



2022

WOOD RIVER TRAILS COALITION
IMPACT
REPORT



THE WOOD RIVER TRAILS COALITION

**is a nonprofit trail
stewardship
organization working
to create, maintain
and sustain our trail
network for all users.**

A NOTE FROM WRTC STAFF

Dear Fellow Trail Users,

With another spectacular and productive trail season under our belts, we must take a moment to acknowledge those who make it possible. **That would be YOU**, our volunteers, members, donors and supporters. None of this can be accomplished without your support and dedication to your community and your trails. **Thank you.** Thank you for choosing to be engaged, and for choosing to support us and therefore your trails and your community.

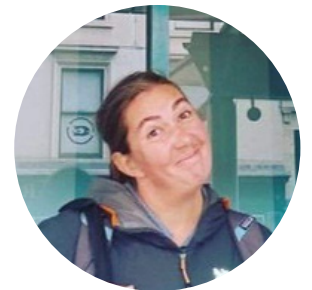
You helped us to grow our member numbers by over 35%, clear out over 760 trees, maintain over 40 miles with staff and volunteer work parties, improve our Trail Stewards Program and progress our Trail Monitoring Program so we can continue to gain valuable data and make data-driven decisions.

We envision a trail system that connects communities with equitable opportunities for recreation on our public lands. **Because of you** and your support, we can continue to grow and thrive while pursuing our mission to create, maintain and sustain our trails for all users while encouraging an enduring mindset of generational trail stewardship.

We look forward to seeing you out on the trails or at a volunteer event next summer!

Thank you for investing in your trails and your community. We are grateful for you.

**Sincerely,
Sara, Kate, Emily and Carith**





TRAIL MONITORING PROGRAM

Year two of WRTC's Trail Monitoring Program was a success. This program uses specialized trail-counting equipment and software, and observations collected by volunteers to continuously assess use levels and traffic patterns on trails in the Wood River Valley. This data can be utilized by recreation managers to make informed decisions with maximized impact on improvements such as bridge replacements, restroom facilities, or accessible parking.

