



BANDON
DUNES
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Shorty's



OUR TEAM

Marie Simonds
Executive Director

Paula Thompson
*Program &
Administrative Assistant*



Dear Friends,

As many of you have heard, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance shifted to a new name in 2023 and is now known as Bandon Dunes Charitable Foundation (BDCF). While our name has changed, our commitments have not: We remain steadfast in our mission to support a thriving South Coast.

Community support has been a priority for Bandon Dunes since Mike Keiser founded the resort 25 years ago. Since then, giving has flowed through various entities, including WRCA, the Keisers' donor-advised fund at Oregon Community Foundation (OCF), and the resort itself. Now, Bandon Dunes Charitable Foundation will be the point of contact for all the resort's charitable work, streamlining our community giving.

Over the years, Bandon Dunes' charitable work through WRCA and other channels has directed more than \$9 million to grants supporting the triple bottom line (conservation, community and economy), and \$8 million through OCF to support education, high school scholarships, health care and local golf programs. This work, which was made possible by the

generosity of the Keiser family and the ongoing success of Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, will continue through BDCF.

As Bandon Dunes grows, so does our giving capacity. Our work will be enhanced with the opening of Shorty's, the resort's new 19-hole par-3 golf course. Shorty's will join Bandon Preserve as a *course with a mission*, with all of its net proceeds supporting Bandon Dunes Charitable Foundation.

BDCF will maintain our commitment to funding South Coast projects that promote triple-bottom-line results in the areas of conservation, community and economy. We look forward to forging new partnerships with additional funding priorities supporting education, health care, scholarships and local golf programs.

We're thrilled about expanding our charitable capacity and look forward to what lies ahead.

With gratitude,

Marie Simonds, Executive Director

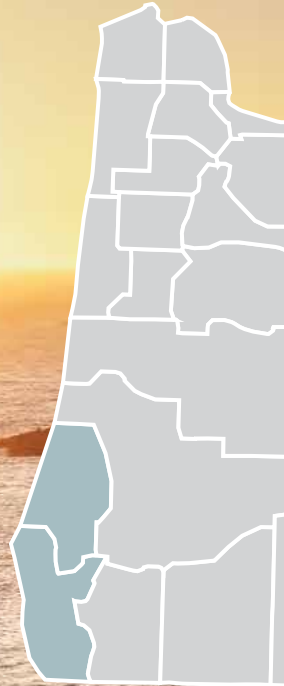


PRIORITIES

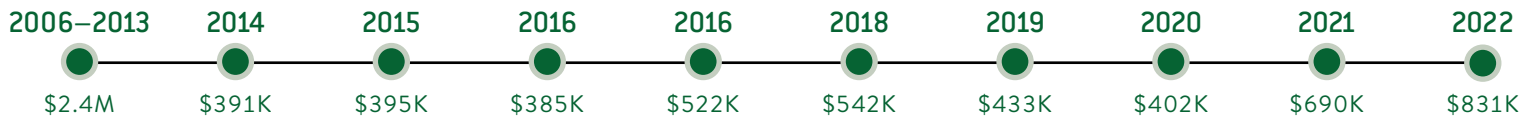
Healthy fish and species habitats, working landscapes and seascapes, sustainable tourism, community collaboration, sustainable business, community health and well-being, accessible child care, education, scholarships, workforce housing, and local golf programs.

SERVICE AREA

Communities and working lands in Coos and Curry counties, focusing on the Coquille watershed south through the Winchuck watershed.



Mr. & Mrs. Michael L. Keiser Fund of OCF: \$8 million awarded since 2006



FOUNDATION GRANTS

58 grants awarded in 2023



COMMUNITY



CONSERVATION



ECONOMY



SMALL
GRANTS

Wild Rivers Coast Alliance: \$9 million awarded since inception





“BDCF’s grant is helping us build a better, safer fire training tower to serve our students for decades to come. It also ensures regional fire department volunteers and professionals can train in a modern facility close to home.”

