

Bio Sketch

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Education PhD University of Victoria Biology Department, 2017
 M.A. Marine Biology 1986 Moss Landing Marine
 Laboratory
 B.S. Zoology 1983 San Francisco State University



Dr Shaffer is the Executive Director and Lead Scientist of the Coastal Watershed Institute (CWI), a small, place based environmental non-profit formed in 1996 that is dedicated to understanding, protecting and restoring coastal ecosystems thru community led scientific partnerships. Shaffer and her team conduct world class ecosystem science and restoration with very modest resources and a remote base of operations.

Mission focus for Dr. Shaffer and CWI is the nearshore ecosystem conservation and restoration associated with the Elwha dam removals. One of the original authors of the Fish management plan for the Elwha recovery, Dr. Shaffer's work with CWI is now informing dam removals planning and actions worldwide. Dr. Shaffer has authored over twenty scientific publications on nearshore ecology and dam removal science, and regularly presents her scientific work internationally. Her work has been featured in Hakai Magazine, National Geographic, New Yorker Magazine, Al Jazeera, PBS (Earth works), and National Public Radio programs. Dr Shaffer and her team have received awards from the Seattle Aquarium, American Fisheries Society, and Society of Ecological Restoration for work on coastal ecosystem science, conservation, and restoration

Another mission of CWI is to educate the next generation of scientists and managers on wise long term ecosystem conservation and management. Dr. Shaffer and her team achieve this thru a series of CWI sponsored and grant funded college internships, which prioritize women students and veterans. College students are awarded two year part time paid internships to work along side senior scientists representing non-profit, Tribal, state, and federal management and research entities on nearshore management projects. Internships focus on collaboratively identifying, understanding, and addressing priority ecosystem conservation and restoration actions for long term wise ecosystem management in nearshore systems. CWI has engaged over 100 interns over the last 20 years. Many have gone on to professional positions in these and other agencies. Others have continued to graduate school. CWI currently sponsors five college interns.

On a more personal note, Anne Shaffer was the youngest born the youngest member of a large family raised in a small extremely conservative town in eastern Washington. Her mother, who fiercely negotiated a stifling era of post WWII traumatic stress and unrelenting suppression of women, was a lifelong champion of, and hero for, Anne. Growing up Anne (and her mother) found refuge along Washington's coastlines, instilling a life-long passion for saving these wild places, and promoting women as leaders.

Continuing her mother's legacy, Anne has raised two children with Dave Parks, her husband of over 30 years. Anne recently returned to academia and earned her PhD in Fisheries and Marine Ecology at the University of Victoria two years ago.

More information on Dr. Anne Shaffer and her work with the Coastal Watershed Institute can be found at www.coastalwatershedinstitute.org.