



2022 WRCD ANNUAL REPORT

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
Building a Strong Foundation for Progress

One of the things that has stood out to me in my eight months as Executive Director is the incredible staff team. They are truly the heart and soul of this organization and are dedicated to the people who make up the collaborative efforts working to address natural resource issues across the state.

In 2022, we dove deep. We worked through a strategic planning process and vision and mission update with the Board of Directors, completed a three year financial assessment of the organization, and embarked on an important journey of exploring, identifying, and formalizing equity and inclusion.

We pushed forward work to make our forests and watersheds healthier through salmon habitat restoration and prescribed fire—and safer communities by supporting wildfire adaptation practitioners across the state. We have continued to facilitate the leadership in collaborative land management, local wildfire planning, and contributed to state and national fire prescribed fire and community wildfire resilience policy discussions - advocating for more on the ground fire and the allocation of resources to community priorities.

None of this work has happened alone. Partnerships are central to our work. Sometimes, this has meant taking a step back before we move forward.

We understand that building relationships and trust takes time, and we are dedicated to putting in the effort required to make these collaborations successful and advance smart and practical strategic initiatives.

OVER THE NEXT YEAR, WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

- Further integrating equity and inclusion into our work
- Creating strong and targeted programs that build off of our existing assets, allowing us to better serve the needs of our community and partners
- Work with partners to identify opportunities and strategize solutions - laying the groundwork for a more resilient Washington.

To do this, we acknowledge the importance of diversifying our funding streams, and ensuring our core work remains centered and strong. We will continue to cultivate connections, collaborate, and work with our partners.

This work is not easy, and it requires commitment and dedication. But by taking the time to set a strong foundation, we are better equipped to move forward with hope and optimism to achieve our vision.



Hilary Lundgren
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Washington's communities and landscapes are resilient in the face of environmental and economic issues. We realize our vision by providing the tools, resources, capacity, and connections to communities to adapt to a changing world.

BOARD MEMBERS

Reese Lolley

PRESIDENT

David Nickinovich

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Coleman

TREASURER

Todd Greenwood

SECRETARY

Anna Lael

Michael Tobin

Ken Tolonen

Jim Leier

STAFF

Hilary Lundgren

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brian Miller

PROGRAM MANAGER

Kara Karboski

PROGRAM MANAGER

Keegan Fengler

PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

Tessa Vermuel

PROJECT MANAGER

Rose Shriner

PROJECT MANAGER

TJ Mattingly

CONTRACTS AND
ADMINISTRATION

Deysi Gonzalez

BOOKKEEPER

**IN 2022, WE WELCOMED
NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

David Nickinovich

David's involvement with WRCD can be succinctly expressed in one word: family. Members of his family resided in the Chumstick Valley outside of Leavenworth, Washington ever since his grandparents first settled over 100 years ago. He reflects on life-fulfilling experiences of roaming the "hills", now enjoyed by his children and grandchildren and wants to ensure future generations are accorded the same opportunities. To realize that future vision, organizations like WRCD have to succeed in their mission. Through this individual commitment, he hopes to help preserve the natural beauty and wonder of the "hills" to be enjoyed by future generations.

Jim Lieir

A recreation enthusiast, inspired by nature, Jim is focused on making Washington, his home, a better place. He brings a wealth of experience (student, construction worker, farmer, water quality environmental specialist, and managing a ranch) to the WRCD to help Board and staff realize the vision for Washington.

Todd Greenwood

Across Washington State, the WRCD is addressing issues of land conversion, fire suppression, fish habitat, and climate change—Todd supports WRCD's efforts to reach across arbitrary human boundaries and link people and organizations to the landscape.

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1 - December 31, 2022

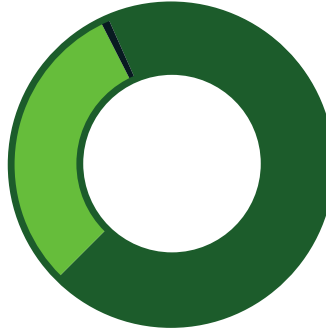
FISCAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

