



Clark Fork Watershed
Education Program

2022

Annual Report



View Online

OUR MISSION: To expand environmental literacy and stewardship through field-based science and research experiences.

OUR VISION: We exist because the planet needs sustainable communities who value resilient ecosystems.

OUR VALUES:



Stewardship

We exist to ensure sustainable futures.



Trust

We communicate factual information that the public can trust.



Science

We encourage curiosity in ourselves and others through scientific inquiry.



Education

We promote scientific literacy through place-based, experiential learning.



Inclusion

We strive to provide accessible science for all.



A Letter from the Director

CFWEP has grown tremendously since the first pilot project in 2003, expanding beyond our watershed to reach the far-flung edges of our state. Initially, the Natural Resource Damage Program charged us with ensuring that every citizen of the Clark Fork Watershed understood what happened here. Our goals included helping our students understand how Montana's citizens were going about creating change and restoring

their landscape.

That work continues, but we have expanded to look at other challenges, including climate change, community resiliency, biomedical innovations and human health. The thing that has not changed in the nearly 20 years of our work is that we aspire to create generations of people who will love and care for their local environments. We create meaningful experiences, utilizing the place-based practices that invite students to participate as scientists within their own backyards.

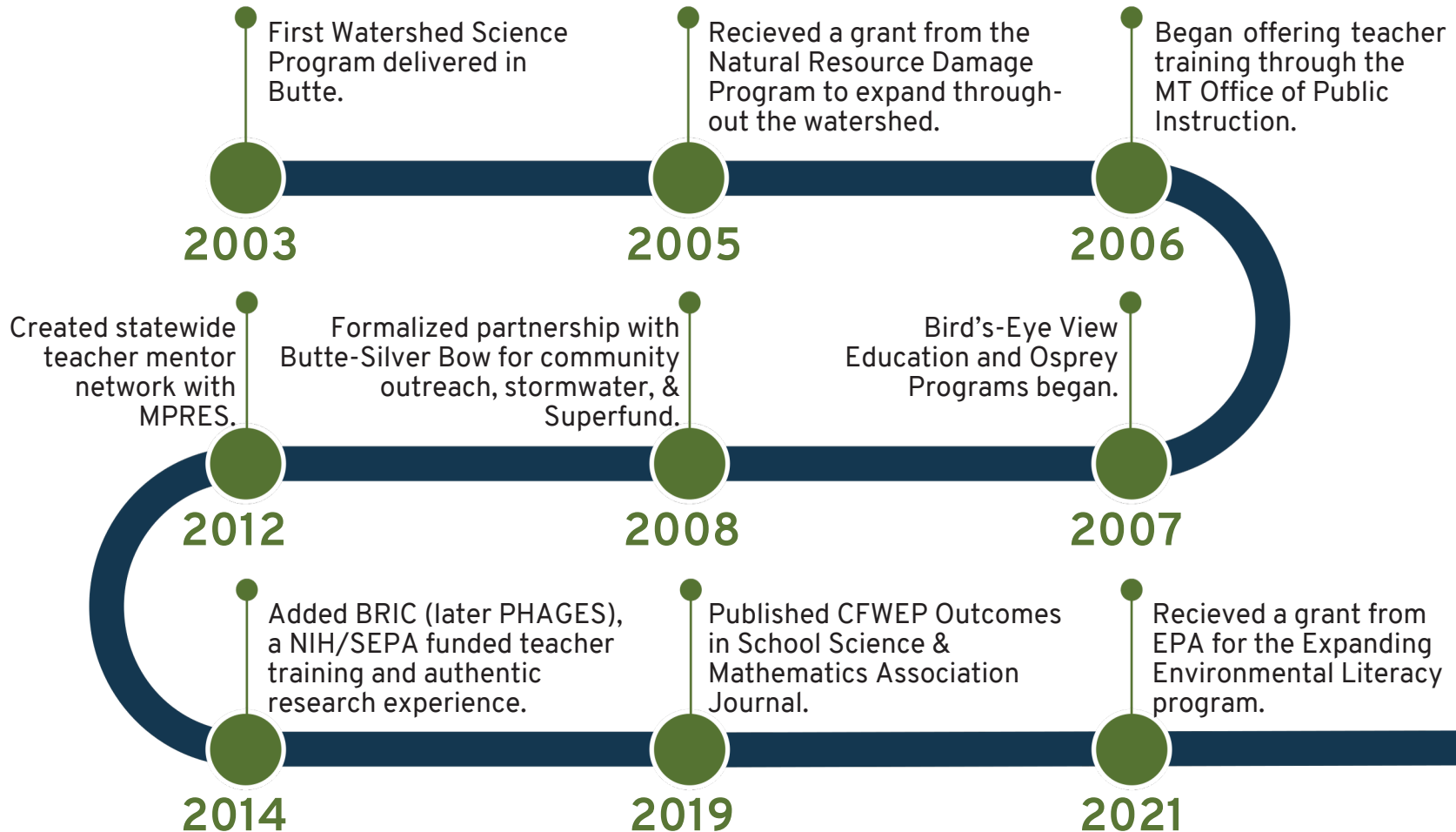
Early in our founding, we recognized that without teachers, our mission would be futile. We could reach a few thousand students each year with our direct service programming, however to make a lasting impact, we needed teachers at our side. To that end, we have uplifted and supported hundreds of teachers through direct service in classrooms and long-term professional development programs. In recent years, we created a pipeline program at Montana Tech that gives students an entry point to STEM. Such pipeline programs are the next step in our evolution as we have recognized that to truly fulfill our promise to create scientific literacy within communities, we will need a wider and diverse field of practicing scientists at our side.

