

2021 Impact Report



*New growth along the
East Fork of the Bitterroot*

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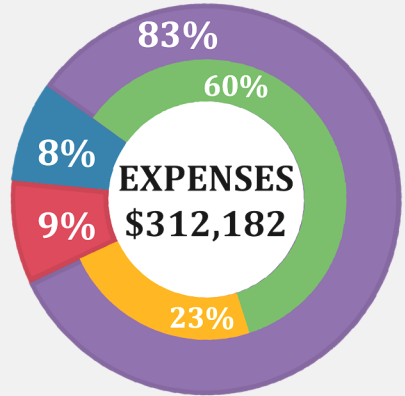
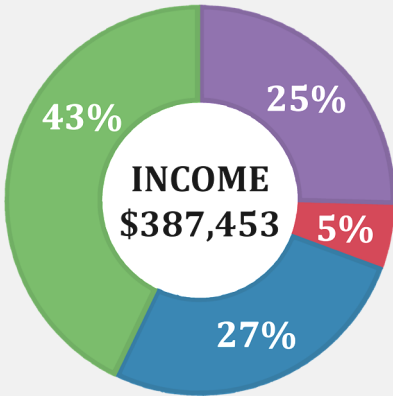
Heather Barber - Executive Director
 Katie Vennie - Communications + Outreach Manager
 Andrea Price - Restoration Coordinator
 Alex Ocañas - Community Engagement Coordinator
 Alex Amann - Big Sky Watershed Corps Member
 Jenny West - Bookkeeper

Agriculture Advisors

Dan Huls + Dan Severson



2021 Financial Summary



- Individual Donors
- Corporate Donations + Earned Income
- Foundations + Private Grants
- State + Federal Grants

- Programs
- Education
- Projects
- Operations
- Fundraising

* Does not include \$31,700 of COVID relief funding from the PPP SBA Loan



Transition and Growth

Not since 2011 has the Water Forum undergone such a transformation. Then, going from one half-time staff member to a full-time Executive Director and an AmeriCorps Member, we set the stage for the incredible accomplishments in restoration and education that we've achieved over the last ten years.

Now, we are poised for our next major changes. Looking to the future of climate variability in our arid valley, we are positioning ourselves to make the most impact possible for Bitterroot water. We are building our team — in conservation, program delivery, and administration — to ensure we are reaching our full potential (as an organization) to listen, partner, and act.

Your support has helped us achieve every success thus far, and will allow us to continue serving the families, farms, fish and wildlife in our watershed.

Thank you for everything. We couldn't do it without you, and we look forward to doing more work for our waters with you.

Heather

Heather Barber
Executive Director

Connecting our Community to

The Water Forum strives to engage our community about the importance of a healthy watershed.



Through multiple learning opportunities we informed youth and adults about the importance of community-based conservation and motivated individuals to take action to care for our waters.

Your support helped to:

- Continue the Earth Stewardship Program in a virtual format for area 7th graders covering natural resource topics like native fish, snowpack, irrigation, and noxious weeds
- Release monthly Watershed Wellness columns and “Did you know?” videos that introduce water topics and lead readers to resources that dive deeper
- Engage students in the field at the Roots Against Erosion project at Skalkaho Bend Park, assessing the site and adding plants

Mark your Calendar



May 5 + 6

*Increase the impact of
your gift through our
match opportunities!*

A DAY OF GIVING IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH MISSOULA GIVES

bitterrootgives.org

Healthy Waters

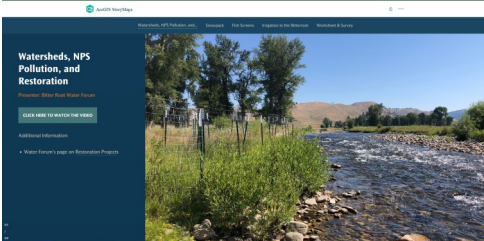


Photo to the left: Katie leads Hamilton Envirothon Team on a site visit at Skalkaho Bend Park

Above Top to Bottom: 8th grade Hamilton Students help plant at Skalkaho Bend Park

