



ANNUAL | 20 REPORT | 21

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stuart Watson - Chair
Melanie Seely - Secretary and Treasurer
Julian Matthews
Amit Sankhala
Susan L. Ross
Christopher Seely

OUR VISION

Conserve and restore some of the most biodiverse, large, wild landscapes in the world, generating sustainable economic return to local communities, with local stakeholders invested in the thriving landscape and its healthy wildlife.

The cover of our 2021 Annual Report features 480 Otis, the winner of Fat Bear Week 2021. Fat Bear Week is an annual tournament put together by our partner Katmai Conservancy. With 793,463 votes cast this year, Fat Bear Week highlights the importance of a strong ecosystem and celebrates the resilience of Katmai National Park and Preserve's bears.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Firoz Ahmed
Steve Barker
Steve Kallin
Jennifer Melville
Wilfred Saiteu
Evgeny Shvarts
Brenda Smith
Paul Taylor
Michael Wald
Erin Dovichin
Hetal Ganatra

OUR MISSION

WildLandscapes International is dedicated to conserving large and connected landscapes globally significant to wildlife and crucial to local communities. Our environmental conservation strategy is to empower communities, conservationists, Indigenous Peoples, ranchers, foresters, fisherfolk, and government agencies to protect habitats for wide-ranging wildlife. To meet the challenges of scale and complexity, WildLandscapes is science-based, collaborative, efficient, and entrepreneurial.

LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR, STUART WATSON

Dear WildLandscapes International supporters:

I am pleased to announce the appointment of two new Board Members - welcome to Susan Ross and Christopher Seely. Since joining last August, Susan and Christopher have already proven to be tremendous assets. I look forward to working with you.



I have been fortunate to be on a lot of nonprofit boards over the years and what I like most about WildLandscapes is the organization's laser-like focus on delivering results. It's lean, virtual, with nearly no overhead, and has now developed a strong track record for securing government capital for landscape conservation whether in Alaska, Florida or Africa. The staff, board, and advisory council have all worked hard over the last five years and that hard work has paid off in conserving more than 150,000 acres of globally important habitat for tigers, rhinos, bears and Florida panthers. With another 500,000 acres under agreement, the organization could conserve a million acres well before it turns ten.

But let's face it, David isn't getting any younger. One of things I challenge WildLandscapes to think about, besides conserving a million acres, is to develop a strategy for passing this model of success and skill-set onto the next generation. How do we train the next generation in the art of conserving millions of acres and finding hundreds of millions of dollars to do so? How do we teach the next generation to be part ecologist, community organizer, real estate deal maker, and politician while also being delicate enough to not make big mistakes and pig-headed enough to forge ahead when everyone says it can't be done? The world needs this model to fight climate change and conserve biodiversity until we can empower local people everywhere. WildLandscapes needs to secure that future through training the next generation.

Stuart



Gaudy Sphynx Moth and Ghost Orchid © Nicholas Larghi

LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR, DAVID HOUGHTON

Dear WildLandscapes supporters:

I cannot thank all of you enough for your support in 2021. It was quite a year – we saw incredible turmoil in the world and were on again and off again with the pandemic – but through all these challenges WildLandscapes thrived. We were only able to do this because of your help.

In the short five years since our founding in 2017, WildLandscapes has helped conserve more than 150,000 acres in North America, Africa and India. We have done this by working with great partners such as Aaranyak, the J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, The Killam Bear Center, Family Lands Remembered, and the Laikipia Conservancy Association. The formula works - private support from people like you allows WildLandscapes to work with partners to secure capital from state and federal agencies to conserve globally important land to create functioning landscapes for wildlife and people whether that's Florida, New Hampshire, Kenya or India.



In 2021, WildLandscapes secured an agreement to acquire more than 11,000 acres in Collier County, Florida. This land is incredibly important to Florida panthers and black bears, has the highest diversity of orchids in North America and supports some of the only subtropical forest in the United States. Additionally, we have secured an agreement to acquire more than 458,228 acres of mineral rights to prevent fracking on Big Cypress Preserve and Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge. In Africa, with support from the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement, we are working with the Ol Pejeta Conservancy to make 20,000 acres rhino-ready for the release of 20 critically endangered East African black rhino. Simultaneously, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is supporting our effort to protect a large wildlife corridor that will run from Ol Pejeta to Lewa wildlife conservancies with the Laikipia Conservancy Association.

