The Upper Deschutes Watershed Council seeks to protect and restore the two-million-acre Upper Deschutes River watershed through collaborative projects in habitat restoration, watershed education, and long-term monitoring.
We refer to our environmental education program as The Upstream Project. This is due to the fact that sometimes coordinating unique, hands-on, outdoor education activities can feel like swimming upstream. Certainly, this was the case in 2020 which has been a year like no other where COVID-19 caused schools to switch to remote learning. Our educators have adapted our programs to offer lessons as online videos that have been utilized by local teachers and parents this past year. All of our educational activities help support teachers to accomplish educational targets while giving students positive ways to connect to nature. During this 2020-2021 school year, we are offering a combination of in-person learning opportunities for small groups of children to learn outside while also coordinating remote, real-time lessons with students and teachers and creating more videos that can be used by parents and educators as school continues remotely in Central Oregon. Through art, writing, science, music, and outdoor exploration, we seek to connect youth to the natural world in order to inspire them to develop a sense of place, a sense of stewardship for our rivers and streams, and an inspired and empowered sense of self.

By the Numbers

2 FISH SCREENS
Installed this Fall with funding from UDWC to prevent fish from entering irrigation ditches.

30,000 DOLLARS RAISED
and matched by generous supporters for our youth education program this summer and fall.

47 BAGS OF GARBAGE
removed by volunteers at 7 sites along the Deschutes River at the annual Deschutes River Cleanup.

HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS
5 designed and ready for implementation in 2021 and 2022.

14 VIDEOS CREATED
for use by teachers, parents and kids while learning remotely

106 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS
that engaged in restoration and monitoring activities in 2020.
Restoring our Rivers & Streams

*Our restoration work,* like many things this past year, was not spared from some of the challenges of 2020. Our Restoration Program Manager, Mathias Perle, employed all his patience and persistence to keep projects moving forward. A stream habitat restoration project planned at Whychus Creek in Whychus Canyon was postponed because of uncertainties resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Another project to remove the last dam and fish passage barrier on Whychus Creek approximately 5 miles upstream from Sisters on U.S. Forest Service land started in early September but was then shut down when catastrophic forest fires broke out in Oregon which prompted the U.S. Forest Service to shut down all activities on Forest Service land. Some work on this project, including installing an irrigation diversion fish screen and piping the irrigation canal was completed this Fall but the removal of the dam to restore fish passage was postponed until Summer 2021. Another irrigation diversion fish screen was installed this Fall on Lake Creek, a tributary to the Metolius River, with funding from UDWC. Five projects are now planned for restoration in the coming years and we are hopeful to finish implementation of three of these project in 2021.

*Our monitoring work* carried forward this past year with some creativity and resourcefulness from staff and volunteers, led by our Monitoring Program Manager, Lauren Mork. This spring with schools closed, Alyssa Grove, who typically is leading field trips with students as our Education Coordinator, stepped up and filled in to collect monitoring data that would normally be collected as part of a UDWC internship. While we were disappointed to not offer our normal monitoring internship this year because of COVID-19, we were able to offer a short-term internship in July. We are thankful for Aspen Peterman who helped UDWC as an intern in July to collect data at Whychus Creek.

In 2020, UDWC continued to collect temperature monitoring data, at 11 sites along Whychus Creek and 7 sites along the Deschutes River and Tumalo Creek, to better understand the temperatures in these rivers and creeks in relationship to the needs of fish and other aquatic species as well as how stream temperatures are changing with stream flow restoration actions. In August, UDWC led an effort with volunteers and partners to collect macroinvertebrates at various locations along Whychus Creek to better understand the macroinvertebrate community and whether restored project sites have improved numbers of macroinvertebrates providing a food source for fish and aquatic species.

Also this summer UDWC started work with a number of partners and experts to test methods for using drones to collect data on post-restoration stream habitat conditions, in combination with data from ground-based monitoring methodologies. This will help UDWC and others understand over time if there are more efficient and cost-effective ways to monitor effectiveness of stream restoration projects.
2020 Financials

Revenue

- State Grants: $286,998.88
- Non-Governmental Grants: $261,059.10
- Federal Grants: $222,734.07
- Deschutes County Grants: $20,000.00
- Donations: $53,066.80
- Other Revenue: $74,569.16

Total: $918,428.01

Expenses

- Education*: $149,446.64
- Restoration: $417,253.94
- Monitoring: $132,921.04
- Fundraising: $59,234.92
- General/Administrative: $168,344.43

Total: $927,200.97

* A significant portion of funding for our education programming comes from individual contributions and community support.