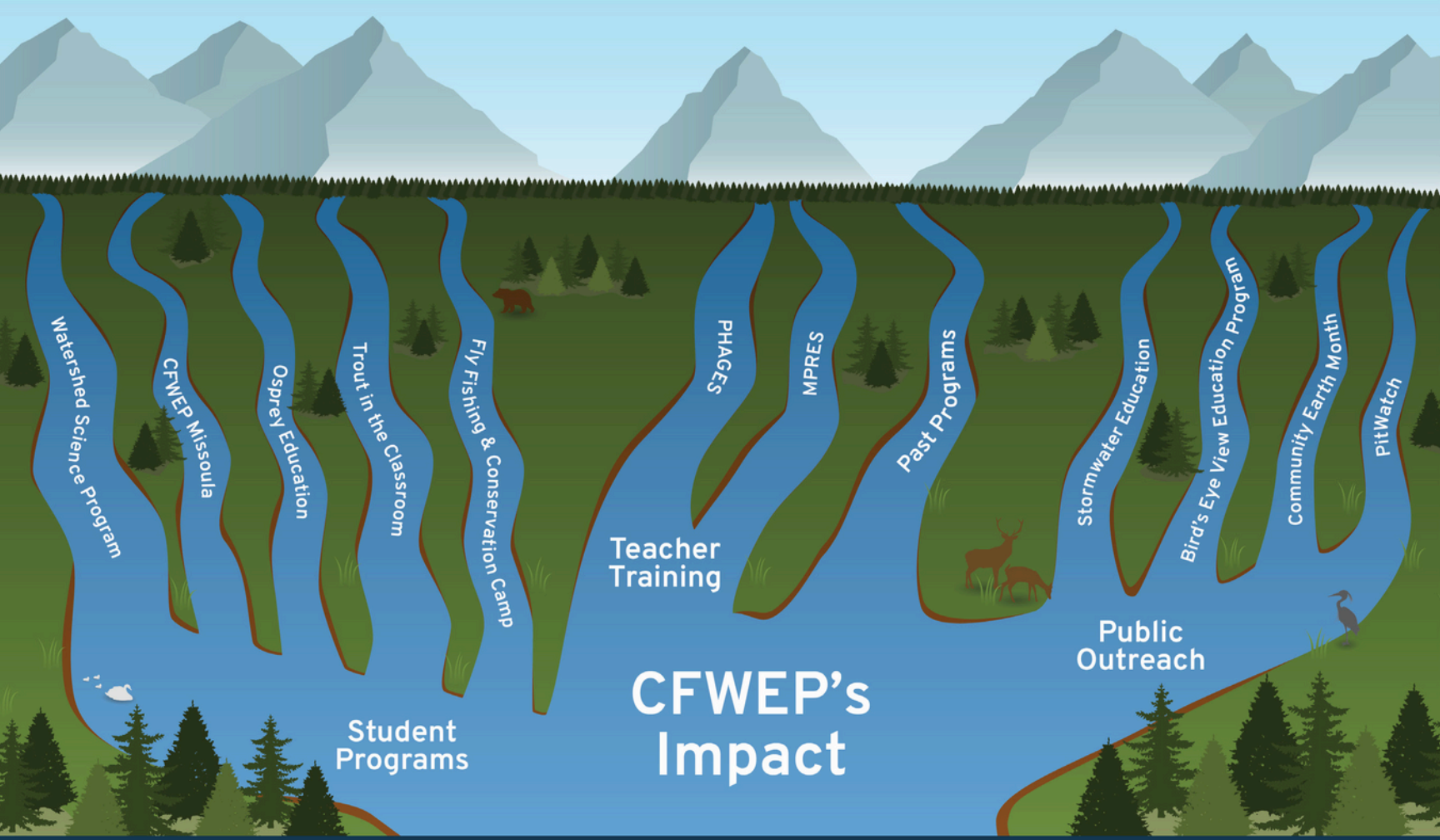
As we make the next leap, we will be diversifying our funding streams and seeking to build partnerships of reciprocity across the state. As ever, we are dedicated to the core ideology of our program and will continue using the story of rebirth and restoration of an entire river as the model to inspire the next generation, who face as equally daunting challenges as the Clark Fork Superfund sites. We know that all is possible with the right mix of scientists, educators, and active citizens, and we look forward to helping others find this inspiration. Many thanks to our donors, supporters, volunteers, teachers, and students. Without all of you, our mission would not be fulfilled.

