

New Board of Directors Candidate Biography

Board Candidate: Aaron Gibson, Bachelor of Environmental Science

Affiliation: Senior Restoration Ecologist - ERSM (Ecological Restoration & Stormwater Management) - Formal principal in charge of environment at a local engineering firm - Board of Directors at Bike Clark County 2013 to 2019

Location: Vancouver, Washington, USA - Clark County

Focus/Specialties: I specialize in organizational growth and leadership, with a strong focus on helping nonprofit organizations build sustainable business structures, strengthen financial growth, and create long-term stability. My goal is to help secure RRNW's financial future so the organization can remain strong, expand its programs, and continue driving its mission forward. I am committed to supporting strategic planning, improving decision-making processes, and helping leadership make smart, efficient choices that keep the organization moving forward. By promoting adaptability, innovation, and clear direction, I work to prevent stagnation and ensure RRNW continues to grow, evolve, and have lasting impact.

Specialties: As a restoration ecologist, I support RRNW's mission through hands-on restoration work and long-term land stewardship. I focus on practical, adaptive restoration and clear decision-making to help keep programs effective, resilient, and moving forward while creating lasting environmental impact.

Biographical Sketch: I've worked in the restoration field for over 20 years, with a strong focus on clean water and environmental health. I started my career at a native plant nursery and worked my way through the field to become a principal at an engineering firm, where I oversaw the environmental department, before becoming a founding partner of ERSM. I do this work because I genuinely care about the environment and what we leave behind for our kids. Life is more precious than what humans often take from it, and I believe we have a responsibility to leave the world better than we found it. Outside of work, I'm a huge outdoor enthusiast who loves mountain biking, snowboarding, and swimming in the clean, flowing waters of the Pacific Northwest.

Statement of Interest: I have been a strong advocate of RRNW and deeply value what the organization provides as an education and outreach nonprofit. I look forward to the annual conference each year as an opportunity to learn about new practices, research, and real-world work being done to protect and restore our waterways. RRNW plays a critical role in connecting people, ideas, and science, and I'm excited about the opportunity to help drive that mission forward as a board member. I enjoy volunteering and am eager to support RRNW's growth, particularly in helping the organization become fully sustainable, well-run, and staffed in a way that keeps its vision alive long-term. I see myself contributing through leadership, strategic thinking, and a strong commitment to ensuring RRNW continues to thrive and expand its impact.