

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Bold, ambitious efforts to conserve Oregon's desert public lands and waters ensure that the undeniably wild places in the Owyhee Canyonlands and across the high desert can remain that way forever.



*Photo: Bruce Couch*



## 2019 FINANCIALS

Your generosity allows ONDA to carry out essential conservation initiatives.

### Income

Assets	
Total Current Assets	\$3,193,310
Total Fixed Assets	\$46,724
Total Other Assets	\$6,920
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$3,246,954</b>

### Liabilities & Equity

Total Liabilities	\$21,418
Total Equity	\$3,225,536
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$3,246,954</b>

### Revenue

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,515,132</b>
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### Expense

#### Expense by Category

Management	\$136,754
Fundraising	\$79,010
Programs	\$1,621,192
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,836,956</b>

Dear desert friend,

There are 12 million acres of public land in Oregon's high desert and just one organization dedicated exclusively to caring for them. Thank you for investing in Oregon Natural Desert Association!

I am excited to share this reflection on how your time and financial support added up to conservation successes in 2019.

Your tenacity led to a breakthrough measure to protect over 1 million acres in the Owyhee as wilderness, as well as legislation to protect 58,000 acres surrounding Sutton Mountain in the John Day River Basin.

You challenged sage-grouse management plan amendments that would harm this important indicator species, sent dedicated biologists out to monitor the health of this bird's habitat, and protected Steens Mountain — a cherished desert icon — from unchecked road development.

You spoke up for public lands and waters, sending thousands of comments in to federal land management agencies and lawmakers.

Thanks to the tremendous hands-on effort of planting tens of thousands of native trees, you're keeping desert waters running cold and clear for desert fish and wildlife and ensuring resiliency in the face of climate change. By taking out obsolete barbed wire fence, you helped pronghorn to run free. Desert explorers are safer, too, thanks to your work fixing up trails that haven't seen maintenance in decades.

Whether you planted a tree, wrote to your legislators, or made a special gift, your action mattered.

Your support allows ONDA to be effective desert stewards — in the courts, on the ground, and in the halls of Congress. The way all this work comes together is truly inspiring and I hope you take great pride in the impressive results.

Together for our desert,

Ryan Houston  
Executive Director



Photo: Greg Burke

## YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK

Hundreds of species — including humans — depend on a healthy sagebrush steppe. Your financial contributions underwrite critical conservation work that ensures that a diverse mosaic of plants and animals have the habitat they need and people have the clean air, pure water and peace of mind that intact wilderness provides.

Here's a look at how ONDA applied your support in 2019.

### Expense by Category



### Program Category Breakdown

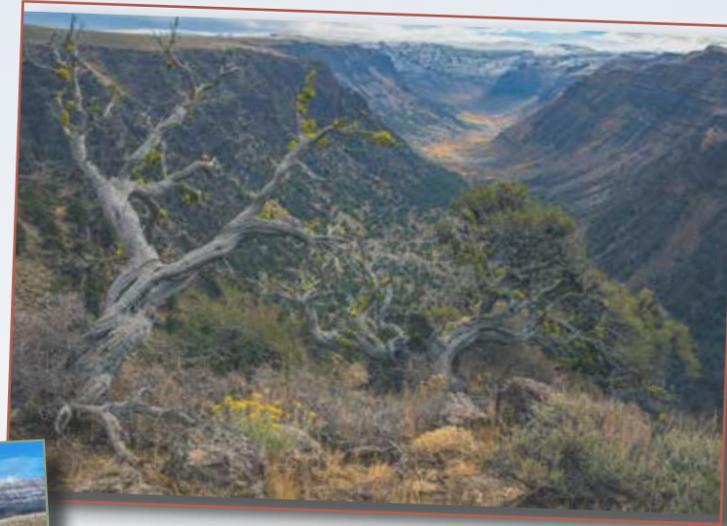


# 2019 IN REVIEW

## YOUR KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### A Leap Forward for Owyhee Protection

When Senator Wyden convened discussions in 2019, ONDA stood up for the Owyhee's wild lands, waters and wildlife. A bill that would protect 1.13 million acres of public lands in Malheur County as wilderness is now before Congress. This bill safeguards important ecological, cultural and recreational assets and some of the last, best habitat in the West. From the iconic California bighorn sheep and Greater Sage-Grouse to the diminutive Owyhee clover, the 200+ species dependent on this unique ecosystem will benefit forever.



### Putting the Brakes on Road Development at Steens

More than 100 miles of obscure or non-existent routes on Steens Mountain won't be opened to motorized use or mechanized repair, thanks to ONDA's successful legal advocacy. Your support is keeping Steens Mountain wild, quiet and uninterrupted.

### Progress on Protecting Sutton Mountain

Senator Jeff Merkley introduced a bill that would permanently protect Sutton Mountain and the wildlands encompassing the Painted Hills, a move made possible thanks to your determination and enthusiasm.



### Adding Desert Rivers To "The List"

When Senator Wyden called for Wild and Scenic River nominations, we rallied people to nominate desert rivers. Whychus Creek, the South Fork Crooked River, North Fork of the John Day and others desert waterways racked up hundreds of nominations thanks to the many ONDA supporters who participated in this historic grassroots effort to involve Oregonians in river conservation.



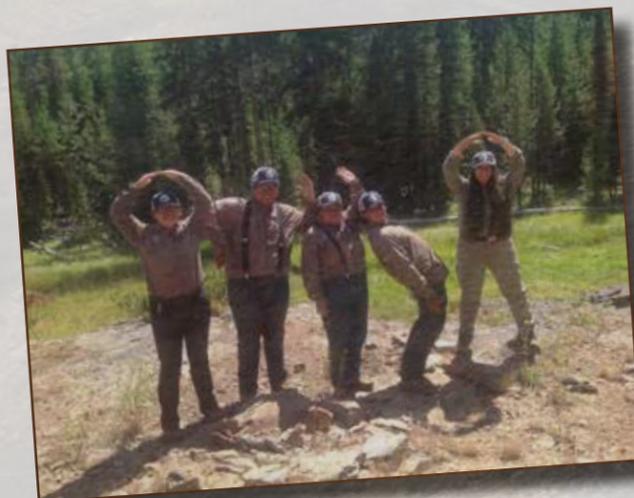
### Keeping Wildlife Safe

In partnership with the BLM, ONDA removed obsolete fence from the sensitive High Lakes plateau near Hart Mountain, the John Day Fossil Beds, and the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. ONDA also led six trips to the "land between" the Hart and Sheldon refuges inventorying 96 miles of fence lines for future removal.



### Bringing Beaver Back

You planted more than 10,000 trees in a strategic effort to meet beavers specific habitat needs in two focal restoration areas. You also built dozens of beaver dam analogs to provide the proper growing conditions for these plants. Five years from now, these areas will be supporting colonies of this keystone species, restoring a relationship between a landscape and an animal that had evolved over millions of years.



### Launching Tribal Stewards Project

New in 2019, this initiative introduces Native American young adults to natural resource management careers, supports expanded tribal partnerships and advances equity within the conservation movement.

Photos: clockwise from top right: James Parsons, Mark Darnell, Greg Burke, Jim Davis, Greg Burke, Guy Ferrell, Ben Gordon

To learn about our latest initiatives, visit [ONDA.org](http://ONDA.org).

