



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**PORTLAND
AUDUBON** 

TOGETHER FOR NATURE



TOGETHER

Wrapping up my first full year as executive director for Portland Audubon, it's a privilege to reflect on everything we've accomplished. With big wins like increasing protections on six rocky habitat sites along the coast, passing the TREES Act and Natural Climate Solutions Bills, and connecting thousands of youth and adults to nature, it's easy to feel proud leading an organization that continues to deliver year after year. So many of our successes are built upon efforts that have been in motion for decades—some, even more than a century. It's that longevity and deep knowledge of how to effect change that help us continue to protect birds, habitat, and people across Oregon.

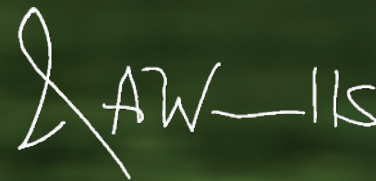
This year was an especially important moment in our history, as we and many other Audubon chapters around the country decided that in order to make sure the environmental movement is a place of belonging for everyone, we would leave the name Audubon behind. In February 2023 we announced that Portland Audubon would change its name. As an organization that welcomes all people, the name Audubon—after John James Audubon, a man with a complicated and racist history—doesn't reflect our values or our mission. And as a statewide organization, the word Portland doesn't reflect our geography. We spent the spring and summer gathering feedback from almost 2,000 people and will use that information to find a name that will propel us into the future. We look forward to announcing our new name in February 2024.

In addition to the many achievements that crossed the finish line this year, we have many others that made significant advancements. We invested in the search for a new site for the

Wildlife Care Center and hope to have an announcement on a new location in 2024. We worked deeply with the Portland Clean Energy Fund to help determine how more than \$750 million will be spent to make Portland more climate resilient over the next five years. We also continued to fight for our mature and old-growth forests by advocating for the Habitat Conservation Plan, which faces threats by the timber industry.

All the while, our excellent educational programming continues to connect the public to nature through programs like bird song walks, summer camps, the Green Leaders Program, adult classes and outings, and affinity spaces for BIPOC, queer, and disabled birders. We're proud to say that our offerings for adults have more than doubled since 2019, with more in-person and virtual offerings than ever before.

I'm excited to share all we have achieved together in this annual report. Portland Audubon's success depends on so many people, including our staff, board, volunteers, donors, activists, Birdathoners, backyard habitat builders, education participants, and all 12,000 of our members. These successes belong to all of us.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "SAW-ILS". The signature is stylized, with the first letter 'S' being large and looping, and the last letter 'S' being a simple horizontal stroke.

Stuart A. Wells
Executive Director, Portland Audubon

FOR NATURE



Building on a Long Legacy

For over a century, Portland Audubon's ambitious conservation agenda has been driven by a long line of passionate and committed leaders working hand-in-hand with staff, volunteers, and community advocates. This year, we welcomed Quinn Read as our newest director of conservation. With a deep history of wildlife conservation in Oregon and a commitment to equity, Quinn is poised to lead the team into the future to protect birds and habitat, fight climate change, and advance environmental justice initiatives.

Our conservation program also evolved, growing our staffing structure to include Micah Meskel as assistant director of urban conservation, Joe Liebezeit as assistant director of statewide conservation, and Stephanie Herman as assistant director of the Wildlife Care Center. Together, and thanks to efforts from former conservation director Bob Sallinger, the team racked up exciting wins on the coast, in the Portland metro area, and in Eastern Oregon, paving the way for Quinn to start her journey at Portland Audubon.

Gained Protection for Six New Rocky Habitat Sites Along the Coast

Completing a multiyear effort in collaboration with coastal partners, six new rocky habitat sites along the coast were provided with increased protection: Ecola Point, Cape Lookout, Cape Foulweather, Fogarty Creek, and Blacklock Point are now Marine Conservation Areas, and Chapman Point is a Marine Education Area. These new designations will help protect nesting seabirds, intertidal animals, and marine mammals across the coast.

Secured Funds for Malheur and Lake Abert

Portland Audubon and partners helped secure \$2 million to support Eastern Oregon conservation initiatives at Malheur and Lake Abert. This will provide funding for some of the out-of-the-box thinking that collaborative work produces. It will also support Portland Audubon's work to understand invasive reed canarygrass, its effects on birds and macroinvertebrates, and methods for treating it to best support wildlife.

