

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Attached: B-roll and photos from the Wrap-up event at High Rocks Park, Gladstone

SOLVE and Clackamas Water Environment Services Wrap-Up of Waterway Cleanup Series

Portland, Ore., October 4, 2024— On Thursday, October 3, SOLVE, in collaboration with Clackamas Water Environment Services, held the final event of the Waterway Cleanup Series at High Rocks Park. **41 volunteers** collected an **estimated 350 pounds of trash along the Clackamas River**. This wrap-up event marked the conclusion of a summer-long initiative that successfully mobilized **more than 1,500 volunteers** across **61 events**, resulting in the removal of nearly **30,000 pounds of litter** from Oregon's rivers, streams, and creeks.

The Waterway Cleanup Series, which **ran from May to September**, focused on enhancing the cleanliness of waterways throughout the region. Participants engaged in litter cleanup efforts at various locations, including the **Molalla, Rogue, Santiam, Upper Clackamas, Willamette, and Clackamas Rivers**. The initiative exemplified SOLVE's commitment to protecting and preserving Oregon's natural resources.

"Oregon's rivers are celebrated for their stunning beauty, but they are increasingly threatened by litter and runoff," said Kris Carico, Chief Executive Officer of SOLVE. "We are proud to have partnered with Clackamas Water Environment Services for many years. Their ongoing support has been instrumental in our efforts to demonstrate our community's dedication to taking meaningful action for the environment and ensuring safe, healthy water for generations to come."

About SOLVE

SOLVE brings communities together to take care of our environment and enhance our waterways. Since 1969, the organization has grown from a small, grassroots initiative to a national model of volunteer action. Today, SOLVE mobilizes and trains thousands of volunteers of all ages across Oregon, and SW Washington, to clean and restore our neighborhoods and natural areas, while empowering a community

of environmental stewards for our state. You can follow SOLVE on Instagram at <u>@SOLVEinOregon</u>, Facebook at <u>@SOLVEOregon</u>, or at <u>www.solveoregon.org</u>.

About Clackamas Water Environment Services

<u>Clackamas Water Environment Services (WES)</u> produces clean water, protects water quality, and recovers renewable resources. We do this by providing wastewater services, stormwater management, and environmental education. It's our job to protect public health and support the vitality of our communities, natural environment and economy.
