



Voyageurs
Conservancy

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I'm writing on the heels of Voyageurs Conservancy's Spring Thaw event that brought together so many of you in person and through your expressions of support for Voyageurs' mission. The spirit of community and generosity continues to grow and strengthen each year, and I could not be more honored to share this mutual respect for Voyageurs National Park with you.

There are many "firsts" in 2022, including Voyageurs Conservancy's new milestone of reaching nearly 2,000 youth and families through park-based and virtual experiences. The Voyageurs Classroom Initiative, in partnership with Voyageurs National Park, offers new and more equitable access to joy, inspiration, play, and learning opportunities for the next generation of park stewards.

Sam Zimmerman served as Voyageurs Conservancy's first Community Artist & Educator at Voyageurs National Park, and his celebratory mural illuminated the indigenous culture that influenced the park throughout time - represented by 16,866 stars for every day Voyageurs National Park has been open to the public.

Voyageurs Conservancy supported the park and surrounding communities to prevent the spread of the first Zebra Mussel population and protect archaeological sites and historical buildings during historic spring flooding.

Thank you for connecting with Voyageurs Conservancy and recognizing the beauty and importance of the water, lands, and sky of Voyageurs National Park. May it inspire balance and hope for our future.

With gratitude,
Sharon Oswald



Board Member
Voyageurs Conservancy



NEXT GENERATION

VOYAGEURS CLASSROOM INITIATIVE

The Voyageurs Classroom Initiative builds lasting connections to Voyageurs National Park in the next generation, sparking an interest in outdoor play, environmental science, stewardship and history. This joint education program between Voyageurs National Park and Voyageurs Conservancy strengthens our relationship and increases equitable access to nature.

Voyageurs Conservancy expanded park field trips for local schools, provided support for NPS Interpretive Ranger staff, and increased capacity for the new Dark Sky Classroom. Launched in February 2022, the Dark Sky Classroom brought 322 students out of their desks and immersed them in the wonder of Voyageurs National Park's night sky through live virtual field trips and park visits. Students learned about inspiring phenomena such as northern lights and how to engineer solutions that protect starry skies.

The Voyageurs Classroom Initiative is largely funded by the Minnesota Environmental and Natural Resources Trust fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). The National Park Foundation and Voyageurs Conservancy members also support environmental education programs at Voyageurs National Park.

1,930 YOUTH & FAMILIES WERE SERVED IN '22 THROUGH PARK-BASED AND VIRTUAL EXPERIENCES.

NATIONAL PARK TEEN AMBASSADORS

Our award-winning National Park Teen Ambassador Program reached more youth than ever before - empowering 208 high school students to experience Voyageurs National Park on fully-funded canoeing, camping, and outdoor leadership trips. Students were served from 17 schools in the Twin Cities and local gateway communities in northern Minnesota. Teen Ambassadors camp under the stars, navigate the park's magnificent waterways, and become confident stewards of their national park. Voyageurs Conservancy has provided scholarships for Minnesota high school students since 2012 with a focus on diverse and under served communities.



Ryan Brady for Wilderness Inquiry

VOYAGEURS FIELD FELLOWS

Voyageurs Conservancy supported five Field Fellows who contributed to conservation projects, education programs, and scientific research in the park. The Conservancy's Field Fellowship program invests in our future conservation leaders, offering stipend-paid opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to gain hands-on career experience in Voyageurs National Park. Summer 2022 Field Fellows supported major conservation efforts at the park including:

AQUATICS AND FISHERIES MONITORING INCLUDING LITTLE SHOEPACK LAKE MUSKIE RESEARCH, WATER QUALITY MONITORING, AND HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM SURVEYS

WOLF ECOLOGY RESEARCH FURTHERING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SUMMER REPRODUCTION AND PREDATION BEHAVIOR OF WOLVES

WILDLIFE AND WETLAND PROJECTS INCLUDING VEGETATION SURVEYS; INSTALLING BAT RECORDING DEVICES; AND CONDUCTING WETLAND MAMMAL, MARSHBIRD, AND LOON SURVEYS