REVENUE: \$386,100



20% FEDERAL
58% STATE
21% PRIVATE FOUNDATION
1% DONATIONS

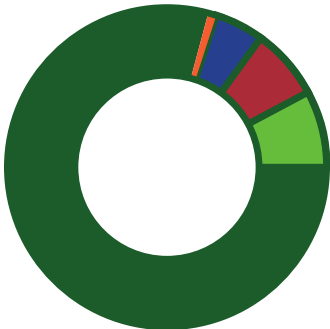
EXPENSES: \$366,300



69% CONTRACTS
30% WAGES
1% OFFICE EXPENSES

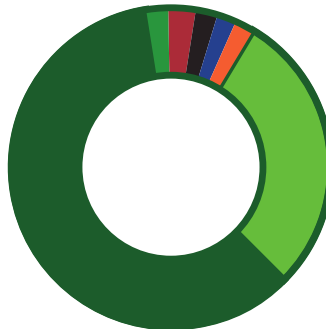
WRCD PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

REVENUE: \$1,358,300



79% FEDERAL
8% STATE
7% PRIVATE FOUNDATION
5% INDIRECT
1% OTHER

EXPENSES: \$1,426,000

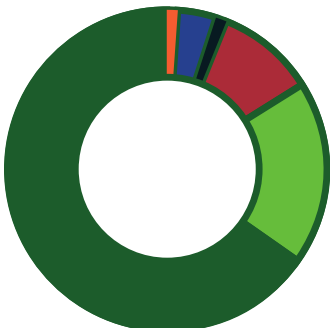


60% CONTRACTS
29% WAGES
3% PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Legal, Accounting)
2% TRAVEL
2% OFFICE EXPENSES
2% HOSTED MEETINGS
2% RENT

TOTAL

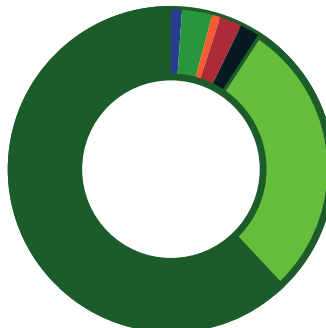
Fiscal Sponsor Program + WRCD Programs and Operations

TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,744,400



66% FEDERAL
19% STATE
10% PRIVATE FOUNDATION
1% DONATIONS
4% INDIRECT
1% OTHER

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,792,300



62% CONTRACTS
29% WAGES
3% PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Legal, Accounting)
2% TRAVEL
2% OFFICE EXPENSES
1% HOSTED MEETINGS
1% RENT

Updated Plan, Vision, Mission, via Board, Staff, and Partner Engagement!

Board, staff, and our partners collaboratively developed the [WRCD'S 2022-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN](#). Nearly 30 stakeholders engaged in this process to help inform our immediate needs and guide what the future might hold for the organization.

THE PLAN OUTLINES FOUR KEY FOCUS AREAS

1 - DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION: Inspire, enable, and cultivate a shared culture of conservation that includes all community members.

OUR PROGRESS:

The Board established a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion subcommittee to support the integration of equity at the Board leadership level.

WRCD staff worked with consultants to explore a transformative framework focused on the relationships between our team, within our organization, systems and structures. With a better understanding of our dynamics, a set of equity recommendations was developed for five key focus areas: organizational development, leadership, strategy development, staff development, and community engagement.

Within this framework, we developed an Equity Statement and Working Agreements:

OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

We strive to create a collaborative and inclusive work environment that facilitates access to resources, information, and connections. While we have more work to do to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, we will strive to evolve, and we promise to put people first.

OUR EQUITY-CENTERED WORKING AGREEMENTS

QUALITIES

We create a space for each person to express, create, and be. We honor and are respectful of individual thoughts and feelings, and acknowledge the value of different backgrounds and life experiences.

HOW WE ENGAGE IN COLLABORATION

We cultivate a growth and learning mindset. Through respect and honesty, we are open to ideas, accept feedback, and the good intentions and the willingness of all to create change.

HOW WE SHOW UP

We are intentional and mindful. We bring humanity, vulnerability, active listening, and commitment to ourselves, to our partners, and to our work.

POWER DYNAMICS

We acknowledge and engage hierarchies and privileges present in our environment. We promote honest and transparent communication by defining clear boundaries, and creating spaces to share ideas and perspectives.

HOW WE TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER

We put people first. We ask for help and offer to help when we are able. We care for each other by honoring the whole person - their health, well-being, and individuality.

WHAT'S NEXT:

The WRCD is committed to advancing equity internally and externally and learning to address challenges in diverse environments.

In 2023, we will:

- Develop core organizational values with equity and inclusion at the center
- Identify change strategies to continue to build a culture of equity
- Assess needs for board and staff diversification and training

2 - PROGRAMS: Maintain and invest in quality programming.

