

WINTER WILDLANDS ALLIANCE FY15 ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR IN REVIEW

We did it! After a decade-long initiative to bring about lasting change in the way our national forest lands are managed, Winter Wildlands Alliance and our members finally convinced the U.S. Forest Service to issue new national guidelines on snowmobile management.

Those guidelines came in the form of the 2015 Over-Snow Vehicle Rule which directs all National Forest Units that receive adequate snowfall to designate specific roads, trails and areas where snowmobiles are allowed and to publish the open areas on a map. All areas not specifically designated as open to snowmobiles will then be protected for quiet winter recreation, wildlife habitat and for the intrinsic value of pristine open spaces.

This landmark policy opens the door for all of us who value the solace of wild winter places to have a say in how these places are protected for the future. It also means our real work – to bring about on-the-ground change – is just beginning. Winter Wildlands Alliance and our members are already engaging in winter management plans in California, Wyoming and Montana and we’re working with the Forest Service at the national and local levels to begin implementing the new Over-Snow Vehicle Rule on forests across the country.

To each of you who have supported Winter Wildlands through this effort I offer heartfelt thanks and admiration. All of us at Winter Wildlands Alliance look forward to working hand-in-hand to protect the winter spaces you love.

Keep Winter Wild!



Mark Menlove
Executive Director



ABOUT WWA

Winter Wildlands is a national non profit organization promoting and preserving winter wildlands and a quality human-powered snowsports experience on public lands.

Winter Wildlands Alliance
910 Main St, Ste 235
Boise, Idaho 83702
Phone 208.336.4203
info@winterwildlands.org
www.winterwildlands.org

FY15 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

During fiscal year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) Winter Wildlands Alliance and our members achieved the following in our work to promote and protect winter wildlands and a quality human-powered snowsports experience on public lands.

NATIONAL POLICY

- Obtained a new Federal Rule on Over-Snow Vehicle Management, which brings management of snowmobiles under the same guidelines used for all other off-road vehicles in all other seasons.
- Rallied more than 1,000 supporters to submit comments on the draft Over-Snow Vehicle Rule, resulting in a much-strengthened final rule which was released in January 2015.
- Met with Forest Service and Administration decision-makers in Washington D.C. including USDA Undersecretary of Agriculture and Deputy Forest Chief and their staff members to ensure timely implementation of the Over-Snow Vehicle Rule.
- Provided Forest Service Regional offices, grassroots groups and other organizations with a comprehensive review of winter recreation management on National Forest System lands.
- Met directly with national and regional leaders from the snowmobile community to work toward common ground and solutions in Over-Snow Vehicle Rule implementation.
- With Outdoor Alliance colleagues, met in Washington D.C. with land managers and elected officials on numerous public lands bills and programs.
- Advocated directly with Members of Congress, Administration decision-makers and Federal land management agency leaders on behalf of human powered winter recreation on public lands.

GRASSROOTS

- Hosted the Sixth Bi-Annual Grassroots Advocacy Conference in Golden, Colorado bringing together 70 winter advocacy leaders, outdoor business leaders, land management decision makers and representatives from the snowmobile community for three days of networking, mentoring and inspiration.
- Saw the release of two draft winter travel plans under the new OSV Rule: the Bitterroot draft plan designates more than one million acres of the 1.6 million acre-forest, including all recommended wilderness and wilderness study areas, as non-motorized. While smaller in scope, the Divide plan designates 68,400 acres of the 155,000-acre district as non-motorized in winter.

