

2023 Annual Report



Elk in a frosty field in Idaho. Ed Cannady photo.

FEATURING

Together for Idaho	1
A 50th Year Full of Accomplishments	3
Reflecting on 50 years of ICL's Conservation Community	15



ICL staff, board, and members gather at the annual Wild Idaho! conference in Stanley in May 2023.



The wolverine is the largest terrestrial member of the weasel family in the northern hemisphere. Ed Cannady photo.



Justin Hayes

Together for Idaho

The tempo of the Idaho Conservation League is often one of urgency. Throughout the course of a year we are a blur of motion. Pushing forward, our work is a mix of reactive and proactive. A

nonstop cycle of interlocking planning and doing, planning and doing. Looking back is done with an eye to debriefing what worked, and what did not. This learning is critical to ensuring that our next effort is better than our last. But this blur of motion rarely has a natural pause to celebrate our successes or to mourn our losses.

For me, thinking about the year in review is welcome.

This past year was special—not only for the work that was done (which you’ll read about in this publication), but also because we did intentionally pause to celebrate ICL’s 50th anniversary.

The early days were brought to life by meeting with those that were there in the beginning, hearing stories, and celebrating the many, many victories that ICL had a hand in. The bonds formed by a group of passionate people, united

in their love for Idaho, held fast. Volunteers and advocates, tackling issues in their communities and with visions of how to unite to make all of Idaho better—to protect special places, clean water, clean air, and wildlife.

Fifty years is a long time. Over that time, many people have played critical roles in building ICL. Staff and board members have each played their parts in service to conservation in Idaho. But the glue that holds it all together is you. Your support of ICL—your financial contributions and your volunteer activism—makes the important work of protecting Idaho’s environment possible. ICL is ‘Idaho’s leading voice for conservation,’ because we are your voice. Together we make ICL greater than the sum of its parts.

As I look to the coming year, I see a strong and committed ICL. There will be urgency to our work. Your support means that ICL will be pushing forward, always forward. Together we are building the legacy of the next 50 years.

Justin Hayes
Executive Director
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Taking the Long View, Winning for Idaho



Rebecca Patton

We had some wonderful news to kick off this winter: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that it would provide Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections for Wolverines in the lower 48, where only 300 of these special creatures remain in the wild.

This is an especially important outcome for Idaho—much of the wolverine’s habitat is in our mountains, and this decision will help bring additional protections and support recovery. This decision gives us a brighter outlook for the future of the species.

This win for wolverines is a good example of the way ICL works year in and year out for Idaho’s environment. Wins like this don’t happen overnight. They take years, even decades to achieve. The initial ESA petition for wolverines was filed nearly 30 years ago by ICL and its partners, and it was through persistence and savvy, adaptive strategies, including litigation, that this outcome was achieved.

Taking the “long view” is a core value of “The ICL Way.” Being in this fight for the long run is how we earned this win for wolverines, and how we will reach our other goals for Idaho’s salmon, climate, public lands, water, and wildlife.

Long and hard-fought wins are not possible without the long-term support of people who care. Your continued support is what made a brighter future for wolverines—and makes a brighter future for all of wild Idaho—possible. What a different place Idaho would be without our community.

I am deeply grateful for all of you who make up this passionate, dedicated conservation community. Thank you for your generosity and for being part of writing the next chapter for the Idaho we cherish.

Rebecca Patton
Chair
Idaho Conservation League Board of Directors

A 50th Year Full of Accomplishments

Glenn Oakley photo.



Brad Smith

It took about 30 years, five presidential administrations, and six court cases to convince the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to add the remaining 300 or so wolverines in the lower 48 to the Endangered Species List. It's a mixed blessing. On the one hand, I wish that wolverine populations weren't threatened

with extinction. On the other hand, wolverines have finally gotten the protection they deserve.

Like the wolverine itself, our work requires endurance and tenacity. At times, we encounter harsh environmental conditions or have to scramble up and over high alpine ridges. Despite the challenges that we face, I am continuously impressed by the work of our staff. It's very difficult to summarize all of our accomplishments—made possible by your support—in the limited space of an annual report, but I hope you share my appreciation for the things we achieved together in 2023.



Wolverines require large, isolated, undisturbed tracts of wild country—particularly during winter, when they use deep, high-elevation snowpack to den and rear their kits. Ed Cannady photo.

WILDLIFE

The goal of ICL's wildlife program is to restore populations of native species and maintain Idaho's wildlife diversity. Like the wolverine, the American Bison does not roam as far and wide as it once did. Fortunately, ICL is involved in efforts to revamp an outdated Bison Management Plan for the Yellowstone Ecosystem. Yellowstone bison are the most genetically pure bison in the world. They should not be confined to Yellowstone National Park. Bison should be free to roam a larger portion of their historical range.

