
CLACKAMAS RIVER BASIN COUNCIL
2020 ANNUAL REPORT

20
20

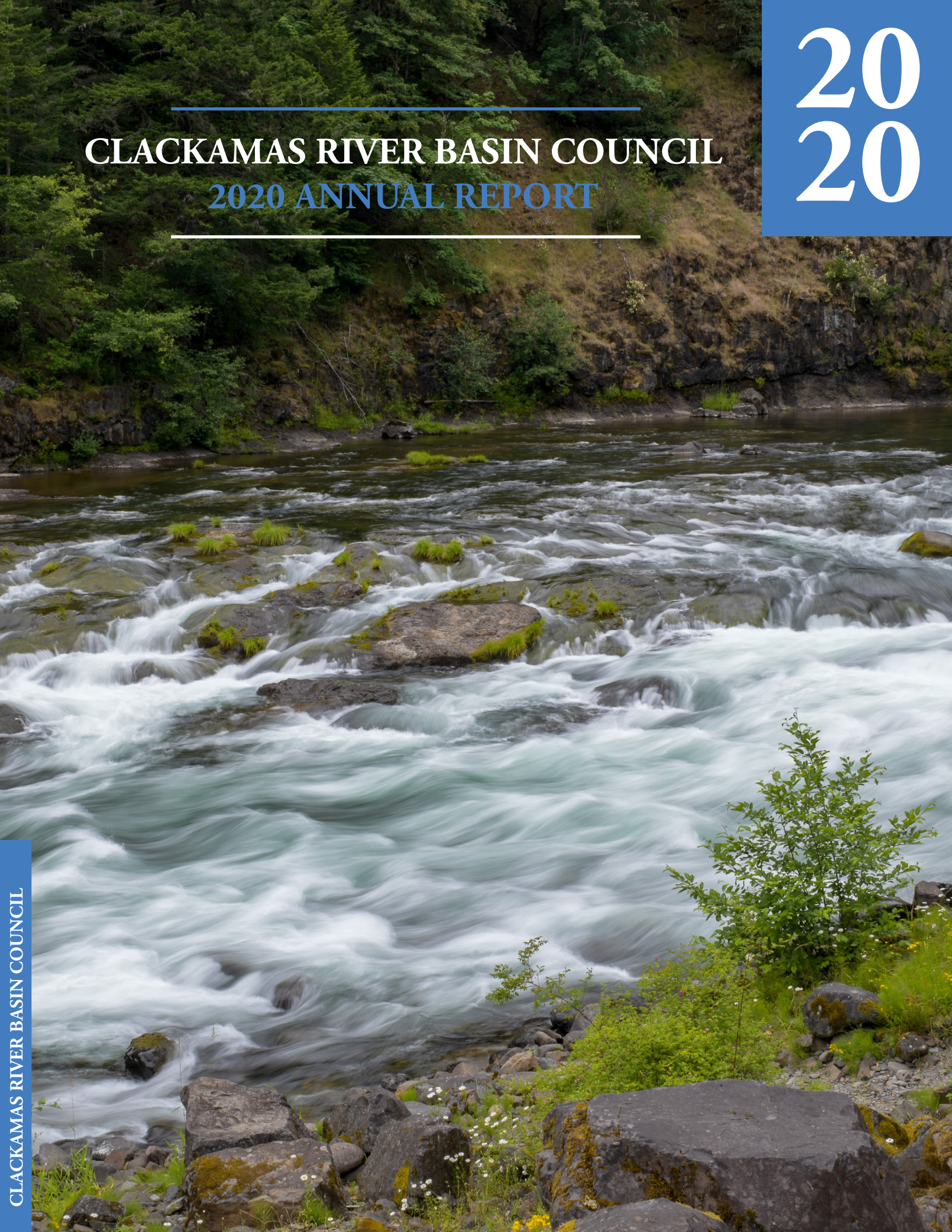






TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Message from Board Chair & Executive Director 4

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Clackamas River Basin Council Members 5

WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT

In-Stream & Riparian Projects 6

MONITORING, EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Water Quality Stewardship 8

Communication Metrics 9

REVENUE & EXPENSES

Community Volunteers 10

Organizational Grants 11

PARTNERSHIPS

Sponsors & Support 12



PO Box 1869, Clackamas, OR 97015, (503) 303-4372,
www.ClackamasRiver.org, info@clackamasriver.org

CLACKAMAS RIVER BASIN COUNCIL

MESSAGE FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bill Monroe & Cheryl McGinnis

Friends and Supporters

The year we'll never forget: 2020. Our trip around the sun was filled with challenge and achievements, as devastating fires and a pandemic were met with a testament to the power of the indomitable human spirit.

