



WOOD RIVER TRAILS COALITION

# IMPACT REPORT



OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE, MAINTAIN AND SUSTAIN OUR TRAIL NETWORK FOR ALL USERS.

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In 2019 The Wood River Trails Coalition launched to execute a clear mission: to create, maintain and sustain our trail network for all users.

We execute our mission with three main "pillars":

- **Professional Trail Crew;**
- **Volunteer Trail Work;**
- **Membership Program and Trail Project Funding**

This allows us to maintain the world class trail system we have here in Central Idaho while working to improve it.

## PROFESSIONAL TRAIL CREW

2-3. USFS - SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST PARTNERSHIP

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# SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST KETCHUM RANGER DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP



2025 was a critical year to have the WRTC's Hybrid Trail Crew in place with the Sawtooth National Forest - Ketchum Ranger District (KRD). With the announcement by the U.S. Forest Service in late 2024 that no seasonals would be hired in 2025, coupled with federal layoffs and resignations in early 2025, the KRD would not have been able to field a crew without this program. The WRTC hired four crew members and one crew lead for the 2025 season and maintained over 200 miles of trail in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service. We employed one of the only fully staffed trail crews in the nation on public lands in 2025.

With the Hybrid Trail Crew model, there will be a fully staffed professional trail crew on KRD trails in 2026. We will continue to work hard to keep your trails a world-class experience.



# SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST KETCHUM RANGER DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP



## 2024 Maintenance Totals

Totals Miles Maintained	211.27
Trees Cleared	512
Drains Cleaned	825
Feet Brushed	110,435
Feet of Tread Work	37,129



From Matt Rowell Trail Crew Supervisor, Ketchum Ranger District :

"This was a year filled with challenges, and with challenges overcome. A decision was made late in 2024 that the Forest Service would not hire seasonal workers for 2025, a workforce that we have historically relied on for trail crew members.

Thankfully, the Ketchum Ranger District was able to field a fully staffed, professional trail crew this year, thanks to our partner, the Wood River Trails Coalition (WRTC). Building on the foundation of the Hybrid Trail Crew model initiated last year, the WRTC hired five crew members, including one permanent seasonal position as the Trail Crew Foreman, to be embedded with the Forest Service and serve as the professional trail crew on the Ketchum Ranger District. We had a fantastic crew this year and through their hard work and dedication we were able to have a highly productive season, achieving every goal I had and then some.

A huge thank you goes to the WRTC staff for their efforts both in making the Hybrid Trail Crew a reality, and supporting the crew throughout the season."

[Read more about the work done by the Hybrid Trail Crew this season here.](#)



# BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT SHOSHONE FIELD OFFICE

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# PARTNERSHIP



In 2024, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Shoshone Field Office awarded the Wood River Trail Infrastructure Agreement to the Wood River Trails Coalition (WRTC). This Agreement names the Wood River Trails Coalition as the main partner for the development of the next five years of trail construction in the Wood River Valley.



The partnership Agreement between the BLM and the WRTC is a holistic one, which will include construction, maintenance, layout, design, trail use data collection, and volunteer work parties.



In 2025, WRTC completed its second build season under this Agreement, continuing to advance priority trail projects and strengthen community partnerships. Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be an exciting year, with new trail development, expanded volunteer engagement, and continued momentum in enhancing the Wood River Valley trail system.



# BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT SHOSHONE FIELD OFFICE PARTNERSHIP

During the 2025 season, WRTC completed construction of six miles of new trail, officially named Samson's Rampage. This new route connects the previously built Hidden Valley Trail to Kelly Gulch, extending west further out Croy Canyon. While designed primarily for motorcycle use, Samson's Rampage was thoughtfully constructed to provide an enjoyable experience for hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrian users as well.

We completed maintenance on 16.8 miles of trail, including Golden Hour, Two Dog, Belle, Belle North, Vue, Vue 2.0, Hang Tight, and Silver Lining. Our crews worked hard to keep these trails safe and enjoyable for everyone by clearing loose rocks, cleaning out drains to prevent erosion, repairing worn trail surfaces, and brushing back overgrown vegetation.



