



*Friends of the
Deschutes & Ochoco National Forests and
Crooked River National Grassland*

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Supporters,

In 2016 Discover Your Forest once again expanded our efforts to connect people of all ages to their public lands and to share our mission of stewardship, education and volunteerism. Our partners at the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests have enabled us to reach over 100,000 visitors to our National Forests through publications, educational programs, volunteer projects and more. That number is set to grow with the release of new kiosk and mobile technology co-developed by DYF and the Deschutes National Forest this year. We were humbled in 2016 by the support we received from our partners, local businesses and the Central Oregon community. Our Stars Over Newberry and Backcountry Film Festival fundraisers raised a combined \$25,000 for conservation education programs and our new membership program continues to grow.

We look back on 2016 as a year of tremendous growth. We're looking forward to another year full of opportunities to support our partners and to continue to connect visitors to their public lands. With your support, we believe that our National Forests can become places for learning, discovery, and connection for all.

With Gratitude,



Rika Ayotte, Executive Director


DISCOVER
YOUR FOREST

*Friends of the
Deschutes & Ochoco National Forests and
Crooked River National Grassland*

WE ARE A PROUD NONPROFIT
PARTNER OF THE USDA FOREST SERVICE



EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

We are excited to announce that we have increased our Education Staff from one to three. This will allow us to better serve our students, visitors and partners with conservation education and interpretive services. Whether through ranger-led programs, school field trips or new interpretive panels and publications, we were able to reach thousands this year at sites all over Central Oregon.



TODDLERS & TREES

In 2016 we introduced Our River, Our Forest Program, created to provide an environment where children ages 3-5 could explore, imagine, learn and grow through hands-on activities and experiences in nature, and to instill a life-long love, respect and understanding for the natural world.



CAREER PATHWAYS

In 2016, we helped create a considerable increase in natural resource career pathways opportunities for those seeking to join the diverse skilled workforce needed to protect and conserve our Forests. The addition of a Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator to the DYF team allowed us to recruit interns from our region's most underserved communities.

50,000

\$27,841

**VISITOR CONTACTS BY
WILDERNESS INTERNS**

INTERN STIPENDS PAID



EVERY KID IN A PARK

Working with our Forest Service partners, we introduced 4th grade students across Oregon to public lands right in their backyards. Newberry National Volcanic Monument hosted 1,700 fourth grade students in 2016. Participants in the program received the Every Kid in a Park annual pass, providing free access to federal lands and waters for 4th graders and their guests.

245

**KIDS AGES 3-5 AT
DYF PROGRAMS**

3,300

**EVERY KID IN A
PARK PASSES**

14,115

**ATTENDEES AT
DYF INTERPRETIVE
PROGRAMS**

2,092

VOLUNTEERS

1.6 MIL

**DONATED
LABOR**

68,281

**HOURS OF
SERVICE**

115

**VOLUNTEER
SERVICE AWARDS**

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers contributed thousands of hours of service on both Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and Crooked River National Grasslands, surpassing 2015's record breaking numbers by 8,000 hours! Volunteers built shelters, led naturalist hikes, introduced public lands to thousands of Central Oregon students, managed rangeland projects, surveyed wildlife, pulled invasive weeds, repopulated milkweed to save endangered monarch butterflies, educated people on Wilderness ethics and *Leave No Trace*, and much more! Volunteers also improved their skills and knowledge participating in Discover Your Forest hosted trainings, lectures, and field trips during the year. Over 115 volunteers were honored with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award and Forest Service Chief's Award.





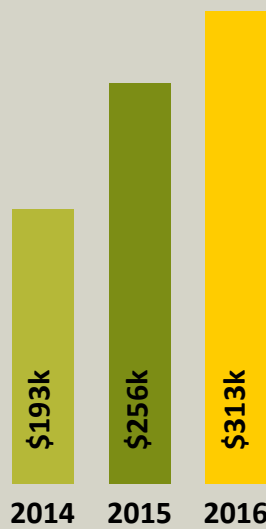
VISITOR SERVICES

Discover Your Forest welcomes thousands of visitors each year to Newberry National Volcanic Monument, Cascade Lakes, and Mt

Bachelor and 2016 was our busiest year yet. Seasonal staff, interns, and dozens of volunteers personally greeted over 250,000 visitors and provided information to help make their visits safe, fun, and educational.

