



North Fork John Day  
Watershed Council

# NORTH FORK JOHN DAY WATERSHED COUNCIL

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

*BROADENING OUR FOCUS...*



Communities, forests, rangelands, streams. Each plays a fundamental role in our healthy watershed. Over the course of the past year, we have extended our focus, recognizing the interrelated needs present throughout our landscape. If we were asked to identify the defining

characteristic of the NFJDWC in 2011, it would have to be diversity. Programming has stretched into new realms, support has broadened, the volunteer base has grown.

We are growing. Keep watching to see us blossom...

### 2011

#### Partners



**Volunteers:** It is the people within the watershed that drive its destiny. fortune has delivered us some of the finest individuals who instill great impact and impart immense care on this landscape.



**Collaboration:** From Tai Chi For Health, to National Forest Restoration, to Grazing Allotments, we are working with others to provide abundant results

#### Highlights



**Education:** Providing lifelong learning to our communities through seminars and school programs, we have shared our passion for aspen, our knowledge of weeds and much more.



**Projects:** From the complex Whole Watershed Restoration in Granite, to the summer Lunch & Learn program, we have run the gamut....

*"All water has a perfect memory and is forever trying to get back to where it was." ~T. Morrison*

## Reaching Out, Giving, and Receiving - Our new Volunteers

**Volunteers**, they say, are the pulse of life in isolated rural communities, and the North Fork John Day Watershed has been bestowed with the very finest. Each is dedicated to this landscape and to the people who call it home. When our entire staff was in the field this summer, Lineah Barnett eagerly stepped in to oversee the Lunch & Learn program. When the web site needed a tweak, Susan Nicosia freely shared her time to make adjustments. Rene' Harmon

bounced into the office week after week to help organize folders. Even the young of our community have shown extraordinary dedication to this organization, stopping in after school to offer help in the office. And when we started planning a large river celebration, the outpouring of volunteer support was heart warming.

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## New Partnerships

With a watershed landscape that incorporates 1.7 million acres, it is imperative that the North Fork Watershed Council participates in a great variety of relationships to produce optimum results for both resources and people.

This year, as we broadened our focus, we took a new approach to partnerships. We sought deeper participation in upland cooperatives as we became true to the definition of "watershed" that includes all aspects of the landscape.

The Umatilla Forest Collaborative invited us to serve as host of their organization, a role that helps us to provide an exponen-

tial influence on the restoration of the landscape. The Umatilla Forest Collaborative was formed to develop multi-stakeholder recommendations for forest service projects. Through this role, the watershed council has developed a presence in, and influence with, policy-making bodies of the state. In so doing, we have fulfilled a quintessential role of any purposeful non-profit in its given field.

When a coordinator was needed in one of our landowner partnership, it was the NFJDWC that was asked to take on that task.

In these, and additional cooperative groups, the NFJDWC is becoming a leader among its peers.



*"In the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed."*

*~Charles Darwin*

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." ~Helen Keller*

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## Education



*"Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher." ~ William Wordsworth*

To look at all the interdependent elements that play an integral role in a watershed, there is one whose impact is paramount. That is the human component. The NFJDWC understands our responsibility toward assuring the continued presence of a well-informed community to sustain this watershed.

Beginning with the youth, we are actively creating curriculum, partnering with all three school districts in our influence, and providing extracurricular activities. \*Our aspen curriculum was well received in the school so that all the upper school students now share our understanding of the need to protect this declining resource. \*We offered a synopsis of natural resource careers in the Long Creek school and then returned for mock interviews. \*The Lunch & Learn program provided weekly fun and education during the summer.

We recognize that education extends beyond the obvious resource classes, so we partnered with the hospital to offer Tai Chi to the community. A healthy population brings a healthy community. We offered a resource fair, that provided information on invasive weeds, water rights law and woodland owner cooperatives.

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## Looking Ahead: Ripples In Time River Celebration and

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Would you like a way to celebrate all that is good about our watershed? Then join us on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at Bates State Park where we will reveal the history of human interaction with the river. Displays and demonstrations including live birds of prey, gold mining, local history, restoration tours, a Native American salmon bake, and a world renowned television fishing celebrity will share the park with food, music and visitors. We'll celebrate our heritage and learn about the natural resources that have sustained us through the centuries.

NFJDWC recognizes its unique position to enhance, restore, and steward the landscapes of northern Grant County and its responsibility to enhance the future prospects of our communities. One of the best ways to do that is to focus on our youth. So, we are working to provide natural resource career training to the teens during the summer field season. These young adults will have the opportunity to participate in surveys, plantation maintenance, restoration planning, and clean water initiatives. They will build a strong work ethic and learn the susceptibility of their local resources under the mentorship of resource managers .