Looking ahead to 2026, the WRTC plans to begin the design process for additional trail opportunities in the South Valley. We are also committed to maintaining Hang Tight/Hang Loose to a high standard to ensure it remains accessible to adaptive riders and trail users for years to come, creating and preserving a welcoming trail experience for all user types.

Keep your eyes out for new trails this year!



# TRAIL WORK STATS

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEER SEASON TOTALS

As a staff many are here because we love to do the “boots on the ground work”. With that in mind we make sure to keep that an integral part of what we do. We dedicate days where we get out on the trails to work as a staff, collaborate with our partners to get out with their staff or crews, including the Hybrid Trail Crew, and of course, get out in the field with our volunteers.

Our Volunteer Program is how we engage our community in some of the “boots on the ground” work that we do. Through this work, we not only get people out working on the trails, but more importantly give people the opportunity to see what it really takes to keep our trails open and in good shape and cultivate a sense of community around our trails. With our volunteer events we take care of basic maintenance, such as corridor clearing and drainage work.

**45** miles  
maintained

**1,885**  
staff and  
volunteer hours

**20**  
volunteer work parties

**33,877**  
feet brushed

**56**  
drains cleaned

**4**  
drains built

**129**  
logs cleared

**228** volunteers

**81,652** feet  
of tread work completed

# VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

## 01 TRAIL BOSS PROGRAM

All of our volunteer work is supported by our dedicated Trail Bosses. These super star volunteers commit themselves to showing up throughout the season, helping staff in providing continuity and support for our volunteers.

We'd like to thank our 2025 Trail Bosses: Alison Kinsler, Wendy Rector, Jenzi Thomas, Conner Madigan, Audrey Norvell, Adam Zutz.

## 02 GENERAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

We had another fantastic year inviting our community out onto the trails to volunteer. Our General Volunteer Program brings people out to do the real, on-the-ground work of caring for our trails. It gives folks a chance to see firsthand what it takes to keep these spaces in great shape, while building a shared sense of ownership and community. Most of our volunteer days tackle the basics —clearing back brush, improving drainage, and taking care of the kind of maintenance that keeps trails running smoothly.



# VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

## 03 BRING YOUR OWN CREW PROGRAM

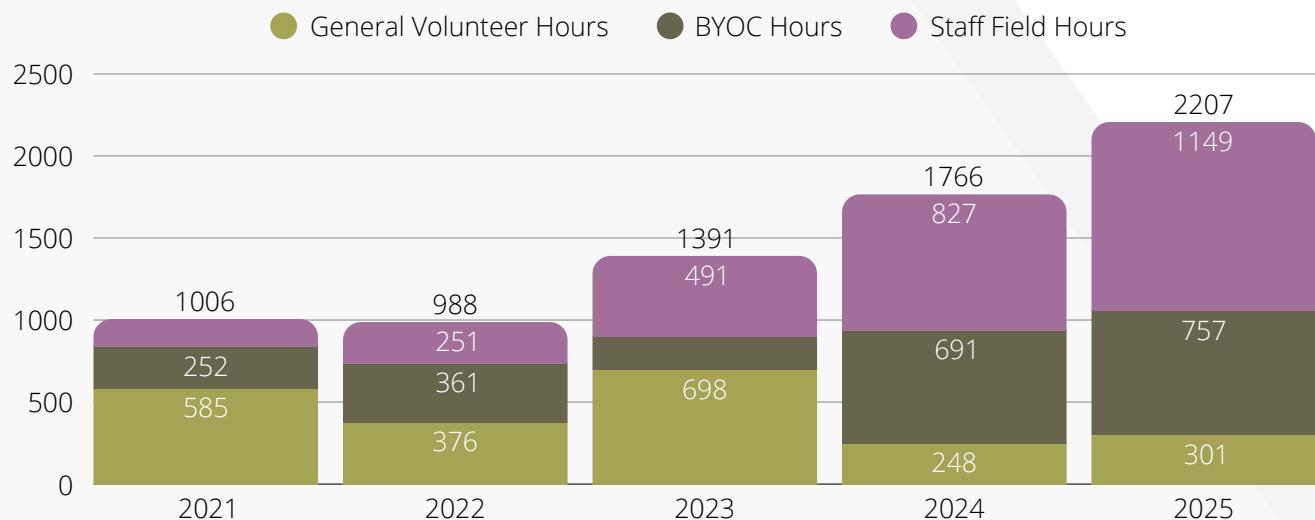
In the last couple of years we have also grown our BYOC, "Bring Your Own Crew", program. Formalizing the program in 2024 and refining it for the 2025 season. This program has allowed us to take on some projects that extend beyond what we can take on with our general volunteer events. The ability to plan ahead with known numbers and ability really allows us to plan work that matches who will be joining us.

