

WILDERNESS VOLUNTEERS

Giving Something Back



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from the President, Board of Directors

Dear Wilderness Volunteers Leaders, Volunteers, and Donors,

2020 was a pivotal year in Wilderness Volunteers history. After considerable planning and scheduling of 45 field projects, only three made it into the field due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Wilderness Volunteers suffered a great financial setback this year due to this global contagion.

The loss of project fee revenue in this challenging year seriously affected overall operations, as project fees had become the main source of income over prior years.

But our organizational resilience and the extraordinarily thoughtful and strong support from all of you helped us survive the year to begin recovering in 2021. While many small non-profit organizations did not survive the extraordinary economic challenges, Wilderness Volunteers did and for that we thank you. Following is a brief description and accounting of how we made it through an historic year.

**Cheryl Walczack
President, Board of Directors**

2020 PROJECTS

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45 projects were scheduled at the beginning of the year.

Changes were made to enhance and support field safety in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff wrote a COVID-19 Handbook outlining new safety behaviors for all projects. This was periodically updated as conditions changed.



Early in the year we required all participants (leaders and volunteers) to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to join a project.

Ultimately, only the first three projects made it into the field. due to effects from the pandemic.

BY THE NUMBERS

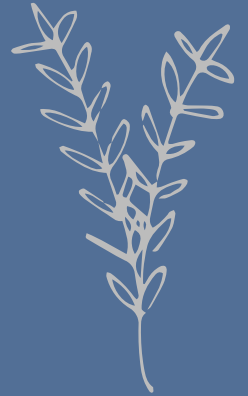
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1
social trail
decommissioned



23
plants planted



3
acres of invasive
buffelgrass removed

1
mile of fencing
removed/repaired

2
tons of rock
removed





SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

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So, what else did we do during this year of "no field projects?" At the January 2020 Annual meeting three new people joined the Board of Directors, bringing different skills and experience in the non-profit realm to broaden the skillset of the Board.

With these new members, the board and staff worked on crafting new and updating existing organizational documents to bring us more up to date with 21st century non-profit organization standards.

We contacted new agencies to prepare new projects for the 2021 field season.

Because operating funds were low, we conducted the first-ever direct email donation campaign in October. The extraordinary generosity of the Wilderness Volunteers community generated over \$72,000 in that one request to help WV stay in business to continue its work organizing volunteers to assist our public land agencies with needed work projects on our protected national land treasures. It was the most successful donation campaign ever in WV's history.

THANK YOU for helping us survive!



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Revenue: \$178,516

Total Expenses: \$144,539

Project Fees: \$51,413

Endowment Value: \$266,249

Operation Cash Flow for 2020



Additional 2020 Financial Information:

We applied for and received a Payroll Protection Plan Loan of approx. \$30,000. We used \$30,000 from our Endowment Funds to make payroll, cover costs, and other business expenses. Due to the historically highest level of response to a year-end fundraising campaign, we were able to restore \$27,729 back to the invested Endowment funds.

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Wilderness Volunteers is a nonprofit charitable organization as qualified by IRS section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. A copy of the organizational 990 form is available on request by emailing info@wildernessvolunteers.org. Wilderness Volunteers' EIN is 91-182692.

WILDERNESS VOLUNTEERS TEAM

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Cheryl Walczack, President

Rick Volpe, Vice President

Curt Mobley, Secretary

Lee Cooper, Treasurer

Ross Holloway

Steve Cole

Paul Kehrer

Don Meaders

Gerry Norton



STAFF:

Ashely Northcutt, Executive Director

Aidalicia Swertfeger, Program Manager



**For more information, please visit
wildernessvolunteers.org.**