In partnership with Aaranyak and with support from the Disney Conservation Fund, we are working in India to establish two large community conservancies adjacent to Kaziranga National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Lastly, in Alaska, support from the Edgerton and Wilburforce Foundations has made it possible for us to work with Katmai National Park and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to increase local appreciation for biodiversity protection through the establishment of eco-tourism opportunities in these world class protected areas.

All of this important work could not have happened without you - so again thank you, and thank you to our wonderful Board led by Stuart and the incredibly dedicated staff that I couldn't be more proud of or thrilled to work with every day.

Warm regards,

127,600 acres
under restoration



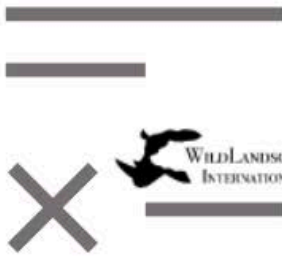
2021
Raised for projects \$527,000



1,235 acres
conserved



Acres under agreement



357,436.20
acres
in 2021

27,404
acres
in 2020



2 parcels under
option for
Visitor
Center
sites



2021 BY THE NUMBERS

A STORY FROM THE FIELD



The new snouts on the block

Laikipia County is Kenya's stronghold for rhinos. Conservancies are collaborating with the Government to safeguard and increase their numbers and have been doing exceptionally well, both in terms of population growth and security. Our partner Ol Pejeta hasn't lost a single rhino to poachers since 2017 and their success is down to well-trained rangers and some of the best bloodhounds on the planet.

Their working dogs produced 12 puppies in March 2021, most of whom were sent to surrounding conservancies to bolster the wider Laikipia security K9 units, but four stayed at Ol Pejeta and have been the recipients of extensive training as tracker dogs, provided as part of a WildLandscapes grant by the US State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs. By October, the pups could quite comfortably follow a fresh trail over 1000m and were gaining ground every day. Their father Otis is famous for being able to track a scent for well over 10km and some of the youngsters are showing special talent in this area as well. By the first quarter of 2022, the puppies will be fully certified by the Kenya National Police and join their parents in tracking fresh scents for many miles, aiding in cutting edge conservation.

Having effective tracker dogs makes an enormous difference in Conservancy security. Not only do they allow for a very quick reaction to any incursions, but they can be very useful in helping local communities with things like livestock theft or even finding missing children.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



© The Miller Hull Partnership, LLP.

ALASKA - Fairbanks, King Salmon, and Tok

In 2021, WLI facilitated grasstop committees in fine-tuning their visions for modernized yet needed ecotourism projects in three FWS established priorities: Northern Alaska Landscape (Fairbanks); Katmai National Park & Preserve (NP & Pr) to Becharof National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) (King Salmon); and Wrangell-St. Elias NP & Pr to Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve (Tok). These visions are already beginning to materialize as WLI put two properties - a 47-acre property in Fairbanks and a 15-acre property in King Salmon - under option for these visitor centers this year and building designs for Tok and Fairbanks (Pictured above) are complete. In addition to our ecotourism efforts, WLI developed an ecological ranking assessment for a land conservation strategy in Becharof and Alaska Peninsula NWRs as well as a new bear and wildlife viewing eco-lodge on the Alaska Peninsula. WLI looks forward to the possibility of working with Alaska's Senator Murkowski, who serves on the Appropriations Committee, to allocate some of the 2022 Appropriations Bill budget to fund the implementation of the Alaska Sustainable Ecotourism Project.

OREGON - Sheldon-Hart-Malheur

WLI has continued to collaborate with the High Desert Partnership to develop a landscape-scale vision for the conservation of the Sheldon-Hart-Malheur landscape that focuses on the community, ecology and land management issues that empower local people. Some of the challenges that could be addressed include: invasive species and wildfires, wild horses and burros, wetlands and riparian habitat, endangered species and Oregon Conservation Strategy Species, generational succession of the land, allotments, and landscape connectivity.