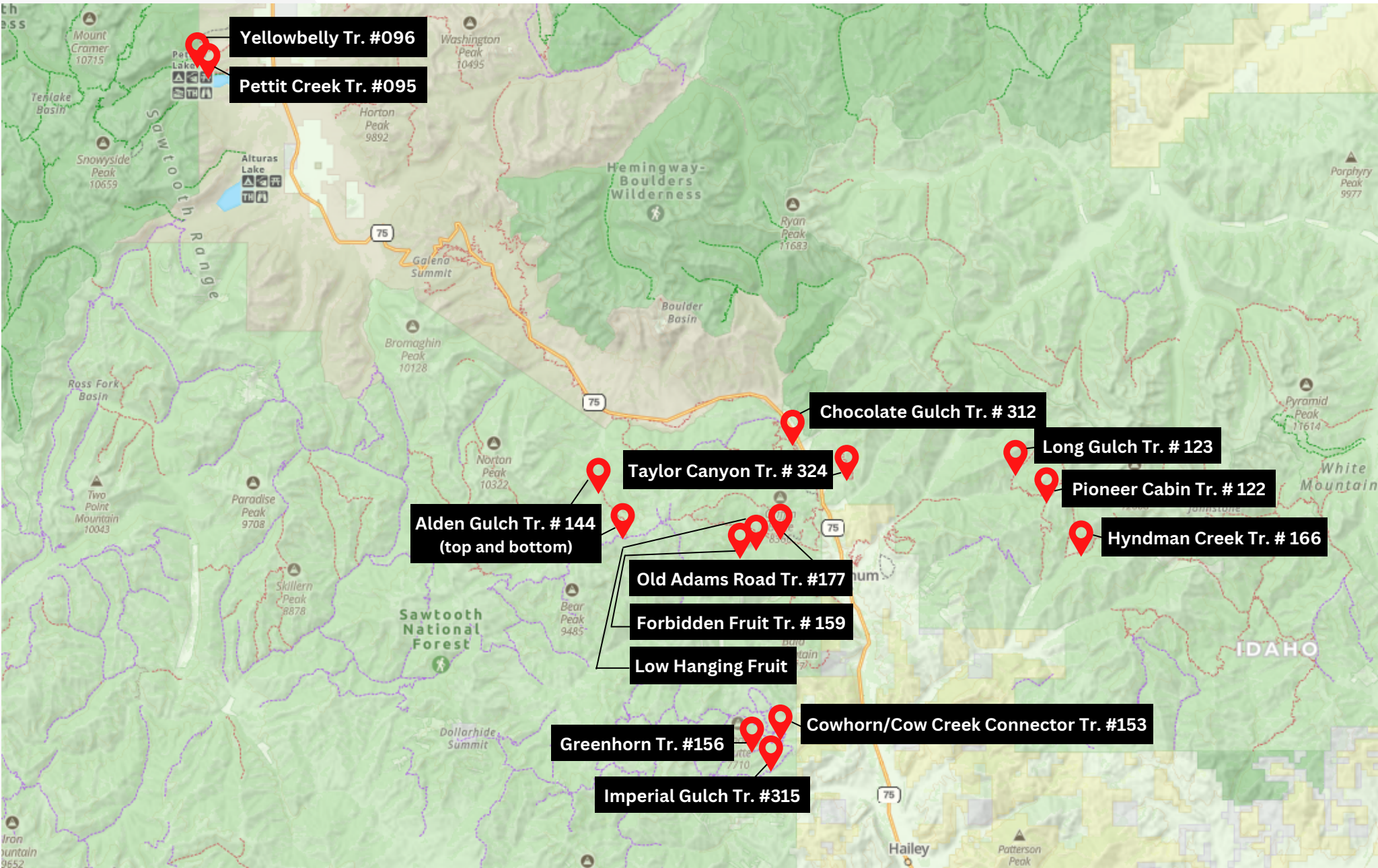
With generous grant support from the **Spur Community Foundation**, we were able to purchase 4 additional TRAFx infrared trail counters this year and 2 new TRAFx "bike" counters (mountain bikes, e-bikes, and dirt bikes). Using these counters simultaneously, we captured estimates for user group breakdowns at locations like Adams Gulch and Greenhorn.

Looking forward we will continue to collect annual data, build our volunteer ground-truthing program, and explore new ways to grow public trail accessibility through the use of monitoring data. If you want to dive deeper into the data, click [**HERE**](#).

The 2022 Trail Monitoring Program was made possible through collaboration with the Ketchum Ranger District (KRD) Trails Program and the Environmental Resource Center. A big THANK YOU to the Spur Community Foundation for helping fund this program.