*"Thank you to Idaho Base Camp, City of Ketchum, Idaho Trails Association, Sage International School, Community School, WR MTB Team, Sage School, Higher Ground, Windermere Staff & Clients , and St. Lukes for participating in this program!*



## 04 STAFF FIELD DAYS

This ability to plan for known quantities and have events during the work week, has also increased our staff's ability to have more field time. While maintaining a consistent amount of volunteer hours, we have been able to increase our staff hours dedicated to "boots on the ground" work. Staff hours are separate from our Hybrid Trail Crew.



# MEMBERSHIP & GIVING PROGRAMS

## 1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS

Huge thank you to the **758** community members who have recurring memberships, or who gave to one of our appeals. You all brought in **\$230,228** for your trails between 1/1/25-12/31/25

## 2 CHANGE MAKERS

Our **23** donors who gave at or above \$5,000 brought in **\$213,211.94** between 1/1/25-12/31/25. We call this group the change makers, because they help to amplify the donations from our members to create lasting impact throughout our trail system.

## 3 SUNRAISE

In addition to our membership program, we were grateful to be part of the SunRaise Event this year. This event brought an exciting and unexpected **\$117,691** to our organization.

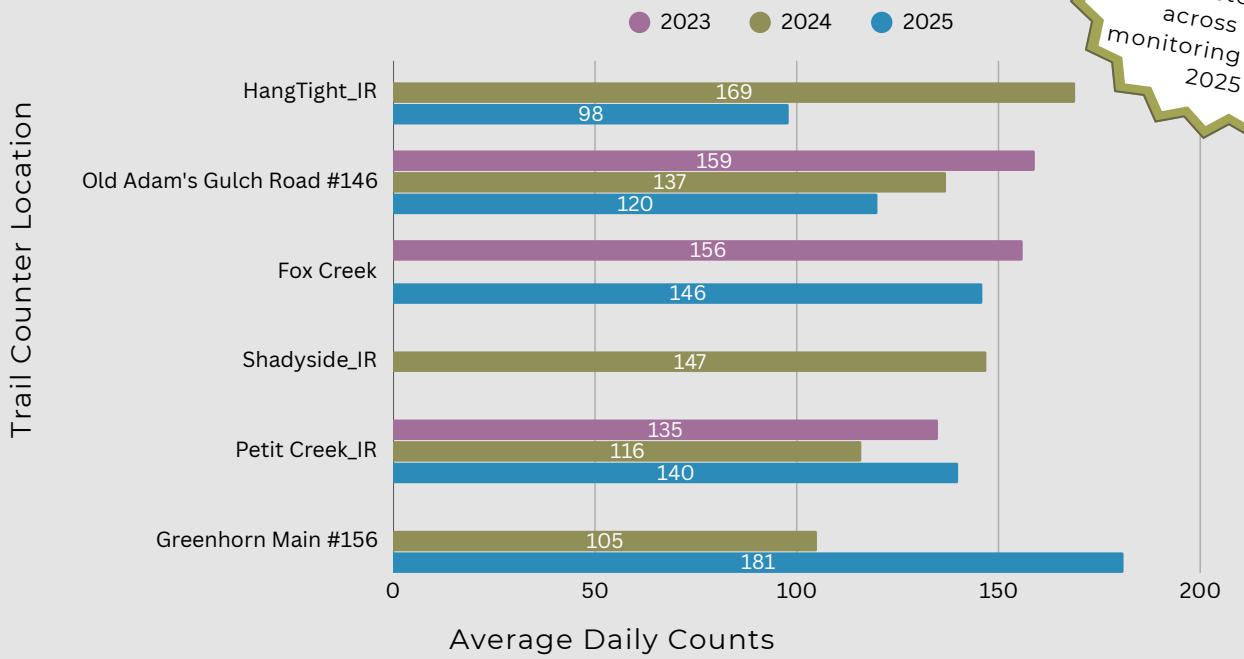
"I support WRTC because as an avid motocross and mountain biker I'm invested in seeing my favorite trails maintained and sustained for the long haul. The WRTC is a focused, hard-working organization that prioritizes outcomes and gets real work done. That ethos aligns with how I choose to give."