BOAT DECONTAMINATIONS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE ZEBRA MUSSELS INTO PARK WATERS



Riley Benson

WILD VOYAGEURS

OUR FIELD FELLOWS HELP PRESERVE ECOSYSTEMS AND CULTURAL TREASURES OF VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK AND REPRESENT THE NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC LANDS PROFESSIONALS.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF ZEBRA MUSSELS

In Summer 2022, Voyageurs Conservancy provided the park \$9,000 in funding to significantly increase staff capacity to decontaminate vessels, educate the public, and engage partners in an unified response to invasive zebra mussels. We funded 4 Aquatic Invasive Species Technicians at the Kettle Falls Portage who decontaminated 570 vessels and engaged 650 visitors to prevent zebra mussel spread in the park's waters. The 260,000 people who visit Voyageurs each year enjoy kayaking, swimming, boating, and world-class fishing on its pristine lakes. These efforts protect the watershed's precious ecosystems and some of Voyageurs National Park's most beloved native fish, including walleye.



National Park Service



Tom Cable

VOYAGEURS WOLF PROJECT

Voyageurs Conservancy provided funding to the Voyageurs Wolf Project, an ongoing research and monitoring effort focused on understanding the summer ecology of wolves in the Greater Voyageurs Ecosystem. This funding furthered research on the behaviors between wolves and beaver populations and sponsored a Wolf Ecology Field Fellow to engage in field work with the Voyageurs Wolf Project.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Love Your Park events connect families to recreation and learning opportunities in Voyageurs National Park. Over 600 participants engaged in star gazing, hiking, outdoor art experiences, public paddling days, and even deep-dives into the 2.8 billion year geologic history of Voyageurs National Park. The expansion of in-park programming supports local businesses and tourism, while engaging more Minnesotans in their state's outdoor heritage.



VOYAGEURS COMMUNITY ARTIST & EDUCATOR

Voyageurs Conservancy was proud to partner with Sam Zimmerman and support our first Community Artist & Educator at Voyageurs National Park. This vibrant "Giiwedino-Manidoog / Spirits of the North" mural by Sam Zimmerman illuminates the indigenous culture that has and continues to influence the park. Rich with symbolism, the painting features 16,866 stars for every day Voyageurs National Park has been open to the public. "The story of this piece is to celebrate the beauty of the land, water and sky, the animal spirits of the park, while also serving as a reminder to visitors that the park sits on ancestral Anishinaabe and Ojibwe homes and indigenous culture was and is part of the story of the park,"



DARK SKY PROGRAMMING

Voyageurs Conservancy summer Dark Sky Programs inspired over 360 visitors and families with weekly constellation tours, telescope sessions, and our second annual Voyageurs Star Party. This multi-day astronomy festival inspired attendees with special speakers and night sky tours under constellations, nebulae, distant galaxies, and the dazzling Northern Lights. As a certified International Dark Sky Park, the Conservancy and National Park Service host joint programming to preserve natural darkness and connect all ages to the wonder of Voyageurs' starry skies.



PROTECTING VOYAGEURS' HISTORY AFTER FLOODING

Voyageurs National Park experienced historic flooding in Summer 2022 that caused major impacts to docks, backcountry trails, campsites, homes, and area businesses. Rainy Lake and the Namakan Lake Basin experienced water levels 22 inches higher than the 2014 flood and broke the previous record set in 1950. It is estimated that two-thirds of the park's archaeological sites were covered by water during the flood. Voyageurs Conservancy provided critical funding to monitor the park's 450+ archaeological sites and support historical building rehabilitation. The Conservancy will continue to work closely with the National Park Service to respond to natural disasters and preserve the park's ecological and cultural resources.