CONSERVATION



Black Oystercatcher / Roger VanGelder



CONSERVATION

Helped Pass the TREES Act and Natural Climate Solutions Bills

We lobbied to pass the TREES Act and Natural Climate Solutions bills as part of the Climate Resiliency Package. These bills move forward and fund climate change resilience projects across the rural and urban landscape.

A Win for Willamette Cove

After years of lobbying, the Metro Council voted unanimously to do a full cleanup of contaminated materials at Willamette Cove rather than permanently burying significant amounts of contaminants on the site. The cleanup will set the stage for significant restoration of this important habitat along the Willamette River, and bring it back to public use.

Passed the Metro Levy to Support Urban Natural Areas

Portland Audubon advocated for the passage of the Metro levy, which will generate more than \$19 million a year to operate and restore regional parks such as Smith and Bybee Wetlands, Chehalem Ridge, Oxbow Regional Park, Cooper Mountain, and many more.

Helping to Shape the Portland Clean Energy Fund

We worked with PCEF staff to inform the development of the City of Portland's new Equitable Tree Canopy Program and align it with community and environmental justice goals. The program will allocate \$40 million over five years to increase the tree canopy in Portland's most heat-vulnerable neighborhoods.

Restoring Land Through the Backyard Habitat Certification Program

The Backyard Habitat Certification Program, in partnership with Columbia Land Trust, continues to be one of our most effective ways of restoring the urban environment. This past year 1,486 new properties signed up for the program, equaling 330 acres of land. Participants worked hard restoring the landscape, planting 71,114 native plants in the ground and creating more habitat and connectivity between natural areas across the metro region



\$19 million a year to restore parks

\$40 million to increase tree canopy

1,486 new backyard habitat properties

330 additional acres of habitat



Increasing Access to Nature for All

Our youth and adult education programs are built to help people develop their own authentic relationship with the natural world. Whether that's through birding, creating art, forest bathing, or learning about bats and butterflies, we have endless opportunities for people of all ages to connect with nature in ways that are meaningful to them.

Because environmental education should be available for everyone, our team has worked hard to reduce barriers and make our programming more accessible. This year, we've seen the impacts of that work, with growing participation across our programs. Attendance at our iconic free Bird Song Walks tripled from 300 in 2021 to over 900 in 2022. We increased our Bird Days of Summer offerings by 70%—scheduling 17 fun, sliding-scale excursions designed to engage families, communities of color,

and people under 30. Sliding-scale camps expanded to include winter and spring, reducing financial barriers to out-of-school nature learning year-round, and over 400 families took advantage of these reduced pricing options throughout the year. Local adult classes and trips across the Pacific Northwest have more than doubled since pre-pandemic times, with in-person and virtual offerings. And for the first time, more than half of our educators speak Spanish, allowing greater opportunities for us to offer multilingual programming.

Some years are about creating and implementing new programs, and some are about deepening the work. This year, our education team took our new and existing programs to the next level, investing in partnerships and fostering stronger relationships with all our participants.

EDUCATION





EDUCATION



ADULT PROGRAMS

Free and Sliding-Scale Programs

Our free and sliding-scale adult programs have grown over the last few years, engaging more people than ever, including Bird Song Walks, Bird Days of Summer, Outings, Accessible Birding Outings, and partner programs that provide affinity spaces with groups like People of Color Outdoors and Wild Diversity.

Classes, Field Trips, Audubon Birding Days, and Ecotours

From digital classes to field trips to national and international ecotours, participants in our adult education programs deepened their understanding and appreciation of the natural world, as our educators blended natural history with the importance of conservation.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Camps

Now in our second year of offering sliding-scale fees, we see the real benefits of making camps more financially accessible. Close to 50% of families utilized our sliding-scale model, and 66 kids joined our free camps run in partnership with Verde, Hacienda Community Development Corporation, and Bienestar.

Green Leaders

The Green Leader cohort this year consisted of nine young adults ages 15-19. Green Leaders participated in 125 hours of training about nature education, Pacific Northwest ecology, environmental justice, and elements that contribute to a healthy watershed. Green Leaders gained 150+ hours of experience leading Spanish- and English-language programs, reaching 53 children and adults in the Hacienda community.

School Programs

Students who participated in our school programs explored the forest on field trips to our sanctuary and experienced Outdoor School at Marmot Cabin, learning about Northwest ecology and connecting to the natural world. We also launched a brand-new Bridge to Outdoor School collaborative with ELSO, Inc. designed to increase participation of Black and Latino families.