BOBBY TURNER, TURNER IMPACT CAPITAL  
WRTC CHANGE MAKER



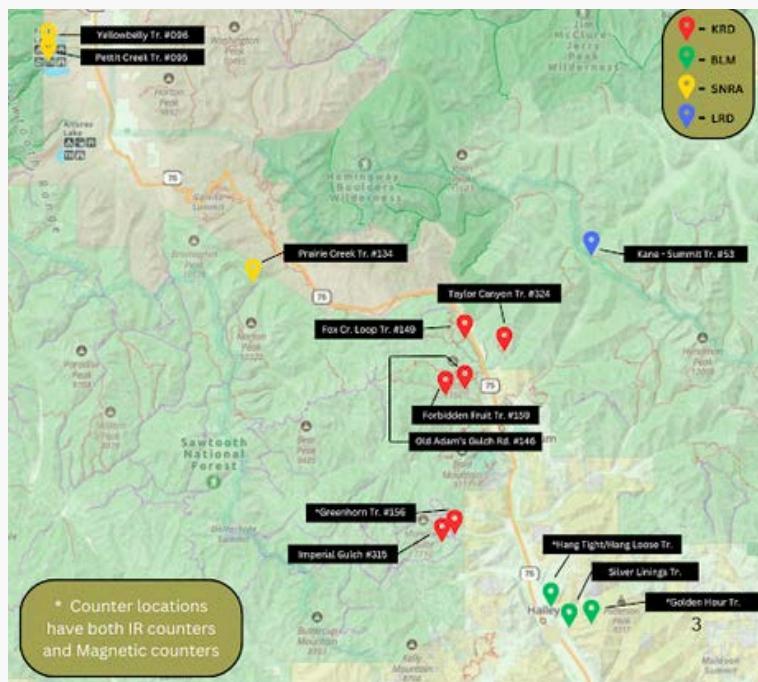
# TRAIL MONITORING PROGRAM

## TOP 5 DAILY AVERAGES FROM 2023 - 2025



Please note that the numbers displayed represent the amount of times someone passed by a counter meaning someone who went out and back was counted twice.

## 2025 TRAIL MONITORING LOCATIONS



- Golden Hour Tr.
- Hang Tight/Hang Loose Tr.
- Silver Lining Tr.
- Greenhorn Tr. #156
- Imperial Gulch #315
- Forbidden Fruit Tr #159
- Old Adam's Gulch Road #146
- Fox Creek Loop #149
- Taylor Canyon Tr. #324
- Kane Summit Tr. #53
- Prairie Creek Tr. #134
- Pettit Creek Tr. #095
- Yellowbelly Tr. #096

There were  
**171,446**  
total detections  
across our  
monitoring area in  
2025

# TRAIL MONITORING PROGRAM



## 1

### WHAT IS A MAG COUNTER?

In order to better understand the use on trails, we use two kinds of counters - an infrared counter and a magnetic counter. The infrared counter will give us the total count of trail traffic, and the magnetic counters will pick up any metal that crosses them. So, if we divide the total mag counts by the total infrared counts, we'll get the percentage of motorized and cyclist traffic.