WLI also helped Roaring Springs Ranch develop a research proposal for a mule deer fawn survival study and evaluation restoration on riparian habitat in Home and Skull creeks. Conversations have continued to develop a management plan to restore habitat - increase biodiversity and climate change resilience.



FLORIDA - Greater Everglades Ecosystem

WLI is on the cusp of securing a landscape level approach to the Greater Everglades that will:

- (I) protect water quality of Sanibel/Captiva and the Greater Everglades;
- (II) prevent fracking in the Everglades;
- (III) protect the second highest ranked priority land conservation project in the State of Florida; and
- (IV) secure a key connector of the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

WLI is currently in agreement and under contract with three different private landowners in the Everglades to acquire 11,141.6 acres in fee, acquire 458,228 acres of mineral rights, and put 15,500 acres under conservation easement. WLI has also had conversations with landowners who have expressed interest in securing an additional 320,000 acres of easements within the proposed Caloosahatchee Conservation Area in Lee County and Florida Panther Conservation Area in Collier County.



NEW HAMPSHIRE - Bear Hill

An appraisal of three larger parcels of the Bear Hill Conservancy project - totaling 11,875 acres - in New Hampshire is underway. Once it is completed in April 2022, the appraisal report will be submitted to the federal Appraisal and Valuation Services Office for review after which the estimated value will hopefully be accepted by both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the landowner and conservation can begin.

In anticipation of moving forward on a major section of the Bear Hill Conservancy project in 2022, WLI has begun to gather information to write a management plan for the property. WLI's partners at Moosewood Ecological, LLC are preparing for their 2022 field surveys at Bear Hill, in which they will collect data on the presence and abundance of migratory birds, small mammals, rare plants, reptiles and amphibians, and other important indicators of biodiversity and ecosystem health. This data, along with information collected in previous years, will be used by WLI to develop the goals, objectives, and strategies set forth in the management plan. WLI has held the first of a series of meetings that will facilitate the development of the plan in cooperation with both public and private partners.





KENYA

WildLandscapes's two-year grant of \$1.2m with the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs to secure the 20,000 acre Mutara Conservation Area, began in October 2020 and the majority of work has taken place during 2021 despite difficulties and delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Mutara borders Ol Pejeta Conservancy and will be essential expansion habitat for the Critically Endangered Eastern black rhinos that have reached carrying capacity at Ol Pejeta. Mutara will also be a key conduit through to the rest of the Rhino Reserves in Laikipia and is a priority to the creation of the Southern Phase of the bigger picture Rhino Corridor that will span the entirety of Laikipia County.

During 2021, 18 monitoring staff and 10 rangers in Mutara were supplied with uniforms and underwent specialized training. Three vehicles and three motorbikes were bought and are being used continuously in the landscape to assist with ranger patrols and area monitoring. The K9 unit was fully equipped, specialized dog kennels were designed and fitted to the patrol vehicles and the K9 unit received appropriate training - including the new bloodhound puppies (born in March 2021) - most of whom were later sent to surrounding conservancies to bolster security across Laikipia. A patrol base was designed and constructed in a specially selected site in Mutara for patrol units, including kennels for the K9 unit.

A digital radio system was purchased and is in the process of being installed to improve security communications across the landscape. More security measures will come in 2022, but Kenya Wildlife Service have already intimated that they are satisfied with the security work that has been done and approve the translocation of rhinos onto Mutara during 2022.

A \$25,000 grant from the Felburn Foundation has ensured that ecological monitoring in Mutara has continued to maintain a healthy ecosystem baseline that can be used to ensure a healthy, safe environment for rhinos while maintaining ecological integrity after their introduction.



©Vanessa Stephen

WildLandscapes has partnered with the Laikipia Conservancies Association and received a \$397k grant from USFWS African Elephant fund to begin mid 2022. This will focus on landscape connectivity for elephants and other wildlife and simultaneously increase capacity for the Association, streamlining the goals and needs of the landscape into a focused, singular voice.