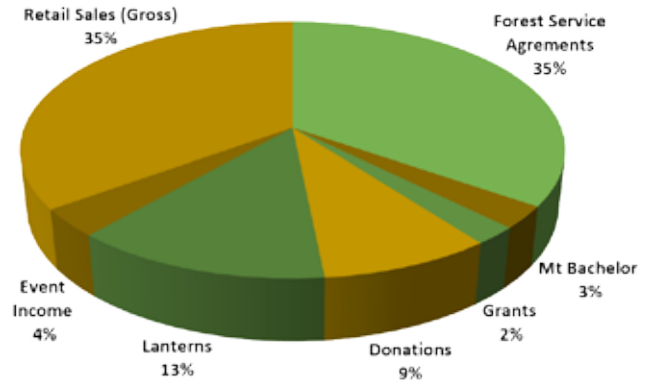
RETAIL SUPPORT

With the opening of Cascade Lakes Welcome Station and new educational merchandise introduced to our retail sites, sales increased again in 2016, expanding funding for projects across the forest. Along with an increase in visitors to Deschutes National Forest and Newberry National Volcanic Monument, Lava River Cave saw an increase in light rentals of over \$18,000.

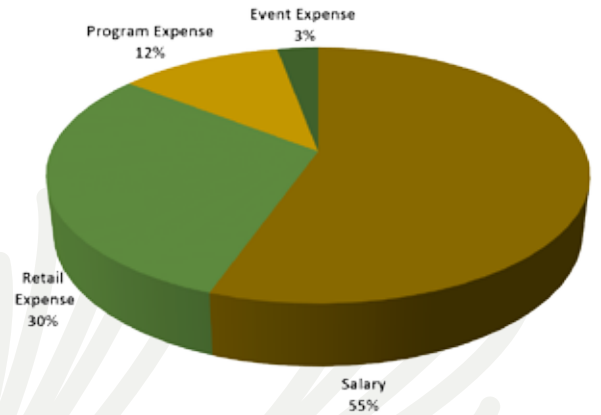


FINANCIALS

INCOME



EXPENSE



OUR DONORS

\$10,000+

Mt. Bachelor REI
Oregon Community Foundation
Visit Bend
COVA

\$5000+

Whole Foods
Gray Family Foundation

\$2500+

Cascades East Transit
NEEF
Kirby Nagelhout Construction
Nat'l Forest Foundation

\$1000+

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
Five Talent
American Penstemon Society

Roger Worthington

\$500+

East Cascades Audubon Society
Suttle Lodge & Boathouse
Hoodoo Ski & Recreation
Haggen NW Fresh
Barbara Webb
Mike Taylor

\$100+

Judith MacNeill
Stacey van der Veen
Impossible Engine Studios
Central Electric Coop
Bethany Ace
Ron Bell
Leslie Dancer
Brian Erickson
Maya Gavreau
Bill Wallace

Frances Julian

John Drake
Joy Nutwell
Kayla Rotunno
Mark & Marty Smolenski
Amy Tinderholt
Bruce Young
Charlie & Desi Vial
Wanda Bardy
John Short
Heidi Hase
Phil Lees

\$1+

Karen Gentry
Rika Nelson
Gail Whelan
Jim Ockner
Stacey Cochran
Cheryl Howard
Connie Axelrod
Rich Bozart
Kasey Horn

Sally Hardy

IN-KIND

Abney Solar Electrix
KBND
Enviroshuttle
Worthy Brewing
Volcano Vineyards
Cascade Lakes Brewing
Cascade Catering
Dough-Nut
Little Caesars
Market of Choice
Room 1868
Bill Wallace
Strictly Organic Coffee
Cairn
Hardtails Bar & Grill
Rio Restaurant
Pine Mt. Sports
Kendall Toyota
Pine Mountain Sports
Alena Nore
Lay it Out Events

Joan Botte

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Don Arnett
Julie Benson
Diana Bozart
Richard Bozart
Sandy Brown-Jensen
Jason Cornell
Mark Darnell
Tom Iraci
Kasey Horn
Adam Jewell
Tim Lyden
Charyn McDonnell
Heidi Walker
Elk Lake Lodge
West Coast Event Rentals
Oregon Observatory at Sunriver
High Desert ESD
Bend Bulletin