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Mt. Hood Community College students work on a salmon habitat restoration project in conjunction with the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council.

Hands-On Experience

Summer jobs support careers in natural resources

Mt. Hood Community College was recently chosen to receive a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant to provide summer jobs for young people with the goal of training the next generation of natural resource professionals.

The grant was formed in response to President Barack Obama's call to increase summer employment for youth. Nationwide, 20 programs received the grant out of 300 applications.

The Youth Employability Support Services team at MHCC is the group responsible for carrying out the program and will identify at-risk and low-income youth to participate.

The students will work closely with the Bureau of Land Management, the Nature Conservancy, and other organizations and agencies to build trails, maintain parks, assist professionals with salmon restoration and perform many other functions aimed at restoring and preserving wildlife habitat and outdoor opportunities for people.

Ivan Castillo has a close-up encounter with an eight-legged variety of nature.

