

**2023**

# Annual Report

50th Anniversary Poster Inside



**OREGON  
WILD**

Let Nature Live. Let Nature Last.



**A**s the Oregon Wild team charged our way through fiscal year 2022-2023, we pursued our mission with the determination and passion that we have become known for. Even as we were taking on some of the largest conservation efforts in our history (which is really saying something!), we had an eye to 2024 and the celebration of our 50th anniversary.

So, amid monumental efforts to pass the biggest rivers protection bill in the history of the United States and the first-ever national policy to protect big, old trees, we engaged in a yearlong process to distill our identity to its essence and make the first changes to our logo in 20 years. The new logo is bold, active, and alive. The bear at the center is a protector for the landscape, but also asking you what you will do for the wild.

Perhaps no Oregon Wild initiative is as audacious in scope and showing such rapid progress as the Climate Forests Campaign. With Oregon Wild helping to lead a national coalition aiming to protect the remaining mature and old growth forests on public lands, we've made huge strides in the last year. With allies, we submitted over 500,000 comments to the federal agencies urging protections for our oldest forests.

Nobody plays offense and defense at the same time like Oregon Wild. As we pushed for administrative and legislative protections for forests at the federal and state level, we defended 8 million acres of large and old trees across eastern Oregon's national forests from a last minute Trump administration policy. Along with the Nez Perce Tribe and other partners, we took Trump's decision to gut the "Eastside Screens" to court, and in August a magistrate judge agreed that big, trees in eastern Oregon deserve protections!

If that wasn't enough, we saw the once-in-a-generation conservation effort – the River Democracy Act – reintroduced in Congress. The new bill would designate 3,200 river miles across the state as Wild & Scenic (for perspective, there are just over 13,000 river miles currently protected across the entire United States) and is now primed for passage whenever Congress can get their heads on straight.

Our staff reached record levels this year with added capacity on the public lands advocacy team and expansion of our development team for the first time in decades. These new staff members joined a group of incredibly dedicated and knowledgeable advocates that collectively accomplish amazing things together.

We draw our inspiration from the land that we protect and the people who give their time, money, and energy to fuel our work. As we enter our 50th year keeping Oregon Wild, we're excited to share the results of Year 49 in this annual report as we look to the future and another 50 years of keeping Oregon wild.

Sean Stevens  
*Executive Director*

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of two large, overlapping loops.

Lisa Billings  
*Board President*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Billings' in a cursive script.

# Accomplishments

## 2022-2023



DAVID HERASIMTSCHUK

# 10 million

views of videos urging protections for ancient forests posted by social media activist Alex Haraus, working in partnership with Oregon Wild

# 1,000

acres of mature and old-growth forest spared from logging when the Flat Country Timber Sale was dropped after intense pressure from Oregon Wild and allies

# 0.5

miles of buffer on each side of the 3,200 river miles proposed for protection the River Democracy Act, reintroduced by Senator Wyden in December 2022



# 530,440

number of comments Oregon Wild and partners submitted to federal land managers in support of strong protections for mature and old-growth forests



KEITH WALLACH

# 2

number of Circuit Court of Appeals (9th and DC) that the timber industry lost in after Oregon Wild and our attorneys made it clear that conservation is a legal priority on BLM forests in Western Oregon



# Accomplishments

## 2022-2023



# 19

Hikes led by Oregon Wild with partners ranging from Wanderfolk to Cascade Lakes Brewing to connect people to the special places we work to protect.

# 3,726

square feet of downtown Portland wall (spanning 23 feet in height) covered by a new mural championed by Oregon Wild to celebrate the Endangered Species Act

# 584

square miles of forest clearcuts visible from space highlighted in an Oregon Wild collaboration with NASA that garnered media attention and concern from lawmakers



SCOTT SMORRA  
JEFFERSON PARK

# Financial Position

## Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$983,918
Long Term Investments	1,817,284
Accounts Receivable	86,250
Inventory	5,672
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	76,593
Property and Equipment	233,586
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$3,203,303</b>

## Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$20,961
Accrued Payroll and Related Expenses	274,815
Other Liabilities	35,624
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 331,400</b>

## Net assets

Without Donor Restrictions	
Special Projects and Reserve Fund	\$ 437,102
Board-Designated Endowment	1,377,747
Available for Operations	710,021
Net Property and Equipment	227,098
<b>Total Assets without Restrictions</b>	<b>2,751,968</b>
With Donor Restrictions	
Restricted Grants	117,500
Permanently Restricted	2,435
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,871,903</b>

**Total liabilities & net assets** \$3,203,303

# Financial Activities

## Revenue

Contributions & Memberships	\$840,959
Grants & Contracts	713,210
Bequests	286,584
In-kind Contributions	1,940
Investment income	119,680
Other	137,974
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$2,100,347</b>