Virtual Field Trip for High School Students

Clip of Alan Maki from Irrigation in the Bitterroot virtual tour

2021 Education by the numbers

500+



Youth
engaged

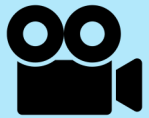
15

Online
lessons for
youth and
adults



1,000+

People engaged
with educational
video content



12

Watershed
Wellness
columns



Improving Water Quality

Roots Against Erosion at Skalkaho Bend Park

Plants along streams help hold streambanks together and provide wildlife habitat. To protect Skalkaho Bend Park against rapid erosion, the Water



Forum planted

11,000 plants, set back from the bank, giving the roots the time they need to grow into a strong web that will slow river migration, protect the area, maintain visitor access, and improve habitat.

2021 Restoration by the numbers

3 Projects



8,659

feet of streambank

328

Volunteers



36

Volunteer Days

1,470

Volunteer Hours

and Wildlife Habitat

Creekside Planting along the Burnt Fork

Success in 2020 inspired Jay Meyer to partner with the Water Forum for additional work on his ranch along the Burnt Fork in Stevensville.



Volunteers planted 370 nursery plants and willow cuttings within streamside fencing that was installed during phase one. Healthy plants will help reduce erosion during high spring flows. *Photo credit to Robert Warren*



John Owen Fishing Access REHABit

Partnering with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at the new fishing access site just downstream of the Stevensville Bridge,

volunteers planted 250 native shrubs and trees. Although there are some aging trees in the area, there was little to no new growth. Rail fencing was installed to help protect the plants and direct foot traffic in the area.

THANK YOU TO

In memory of Alan Abel
Jan Abel
Julie & Wayne Adair
Bruce Anest
Cryss Anderson
Howard Anderson &
Pam Little
Kyle Anderson
Jordan Avery
Austin Baker &
Katie Vennie
Betsy Ballard
Kyle & Heather Barber
Rick & Lynn Barber
Sarah Bates
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John & Jennifer DeGroot
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Douglas Duff
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Hannah & Evan Gimpel

Stephen & Gail Goheen
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Kristen Grimm
In Memory of
Darlene Grove
John Grove
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Marianne & Terry
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Bob Heinzen &
Shelly Robertson
Sandy & Rod Herrick
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Mark Pirak
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In Memory of

Norm Rund

Pierre & Carol

Satkowiak

*Continued on
the next page*

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Vicki Watson
Jenny West &
Sean MacNee
Mike & Karla West
Jill Wetzsteon
Bill & Donna Wichers
Val & Thad Widmer
Mike & Karla Wiencek
In Memory of
Bob Wilkie
Byron & Mary Williams
Susan & Bret Young
Scott Ziegenfuss
Daniel Zumpfe
*... and those who
preferred to be
anonymous*

Local Businesses, Organizations, and Foundations

.....

A2Z Personnel
Art City
Bitter Root Brewing
Bitterroot Audubon
Society
Bitterroot Chapter
Trout Unlimited
Bitterroot
Conservation
District
Bitterroot Drug
Bitter Root Land Trust
Bitterroot River
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Ravalli County Fish and
Wildlife Association

TrailWest Bank
Triple Creek Ranch
Void to Form
Wapiti Waters
Water Master Rafts
Westslope Distillery

Want to Give?



GIVE A MONTHLY OR STAND ALONE DONATION to support clean water in the Bitterroot.

ONLINE	BY MAIL	IN PERSON
brwaterforum.org	Bitter Root Water Forum PO Box 1247 Hamilton, MT 59840	178 S 2nd St Hamilton

GIVE THE GIFT OF YOUR TIME volunteering for our projects, helping with events, or lending a hand in the office.

CONSIDER A PLANNED GIFT

Make the greatest impact possible for cold, clean waters in your lifetime and for future generations

Types of planned gifts include, but are not limited to:
Stocks, bequests, and the Montana Endowment Tax Credit

***Heather would love to grab coffee to talk
more about any of these types of gifts.***

heather@brwaterforum.org | 406-375-2272

***Provided for informational purposes only; not intended to be tax or legal advice.*

BITTER ROOT
Water
FORUM

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BITTER ROOT
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Water in the Bitterroot,
for the Bitterroot

