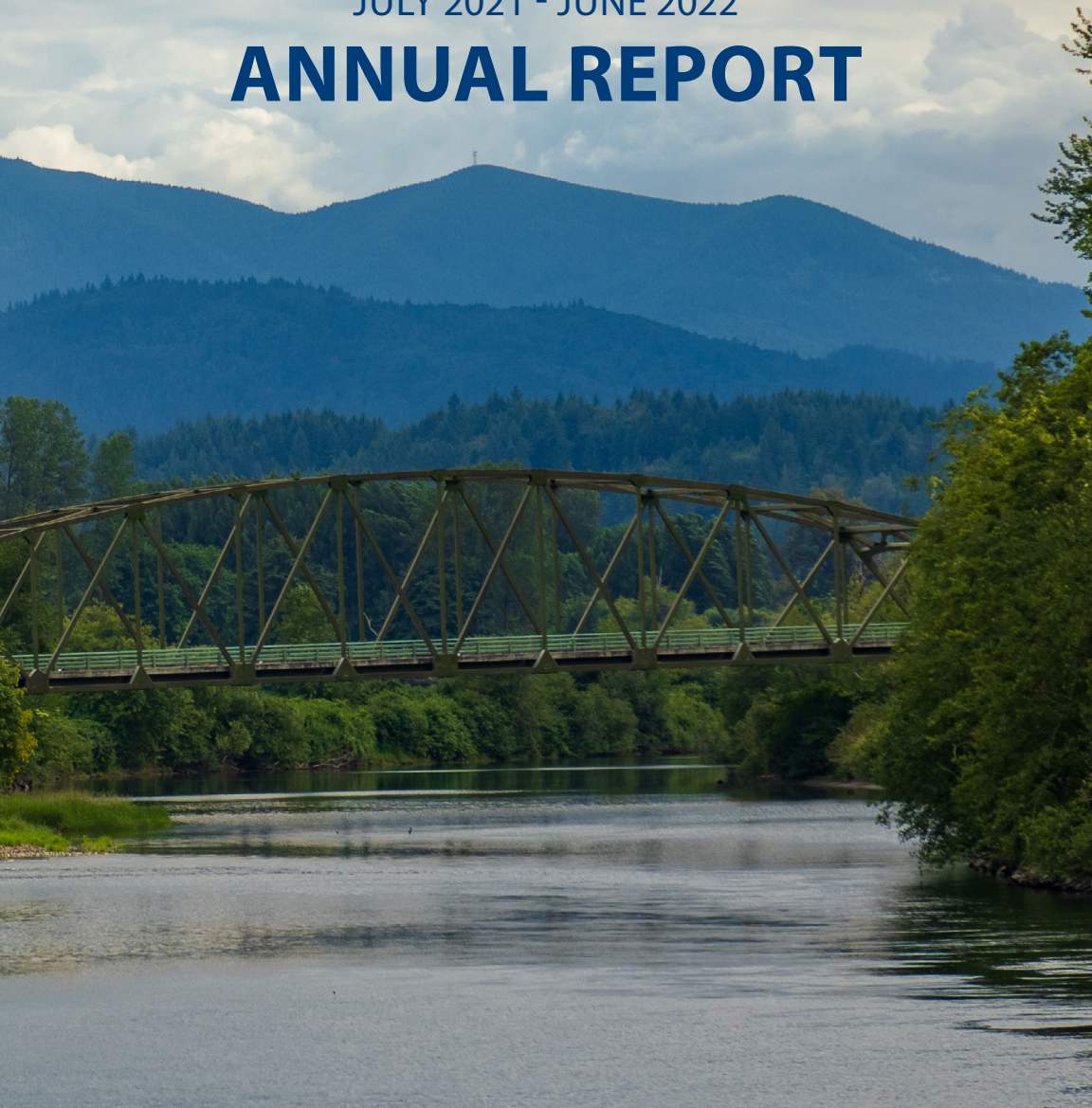
