

2023^{TO} 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Coastal old-growth forest in western Oregon. Photo by Andrew Kumler.

A photograph of a forest floor. In the foreground, a mossy log is covered with several small, brown, umbrella-shaped mushrooms. A thin, dark branch lies across the moss. In the background, a calm lake is visible under a misty, overcast sky. The overall scene is serene and natural.

OUR MISSION

**Cascadia Wildlands defends
and restores Cascadia's wild
ecosystems in the forests, in
the courts, and in the streets.**

Mushroom and moss growing on a nurse log in the now-withdrawn Flat Country timber sale. Photo by Andrew Kumler.

Strategic Growth Bolsters Cascadia Wildlands' Effectiveness

Cascadia Wildlands experienced strategic growth in the last year that you helped make happen, and we have never been stronger. We added a two-year Legal Fellow, Peter Jensen, who instantly brought capacity to our potent legal team that now includes four attorneys. We also added Claire Barber, our two-year Communication's Fellow, Cascadia's first-ever staff devoted exclusively to communicating our message to the public. We also welcomed Spencer McIntyre as our Development Manager who you will surely meet soon (perhaps at the December 14 Wonderland Auction!), and said goodbye to long-time staffer Kaley CoslowSauer and board member Nadene LeCheminant, who both contributed greatly to Cascadia's successes.

Additionally, our coveted summer legal internship program was recently re-funded through 2026. This program allows us to hire and mentor some of the nation's most promising environmental law students and its primary goal is helping cultivate the next generation of public interest environmental attorneys (meet this summer's cohort on page 6).

Our measured organizational growth addresses long-identified staffing needs and will go a long way toward keeping big trees standing, imperiled species recovering, and wild rivers flowing freely. This increased capacity has been particularly pivotal in confronting the Bureau of Land Management's addiction to mature and old-growth forest logging in western Oregon. Over the past year, the Cascadia Wildlands team and our conservation partners successfully dispatched a bombardment of reckless timber sales through organizing and litigation campaigns in some of our most treasured watersheds — the McKenzie, Siuslaw, Umpqua, and Rogue.

This year also saw the successful conclusion of long-fought campaigns: the listing of the wolverine on the Endangered Species Act through the legal prowess of partner Western Environmental Law Center and a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals victory safeguarding the Benson Ridge old-growth tract, a former part of the Elliott State Forest home to imperiled marbled murrelets that was sold to a private timber corporation and proposed to be clearcut. The Leaburg Dam in our home watershed — the McKenzie River — is also coming out, which will greatly benefit wild salmon, bull trout and lamprey recovery and improve river health.

Cascadia Wildlands' growth couldn't have come at a better time with so much on the line this November. While we aren't permitted to endorse candidates, we can tell you this: vote. Vote for the environment. Vote for justice and equality. Vote for bodily autonomy. Vote for the next generation. Vote in local, regional, and national elections because you have the privilege to do so. And remind your friends and family that live elsewhere to do the same.

As you know, we'll be here continuing steadily advocating in the forests, in the courts and in the streets for a wild Cascadia. It is heartening to know that we are in this movement for a wild and just Cascadia together.



Wildly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Laughlin".

Josh Laughlin
Executive Director



Giant carbon storing tree in the Big Weekly Elk timber sale.
Photo by Andrew Kumler.

Forest & Watershed Protection

Cascadia Wildlands' forest-watch efforts involve reviewing, field checking, appealing and litigating controversial timber sales involving the prospect of mature and old-growth forest logging on public land in western Oregon. In recent years, state and federal agencies have planned dozens of mature and old-growth timber sales in some of our most treasured watersheds. Cascadia Wildlands and our allies continue to be incredibly successful in confronting this onslaught, and we remain focused on establishing more conservation-oriented forest policy.