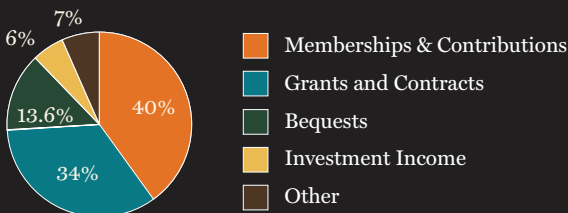
## Expenses

Conservation Programs	\$1,882,086
<i>Protecting Special Places</i>	598,650
<i>Defending and Restoring Oregon's Forests and Waters</i>	1,032,210
<i>Helping Native Species Thrive</i>	251,226
Administration	205,637
Fundraising	135,663
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$2,223,386</b>

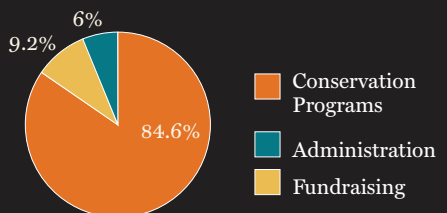


# FY2023 Revenue and Expenses

## Revenue



## Expenses





## Oregon Wild Staff and Board

**Sitting or kneeling (from left):** Lauren Anderson (Climate Forest Program Manager), Victoria Wingell (Forests and Climate Campaigner), Hanna Anderson (Communications Associate), Wren Wells (Development and Events Coordinator), Anastasia Kuznetsova (Brand and Marketing Manager), Sami Godlove (Central Oregon Field Associate), John Persell (Staff Attorney), Darcie Meihoff (Board Secretary), Chandra LeGue (Senior Conservation Advocate), Arran Robertson (Communications Manager)

**Standing (front row, from left):** Erik Fernandez (Wilderness Program Manager), Seth Prickett (Board Treasurer), Vik Anantha (Board Member), Lisa Billings (Board President), Cassidy Quistorff (Board Member), Jonathan Jelen (Development Director), Steve Pedery (Conservation Director), Anne Conrad-Antoville (Finance and Administration Manager), Stacey Rice (Board Member), Rob Klavins (Northeast Oregon Field Coordinator)

**Standing (back row, from left):** JT Flowers (Public Lands Coordinator), Doug Heiken (Conservation and Restoration Coordinator), Sean Stevens (Executive Director), Casey Kulla (State Forest Policy Coordinator)

**Not pictured:** Chris Beatty (Board Member), Ally Fisher (Wildlife and EDI Associate), Rachel Mireles (Membership Associate), Danielle Moser (Wildlife Policy Manager), Kate Ritley (Board Member), Clara Soh (Board Member)

## Volunteers

Rebecca Akporiaye  
Stephanie  
Anderson-Stroup  
Karen Austin  
Merritt Avery  
Elizabeth Barr  
Sid Baum  
Dylan Beck  
Myrah Rafiah  
Beverly  
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Doug Bovee  
Jen Boyce  
Roxanne Broadway  
Carol Bruce  
Michael Carrigan  
Sarah Chellis  
Grace Cromie

Susan Daigle  
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Mike Fairhurst  
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Susan Hansen  
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Eileen Hawes  
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Individuals who gave at the Refuge level or above during fiscal year 2020-2021 are listed below. Oregon Wild deeply appreciates the support of all our 3,583 donors, including 499 that give recurring donations through the Evergreen Society.

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### \$5,000+

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William Edlefsen

**\*30-year donors.**



# FLOWING THROUGH TIME: 50 YEARS OF PROTECTING THE WILD

## 1972: A MOVEMENT IS BORN

Bob Wazeka of the Sierra Club, Joe Walicki of the Wilderness Society, and Eugene activist Holway "Holly" Jones gather local activists around a campfire at Whitebranch Camp in the Willamette National Forest for the first ever Oregon Wilderness Conference. Two years later, they will organize the Oregon Wilderness Coalition: a nonprofit dedicated to fostering grassroots participation in the Wilderness movement.



## 1978: FIRST MAJOR SUCCESS, THE ENDANGERED AMERICAN WILDERNESS ACT

The new organization leads the charge for protection of 275,000 acres across Oregon as part of the Endangered American Wilderness Act, including the first ever BLM Wilderness (the Wild Rogue) and the official designation of French Pete as Wilderness after a decades-long fight to stop logging in the ancient forest gem.



## 1982: NAME CHANGE LAUNCHES ONRC ERA

Recognizing that the organization was branching out and creating its own identity as a force for nature, the board of directors votes to change the name to Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC).

## 1984: THE OREGON FOREST WILDERNESS ACT BECOMES LAW

After years of advocacy for several million acres of proposed Wilderness across Oregon, there is a breakthrough in June 1984. Under the threat of ONRC litigation, a fire is lit under Congress, and over 850,000 acres of Wilderness are protected in the Oregon Forest Wilderness Act.



