



STILLWATER VALLEY WATERSHED COUNCIL

www.stillwatervalleywatershed.com

Annual Report

2022

*"Coming together is a beginning, staying together
is progress, working together is success."*

HENRY FORD

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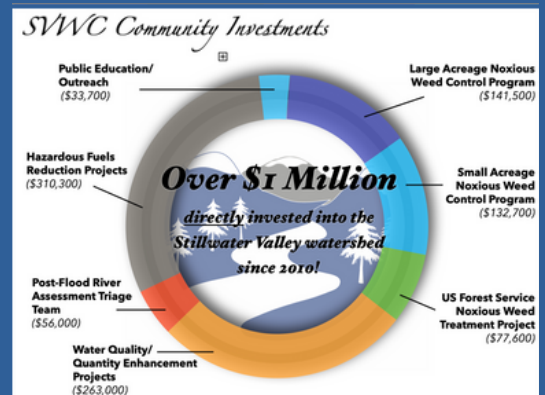
STILLWATER VALLEY WATERSHED COUNCIL

It has been another great year for the Stillwater Valley Watershed Council (SVWC). We continue to make great strides in a range of program areas that are important for all of us here in our local watersheds. Not only have we been successful in expanding natural resource enhancement programs while also increasing community involvement, we have fostered collaboration with local constituents, agencies, and other nonprofits throughout the Stillwater Valley. Since our inception in 2010, the SVWC has secured over \$2 million in grant funds for on-the-ground natural resource enhancement projects and programs that have benefited our watershed and the people who live here.

Community Investments

Engaged 450 people in SVWC sponsored programs and educational events.

- Awarded \$253,000 in cost-share to individuals in the local community for natural resource enhancement projects.
- Hosted the second annual Weeds, Water & Wildfire Workshop in conjunction with Carbon County Weed District.
- Engaged more than 120 students in 10 grade levels at Absarokee Schools.



Funding Procurement

Secured numerous grants and funding for local natural resource projects, including:

- \$250,000 for hazardous fuels mitigation within the Wildland Urban Interface.
- \$46,000 for the post-flood River Assessment Triage Team.
- \$23,000 to treat noxious weeds on small and large acreage properties throughout the watershed.
- \$29,000 for the Stillwater Rosebud Water Quality Initiative.
- \$40,000 raised through MT Gives and at the Annual Summer Celebration.
- \$23,000 garnered from direct donations.
- \$9,700 raised from SVWC memberships (277 members).
- \$25,000 received from Sibanye Stillwater Mine to offset coordination and project management expenses to pursue SVWC's goals.



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Noxious Weed Control

Integrated, locally-led approaches to noxious weed management enabling SVWC to collaborate with multiple agencies and hundreds of local landowners for several ongoing Cooperative Weed Control Programs (CWCP) including:

1) Small Acreage CWCP (<20 acres):

- Engaged eight landowners with the assistance of the Stillwater Weed District for the inaugural backpack sprayer fill day.
- Enrolled 113 participating landowners (1,900 acres) using 11 commercial applicators to treat noxious weeds on 190 acres.

-) Large Acreage CWCP: (>20 acres)

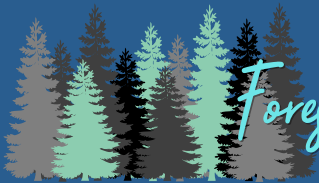
- Worked with 19 participating landowners, representing 20,540 acres, to treat 750 acres via aerial and ground application.

3) Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP)

- Treated 170 acres on USFS grazing allotments.

4) Improved public awareness through locally led campaigns:

- Cooperated with the MT BioControl Coordination Project to engage 25 participants to collect 30 insect releases at the Annual Leafy Spurge Biocontrol Workshop held in Fishtail.
- Organized the Annual Stillwater River Float & Pull and debris removal event with over 20 youth and adults in attendance.



Forest Health & Wildfire Mitigation

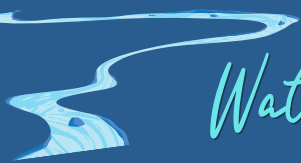
Restored forest health and reduced wildfire risk on both a landscape level and structure protection level.

- Completed hazardous fuels mitigation projects on 14 properties, encompassing over 2,000 acres.
- Directly improved the wildfire resiliency 240 acres.
- Awarded \$162,000 in cost-share for landowners throughout the Stillwater Watershed.
- Informed over 1000 valley residents about the importance of improving the wildfire resiliency all while enhancing important natural resources.