—Elise Hamner, Executive Director, Southwestern Oregon Community College Foundation



2,215 local children supported through youth programs



7 regional high school men's and women's golf programs supported



1 new fire training tower for regional structural fire and smoke rescue practice

GRANTEES

Bandon Community Youth Center | Bandon Historical Society Museum | Bandon Police Department | Bandon School District | Bandon Youth Sports | Boys & Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon | Coast Community Health Center | Coos County Historical Society | Coos Health & Wellness | Kids' HOPE Center | Knights of Columbus | Oregon Community Foundation | Oregon Junior Golf Fund, Inc. | Oregon State University Foundation | Salvation Army | South Coast high school golf programs | Southern Coos Health Foundation | Southwestern Oregon Community College Foundation | United Way of Southwestern Oregon | VFW Post 3440, Bandon

Forging partnerships, building capacity and helping regional organizations secure resources.

This year's grants were focused on youth enrichment and outdoor recreation, in addition to strengthening community resources ranging from housing readiness assistance to regional emergency response.

Enrichment opportunities through Bandon Community Youth Center included summer camp, field trips, and workshops featuring activities like art and robotics. BDCF also continued its support of fee waivers and scholarships that provide wider access to Boys & Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon.

High school students across the region gained access to golf programs in Coquille, North Bend, Marshfield, Gold Beach, Brookings and Bandon, along with programming through the Oregon Junior Golf Fund. Other youth-related grants included participation scholarships for

Bandon Youth Sports, as well as programs and a playground for Bandon School District.

A grant to The Salvation Army supported HOPE Village at the Bay, a housing readiness microcommunity initiative that will provide eight tiny homes in Coos Bay in collaboration with the Coos County Homeless Response Office. This planned housing will include assistance to move unhoused community members toward long-term housing and independence.

Grants to Southwestern Oregon Community College Foundation supported the golf program, culinary scholarships and a new fire training tower that will help fire science students and regional firefighters practice responding to smoke rescues and structure fires. Training in this up-to-date tower will also give regional students wider career options.



CONSERVATION

“BDCF is really great at connecting either to other partners on the ground or to other funders, and they’re also broadly helping to develop the interest and capacity for these kinds of endeavors. And because watershed restoration is a collaborative endeavor, having those connections is really important.”

—Matt Swanson, Curry Soil and Water Conservation District



94 pounds of gorse pulled from Whiskey Run trails by contestants in the second Gorse Pedal and Pull event



\$483 in regional economic activity for each salmon reaching adulthood



210 hours of contracted grant assistance through CCD for work with South Coast water districts on infrastructure opportunities

GRANTEES

Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts | Coquille Indian Tribe | Coquille Watershed Association | Curry Soil and Water Conservation District | The Nature Conservancy | Oregon Agricultural Trust | Rogue Siskiyou Regional Wildfire Training Center | Wild Rivers Land Trust

Strengthening economic stability, community assets and the environment by supporting working landscapes and seascapes.

This year's conservation grants focused on protecting source water, habitat restoration and environmental education.

Funding for Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts supported ongoing source water protection workshops as well as technical help for municipalities seeking conservation easements and funding options. This work was done in partnership with CCD Business Development Corporation, which provided assistance on infrastructure improvements to Harbor Water District, the city of Port Orford and other regional organizations.

Curry Soil and Water Conservation District conducted floodplain restoration around Greene Creek, a critical off-channel salmon rearing habitat. The District's education program also engaged third through fifth graders in garden and plant

education, including wetlands monitoring and applied science.

As part of the federal Investing in America Agenda, Wild Rivers Land Trust (WRLT) received nearly \$2 million in Brownfields funding to clean up Western States Plywood Mill on Bagley Creek in Port Orford, which is critical habitat for Coho salmon and other species. This project will engage community members, tribes, state agencies and visitors in conservation and education. WRLT also acquired critical property along the lower Elk River through a BDCF grant to ensure long-term protection of farm and ranch lands.

Coquille Indian Tribe received funding for interpretive signage honoring the late Chief Don Ivy at its Tribal Plankhouse, which will share the Tribe's history and culture during field trips and hosted events.



ECONOMY

“The BDCF grant was key because it was first money. That’s not always easy — funders don’t always want to be first — so this was critical to the success of the pier project. It helped us acquire the other grants and gave us some confidence that was important at the start. Without that significant seed money, we would not have been as competitive.”