At the end of 2021, WildLandscapes also received a \$10,000 grant from the Adventure Travel Conservation Fund for Ol Pejeta Conservancy to increase their project of planting indigenous trees in degraded areas and fruit trees in communities. This project will roll out in 2022. The grant is made up of \$7k from ATCF and an additional \$3k from Miir, one of their partners, who generously rounded up the number.

INDIA

WildLandscapes received a \$50k, 2- year grant from the Disney Conservation Fund to assist northeast Indian partners, Aaranyak, with support in creating community conservation corridors in the Kohora River Basin. This area is situated in a critical high-lying region south of the world-famous Kaziranga National Park, known as the Karbi Anglong Hills, and provides a critical safe route for wildlife escaping annual monsoon flooding. In the last year this project has provided seeds and technical support to 140 beneficiaries for summer and winter vegetable cultivation.

During summer and during winter 7,250 kg and 9,259 kg of vegetables were produced respectively by the beneficiaries with a total market value of INR 187,320 (USD 2,500) (Figure 1 & 2).

The vegetables produced not only provided financial benefit but also provided essential food security for the community during the Covid-19 Pandemic, while reducing reliance on the surrounding forests for resources.

Additionally, as a part of an eco-cultural tourism model the 'Langkiri Self Help Group (SHG)' was formed and successfully ran 12 eco-tourism events including a total of 210 people. The SHG earned INR 109,420 from the ecotourism business and managed to save INR 12,144 in a bank. This amounts to a significantly higher than traditional wage during this period.

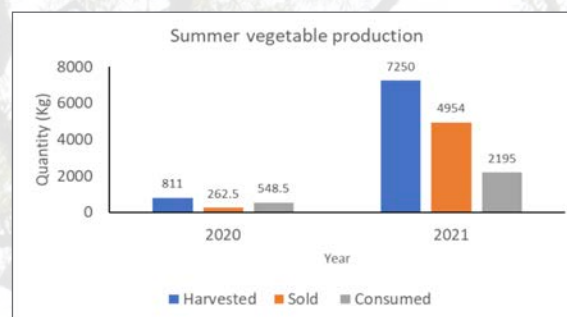


Figure 1: Summer vegetable production during 2020-2021 in the Kohora River Basin.

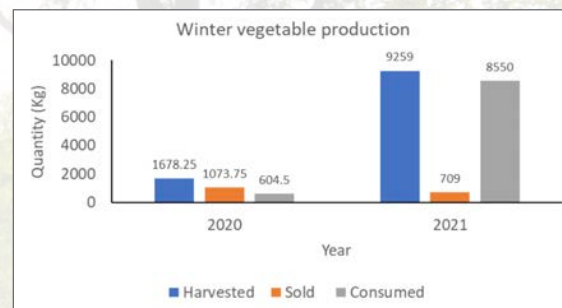


Figure 2: Winter vegetable production during 2020-2021 in the Kohora River Basin.



SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is a remarkable country of biodiversity with three completely different biodiversity hotspots declared. There are plenty of 'Big 5' Reserves with the megafauna that is usually associated with Africa, but we're rather interested in the smaller, less well-known fauna and flora that often escapes the umbrella protection that large charismatic species bring. It is amongst the stones that ancient succulents mimic their inorganic surroundings, where bulbs burst into life after a flash of fire or a decent drenching of winter rain. It is in these places that not only are the plants unique, but their pollinators and the seldom-seen wildlife are often specialized and generally on the decline. WildLandscapes plans to explore these hotspots of life and see where we can be of help to boost 'Birds and Biodiversity' in 2022 and beyond. To begin, we are partnering with the Overberg Renosterveld Conservation Trust to save the largest remaining tract of Critically Endangered Eastern Rûens Shale Renosterveld (1,825 acres), one of the most endangered vegetation types on the planet.

OUR FINANCIALS

WildLandscapes is currently in agreement and under option with private landowners in the Greater Everglades Ecosystem of Florida, New Hampshire, and Fairbanks and King Salmon, Alaska. We expect to close on four deals — totaling 23,077 acres — before the end of 2022. Getting to this point required significant investment in 2021 for advocacy, legal, title, and pre-appraisal related expenses. This investment came from profit made in 2020, leading to a reduction in available finances for 2021. We are confident in these significant investments coming to fruition in 2022 with the protection of 26,191 acres through fee-simple acquisition and conservation easements in Florida, the acquisition of large parcels of the Bear Hill Conservancy, and the acquisition of a parcel for a new visitor center in Fairbanks.

