

2023
BEAVER INSTITUTE

ANNUAL
REPORT





MISSION AND VISION

The Beaver Institute's (BI) vision is to restore ecological balance with beavers.

Our mission is to be a catalyst for advancing beaver management and watershed restoration, training mitigation professionals, supporting scientific research, and increasing the public's appreciation of the beaver's critical role in creating climate-resilient ecosystems.

Our goal is to resolve all beaver-human conflicts in a science-based manner in order to maximize the many benefits that beavers contribute to the environment.

As the only national beaver non-profit, we work locally across North America through our many programs, empowering individuals and organizations to succeed in beaver management and coexistence, education, communication, and scientific research.



2023 HIGHLIGHTS



3,000 Visitors
Monthly to our **new website**, an international hub for beaver knowledge & coexistence strategies



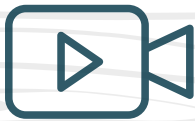
90
BeaverCorps members in 31 states & 5 Provinces



23 New Trainees to BeaverCorps



6 active **National Beaver Working Groups** with over 120 participants that meet monthly & steward multiple projects



6 webinars presented in the **Beavers Uncovered** series



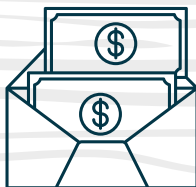
3rd international biennial **BeaverCON** in Boulder, Colorado announced for October 18-24, 2024



2 new supporters became **members of the board**



1 new **full-time hire** joined the team



\$10,025 in **Land Owner Cost-Share Grants** for beaver coexistence distributed to 8 projects in CO, IA, ME, NH, OR, & WA



Developed and launched the **North American Beaver Help Desk**



Initiated partnership with Occidental Arts & Ecology Center WATER Institute to collaborate on the **California Beaver Coexistence Program**.

BEAVERCORPS

In 2023, BeaverCorps grew capacity with the hire of BeaverCorps Program Manager Loren Taylor, who has strengthened the administration, communication, and quality of the program. Alongside bringing in 23 new trainees in 2023, BeaverCorps was endorsed for accreditation within The Wildlife Society's Certified Wildlife Biologist program, demonstrating how our work is complementary and critical to the most comprehensive training for wildlife professionals.

We embark on 2024 with 90 BeaverCorps members, and growing monthly, spread across North America. In 2024, we will launch a new track for tribal, state, and federal agencies, and non-profit organizations, alongside an enhanced matriculation process through the integration of a learning management system.

Our ultimate vision is to equip communities with a beaver wetland professional within two hours of any beaver-related conflict or viable beaver restoration project in the U.S. and Canada.



EDUCATION

developed the Beaver Education Resource Library (BERL), co-hosted by the Human-Beaver Coexistence Fund, a living document and “one stop shop” for those looking to engage audiences of all ages in beaver-related topics. Co-chaired by Sally Albright (Education & Outreach Coordinator at Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works) and Alison Zak (Executive Director at the **Human-Beaver Coexistence Fund**).

POLICY & LEGAL

developed a robust community from across North America to share knowledge and ongoing activities at the local, state, tribal, and federal level, helping to dismantle silos and increase communication between and amongst advocates, scientists, and policymakers. Co-chaired by Rob Walton & Alexa Whipple (Project Director of the **Methow Beaver Project**).

COMMUNICATIONS

developed the *Beavers Uncovered!* and the ongoing Beavers and... webinar series, and are a monthly hub for individuals to share activities and strategies on the local, state, and national level, often featuring guest speakers. Co-chaired by Adam Burnett (executive director at BI), Avary Sassaman (Communications & Finance Manager at BI), & Sheanna Steingass (Environmental Project Coordinator at Benton County, Oregon).



NATIONAL BEAVER WORKING GROUPS

FUNDING

reviewed successful beaver-related grant applications and provided knowledge-sharing sessions on funding strategies, as well as began fundraising and writing grants to provide scholarships for BeaverCON 2024. Chaired by Rachel Siegel (Executive Director at the **Illinois Beaver Alliance**).

SCIENCE & RESEARCH

initiated a monthly speaker series where guest speakers present on new and exciting beaver-research, followed by Q & A. The group continued to develop a Beaver Science Sandbox to identify the “best available” research and future research needs and set up a Basecamp that provides a virtual platform for members to share and collaborate on beaver-related science. Co-chaired by Shawn Behling (Assistant Furbearer Biologist at Washington State Dept of Fish and Wildlife), Brian Clarke (Founder at **Geomorphic Science Solutions**), & Dr. Sandra Clinton (Research Associate Professor at UNC - Charlotte).

MANAGEMENT

reviewed best management strategies and consulted on educational 1-pagers for the general public hosted by Project Beaver. The working group also serves as a space for practitioners to share knowledge on successes and challenges in the field both in monthly meetings and on a Basecamp channel. Co-chaired by Michael Callahan (Founder of BI) & Jakob Shockey (Executive Director at **Project Beaver**).