OUR PROGRESS:

INITIATED the development of a Community Prescribed Fire program

INVESTED \$1,426,000 to support three core organizational programs:

1. Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network
2. Prescribed Fire
3. The Yakima Tributary Habitat and Access Program

CONTINUED to strategically cultivate connections with a diversity of partners through networks, local collaboratives, and project work

WHAT'S NEXT:

- Conduct a program review to determine scope, needs, and opportunities
- Identify key focus areas for our services offered



3 - ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY: Develop capacity and build for the future.

OUR PROGRESS:

Hired a Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network Program Associate!

Meet Keegan Fengler, Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (WAFAC) Program Associate.

“At the end of March 2022, I had the honor of joining the WAFAC Staff Team. One of the things that attracted me to the position was the organization’s commitment to the people and organizational partners working on community wildfire resilience.

In the coming year, I am excited to grow existing relationships and facilitate connections between community fire adaption leaders, through the Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network. Our team is excited to support these leaders in achieving their wildfire resilience goals and outcomes.”



Keegan Fengler
PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

The Board initiated a Fiscal Sponsorship Review subcommittee. The committee developed a work plan for clarifying, supporting, and formalizing the fiscal sponsorship program. This work will help provide the structure and capacity for local coalitions and collaboratives to implement projects in their place.

WHAT'S NEXT:

- Analyze our current and needed capacity to secure funding and maintain programs
- Identify opportunities to diversify our funding portfolio to sustain and strengthen the organization
- Develop an organizational Theory of Change

4 - MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS: Radically increase awareness and knowledge of WRCD – who we are, what we do and why, and how and who we partner with.

The first three bold steps are helping us work toward this goal. We will be initiating and focusing on developing our communications in 2023!

YAKIMA TRIBUTARY ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM (YTAHP)



Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program

The Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program (YTAHP) provides assistance to landowners by implementing

projects that protect, restore, and enhance critical riparian and floodplain habitat currently or historically used by salmon.

LEARN MORE AT:

WASHINGTONRCD.ORG/YTAHP

Funding from Bonneville Power Association supports YTAHP and enables YTAHP to construct projects, maintain program planning and administration; support project development, including planning, design and permitting; and conduct landowner outreach and coordination.

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2022:

YTAHP implemented 18 projects which includes 4 to provide fish passage and 12 to enhance salmonid habitat in Yakima River Tributaries and completed significant planning, permitting and/or engineering for 2 projects.



FISH PASSAGE AND HABITAT PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Removing barriers to provide an additional 13.6 miles of rearing and spawning habit

Screening of 3.8 cfs of water on streams to prevent entrapment of fish

12 habitat projects consisting of riparian plantings, fencing and plant maintenance

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK:

[KITTITAS COUNTY](#)

[YAKIMA COUNTY](#)

THE WASHINGTON FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES LEARNING NETWORK (WAFAC)



The Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (WAFAC) functions to support local action, connect people to resources, and inform and influence on-the-ground projects to help Washington better live with wildfire.

WRCD staff bring communities, agencies and organizations together to develop and act on place-based strategies and priorities. At the end of 2022 WAFAC has 106 member from 39 organizations, including 19 new members in 2022.

WAFAC is a partnership between community resilience and wildfire practitioners, the WRCD, United States Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Washington State Conservation Commission, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and The Watershed Training and Research Center. WAFAC is also supported by the national Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network.



WAFAC MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS



75 EDUCATIONAL EVENTS



7 WORKSHOPS



39 COMMUNITIES ASSISTED



11 WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS



84 ACRES TREATED



1 UPDATED WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PROTECTION PLAN

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK:

[WAFAC WEBSITE](#)

[WAFAC ANNUAL REPORT](#)

COMMUNITY PRESCRIBED FIRE PROGRAM

The Community Prescribed Fire Program in the WRCD pulls together multiple projects and initiatives that WRCD has led and supported over the past few years, including prescribed fire training, supporting community led burning, and engaging in policy. This program is working toward the completion of an assessment to identify needs and potential solutions to support the growth of community led burning. This is built off the work done closely with the Washington Prescribed Fire Council and other partners.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

PRESCRIBED FIRE TRAINING EXCHANGE (TRES)

Northeast Washington Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TRES) - The first full two-week TRES since 2019, the Northeast Washington TRES was held October 2-14, 2022 north of Spokane, WA.



28 TRAINING PARTICIPANTS



17 POSITION TASKBOOK TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS



183 ACRES OF PRESCRIBED FIRE

Including 43 acres with the Kalispel Tribe and 10 acres on private lands near Chewelah, WA

In December, we began planning for the next Northeast Washington TRES, now renamed Selkirk TRES for fall 2023. This marks the earliest we have planned TRES and a new step towards integrating more local ownership and improving the program.