Our project schedule for 2012 is brimming with culvert replacements, riparian fencing, ongoing monitoring data collection, spring developments, stream channel restoration, noxious weed control, aspen restoration, landowner workshops, and forest and rangeland collaboratives.

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## Projects

2011 marked a year for NFJDWC to stretch into more complex projects and more diverse programs. Below is a sampling of some of our undertakings:

Culvert Replacements: We were involved in 3 major culvert replacements to facilitate fish passage on private and federal lands

Riparian Fencing: 21 miles of fencing were constructed to protect sensitive streamside vegetation.

Noxious Weed Control: We surveyed 20 acres, mapping invasive species and treated 150 acres to eradicate exotic weeds.

Park Development: We contracted the reclamation of an old mill yard to help create a new state park in Bates, Oregon.

Mine Assessment: The Red Boy Mine was tested & evaluated to determine the best method to reduce its impact in the drainage.

Stream Enhancement: The Fox Creek Assessment was completed and initial restoration began with habitat development and the return of an altered stream to its original channel.

Monitoring: Continued dedication to the long-term temperature and macro-invertebrate monitoring on the Middle Fork was combined with monitoring on numerous historic projects.

Education: Emphasis on education allowed us to develop a curriculum themed around aspen groves with our newly contracted education specialist.

Outreach: Social media, public presentations, and strong communication combined to bring additional recognition of the NFJDWC in the region.

## New Executive Director

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Elaine Eisenbraun

Our new Executive Director has expanded our focus to include the full expression of our mission. She has called upon her history in land management, non-profit operations and education to encourage the organization toward new goals, and success for the communities and landscapes of the NFJDWC.

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## Staff

All of our staff has stretched and developed over the last year. Each of us has taken on additional responsibilities and created new projects. We are collaborating with more volunteers and have added contract help for specific tasks. This staff is committed to a high yield impact throughout the entire watershed.

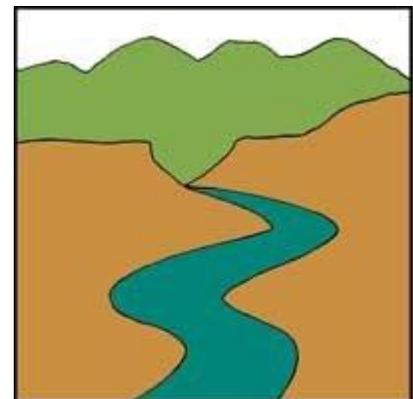
## Financial Activity

With a well-balanced bottom line, the NFJDWC finished the year with a total revenue of: \$992,757 and total expense of: \$993,605 to retain a solid fund balance.

Revenues were up 24% over 2010 levels.

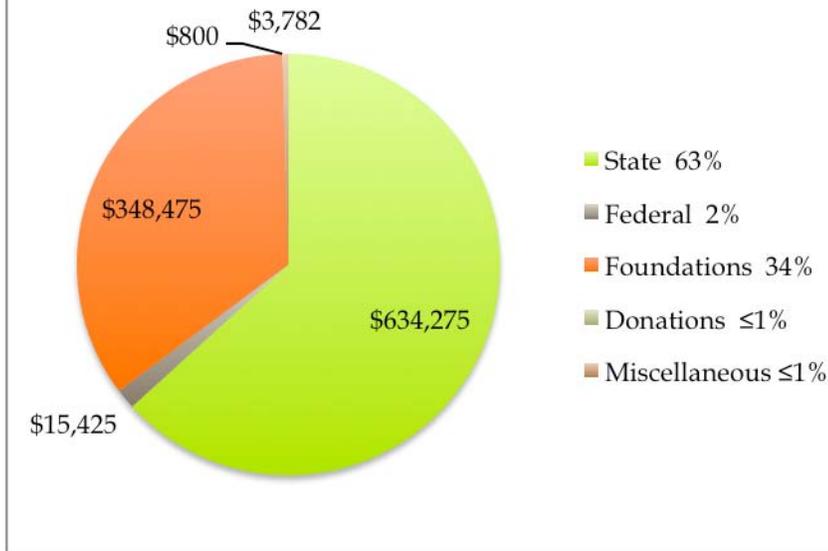
A fund raising plan was developed in September with a focus on diversifying our funding. Toward that end, we successfully completed our first annual campaign. It was modest, but highly successful with a 5% return which is extraordinary for a first-time "cold" mailing.