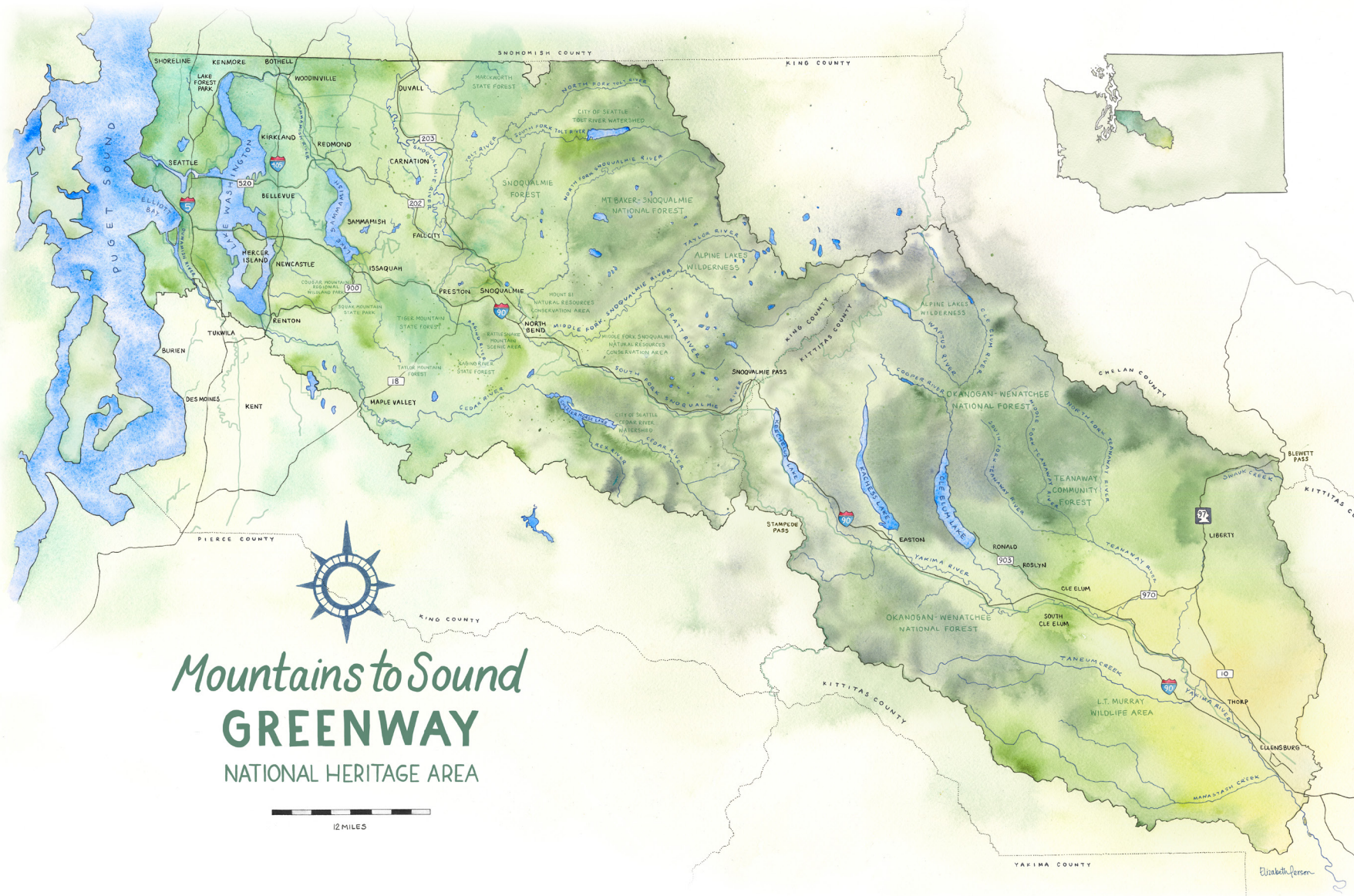




JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

ANNUAL REPORT





The Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area (Greenway NHA) is an iconic 1.5-million-acre landscape that connects Central Washington, the Cascade Mountains, and Puget Sound.

The Greenway Trust promotes a healthy and sustainable relationship between people and the land by holistically balancing built and natural environments. The Greenway NHA landscape provides places for nature and wildlife, for culture and tradition, for outdoor recreation and education, for working forests and local agricultural production, while embracing vibrant urban areas.

The Greenway NHA is valued by a broad cross-section of society, working together as an effective coalition to conserve this place and its heritage for future generations.



Photos by Merrill Images



After several years of what felt like endless challenges and uncertainty, I could not be prouder of where the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is today. This year underscored the resilience of our staff and the commitment of the broader Greenway community to stand by our mission even in times of hardship. As we dipped our toe back into the world of in-person gatherings, we were met with incredible enthusiasm for simply being together again. Despite the conveniences of Zoom, there's just nothing quite like sharing a meal and conversation in real life, and we were reminded just how essential these connections are to the soul of the Greenway.

Our programs picked up speed this year, and we welcomed several new team members to help keep pace with the needs of the landscape and to take part in new opportunities. From launching a new paid internship program, to being part of the largest urban forest credit purchase in U.S. history, teaming up with local businesses in Kittitas County to start a funding program for ongoing stewardship projects, and completing maintenance work on iconic trails such as Rattlesnake Ledge and Poo Poo Point, it's been a year to remember.

This summer also brought the culmination of the three-year National Heritage Area planning process. The Management Plan has been officially approved at the time of publishing this report, and sets forth a vision and priorities for the collaborative conservation, interpretation, and celebration of the region's natural, cultural, and historic resources. We are eager to begin this new and exciting chapter for our organization and can't wait to look back on all that we've accomplished together in another year from now.



Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



PICTURED ABOVE
*Enjoying time together
on the first Explore the
Greenway trip since 2019!*

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE

Our Year In Review

LANDSCAPE



527 *Acres in
restoration*

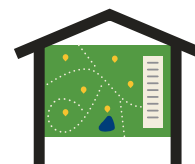


410.5 *Acres of land
conserved*



9,734 *Native trees &
shrubs planted*

CONNECTIONS



60 *Miles of trail
maintenance completed*



~\$1M *In recreation
improvements*

PEOPLE



975

*People volunteered
(49% youth)*



701

*Students participated in
Greenway education programs*



55

*Participants in paid
internship programs*

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Greenway Trust is committed to promoting greater diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area (Greenway NHA) and within our own organization and all aspects of our work. Through an ongoing dedication to learning and by making space for reflection and challenging conversations, we strive to incorporate DEI into our daily actions and decisions. Our goal is to create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for our staff members, Board of Directors, partners, volunteers, and all who interact with the Greenway Trust. We are also committed to expanding the narratives and stories of the Greenway NHA to include historically marginalized voices and to actively reverse the erasure and omission of these communities and their many contributions to the region's history and culture.

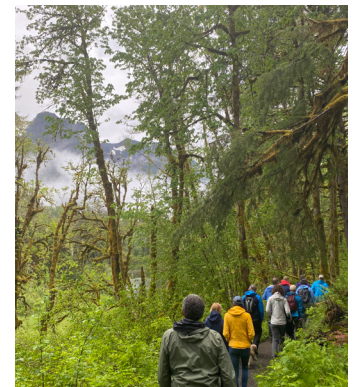
We have begun what we know will be a long journey together. With each step, we make incremental progress and gain perspective on what we have yet to learn and improve upon. In the spirit of transparency and accountability, we wish to share some of our recent areas of focus on the following page.