Kind Regards,

Rayelynn Brandl
Executive Director

CFWEP Through the Years





Our programs reach students, teachers, and community members. Each program acts as a tributary, joining together to create a wider impact.

2022 by the numbers

Natural Resource Damage Program Funded Programs



Watershed
Science Program:
1,182
Students Taught in
33
Clark Fork
Classrooms

Trout in the Classroom:
440
Students Taught in
16
Rural Classrooms



Osprey Education:
369
People Engaged



Watershed Science
Education Interns:
4

University of Montana
Students



Fly Fishing &
Conservation Camp:
13
Campers

CUBS Week:

24,808

Expanding
Environmental Literacy
Program:

\$30,000

Members Involved

Given to Teachers in
Teachers Trained
Subawards

PHAGES: Bird's-Eye View

11 Education Program:
Teachers Trained & 273

615 Community

Members Engaged

Students Reached

Additional
Programs

Learn more about our
programs at cfwep.org



2022 Teacher Awards

CFWEP works with some of the leading teachers in the state. Several of our teachers have been recognized for their outstanding work this year, including:

Kate Mattern - *School Science and Mathematics Association Connections Award*

Chris Pavolovich - *Montana Environmental Education Association Educator of the Year; Presidential Innovation Award for Educators*

Linda Rost - *NEA California Casualty Award for Teaching Excellence*

William Stockton - *Montana Teacher of the Year*

Sarah Urban - *Montana National Board Certified Teacher*

2022 Volunteers

Volunteers are essential to helping our programs run smoothly and effectively. Thank you to everyone who has given their time to CFWEP this year:

Debra Crow • Jonathan Carlin • Pat Cunneen • Maureen Driscoll • Mark Estes Audrey Forsberg • Joe Griffin • Ann Hanson • Paul Helfrich Laura Hooper • Kayla Lappin • Mary-jane Lillybald • Kaimy Marks • Kylie Marks • Keely Martinez • Tom Mocilac • Sarah Mootry • Allie Nawrocki • McKenzie Norton • Carly Peach • Jessie Salix • Oren Schwartz • Christian Silgen • Sydney Stewart • Fletcher Stone • Aubrey Teller • Ray Vinkey • Philip Wilt • Kaleb Winterburn • Mia Wohlgenant • Sarah Wohlgenant • Alexis Zavala



2022 - 2024 STRATEGIC GOALS

Looking to the future, CFWEP is preparing for more growth. We took time this year to set strategic goals for 2022 to 2024. These goals will guide our efforts as we bring in new projects and expand existing programs.