REVENUE

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- Restoration $417,253.94
- Monitoring $132,921.04
- Fundraising $59,234.92
- General/Administrative $168,344.43

Total $927,200.97

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* Donors listed are from calendar year 2020 up to the point this annual report was published in late 2020.

STAFF

LEFT TO RIGHT:

Alyssa Grove  Education Coordinator
Lauren Mork  Monitoring Program Mgr.
Mathias Perle  Restoration Program Mgr.
Samantha Borque  Program Assistant
Kris Knight  Executive Director
Kolleen Miller  Education Director

THANK YOU 2020 SUPPORTERS

- $5,000 AND UP
  - Anonymous Donor
  - Mike & Kellee Taylor
  - The Robert G. Kirby Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation

- $2,000 - $4,999
  - Cris Converse
  - Jesse Drake
  - Loren Smith
  - Central Oregon Irrigation District
  - City of Bend

- $1,000 - $1,999
  - Chuck & Debbie Newport
  - Chris & Carey Kraybill
  - Bend Park and Recreation District
  - Tumalo Creek Kayak & Canoe
  - Whole Foods Market
  - Nancy Gilbert & John Stephenson
  - Bill & Tracey Anthony
  - Rich & Janet Meganck
  - E.H. and M.E. Bowerman Advised Fund
  - Hoy's Hardware & Building Supply
  -Crsty Lantfi
  - The Zoe Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation

- $500 - $999
  - Joanne Richter & Sara Wiener
  - The Benevity Community Impact Fund
  - Sun Country Tours
  - Shon Rae
  - Gayle Baker
  - Gene Buccola
  - Ryan & Melanie Buccola
  - C.E. Francis Living Trust
  - High Plateau LLC
  - Mike Lattig
  - Ron & Sandra Linder
  - Rick & Chris Wright

- $100 - $499, cont.
  - Natasha Bellis & David Pitz
  - Eric & Kolleen Miller
  - Jack & Jan McGowan
  - Julie Amberg & Mathias Perle
  - Scott & Michelle Davis
  - Michael Fisher
  - Nicholas & Monica Allen
  - Greg & Janice Druiian
  - Michelle Alvarado
  - Christine Ransom
  - Kristi Hartrich
  - Ken Bierly
  - Reynolds McNair Maxwell

- $100 AND UNDER, cont.
  - Alan Holzman
  - Tami Macleod
  - Sara Wyland
  - Jill Bazemore
  - Lisa Cena & Ari Halpem
  - Greg & Karen Davidge
  - Beth Stewart
  - Genevieve Hubert
  - Lori Murphy
  - Network for Good
  - Krs & Wendy Knight
  - Sabrina Lint

- $100 AND UNDER
  - Rynda Clark
  - Ben & Mavee Perle
  - Marie Suhre
  - Nick Lelack

- GRANT FUNDERS
  - Bonneville Environmental Foundation
  - Children's Forest of Central Oregon
  - Deschutes County
  - Deschutes River Conservation Board, Pelton Round Butte Fund
  - Portland General Electric
  - Reser Family Foundation
  - Roundhouse Foundation
  - Tides Foundation

- IN-KIND SUPPORTERS
  - 900 Wall
  - Aquaglide
  - Ashland Hills Hotel & Suites
  - Atticus Hotel, Bend Elks
  - Bend Pet Express
  - Bendistillery
  - Branch & Barrel Designs
  - Bronwen Jewelry
  - Camp Sherman Store
  - Central Oregon Locavore
  - Clearwater Gallery
  - El Sancho
  - Elk Lake Resort
  - Groove Yoga
  - Hayden Homes
  - Hood River Hotel
  - Jinsei Spa
  - Jordan Ramis PC
  - Mint Jewelry Co
  - Old Mill District
  - Oregon Shakespeare Festival
  - Patagonia
  - Peter Hall Clearpine
  - Pine Mountain Sports
  - REI
  - Riff Cold Brew
  - Ruffwear
  - Seventh Mountain Resort
  - Sunriver Brewing
  - Tetherow
  - The Fly Fisher’s Place
  - Three Creeks Brewing
  - Three Sisters Irrigation District
  - Tumalo Creek Kayak & Canoe
  - U.S. Forest Service
  - Wahoo Films
  - Wanderlust Tours

BOARDS

- President: Michael Fisher
- Vice President: Nancy Gilbert
- President: Gena Goodman-Campbell
- Secretary: Jason Gritzner
- Treasurer: Bill Anthony
- Secretary/Treasurer: Cris Converse
- Board:
  - Chuck Newport
  - Shon Rae
  - Joanne Richter
  - Ted Wise
  - Rick Wright

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