continued on next page

WINTER WILDLANDS ALLIANCE FY15 ANNUAL REPORT

- Welcomed new grassroots partners in Colorado, California, and Vermont – Silent Tracks, Friends of the Inyo, Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center, Tahoe Backcountry Alliance and Unplugged.
- With California partner, Snowlands Network, submitted “Skiers Alternatives” and substantive comments for winter travel plans on the Lassen, Eldorado, and Tahoe National Forests in California.
- Submitted substantive comments in support of winter wildlands and human-powered winter recreation for winter travel plans on the Helena and Kootenai National Forests in Montana.
- Participated in meetings and submitted comments on the revision of Forest Plans for the Flathead, Nez Perce-Clearwater, and Rio Grande National Forests as well as project - level planning including Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks and the BLM’s Tres Rios field office.
- Worked with local partners and the Forest Service to organize and implement a citizen science wildlife monitoring project on the Helena National Forest.
- Continued representing backcountry skiing interests on the Payette Winter Forum, a multi-stakeholder collaborative in McCall, Idaho.
- With our Utah grassroots group, Wasatch Backcountry Alliance, participated in the Mountain Accord process and met directly with Utah ski area managers and ski industry leaders to work toward solutions that help Utah ski resorts remain viable *and* protect the remaining undeveloped lands of the Central Wasatch.
- Worked with Idaho conservation and recreation partners and members of the Idaho Outdoor Business Council to advocate for permanent protection of Idaho’s Boulder and White Clouds Mountains.
- Provided organizational assistance to the Idaho Outdoor Business Council.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

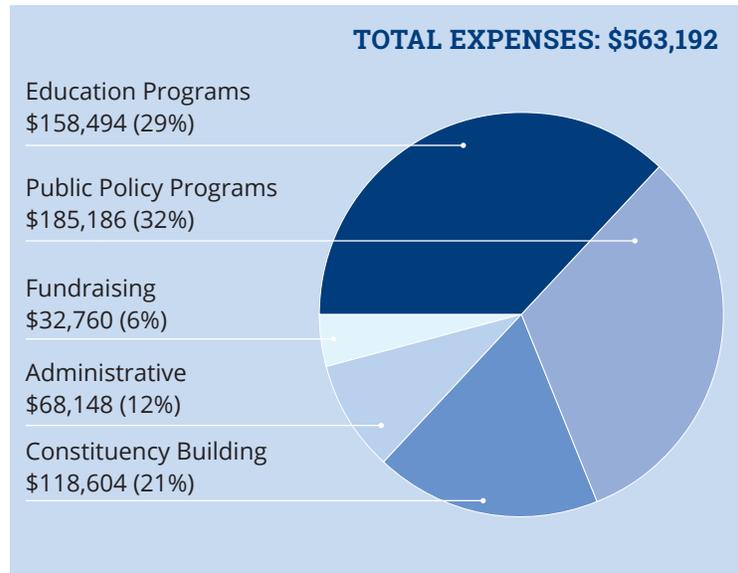
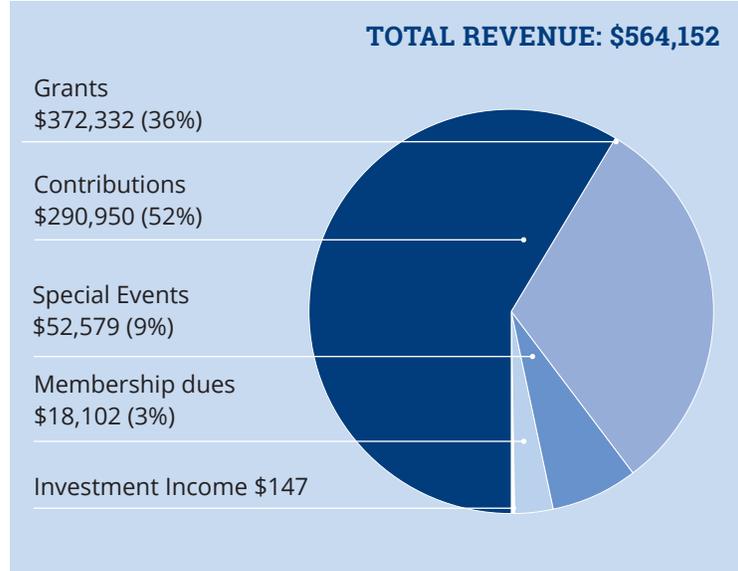
- Published and distributed Best Management Practices for Forest Service winter travel planning.
- Published a revised and updated report, Winter Recreation on National Forest Lands, providing a comprehensive overview of the status of winter recreation management on National Forest Lands. The report, broken out by national forest unit and region, includes total acres and miles of groomed winter trails open and closed to winter motorized use as well as annual snowmobile, cross-country ski and snowshoe visits for each forest where over-snow recreation occurs.