## 2

### TRAIL SELECTION

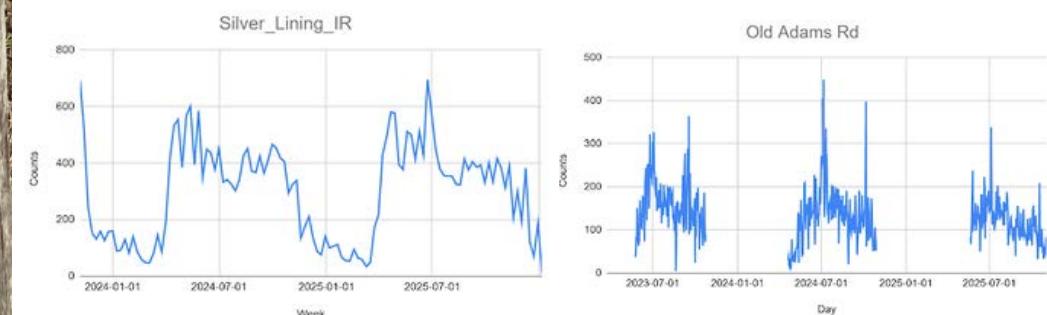
Every year, we try to select a few trails that see a lot of traffic, and a few trails that are 'off the beaten path'. We like to keep a trail counter at some of the most popular trails (like Adam's Gulch Main and Greenhorn Main), but otherwise, we rotate our counters throughout the area to get quasi-annual data on a bunch of trails.

## 3

### TRENDS

In 2023 we increased the number of trail counters that we have. With these new counters we have been able to record data for the duration of the season at our Counter Locations. With this long term data we can start to look at long term trends.

Silver Lining shows the seasonality of trail usage, while Old Adams shows that although there is variability in numbers there is not a dramatic change year to year.



# TRAIL REPORTING PROGRAM

Since we began focusing on Trailforks in 2024, we've seen a major increase in community engagement. During the 2024 and 2025 seasons alone, users submitted 1,530 trail reports. For comparison, from 2015 through 2023—a total of nine seasons—there were 1,755 reports combined.

In just two seasons, our community has nearly matched the reporting activity of the previous nine years. That growth shows how engaged and invested our trail users have become.

The increase in trail reports has made Trailforks an even more valuable resource. People can check current conditions before heading out, maintenance needs are identified faster, and communication across the community has improved. It's been great to see so many people contributing and helping keep everyone informed, and we're excited to keep building on this momentum.

**READ AND  
SUBMIT REPORTS**



# BAKER LAKE FOOTBRIDGE REBUILD

By Jesse Lutz, Hybrid Trail Crew Lead

The hike to Baker Lake might not be the longest or most difficult in the Wood River Valley but it offers great opportunity for National Forest users – whether you're out for a day stroll up to the lake, out to get the line wet, a horseback ride, or up to watch the local flora and fauna, it has the bases covered. Surprising enough, it's also one of the most popular.

If you hang a right the trail accesses terrain that's a little more challenging, bringing you into the headwaters of Apollo Creek then to the high ridge separating Camus and Blaine Counties.

The Baker Lake trail bridge project began in early June. It was one of those magical Wood River Valley days. Blue skies, spotty clouds, light breeze, hillsides illuminated with the usual suspects – lupines, balsam root, yarrow, the occasional scent of a fellow trail crew member.

Our goal was to clear the trail and clean out water bars up to the lake and inspect the foot bridge site.



# BAKER LAKE FOOTBRIDGE REBUILD

Matt (KRD Trails Lead) had some concerns with the eroding approaches and weathering of the materials ...which proved evident. Spring snowmelt and storms over the years brought a few trees down, the approaches were a bit worn for the ware, and stock crossings would prove challenging to say the least. The base logs of the foot bridge had begun to rot and shifted downstream over time proving to be somewhat unstable under the weight of the structure.

After several moments of 'hands on hips' (we all know the pose), the decision was made – we'd replace it, widen it slightly, knock out a safer stock ford, and address the spring seep for a better approach. All the while we'd try to keep the natural charm. We'd use local materials from around the site while keeping our site impacts minimum. With many miles of trail to work and routine scheduled maintenance we'd start the installation in September.

Fast forward a few hundred miles of trail work to September - Now for the real work.



Although building bridges can sometimes be a four-letter word – it proves in the end to be something akin to a nice long exhale.. . after a lot of inhales. Most of the work for foot bridge building of this type is in the 'mise en place' – the prep. You have to prep the site, bring the tools and materials, get everything out of the way, put everything in the way, get everything out of the way again. Haul rocks, for days. Then bring the tools out, clean and dry, get ready for what's next. Fill whatever space in between all that with a few back-country hitches and random trees falling on other trails, it can be a grind.

Then it rains, then the wind picks up while you're surrounded by dead and dangling 100ft tall Engelmann spruce. Fun proves to be a four-letter word.