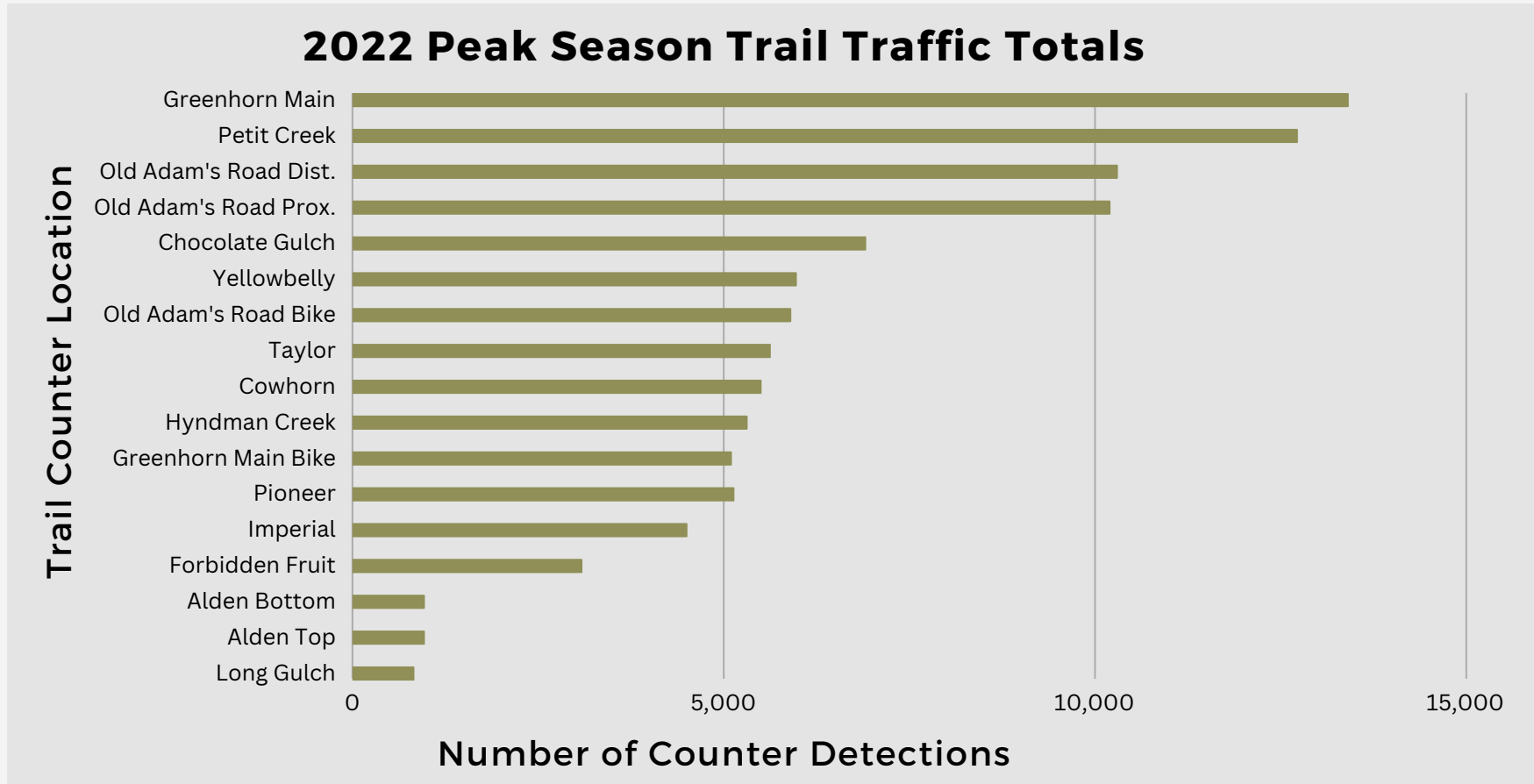


TRAIL MONITORING LOCATIONS



TRAIL MONITORING PROGRAM

This graph shows the number of counter detections based on each location's average daily traffic rate for the peak season in 2022. Peak season is from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Learn more [HERE](#).



Estimated **102,426*** detections from Memorial Day to Labor Day

*This number is the amount of times someone passed by a counter - meaning someone who went out and back was counted twice. This number is also based off of a selection of trails on the KRD, but it's not exhaustive. We look forward to expanding this program to aid in a deeper, more thorough understanding of total users across all KRD trails.

TRAIL WORK STATS

staff & volunteers

TRAILS WORKED ON:

Toe of the Hill
Camp Rainbow Gold
Hidden Valley
Forbidden Fruit
Low Hanging Fruit
Aspen Loop
Pollinator Meadow
Alden
Prairie Creek
Taylor Canyon
Johnstone Creek
Cow Creek
Belle Trail

19 volunteer work parties

44 miles
maintained

8
drains
built

31,479 feet
of tread work completed

770+
logs cleared

1,007
staff and
volunteer hours

12,803
feet brushed

49
drains cleaned

231 volunteers

TRAIL STEWARDS PROGRAM

This season we continued our Trail Stewards Program and had **seven returning volunteer Trail Bosses**. We had Trail Bosses in attendance at all volunteer work parties - taking a more active role with **safety and leadership** which allowed for larger volunteer events creating greater efficiency and effectiveness.