1,168	free/sliding-scale participants
2,216	adult class and trip participants
849	youth attended camps
2,876	school program participants



Demonstrating Resilience and Adaptation

This last year was one of great progress and great difficulty for the Wildlife Care Center. As we advanced on our search for a location to build a new Wildlife Care Center, our existing facility experienced major damage during the December 24 ice storm. From December through early May, we had to drastically reduce operations, work out of a temporary site at the Oregon Humane Society, and coordinate with partners to reroute injured and orphaned animals to other centers.

We are thankful this happened during our slowest time of year, and we were able to resume operations at the start of baby bird season, when we receive more than half our annual patient intakes.

In addition, the water damage provided us time to update the HVAC, electrical work, and internet; replace flooring and drywall; and make small changes to the interior of the building that improve workflow. All of this means we are more efficient, cleaner, and better able to work in the current building until we are able to move to a new facility. While insurance covered the majority of costs, some of the upgrades were made because of generous donor support. We're thankful that all the upgrades will help us transition the building to other uses when the Care Center finds its new location.

We anticipate this next year will be one full of excitement, as we zero in on a new home for the Wildlife Care Center.

animals treated at WCC **3,129**

phone calls and emails from the public **7,400**

different kinds of species treated **99**

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR

- Hosted our second cohort of interns
- Launched a fledgling reuniting program to help return baby birds to their parents
- Launched a new enrichment program for our rehab animals
- Transitioned to a new call-tracking program that will allow further sophistication of our wildlife hotline



WILDLIFE CARE CENTER



SANCTUARIES

Restoring the Land and Connecting People to Nature

Portland Audubon's three wildlife sanctuaries provide 479 acres of protected and restored habitat for Oregon's native species, from the threatened Marbled Murrelet to the common Black-capped Chickadee. Our three sanctuaries—on the central coast, in Portland, and in the foothills of Mt. Hood—all provide vital opportunities for habitat protection and environmental education.

NW Portland Wildlife Sanctuary

Our 172-acre wildlife sanctuary, just ten minutes from downtown Portland, provides the perfect place for visitors to hike over four miles of trails, visit the Wildlife Care Center, shop at the Nature Store, explore the Interpretive Center, and enjoy education and conservation events.

It takes a big team to help care for the sanctuary and make it a great place for wildlife and for visitors. Thanks to our staff, the Wednesday Volunteer Work Crew, as well as corporate volunteer parties, we saw strong numbers both in visitation and in volunteer hours:

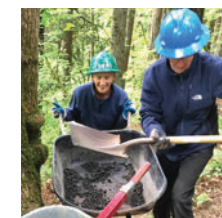
- 63 work parties
- 1,945 hours of work maintaining trails, removing invasive species, planting native plants, and maintaining structures like bridges and boardwalks

Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary

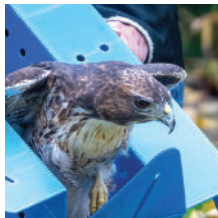
Located on the central coast near Yachats, Oregon, the Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary is a 336-acre reserve of extraordinary ecological importance, home to the federally listed Marbled Murrelet and Northern Spotted Owl.

Joe & Amy Miller Wildlife Sanctuary

Bordering the Bull Run Watershed, the 91-acre Miller Wildlife Sanctuary is the perfect place for youth to learn about wildlife, healthy ecosystems, and natural history. Every major forest species of animal found west of the Cascades either inhabits or travels through the Miller Wildlife Sanctuary thanks to our meadow, old-growth and second-growth forest, and creek habitats.



40,000	visitors to our main wildlife sanctuary
1,945	hours spent on main wildlife sanctuary upkeep
1,100	visitors who attended ed talks (Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary)
584	Outdoor School participants (Miller Wildlife Sanctuary)



Your Lasting Impact



For 121 years, many individuals, foundations, companies, and organizations have made the work of Portland Audubon possible. We thank every one of you for your financial commitment to protecting habitats so wildlife can thrive. You truly are helping us bring people together for nature. Whether you are a new member and donor or have been giving for decades, we appreciate you all.



In the past year, over 12,565 members have made our work possible, from reaching new communities, to enacting important climate policy changes. Our Legacy Circle members provided five estate gifts totaling \$2,124,697, which enables us to invest in the organization's future and maintain our sanctuaries and facilities. The Legacy Circle comprises over 150 members—individuals or couples who have included Portland Audubon in their estate plans. Thank you for the long-lasting impact these gifts create for Oregonians, wildlife, and the habitat we all depend on.