*"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."  
~Warren Buffet*

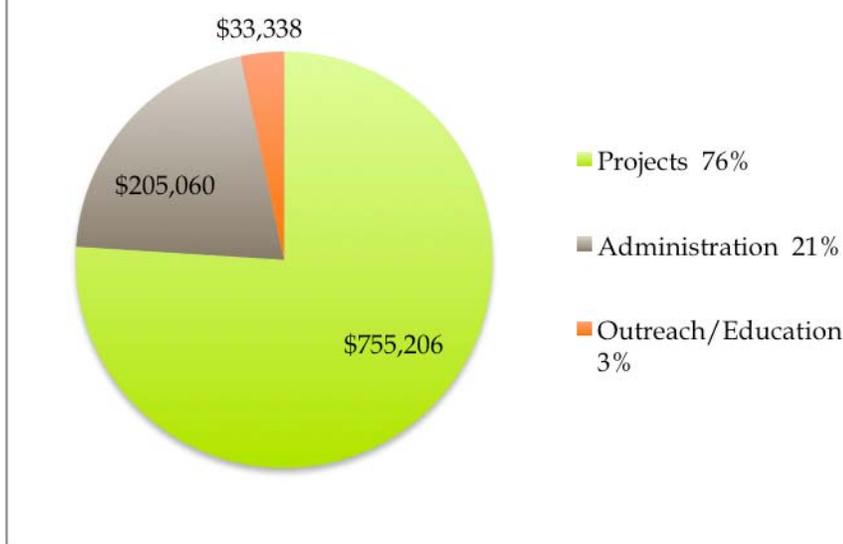


North Fork John Day  
Watershed Council

## Revenue



## Expense



## Donors, Funders, and Supporters

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council recognizes that we need to give to our donors in excess of what they provide to us. By focusing on the desire to "give back," we have increased our support from volunteers and donors alike.

Reaching out to the community for volunteers has led us to the distinct opportunity of working with some of the most generous and energetic people in the county. The outpouring of generosity has been heartwarming. The accomplishments are enor-

mous. Perhaps, one of the greatest joys of working with the watershed council is the chance to share time with our wonderful volunteers.

This year marked the first time that we embarked upon a fund raising campaign. Our initial steps lead us to a new base of generous donors and a realization that generosity abounds in our watershed.

Our regular funders provide our substance; they are supportive and dedicated. To all who have given to NFJDWC, we offer sincere grati-



*I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. ~ Maya Angelou*

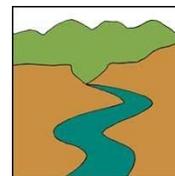
*"For it is in giving that we receive."  
~ Francis of Assisi*

*The North Fork John Day is honored to have a large base of funders, volunteers, and donors. We have made every effort to include every one of these generous people. If we have inadvertently failed to acknowledge one of our kind supporters we offer our sincere apologies and hope that we will be informed of the oversight in order to rectify it. THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!*

Austin House  
Lana Abar  
Jerry Arnold  
Lineah Barnett  
Sally Bartlett  
Bella Vista Foundation  
Blue Mountain Hospital  
Thom Bruce - Director  
Margaret Carey  
Amy Charette  
Steph Charette - Director  
David Childs  
Confederated Tribes of Umatilla  
Melanie DeJong  
Norm DeJong  
Jim Driscoll  
Jerry Ebeltoft  
Ecotrust  
Elaine Eisenbraun  
Marty Eisenbraun  
Jamin Eisenbach  
The Ford Family Foundation  
Freshwater Trust  
Rene' Harmon  
Rick Henslee - Director

John Day Fossil Beds  
Jack Johns  
Samuel S. Johnson Foundation  
Silver Kelley  
Malheur National Forest  
Monument Future Farmers  
of America  
Sharon Mogg  
Deidra Montgomery  
National Forest Foundation  
Natl. Oceanic Atmospheric Admin  
Network of Oregon Watersheds  
Susan Nicosia  
OR Community Foundation  
OR. Dept. Environmental Quality  
OR. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife  
OR. Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
Oregon Watershed Enhancement  
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Mark Rietman - Director  
Sarah Russ  
Shelk Family Foundation  
Eric Sines  
Reiba Smith - Director  
Maxine Stone

Steve Ussery  
The Ford Family Foundation  
Umatilla National Forest  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife  
Keith & Bethany Valachi  
Les Zeitz  
John Zakrajsek - Director



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