A scenic view of a river flowing through a forest. The foreground is dominated by a large pile of driftwood, with some water trickling over it. The river flows towards the background, surrounded by tall evergreen trees under a clear blue sky.

NORTH AMERICAN BEAVER HELP DESK

With the support of the William Penn Foundation, in late 2023 we launched the North American Beaver Help Desk. The help desk serves as a continental switchboard for receiving feedback and assistance on beaver management-related issues, with deeper consultations available at a subsidized rate.

BEAVERCON 2024

BeaverCON returns from October 18 through 24, 2024 for our 3rd international gathering in Boulder, CO at the University of Colorado. In collaboration with partners throughout Colorado and North America, we will share the latest and most impactful beaver-related science and research alongside a multiplicity of beaver experiences including field trips, roundtables, workshops, innovative initiatives, storytelling, and beyond. [Registration for BeaverCON 2024](#) is open.



LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS

STAFF

Adam Burnett, executive director

Avary Sassaman, Communications & Finance Manager

ASSOCIATES & CONSULTANTS

Loren Taylor, BeaverCorps Program Manager

Lara Thomas, BeaverCON Producer

John Egan, North American Help Desk Manager

BOARD

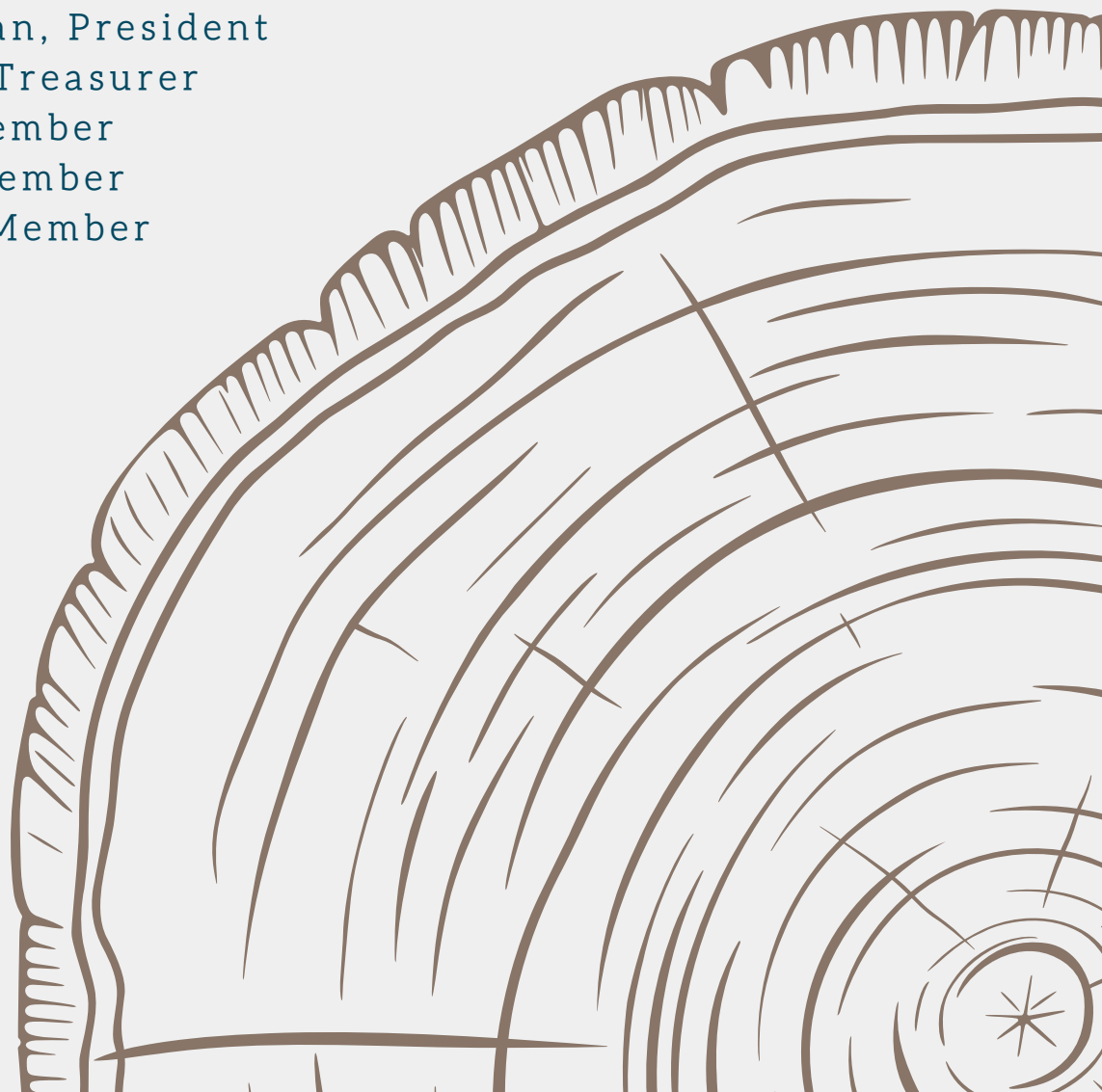
