



Cole gets to hold a lot of fish in this field of work!

Cole Baldino
**Salmon Habitat
Restoration Manager**
*South Puget Sound
Salmon Enhancement Group*

TYPE OF WORK

I manage habitat restoration projects throughout watersheds to benefit salmon life and reproduction, as well as for all the species that rely on them.



Salmon Habitat Restoration Manager



TYPICAL DAY: A typical day of work is usually split between the field and office. A day in the field is best spent when the weather is good, but bad conditions don't stop us. We always walk a stream, take samples, and perform assessments to get a baseline understanding of the watershed conditions. Then it is back to the office to plan and prepare for restoration projects. This includes preparing designs, fundraising, and permitting. This is the hard part, but very worth it when your restoration project gets built.

CAREER PATHWAY:

I began my path to conservation as a member of my local Trout Unlimited chapter. I chose my college based on their programs and passion for the environment and majored in watershed science and fisheries biology. I refined my studies and focused in cold water fisheries, hoping to work with salmonids. I was lucky enough to have multiple hands-on internships throughout college with non-profit organizations. After graduation, I started working as a restoration manager.



Electroshock sampling

IMPORTANT SKILLS

Watershed science and fisheries biology.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree

SALARY RANGE

\$50,000-\$75,000

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Fisheries sampling equipment, survey tools, and computer software, and ArcGIS - my favorite computer map program used for almost every project and a necessity when taking a watershed-wide approach.

"The best part of my job is coming back to a restoration project years later and watching fish return and thrive in greater numbers and larger size due to our work." - Cole Baldino