Highlights over the past year include:

- Stopping a suite of mature and old-growth forest timber sales on federal public land in western Oregon through grassroots organizing and litigation campaigns
- Winning our Endangered Species Act lawsuit in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (*Cascadia Wildlands Wildlands et al. v Scott Timber Co.*) to protect imperiled marbled murrelets on an old-growth forest parcel formerly part of the Elliott State Forest threatened with clearcutting
- Successfully advancing a Habitat Conservation Plan for nearly 650,000 acres of state-managed public forestland across western Oregon as well as establishing a new conservation-minded management paradigm on the newly created Elliott State Research Forest northeast of Coos Bay
- Advancing legislation in Congress that would safeguard iconic rivers systems from the threat of strip mining in southwest Oregon and permanently protect remarkable places like the lower Rogue River
- Encouraging the Eugene Water and Electric Board of Commissioners to vote to decommission (and eventually remove) the aging Leaburg Dam on the famed McKenzie River to benefit aquatic health and ratepayers



Wolverine (Gulo gulo luscus). Photo by Kalon Baughan.

Imperiled Species Recovery

Iconic fish and wildlife in our special region — including marbled murrelet, northern spotted owl and various salmon species — continue to be jeopardized by ongoing habitat degradation and other human-caused factors. Cascadia Wildlands works within a number of potent coalitions to help reverse this trend, and we have some notable highlights to share.

Highlights over the past year include:

- Successfully advocating for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission to unanimously adopt a rule banning cruel wildlife-killing contests on public land in Oregon
- Ensuring wolverines finally received federal protection under the Endangered Species Act after a decade-long legal effort
- Playing a leadership role in the Pacific Wolf Coalition and Oregon Wildlife Coalition and engaging in the hiring process of the first woman Director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Defeating anti-wolf legislation in the Oregon state legislature
- Working with the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde to advocate for deep drawdowns of reservoirs in the Upper Willamette basin to benefit juvenile Chinook salmon





*Upper McKenzie River.
Photo by Andrew Kumler.*

Climate Defense

The science is clear that we must arrest runaway climate change if terrestrial and aquatic species are going to persist into the future. In this vein, Cascadia Wildlands works to prevent new fossil fuel infrastructure in our region and ensure the retention of the massive carbon stores found in our remaining mature and old-growth forests.

Highlights over the past year include:

- Advancing strategies to aid the just transition off fossil fuels in buildings in Eugene and playing a leadership role in the Fossil Free Eugene coalition
- Engaging closely in the nationwide old-growth forest amendment and Northwest Forest Plan amendment rule making processes that could result in the permanent protection of remaining mature and old-growth forests in recognition of their ability to sequester and store massive amounts of carbon from the atmosphere

**IT'S
TIME FOR A**

FOSSIL FREE EUGENE

Cultivating the Next Generation of Public Interest Environmental Attorneys

With the generous backing of the Evergreen Hill Fund of Oregon Community Foundation, our legal team mentored a trio of outstanding summer law clerks with the goal of helping cultivate the next generation of public interest environmental attorneys in Cascadia.



- 1 Aiden Bassett (He/They)
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER
- 2 Dana McHenry (She/Her)
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LAW SCHOOL
- 3 Hayden Wyatt (He/Him)
LEWIS AND CLARK LAW SCHOOL

Celebrating 25 Years of Cascadia Wildlands

In December, we continued to celebrate 25 years of keeping it wild at the Silver Jubilee at Ninkasi's Better Living Room in Eugene. With 150 supporters in attendance, we enjoyed outstanding jazz by Torrey Newhart and Friends, finger foods by Shield Catering, a short film created in-house about the 25-year evolution of Cascadia Wildlands and raised \$20,000 to support our conservation work. Big thanks to you for having our backs for 25 years and to Mountain Rose Herbs, Opine Cellars, and Ninkasi Brewing Company for their sponsorship of the event.