NATIONAL PRESCRIBED FIRE POLICY WORKING GROUP

Began engaging with the Steering Committee for an ad hoc National Prescribed Fire Policy Working Group looking at federal prescribed fire legislation, regulatory proposals, the Wildfire Commission, and more.

DEVELOPED A COMMUNITY PRESCRIBED FIRE PROGRAM PROPOSAL

To support a burgeoning program, developed a Program Proposal to shop to partners.

FISCAL SPONSORED PROJECTS

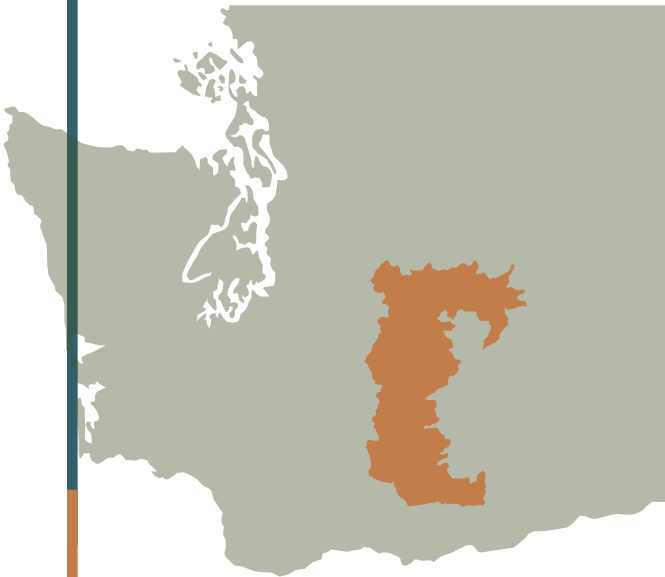
In 2022, the WRCD provided fiscal sponsorship to five place-based collaboratives and coalitions:



Fiscal sponsorship allows these local groups to receive funding to implement community-based projects under the WRCD's 501(c)(3) charitable organization status. These groups are able to offer tax exempt status to donors, apply for foundation and government grants, and benefit from the administrative systems already in place within the WRCD allowing them to focus on getting the work done on the ground.

TAPASH SUSTAINABLE FOREST COLLABORATIVE

The Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative (Tapash) works to improve the ecosystem health and natural functions of the landscape through active restoration projects backed by best science, community engagement, and adaptive management.



TAPASH.ORG

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Upper Swuak Watershed

- Initiated a working group to develop and scope of forest health project planning initiatives, and participate in a landscape evaluation process

Little Naches Watershed

- Secured partner support for the Uplands Restoration Project; participated in aquatic planning and prioritization

Cle Elum Watershed

- Received approximately \$1,050,000 to implement prescribed fire and precommercial thinning through the Landscape Scale Restoration funding and Representative Schrier

Oak Creek Wildlife Area

- Coordinated field tours to view Washington Department and Fish and Wildlife projects funded by the WA Recreation and Conservation Office

Tieton

- Coordinated project planning and helped secure \$400,000 to replace a bridge on the South Fork of the Tieton River and replace multiple culverts on tributaries to the Okanogan River

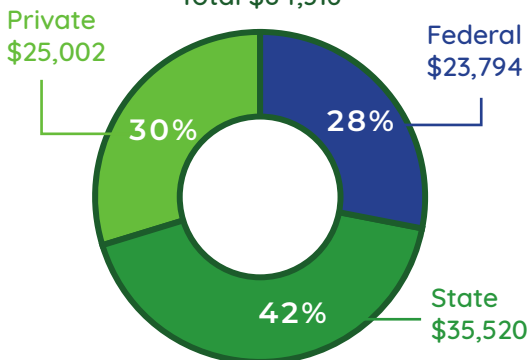
Across the Tapash Landscape

- Participated in planning efforts for the Central Washington Initiative
- Participated in aquatic project planning and prioritization with the Culverts and Roads Strategic Planning Team
- Participated in a stakeholder engagement review and planning process

The Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative functions under a multi-party agreement between the Yakama Nation, The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The Collaborative is fiscally sponsored and facilitated by the Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council. Financial support is provided by the USDA Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy.