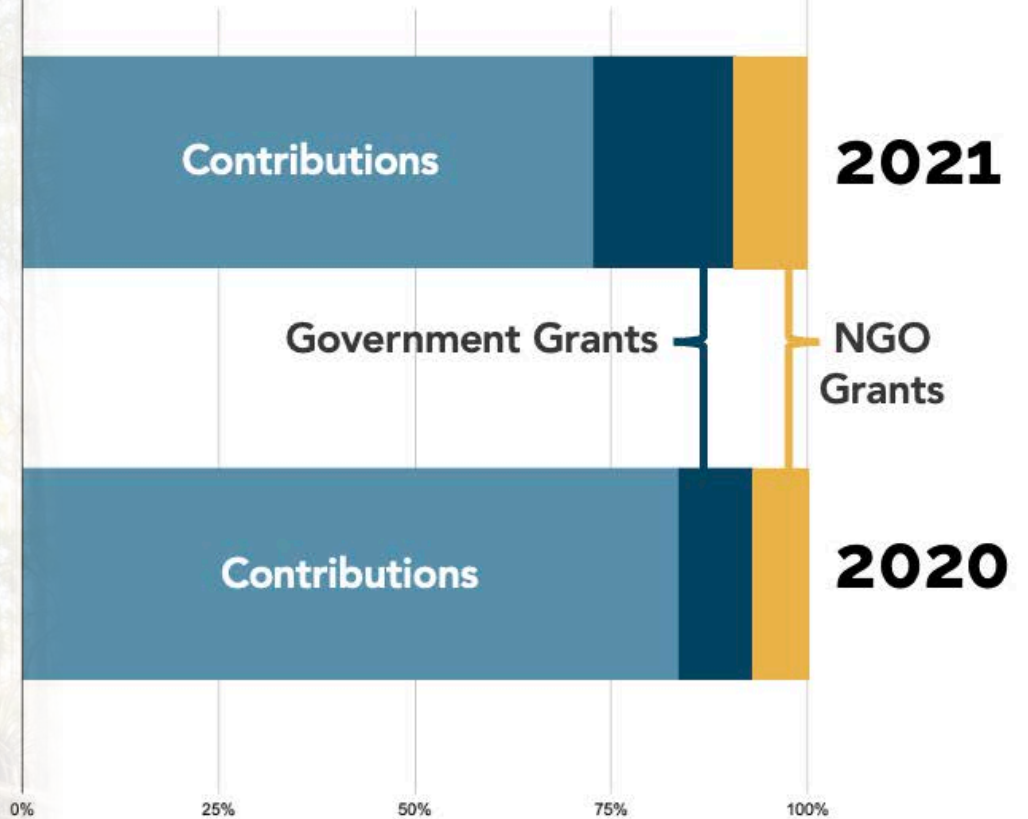
REVENUE & EXPENSES - 2020 vs. 2021*

*2020's fiscal year was a short year from April to December 2020. In 2021, WildLandscapes transitioned into a calendar year fiscal year. Surplus revenue from the 2020 audited short year supported programmatic work in 2021 fiscal year.