## 1988: OREGON RIVERS INITIATIVE AND OREGON OMNIBUS WILD & SCENIC RIVERS ACT BECOME LAW

Efforts at the state and federal levels cement Oregon's reputation as the Wild & Scenic River capital of the world. In October, Congress passes the Oregon Omnibus Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, protecting 1,400 miles on 40 stream segments. A month later, voters approve a ballot measure to safeguard stretches of 11 waterways as State Scenic Waterways.

## 1994: RISING TO SAVE OLD GROWTH

After the spotted owl made the cover of Time magazine, the bird was listed under the Endangered Species Act. ONRC and allies filed a lawsuit that effectively shut down old growth logging on 17 national forests in the Pacific Northwest, and President Clinton dragged half of his cabinet to Portland in 1993—the Northwest Forest Plan is enacted. The plan, though imperfect, reduces logging by 80% and gives endangered wildlife a reprieve from a two-decade long binge of ancient forest logging.



## 1996: PORTLAND'S DRINKING WATER SAVED WITH BULL RUN LEGISLATION

While the Bull Run watershed is opened up to clearcut logging from 1977 to 1993, 350 miles of logging roads pour sediment into the drinking water reservoirs. ONRC springs into action, coordinating community partners to protest harmful logging projects and ultimately spearheading federal legislation that permanently protects the Bull Run from logging and other harmful activities.



## 2001: ROADLESS RULE PROTECTS HERITAGE FORESTS

ONRC helps lead a national movement to provide stronger administrative protections for unroaded lands. Responding to over one million comments in favor (the most ever for a federal rulemaking at the time) President Clinton's Forest Service enacts the Roadless Area Conservation Rule, safeguarding 58 million acres across the country and 2 million acres in Oregon.



## 2006: NAME CHANGE TO OREGON WILD

What started as the Oregon Wilderness Coalition and became the Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC) adopts its forever name in 2006, officially becoming Oregon Wild.

## 2008: WOLVES RETURN TO OREGON

After a 50 year absence brought on by state-sponsored eradication in the early 20th century, wolves return to Oregon with the first pups born in the state since before 1947. Recognizing that wolves needed a local voice with wildlife managers more accustomed to issuing hunting and fishing tags than protecting threatened species, Oregon Wild steps in to lead wolf advocacy in the state.



## 2007: DEFENDING OREGON'S BACKYARD FORESTS

After the George W. Bush administration makes a sweetheart settlement with the timber industry, Bush's corrupt Department of Interior officials agree to craft a new logging plan across 2.5 million acres that will triple ancient forest logging levels. Oregon Wild rises to the challenge to halt the Western Oregon Plan Revisions (derisively nicknamed the WOPR).



## 2009: LARGEST EXPANSION OF WILDERNESS SINCE 1984

After a decade-long campaign led by Oregon Wild, Congress enacts the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act. The bill includes Wilderness expansion in almost every corner of the state: 125,000 acres around Mount Hood and the Columbia River Gorge, desert Wilderness outside of Bend in the Badlands, coastal ancient forest in the Copper Salmon Wilderness, and a Wilderness core for the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument with the designation of the Soda Mountain Wilderness. With over 200,000 acres protected, the effort is the largest expansion of Wilderness since the 1984 bill.



## 2019: DEVIL'S STAIRCASE DEFIES THE ODDS

"Endless pressure, endlessly applied" takes on new meaning when Devil's Staircase is protected with a Wilderness designation in the middle of the otherwise anti-environment Trump presidency. Oregon Wild and allies campaigned for a decade, narrowly missing passage multiple times before the Oregon Wildlands Act moves through Congress as part of a larger package and is ultimately signed into law by Trump.



**OREGON WILD**

Let Nature Live. Let Nature Last.

## SINCE OUR OFFICIAL FOUNDING IN 1974,

Oregon Wild has been at the center of every major public lands and wildlife conservation battle in the state. We've carved out a well-earned reputation as fierce advocates for the wild and earned the respect of environmentalists, industry CEOs, politicians, and pundits.

When land managers tried to avoid Wilderness protections, when the last old growth was on the chopping block, when wolves needed a voice in the halls of power— Oregon Wild was there. We've persevered to achieve the unlikeliest of successes for nature and kept the fire inside to learn from the stinging losses to emerge stronger. We're proud of our history and know that there is much left to do to keep Oregon wild.

## 2024 AND ONWARD: BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF PROTECTION

Passing our 50-year anniversary, Oregon Wild is taking on our biggest conservation campaigns yet. We're leading a national effort to finally secure protection for all mature and old-growth forests on public lands for the vital role they play in fighting climate change. We're leading a local coalition to enact Oregon's single largest public lands protection effort in history, aiming to secure Wild & Scenic River designations for over 3,000 miles of waterways across the state. And we are dedicating ourselves to diversifying the Oregon conservation movement with our Public Lands For All initiative to ensure that everyone who loves and benefits from Oregon's wild places has a voice in how they are protected.