PARK BY THE NUMBERS

221,434 PARK VISITS **2,097** CAMPING RESERVATIONS **1,533** HOUSEBOAT PERMITS
4,682.25 VOLUNTEER HOURS AT THE PARK **42,718** VISITOR CENTER VISITORS
1,343 NEW JUNIOR RANGERS **9** HISTORIC BUILDINGS SECURED DURING SUMMER FLOODING
74 ACRES OF WETLANDS TREATED FOR INVASIVE SPECIES

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2021 & 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

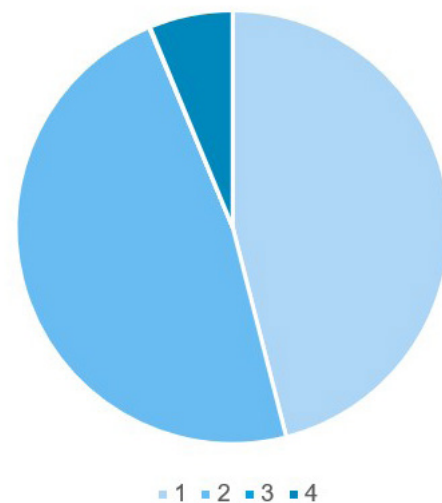
AS OF DECEMBER 31 (UNAUDITED):

ASSETS	2022	2021
Cash and Cash equivalents	\$222,658	\$215,182
Legacy Fund Investment (Savings Account/Investment)	\$253,200	\$408,707
Fixed Assets, Land	\$273,687	\$58,000
Other Current Assets	\$39,611	\$ 285
Total Assets	\$789,156	\$682,174

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable	-	-
Other Liabilities	\$45,378	\$35,299
Net Assets	\$743,778	\$646,875
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$789,156	\$682,174

SUPPORT & REVENUE	2022
Grants	\$304,817
Donations, Memberships	\$315,799
Investment Income	\$487
Miscellaneous Income	\$41,224
Total Support & Revenue	\$662,327

2022 REVENUE BY SOURCE



DONATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS	- 47.7%
GRANTS	- 46%
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	- 6.2%
INVESTMENT INCOME	- 0.1%

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

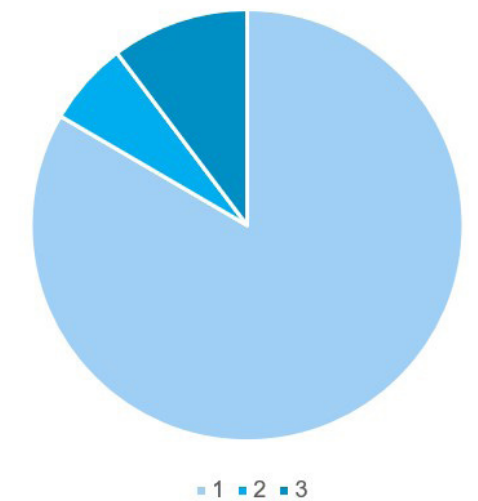
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 (UNAUDITED):

SUPPORT & ASSETS	2022	2021
Grants	\$304,817	\$129,981
Donations	\$315,799	\$275,139
Investment Income	\$487	\$41
Miscellaneous Income & In-Kind	\$41,224	\$37,032
Total Support & Revenue	\$662,327	\$442,193

EXPENSES	2022	2021
Program Service	\$463,643	\$357,648
Management & General	\$34,927	\$38,319
Fundraising	\$57,154	\$29,804
Total Expenses	\$555,724	\$425,771
Revenue over Expenses	\$106,603	\$16,422

EXPENSES	2022
Program Service	\$463,643
Management & General	\$34,927
Fundraising	\$57,154
Total Support & Revenue	\$555,724

2022 EXPENDITURES BY PURPOSE



PROGRAM SERVICE	- 83.4%
FUNDRAISING	- 10.3%
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	- 6.3%



THANK YOU 2022 SUPPORTERS

\$5,000 AND ABOVE

Anonymous
 Bizal Built
 Jim & Susan Bizal
 John & Kathy Bizal
 John & Jane Burton
 Department of Iron Range
 Resources & Rehabilitation
 Duluth Superior Area Community
 Foundation
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 Minnesota Environment & Natural
 Resources Trust Fund
 Minnesota Environmental Fund
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 National Park Foundation
 Katherine & Stuart Nielsen
 Caroline Pflueger
 Quetico Superior Foundation
 Ann & Brad Randall
 REI
 The Nash Foundation
 National Park Service
 H. William & Judy Walter
 Curtis Wong
 Virginia Sweatt
 in memory of Henry & Cathy

