

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-20



THANK YOU to our volunteers and supporters for making this year successful!



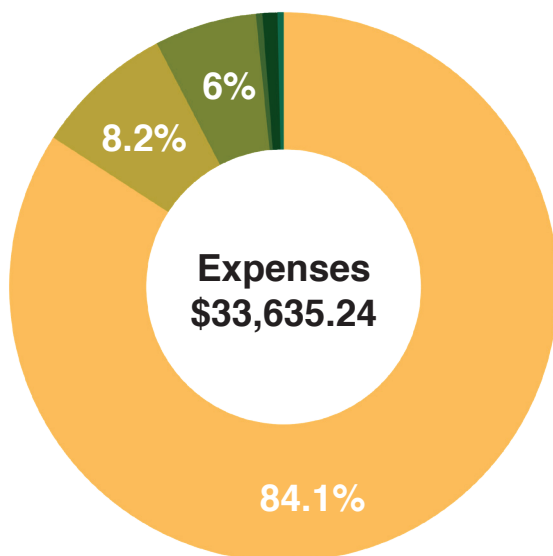
I am writing in a time of great uncertainty, when many of our usual social activities are on hold to prevent the spread of a dangerous virus. Having our normal human interactions suspended makes us realize how important social interactions are to our health and wellbeing. Deep down in our core, we are social creatures. It is ironic that the things most important to us are often things we take for granted and can't even see until unhappy circumstances take them away.

Just as we need each other, likewise, we also need the natural world. It not only supplies our basic physical needs for food and water, but also supports us emotionally and spiritually as well. It teaches us curiosity, gratitude, deep listening, and connection. In short, nature teaches us to be fully human.

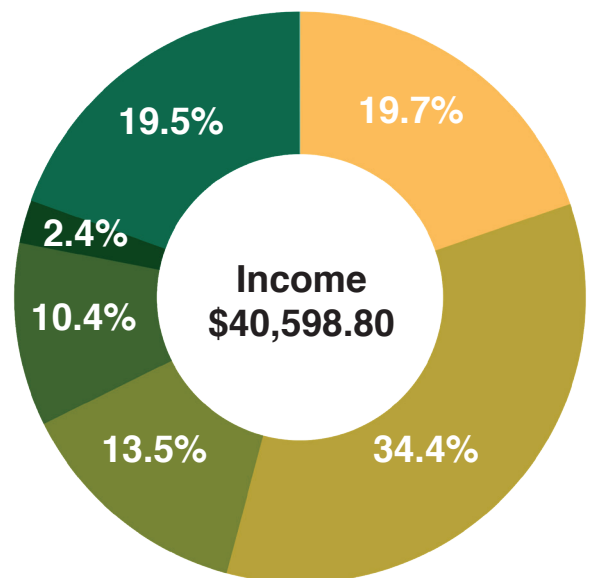
And, in turn, the integrity of the natural world depends us. We can't take the natural world for granted and forget our responsibility as stewards. Through teaching old skills such as animal tracking and wild plant foraging, and through providing a way for people to contribute to knowledge of our local wildlife, Cascadia Wild strives to help people make a real connection to the natural world and understand more about its complexity. It is our hope that this will enable us all to make wiser decisions about how to live our lives, for the benefit of all beings.

I am grateful to have the opportunity again this year to work with all of you and help make Cascadia Wild's important work happen.

Thank you for your support,
Teri Lysak, Board Chair



Program Expenses	\$28,303	84.1%
Rent	\$2,760	8.2%
Insurance	\$2,026	6%
Marketing Expenses	\$128	
Fundraising Expenses	\$298.24	
Business Fees	\$120	



Grant from Patagonia	\$8,000	19.7%
Defenders of Wildlife	\$13,979	34.4%
Mt Hood Ntl Forest	\$5,500	13.5%
Individual Donations	\$4,213	10.4%
Business Donations	\$990	2.4%
Program Fees	\$7,905	19.5%
Interest	\$11.80	0%

WOLVERINE TRACKING PROJECT

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped survey for wolverine and other rare carnivores on Mt Hood! Although the surveys were cut short in March to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, we accomplished a lot.

A total of 225 volunteers donated over 5400 hours collecting data on these important species, through monitoring cameras and searching for tracks and scat. This is 500 more hours than last year – a lot of search time! We still do not have evidence of wolverine returning to the area, but we did capture several new photos of our newly established wolf pack and collected seven putative wolf scat samples to help learn more about the pack that has made the Warm Springs Reservation and Mt Hood area its home. Surveys also collected data on Sierra Nevada red fox, a rare subspecies found only on isolated mountains in the Sierra Nevadas and Oregon Cascades. Surveys corroborated previous findings that tentatively show fox tend to prefer higher elevations in summer than the winter. The project also collected a lot of other useful data on many different carnivore species to add

to long term databases.

This data is used by many different organizations – by the Mt Hood National Forest in their planning and land management, by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for conserving these species, by Cascades Carnivore Project as part of a regional study on montane red fox, and by Defenders of Wildlife to advocate for better wildlife policies. As a community science project, it also serves to get regular people involved with our local wildlife.