We have been actively working to:

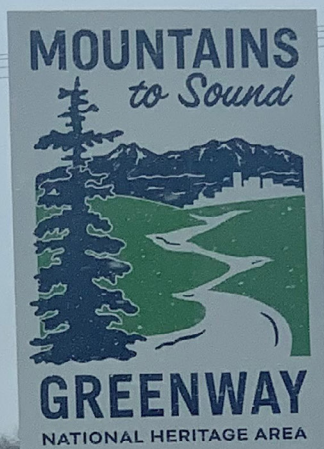
- Engage with Tribes within the Greenway NHA for review and input on the NHA Management Plan and proactive consultation related to upcoming projects and initiatives
- Involve the Greenway Trust Board of Directors in DEI conversations and trainings
- Improve our hiring and retention practices to reach a larger pool of potential applicants, better support new hires throughout the onboarding process, and provide ongoing support and resources for our team members
- Seek opportunities for meaningful engagement of diverse populations, especially those who have not been involved in the Greenway, listening and learning from their unique perspectives and lived experiences
- Support multicultural partner organizations in starting their own environmental stewardship efforts within their communities
- Find ways to make our events more accessible and inclusive by offering scholarships for paid events, providing gear support, hosting a greater variety of event types, and leveraging grant funds to make participation free for all when possible
- Expand our paid internship programs and take steps to make the programming more inclusive
- Intentionally focus on developing restoration projects in areas with less access to healthy green spaces

The Greenway Trust strives to create a more just society by making DEI a vital part of our mission. Including the above list in this report is just one way we strive to hold ourselves accountable and invite our community to be part of learning and growing together.



OUR WORK

National Heritage Area Management Planning



This year marked a major milestone for the Greenway NHA with the completion of our cooperative Management Plan. The nearly 300-page document is the product of three years of collaborative planning led by a 16-person Advisory Committee of volunteers who represented a range of perspectives and interests from across the landscape. During the planning process, the Advisory Committee, Greenway Trust staff, and our tribal liaison worked methodically to solicit and incorporate a diversity of perspectives, stories, and inputs from hundreds of contributors.

Public engagement during the planning process included four public listening sessions, six stakeholder focus groups, 13 briefings for agency and municipal leaders, and multiple rounds of draft plan review. In all, more than 400 individuals representing tribal, federal, state and local governments, agencies, businesses, nonprofits, and local communities participated in these engagements. The planning process concluded with a 30-day public comment period during which the final draft of the Management Plan was made available for review. Ninety-one members of the public submitted comments during two virtual open houses and through an online survey.



The Management Plan outlines the goals, strategies, and plans for the future of the Greenway NHA. It describes a framework of themes, integrated narratives, and resources that together convey the rich history and heritage of the Greenway NHA; and it recommends partnerships, strategies, and priorities for collaborative actions that support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, responsible recreation, heritage tourism, and education projects.

The most important commitment in this plan is one of collaborative engagement, which has been central to how the Greenway Trust has operated throughout our 30+ year history. We look forward to growing existing partnerships and forming new ones as we move into the implementation phase and seek to identify common objectives and create a framework for working together.

The Management Plan was officially approved at the time of printing this Annual Report. Thank you to everyone who shared input and expertise to help make the plan stronger and more reflective of the rich and dynamic place that is the Greenway NHA. We couldn't have done it without you!



OUR WORK

Urban Communities

Making History at Ballinger Open Space

Ballinger Open Space is a 2.6-acre green space in the northeast corner of the city of Shoreline. The restoration work at Ballinger, which began in 2018, is an opportunity for the Greenway Trust to work with many partners to sequester carbon, improve access to greenspace, increase evergreen canopy to protect water quality, and engage with community members in Shoreline on the topics of ecological restoration and stewardship.

This project is a part of a climate initiative led by City Forest Credits (CFC) that recognizes the value and benefits urban forests can have in communities. In 2021, the Greenway Trust worked with CFC to validate the tree plantings and develop carbon credits through their registry. CFC's carbon quantification tool projects that these plantings will store approximately 2,200 tons of carbon over a 25-year period. That is the equivalent of taking 475 cars off the road for a full year!

These credits were recently sold as part of the largest single urban forest carbon credit purchase in history, with the sale price among the highest ever paid for forest carbon credits. The revenue will support long-term site maintenance at Ballinger Open Space, where we are committed to working through 2045 to guarantee tree establishment and the development of a healthy neighborhood green space.