Michael Callahan, President

John Whipple, Treasurer

Sarah Bates, Member

Scott McGill, Member

Reese Mercer, Member



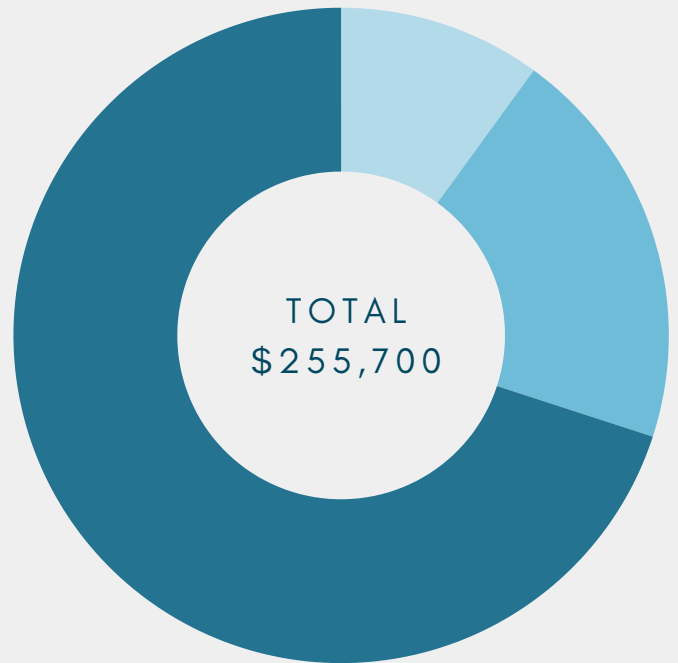
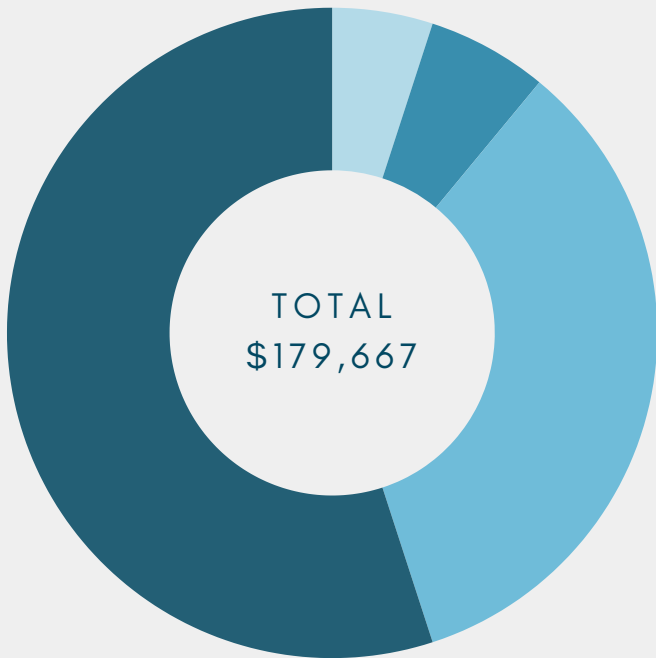
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- 5% Fundraising (\$8,983)
- 6% Re-Grant Programs (\$10,025)
- 34% Administration & General (\$61,843)
- 55% Programs (\$98,816)

INCOME SOURCES

- 10% Individual Donations
- 20% Earned Income
- 70% Grants & Foundations



PARTNERS

PARTNERS AT LARGE

Animal Welfare Institute

Defenders of Wildlife

The Fur-Bearers

Human Beaver Coexistence Fund

Illinois Beaver Alliance

Indigenous Led

Larimer Conservation District

Methow Beaver Project

Midwest Beaver Working Group

The Nature Conservancy

National Resources Defense Council

National Wildlife Federation

Midwest Beaver Working Group

Occidental Arts & Ecology Center

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation

Partnership

Walton Family Foundation

Water & Tribes

BEAVERCORPS

Arable Earth

Beaver and Wildlife Solutions

Beaver Defense

Beaver Craftworks

Beaver Leavers

Beavers Northwest

Beaver Solutions, LLC

Beaver Works Oregon

Best Way Wildlife Control

Eco-Kare

EcoMetrics, LLC

Hudson Valley Beaver Strategies, LLC

Leave It To Beavers Contracting, LLC

Midwest Beaver Management

Native Range Ecological

Western Beaver Cooperative