Dear Friends:

What a crazy year. Like all of you, Washington’s National Park Fund (WNPF) was impacted by the spread of COVID-19, forcing us to pivot our outreach and our programs—but one thing didn’t change, and that’s our priority: supporting our parks. In fact, our parks need all of us now more than ever as our own parks here in Washington face major growth in visitation. As always, WNPF is there to provide that additional support to them so they can continue to thrive, pandemic or not.

Recognizing that connection is perhaps even more important in times when gathering safely in our parks is not possible, one of the changes WNPF made to help constituents access the parks during this period was to launch a series of Virtual Field Trips. Facilitated by park rangers, scientists and other experts, these virtual experiences allow our community to come together safely to experience and learn about the many ways in which our parks are unique. Among our most popular are an exploration of the mountain goat translocation from Olympic National Park to North Cascades and a trip along the journey of the wolverine to understand how climate change and habitat loss are impacting its existence.

Our parks are for all of us, and our goal at WNPF has been to expand these experiences to even more diverse audiences. We have accomplished this by also offering kid-friendly Virtual Field Trips, as well as our first ever Spanish-language Virtual Field Trip. These events have been such a hit that we plan to continue these online gatherings monthly even post-pandemic, helping to bring the parks to people who may be unable to travel to them now and into the future.

Like many of our peers, WNPF has faced considerable financial and operational challenges due to the pandemic, including the cancellation of many of our beloved events, such as our Spring Dinner and Auction and our fundraising climbs. With the closure of most lodging options inside the parks, our guest donation program also took a significant hit. This program gives guests at the lodges the option to give a donation per night’s stay back to WNPF and is often a significant source of income for us.

Yet despite these setbacks, we celebrated some successes throughout the year. We’re pleased that our national park license plate program grew exponentially, with more than 8,000 vehicles quite literally driving support for our parks—to the tune of $234,000. Our Endowment program in support of the parks has also continued to grow and pay dividends for our parks. Of note, this year we were able to invest a portion of our endowment growth back into the parks, where the parks determined the need was greatest. And we are appreciative as always of the many foundations who contribute to us in support of projects in the parks.

We are grateful that our supporters remained strong and focused on the solace and inspiration the parks provide, especially during a pandemic—and they showed up for them in force. Of the funds raised, nearly two-thirds came to us from individual donors. Altogether, we raised more than $650,000 to directly support projects in our parks. We couldn’t have done it without you. Know that we—and our parks—are grateful for your continued support.

Thank you for all that you do.

Richard Page
2020 Chair of the Board

Laurie Ward
Chief Executive Officer

Richard Page
Laurie Ward
2020 Annual Report

2020 Annual Report
Responding to COVID-19

In response to the global spread of COVID-19, we have invested in infrastructure improvements, such as new signage in Mount Rainier National Park, for park visitor centers that have remained closed as a safety precaution. Wayfinding tools have been critical to keeping visitors safe on the trails even though the pandemic has forced park staff to have limited personal contact with the public.

We know that our parks need us now more than ever. In fact, we saw increased visitation numbers in 2020 despite (and probably due to) the pandemic. This is because being outside and in nature is one of the few safe recreational options available to people. It is also a way for people to connect with things beyond themselves—like majestic landscapes and the wonder of wildlife. Our parks recognize this, and we are committed to supporting them in their efforts to continue to offer people the intangible benefits of a park visit.

Keeping Up the Charge on the “Core Four”

Despite COVID-19, we have also made great progress in our four program areas: advancing science and research, improving visitors’ experiences, expanding volunteerism and stewardship, and providing for youth and family programs. These are just some of the many examples of how funds raised by WNPF helped the parks during the pandemic in each of our core areas:

Read on ›

Our Virtual Field Trips are just one way we’re helping to bring the parks to the people. Scan the code with your phone’s camera to watch an interview about these programs on KING 5 Evening News.
Olympic Marmot Citizen Science Monitoring at Olympic National Park

Supported by WNPF since the program’s inception in 2010, citizen science monitoring of the Olympic Marmot has been a rewarding program all around. The park is receiving data needed to keep track of this species that is unique to the Olympic Peninsula; it was also officially designated as the Washington State endemic mammal in 2009. This program truly benefits all, as volunteers get to experience the splendors of the alpine areas of the park while making significant contributions to the park’s resource stewardship. Though no new volunteers were recruited in the summer of 2020 due to COVID-19, previous volunteers who did not need training were able to provide valuable data to researchers to ensure this endemic creature’s survival. Volunteers spent anywhere from one to five days in the backcountry collecting data. The lead scientist, Dr. Patti Happe, reported on this popular program during one of our Virtual Field Trips in December 2020.