Rerouting the Popular Poo Poo Point Trail

The growing popularity of the Poo Poo Point Trail departing from Tradition Plateau prompted the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WA-DNR) to undertake extensive maintenance and reconstruction to ensure it remains usable for many years. With funding secured, and through a partnership with the Greenway Trust, trail improvements were completed in 2021.

In partnership with WA-DNR, the Greenway Trust worked with Backwoods Contracting to relocate a highly erosive section of trail. Greenway Trust Trail Crew members, volunteers with Washington Trails Association, and crews from EarthCorps and Washington Conservation Corps all pitched in to gravel mucky sections, install drainages, and restore eroded and disturbed areas with native plants like sword fern.



Caring for the Greenway NHA Alongside New Partners

A central part of carrying out our mission is collaborating with others to help steward the Greenway NHA landscape. Each individual and group brings a unique perspective and connection to the land, and we love having the opportunity to learn, grow, and take positive action together.

In June, we had the opportunity to partner with three organizations for the very first time: Latino Outdoors, Outdoor Asian, and Camp Kindness Counts. Together, we hosted a youth-focused event centered around leaving no trace in our local parks and outdoor spaces and understanding how our actions can impact salmon.



Photo by Jamie Martinez

We also launched a new partnership this year with the city of Burien, with a commitment to three years of habitat restoration support at Salmon Creek Ravine Park. We also co-created a new internship program called Burien Green Teens along with Dirt Corps, LLC, set to launch in August 2022.

Launching a New Paid Internship Program

During summer 2021, 12 high school students participated in Equitable Green Opportunities for Youth in Highline. The Greenway Trust partnered with Pacific

Education Institute and Highline School District to launch the program with the goal of inspiring and equipping teens to pursue careers in conservation. The students earned graduation credit and a stipend while getting real-world restoration ecology experience and working alongside land management professionals.

For six weeks in the summer, the students worked 30 hours per week primarily in the field at sites in and near the Highline community, including the city of Burien and Waskowitz



Outdoor School. Under the guidance of Greenway Trust staff, students removed a total of 35,300 square feet of invasive plants and spread mulch across 1,200 square feet!

After a successful first season, the team got to work on plans to double the program for 2022, adding a new partnership with the Riverview School District near Duvall and Carnation.



In October 2021, the Greenway Trust and King County Wastewater Treatment Division were presented with the Youth Employer of the Year Award from the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment. The award recognized our work leading the Clean Water Ambassadors internship program in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Services for the Blind.

OUR WORK

Snoqualmie River Valley

Restoring Wetland Buffers at Meadowbrook Slough

The Greenway Trust has been working to restore the buffer of Meadowbrook Slough in Snoqualmie since 2008. This site serves as a critical habitat for wildlife and by improving this wetland habitat and buffers, it will also improve water quality, flood storage, and cold-water inputs into the Snoqualmie River during summer low flows. To date, the Greenway Trust has restored upwards of 25 acres of buffer habitat that was once nothing but invasive blackberry and reed canarygrass.

Now these buffers have emerging forest canopies consisting of Sitka spruce, western redcedar, cottonwoods, and a wide variety of native willow trees. This work has been done in phases, with Phase 5 beginning in 2021 with 5 additional acres. So far, the Greenway Trust Restoration Crew and volunteers have removed blackberry and planted more than 1,000 trees at the Phase 5 site. This work is ongoing and maintenance needs persist. The Greenway Trust works closely with the city of Snoqualmie to continue to steward these sites and has received generous funding to implement this work from the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum via the King County Flood Control District. Volunteers and schools like Two Rivers School have also dedicated hundreds of volunteer hours to restore these vital habitats.

Launching a New Trailhead Ambassadors Program

Thanks to a partnership with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Trailhead Ambassadors were at popular trailheads throughout summer 2022, directly engaging with nearly 600 people to empower users to recreate responsibly and respectfully. The program was collaboratively designed to include presence at the most popular trailheads in the Greenway NHA, including Little Si, Mount Si, Twin Falls, Franklin Falls, and the Chirico Trail on Tiger Mountain. The Trailhead Ambassadors Program was implemented through a collaboration between a variety of land managers, nonprofits, local community members, and local businesses.