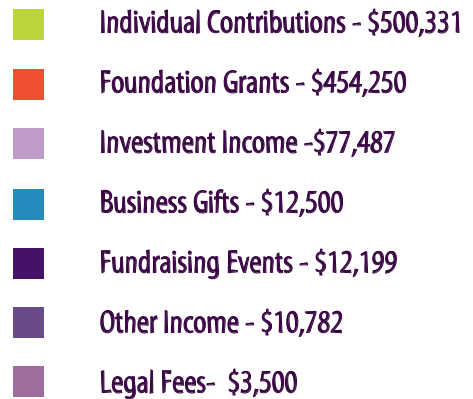
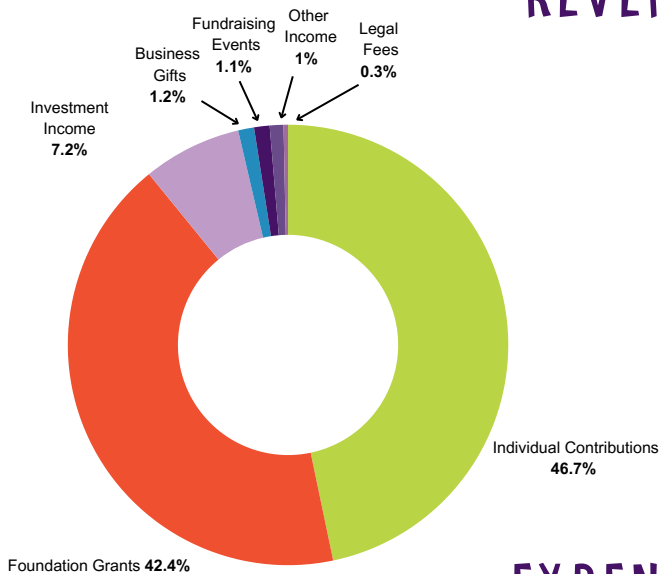


Guests enjoying the celebration at Ninkasi's Better Living Room. Photo by Cascadia Wildlands.

Cascadia Wildlands BY THE NUMBERS



REVENUE

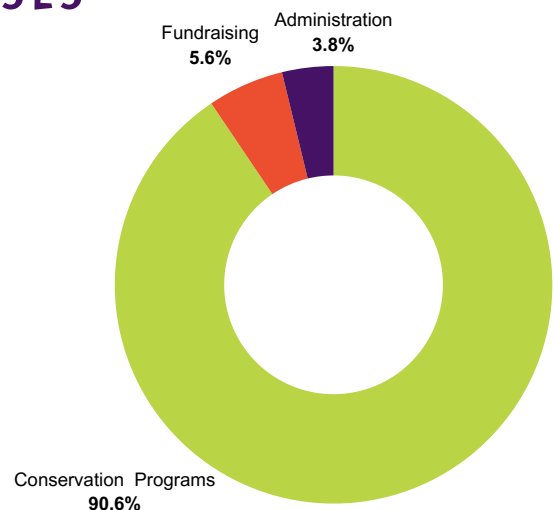


Total Revenue - 1,071,049

EXPENSES



Total Expenses - \$1,147,689





“We happily donate a Qualified Charitable Distribution from our IRA to Cascadia Wildlands to support their effective work protecting our forests, especially old growth trees, from destruction by timber entities. The forests are critical in saving our planet from spiraling CO2 levels in the atmosphere.”

**MARTHA & PETER DRAGOVICH
DONORS THROUGH
RETIREMENT ACCOUNT GIVING**

“I migrated to Oregon 30 years ago, in part for the exquisite beauty of the trees and nature. I feel that it’s my obligation to help keep this land as wild and healthy as possible. I think contributing to Cascadia Wildlands is the most effective way to keep Oregon wild.”

**CATHERINE REINHART
BUSINESS PARTNER
SWEET LIFE PATISSERIE**



“We donate to Cascadia Wildlands because no one is more effective at fighting destructive old-growth logging in court and protecting Oregon’s wild spaces and climate future through advocacy and community organizing.”

**KATHE SHAW-BASSETT & PATRICK BASSETT
MONTHLY DONORS**



*Salmonberries in the Elliott
Rainforest. Photo by Tim Giraudier.*

THANK YOU

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our supporters. Your donations make a direct impact on the health of public lands, wildlife, and the Cascadia community. As we grapple with the issues of climate chaos and corporate greed, we rely on your gifts to protect mature and old-growth forests, recover imperiled species, and stabilize our climate. You make our advocacy and victories possible—thank you.

BUSINESS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Together, we are able to work toward a more sustainable and equitable future with vast old-growth forests, rivers full of wild salmon, wolves howling in the backcountry, a stable climate, and vibrant community sustained by the unique landscapes of the Cascadia bioregion.