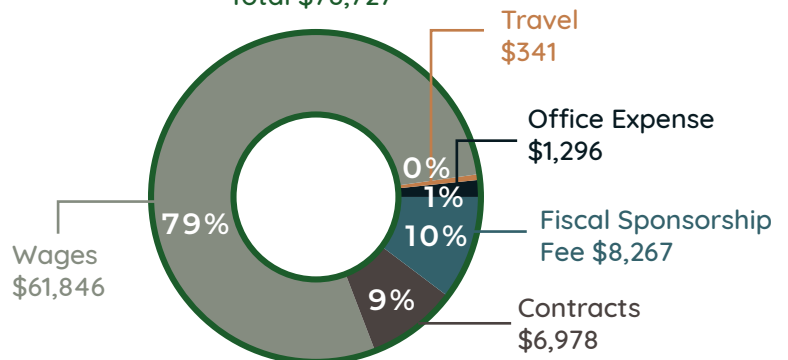
REVENUE

Total \$84,316



EXPENSES

Total \$78,727



CHUMSTICK WILDFIRE STEWARDSHIP COALITION

The Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition has been integral to the fire adaptation process in the greater Leavenworth, Washington area for the past 14 years. In 2022, CWSC efforts have focused on fuel reduction activities in the greater Leavenworth area.



Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition

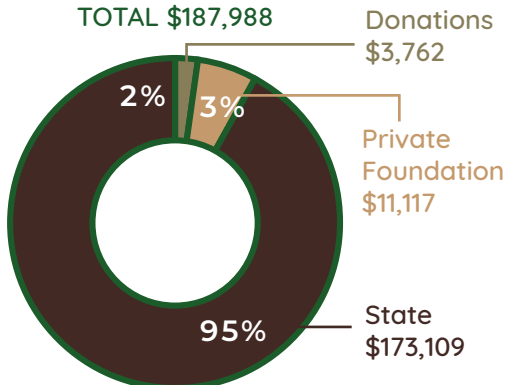
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Develop a plan for aligning resources to support Chumstick Coalition and Chelan County Fire District 3 Water Supply Project
- Hosted a Leavenworth community town meeting to update 37 Leavenworth residents and stakeholders about forest health treatments and CWSC fuel reduction efforts
- 26 landowners removed vegetation from 33 acres and disposed of 392 cubic feet of vegetation at chipping event hosted by the CWSC and Chelan Fire District 3
- Worked with 18 landowners to cut and dispose of 96 acres of vegetation on private lands

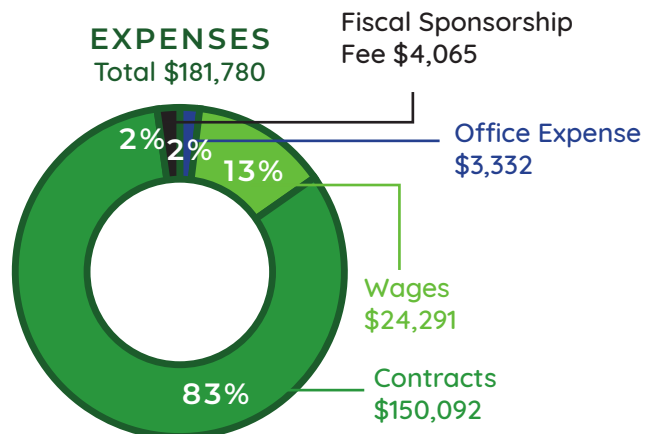
CHUMSTICKCOALITION.ORG

The Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition is fiscally sponsored by the Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council (WRCD). Financial support is provided by the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Community Foundation of North Central Washington, and donations.

REVENUE TOTAL \$187,988



EXPENSES Total \$181,780



WASHINGTON PRESCRIBED FIRE COUNCIL

The Washington Prescribed Fire Council (WPFC) was established in 2011 as a coalition of prescribed fire practitioners, land managers, scientists, NGOs, and other interested parties to work through barriers and increase the safe use of prescribed fire in the state. WRCD became the fiscal sponsor of the WPFC in 2012. Over the past 10 years, the WPFC has supported the passage of critical prescribed fire legislation at the state level, supported the development of training programs, increased communications and outreach to build public understanding, and has identified and worked through barriers to prescribed fire. The WRCD supported this work more purposefully in 2015 by hiring a coordinator, and continued to provide fiscal sponsorship service and structure to ensure the continuation of this coalition.

In 2022, the WPFC Steering Committee made the decision form their own non-profit entity. WRCD staff supported this process through the end of 2022, working towards a successful transition and ending of the fiscal sponsorship agreement.