We are also pushing back on Idaho's efforts to reduce the State's wolf population to a mere 350 individuals. All of Idaho's native fish and wildlife deserve to be perpetuated not only for aesthetic and ecological purposes but also for the benefit of future Idahoans to come. Who are we to pick and choose which species are worth saving and which ones are not?

SALMON AND STEELHEAD

Our campaign to restore wild, abundant salmon and steelhead in the Snake River reached a significant milestone in December. The White House announced an agreement with Northwest states, Tribes, and conservation groups that commits funding to urgent salmon protection projects, supports the development of Tribally-owned clean energy resources, and analyzes how to replace the transportation and irrigation services provided by the four lower Snake River dams.

This legal agreement came in response to a groundbreaking, state-Tribal roadmap for salmon recovery, entitled the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative (CBRI). The CBRI is a comprehensive action plan to restore salmon and steelhead to abundance throughout the region. The commitments announced by the Biden Administration are the first steps in making the CBRI a reality.



Snake River sockeye salmon face the most arduous journey of any Idaho fish—swimming more than 900 miles and climbing more than 6,500 feet in elevation to their home waters in the Sawtooth Valley.

We worked overtime this year to pressure Administration officials into securing this agreement. Our steady presence in Washington, D.C., in federal listening sessions, and in a summer public comment period ensured that agency leaders heard consistently from salmon advocates. Our Mobilization Team engaged thousands of people, who dominated each of these forums.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded that climate change is the number one threat to wolverines in its decision to add the species to the Endangered Species List. Climate change also threatens numerous other species of fish and wildlife, water, air, lands, and communities. Climate change affects everything. That's why ICL is working to reduce carbon dioxide and methane emissions from Idaho's two largest emitting sources—the energy and transportation sectors.

On the transportation front, ICL is active in Idaho's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure program,

helping to identify opportunities to increase the use of electric vehicles and access to charging.

Our energy work is also bringing us closer to a renewable energy future. In Idaho Power's first rate case in 12 years, we negotiated a lower increase in monthly charges than originally proposed, which has downstream effects on energy savings and bill impacts. Along with helping future-proof Idaho Power's energy generation portfolio, we will participate in workshops on an accounting method that helps reflect the real value of renewables on the grid in comparison to fossil fuel resources.

Our wins for energy efficiency touched other sectors, too. We successfully pushed back against a proposal to remove numerous commercial and residential building codes that promote energy efficiency. Finally, we secured two major wins to keep electricity costs from spiraling—benefiting all customers, especially those on low or fixed incomes. ICL's work to make Idaho carbon neutral benefits all Idahoans—because in the long run, the most affordable grid is a clean grid, and everyone needs clean air to breathe.



The electric vehicle transition is gaining speed in McCall, where new charging stations were just installed at the end of 2023.



Winter falls on the Crooked Fork of the Lochsa River in the Clearwater National Forest. Jay Krajic photo.

PUBLIC LANDS

From the Snake River Plains to the crest of the Selkirk Mountains, ICL scored numerous victories for our public lands this year. Through a collaborative effort involving an array of stakeholders, ICL helped craft a winter recreation plan for one million acres of national forest lands in North Idaho. The Kaniksu Winter Travel Plan strikes a balance between winter recreation and the needs of wildlife, safeguarding caribou, wolverine, lynx, big game, proposed wilderness, and backcountry skiing areas.

Another major success came when the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a \$150,000 penalty against a miner who knowingly engaged in suction dredge mining in the South Fork Clearwater River without a permit. This landmark decision puts rogue miners across the West on notice that they must follow the laws that protect clean water and fish.

In west central Idaho, ICL is still fighting mining company Perpetua Resource's proposal to develop an open pit gold mine in the South Fork Salmon River headwaters. The South Fork is the most important chinook salmon fishery in the state, and our water and salmon are more precious than gold.

With a final environmental impact statement due in the coming year, we'll continue to fight this one until the end.

The threat of losing public lands to development remains a big concern in west central Idaho, particularly with state endowment lands. ICL helped start a community coalition called United Payette (UP) in response to a proposal to purchase state land around Payette Lake and then subdivide and develop luxury homes there. UP secured a 2-year recreation lease with the Idaho Department of Lands, ensuring public access to some of these parcels. UP also played a role in designating Shellworth Island in Payette Lake as an Area of Critical Concern, helping prevent future development.

National forest lands are a large source of timber in Idaho. From time to time, there are timber sales that require our attention. Through an administrative objections process, we successfully convinced the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests to scale back the Dead Laundry Timber Sale in the North Fork Clearwater River over concerns regarding erosion, sediment, and bull trout. The Sage Hen Timber Sale on the Boise National Forest has also been improved for the better, but it took a lawsuit and a few years to get there.

