## APPLEGATE PARTNERSHIP & WATERSHED COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



Promoting ecological, economic and community well-being in the Applegate watershed through on-the-ground projects and strategic collaborations.

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Greetings,

The Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council reached its 30th year as an organization in 2022. What an accomplishment. In 2025, we will celebrate 30 years as a Watershed Council working to support the goals and objectives of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds through partnerships with landowners.

Our programs are focused on paths that intersect between the natural world and human relationships. We want to help foster solutions that benefit both.

I hope this report will provide you with information about the APWC programs that provides you with a spark of excitement for our watershed, its possibilities, and how you can become involved through projects or volunteer opportunities, especially at Cantrall Buckley Park and Provolt Recreation Site.

#### Warm regards,

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**Janelle Dunlevy** 





## STAFF AND BOARD

### STAFF MEMBERS

Janelle Dunlevy Executive Director

Luke Wimmer Aquatic Restoration Project Manager

Nathan Gehres Habitat Restoration Project Manager

**Caleb Galloway** Riparian Restoration Project Manager

**Eva King** Education & Outreach Program Director

Aaron Krikava Prescribed Burn Program Director

> **Liz Bardon** Office Administrator

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jack Shipley Emeritus Board Member

> **Geoff Becker** Board Chair

David Russell Vice Chair

Barbara Summerhawk Secretary & Treasurer

**Kirsten Shockey** Executive Board Member

Janis Mohr-Tipton Executive Board Member

Mary Buckley-Mikkelsen Mel Wann Alan Journet Heidi Martins Chas Rogers

## AQUATIC HABITAT RESTORATION

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

APWC was able to complete several aquatic restoration projects in 2022-2023 - the West Evans Tributary Improvements Project, Cheney Creek Large Wood Project, and the Lamprey Passage Improvement Project. The West Evans and Cheney Creek projects aimed to improve salmon spawning and rearing habitat by placing large logs instream to create deep pools, protective cover, and resting areas which are essential for salmon upstream migration and juvenile rearing. The lamprey project focused on improving upstream passage over concrete structures.



4 miles of improved salmon spawning and rearing habitat



6 miles of improved stream habitat









### **IN-PROGESS PROJECTS**

APWC has several projects currently in progress or in the planning and design phase. Two of these projects are scheduled for construction in 2024, but have taken numerous years of preparation throughout 2022-2023. The main goal of these projects is to help native migratory fish move through the Applegate watershed to complete their life cycle while also improving irrigation efficiency for water users.



Watts Toppins Dam Fish Passage Improvement Project



Improvement Project Upper Phillips Irrigation Efficiency

**Improvement Project** 

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Laurel Hill Push-Up Dam Fish Passage Project

450 pieces of large wood

5 concrete dams modified for

upstream lamprey passage

placed in 4 streams



Cheney Creek & Iron Creek Box Culvert Replacements

#### PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

Lone Rock Timber Company • Middle Rogue Steelheaders • National Fish Habitat Partnership • National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association • Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board • Rogue Basin Partnership • Silver Butte Timber Company • US Fish & Wildlife Service • US Bureau of Land Management • Wild Salmon Center

## UPLAND & RIPARIAN HABITAT RESTORATION

### **UPLAND & FUELS PROJECTS**

APWC participated in two projects aimed at reducing the impact of fire in the Applegate - the Middle Applegate Fuels Reduction Project and the Prescription for Safety Project. Both of these projects involved fuels reduction to decrease the risk of severe wildfires. APWC also supports the Rogue Valley Prescribed Burn Association with coordination staff. RVPBA successfully completed five prescribed burns covering 32 acres in three counties, hosted two workshops on water handling equipment & controlled burn site evaluation, and presented on the formation of local prescribed burn associations in six different counties. RVPBA is the first prescribed burn association in Oregon.



5 understory burns across 32 acres



120 prescribed burn participants



#### 2 community workshops



**36 structures protected** 









## **RIPARIAN PROJECTS**

APWC continued its riparian restoration maintenance and plantings at the Provolt Recreation Site, which will continue into next year. Our Cheney Creek Large Wood Project also helped improve the riparian area along the creek through trash and invasive species removal along with the placement of tank traps to deter off-road vehicles.