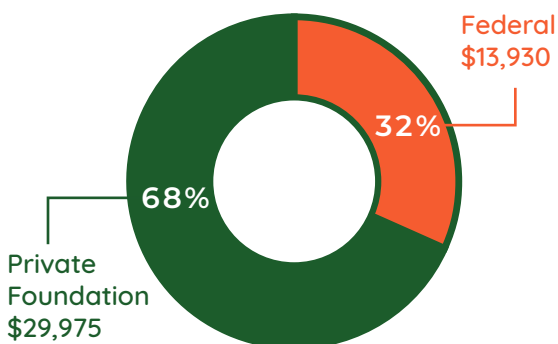
ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022:

- WPFC Virtual Annual Meeting and WPFC Quarterly Steering Committee meeting and field trip to the Stemilt Project Area (Wenatchee, WA)
- Washington Smoke Management Plan Update - Identified as one of the three main priorities, WPFC worked with Cascadia Law Group to identify how to move forward the update of the critical Smoke Management Plan, in development since 2016. In mid-2022, the Smoke Management Plan was moved forward through Washington Department of Ecology comment period and passed onto the Environmental Protection Agency for the final steps towards approval.
- 19 WPFC newsletters sharing job announcements, trainings, webinars, events, and more (400-500 person reach)
- WPFC transition to own entity non-profit

The Washington Prescribed Fire Council is fiscally sponsored and facilitated by the Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council (WRCD). Financial support is provided by the USDA Forest Service through a Cost-Share Agreement with the WRCD, Washington Department of Natural Resources, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

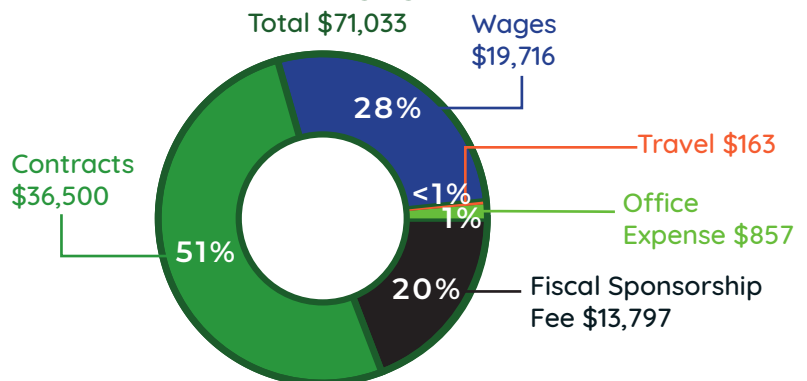
REVENUE

Total \$43,905



EXPENSES

Total \$71,033





Through collaborations with local, regional, statewide, and nationwide partners, Fire Adapted Methow Valley (FAMV) brings fire preparedness education, demonstration and assistance to Methow Valley community members and visitors.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Equitable Mitigation Program

- Ongoing development of the Equitable Mitigation Program report and materials
- Worked with four clients to participate in FAMV’s Equitable Mitigation Program to implement fuel reduction treatments to reduce wildfire risk
- Develop unique and specific mitigation and implementation plans for each mitigation partner and crew to treat four Equitable Mitigation Program client properties
- Coordinated 15 mitigation work parties with community organizations, state agencies, and paid and volunteer mitigation practitioners to complete the fuel reduction treatments through the Equitable Mitigation Program

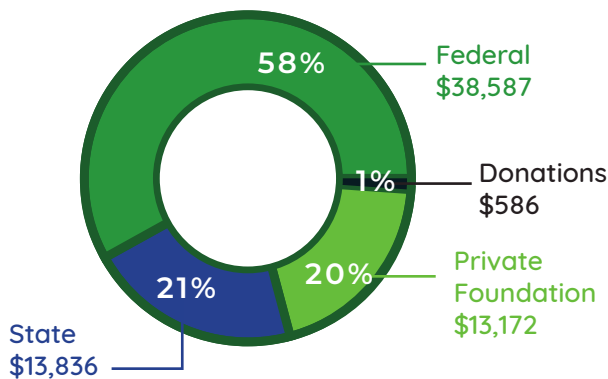
Outreach and Education

- Nine meetings with Equitable Mitigation Program clients and Libby Creek Firewise USA® Community
- Worked with three neighborhoods to provide Firewise USA® site education and resources, forest health information, and best practices for reducing the risk of home ignition from embers. Collaborated with Okanogan Conservation District to provide vegetation removal and disposal resources.
- Completed the design and installation of a fire-resistant demonstration landscape at the Winthrop Library; began planning and development of interpretive signage for the demonstration site.
- Provide ongoing resources and support to neighborhood leaders and Firewise USA® site leaders in their wildfire preparedness and mitigation activities
- Worked with 20+ neighborhoods to develop a press packet and front-page news article highlighting the wildfire preparedness and mitigation work of neighborhood groups and Firewise USA® site leaders in the Methow Valley