Updating large land management plans is another priority for ICL. In 2023, the Bureau of Land Management designated Idaho's first Backcountry Conservation Area in the Bennett Hills north of Mountain Home—marking a win for elk, mule deer, hunters, and non-motorized recreationists.

CLEAN AIR AND WATER

One of ICL's goals is to ensure that Idaho's water and air are clean and safe. To make sure this goal is a reality, ICL does something that no other organizations do—we track every single air and water pollution permitting program across the entire state. We also closely monitor existing permit holders and hold them accountable for violations of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act.

Since the spring of 2022, the Galena Mine near Wallace has discharged more arsenic and lead than allowed under its permit, and in some months,



ICL Water Quality Stewards Perky Smith-Hagadone and Deborah Crain sample Oden Bay on Lake Pend Oreille.

as much as 186%! The State often fails to hold polluters accountable, but when ICL threatened to sue the mining company, Idaho fined the Galena Mine more than \$220,000 and ordered it to build a new pollution treatment plant.

ICL also issued our sixth Wastewater Treatment Plant Report in 2023, highlighting which plants are in compliance with the Clean Water Act and which ones are not. This report garnered significant media attention and will continue to be an important tool to help highlight sewage treatment plants that are in need of improvements.

For the second year in a row, ICL monitored water quality in Lake Pend Oreille. Our citizen-science water quality monitoring program identified severe pollution in Boyer Slough, which prompted the Department of Environmental Quality to develop a clean-up plan for the slough.

We are also partnering with the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Ktunaxa Nation Council, and environmental groups in Montana and British Columbia to address mining pollution in the Kootenai River. Mountaintop removal coal mines in southeast British Columbia are bleeding toxic levels of selenium into the

Kootenai River, and impacting fish in the Kootenai River in Idaho. There are growing indications that delegates of Tribal, U.S. and Canadian governments will soon announce a process to tackle this issue.

High Country News once called the Snake River Idaho's sewer system. The Snake carries high levels of pollution from farms, dairies, industrial facilities, sewage treatment plants, and other sources. We remain steadfast in our efforts to revise the phosphorus pollution budget for the Mid-Snake River near Twin Falls. Through our science-driven, pragmatic approach, we are closing in on a revised pollution plan that aims to significantly reduce phosphorus pollution—and the other problems it causes, like outbreaks of toxic algae—in the river.

ICL's long-term campaign to restore the Snake River to a safe, swimmable, and fishable condition became all the more relevant in 2023 with the discovery of quagga mussels in the Snake River this past fall. Having already solidified ourselves as one of the strongest environmental voices for the Snake, we were well positioned to step in and offer our perspective to the State on how to best handle this difficult situation. We will continue our work to clean up pollution in the Snake and keep quagga mussels and other aquatic invasive species out of our watersheds through our advocacy efforts.

Jeff Abrams, Mitch Cutter, Jennifer Ekstrom, Adrian Gallo, Josh Johnson, John Robison, and Will Tiedemann contributed to this update.

Brad Smith
Conservation Director

The Power of People: Expanding the Voice for Conservation

ICL's External Relations Team focuses on helping ICL reach its conservation and development goals through communications, marketing, grassroots outreach, and engagement. We connect our supporters to decision-makers, keep our community informed, and amplify our messages with a variety of tools. We also find ways to celebrate you—the conservation community that makes ICL's work possible.

Our 50th celebration was a big year for this team! We produced a beautiful 50th publication honoring ICL's past, present, and future. Many of you asked for extra copies of this publication, so we did a reprint—you can call our Boise office to get more.

Along with celebrating ICL's first 50 years, this team helped ICL make strides toward our vision for the future. In April, more than 800 environmental journalists from across the country came to Boise for the Society of Environmental Journalists conference. No organization was more represented on the agenda than ICL. Staff led and spoke on panels, field outings, and more. We sat on the opening plenary for a discussion about clean energy and public lands with the directors of the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service—raising ICL's profile on the national stage and highlighting some of our biggest concerns here at home.

Our work with journalists didn't stop there. In 2023, we shared our work through more than 215 media stories featuring ICL. This included a story in the *L.A. Times*, front-page stories in the *Idaho Statesman*, and regular contributions to the *Idaho Press Tribune*, *Sandpoint Reader*, and more.

Our Youth Salmon Protectors (YSP) also helped ICL reach new audiences. Patagonia published a story and short film about YSP, reaching an audience of over 5 million people. YSP also

took their story all the way to D.C., where they advocated alongside Tribal youth for salmon in meetings with decision makers. YSP also showed the power of standing in solidarity with Tribes when speaking on a youth panel at a Tribal-led conference in November.