Back to the details!



# BAKER LAKE FOOTBRIDGE REBUILD

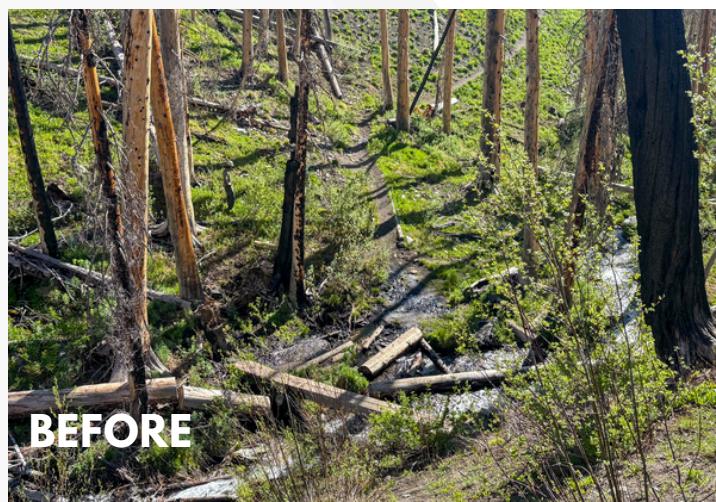
Once the site was cleared and tools came into use – away it went. At the same time the grip hoist was sliding the stringers onto the base logs the mules (literally), saving miles of round trips it would have taken the crew, packed in the decking. A few of the crew went at removing the last of the bark from decking while the others rolled and tugged on lining up the stringers to match the planned approaches. Once pinned into place the picture becomes more into focus. The decking goes on. More focus.

Then came matching the rock work with the approaches. Installing drainages features; this site required a rock culvert. Completing the rock wall and stabilizing the trail base with crush. Then the finishing touches. A little brush work here. Blending the surfaces then voila – a bridge.

Truth is, in only a few sentences I've described just about 3 weeks of 'work'. Another amazing and fulfilling four-letter word!

Congrats and thanks to the KRD and WRTC staff that dedicated their time and strength to bring another great addition and improvement to our trails here in the Wood River Valley!

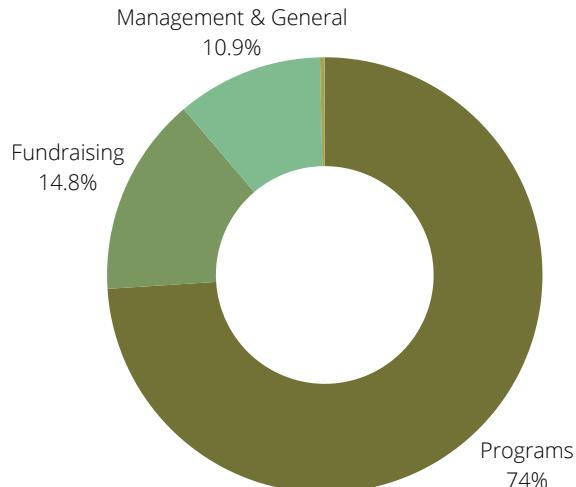
See you down the trail.



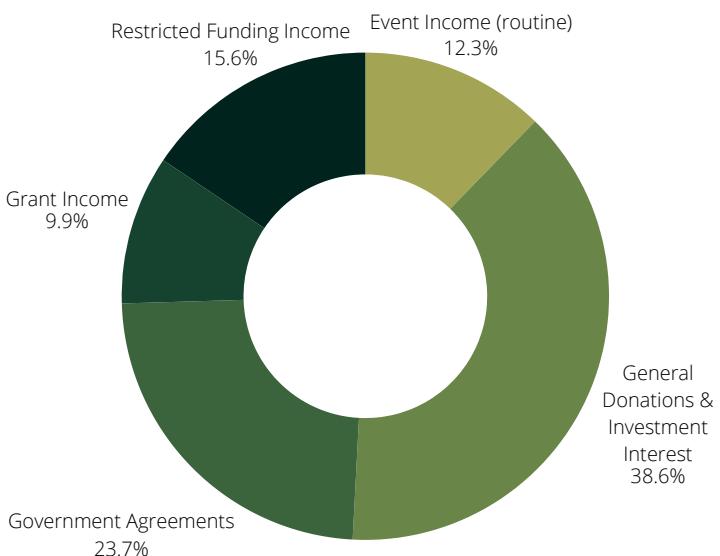
# FINANCIALS

This year's total expenses include a large, one-time fundraising event for which WRTC served as the fiscal sponsor. While these funds and expenses are included in our IRS Form 990, they are shown separately here to provide a clear picture of WRTC's ongoing operating budget.

