



ANNUAL REPORT



2024

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES FOR A HEALTHY MIDDLE FORK
WILLAMETTE WATERSHED THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND
HABITAT RESTORATION

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In the past year, through the dedicated support of our Board of Directors and staff, we've again seen growth, resilience, and creativity in successful progress towards our mission - to work with communities for a healthy Middle Fork Willamette watershed through habitat restoration and youth education. It only moves forward because of our great team, and I'd like to acknowledge the thoughtful and patient leadership of our Operations Manager Karen Sarno, who retired after 10 years of amazing work at the council. We'll miss her in the office but are grateful for the critical role she played in developing our policy handbook, updating fiscal processes, and keeping the organization running smoothly through numerous transitions.

Through strong partnerships, our program staff realized notable accomplishments throughout 2024. We received large awards for finalizing designs, planning, and permitting, toward floodplain restoration at Elijah Bristow State Park, and our Community Advisory Council continued its iterative process with our technical team and engineers to ensure that the restoration is supported by the broader community. New partnerships with The Freshwater Trust and the City of Westfir resulted in restoration of riparian habitat along the Middle Fork Willamette River mainstem, and we've leaned into collaborative spaces by supporting educational programming and communications strategy in the Urban Waters Partnership. It's amazing to witness our Regional Education Program's leadership in developing and coordinating accessible, place-based educational opportunities for rural and urban students in the Upper Willamette basin. It's incredibly fulfilling to work with our staff and Board of Directors. Please consider supporting the council and join us in growing our community of partners that look forward to the outcome, but also enjoy the process of working together along the way.

Dov Weinman,
Executive Director

HABITAT RESTORATION AND REGIONAL EDUCATION

Community members continue to drive on-the-ground stewardship at Westfir Confluence Park. During the spring and fall of 2024, volunteers removed invasive blackberry root wads and invasive herbaceous plants before planting over 400 native trees and shrubs. We then contracted with Walama Restoration Project to plant 550 additional plants and spread 32 pounds of native seed to improve riparian habitat, improve water quality, and support native pollinators and wildlife species. Our team worked closely with partners at the US Forest Service and the Oakridge Trail Alliance to develop conceptual designs and cost estimates for an accessible trail and viewing platform in the park's riparian forest. Our team also celebrated reaching the milestone of 30% design iteration for the Elijah Bristow State Park Floodplain Restoration Project. Project designing continues as we work toward implementing floodplain restoration in 2027.

In 2024, staff identified new opportunities for expanding the WATERS Program to our partners at Oakridge HS and the Eugene 4J NATIVES Program. Through all of our program offerings, staff met students on the land to lead art in nature activities, student-led stewardship, fish and wildlife monitoring, and stream surveys. Outside of our own programs, we worked closely with partners at Forests Today and Forever, Grove ODS, Migrant Education ODS, Lane Education Service District, and the Willamette Resources and Education Network (WREN) to support activities that introduced students to the many diverse plant and animal species that inhabit our local watersheds, as well as career pathways in environmental science. Staff piloted a Firewise program with McKenzie River Community School, introducing students to the importance of fire safe designs and guiding them through the implementation of their own firewise landscaping projects. We look forward to another year leading and participating in programs that connect students to the land through activities that strengthen their relationships to themselves, their community, and the watershed.

Regional Education - By the Numbers

Total field trips: 113

School districts: 10

Total students: 2272

Total volunteers: 54

Number of schools: 35

Total volunteer hours: 415

Grade range: 4-12

Side Image - Forests Today and Forever



2024 Financials

Donors

Alisha Moore
 Andrew Sheridan
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 Barbara Hazen
 Bill & Debra Weinman
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Corporate Donors

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 Caddis Fly Guide Service, LLC
 Cascade Family Flyfishers
 Forrest Paint Co.

