



# 20 YEARS

*of solutions*

2014 Annual Report



Dear Friends,

2014 marked 20 years since Sustainable Northwest's founders pioneered a movement that chooses collaboration for natural resource management over conflict.

We believe that by working together, people with different interests and positions can find solutions to the complex natural resource management and restoration issues that face our beloved region. Sustainable Northwest has worked tirelessly for the last two decades to find and steward solutions that work for people, their communities, and the environment.

In the following pages you'll find a selection of highlights that illustrate our journey since the organization's founding. Much of our work would not have been possible without the support and trust of our partners and donors. We offer a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been part of the journey with us. We could not have done it without you.

There is much still to do, and we are confident that the resiliency, creativity, and pioneering spirit that mark this region will light the way into the next decade and beyond.

Sincerely,



Tom Tuchmann  
Board Chair





# A journey from conflict — to collaboration — to successful solutions that benefit people and the environment

Before Sustainable Northwest, there was conflict over natural resources in the West.

It was jobs versus the environment.



Two outspoken environmentalists were hung in effigy on Main Street in the timber town of Joseph, Oregon.

Amidst this crisis over how to manage natural resources, founding president Martin Goebel saw another way.



Sustainable Northwest was founded on the vision that by working together, stewardship of our public lands could strengthen rural communities, create jobs, and restore our environment.



**Planting the seed:** Founded Wallowa Resources in northeast Oregon to steward collaborative forest restoration in Wallowa County.

**Success story:** Wallowa Resources continues today as a thriving non-profit organization addressing forest and rangeland issues.



**Branching out:** Convened the Lakeview Stewardship Group, the first collaborative forest restoration group in southern Oregon, to develop a strategy for sustainable management of a 500,000-acre parcel of the Fremont-Winema National Forest.

**Success story:** In 2001, due to the involvement of the collaborative, the Unit was re-authorized by Congress with a new focus on restoration.



Hosted the Oregon Sustainability Forum, one of the first conferences to advance sustainability initiatives in the Northwest.



**Growing green markets:** Created the first U.S. FSC® group certification to help small wood products businesses access the certified wood marketplace.

**Success story:** With 56 members in 2014 spanning the supply chain, the program supported 600 jobs, and represented \$40 million of total wood product sales in the Northwest.



**Seeing the forest for the trees:** Founded the Blue Mountains Forest Partners, a forest collaborative in Grant County, Oregon.

**Success story:** This diverse group of local and regional stakeholders continues to develop scientifically sound and socially supported forest management recommendations for the Malheur National Forest.



**Putting it all together:** Launched subsidiary business Sustainable Northwest Wood to support small rural mills and provide the Pacific Northwest with local, sustainably harvested, and FSC certified lumber products.



Our collaborative, solutions-oriented approach to forest management is recognized by the U.S. Forest Service with a MOU enabling more nimble work together.

*"What Sustainable Northwest has achieved is no less important than what Rachel Carson and other seminal conservation leaders did when they catalyzed major paradigm shifting movements in this country."*  
— Mary Wagner, Associate Chief, USFS

**Collaboration comes through:** The Malheur Lumber mill in John Day, Oregon faced possible closure due to lack of available log supply from the adjacent Malheur National Forest. Sustainable Northwest, the Blue Mountains Forest Partners collaborative, U.S. Forest Service staff, Malheur Lumber mill leadership, the Oregon Congressional delegation, and conservation groups quickly developed a strategy to secure a sustainable supply of logs to keep the mill open and operating.

2014 and beyond...

**Forests:** Our objective is to increase the pace, scale, and quality of forest restoration, to benefit local economies, and fish and wildlife. We help collaborative forest groups share tools, resources, and lessons learned, to increase the effectiveness of collaborative forest management.



**Rangelands:** We endeavor to boost Oregon's economy and the health of our high deserts. As managers of the Western Juniper Alliance, we are growing a market for Western Juniper, a native invasive tree that is taking over grasslands in eastern Oregon. Sales are benefitting rural millers and harvesters as well as wildlife habitat and rangeland health.



**Water:** Our goal is to ensure there is enough clean water for people and wildlife. We help local stakeholders work together to increase the pace, scale, and quality of landscape-scale watershed restoration. We helped create the John Day Basin Partnership to restore the second longest undammed river in the western U.S.



**Green Markets:** Our Forest Stewardship Council Group Certification program seeks to provide market access for small businesses that might not otherwise be able to achieve certification. Membership now includes 64 members in 5 states that sold \$11.8 million of wood in 2014 certified with the highest social and environmental standards on the market.



**Energy:** Our goal is to engage rural communities to build a portfolio of renewable and energy efficiency projects. We seek to more than double Sustainable Northwest-supported energy projects in the Northwest in the next three years. Our outreach is building a clean energy economy through investments in clean technology and energy savings programs.



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2009-2014

2001-2006

2002

2004

2006-2010

2009-2014

**Sharing success:** Published *Founders of a New Northwest* book series, highlighting success stories of individuals, organizations, and family businesses building a sustainable economy.

**People power:** Launched and led the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition, a network that gives a voice to rural leaders in national policy discussions.

**Success story:** In 2010, RVCC helped secure \$40 million in federal funding for a national collaborative forest restoration program that has treated more than 1.66 million acres.

Founded Lake County Resources Initiative to support forest management on the Fremont-Winema.

**Success story:** LCRI thrives today, promoting renewable energy for Lake County, which is on its way to being 100% free of fossil fuels, with 22 renewable energy projects that save the county over \$1.9 million dollars.

**Getting into the weeds:** Helped restore the Yanix Ranch on the Sycan River in Klamath County, Oregon, and created the first tribally-held working lands easement on non-tribal land in Oregon.

**Success story:** This project formed key relationships that led to water sharing agreements in the Klamath Basin.



**Diplomacy for clean water:** Guided negotiations that resulted in the Klamath Basin water sharing agreements (KBRA & KHSA); Secured Oregon state funding for removal of Klamath River dams;

Established a water users association to provide a voice for local ranchers in Klamath water negotiations.

**Success story:** These water sharing agreements could result in return of tribal lands, 5000 new jobs, and the largest dam removal and headwaters-to-sea restoration effort in history.

**Thinking regionally, acting locally:** Launched the Dry Forest Zone, a collaborative initiative spanning 15 counties in eastern Oregon and northern California, to develop and share solutions that create family wage jobs, restore ecosystems, and increase energy independence.



This project led to the conversion of 20 community heating facilities from fossil fuels to local wood biomass, saving millions of dollars annually and boosting the incentive for forest restoration projects.

**Success story:**

- 72 new forest and energy jobs
- 8,843 forest acres restored
- 214,350 forest acres slated for restoration
- Federal forest stewardship policies enacted



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# Sustainable Northwest


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## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

for Fiscal Year 2014: January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

### REVENUE

Foundations	\$ 991,000	64%
Donations	\$ 88,380	6%
Government	\$ 390,372	25%
Events	\$ 69,529	5%
Other	\$ 3,386	<1%
	<hr/>	
	\$1,542,667	100%

### EXPENSES

Programs	\$ 1,236,527	71%
Administrative	\$ 285,849	16%
Fundraising	\$ 220,698	13%
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	\$1,743,074	100%