In 2023, we held over 100 events across the state highlighting our conservation work and connected thousands of people to decision makers. Our Mobilization Team sent more than 120,000 text messages and made thousands of phone calls and emails to alert advocates about key opportunities to take action. This massive grassroots pressure helps us reach our conservation goals.

From applying public pressure to relieving pressure off of Idaho's special places, ICL's Wilderness Stewards covered more than 1,000 miles of wilderness trails this year. They left central Idaho's special places cleaner than they found them and helped spread ICL's message to nearly 3,000 trail users. From the land to the water, our Water Quality Stewards in North Idaho earned two awards for their work to protect Lake Pend Oreille—the Timeless Adult Volunteer Award and the Governor Cecil D. Andrus Volunteer of the Year Award. These programs not only deepen the ties between people and place, but make a real difference for Idaho's special places.

ICL continues to be Idaho's voice for conservation in the Statehouse. The 2024 session is now underway, and ICL hits the marbled floors every day to represent you and protect the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the lands and wildlife you love. Your continued engagement and support makes our presence at the Statehouse—and all of our work—possible. Thank you.

Abby Urbanek
Communications & Marketing Manager

Lana Weber
Community Engagement Coordinator

Our Donors

ICL's members and donors power our mission and make a lasting impact. With sincere appreciation, we acknowledge your vital role in shaping the present and future success of our conservation community in fiscal year 2023 (Oct. 1, 2022 – Sep. 30, 2023).

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 Patrice Davies
 Larry Dean
 Liese and John Dean
 Peggy Dean
 Brad & Ellen DeAustin
 Sierra Debenham
 Jane DeChambeau
 Heather Dermott
 Hugh C. & B. J. Diener
 John & Carey Dondero
 Nancy Dooley & Reid
 Treadaway
 Julie Driver
 David & Mary Dudley
 Chris & Holley duPont
 Kirk and Pam Ebertz
 Kip & Carly Edwards
 Bob & Ardyth Eisenberg
 Robert and Diana Ekedahl
 John T. Elle
 Allen Ellender
 Barbara Swain & Dave
 Estes
 Joyce Fabre and Craig
 Randle
 Judy Farnsworth
 Deborah & Richard
 Ferguson
 Jeralyn Fiedler
 Erik Fisher and Nowell King
 Heidi Fisher
 Dick & Verla Flores
 Ed Forman & Jan
 Swanberg
 Ron & Laura Forsberg
 Allison Fowle
 Sheri Freemuth
 Peter Friedewald & Marta
 Sylvia

Sean, Penelope, Avery,
 Brennan and Lilly Gaffney
 Walt & Laurie Gammill
 Janice Gardner
 Geoffrey Gates and Debbi
 Rasmussen
 Cynthia Gearhard
 Suzanne Gerlits
 Susan Giannettino & Jim
 Keller
 Deborah Glaser and
 Andrew Rafkind
 Jackie Groves
 David Gullion & Linda
 Hummel
 Amy Haak
 Kirk & Betsy Hall
 Paul Hanna
 Carolyn Harper
 Jeanna Harwood
 Rebecca Hawley
 Happy Hawn
 Thom Hayes
 Antonia & Howard Hedrick
 John Heimer and Marie
 Meyer
 Barrett Heywood
 Alene & Douglas Hix
 Wendy & Greg Hosman
 Jennifer Dickey & Andy
 Huang
 Howard & Holly Huff
 Denise & Dave Hunt
 Hollie Hunter & Stephen
 Gardner
 Idaho Organization of
 Resource Councils
 Idaho Rocky Mountain
 Ranch
 Roger and Janice Inghram
 Pauline Mary Irish
 Craig Jensen
 Johanna Jensen
 AnnMarie and Zephaniah
 Johnson

Harold & Ann Marie Jones
 Debra Kahl
 Bruce Kaufman
 Rick Katucki
 John & Jan Kee
 Janet Kellam & Andy
 Munter
 Virginia Kelly
 Louise & Trent Kellog
 Peggy Killen
 Phylis King
 Pete Knox and Robin
 Knight
 Bonnie Krafchuk and
 Richard Young
 Joe Krejci
 Delaney Lane
 John & Inge-Lise Lane
 Steve & Jackie Larsen
 Kevin Learned & Amy Stahl
 Kenton Lee
 Jeanne Leffingwell &
 James Reid
 Pam & Peter Leschak
 Tracy L'Herisson
 Ed & Joyce Lider
 Barbara Lindgren
 Jeanne Ernst-Liston & Tom
 Liston
 Woodina Livingston
 Mary Logan
 Mitch Long & Margrit
 Donhowe
 Laird Lucas
 Nancy Luebbert
 Dave Lux, Nancy Kertis &
 Brady Lux
 Gregory & Ann Lyle
 Kathy Martin
 Mark Masselli
 Bob & Lisa Mayer
 Kathleen McCarter
 John McCarthy & Babette
 Munting