Completing Improvements to the Rattlesnake Ledge Trail

Rattlesnake Ledge, one of the most popular hiking trails in the Greenway NHA reopened in late March 2021 after being closed for nearly a year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. During the closure, work started on some much-needed improvements to make the trail safer, more sustainable, and to help protect the natural environment. The work resumed in fall 2021 after pausing during the busy summer season and was completed in spring 2022.

Just like the original 2003-04 trail build, this project was completed as a partnership between the City of Seattle-Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), the Greenway Trails Association, and EarthCorps. The Greenway Trust worked with SPU for about five years to design and plan the project, secure a grant, and prepare the trail for work to begin. Our role was overseeing the project, coordinating all the partners and leveraging each group's respective strengths to get the work done.



This project was made possible thanks to funding from the Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities program, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, and the support of SPU.

Great American Outdoors Act Provides Funding Boost

On June 6, 2022 Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Jewel Brounagh announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture is investing more than half a billion dollars through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) to address deferred maintenance, improve infrastructure, increase user access, and support rural economies while also meeting conservation goals on public lands.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Project, a collaboration between the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, received more than \$14 million from the GAOA in Fiscal Year 2021. The Greenway Trust will be involved with several projects that are in the works as part of this package, including the Annette Lake Trail; Denny Creek and Franklin Falls; Snow Lake; Pratt Bar trailhead improvements in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley; Asahel Curtis Nature Trail; replacing deteriorated concrete picnic tables at Ken Wilcox, Cle Elum, and Beverly campgrounds; and more.



OUR WORK

Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley

Reopening the Middle Fork Trail

Throughout the years, the Middle Fork Trail has faced an uphill battle of erosion, washouts, and most recently, a massive landslide in April 2018 that left most of the trail inaccessible and closed to the public.

Following the slide, the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest team, supported by the Greenway Trust and others, decided on a new, more stable route. Starting in August 2021, the Forest Service and a contractor, along with the Greenway Trust, Washington Trails Association, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Back Country Horsemen of Washington, and numerous volunteers all worked together to reroute the trail out of the damaged area, and repair/maintain the closed section of the trail (from the Middle Fork Trailhead to the Dingford Creek Trailhead).

While the contractor carved bedrock, broke boulders, and otherwise excavated the relocation, which winds across the steep and forested slopes of Stegosaurus Butte, project partners worked collaboratively to log-out, brush, and repair aging boardwalks, turnpikes, and other trail structures along the entire five miles between Taylor River and Dingford Creek. The Greenway Trust Trail Crew worked on a 32-foot-long puncheon bridge that connects the old trail to the new rerouted trail, bypassing the 2018 landslide. After being closed for more than three years, the trail finally reopened to the public in November 2021!

Collecting Trail Use Data

The Greenway Trust worked with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WA-DNR) and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest to install infrared trail counters during the summer of 2020 along popular trails in the Middle Fork Valley. The intent was to keep the trail counters up over a several year period to track trends, and we have been collecting data and maintaining the counters each month ever since. During the peak hiking season this year (between July and Labor Day), more than 60,000 people were counted on monitored Middle Fork trails. This information is shared with outdoor recreation partners, and we continue to utilize the data to better understand visitation patterns and determine where to direct responsible recreation messaging, maintenance efforts, and funding.

Improving the Snoqualmie Lake Trailhead

Thanks to a collaboration between the Greenway Trust and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, visitors will find great improvements at the Snoqualmie Lake trailhead, including the addition of much-needed restroom facilities, expanded parking, and new signage.

As with many Greenway Trust projects, this one included multi-layered collaboration with planning for the project beginning a decade ago. The Forest Service successfully applied for a Trails-Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program grant, which was awarded in December 2019. Thanks to the Greenway Trust's Middle Fork Campaign, we were able to provide the match requirement to fully fund the project.

Trail crews from the Greenway Trust and Forest Service all pitched in to prepare the site. We also had 21 eager volunteers out on National Public Lands Day who helped to clear vegetation to make room for the improvements, salvage native plants, and spread gravel in the new picnic area. McClung Construction expanded, regraded, and resurfaced the parking area.



