



Connect



Protect



Restore

# Conservation Northwest

2017

# Annual Report



Conservation  
Northwest

*Keeping the Northwest Wild*

# MISSION

We protect, connect and restore wildlands and wildlife from the Washington Coast to the British Columbia Rockies.



## Meet our Board of Directors

### Board Members:

Alexandra Loeb

Amelia Marchand

Andy Held, *Board Vice President*

Bert Loosmore, *Board Treasurer*

Bill Donnelly

Bruce Jacobson

Elise Lufkin, *Board President*

Floyd Rogers

Joaquin Marchand

Joseph Joy

Lisa McShane

Patricia Rob  rt, *Board Secretary*

\*Mitch Friedman, (*CEO, non-voting member*)



The Conservation Northwest Board of Directors, October 2017



# Conservation Northwest's

## 2017 Accomplishments

*Some highlights from our year protecting, connecting and restoring wildlife and wildlands.*

2017 brought some expected and some unforeseen challenges, but with pragmatism and purpose, we've persisted in keeping the Northwest wild. Some of our notable accomplishments in 2017 include:

JANUARY

Our Citizen Wildlife Monitoring Project volunteers snowshoe into a backcountry remote camera site in the North Cascades near Leavenworth to find amazing photos of a gray wolf! This collared female wolf is later determined to be from the Teanaway Pack.

*A gray wolf in the Chiwaukum Mountains near Stevens Pass.  
Photo: Citizen Wildlife Monitoring Project / CNW*



With partners, we debut a new short film *Time for the Grizzly?* with award-winning filmmaker Chris Morgan, exploring how grizzly bear restoration would work in the North Cascades, and how it's been successful in Montana and other areas through community input. Film screenings and other events help build momentum for upcoming public comment opportunities.

*Grizzly bears in Washington's North Cascades.  
Photo: Chris Morgan*

FEBRUARY

MARCH

🚲 We secured a court order ensuring that Okanogan County considers social and environmental factors when designating county roads for off-road vehicle (ORV) and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use. The County had previously and unilaterally opened up all county roads with lower speed limits, regardless of risk to public safety or wildlife habitat.

🐺 Annual counts confirmed that Washington is now home to more than 115 wolves in more than 20 wolf packs. We worked hard to support their sustained recovery, including working with local communities to build social tolerance for wolves and other carnivores.

👉 During a National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service comment period, we organized supportive comments for North Cascades grizzly bear restoration. We also coordinated Op-Eds, LTEs, video testimonials, meeting attendees and other supportive actions.



## APRIL

📅 In its 10<sup>th</sup> year, our Citizen Wildlife Monitoring Project completed a season report including highlights from our 82+ volunteers, 27 survey areas in Washington and B.C., and more than 4,850 volunteer hours. All of it supporting local research on rare and recovering wildlife in the Pacific Northwest.

🦋 We begin work on our new Sagelands Heritage Program in central Washington, including participation in the Arid Lands Initiative.

*Sharp-tailed grouse males dance for a mate.  
Photo: HStiver*



🌲 Our forest restoration and road rehabilitation work in Okanogan County helps restore habitat and protect fish spawning streams from harmful sediment.



The 2016-2017 project season of our fisher reintroduction project was the most successful yet, with 46 fishers released into Mount Rainier National Park and surrounding national forest lands to help restore the population in the South Cascades.

🏠 Even as grizzly bear restoration work in the North Cascades slowed down after the last public comment period, we forged ahead in British Columbia with our Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative, including securing resolutions supportive of grizzly bear recovery from cities and tribal nations, hosting a symposium of First Nations and conservation leaders, and working with cattle ranchers to prevent conflicts.

## MAY

Thanks to our fisher reintroduction project with the National Park Service and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, trail cameras confirmed the first evidence of fishers born in the Cascade Mountains in nearly a century.



## JUNE

🐾 Working with local ranchers and scientists, we helped host a Low-Stress Livestock Handling clinic in northeast Washington. These methods help ranchers be more effective, limit damage to natural areas, and can reduce conflicts with predators.

📺 We hosted the world premiere of the documentary *Last Stand: The Vanishing Caribou Rainforest* with a full house at the Mountaineers Program Center in Seattle to raise awareness about mountain caribou.

*Background: Fisher release December 2017 in Mount Rainier National Park.  
Photo: Kevin Bacher*




 Over the past year, we worked with scientists and First Nations in Washington and southern British Columbia to reduce Canada lynx mortality and research the movement of these rare felines.



When national monuments were “under review” by the Trump Administration, we spoke loudly to protect Hanford Reach and other national monuments.


*Our staff leading a ‘Public Lands for All’ rally in Seattle.  
Photo: Paul Bannick*

 We relaunched I-90 Wildlife Watch, an effort with state, federal and university partners to document wildlife on the move in the Snoqualmie Pass Corridor.

Our Executive Director Mitch Friedman authored an opinion editorial for High Country News and other outlets underscoring the importance of collaboration for long-term wolf recovery and durable conservation progress.

*Gray wolf traveling on an old forest road in Washington.  
Photo: WDFW remote camera 2015*



 After months of work with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other forestry, conservation and recreation stakeholders, we celebrated the release of a new 20-year forest health plan intended to restore and sustainably manage Washington’s state forests. Our Science and Conservation Director Dave Werntz will formally advise work done under this plan as a representative on DNR’s citizen advisory committee.