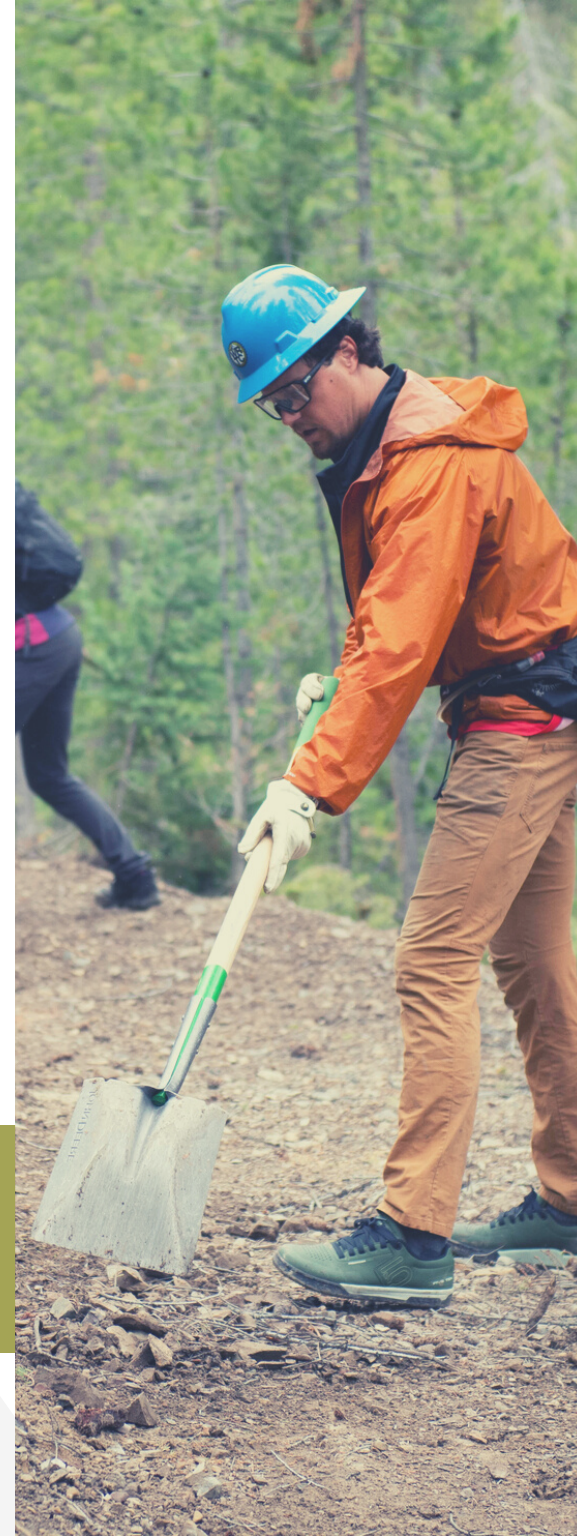
This past season we worked on establishing the Trail Stewards Program guidelines and systems, as well as refining our training program to align with our partners and national **standards for volunteer trail stewards**.

Additionally, two of the Trail Bosses were signed off by the Forest Service to work independent of WRTC staff, meaning they will be able to **team lead work parties next season!**

Thank you for supporting this program and encouraging community-wide trail stewardship.

It has been a pleasure to be a part of the growing Trail Stewards Program. I have gained a deeper appreciation for all trail users and how we impact trails. It has been so fun to learn more about trail construction and maintenance and it feels good to be able to have a direct impact for all future trail users.

- Justin Malloy



MOTORIZED VOLUNTEERS

As always, our local crew of motorized volunteers absolutely crushed it once again - diligently working throughout the season to **keep your trails clear!**

They logged out over **700** trees this season, clearing motorized trails accessed from Deer Creek, Greenhorn, Warm Springs, Baker Creek and more.

The WRTC pays for saw gas, chains and bar oil, along with post-clearing beers and burgers at Lefty's. Thank you to all of the hard working moto volunteers. **We are so grateful for you!**

Thank you!



ADAM'S GULCH

We partnered with the Sawtooth National Forest - Ketchum Ranger District, the National Forest Foundation and Higher Ground to extend and improve Forbidden Fruit Trail for a better adaptive mountain bike experience, replace or reroute the current trail bridges along Adam's Gulch Trail and improve the current trailhead area.