LouAnn McCune
 Patricia McDaniel
 Sophia, Abbie and Scott
 McKay
 Jack & Peggy McMahon
 Jim & Sandii Mellen
 Sarah Michael & Bob Jonas
 Paul and Sydney Mile
 Michael & Barbara Miller
 Susan Miller
 Christopher and Krista
 Moler
 Suki & Bill Molina
 Bill Moore
 Laura & Erin Moore
 Moran Consulting
 Leigh Morse
 Hugh & Barb Mossman
 Diane Murphy
 Robert Myers
 Ronald Myers
 Lindsay Myrick
 Clay Napper & Charlie
 Barnett
 Greg Nelson
 Janet Nelson
 Marycarol Nelson
 Nancy & David Nelson
 Marcia Ney
 Elsa Lee & Kurt Nilsson
 Teri Norell & Chuck Roth
 John C. Okada
 Betsy Olberding & Stanley
 Hall
 Grant & Patty Osberg
 Tess O'Sullivan & Jeremy
 Fryberger
 Jeannie Owens
 Anthony Park
 Rachel Parke
 Bryan Passmore
 Steve & Marylyn Pauley
 Danette Phelan & Philip
 Hollar

Kathy Peter
 Mary Faurot Petterson
 Steve Piatek & Margaret
 Rosegay
 Alex Piet
 PM Land and Cattle, LLC
 Kirsten Pomerantz
 Theresa Potts
 Kay Marie Powell
 Joel and Susan Price
 Rick & Julie Price
 Nick Purdy
 Rich & Georgiann Raimondi
 Elisabeth Ratcliff & Charles
 Tate
 James Reece & Pat Hine
 Mary and Jim Rickerd
 John Rogers
 John & JoAnn Rohyans
 Roscoe Family
 Jim Rosenfeld
 Dr. Roger Rosentreter &
 Ann DeBolt
 Michael Ross
 Char Roth
 Darwin and Char Roy
 Scott Runkel
 Frances Rutter
 Carole and Michael
 Sampson
 Keith & Lynn Sander
 In Memory of Rodney
 Sando
 Micah Sandusky
 Lars and Ann Sandven
 David Sasso
 Mike and Rochelle Saville
 Justin Saydell
 Mark & Cynthia Schaffeld
 L R Tres Scherer III
 Elizabeth Schneider
 Bruce Schofield
 Kathy Scott

Each year, tens of thousands of snow geese stop at the Fort Boise Wildlife Management Area on their northward spring migration. Ed Cannady photo.

Joel and Michelle Seaton
 Terry and Elizabeth Shannon
 John Shaw
 Alan & Laura Shealy
 Tom Sheehan
 Heidi Shelton
 Sierra Club
 Richard Simis
 Leon Smith and Jan Mittleider
 Rosemary Smith & Rick Williams
 Kristofor Snider
 Samuel E Snider
 Althea, Brad, & Birrion Sondahl
 Robert H. Spence
 Catalina & Bill Steckbauer
 Karen Steenhof
 Chris Stephens
 Hannah Stauts & Jeremy Boswell
 Kevin & Pamela Storms
 Scott Stouder & Holly Endersby
 Amanda Strong
 David Squier
 Spooky & Jim Taft
 Linda & Mike Theiring
 Eric & Erica Thorson
 Tidwell Idaho Foundation
 Mark Torf & Meg Roberts
 Sharon Treese
 Deborah Trent
 Karen Trujillo & Don Burnett
 Carol Geiss Trusz
 Judith Tucker
 Phil and Moriah Uhlig
 Jim VanArk & Patricia Weber
 James & Nancy Van Dinter
 Robert & Carol Vance
 Gretchen and David Vanek
 Stephen VanZandt
 Robert Vestal & Jyl Hoyt
 Donna Vincenti
 James Vogt
 Vote Solar

Guy Wagner
 Steve Wall
 Mike and Kathy Warnock
 John Watkins & Esther Mulnick
 Don & Sheri Weber
 Suzanne Webster
 Kathy Weisenhutter
 Nathan Welch
 Genie Sue Weppner
 John Wheaton
 Charles Wilkinson
 R. Eric & Sandy Williams
 Mike & Jennifer Willett
 Shelley Willig
 Debra Wilson
 Felicity and Wes Wilson
 Robert Leth & Laura Wilson
 Neil Wimberley
 Michael Wise & Linda Erdmann
 Susan and David Wishney
 Felisa Wood
 David Woodard
 Anne Woodhouse & Tim Debelius
 Charles Woodward
 Bruce Woolverton
 Janet Wygle & Barry Luboviski
 Mitch & Leslie Wyss
 Anthony Yates
 Joan & William Yost
 Mark & Erin Zaleski
 Doug Zandersmith

In Memoriam

In remembrance of our ICL members who departed between Oct. 1, 2022 – Sep. 30, 2023. Their passion, dedication, and contributions to Idaho will forever be missed. We honor their legacy, and extend our heartfelt sympathies to their families and friends. This listing is completed to the best of our knowledge. We sincerely apologize for any oversights.

