

Brian floating down a stream during a habitat survey

Brian Combs  
**Restoration Biologist & Project Manager**  
*South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group*

**TYPE OF WORK**  
I coordinate and manage environmental restoration projects that restore salmon habitat and aquatic ecosystems. That involves a lot of environmental science!



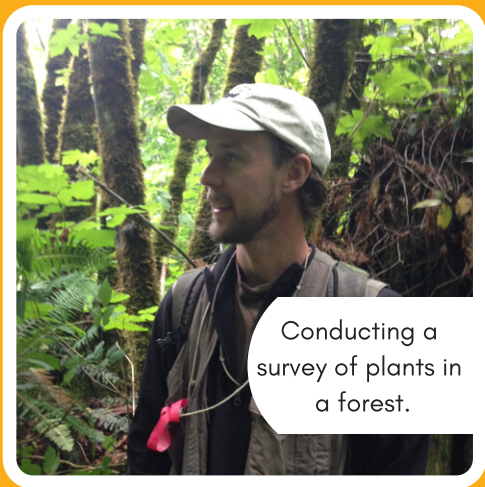
# Restoration Biologist & Project Mgr



**TYPICAL DAY:** This work involves a good mix of outdoor field work and office-based tasks. My regional area is quite large and includes many rivers and marine shoreline areas. Typical field work involves surveying for fish, using snorkeling gear or nets, mapping habitat features like trees or pools in a stream, or collecting data with a tablet or field computer. A big part of the work involves working on teams with engineers and biologists to design desirable habitats for salmon and other wildlife and then ultimately overseeing construction work to build the habitat projects.

## CAREER PATHWAY:

I wanted to have a career that involved working outdoors and that had to do with the environment. I originally studied botany and plants and then eventually moved into work that involved wetlands and streams. I studied ecology in college and received a Bachelor's of Science degree, which enabled me to have a career working in the environmental arena.



## IMPORTANT SKILLS

Knowledge of salmon and fish biology and life cycles, experience with river ecology and environmental processes, and skills managing funding and contracts.

## EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree

## SALARY RANGE

\$50,000-\$75,000

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

I use spreadsheets, GIS software, GPS devices, and nets, waders, and fish sampling equipment. My favorite tool is a fish seine net which is an effective net to capture fish for counting or other sampling needs.

"I love that my job involves getting to know many different rivers and the many fish species and wildlife in those rivers. I also love working on teams with environmental professionals." - *Brian Combs*