Search and Rescue (SAR) at North Cascades National Park

Every summer, Rangers at North Cascades National Park respond to lost and injured visitors in the park’s backcountry. Rangers with special training in emergency medical services (EMS), helicopter operations, technical rope rescue and incident management experience work to locate and evacuate visitors experiencing an emergency in the backcountry. This year, as more and more people flocked to the mountains, emergency services were more in demand than ever before. WNPF raised critical funds to expand this program and ensure the SAR crews had sufficient equipment to assist the public in need.
More than 2,000 community members volunteer at Mount Rainier National Park in a typical year, contributing as much service as 140 additional summer seasonal employees. An especially important program WNPF raises funds for is the Meadow Rover program. The subalpine meadows above Paradise and Sunrise are some of the most treasured natural resources at Mount Rainier and though beautiful, they are also very fragile. Trampling of the flowers can cause the plants to die or go dormant, which means they won’t flower and reproduce for several subsequent seasons. In order to preserve this ecosystem, about 200 Meadow Rover volunteers annually roam the trails in these areas educating visitors about the importance of staying on the trails and taking nothing but pictures. The Meadow Rover volunteers are essential in the park’s efforts to protect its beautiful landscapes, which saw even more visitation that ever due to COVID-19.

This pilot program at North Cascades National Park began as a dialogue several years ago on how to reach populations the park doesn’t serve as much as it would like—including local gateway communities, underserved youth and tribes. In discussion with local partners—Darrington School District, Lummi Nation, Lummi School, Lummi Natural Resources, Glacier Peak Institute and the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe—it was discovered that food security was an issue of concern in the community, as well as lack of knowledge of traditional foods and uses. Thus, the program was developed to build a hands-on project to learn skills to contribute to and maintain gardens for food sustainability and sovereignty. Despite the closure of schools and the social distancing restrictions imposed by COVID-19, many critical elements of this project have been completed so far: restoring a greenhouse, building classroom benches, and planting beds at a Darrington school, and designing a 5th grade curriculum aligned with school standards. Project activities like classroom visits and field trips were put on hold, but we are hopeful these will take place in fall 2021.
Every November, our parks’ Superintendents work with their leadership teams to identify top priorities that, if not for Washington’s National Park Fund support, would go unfunded. The following pages include many of the projects funded over the past year.

Mount Rainier National Park

MEADOW ROVER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: $40,000
The Meadow Rover Volunteer Program continues to be the park’s most popular volunteer activity, drawing in more than 200 volunteers in 2019 who donated nearly 9,000 hours to make close to 200,000 public contacts. Meadow Rovers provide a priceless service to the park by patrolling the subalpine meadows above Paradise and Sunrise to educate visitors about the importance of staying on trails, keeping wildlife wild, and wilderness preparedness and safety. The information shared with visitors helps to minimize damage to the fragile meadow ecosystem while also reducing Search and Rescue incidences. Both metrics continue to improve each year since the inception of the program more than 20 years ago, proving the success and continued need for this program.

RESTORING SUBALPINE MEADOWS IN PARADISE: $35,126
Off-trail hiking and historic uses of the upper Paradise Meadows have left areas disturbed and bare. To restore one quarter acre of meadow, 40,000 native plants salvaged from trail improvement projects or grown from seed will be planted to return the area as habitat for important meadow fauna and clarify trail boundaries for visitors. Park staff will work with interns and volunteer groups to protect and stabilize sites.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: $32,752
Mount Rainier’s volunteer program recruits more than 2,400 participants each year who donate nearly 70,000 hours to the park – an effort worth an unprecedented $1.8 million – to complete vital projects that would otherwise not happen. Through this immersion, volunteers become advocates for the park and its mission. Funding will help cover the cost of supplies, housing, uniforms and vehicles, as well as interns who help to coordinate the entire effort. Volunteer projects can include backcountry patrol, astronomy and other interpretive programs, geologic research, curatorial and archaeological work, and wildlife surveys.