BUSINESSES

while we can't name them all, we are indebted to the following businesses for their reliable partnership:

Andrew Kumler Photography
Barking Mad Farm B&B
Bigstock Fundraiser
BNF Kombucha & Jun
Buffalo Exchange
Caddis Fly Angling Shop
Café Mam
Capella Market
Doak Creek Native Plant Nursery
Elevate Kombucha
Hyphae Wellness
Kiva Grocery
Klink Cycles
Lane United Football Club
Lesh Productions
Morning Glory Café

Mountain Rose Herbs
MPTX Associates
MSA Designworks
Mt. Hood Cannabis Co.
Ninkasi Brewing Company
Northwest Garden Nursery
Oakshire Brewing
Opine Cellars
Oregon Cliff House
Pandita
Patagonia
Pedal Power Music
Rainsong Vinyard
Renaissance Remodeling & Restoration
River Jewelry

Sequential Biofuels
Signature Surfaces NW
Silvan Ridge Winery
South Passage Outfitters
Summit Bank
Sundance Natural Foods
Sweet Life Patisserie
Tavore
Tao Gardens
The Wheel Apizza Pub & Brewery
Thinking Tree Spirits
Uncommon Scents
Wicked Kind
Wildcraft Cider Works
Willamette Valley Alchemy

FOUNDATIONS

Our work would not be possible without the support of the following grant-making foundations over the past few years:

Acme Bader Community Fund
of Oregon Community Foundation
Anne K. Mills Fund
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Aria Foundation
Burning Foundation
Deer Creek Foundation
Elliqua Fund
of Oregon Community Foundation
Energy Foundation
Evergreen Hill Fund
of Oregon Community Foundation
Four-Four Foundation
Guacamole Fund

Horowitz Family Foundation
Howard E. & Mildred M.
Kyle Charitable Foundation
of the Dayton Foundation
Jill Heiman Vision Fund
of Oregon Country Fair
Larson Family Foundation
Lazar Foundation
Leotta Gordon Foundation
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Z Family Fund
at the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation
Zuniga Forbes Family Fund
of Oregon Community Foundation

HELP LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY IN CASCADIA

DONATE MONTHLY: Set up a direct account transfer (ACH) and become part of our Keystone Circle (monthly donor program). This method is the most efficient way to give your support and ensures your entire gift goes to us.

GIVE THROUGH YOUR IRA: If you are at least 72 years old, consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly from your IRA to Cascadia Wildlands. This avoids the tax consequences of the Required Minimum Distribution while supporting your favorite non-profit!

DONATE STOCK: Cascadia Wildlands works with Fidelity (DTC #: 0226) to facilitate stock donations. Our account number is: Z40191931.

MAKE A BEQUEST: Naming Cascadia Wildlands in your will as the beneficiary of a qualified retirement plan or life insurance plan will accomplish a charitable goal while realizing significant tax savings.

DONATE CRYPTOCURRENCY: If you own crypto, you can help Cascadia Wildlands' mission by donating it. The process on our website is fast, secure, and donating crypto allows you to enjoy the tax savings on the gains.

CONSIDER LIFE INCOME GIFTS: Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts are two options to facilitate income for the remainder of a donor's life or a specified number of years, while obtaining an income or estate tax benefit. At passing, remaining funds are gifted to Cascadia Wildlands.

TO LEARN MORE OR GET STARTED. PLEASE CONTACT:
Executive Director, Josh Laughlin
541.434.1463
jlaughlin@cascwild.org
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staff

Claire Barber (she/her)
Communications Fellow

Grace Brahler (she/her)
Wildlands Director

Martha Brinson (she/her)
Membership & Operations
Director

Nick Cady (he/him)
Legal Director

Bethany Cotton (she/her)
Conservation Director

Madeline Cowen (she/they)
Grassroots & Digital Organizer

Isa Eisenberg (she/they)
Summer Field & Events
Coordinator

Peter Jensen (he/him)
Legal Fellow

Josh Laughlin (he/him)
Executive Director

Spencer McIntyre (they/them)
Development Manager

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Daniel Kruse, President

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Dan Snyder



The breeding female of the Chesnimnus Pack in northern Willowa County. Photo by ODFW.