Working with Partners to Remove Invasive Weeds

The Greenway Trust Restoration Crew has been working to minimize the impacts of invasive weeds (and their seeds) that can come in from car tires, road fill (like gravel), and muddy hiking boots, within the Middle Fork Snoqualmie road corridor and at adjacent trailheads and day use areas.

This work has been a collaborative effort with funding and support provided by the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, WA-DNR, and the King County Noxious Weed Control Program's Healthy Lands Project (HeLP). The Middle Fork has multiple land managers, and the Greenway Trust works with them all to map the weeds, report infestations, and remove them during the spring and summer months. These efforts are vital to ensuring that the lush forests throughout the Middle Fork Valley stay healthy and intact for generations to come.



OUR WORK

Upper Yakima Basin

Engaging the Public in the Teanaway Community Forest

The Greenway Trust welcomed a new Teanaway Community Forest (TCF) Engagement Coordinator in 2021. With increased capacity in the Upper Yakima Basin, we leaned into organizing and supporting interpretive events in the Community Forest.

Much like ranger talks, these free events bring folks out onto the landscape to learn from local experts. Greenway Trust staff worked with members of the TCF Advisory Committee and agency partners to schedule, promote, and facilitate six events during summer 2022, ranging from birding and lessons on wildlife tracking, to geology hikes, and fly-fishing tips. These interpretive events empower community members with knowledge about the land that they use and love, and participants are encouraged to continue their engagement with the Community Forest by volunteering, attending TCF Advisory Committee meetings, and advocating for funding.

Launching the Kittitas Stewardship Fund

Much of the Greenway Trust's work in Kittitas County aims to help address the impacts of recreation on local communities and public lands. In May 2022, we orchestrated the launch of the Kittitas Stewardship Fund (KSF), a new fundraising effort that supports land managers, nonprofits, and community groups working to improve watershed health, support working forests, increase fire resiliency, develop and manage recreational infrastructure, conserve lands at risk of development, and address the backlog of maintenance on lands open to the public.

KSF is partially driven by a new program called "1% for Public Lands," where participating businesses may encourage customers to add 1% of their purchase price onto their bill as a donation to KSF. Half a dozen "anchor" businesses signed on to help test the fundraising potential of this program during Summer 2022. The donations are collected by the Kittitas Chamber of Commerce, and will be distributed to Kittitas-based conservation, restoration, recreation, and education projects. The Greenway Trust chairs the Steering Committee that will oversee this grant process, anticipated to launch in fall 2023.



Coming Together to Complete the Salmon la Sac Kiosk

In September 2020, the Greenway Trust and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest hosted a week-long volunteer event and traditional skills workshop at the Salmon la Sac picnic shelter, which was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1936. The goal of the volunteer event was to construct an informational kiosk using traditional log building techniques to match the style of the picnic shelter, nearby Salmon la Sac guard station, and other early-century log structures in the vicinity. Due to pandemic complications and intense wildfire smoke, the kiosk was only 2/3 complete by the end of the five-day workshop.

Our amazing volunteers unanimously agreed to return in 2021 to complete the project, and thanks to a Puget Sound Energy Powerful Partnerships grant, we were able to hire preservation specialist David Rogers to lead the group again.



The logs, rafters, and purlons the team had so carefully measured and shaped in 2020 came out of storage and were reassembled on-site. They relearned the finicky art of scribing notches and picked up new skills like selecting and assembling cedar shakes for the structure's roof. The Greenway Trust Trail Crew joined the fun for several days to support David in stripping sill-logs, and hand built the stonework footing supporting the kiosk. By the end of the week, the kiosk stood tall and proud, roofed and mortared, ready for the later addition of an ADA-accessible paved approach and interpretive panels.

In April 2022, the Greenway Trust successfully applied for Title II federal funding for education to complete condition assessments of four other historic structures in the area, continuing the work began at Salmon La Sac. We are grieved to report the passing of our friend and partner, David Rogers, but will carry on this work in his memory and in the spirit of the National Heritage Area designation.