WTA CREW LEAD, LATINA OUTDOORS AND VOLUNTEER NETWORK PROGRAMS: $23,722
Mount Rainier National Park, Washington’s National Park Fund and Washington Trails Association partner together year after year. WNPF raises the much needed support, then awards it to the park so they can hire skilled trail maintenance leads from WTA. With funding this year, the park will hire both a WTA volunteer coordinator and work crew leader. Together, they will recruit, train and provide leadership to hundreds of volunteers that participate in trail maintenance. The park will also be able to expand services to new volunteers and stewards through Latino Outdoors. WTA coordinates/oversees the week-long all-girls trail crew experience for ten Latino Outdoors participants.

EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS: $17,107
With park visitation on the rise, incidences of visitors requiring assistance on park roadways continues to climb. Roadside Assistance Volunteers provide a critical service to the park by assisting stranded motorists, helping with traffic control in emergency and non-emergency situations, as well as assisting rangers with Search and Rescue incidences when appropriate – all which frees up first responders so
that they can tend to the most critical of calls. Funding will ensure that this vital program continues with five volunteers stationed throughout the park.

**SIGNAGE AT MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK**: $4,366

As COVID-19 spread in spring of 2020, park staff had to act quickly to communicate appropriate safety protocols and precautions for park visitors while also providing much of the information visitors would normally receive from the visitors’ centers, many of which had to close for safety reasons. WNPF funded signs that were mounted on information boards that saw constant use during times of moderate to high visitation. The content provided Paradise area orientation, facilities status, a map of the area, safety and resource protection messaging, and trail information.

North Cascades National Park

**UNDERSTANDING MICROPLASTICS IN REMOTE ALPINE ENVIRONMENTS**: $44,570

This project will send park scientists to sample snowpack and lake sediments at four remote alpine sites in order to learn the pathways for how microplastics enter the environment throughout North Cascades National Park. Microplastics are particles smaller than 5mm, originating from the decomposition of larger plastic debris. Studies have indicated that microplastic occurrence is widespread in water, sediment and biota. And North Cascades National Park has identified their presence in alpine snowpack, macroinvertebrates and fish at unexpectedly high levels – levels similar to stormwater runoff in urban environments. Snowpack analysis will inform the annual microplastics load in snowpack, a suspected primary source of deposition. High alpine lakes are environmental sinks for widespread in water, sediment and biota. North Cascades National Park. Microplastics are particles smaller than 5mm, originating from the decomposition of larger plastic debris. Studies have indicated that microplastic occurrence is widespread in water, sediment and biota. And North Cascades National Park has identified their presence in alpine snowpack, macroinvertebrates and fish at unexpectedly high levels – levels similar to stormwater runoff in urban environments. Snowpack analysis will inform the annual microplastics load in snowpack, a suspected primary source of deposition. High alpine lakes are environmental sinks for microplastics and provide education and training. Ms. McGladrey is a leading educator in creating resilience and developing supportive mental health networks trained in stress and trauma injury.

**PURCHASE A VEHICLE FOR STEHEKIN**: $32,282

North Cascades National Park’s Interpretation division has been in need of a vehicle in Stehekin to replace a small pickup truck from the late 70s. This funding supported the purchase of an electric 2019 Subaru CrossTrek. It has an electric distance that will provide for the transportation of staff to Highbridge and back, transporting hikers coming down the valley. It also increases access, giving the park better options for those with limited mobility. Special thanks to our friends at Cascade Subaru of Wenatchee for their partnership in helping us provide this vehicle to North Cascades!

**REBUILD PYRAMID LAKE TRAIL**: $25,000

The Pyramid Lake Trail is severely eroded and lacks sufficient drainage. Funding will support a four-person trail crew, plus supplies and materials, for four weeks to rebuild sections of eroded and unsafe tread located on the first quarter mile of the Pyramid Lake Trail.

**CASCADES FISHER REINTRODUCTION**: $20,000

This project continued work toward the goal of restoring a self-sustaining population of fishers in the Southern Cascades (including Mount Rainier National Park and the surrounding national forest) by continuing to monitor previously released fishers to assess reproductive success. The study also helped to better understand habitat use in the Cascades by these animals. By monitoring the effectiveness of the reintroduction, wildlife biologists are able to increase their knowledge of habitat use by the fisher and use this information to better insure the long-term survival of the species in Washington State.