Challenged by Covid-19, we nevertheless learned to stay connected and hold meetings virtually through Zoom. As a result, the Clackamas River Basin Council leadership didn't skip a beat in oversight of its stewardship of the Clackamas River Basin. Our dedicated staff worked remotely, abiding by health safety protocols. We held fewer in-person workshops and volunteer events.

Through all that, our restoration projects continued and educational presentations were made available with creative use of technology.

The Shade Our Streams program successfully completed final maintenance activities on the final five miles of riparian shade canopy along the mainstem Clackamas and its tributaries.

You, our friends and crucial supporters, donated financially to re-plant streamside forests that will once again shade waterways and keep erosion and sediment from, threatening our drinking water. Thank you for your support of Replant the Riverside, through which 5,000 trees and shrubs were planted.

The Clackamas Partnership restoration action plan was initiated with restoration projects implemented in 2020 for the first of six years worth of restoration projects. At Eagle Creek's confluence, side channel reconnection and habitat enhancements were completed. The project began with landowner involvement, helicopter delivery of logs for engineer-designed placements and reopenings of side channels used by wild coho, Chinook and steelhead.

Following the Labor Day wildfires, including the massive and deadly Riverside Fire, our staff went to work, seeking resources to share with local community members whose homes and properties were destroyed. And, you, our friends and crucial supporters, donated financially to re-plant streamside forests that will once again shade waterways and keep erosion and sediment from threatening our drinking water. Thank you for your support of Replant the Riverside, through which 5,000 trees and shrubs were planted.

The Clackamas River Basin Council also created the Clackamas 360° Virtual Watershed Tour to help local high schools with remote class instruction.

Thank you for your ongoing stewardship and support for the Clackamas River Basin.

Bill Monroe, 2020 Board Chair, & Cheryl McGinnis, Executive Director



CLACKAMAS RIVER BASIN COUNCIL

Our Board of Directors

Officers:

Bill Monroe, Chair — Recreation Interests
Gail Shaloum, Chair-Elect — Special Districts
Jackie Tommas, Secretary — Environmental Interests
Dave Albrecht, Treasurer — Education/Youth
Ron Blake, Past Chair — Recreation Interests

Executive Committee Members at Large:

John Borden — Environmental Interests
Dave Bugni — Small Woodlot Owners
Anh Lee — Citizens-at-Large

Along with Officers, Our Stakeholder Representatives:

Todd Bartlett — Commerce Interests
Ris Bradshaw — Mainstem Property Owners
Bryon Boyce — Mainstem Property Owner
Aaron Caldwell — Agriculture
Douglas DeHart — Fish & Wildlife
Carl Exner — City Interests
Jeff Fulop — Small Woodlot Owners
John Goodrich — Water Providers
Gary Guttridge — Tributary Property Owners
Lowell Hanna — Citizens at Large
Michael Karnosh — Native American Tribes & Interests
Dave Kleinke — Citizens at Large
Nick Loos — Local Utilities
Earlean Marsh — Rural CPO
Laura Nappi — Education / Youth
Brittani Rosas — Native American Tribes & Interests
Tim Shibahara — Local Utilities
Ivars Steinblums — Citizens at Large
Dave Tenney — Fish & Wildlife
Gwen Collier & Jack Williamson — USFS Liaisons

Staff

Cheryl McGinnis — Executive Director
Liz Gilliam — Restoration Program Manager
J. Ari Sindel — Riparian Specialist
Suzi Cloutier — Communications & Stewardship Manager
Adam Spencer — Programs & Comms. Coordinator
Dayna Lewis — Fiscal & Administrative Specialist





Photo top left

Restoration Programs Manager Liz Gilliam managed to collect litter while surveying on the Lower Clackamas River Assessment.

Photo bottom left

Riparian Specialist J. Ari Sindel targets invasive knotweed for removal.

Photo opposite page

Engineer Peter Benchetler of Inter-fluve examines log placement at Eagle Creek in the Bonnie Lure State Park



IN-STREAM & RIPARIAN PROJECTS

Construction was completed for the Eagle Creek Confluence Large Wood Enhancement Project on Aug 5, 2020, and it was a success! Wood placements were installed along 0.5 miles of channel to promote the activation of developing side channel(s) along Eagle Creek, augment a developing floodplain side channel, & provide in-stream complexity in the lower 0.25mi of Eagle Creek. To minimize impacts to the natural area, a helicopter was used to stage the wood on the floodplain. A vibratory pile driver was used to place vertical logs, as anchors, and other logs were buried in banks.



