



wildsight

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

PHOTO: HOWARD SMITH

Move·ment

1. The act or process of moving
2. A series of organized activities working toward an objective
3. A tactical or strategic shifting

For me, last year was full of **movement**. There is one thing I am certain of: when we work together to move ideas and achieve our goals, we bring about **change**. It is with deep gratitude that I share with you some of our accomplishments and challenges in 2018.

Movement threads through almost every piece of the work we do to protect wildlife. Between Banff National Park and Glacier Park across the border, the **Flathead** and **Elk Valleys** are part of a wildlife movement corridor of international importance. These valleys are in need of protection. In 2018, we continued to work with all levels of government as well as with other conservation groups and non-traditional allies to move towards our goal: **connected and protected habitat across the Southern Rockies**.

Movement happens on every level of a landscape, from the water in the river to the needles on the trees. Last year, we worked with **forestry** companies on both public and private lands to increase riparian and wildlife protection, forest retention and to monitor high conservation value and old growth forests. We also worked to address the **water quality** impacts of coal mining in the Elk Valley and put pressure on industry and government to reduce toxic selenium pollution levels, today and in centuries to come.

There were also some tough moments in 2018, moments when movement was too slow, or didn't go in the direction we wanted. Despite our efforts to drive policy and put pressure on our governments, our **mountain caribou** herds in the South Purcell and South Selkirk Mountains dwindled to only a few animals each. **But we haven't lost hope**. In 2019, we will keep working together to support habitat protection and rehabilitation for this special animal.

Last year also held some challenges for the **Jumbo Valley**. As you probably know, for 28 years we have been defending the Jumbo Valley from a proposed ski resort. Last year, we went to court to help argue that the government's decision to cancel the resort developer's environmental certificate (and right to work on the project) was sound. Unfortunately, the judge asked the government to revisit that decision—but the story is far from over. In 2019, we will continue to work within legal channels and with governments to **make sure the Jumbo Valley gets the protection it deserves**.

The role that future generations play in protecting our wilderness and wildlife is key to our theory of change. In 2018, we took **5310 Kootenay kids outside** to connect with the wild ecosystems that surround their schools and their lives. Students worked together to gather lichen for southern mountain caribou, painted fish on storm drains, helped create nesting sites for turtles, participated in eco-challenges, made art out of recycled materials and experienced the changing of the seasons up close.

Last summer, 25 teenagers shouldered heavy packs and light hearts to adventure into the backcountry of

the Purcell and Rocky Mountains. We also launched our **first-ever Columbia River Field School**, taking 16 Columbia Basin youth on an 11-day paddling trip to learn the story of the mighty Columbia from local experts—and from the river itself.

Our **five independent local Wildsight branches** continued their work to move their communities towards sustainability and conservation last year. They hosted Farmers' Markets, grew vibrant community gardens and empowered keen growers with workshops and resources. They hosted events and initiatives on living in harmony with wildlife and provided equipment for harvesting and processing fruit from local trees. Wildsight branches put on wildly successful environmental film festivals and led a large-scale citizen science initiative, the Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey.

From signing petitions and sending emails to decision makers to volunteering at events and providing sustainable support we can count on, **you have made this last year of movement possible.**

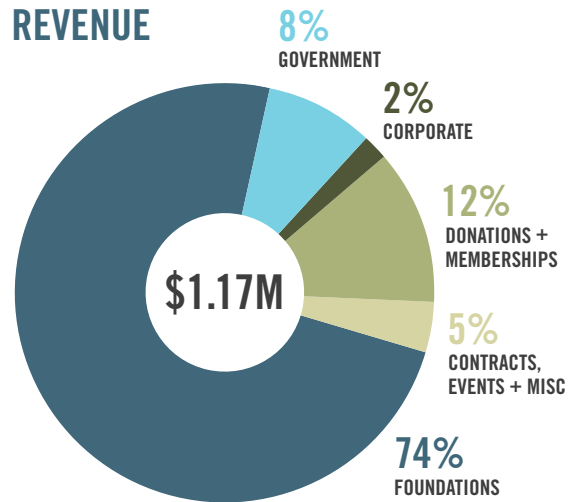
Thank you for a great year. Here's to 2019! Let's keep working together to protect wildlife and wild places in our special region.



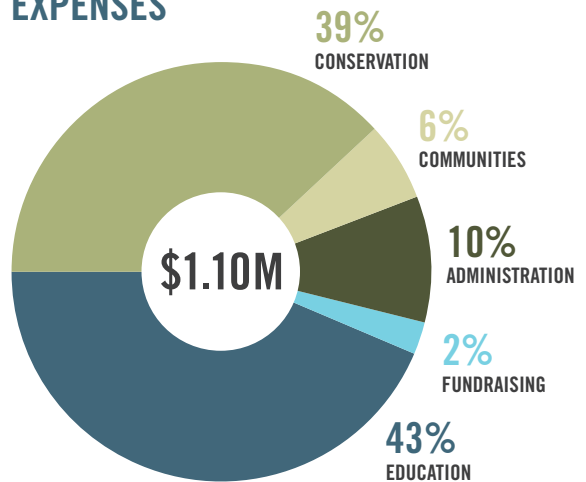
For the wild,

Robyn Duncan
Executive Director

REVENUE



EXPENSES



This report covers Wildsight's fiscal year from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. Find our full audited financials at wildsight.ca.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

444S FOUNDATION

BRAINERD FOUNDATION

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

COLUMBIA POWER CORPORATION

COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT

COLUMBIA VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE KOOTENAY ROCKIES

FISH & WILDLIFE COMPENSATION PROGRAM

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