We also want to give a special thanks to our 11 Tracking Leaders who spent a minimum of two years in training to lead the snow tracking surveys, and to our partners, Defenders of Wildlife and the Mt Hood National Forest.



WILDLIFE TRACKING CLASSES

Wildlife Tracking – reading the footprints and other sign left behind by animals as they move through the landscape – is a skill as ancient as humankind. We believe that this skill is still important in today's world, teaching us both about the animals we track and about ourselves. We are glad to help keep this skill alive. This year, in addition to the Wolverine Tracking Project surveys, we were able to offer a wide variety of classes, from introductory free events to advanced classes.

FREE Tracking Events: This year our volunteers continued to organize a monthly tracking club at Oxbow Park, organized a trip to the Oregon Dunes, and taught at BARK's Ecology Club, monthly BARK About Hike, and Summer Base Camp. Clean Water Services also sponsored a free tracking class at Fernhill Wetlands!

Intermediate and Advanced Tracking Classes: To provide a way for people to continue to grow their skills, we offered one day-long intermediate tracking class and two advanced tracking classes in sign tracking and reading pressure releases.

Cybertracker Track and Sign Evaluation: This winter, we hosted our third Cybertracker Track and Sign Evaluation, a professional certification in wildlife tracking that provides a professional standard and helps promote tracking in wildlife research and environmental education. Congratulations to our three Tracking Leaders who received a Level 3 certification!

Road Scholar: A series of 6 tracking classes were held for grandparents and their grandkids through the organization Road Scholar. Thank you, Road Scholar for providing a place where multi-generational learning can happen!

NATURALIST TRAINING PROGRAM

The Naturalist Training Program is an 8-month class series designed to teach about wildlife, tracking, plants, and ecology. It provides a chance for people to get outside, really look at the landscape, learn how to interpret what they see, and - most importantly - develop a sense of belonging in nature. The cohort that started last year finished with flying colors. Another series will start again in the coming year.

FREE CLUBS

In addition to the monthly Tracking Club mentioned earlier, volunteers also started a monthly Nature Book Club and Nature Journaling Club, free get-togethers to motivate each other to read and learn more about the natural world. After a year, book club is still going strong!

BIRD LANGUAGE (cancelled)

The calls and postures of birds can tell us much about what is happening in the world. This year we were excited to be able to offer a new set of classes in Bird Language. A FREE introductory class took place in February and was well attended. The 6-class series, unfortunately, was canceled due to restrictions around the coronavirus. We hope to offer it next year!

MYSTERY TRACKS FUNDRAISER

Many thanks to Steve Engel for spearheading, providing the technical know-how, helping organize, and – most of all – providing his amazing set of plaster track casts, for the first ever Cascadia Wild fundraising event. People had a wonderful evening guessing whodunit, eating pizza, and hanging out, and raising \$1450 for Cascadia Wild. Special thanks also to Kathe Steck and Brian Taylor for making the tasty pizza, Laurel Stauske and Chris Blanco for providing some of their wonderful home brew, Ecliptic Brewing for donating additional beverages, and Jean's Farm for hosting.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

5,400 hours

of volunteer time carrying out and supporting wildlife surveys

390 people

engaged in and more knowledgeable about the natural world

250 miles

of scat surveys completed

4,570 days

of camera surveys completed

47 miles

of tracking surveys completed

MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS IN 2019-2020

Alice Sufka, Audie Paulus, Bryan Kappa, Carlene Blaich, CJ Mikle, Cory Samia, Daniel McClintock, David Powell, Deb Hill, Dena Turner, Derik Gladden, Erika Arnold, Heidi Perry, Hobson Lane, Jennifer Travers, Jenny Bedell-Stiles, Jesse Satterfield, Kanindi Devi-Dasi, Karina Bonin, Kat LaFever, Kathe Steck, Kathryn Olsen, Kelly Hogan, Keri Sprenger, Kimber Nelson, Laura Belson, LeeAnn Sims, Leslie Grush, Lily Cook, Lloyd Vivola, Maggie Starr, Matt Vellella, Melissa Rehder, Mike Little, Nancy Yuill, Paul and Kathy Schertz, Sandra Joos, Sarah Carl, Steven Benson, Suzanne Rague, Willem Larsen

Businesses: Patagonia, Thermo-Fisher Scientific, Naomi's Organic Farm Supply, New Seasons, Ecliptic Brewing, Jean's Farm, Columbia Sportswear

WOLVERINE TRACKING PROJECT LEADERS

Chris Abercrombie, Jenny Bedell-Stiles, Joel Phillip, Kelly Hogan, Kimber Nelson, Lori Raydo, Maggie Starr, Oriana Korol, Paul Schertz, Susan McDonnell, Trevor Murphy

WOLVERINE TRACKING PROJECT INTERNS

Kathe Steck, Solai LaFey

BOARD MEMBERS

Teri Lysak – Chair, Paul Schertz – Secretary, Graham Hulbert - Treasurer, Jenny Bedell-Stiles, Bryan Kappa