**WRTC OPERATING EXPENSES: \$772,241**



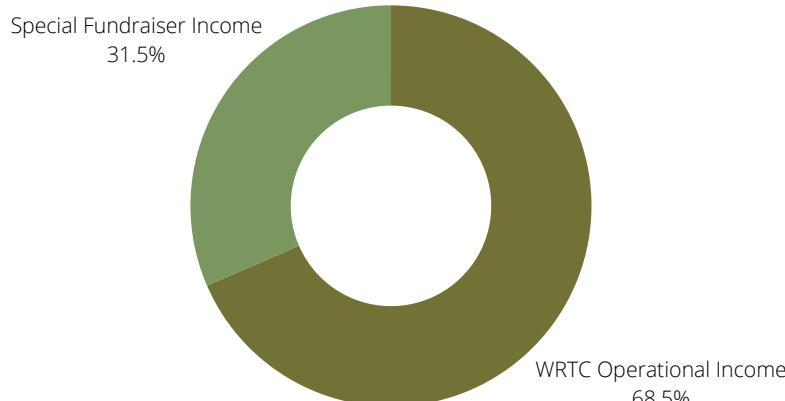
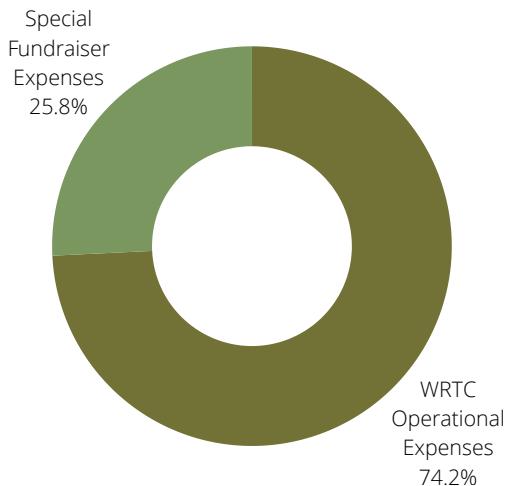
**WRTC OPERATING INCOME: \$825,553**



**TOTAL ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES ON IRS FORM 990: \$1,040,215**

**TOTAL ORGANIZATIONAL INCOME ON IRS FORM 990: \$1,205,275**

*WRTC's day-to-day work was supported by a core operating budget of \$772,241. In 2025, we also served as fiscal sponsor for a one-time fundraising event, bringing total expenses reported on our IRS Form 990 to \$1,040,215. This event raised our total income reported to \$1,205,275*



**TOTAL NET INCOME: \$165,059**

\*Total Net Income applied to reserve funds, projects, and long-term strategic initiatives

\*\* These numbers reflect the calendar year 1/1/25-12/31/25.

# WHO WE ARE

## STAFF

**Sara Gress**, Executive Director

**Elizabeth Pedersen**, Development Director

**Carith Kamermans**, Field Operations Manager

**Miles Eyre**, Field and Logistics Coordinator

**Brigid Sears**, Finance and Administrative Coordinator

**Jesse Lutz**, Hybrid Trail Crew Lead

**Olivia Pinson**, Hybrid Trail Crew Member

**Shelby Descamps**, Hybrid Trail Crew Member

**Madeline Chin**, Hybrid Trail Crew Member

**Brock Fuller**, Hybrid Trail Crew Member

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Justin Malloy, Treasurer      Mike Shaugnessy

Nicole Lisk, Secretary      Alan Hogg

Sam Christian      Daphne Muehle

John Perenchio      Mark Overfelt

*We extend our sincere thanks to Susan Giannettino, who completed her board service this year. Her leadership and steady commitment helped guide many of the milestones celebrated in this report.*



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