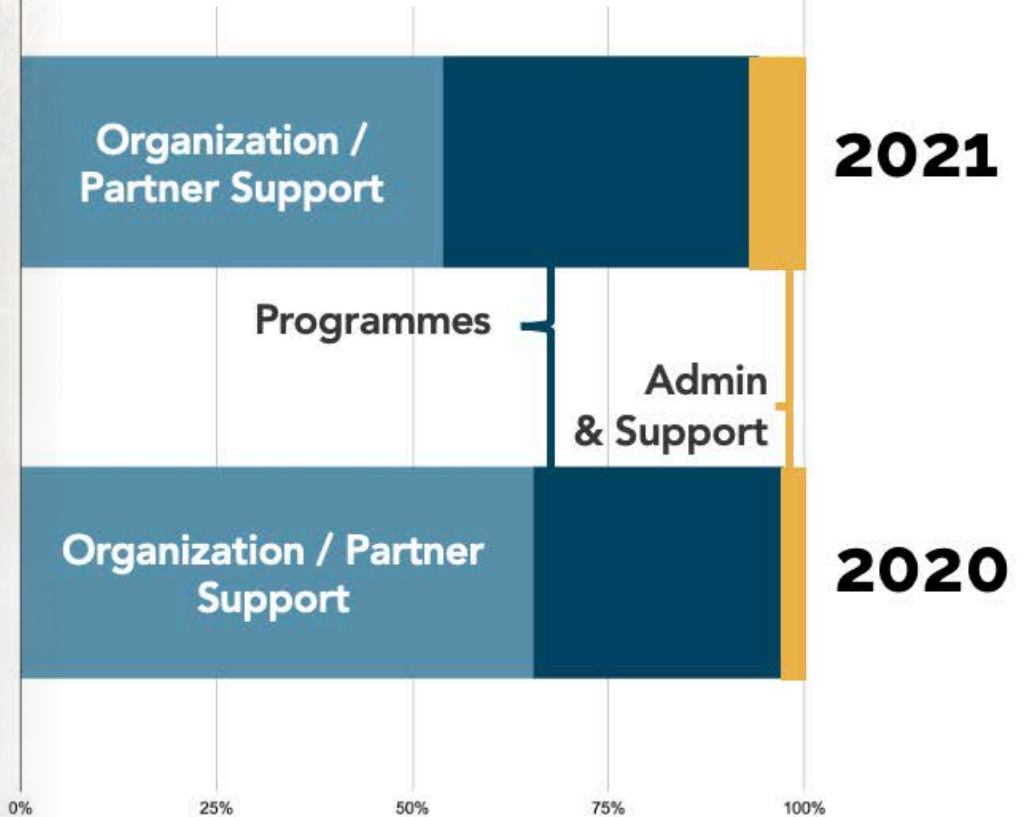
	2020	2021
Revenue	USD	USD
Contributions	1,556,768.27	1,172,931.04
Government Grants	178,769.00	293,908.00
Non-government Grants	126,000.00	144,000.00
TOTAL	1,861,537.27	1,610,839.04
Expenses		
Organization/Partner Supports	1,106,859.77	935,697.00
Programmes	538,136.17	699,332.97
Administration & Support	44,594.56	99,912.29
TOTAL	1,689,590.50	1,734,942.26
NET OPERATING INCOME	171,946.77	(124,103.22)