Nine large cottonwoods were pulled over from the adjacent floodplain to provide additional ballast and lots of small woody debris to the jams. Great care was taken to restore disturbed grounds, such as laying straw and seed, as construction equipment was leaving the area. Additional measures will minimize foot traffic in protected areas of Bonnie Lure State Recreation Area.

Large wood placement activities improve fish habitat by replacing a critical habitat element reduced through past management practices such as stream clearing activities. Introduced wood is placed in the active channel and floodplain to mimic naturally occurring wood.

Upstream of this project at Milo McIver State Park, project designs began for Kingfisher Side Channel Reconnection project planned for construction in 2021. The project will increase off-channel habitat along 1,700ft (0.32 miles) of the mainstem Clackamas River including large wood habitat structures.

Additional project planning was the focus of the Lower Clackamas River Assessment project for future in-stream habitat opportunities.

Riparian activities in 2020, included successfully completing 30 miles of streambank revegetation to create a shade canopy over waterways through PGE-funded Shade Our Streams. Achievements in 2020 included 5ms of riparian plantings reaching *free to grow* status.

Following the eruption of wildfires over Labor Day weekend, CRBC gathered information on resources available to landowners impacted by the fires that were then shared through our website, direct contacts, and mailings. A fundraising campaign initiated to Replant the Riverside resulted in generous donations used to plant 5,000 native trees and shrubs to protect streambanks from erosion and to protect waterways that provide source drinking water from sediment loading. The fire-impacted areas will return to forested areas as the native plantings grow.

Our Council is a partner in the Clackamas River Invasive Species Program (CRISP) through which crews are deployed to control invasive plant species that are not native to the area. Invasives such as Japanese knotweed, Himalayan blackberry, & policeman's helmet form monocultures that do not provide benefits for erosion control, wildlife habitat, or groundwater filters as our native trees and plants do.

MONITORING, EDUCATION & OUTREACH

ADAPTING EVENTS FOR PANDEMIC STEWARDSHIP



Volunteer Gina Maag of Gresham helps clean up Riverside Park as part of an event co-hosted with SOLVE and Clackamas Water and Environment Services.



Communications & Outreach Manager Suzi Cloutier measures the rate of flow in Noyer Creek as part of a pesticide monitoring project in collaboration with DEQ.



ODFW Salmon and Trout Enhancement Biologist Johnathan Cox supervises volunteers placing Christmas trees in the Clackamas for salmon habitat.



Council Member Maddy Sheehan asks community members to donate to the Replant the Riverside fundraiser to restore forests damaged by wildfire.

PHYSICALLY DISTANT, SOCIALLY ACTIVE

While we've significantly limited our volunteer opportunities this year, CRBC's Outreach team has maintained busy correspondence with our constituents.

We've managed to continue a few events like the Christmas for the Coho volunteer event, creating salmon habitat with discarded Christmas trees. We've hosted park cleanups, and were set to have 1000s volunteers spread out across multiple sites and two days for our 18th Annual Down the River Cleanup - until the wildfires forced us to cancel the event.

Our pesticide monitoring has been unaffected, and we continue to adapt our activities for the times.



COMMUNICATION
METRICS

Photo right

The Clackamas360 Virtual Watershed Tour exemplifies the organization's ability to pivot when confronting the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic. The Outreach team used funds from the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership for in-person field trips with local high schoolers and created a permanent, virtual tour of the watershed - from Ollallie Butte to the mouth of the Columbia - that will serve as a teaching tool for years to come. In the virtual tour, each image is a 360 degree image with info cards that students can navigate at their own pace, exploring geography an ecology, salmon life cycle, wildfire ecology, and watershed stewardship.

Photo below

Trout Unlimited members share fishers' tales of their biggest catch.



Clackamas People

The name "Clackamas" comes from the people who lived here for thousands of years, since "Time Immemorial."

The Clackamas people spoke a version of the Chinook language, and the river was their way of life.

Today, where West Linn High School and Oregon City border Willamette Falls, the villages of the Clowewallus band was a busy scene of fisherpeople using nets and harpoons, and building platforms on cedar planks to stand among the roaring waters of Willamette Falls. They called the Falls Hyas Tyee Tumwata, "Great Chief Waterfall."