FOUNDATIONS AND BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEMBERS

Alberi Healing Arts	Morel Ink
Backyard Bird Shop	Paxton Gate
Cameron Winery	Portland General Electric
Cindy Thompson Event Production	Portland State School of Art & Design
Columbia Bank	Sauvie Island Natives
Elk Cove Vineyards	Tilbury Ferguson Investment Real Estate, Inc
Ferguson Wellman Capital Management, Inc	Topaz Farm
Grow Construction LLC	Urban Asset Advisors
Harmonix	Vernier Software & Technology
JD Fulwiler Insurance	Washman LLC
Kroger	West Bearing Investments
The Love Portland Group	Willamette Week
Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc.	Zeiss
Metropolitan Group	



OFFICERS

Debbie Elliott
President

Rich Van Buskirk
Vice President

Colleen McDaniel
Secretary

Bob Sternberg
Treasurer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Ricky Allen

Eric Block

Mark Greenfield

Vicente Harrison

Amanda Jordan-Brainard

Roberta Jortner

Audrey Leonard

Sergio Lopez

Judith Ramaley

Elizabeth Semler

Patrick Slabe

Allan Solares

Tammy Spencer

Jasmine Streeter

Susie Sullivan

37,600

hours by 691
volunteers

4,000

wild arts festival
attendees raising
\$194,500

344

birdathon participants

1,911

birdathon donations
totaling \$192,880

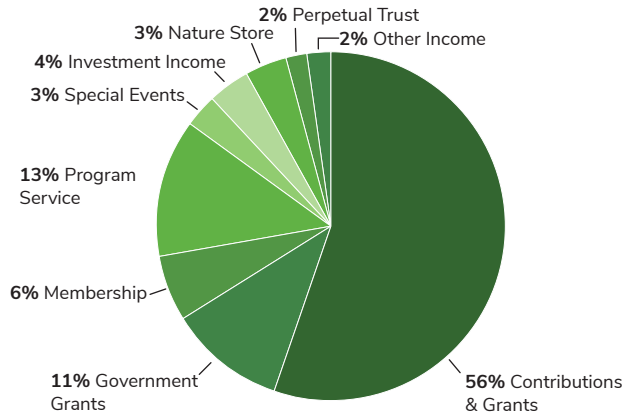


Yellow Warbler / Tara Lemezis

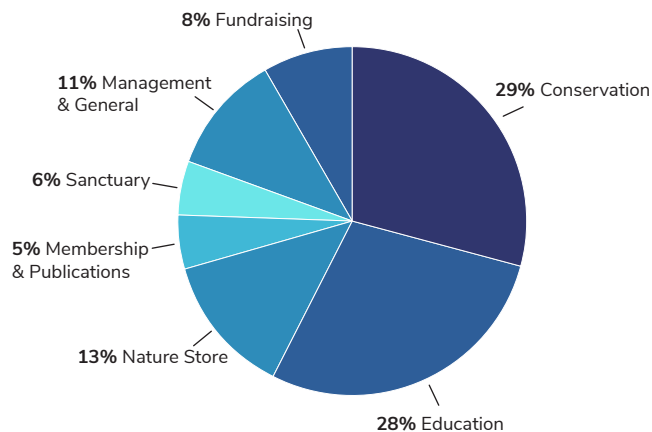
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE

Unaudited Financial Summary for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023



EXPENSES



Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,693,011
Restricted Cash - Capital Campaign	3,234,345
Grants and Accounts Receivables	1,176,944
Inventory	440,725
Prepaid Expenses	153,869
Investments	4,948,933
Property and Equipment, Net	2,581,609
Conservation Property	2,654,058

Total Assets **\$ 16,883,494**

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	295,191
Accrued Expenses	453,417
Deferred Revenue	553,852
Refundable Advance	0

Total Liabilities **\$ 1,302,460**

Net Assets

Unrestricted	
Available for Operations	3,718,276
Board Designated	1,658,648
Conservation Property and Net Property and Equipment	3,619,525

Total Unrestricted **\$ 8,996,449**

Restricted	
Temporarily Restricted	4,442,070
Permanently Restricted	2,142,515

Total Net Assets **\$ 15,581,034**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$ 16,883,494**

Revenue

Contributions & Grants	\$ 4,126,444
Government Grants	\$ 780,000
Donated Assets, Materials, and Services	\$ 28,144
Memberships	\$ 424,851
Program Service	\$ 959,392
Special Events	\$ 248,291
Nature Store	\$ 260,219
Investment Income	\$ 279,762
Change in Perpetual Trust	\$ 121,688
Other Income	\$ 163,268