**Secure
sustainable
& diverse
funding.**



**Attract,
train, &
retain top
talent.**

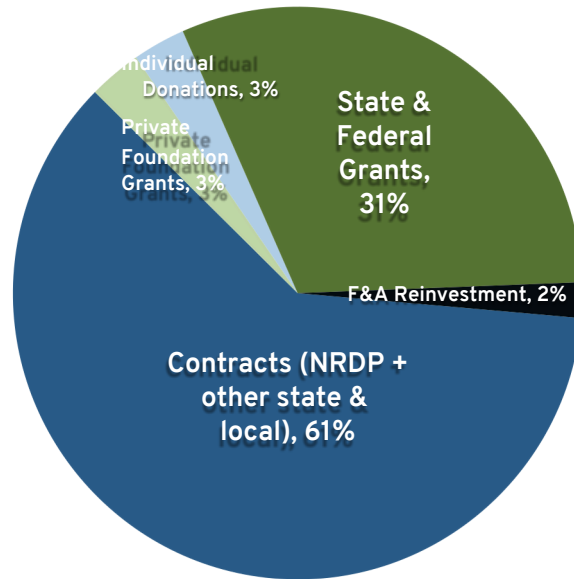


**Implement
excellent
programming
through
partnerships
of reciprocity.**

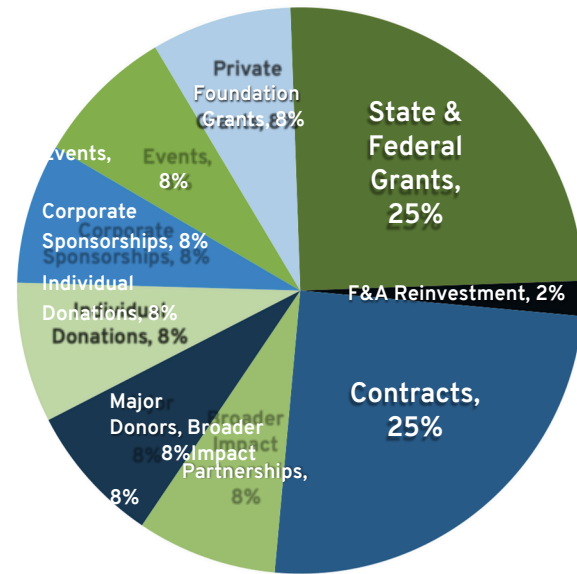


**Increase
visibility as an
environmental
education
resource.**

Current Funding Structure:



Aspirational Funding Structure:



For the past 17 years, roughly half of CFWEP's funding has come from the Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP), the agency managing the Clark Fork Superfund dollars, with matching funds from state and federal grant and contract providers. As the last phase of the Clark Fork Watershed's restoration begins, we understand that sustaining our program will require increased private investment. In the last year, we began working towards the goal of diversifying our funding by investing time in growing our visibility, developing donor recognition plans, recruiting a volunteer Executive Leadership Team of local business leaders, and securing a capacity-building grant from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation.

As we move into a new era for CFWEP, we need your support. We need to increase our funding streams and grow private

invest-

2022 Donors

Our work is possible because of the generosity of our donors. We are grateful to everyone who financially contributed to CFWEF this year.

Cash Donors

\$1000+ Clearwater Credit Union, Elizabeth & David Erickson, Joe Griffin & Sherry Vogel, Bill & Sidni Markovich, John & Leah McCarthy, Melissa & Gordon Wanamaker

\$500 - \$999 Rayelynn Brandl, Dr. Colleen Elliott & Dr. Chris Gammons, Tammy

Gordon, Michelle Hall, Amy Holodnick

\$250 - \$499 Tim & Carleen Cassidy, Rhonda Coguill, Eyvanna Connoles, Les & Stephanie Cook, Karl Haslbauer, Jim Holodnick, Linda Moore, Doug & Patti Neal, Chris Pavlovich, Rampart Solutions, Justin Ringsak, Dori Skrukud, Jewel Zander

\$100 - \$249 Chris Brandl, Bryce Clark, Bonnie Cook, Chris Doyle, Jerri & Jeff Doyle, Randi Edwards, Chris Fisk, Steve Gammon, Arlis & Frank Gardner, Erick Greene, Guscio, Mark Heims, Nestor Hill, Jennifer Hislop, Katie Huckleby, David Hutchins, Gary Icopini, Misty Jonas, Kandace Konola, Justin Korang, Johanna & Dennis Lester, Kate Mattern, Annalee McCarthy, Hillary McIntosh, Walt McIntosh, Dr. Pat & Jan Munday, Ryan & Stacie Pesanti, Barb Richards, Annette Rinehart, Pat & Kristen Ryan, Theresa Seccomb, Mary Sutherland, Dave Swanson, Sarah Urban, Leigh-Ann Whitworth, Deb Williams