Olympic National Park

**OLYMPIC FISHER GENETIC RESCUE**: $29,500

After successful reintroduction into both the state and park, approximately 50% of fishers born on the peninsula can be traced to just three females. Some models predict that with such genetic losses, the population may go extinct. However, analysis also indicates that introducing eight new fishers every 10 years will mitigate that risk. Olympic National Park will purchase up to 10 additional animals for release in the park this year to increase genetic diversity and ensure the species continues.

**SUPPORTING THE KALALOCH RANGER STATION**: $19,400

This ongoing project funds a seasonal ranger at the Kalaloch Information Station. This knowledgeable naturalist provides information on area ecology and attractions like bird watching, tidal pools and sea mammals, as well as disseminating crucial information about tides and tsunami safety.

**BUILDING STAFF RESILIENCY**: $19,000

Park service first responders can’t provide effective support when they are not well. The COVID-19 pandemic has added a particularly stressful and dangerous layer to an already stressful job. Olympic National Park will make the services of clinical psychologist, Laura McGladery, available to rangers and provide education and training. Ms. McGladery is a leading educator in creating resilience and developing supportive mental health networks trained in stress and trauma injury.
TRACKING OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK’S DISAPPEARING GLACIERS: $15,000

Working with the NPS, WNPF has played a critical role in expanding our understanding of glaciers at Olympic National Park. Support will provide helicopter transport of scientists to remote field sites. Staff will fly to glaciers in April, measure snow depth, snow density and place ablation stakes on each glacier. They will then return in late fall to determine the amount of snow and ice that has melted or accumulated that year. Continued funding will allow the park to determine snow mass balance for 2020 to 2021 and to better understand why glaciers are declining more rapidly throughout the Olympic Mountains than in other Pacific Northwest mountain ranges.

AMPHIBIAN eDNA: $15,000

The Lakes amphibian survey will use DNA filtered from lake water samples to determine which amphibians are present in up to 75 mountain lakes. This non-intrusive sampling method is known as “eDNA”. Olympic National Park is already using this technology to track the recolonization of the upper Elwha River by salmon after dam removal and to detect non-native fish in mountain lakes.

EQUIPPING EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES: $12,000

Olympic National Park will outfit their Emergency Response Vehicles to more effectively protect park resources and the public during emergency incidents. Funding will provide multiple emergency response vehicles with radios; buy equipment for responding to emergencies, such as lights, sirens, signs, etc.; and ensure emergency vehicles are in compliance with agency requirements. Vehicles will be outfitted by local vendors in compliance to agency specifications.

REBUILDING SWIFTWATER RESCUE: $10,000

Funding will provide necessary equipment and training to support Swiftwater Rescue on the park’s extensive and popular rivers.

ECD (ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICE) MANAGEMENT FOR RANGER PROTECTION DIVISION: $7,500

The ECD (electronic control device) is an invaluable tool to reduce the risk of injury to the public, assailants and officers involved in any confrontation meeting the threshold for use of force. This project will enhance ranger skill sets and provide needed upgrades and repairs to an aging ECD infrastructure.

OLYMPIC MARMOT CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT: $6,000

The Olympic marmot, a large, ground-dwelling member of the squirrel family, is found only in alpine meadows on the Olympic Peninsula. After concerns about declines in the Olympic marmot population were confirmed, University of Montana researchers developed a long-term monitoring program. Using support from WNPF, the park adapted university protocol and created a citizen science monitoring program. Each year, this program recruits 80-100 volunteer scientists and, following a day of training, sends them out in the field for three to seven days to collect data on the Olympic marmot population. The data they collect is used to assess long term marmot trends.

Funding for All Three Parks

SPRING DINNER AND AUCTION PURCHASE 4 THE PARKS: $3,717 PER PARK; $11,151 TOTAL

At our annual Spring Dinner and Auction, funds were raised to support science and research in the three parks. Each park received one third of what was raised to allocate based on the priorities of their teams in the field of science and research.