In the Fall of 2021 the team partnered with Titus Trails to perform extensive maintenance on Forbidden Fruit and to build a mile-long extension. This extension is designed specifically for adaptive mountain bikers, but also provides a fun alternative from Eve's for all riders.

The project is on its final leg this winter, with parking lot improvements and new trail bridges. The project should be completed by the end of June 2023. Watch this short film, Community Built, about the project and its importance.

Thank you for supporting this project and continuing to foster an **inclusive trail community!**





MEMBERSHIP

We grew our ranks to **514** in 2022!

We can't do it without our passionate members! Thank you for investing in your trails and community.

Click [here](#) to join our trail community!

FOREST SERVICE PARTNERSHIP

We continue to financially support the Sawtooth National Forest - Ketchum Ranger District trail crew by helping fund wages for seasonal trail crew members. This allows them to spend less time finding funding and more time getting tools in the dirt.

The crew had seven **full-time members** this year. This crew maintains the majority of the 400+ miles of trail surrounding the Wood River Valley, including (but not limited to!) trails accessed from East Fork Road, Corral Creek Road, Lake Creek Road, Baker Creek Road, Fox Creek trailhead, Oregon Gulch trailhead, Adam's Gulch trailhead, Greenhorn and Deer Creek roads.

Below are some highlights from their 2022 season, read more [**HERE**](#):

- 250 miles of trail maintained
- 1,623 downed trees removed from trails
- 38,311 feet of trail brushed

Click [**HERE**](#) to check out a short film that showcases our partnership!

We are excited to continue this partnership in 2023 and plan to continue to improve and expand our combined efforts in the coming years!



PARTNERS AND COLLABORATIONS

Our partners and collaborations are undeniably vital to our success as an organization. We are eternally grateful for the support of the following organizations.



Blaine County Recreation District: We coordinate with the BCRD on trail work on the Croy trail network, new trail projects, trail reporting via Summer Trailink and social media.

We partner with the following organizations through our Volunteer Program and our Trail Monitoring Program. This work takes place on trails throughout the Wood River Valley and sometimes beyond! A special shout-out to the school groups and MTB teams for helping us brush the entirety of the Toe of the Hill trail in the City of Hailey!



Bureau of Land Management



Wood River Land Trust



United States Forest Service -
Sawtooth National Forest



The Sage School



Environmental Resource Center



Camp Rainbow Gold



Wood River MTB Team



City of Hailey



Community School MTB Team



Idaho Trails Association



STRATEGIC PLANNING

In the fall of 2020, the Wood River Trails Coalition Board of Directors and staff created our organization's first ever Strategic Plan, spanning the years of 2021 to 2023. Fast forward to 2022 and we realized that we had **finished our plan** a year and a half ahead of schedule! While this was a great problem to have, we knew that we needed to work on a new Strategic Plan.

In November of 2022, we sat down yet again with [KVH Strategies](#) to hash out our next few years. We will spend this winter (2022/2023) organizing our **ideas, intentions and dreams** into an actionable plan to implement in 2023. **You, our amazing trails community**, can look forward to us improving current operations while building for an exciting future!