— Jeff Griffin, Port Manager, Port of Bandon



\$3.7M in grant requests through CCD for Coos and Curry economic development projects



28 child care slots full at Bandon Community Child Care Center



\$2M state and federal dollars leveraged for Bandon Boat Launch replacement



25 students supported through SOWIB's Recruit HIPPO workforce program

GRANTEES

Bandon Opportunity Project | The Bandon Shed | CCD Business Development Corporation | Child Care Research | City of Coquille | In a Landscape | NeighborWorks Umpqua | Port of Bandon | Shoreline Education for Awareness | South Coast Business | South Coast Development Council, Inc. | Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board | Travel Southern Oregon Coast | Washed Ashore | Wild Rivers Coast Mountain Biking Association

Supporting economic development and ecological health by fostering sustainable businesses, nonprofits and regenerative tourism.

Priority areas for sustainable economic growth included affordable housing, child care services, and improvements to tourist amenities and attractions.

Support for South Coast Business boosted Bandon Community Child Care Center's capacity to comply with state regulations while providing high-quality care that gets very high satisfaction ratings from 100% of families. Also, BDCF funding for child care research helped to launch a microcenter pilot program for rural child care sustainability.

Grants to CCD supported varied economic development work along with technical assistance for regional businesses and organizations. CCD facilitated almost \$4 million in funding requests for projects including North Bend Public Library's capital project, Port Orford's community building and Coos

County's emergency management program for disaster assistance. Capacity grants to Travel Southern Oregon Coast and South Coast Development Council supported their work on regional tourism.

Related grants funded Wild Rivers Coast Mountain Biking Association's rehabilitation of the Lawson Creek and Pine Grove bike trails in Gold Beach; new boat launches at the Port of Bandon and at Sturdivant Park in Coquille; a new vehicle to expand Washed Ashore's educational field trip program; and educational activities at Coquille Point Marine Garden.

Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board received funding for its Recruit HIPPO program, which partners with high schools to keep the next-generation workforce local by helping students develop skills and work experience.



SMALL GRANTS

“Over seven years, JASPER has given 25 students a chance to interact with scientists and to be a real scientist for a short while. We have been able to track 88% of these students; all are in STEM-related fields and reported that this program profoundly impacted their lives and careers.”

—Dr. Leigh Torres, OSU GEMM Lab



100% of tracked student participants in GEMM Lab's gray whale research program have gone on to work in STEM-related careers



10 bike racks were installed in Port Orford to encourage bicycle tourism



17+ organizations partnered to pilot drone and rappelling demonstrations that offer alternative techniques to combat gorse

GRANTEES

Circles in the Sand | Curry County Master Gardener Association | Oregon State University Geospatial Ecology of Marine Megafauna (GEMM) Lab | Port Orford Main Street | Port Orford School District | River Docs | Windward Gardens

Responding to the South Coast's immediate needs and making positive impacts on our communities.

Our small grants offer a quick-response opportunity for organizations to further their creative solutions for education, connection and local ecology.

BDCF continued our support of OSU GEMM Lab's high school internship program for gray whale research off Port Orford. This highly successful program integrates data collection, community engagement and STEM learning; 100% of tracked participants (or 88% of all participants) have gone on to work in STEM fields. Funding for Port Orford School District also supported field trips for marine science students.