Total Revenue **\$ 7,392,059**

Expenses

Conservation	\$ 1,656,213
Education	\$ 1,587,980
Nature Store	\$ 724,945
Membership and Publications	\$ 284,155
Sanctuary	\$ 310,855
Management & General	\$ 640,064
Fundraising	\$ 470,407

Total Expenses **\$ 5,674,619**

Increase (decrease) in Net Assets **\$ 1,717,440**

Capital Campaign Contributions	\$ 769,474.22
Capital Campaign Expenses	(\$ 625,059.45)

Net Assets

Beginning of year	\$ 13,719,180
End of year	\$ 15,581,034



A Charity You Can Trust. Portland Audubon regularly receives Charity Navigator's highest rating of 4 stars. From a financial perspective, over 79% of our funding goes directly into programming. That impressive statistic does not include over \$1 million worth of volunteer hours donated annually—35% of our workforce. We are proud to be a volunteer-empowered organization.

STAFF

Stuart Wells
Executive Director

ADMINISTRATION

Elora Arding
People and Culture Manager

Lindsey Wyckoff
Administrative Coordinator

DEVELOPMENT & MEMBERSHIP

Charles Milne
Director of Development

Matthew Hushbeck
Assistant Director of Development

Jennifer Bowen
Associate Director of Development - Major Gifts

Sarah Swanson
Event Specialist

Megan Ouchida
Development Manager

Deborah Rochford
Membership Manager

Keila Flores
Development Coordinator

Mary Kate McMillan
Development Coordinator

Ashley Gora-Owens
Grants Specialist

Dana Manners
Major Gifts Officer

Kady Davis
Major Gifts Officer

NATURE STORE

Janet Moler
Nature Store Manager

Arianne Jacques
Nature Store Buyer

EDUCATION

Emily Pinkowitz
Director of Education

Abby VanLeuven
Assistant Director of Education - Youth Engagement

Candace Larson
Master Naturalist

Brodie Cass Talbott
Educator, Adult Trips Associate

Tara Lemezis
Education Administrator & Marketing Liason

Camelia Zollars
Educator, Public Programs & Partnerships

Ethel Hernandez
Senior Educator, Youth & Family Partnerships

Kesia Tosh
Senior Educator, School Partnerships Specialist

Andrés Umaña
Senior Educator, Camp Specialist

OPERATIONS

Tumurkhuu "Tumko" Davaakhuu
Chief Operating Officer

Braden Catt
Assistant Director of Operations - Facilities & Sanctuaries

Julia May
Volunteer Program Manager

Jonathan Ervin
Lead Accountant

Diane Le
Staff Accountant

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Ali Berman
Director of Communications & Marketing

Chris Dodge
Graphic Design & Communications Associate

Kilee Mendiola
Social Media & Marketing Associate

CONSERVATION

Quinn Read
Director of Conservation

Micah Meskel
Assistant Director of Conservation - Urban

Joe Liebezeit
Assistant Director of Conservation - Statewide

Katherine Noble
Backyard Habitat Program Manager

JP Marchetti-Mendez
Backyard Habitat Program Coordinator

Victor Ibarra
Backyard Habitat Program Community

Teresa Wicks
Eastern Oregon Biologist

Mary Coolidge
Birdsafe Campaign Coordinator

Paul Engelmeyer
Ten Mile Sanctuary Manager

WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

Stephanie Herman
Assistant Director of Conservation - Wildlife Care Center

Connie Lo, DVM
Senior Wildlife Veterinarian

Ashley Hagenloh, DVM
Wildlife Veterinarian

Ashley Lema
Wildlife Rehabilitator

McKenzie Joslin-Snyder
Wildlife Rehabilitator

Alexis DiGerolamo
Wildlife Rehabilitator

Katie Newton
Ambassador Animal Coordinator



TOGETHER FOR NATURE

5151 NW Cornell Road
Portland, OR 97210

Administration Offices
503-292-6855

Wildlife Sanctuary
Dawn to dusk every day

Wildlife Care Center
503-292-0304
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day

Nature Store
503-292-9453

audubonportland.org
[@portlandaudubon](https://www.instagram.com/portlandaudubon)

Inspiring all people to love and protect birds, wildlife,
and the natural environment upon which life depends.

Cover Photo: White-faced Ibis / Tara Lemezis