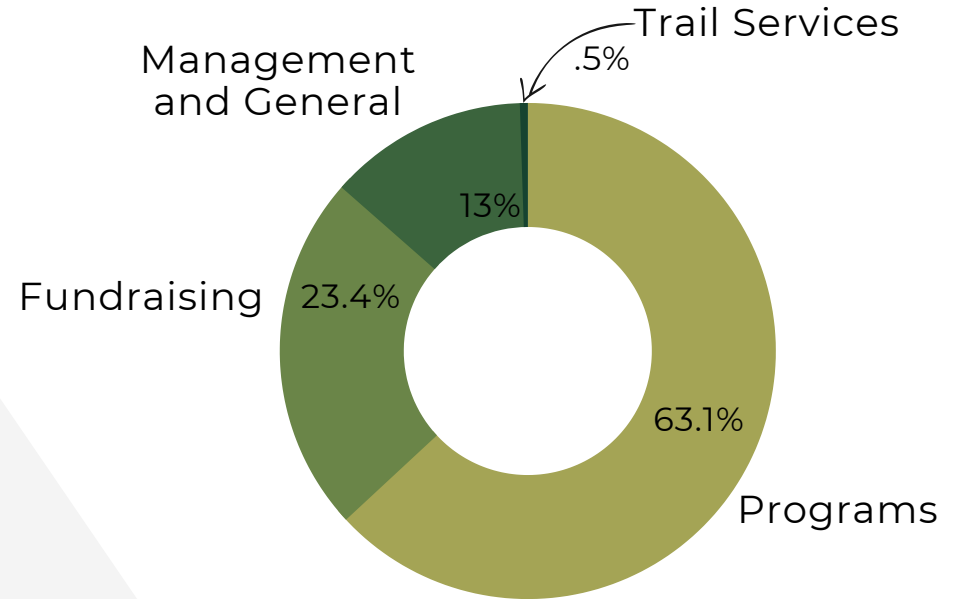
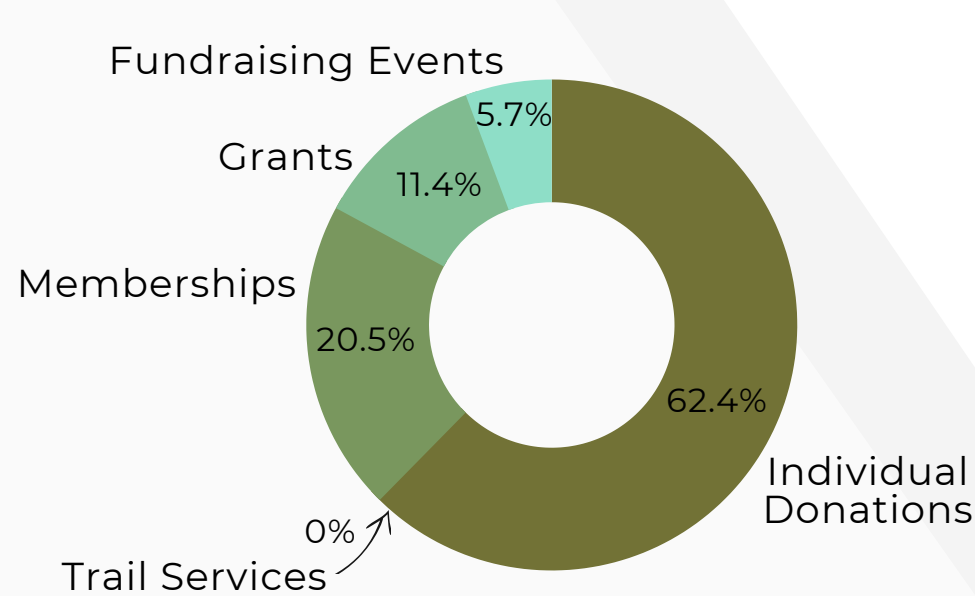
Keep your eyes out for a new Strategic Plan in early 2023!

A big **thank you to Kat at KVH Strategies** for her expert guidance, professionalism and enthusiasm in our Strategic Planning process!

FINANCIALS

OPERATING REVENUE:
\$335,221

OPERATING EXPENSES:
\$285,673



TOTAL NET INCOME:
\$69,548*

*Total Net Income applied to reserve funds & long-term strategic initiatives
** Our internal Fiscal Year spans from 11/1/21 - 10/31/22. We file our 990s with the IRS on a calendar fiscal year, so these numbers will differ slightly from our 2022 990.

WHO WE ARE

STAFF

Sara Gress, Executive Director

Kate Puddy, Membership & Fundraising Coordinator

Emily Rodrigue, Program Coordinator

Carith Kamermans, Trail Stewardship Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt McNeal, Chair

Katelyn Berman

Justin Malloy, Treasurer

Nicole Lisk

Julian Tyo, Secretary

Alison Kinsler

Susan Giannettino

Sam Christian



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Photo credits: Max Benz and Mike Schirf