1,500 native tree & shrubs planted

7 acres of invasive plants removed



30 yards of trash removed



3 miles of riparian improvement

#### PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

Applegate Fire District #9 • Cascadia Fire Service • Firebrand Resiliency Collective • Fire Learning Network • Griffin Creek Fire Company • Illinois Valley Fire Resiliency Oversight Group • Jackson County Fire District #5 • Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District • Knight Fire & Rescue Consulting • KS Wild • National Resource Conservation Service • Middle Rogue Steelheaders • The Nature Conservancy • Northwest Youth Corps • Oregon Department of Forestry • Oregon Prescribed Fire Council • Oregon State University Extension • Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board • Rural Metro Fire Department • Sustainable Northwest • Southern Oregon Flyfishers • Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative • US Bureau of Land Management

# **EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

### EDUCATION PROGRAMS

APWC greatly expanded its educational offerings in 2022 and 2023. Two comprehensive outdoor education programs, Applegate Outdoor School and Grow Youth, and single day field trips allowed APWC to provide hands-on, placedbased instruction to a multitude of K-12 students. APWC utilized Cantrall Buckley County Park and the Provolt Recreation Site as its two outdoor education field sites, but also employed in-class instruction on a regular basis.

#### 🕈 🎇 🦳 950 K-12 students served

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2 field sites along the Applegate River



Outdoor and in-classroom instruction





## OUTREACH EFFORTS

APWC has two grant-funded outreach efforts in progress - The Middle Applegate Irrigation Efficiency Improvement Project and Stakeholder Outreach on Cheney Creek. The goal of both of these is to help assess and improve upon long-term needs for water users and landowners along streams and irrigation ditches. APWC also hosted numerous community-wide events, hosted regular volunteer work parties to improve the Provolt Recreation Site, and worked to place a culturally significant memorial at Cantrall Buckley Park for the Takelma elder, Agnes Baker Pilgrim.



14 organized volunteer workdays



3 events for community members



2 community outreach projects

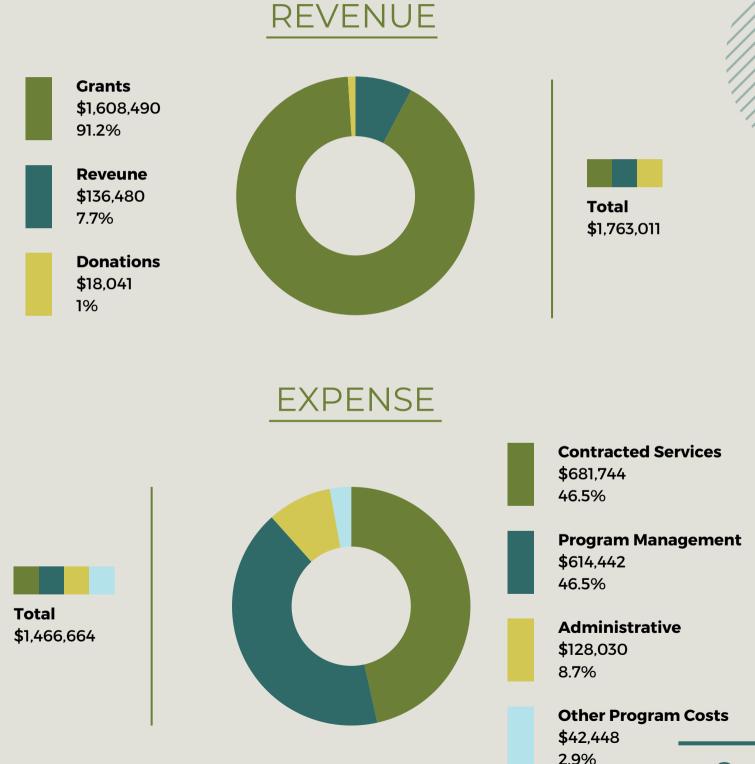


1 indigenous memorial placed

#### PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

A Greater Applegate • The Carpenter Foundation • Coquille Tribal Community Fund • Jackson County Parks • Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District • KOGAP • Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife • Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board • National Environmental Education Foundation • Ruch Outdoor Community School • US Bureau of Land Management • Four Way Foundation • Braemer Charitable Trust • Jackson County Cultural Coalition

## FINANICAL OVERVIEW







#### Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council

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