Gene Abrams
 John Caywood
 Sue Chelstrom
 Kathie Corn
 Jack Corrock
 Tim Crawford
 Bill Downing
 Ken Fischman
 Ken Haag
 Dick Hare
 Dean Hobdey
 Don Hobson
 Ralieggh Jensen
 Brandon Jobi
 Lynn Marsh
 Judy Minshall
 William "Bill" Orr
 Bill Parks
 Robert Pitts
 George Powell
 Walter Ray
 Alan Reynolds
 Sue Rowland
 Drew Sanderford
 Rodney Sando
 Tom Sheehan
 Rob Shellworth
 Peter Stewart
 Will Venard
 Monte Wilson
 Ann Wimberley

Legacy Partners

We are deeply grateful for the generosity and foresight of our ICL members who have included us in their estate plans. Your enduring commitment ensures our mission will thrive and continue to impact future generations positively.

Anonymous (7)
 Eileen Atkisson & Lawrence Blakey
 Judy Baker
 Lori Gibson Banducci
 Cynthia Billings
 Dede & Larry Binder
 Alida Bockino
 Ed Bottum
 Amy Browning
 Stefanie Buckbee
 Michelle Bumgarner
 Ed Cannady
 Tiffany and Christopher Casias
 Tiffany & Christopher
 Bill Clark
 Jeanne Clothiaux
 Audrie Cudahy
 Paul & Heidi Cunningham
 Bob Dargatz
 Nancy & Jim DeWitt
 Justin Dickinson
 Mary Donovan & Steve Seward
 David & Mary Dudley
 Bryan DuFosse
 Terrie & Dennis Dunn
 David & Carrie Eichberg
 Joyce Fabre & Craig Randle
 Gregory Farmer
 Jo Faulkner
 James & Barbara Fillmore
 John & Daralene Finnell
 Michael Flanagan
 John & Elaine French
 Scott & Cathy Friedman
 Susan Gilliland

Craig Groves
 James Gruber
 Amy Haak
 Patrick Haas & Alison Beck Haas
 Emily Hart
 Michael & Irene Healy
 Dave Heep
 June E. Heilman
 Charles Herrington & Ilene Shell
 Stephani & Paul Hilding
 Antone Holmquist
 Sara Ihrle
 Rick Johnson & Roberta Crockett
 James J. Johnston
 Diane Kahm
 Polly & Don King
 Malcolm & Pam Kinney
 Summer and Dustin Kisner
 Trish Klahr & Lee Melly
 Deanne Kloepfer
 Tracy L'Herisson & Bryan Witzke
 Bill & John Leavell
 Madonna Lengerich
 Gregg Lewis
 Gregory & Ann Lyle
 David Marshall
 Wayne Melquist
 Walter Minnick & A.K. Lienhart
 Minnick
 Judy Minshall
 Steve Mitchell & Louisa Moats
 Suki & Bill Molina
 Tom & Carol Mooney
 Aimee & Greg Moran
 William & Colleen Mullins
 Kristin H. Nelson

Jerry Nielsen
 Carmen & Ed Northen
 Molly O'Reilly
 Rebecca Patton & Tom Goodrich
 Gary Paul
 Tom Pomeroy
 Joel & Susan Price
 Jima Rice
 Julia & Alan Richardson
 Kendall Schreiner
 Harriet Shaklee
 Kim Skyelander
 Walt & Diana Sledzieski
 Karlee Stagg
 Chris Staley
 Brian & Lyda Stauff
 Max Stein
 Bob Swandby
 Jack Van Valkenburgh
 Robert Vestal & Jyl Hoyt
 Dr. Kenneth & Virginia Wright

Reflecting on 50 years of ICL's Conservation Community



Diana Burrell

In the course of 50 years, hairstyles and fashion trends may have changed, but one core principle has remained constant—the unwavering passion of Idaho Conservation League's supporters for preserving wild Idaho. After all, clean air, clean water, and healthy public lands never go out of style.

As we say our farewell to our 50th anniversary year, we reflect on a year that epitomized the strength of our conservation community.

Throughout 2023, ICL hosted nine regional celebrations, each a testament to the unparalleled commitment of our members and donors. These events were not just nostalgic; they were a source of inspiration for the future.