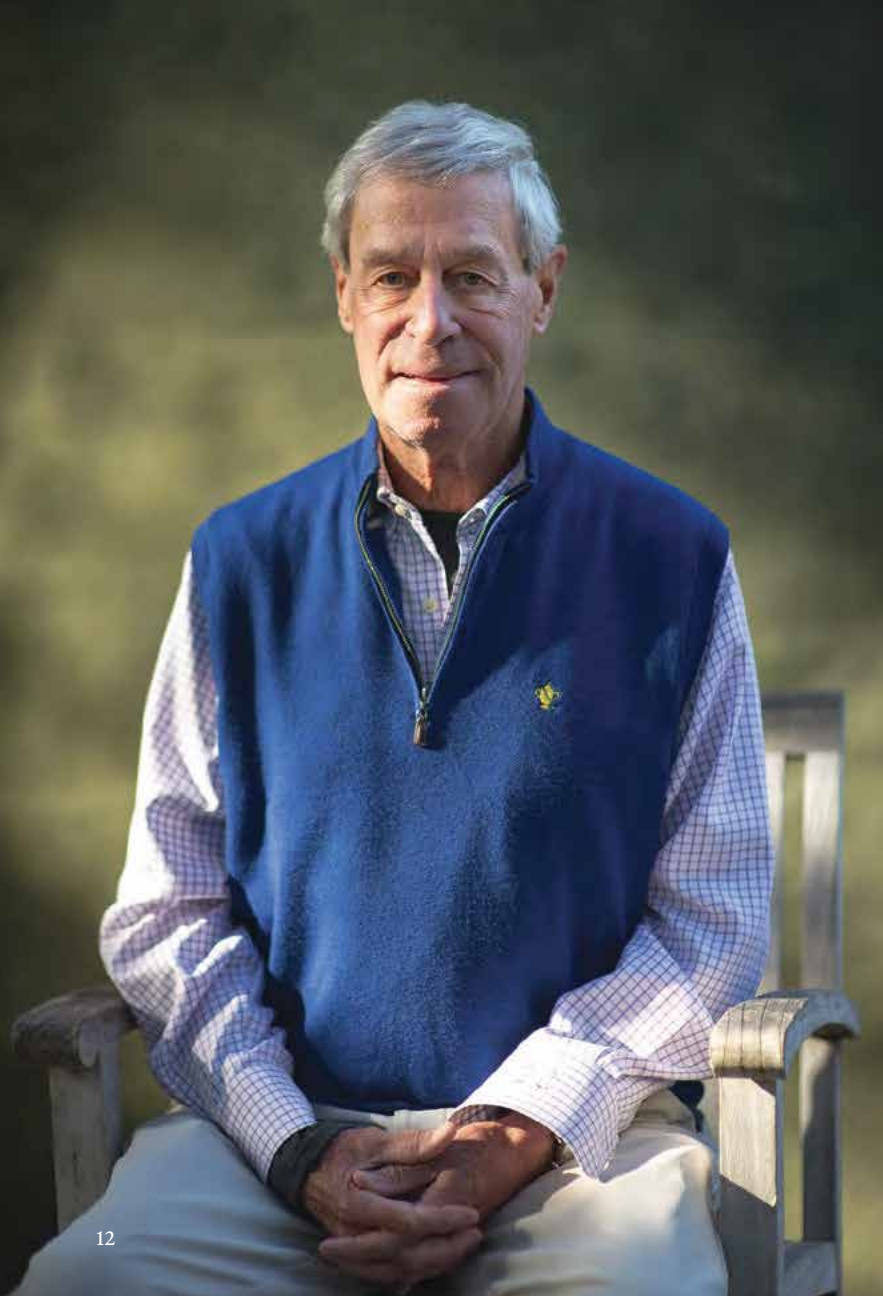
In Gold Beach, River Docs presented recommendations on stabilizing sediment, improving riparian corridors and enhancing salmonid habitat from its three-year Lower Rogue

Estuary Assessment, which was funded in part by BDCF. The meeting was attended by Oregon Legislature members and by community members and landowners.

As part of its effort to increase cycling tourism, Port Orford Main Street installed 10 new bike racks to encourage bike riders to explore the community.

Long-time BDCF grantee Circles in the Sand completed its ninth season of creating labyrinths that encourage mindfulness, well-being and environmental awareness for tourists and locals.

With BDCF support, Windward Gardens demonstrated the use of drones and rappelling for gorse removal in extreme coastal terrain. More than 17 organizations have joined this promising pilot project.



OUR FOUNDER

Mike Keiser

When Mike Keiser imagined the 13-hole par-3 Bandon Preserve golf course, he also envisioned Wild Rivers Coast Alliance as a way to support regional conservation, communities and economic growth.

The Keiser family — including Mike’s two sons, Chris and Michael L. — continues to support what their father started: using the net profits from this world-class, links-style golf course to benefit the South Coast.

Now, a new 19-hole par-3 course called Shorty’s will also direct its net proceeds to charitable giving. This spectacular course fulfills a promise Mike made to the property’s original caretaker, Warren “Shorty” Dow, to name a course after him.

As the Keisers’ generosity expands, the opportunity to bring their giving under a single umbrella led to the creation of Bandon Dunes Charitable Foundation. BDCF is excited to continue WRCA’s work while strengthening the connections between the Keisers, Bandon Dunes Golf Resort and a thriving South Coast.

OUR STEERING COMMITTEE

Thank you to our 2023 Steering Committee members!



Jena Carter



Marjorie Crook



Steve Denney



Carlos Garcia



Rick Goche



Mark Grenbemer



Al Johnson



Wayne Krieger



Cam Parry



Matt Swanson



Mary Wahl



Joe Whitworth

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