- Worked with the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics and Vermont Backcountry Alliance to develop a set of Leave No Trace guidelines for backcountry snowsports.
- Presented at the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference on the new OSV Rule.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- The WWA national SnowSchool program engaged more than 29,000 participants across 55 sites, with 55 percent of the students qualifying as underserved and 60 percent having never been on snowshoes before!
- Established 5 new SnowSchool sites reaching new communities in Utah, New York, Michigan, Minnesota and Maryland.
- Piloted an innovative project designed to transform the SnowSchool learning experience from a 1-2 day event into a fun 4-month science project. WWA encapsulated the project in a new activity guide that was distributed across the SnowSchool network.
- Provided 7 free on-snow science education training events to SnowSchool educators across the country.
- The Tenth Annual Backcountry Film Festival toured 98 cities worldwide, raising more than \$150,000 to benefit local outdoor education programs, advocacy efforts, avalanche centers and the purchasing of winter equipment.
- Two new Ambassadors, Kt Miller and Doug Stoup, joined WWA’s Ambassador corps working to provide a critical link between Winter Wildlands Alliance and the winter backcountry community.
- Hosted our 4th annual Day of Action on the Jedediah Smith Wilderness, working with the Forest Service to install boundary markers on the edge of the Jedediah Smith Wilderness.
- Worked with Powderproject.com to promote a new online mapping tool to provide better data to local land managers on those areas most important to backcountry skiers and other human-powered recreationists.
- Presented to the Idaho State Snowmobile Association Board of Directors regarding WWA’s aspirations for solution-oriented winter travel planning and invited Idaho State Snowmobile Association and other regional and national snowmobile representatives to speak to the WWA Grassroots Advocacy Conference.

WINTER WILDLANDS ALLIANCE FY15 ANNUAL REPORT



AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Following are the audited Winter Wildlands Alliance financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2015 as presented by Harris & Co. P.A. Certified Public Accountants. For more information please email info@winterwildlands.org or call (208)336-4203.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash & cash equivalents	\$198,065
Inventory	\$1,500
Prepaid Expenses	\$6,232
Total Current Assets	\$205,797
Fixed Assets (equipment, less depreciation)	\$1,187
Deposits	\$660
Total Assets	\$207,644

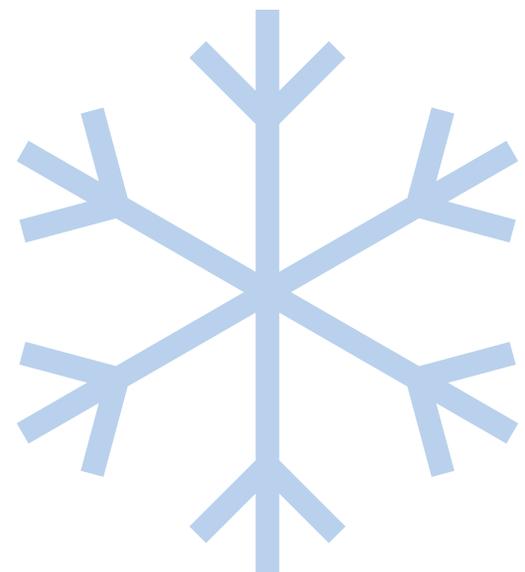
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$13,850
Accrued payroll liabilities	\$15,347
Total Current Liabilities	\$29,197

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$141,234
Temporarily restricted	\$37,213
Total Net Assets	\$178,447
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$207,644



WINTER WILDLANDS ALLIANCE FY15 ANNUAL REPORT

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANK YOU!