Whether attended by nearly 200 individuals or a more intimate dozen, these events showcased our shared dedication to safeguarding Idaho's natural treasures. Every gathering included people who have been a part of our conservation community since our inception in 1973. Their enduring loyalty speaks volumes about the sense of belonging and purpose that ICL provides.

In our 50th year, we learned that appreciating the past is essential, but equally vital is our collective gaze toward the future. Thanks to the unwavering support of our members and donors, ICL remains a beacon of community and conservation. Together, we look forward to the next chapter, where our shared passion will continue to shape the wild, wonderful legacy of Idaho.

Diana Burrell
Development Director



In celebration of ICL's 50th anniversary, Captain Wilderness—who made his debut in the early 1980s in the pages of ICL's newsletter—made a public appearance to deliver an inspiring speech at Wild Idaho! 2023. The Captain remains a voice for Idaho's wilderness protection, and bears a striking resemblance to longtime ICL Board Chair Jerry Pavia.



In September, ICL members traveled back in time and partied like it was 1973 at a groovy 50th celebration in Boise. The program celebrated 50 years past and the future of conservation in Idaho.



ICL's 50th celebration arrived in Ketchum in June. Guest speaker John Lesly, author of *Our Common Ground: A History of America's Public Lands*, inspired us to remember that public lands have been a unifier across political perspectives since our country's founding. Thanks to your support, ICL has secured important protections for many of Idaho's iconic landscapes.



ICL Executive Director (1979-1984) Pat Ford, past Board Chair Jerry Pavia, and Executive Director (1995-2019) Rick Johnson prepare for a panel at Wild Idaho! 2023.



Mary Lou Reed (ICL Founder and past board chair), Marcia Pursley (ICL's first staff member and executive director), and Belle Heffner (ICL's second staff member) share memories of ICL's beginnings. Kay Hummel photo.



In July, the 50th celebration came to ICL's west central Idaho office in McCall, for a lively celebration along the shores of Payette Lake.



Members of ICL's Emerging Leaders for Idaho's Environment (ELIE) program prepare to host lunchtime trivia at Wild Idaho! 2023.



ICL Executive Director (1975-1977) Jeff Fereday speaks to a crowd at a 50th event in Kuna.

The Business of ICL



Glenn Oakley photo.

Julia Rundberg
 We are pleased to report that ICL's financial health is strong, as affirmed by a clean audit and a 4-star (out of 4) Charity Navigator score. Behind the scenes, we continue to operate efficiently and effectively. Expanding our finance team has helped ICL add nuance and detail to budget management and financial controls in our growing organization. ICL contracts with an investment advisor to manage the endowment fund and other investments. This past year, the board of directors completed a review process and is pleased to have found a Boise firm, Figure 8 Investment Strategies, who is committed to helping ICL earn a healthy return on our investments to support our conservation work while ensuring that funds are not invested in activities contrary to our mission and values.

For Fiscal Year 2024, the board approved an annual operating budget of nearly \$3.5 million. This budget enables ICL to work all across Idaho, advancing the cause of conservation and protecting the things that make Idaho special. You, our members and supporters, are the electricity in the battery—keeping us going by contributing your dollars, time, words, and passion. Thank you.

On a personal note, I am retiring at the end of 2023. It has been my honor and privilege to steward the business office at ICL, building on the solid foundation that was left to me. I was a member of ICL before I started working here, and I am excited to remain a member in the years ahead.

Julia Rundberg
 Director of Finance & Administration

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Idaho Conservation League is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, and uses accrual basis accounting. Audited financial statements, prepared by Harris CPAs., are available on our website.

Statement of Activity

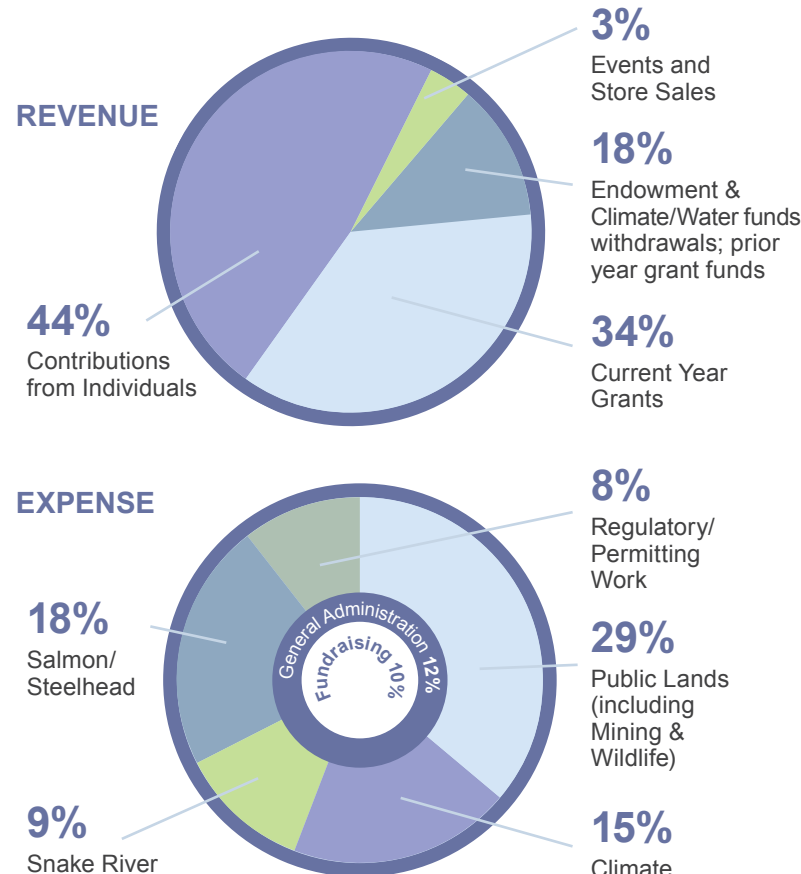
(For the year ending Sept. 30)