Welcoming Back Explore Trips

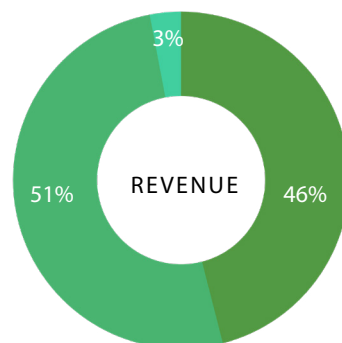
In June 2022, the Greenway Trust hosted its first Explore the Greenway trip since 2019 on the mighty Yakima River! Despite a chilly forecast, it turned out to be a beautiful, sunny day and roughly 50 participants came out for the experience. Rafters covered 18 miles in the Upper Canyon between Cle Elum and Thorp, floating past basalt canyons, rolling forests, and green farmlands with expert guides.



Financial Report

REVENUE

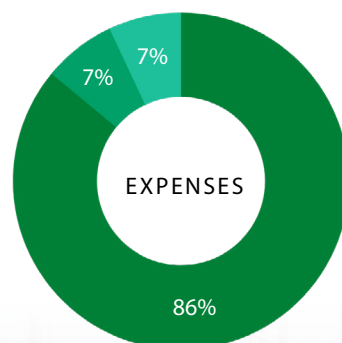
Government Grants & Contracts	\$1,715,207
Contributions	\$1,890,090
In-kind Contributions	\$119,104
Investment & Endowment Revenue (loss)	(\$114,759)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,609,642



■ Government Grants & Contracts
■ Contributions
■ In-kind Contributions

EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$2,959,246
Management & General	\$225,451
Fundraising	\$258,351
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,443,048



■ Program Expenses
■ Management & General
■ Fundraising

NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$3,825,765
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$3,992,359
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS*	\$166,594

*Includes restricted Middle Fork, project restricted, and pledged in-kind

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Melanie Kitman

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Janet Knox

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Ken Konigsmark

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Yvonne Kraus

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Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land

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Vik Sahney

Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers

Meredith Shank

Social Venture Partners

Steven Shestag

Director, Environment, The Boeing Company

Jill Simmons

Former Executive Director, Washington Trails Association

Al Smith

Partner, Perkins Coie LLP

David Sturtevant

Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL

Chris Thomas

Vice President, Head of Public Affairs, Divert, Inc.

Harry Thomas

Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington

Leah Tivoli

Manager, City of Seattle

Adam Torem

Industrial Insurance Appeals Judge, Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals

Jody Weil (X)

Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

* Executive Committee Member
* Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

DIRECTORS THROUGH
MAY 2022

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Senate

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Meadowbrook Farm Preservation
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County

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Brett Wachsmith

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SE Region Manager, WA-DNR

Kathryn Williams

Retired, Former Senior Vice
President, HomeStreet Bank

Dan Youmans

Former Regional Vice President,
External Affairs, AT&T Wireless

ADVISORS THROUGH
MAY 2022

Thank You, Donors

DONATIONS RECEIVED JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

The Greenway Trust gratefully acknowledges the individuals,
businesses, and foundations that generously support our work
across the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.

Photo by Merrill Images

GREENWAY VISIONARIES

\$25,000+

Estate of Rebecca Benton
Richard and Sarah Lord
Mary Pigott
Jim and Bonnie Reinhardtsen
Anonymous

\$10,000-\$24,999

Eric and Katie Artz
Sally and Warren Jewell
Arlene Levy
Gretchen Luxenberg and Leigh
Smith
Sarah Ovens
Jon Hoekstra and Jennifer Steele
Maggie Walker
Kathy Williams
Anonymous

\$5,000-\$9,999

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“The Mountains to Sound Greenway
did not happen by chance, but
by choice. It exists today thanks
to hard work by individuals,
organizations, public servants,
volunteers, and donors. There was
no better training for me as U.S.
Secretary of the Interior.”

— Sally Jewell, Greenway Director Emeritus
and former U.S. Secretary of the Interior

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