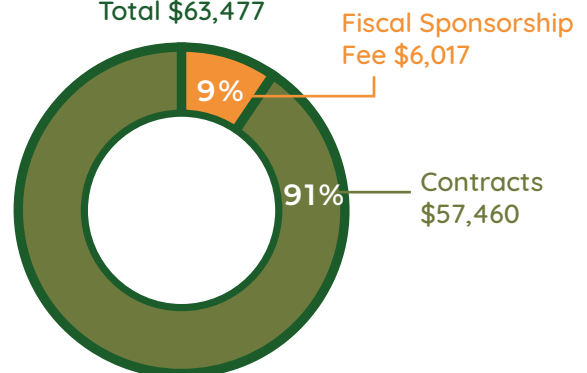
FIREADAPTEDMETHOW.ORG

Fire Adapted Methow Valley is fiscally sponsored by the Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council (WRCD). Financial support is provided by the USDA Forest Service through a Cost-Share Agreement with the WRCD, US Bureau of Land Management through a Cooperative Agreement with the WRCD, Coalitions and Collaboratives, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Community Foundation of North Central Washington, and donations.

REVENUE TOTAL \$66,180



EXPENSES Total \$63,477



KITTITAS FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES COALITION (KFACC)

The Kittitas Fire Adapted Communities Coalition is a group of stakeholders who are working across Kittitas County to help residents understand their risk to wildfire, the role of wildfire in the landscape, and encourage all individuals to take action to help them live more safely with wildfire.

KFACC MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

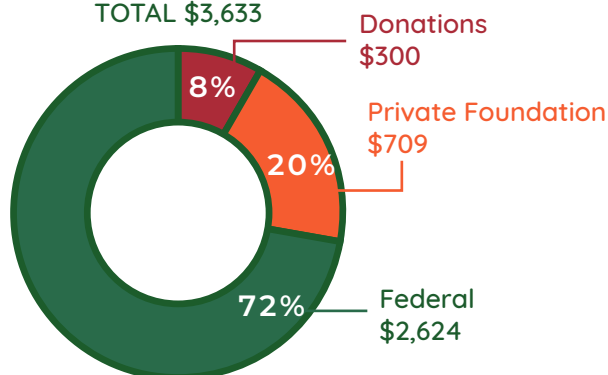
- Fire districts hosted monthly wildfire “coffee hours” with to share information with residents
- Completed wildfire risk assessments
- Planned and coordinated a fuel break to reduce wildfire risk along Interstate 90
- Promoted emergency alert sign-ups
- Completed prescribed burns and prescribed fire trainings on State and private lands
- Hosted an evacuation table top exercise 75 community members and stakeholders
- Applied for a \$10 million Community Wildfire Defense Grant to implement wildfire resilience projects across the County



Kittitas Fire Adapted Communities Coalition is fiscally sponsored and facilitated by the Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council (WRCD). Financial support is provided by the USDA Forest Service through a Cost-Share Agreement with the WRCD, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kittitas County Conservation District, Conservation Northwest, and Suncadia Community Council.