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

Direct Contributions	\$1,464,436
Non-Government Grants	\$1,125,662
Events, Store Sales, Other Revenue	\$114,695
<hr/>	
Endowment, Climate, Reserve fund withdrawals & funds released from prior year grants	\$590,020
<hr/>	
Total Operating Funds	\$3,294,813
<hr/>	
United Payette fiscal sponsor gifts	\$6,485
Gifts designated to Endowment	\$54,979

EXPENSES

Public Lands (including Mining & Wildlife)	\$945,845
Climate	\$486,129
Snake River	\$298,864
Salmon/Steelhead	\$587,323
Regulatory/ Permitting Work	\$254,903
<hr/>	
Total program expense	\$2,573,064
<hr/>	
General Administration	\$384,852
Fundraising	\$336,550
<hr/>	
Total expense	\$3,294,466



Staff

BOISE

- Andrea Banducci**
Human Resources Specialist
- Rachel Brinkley**
Community Engagement Associate
- Diana Burrell**
Development Director
- Kristin Campbell**
Accounting Associate
- Naomi Clayton**
Technology Systems Manager
- Mitch Cutter**
Salmon & Steelhead Associate
- Adrian Gallo**
Climate Campaign Coordinator
- Kayla Gleason**
Development Assistant
- Justin Hayes**
Executive Director
- Brad Heusinkveld**
Energy Policy Associate
- Karen Hostetter**
Grants Manager
- Jessica McFarlane**
Development Associate

Jonathan Oppenheimer
 Government Relations Director

Sarah Plane
 Community Engagement Assistant

John Robison
 Public Lands Director

Julia Rundberg
 Director of Finance & Administration

Kyla Smith
 Marketing Assistant

Will Tiedemann
 Conservation Associate

Abby Urbanek
 Communications & Marketing Manager

Lily Saperston
 Youth Engagement Assistant for High School Outreach

Lana Weber
 Community Engagement Coordinator

Lilly Wilson
 Youth Engagement Assistant for University Outreach

Erin Zaleski
 Office Manager

KETCHUM

Lexi Black
 Central Idaho Community Engagement Assistant

Courtney Hamilton
 Donor Relations Manager

Josh Johnson
 Central Idaho Director

MCCALL

Jeff Abrams
 Wildlife Associate

Randy Fox
 West Central Idaho Conservation Associate

SANDPOINT

Jennifer Ekstrom
 North Idaho Lakes Conservation Associate

Karissa Huntsman
 North Idaho Community Engagement Assistant

Brad Smith
 Conservation Director

SEATTLE

Abbie Abramovich
 Salmon Campaign Grassroots Coordinator

Board of Directors

- Rebecca Patton**, Chair, Hailey
- Jim DeWitt**, Treasurer, Boise
- Allison Fowle**, Secretary, Boise
- Matt Benjamin**, Ketchum
- Megan Dixon**, Caldwell

- David Eichberg**, Boise
- Mary Faurot Petterson**, McCall
- Alan Harper**, Athol
- John Hastings**, Sandpoint
- Scott Lewis**, Ketchum

- Jim Norton**, Boise
- Ben Pursley**, Boise
- Gregg Servheen**, Boise
- Bill Weppner**, Boise
- Deb Wilson**, Twin Falls



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League

Keep Idaho *Wild* in 2024!

The Idaho Conservation League is deeply grateful for your continued support that fuels our work for Idaho's air, water, lands, and wildlife. Your support helped secure big wins for conservation in 2023, and is vital to protecting the Idaho we know and love. Please consider starting off the new year by showing your love for Idaho with a gift to ICL.

Scan the QR code to make a gift or go to idahoconservation.org/donate

Make A Gift