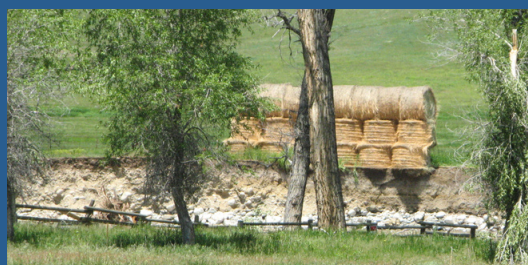
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Water Quality

Led voluntary water stewardship projects grounded in shared knowledge, shared commitment and community appreciation.

- Completed the second full year of the Stillwater Rosebud Water Quality Initiative water monitoring project.
- United local non-profit and community organizations together to launch a post-flood River Assessment Triage Team (RATT).
- Gathered numerous local entities and individuals to discuss future disaster preparedness response methodologies.



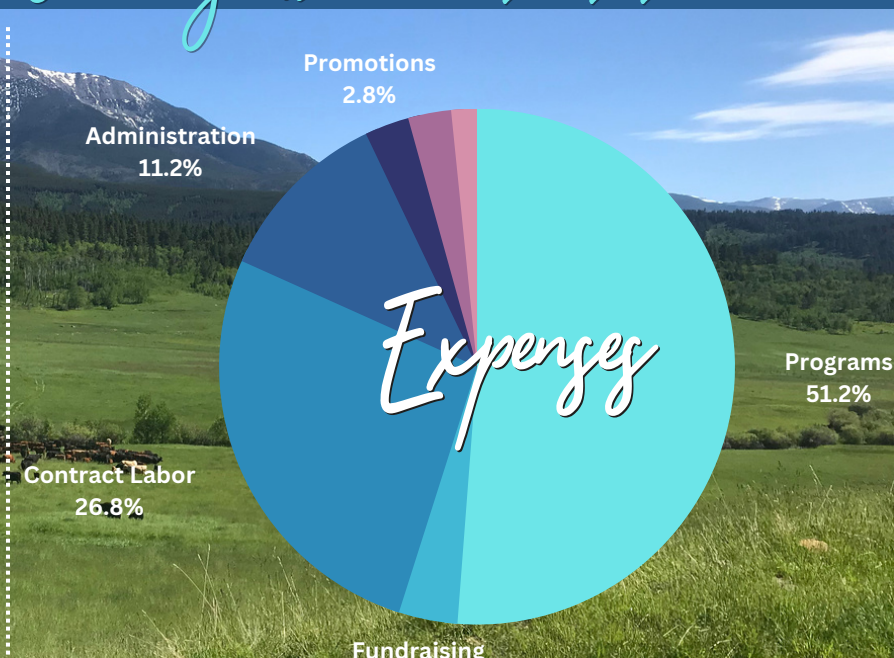
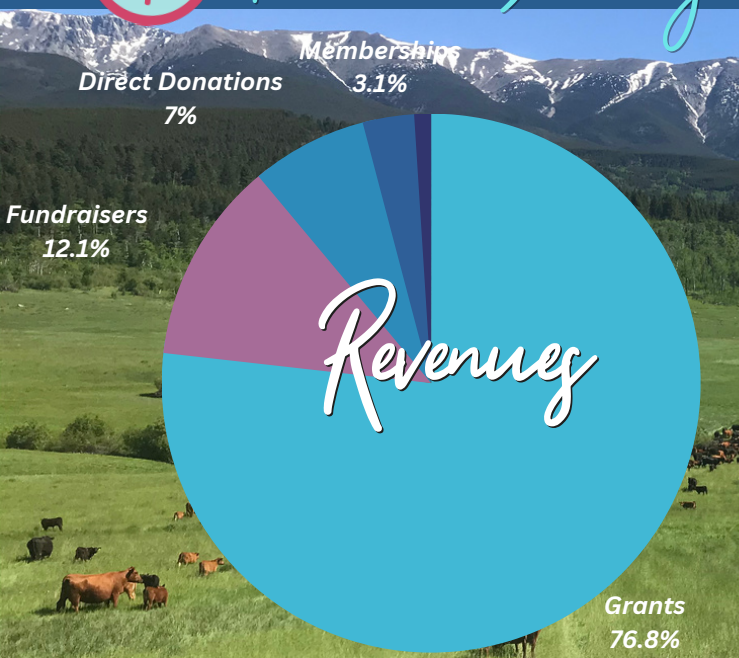
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Financial Summary, January-December 2022





There are many things in this world that we cannot control, but we can influence what goes on in our little part of the world.

"There are many things in this world that we cannot influence, but we can influence what goes on in our little part of the world."



We can't thank our members and donors enough, this work would not be possible without your support. When you donate, you truly make a difference!



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