CAROLYN DOBBS SCIENCE GRANTS: $1,000 PER PARK; $3,000 TOTAL

Russ Fox, a dedicated volunteer and national parks visitor, is especially passionate about our three parks here in Washington. He discovered WNPF through his wife, Carolyn Dobbs, who served on WNPF’s Board. In 2014 Carolyn passed away, and in her honor, Russ created the Carolyn Dobbs Science Research Award at WNPF. Each year, promising and talented park science employees at each park are nominated to receive this prestigious award. One recipient per park is selected to be honored with the award and a $1,000 grant that could be used to further programs and projects in our parks that support the search for knowledge the parks need to protect their natural resources and beauty. It’s a fitting memorial to Carolyn, who hiked, climbed, skied and volunteered in Washington’s national parks with her “all-in” tenacity for decades.

This year’s recipients were Paul Kennard of Mount Rainier National Park, Cheryl Decker and Roger Christophersen of North Cascades National Park, and Kerri Cook of Olympic National Park.
“To be whole. To be complete. Wildness reminds us what it means to be human, what we are connected to rather than what we are separate from.”

TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS
Writer
Our Impact at a Glance

It’s no secret that the 2019-2020 fiscal year brought challenges to nonprofits all over the nation, as so many of us faced unexpected health crises, job loss and more.

At the beginning of the Fiscal Year, WNPF continued to grow operations, adding two new passionate park-loving professionals to our team prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.

With the arrival of COVID-19, like many of our peers, we faced considerable financial and operational challenges. We were forced to cancel many of our beloved in-person fundraising events, such as our Spring Dinner and Auction. We lost much of the income for fundraising climbs budgeted for 2020 and much of the revenue budgeted for our Guest Donation Program (donations given in lodges in the parks)—but we expect that these revenue sources will rebound stronger than ever in future years. And, importantly, we were able to maintain our staffing levels. For us, our people are what drive our mission forward, and we are proud that we were able to avoid layoffs in a tough financial year.

Altogether, we raised more than $650,000 to directly support projects in our parks. Of course, park staff were not immune to the effects of the pandemic and some projects had to be put on hold; as a result, we will be providing the support for those projects when our parks are ready. Still, this year, we were able to give the parks nearly $450,000 in funding for the projects they deemed most critical.

Despite the challenges imposed by COVID-19, we are incredibly proud of the support we were able to provide to the parks—largely thanks to generous donations from our individual supporters.
FISCAL YEAR: 2020

TOTAL EXPENSE: $1,363,117

- GRANTS & PROGRAM SERVICES: $884,278 – 65%
- FUNDRAISING: $307,731 – 23%
- ADMINISTRATIVE: $171,108 – 12%

Endowment Balances

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

- Mount Rainier National Park: $564,233
- North Cascades National Park: $315,611
- Olympic National Park: $289,017
- TOTAL: $1,201,217

Assets and Liabilities

ASSETS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

- Cash & Savings: $432,091
- Pledges & Receivables: $41,995
- Prepaid Expenses: $62,029
- Investments & Other Assets: $123,981
- TOTAL ASSETS: $660,096

LIABILITIES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

- Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses: $51,140
- Grants Payable: $298,421
- Deferred Revenue: $18,000
- TOTAL LIABILITIES: $367,561
Our People Drive Our Passion

Board of Directors

Jim Gilchrist
Manager, Washington Trust Services, Bank of America (retired)

Linda Glein
Director, BetterInvesting Advisory Board

Beth Glosten
Community Volunteer

Fred Hammerquist, Vice-Chair
Founder, Hammerquist Studios

Lys Hardy
Director of Logistics, PMI

Cynthia Hartwig
Community Volunteer

Tony Hoskins
Founding Partner, POP

Larry Hueth, Treasurer
CFO, Olympia Federal

Kelly Jackson
Internal Auditor, REI

Jillian Kosic
Head of Media, Amazon Go

Jary Krauser
CEO, Stratus G

Kelly Lake
Executive Director, The Beecher’s Foundation

John Meyer
Associate Director of Science Communication & Special Projects, College of the Environment, University of Washington

Dave Meyer
Former Regional Vice President, HomeStreet Bank

Kirk Myers
Director of Sustainability, Alaska Airlines

Richard Page, Chair
PAGE Consulting LLC

Vineet Parke
Principal Engineer, DNV GL

Mitch Pittman
Freelance Video Production

Michele Radosevich
Lawyer; Davis, Wright, Tremaine

Antonio Rufin
Aerospace Engineer, Boeing (retired)