WWA thanks our supporters, volunteers and board members for their commitment and dedication to our work promoting and protecting the human-powered winter experience. WWA is grateful to our more than 9,200 members and supporters. We are proud and grateful to list the individuals, foundations and partners who contributed \$100 or more during fiscal year 2015.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS, PARTNERS AND FOUNDATIONS

10 Barrel Brewing
 444 S Foundation
 Nate Abbott
 Henry Abrons and Li-hsia Wang
 Alaska Quiet Rights Coalition
 Tony Aleto
 Anonymous
 Carol and Russell Atha III
 Backcountry Babes
 Backcountry Magazine
 Don Bachman
 Haven Baker
 Keith Bauer
 Beartooth Recreational Trails Association
 Gus Bekker
 Black Diamond Equipment
 Emmy Blechmann
 Steve Bonowski
 The Brainerd Foundation
 Ruth H. Brown Foundation
 Frank Brzenk
 Cable Natural History Museum
 Chama Valley Outdoor Club
 Robert and Charla Burnett
 Connie and Toby Clayton
 Clif Bar, Inc.
 Nicholas Clinch
 Lea Colasuonno
 Mary Collentine
 Colorado Mountain Club
 The Conservation Alliance
 Cross Country Skier Magazine
 Crow's Feet Common
 Peter Curran
 Carol and Brian Dale
 Jennifer Deutschmann
 Discovery Southeast
 Ben Dodge
 Duct Tape than Beer
 Durango Nature Study SnowSchool
 Dusk 2 Dawn
 Dynafit
 Eagle Cap Nordic
 Eastern Oregon University
 Kirk and Pam Ebertz
 El Sendero
 Jeff and Brenda Erdoes
 Cindy Farny
 Feather River College
 Tony Ferlisi
 Michael Fiebig
 Elizabeth Fitzgerald
 Mary Fitzgerald
 Fly Low
 Tom Flynn
 Fort Kent Outdoor Center
 Cathy Frank
 Freeheel and Wheel
 Friends of Berthoud Pass
 Friends of Pathways
 Friends of the Earth
 Friends of the Routt Backcountry
 Joan and Neil Ganz
 John Garder
 Frank Gariglio
 Teresa Garland
 Elizabeth Gemmill
 James Gibson
 Caroline Gleich
 Tom Gordon
 Bruce and Sue Gottschall
 David and Kim Gottschall

Judy and Dick Greer
 Arthur and Joanne Hall
 Harold Hallstein IV
 Marshall Hamilton
 Ginger Harmon
 Reid Haughey
 Bruce and Cathy Heise
 Charles Herrington
 High Camp Hut
 High Country Conservation Advocates
 Tracy and Maynard Hoover
 Hurricane Ridge Winter Access
 Ice Axe Expeditions
 Idaho Conservation League
 Chris Johnson
 Jeff and Annamaria Keyser
 Erik Lambert
 Diana Landis
 John Latta
 The Lazar Foundation
 Marcus Libkind
 Ed Lizewski
 Leslie Lovejoy
 Gail J. and Robert B. Loveman
 Elise Lufkin
 David Lysy
 Maki Foundation
 Mike and Martha McClay
 The Mazamas
 Michael and Kelly McLeod
 Susan McBurney
 Forrest and Amy McCarthy
 Russell McKinley
 Mark and Dana Menlove
 Rich Meyer
 Sarah Michael
 Montana Backcountry Alliance
 Montana Backcountry Guides
 Montana Wilderness Association
 Morgan Family Foundation
 Randy and Parry Mothershead
 Mount Baker SnowSchool
 Mount Buller Resort
 Mount Shasta Nordic Ski Organization
 Mountain Khakis
 Mountain Safety Research
 The Mountain Shop
 Mountains Foundation
 The Mountaineer
 The Mountaineers
 The Mountaineers Foundation
 Andy Munter
 Nordic United
 Emily Nuchols
 Mark Nueffer
 Scott Nuismer
 Leslie Nyce
 Odell Brewing
 Osprey
 Outdoor Alliance
 Outdoor Exchange
 Outdoor Research
 Pajarito Environmental Education Center
 Patagonia
 Payette Brewing
 James Pearre
 Lew Peterson
 PICO Foundation
 Kathy Pierce
 Mark Rasmus
 Ashley Rawhouser
 Red Mountain Enterprises
 REI
 Gerald and Laura Richards