Trail cameras operated by our Citizen Wildlife Monitoring Project volunteers captured images of not one, but TWO wolverines together at a site in the North Cascades near Lake Chelan. Images like this help inform our conservation work for this iconic species and that of partner agencies and scientists.

*Wolverine photographed in the North Cascades.  
Photo: Citizen Wildlife Monitoring Project*

 In its third year of operation, the Working for Wildlife Initiative, led by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and coordinated by Conservation Northwest, made progress to protect wildlife habitat, working lands and natural heritage in the diverse landscape of the Okanogan Valley and Kettle River Mountain Range.

While permanent protection isn't assured until the state's Capital Budget is finalized, logging in the core of Blanchard State Forest around Oyster Dome is on hold.

*Sunset over Blanchard Mountain and the Salish Sea. Photo: Paul Anderson*



Along with a dozen partners and together representing hundreds of thousands of Washingtonians, we strongly supported an administrative withdrawal in the Methow Headwaters to protect this incredible wild place, its wildlife, and local communities from proposed industrial-scale copper mining.

📱 We rolled out a new modern and mobile-friendly website to share our work keeping the Northwest wild!

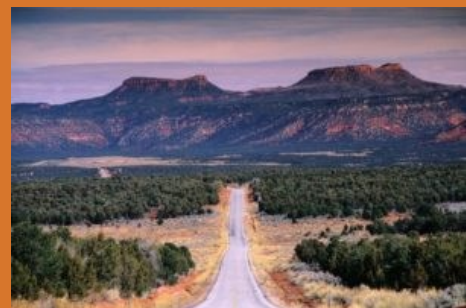


When news broke that two wolves had been illegally killed in north-east Washington, we immediately put up a \$10,000 reward for information that brings these poachers to justice. We're also working on-the-ground in rural communities to promote tolerance for wolves through our Range Rider Pilot Project and other efforts.

*A range rider in the area of the Teanaway Wolf Pack.  
Photo: Laura Owens*

**December:** Through the new Washington Public Lands Defense Network and partnerships with national allies, we stood strong to protect our public lands in Washington and beyond.

*The Bears Ears, two prominent mesas in southeast Utah sacred to local Native American nations.  
Photo: PBS*



**Remember: none of these accomplishments could be done without our dedicated donors and supporters! Your contributions keep the Northwest wild.**

Thank you for your support throughout the years.

For the wild,

Mitch Friedman, Executive Director





# FY2016-2017 Financial Statistics

(April 1, 2016 — March 31, 2017)

## REVENUE

### Contributions:

- Unrestricted: \$1,348,608
- Restricted (for purpose or time): \$609,437
- Released from prior restriction: \$669,213

Other revenue: \$38,871

Interest and dividends: \$720

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**Total revenue: \$1,997,636**

## EXPENSES

Program expenses: \$1,613,320

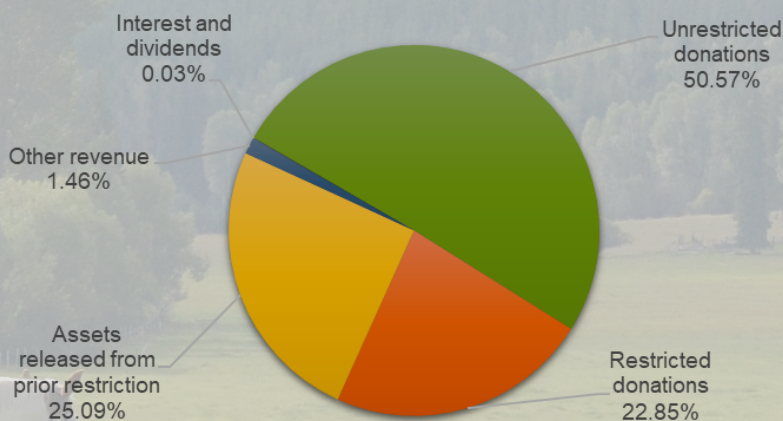
Administrative expenses: \$152,289

Fundraising expenses: \$399,413

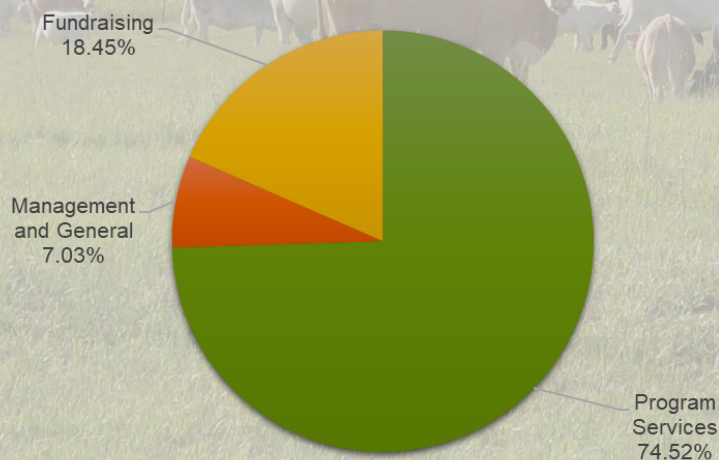
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**Total expenses: \$2,165,022**

## REVENUE



## FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



Total net assets at end of year: \$1,377,609 🐾 Increase (decrease) in net assets: (\$167,386)

More information available on our website: [conservationnw.org/finances](http://conservationnw.org/finances)





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