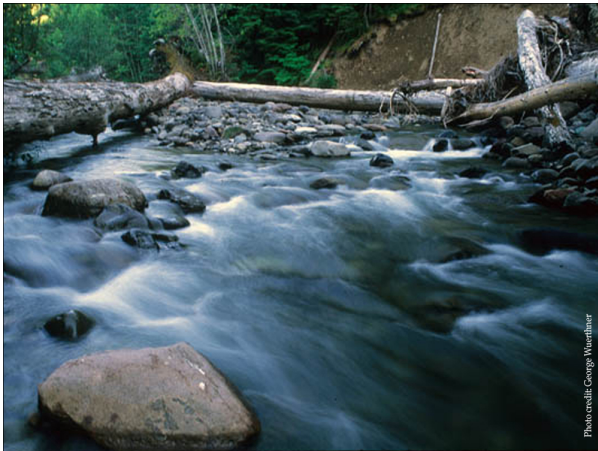




Friends of Douglas-fir National Monument

Protect the Middle Santiam River with Wild and Scenic River Protection

The Middle Santiam River flows through the heart of the Middle Santiam Wilderness in the proposed Douglas-Fir National Monument. The river and its tributaries pass through numerous old growth groves and features pristine water vital to the fish that live in the river.



Middle Santiam River



Middle Santiam Watershed

Outstandingly Remarkable Values

Recreational

There are numerous hiking trails that meander through magnificent stands of old-growth forest. Fishing, photography and nature study opportunities abound. American Whitewater has identified excellent whitewater paddling opportunities on the mainstem.

Scenic

Flowing through the Middle Santiam Wilderness, the Nationwide Rivers Inventory rates the scenery as “spectacular.”

Wildlife

Extensive habitat for the northern spotted owl and other older forest-dependent species. The Nationwide Inventory notes “large, high density stands of old-growth timber.” Most of the proposed wild and scenic river is within the State of Oregon’s Quartzville Creek Conservation Opportunity Area.

Fish

Fish that rely on this pristine river include cutthroat and rainbow trout, and kokonee. The Nationwide Rivers Inventory identified an “excellent trout fishery.”

Geologic

Representing the unique geology of the Old Cascades, the Nationwide Rivers Inventory identified an “outstanding opportunities for geological interpretation involving large land flows.”

We propose Wild and Scenic River status for the main stem (32 miles) and the following tributaries (10.5 miles): Jude, Fitt, Egg, Donaca, Swamp and Chimney Creeks. Given the threat of current and future timber cutting throughout the area, we also urge the establishment of a 1/2 mile buffer along the Middle Santiam River and its named tributaries and a permanent withdrawal of mineral rights.