Giustina Land & Timber Co.
 Kroger (Fred Meyer)
 Lane Forest Products
 Oakshire Brewing

Oregon Beverage Recycling
 Oregon WaterShed LLC
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 Lane STEM Hub
 McKenzie Flyfishers
 Meyer Memorial Trust
 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
 The Reser Family Foundation
 The River Network

Springfield Utility Board
 Twin Rivers Charter School
 Upper Willamette Soil and Water
 Conservation District
 US Forest Service
 Willamalane Park & Recreation District
 Yogi Foundation
 9Wood



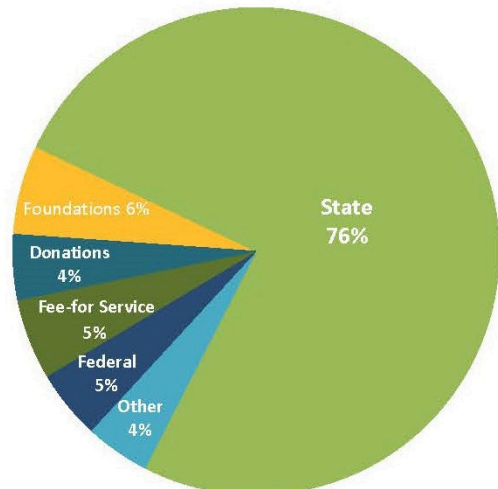
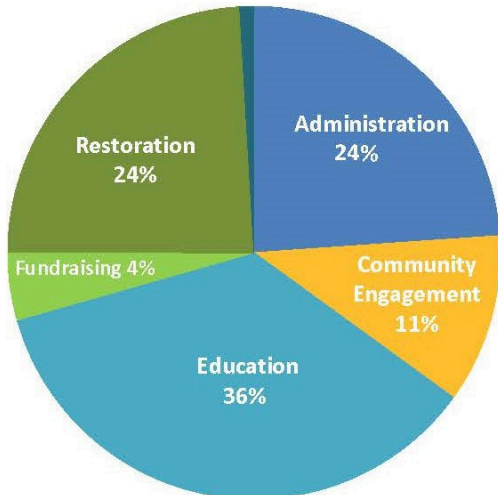
WATERS Program
 at Finn Rock Reach

Expenses by Program

Administration	\$156,573	24%
Community Eng	\$72,735	11%
Education	\$233,205	36%
Fundraising	\$28,938	4%
Restoration	\$157,637	24.06%
other	\$6,091	1%
Total	\$655,178	100.0%

Revenue by Program

Foundation	\$42,500	6%
State	\$541,278	76%
Other	\$30,827	4%
Federal	\$33,034	5%
Fee-for Service	\$38,184	5%
Donations	\$31,027	4%
Total	\$716,850	100.00%





Partners

Bonneville Environmental Foundation
 Bureau of Land Management
 City of Oakridge
 City of Springfield
 City of Westfir
 Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council
 Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
 Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
 Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
 Eugene Water and Electric Board
 Friends of Buford Park
 Forests Today & Forever
 Good Company - Parametrix
 Lane County Parks
 Lane Education Service District
 Lane Regional Air Pollution Agency
 Live Oak Consulting
 Long Tom Watershed Council
 Lost Valley Education Center
 McKenzie River Trust
 McKenzie Watershed Council
 Mount Pisgah Arboretum
 NAACP Lane County
 Network of Oregon Watershed Councils
 Oakridge Air
 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Oregon Department of Forestry
 Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
 Oregon State University Extension
 Oregon Wild
 Rivers to Ridges Partnership
 Southern Willamette Forest Collaborative
 Springfield Utility Board
 The Freshwater Trust
 Tradition Ecological Inquiry Program
 Twin Rivers Charter School
 University of Oregon
 Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District
 Upper Willamette Stewardship Network
 US Army Corps of Engineers
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 US Forest Service Middle Fork Ranger District
 US Geological Survey
 Water Energy Learning Lab
 Weyerhaeuser Company
 Willamalane Park and Recreation District
 Willamette Riverkeeper
 Wolf Water Resources
 Willamette Resources & Education Network
 Xerces Society

Staff

Dov Weinman
 Executive Director

 Emma Garner
 Education Program Manager

 Dala Gant
 Operations Manager

 Virginia Pritchard
 Restoration Projects Manager

 Dassy Smolianski
 Education Project Coordinator

 Anya Vollstedt
 Community
 Engagement Coordinator

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