN by at least one representative. Representative may include hired staff   | 3        |





*Sphaerium patella*



The Rocky Mountain Fingernail Clam