Sources of Revenue

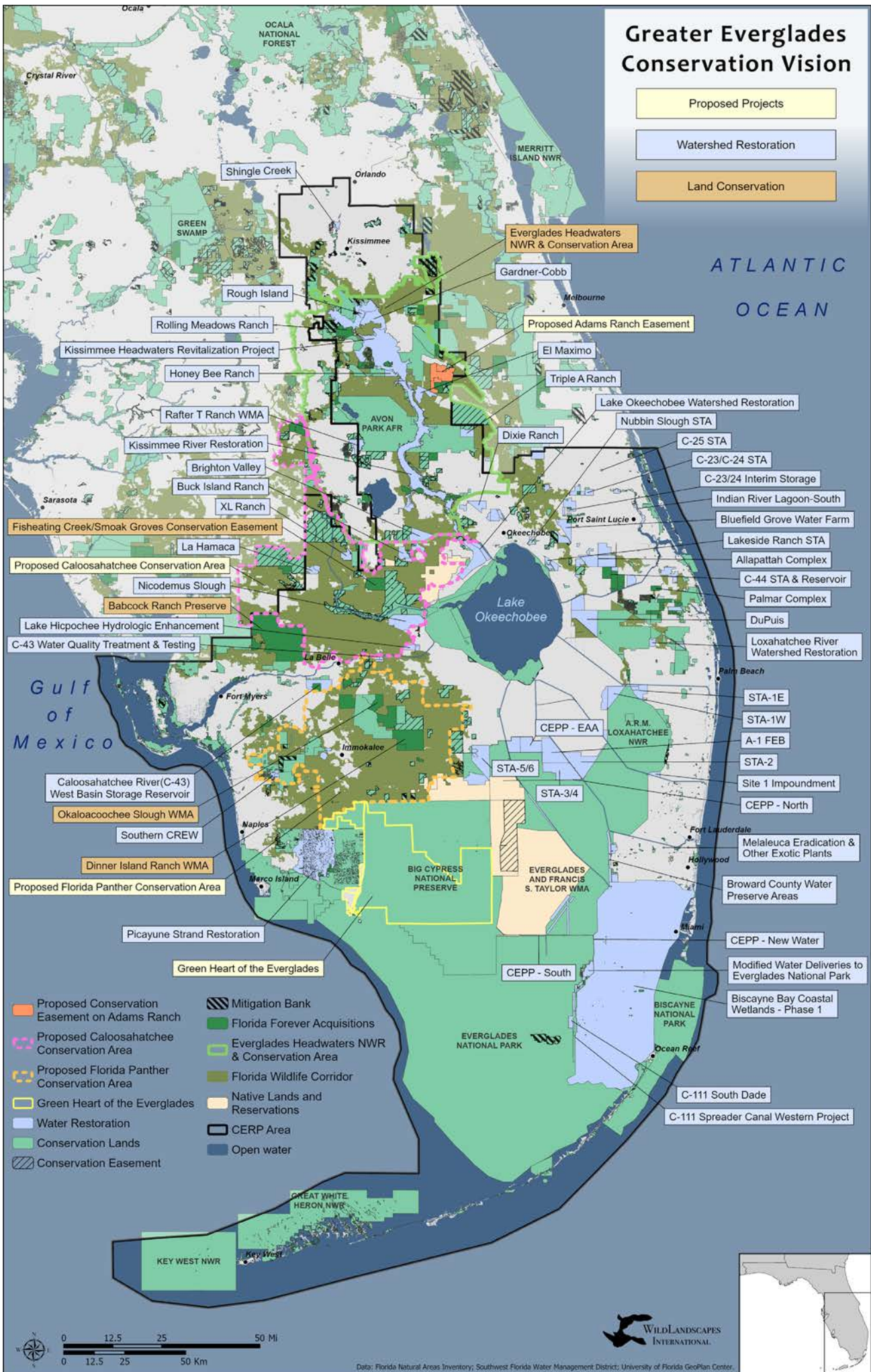


Expenditure



Greater Everglades Conservation Vision

- Proposed Projects
- Watershed Restoration
- Land Conservation



IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS

WildLandscapes is working to join efforts with ongoing water restoration projects and land conservation projects to help safeguard and restore the Greater Everglades Ecosystem while protecting critical connectivity for the Florida Wildlife Corridor. A win-win for water and land conservation.

2021 saw WildLandscapes developing our reach on various social media channels. This not only develops our brand but also helps with transparency of the work that we do. A lot of effort was put into sharing our work on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, through blog posts, newsletters and board members were kept up to date with regular podcasts.

This engagement led to a direct increase in small publicly-driven donations. WildLandscapes' website was updated and enhanced and donation capacity added, enabling us to receive once-off or recurring donations directly through personal credit cards.

As WildLandscapes remains a small company with few dedicated employees and especially low overheads, we are able to ensure that donations go entirely towards our work on conservation projects. We expect to expand our communications strategy going forward and aim to maintain and increase this stream of revenue appropriately.

Welcome Sam!

In September 2021, WLI welcomed Sam Baraoidan to the staff team as a Project Associate. Sam is a native Floridian who now lives in Mississippi. She graduated from the University of Florida with a BSc in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation in 2014, and subsequently worked for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as a habitat restoration biologist. Sam is in the process of completing an MSc from UF, focusing on the indigenous ecology of coyotes on Florida rangelands. At WLI, Sam provides scientific support in project planning and uses GIS software to create informative maps.



STAFF HIGHLIGHT

WAYS TO GIVE

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www.wildlandscapes.org/donate



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