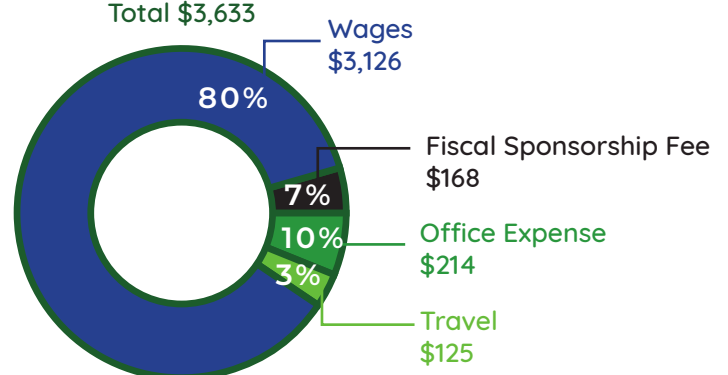
REVENUE

TOTAL \$3,633



EXPENSES

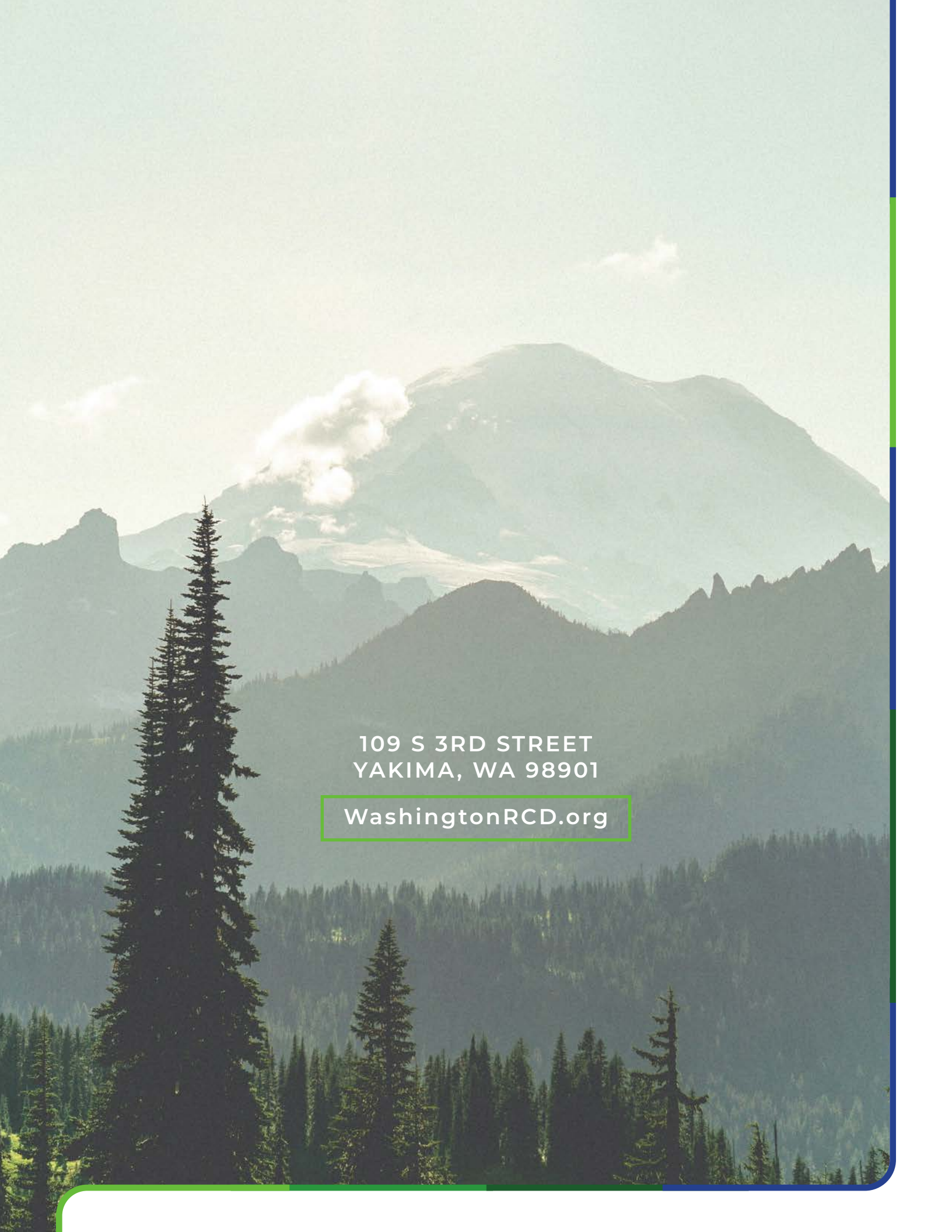
Total \$3,633



DONORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

*With gratitude and appreciation,
WRCD programs and projects are supported by:*

Aaron and Annie Schmidt	Rabbitbrush Ranch LLC
Annie Schinnell	Schwab Charitable Trust
Bonneville Power Administration	Suncadia Community Council
Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc.	The Benevity Community Impact Foundation
Coalitions and Collaboratives	The Don and Anne Stager Family Foundation
Confluence Gallery	The Latino Community Fund
Community Foundation of North Central Washington	The Nature Conservancy
Conservation Northwest	The Watershed Training and Research Center
David Nickinovich	US Bureau of Land Management
Jacqueline Dawson	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Jim Leier	US Forest Service
Kittitas County Conservation District	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce	Washington Department of Natural Resources
Meta Hunt	Washington State Conservation Commission
Michael Cushman	William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Michael Reese Lolley	
Munchen Haus	
North Yakima Conservation District	



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