Lee Rimel
 Kathie Rivers
 Sam Roberts
 Andy Roof
 Eric Ryan
 Salmon Whitewater Park
 David Saylor
 Dan Schroeder
 Caleb and Louise Scott
 Thomas and Cathryn Scoville
 Dan Seifert
 Silent Tracks
 Richard Simpson
 Ski Chic Chocs
 Leo Skinner
 Skinny Skis
 Snowlands Network
 SOLE
 Cynthia Squire
 Carl Steidtmann and Kathleen Cline
 George B. Storer Foundation
 Randy and Tony Stroh
 Tahoe XC Winter Discovery
 Teton Snow Info
 Teton Valley Trails and Pathways
 Timber Trails
 Trailspace
 Tsalteshi Trails Association
 University of Idaho
 University of Puget Sound
 George Wade
 Wes Wagnon
 Matthew Walter
 Jim Watson
 Wax Research
 Bill and Marisa Weppner
 James Wernitz and Stephanie Mommson
 Western Conservation Fund
 Western Slope Conservation Center
 Scott White
 Whitman College
 Eric Wolfe
 The Wilderness Society
 Wind River Nordic
 The Wyss Foundation
 Wyoming Wilderness Association
 Yampatika
 James and Karen Young
 James and Julia Youngblood

AMBASSADORS

Nick Devore
 Jim Harris
 Kim Havell
 Noah Howell
 Brennan Lagasse
 Eric Larsen
 Hans-Peter Marshall
 Forest McCarthy
 Andrew McLean
 Rich Meyer
 Kt Miller
 Donny Roth
 Forrest Schearer
 Doug Stoup

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charlie Woodruff, Chair
 Michael Fiebig, Vice Chair
 John Garder, Treasurer
 Tony Ferlisi, Secretary
 Lea Colasuonno
 Harold Hallstein IV
 Erik Lambert

Rich Meyer
 Emily Nuchols
 Lew Peterson
 Dan Siefert

The Winter Wildlands Alliance Board of Directors met three times during the fiscal year: October 11, 2014; January 24-25, 2015; June 18, 2015.

STAFF

Mark Menlove, Executive Director
 Hilary Eisen, Recreation Planning and Policy Coordinator
 Brittany Jones, Program Administrator
 Kerry McClay, National SnowSchool Director
 Keili Bell, Outreach and Events Coordinator

GRASSROOTS GROUPS

Alaska
 Alaska Quiet Rights Coalition
 Mountaineering Club of Alaska
 Nordic Ski Club of Fairbanks
 Tsalteshi Trails Association
California
 Friends of the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center
 Friends of the Inyo Snowlands Network
 Tahoe Backcountry Alliance
Colorado
 Colorado Mountain Club
 Crested Butte Nordic Council
 Friends of Berthoud Pass
 High Country Conservation Advocates
 Friends of the Routt Backcountry
 Mountain Area Land Trust
 Silent Tracks
 Western Slope Conservation Center
Idaho
 Idaho Conservation League
 Nordic and Backcountry Skiers Alliance of Idaho
 Teton Valley Trails & Pathways
Montana
 Beartooth Recreational Trails Association
 Montana Backcountry Alliance
 Montana Wilderness Association
 Montanans for Quiet Recreation
New Mexico
 Chama Valley Outdoor Club
Oregon
 Bend Backcountry Alliance
 Eagle Cap Nordic Club
Utah
 Nordic United
 Wasatch Backcountry Alliance
Vermont
 Unplugged
 Vermont Backcountry Alliance
Washington
 El Sendero
 Hurricane Ridge Winter Access Coalition
 Inland Northwest Backcountry Alliance
 Kongsberger Ski Club
 The Mountaineers
 Spokane Mountaineers
Wyoming
 Friends of Pathways
 Togwotee Pass Backcountry Alliance
 Wyoming Wilderness Association