2022 Funders

DENNIS & PHYLLIS
WASHINGTON
FOUNDATION



RMEF



In-Kind Donors

\$1000+ Bill & Sidni Markovich, Tom & Vanne Mocilac, Montana Resources, Pizza Ranch, Washoe Fish Hatchery

\$500 - \$999 Bob Ward's, Butte-Silver Bow Parks & Recreation, Pizza Hut - Anaconda, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

\$250 - \$499 ACE Hardware, Rayelynn Brandl, Butte Broadcasting, Butte Chamber of Commerce, Claire Emery, Fairmont Hot Springs, High Alpha Aviation, Butte Aviation, Jim Holodnick, Mount Haggin Healing, Old Works Golf Course, Quarry

Brewing, Peter Robinson, The StoneFly Fly Shop, Melissa & Gordon Wanamaker
\$100 - \$249 Adventure Missoula, Bedrock Sandals, Vern & Gayle Bleken, Butte Art Chateau, Carpenter's Union Hall, Kristine de Leon, Jerri & Jeff Doyle, Megan Fyning, UM Bird Ecology, Tammy Gordon, Aviv Guscio, International Wildlife Film Festival, KRMF, Mother Lode Theater, Oro Fino Coffee, Prima Natural Wellness, REI Missoula, Tracy Royse, Monica Schwemin, Cass Weber

Executive Leadership Team

This year CFWEF launched our Executive Leadership Team, a volunteer committee of community leaders dedicated to helping us expand our funding sources.

Dr. Steve Gammon - Montana Tech

Brad Archibald - Pioneer Technical Services

Maggie Davis-Welch - Butte Broadcasting, Inc.

Rick Edwards - NorthWestern Energy

Elizabeth Erickson - Water and Environmental Technologies

Jeremy Fleege - Montana Resources

Erick Greene - Montana Osprey Project

JR Hansen - Veteran, US Navy, Southwest Airlines, High Alpha Aviation

Lindy Hanson - Atlantic Richfield Company

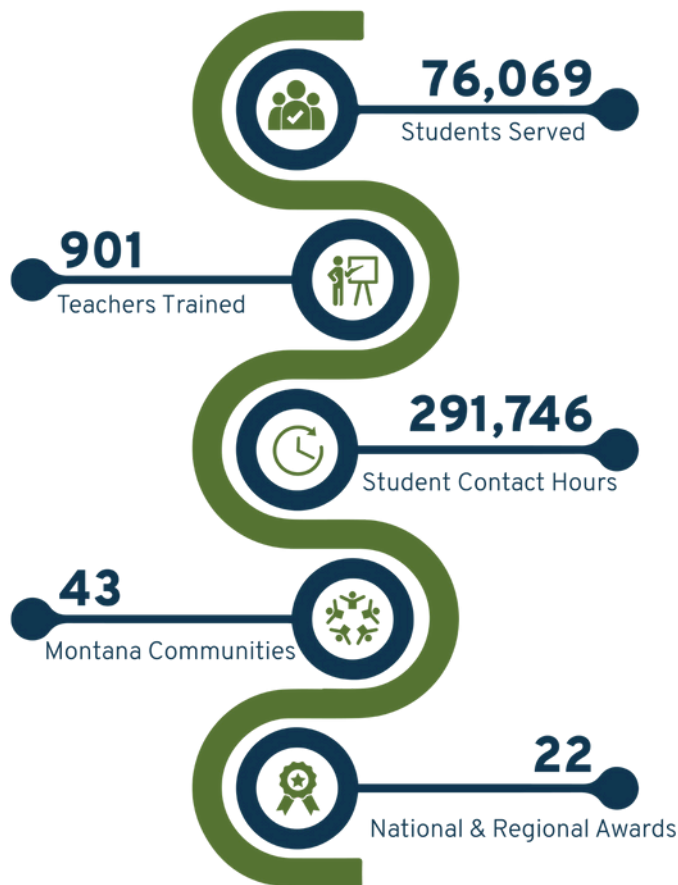
Sidni Markovich - Markovich Inc.

Matt Vincent - Rampart Solutions

Joe Willauer - Submittable

TOTAL SERVED SINCE 2005*

For all CFWEP Direct Programming



*Updated through December 2022



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University of Montana
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Learn more about CFWEP at cfwep.org

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CFWEP's work is made possible by:



SEPA SCIENCE EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP AWARD
SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

MONTANA TECH