Jay Satz
Senior Director, Partnership and Innovation, Northwest Youth Corps

Linda Schwartz
Finance Manager, Public Health Seattle & King County

Jen Semsak
Senior Merchandiser, Sanmar

Marjorie Walter
Partner, Kipling Law Group

Denise Wulfekuhle, Secretary
Community Volunteer

National Park Service Partners (Board Advisors)

Sarah Creachbaum
Superintendent, Olympic National Park

Chip Jenkins
Superintendent, Mount Rainier National Park

Karen Taylor-Goodrich
Superintendent, North Cascades National Park

Washington’s National Park Fund Staff

Lydia Bassett (through December 2019)
Philanthropic Relations

Heather Danforth
Community Engagement Manager

Elizabeth Gonzalez
Administrative Manager

Sharon London (January 2020 on)
Director of Philanthropy

Amber Nelson
Marketing/Communications and Annual Fund Manager

Kelly Sanderbeck
Donor Engagement Manager

Kacee Saturay (March 2020 on)
Donor Stewardship Coordinator

Laurie Ward
Chief Executive Officer
Our Supporters
Push Us Over the Top

The Over the Top Society, started in 2016, is made up of supporters who pledge $1,200 or more a year in unrestricted giving, which allows for the flexibility to take partially funded priority park projects up and over the top at the end of each fiscal year. This special group of friends make it possible for us to support our parks and receive exclusive access to events each year.

We are also so thankful to all of our loyal and committed supporters who have joined us through our two newest supporter groups. The Parks Everlasting Society is a group of passionate park lovers who commit to leaving a strong legacy of support for our parks by including WNPF in their estate plans. Our Parks for All Seasons supporters provide sustained support to the parks through recurring quarterly or monthly gifts.

All of the support we receive from our three supporters’ groups are key in our efforts to fund critical projects in our three national parks.

We would be remiss if we didn’t express our appreciation for our many committed volunteers, including our many volunteer committees and all of the photographers, videographers, and other creatives who lend us their talents and their services in pursuit of our mission.

Nonprofit, Foundation and Corporate Supporters are Key

We couldn’t do what we do without the support of our dozens of corporate sponsors, partners and friends. Delaware North, Forks Chamber of Commerce, Guest Services Inc., the Glassybaby Whitelight Fund, the Horizons Foundation, the Hugh and Jane Ferguson Foundation, the Marion G. Stamper Trust, the Norcliffe Foundation, Olympic Park Associates, REI, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Subaru of North America, Cascade Subaru of Wenatchee, and Subaru of Puyallup are just a few of the many organizations that help us make a difference for our parks. Thank you!

Our Events Help Us Grow

We owe a special thanks to our event partners, who host incredible community-building events that also give back to the parks through contributions to Washington’s National Park Fund. Here’s to our good friends at Pacific Runderland, The Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce, RAMROD, Redmond Cycling Club, and Ride the Hurricane!

Thanks also to the many amazing organizations who support our mission through in-kind gifts to our various events throughout the year. From Ben Bridge Jeweler to Camaraderie Cellars, PacWesty, Rainier Guest Services and the dozens of other generous organizations who have provided in-kind support to us this year, you all are appreciated.

Ruby Mountain campsite by Nate Brown
Last year, the parks came to our rescue. For this, we remain eternally grateful.

While this past year has brought unexpected challenges, our outlook is bright. I’ve seen our staff, partners and supporters come together again and again on behalf of the parks. Thousands of individuals gave thousands of dollars through Washington’s National Park Fund to Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks.

Your support funded trail maintenance, meadow restoration, search and rescue, volunteer programs and youth activities. You improved signage in Mount Rainier, started the launch of a new food sustainability program up in the North Cascades and allowed for the continuation of much-needed glacial research in the Olympics.

Now, as we look ahead to the future, there is once again a feeling of hope. Multiple COVID-19 vaccinations are being administered daily. Our parks are reopening, with precautions to keep people safe. And as they rise to meet the challenges COVID-19 has wrought, from increased attendance to reduced staff and more, here at WNPF we are mobilizing to help them meet those challenges head-on.

We are grateful for your trust in our ability to steward your hard-earned dollars to projects that the parks consider to be their highest priorities, and we are excited for what’s to come with your support. And we have big plans—in the coming months, we will be launching a long-term growth initiative for the parks, so that we can continue to support them long into the future. But know that we can’t do this work without you.

On behalf of the parks, and from the bottom of my heart, thank you for all that you do.

Laurie Ward
Chief Executive Officer