The Clackamas People caught giant and innumerable Chinook salmon and Pacific lamprey, smoking dry the fish into cakes mixed with fruits and berries to provide food for throughout the year. (University of Washington Library)



Website: ClackamasRiver.org

Through adapting static website uploads in the form of pdfs to be interactive webpages, and sharing program updates as individual blog posts, we've managed to increase website traffic to an average of over 1,000 views per month.

Social Media: @ClackamasRiver

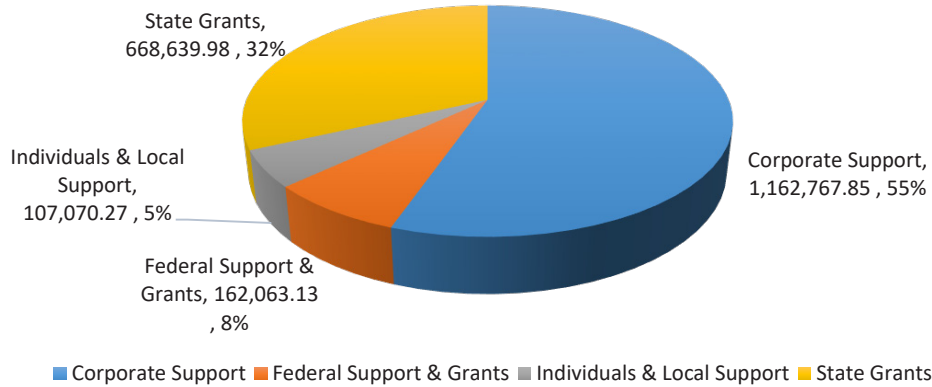
CRBC has extended its reach on social media with more frequent posts and adept exploitation of features, resulting in growth in followers across platforms:
-Facebook: 6.25% Increase
-Instagram: 13% Increase
-Twitter: 1.6% Increase

Video: In-house storytelling

CRBC advanced its outreach capacity by producing videos, drone footage and short documentaries in-house, for:
-Over 3,000 views and 12 hours viewed on Facebook
-Over 500 views on Instagram
-Over 500 views on Youtube

REVENUE & EXPENSES

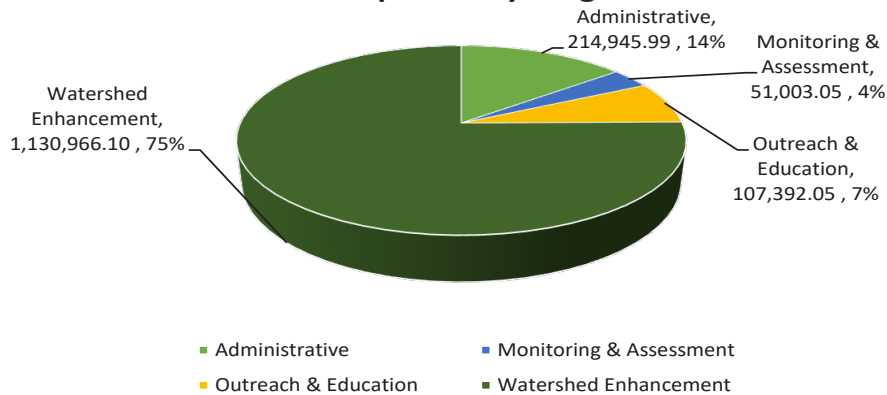
2020 Sources of Revenue: \$2,100,541



REVENUE INCREASING

Revenue increases are attributed to grant funds supporting current and future restoration projects, for implementation in 2020 through 2024. With lump sum matching funds received, CRBC actively seeks additional funding to complete future projects.

2020 Expenses by Program



PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

Our activities emphasize restoration and on-the-ground projects dedicated to improving the watershed, water quality, and outreach & education. We monitor and assess conditions within the watershed to guide future activities to benefit local communities and to restore native fish populations.

VOLUNTEERS

Thousands of volunteers dedicate their time and talents to watershed stewardship activities, with a resounding 3,128 total hours volunteered from 432 individuals! Their talents are used in several ways. The activities directly address limiting factors in our watershed by improving riparian habitat while building commitments to watershed stewardship.

NON-CASH
COMMUNITY SUPPORT

“

2020 Local Volunteerism:
\$31,736. Volunteers are
important to our Council, for

*When the river thrives, we all
thrive—especially when we
work together.*

Our Successes are Achieved with Assistance from Our Many Partners. Thank You!