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Susan Forsberg & Doug Anderson
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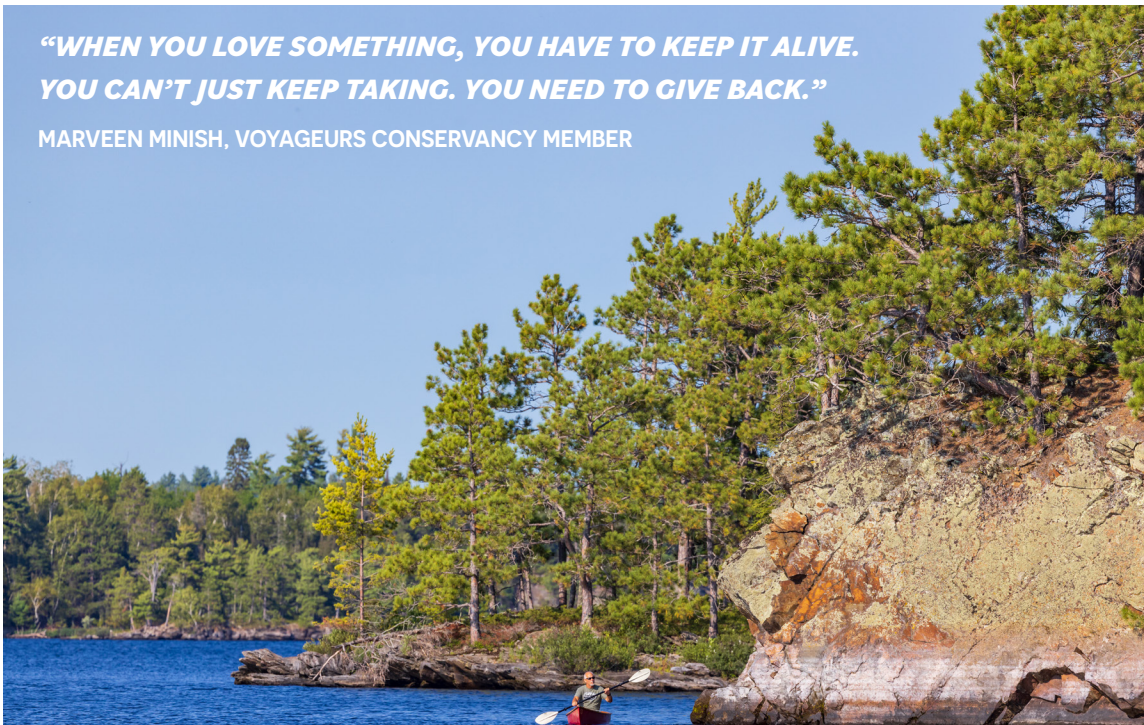
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Karla Wheeler
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Paul Willis
Shawn Willy
Barbara Wojahn
Kenneth & Sharon
Wyberg
Janet Yackle
Donna Young
Charlie Zwisler



**“WHEN YOU LOVE SOMETHING, YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT ALIVE.
YOU CAN’T JUST KEEP TAKING. YOU NEED TO GIVE BACK.”**

MARVEEN MINISH, VOYAGEURS CONSERVANCY MEMBER

IN-KIND GIFTS

Able Seedhouse + Brewery
Arc'teryx Minneapolis
Amy & James Arcand
Ash Trail Lodge
Jim and Susan Bizal
Canterbury Park
Cantilever Distilling Co.
Coffee Landing Cafe
Crazy Creek
Crooner's Supper Club
Megan Dobratz
Stephen and Rebekah Dupont
Fallon
Michelle Forseth
Glass House
Andy Greder
Henry & Son
Betsy Hsiao
J's Kombucha
Jack Link's
JSD Culinary Ventures
Lake View Organic Farm
Lakes & Legends Brewing
Company
Legendary Landmark Art Prints
Lincoln Park Craft District
Neighbors
Little Ember Co.
Lodge Cast Iron
Sylvia Johnston

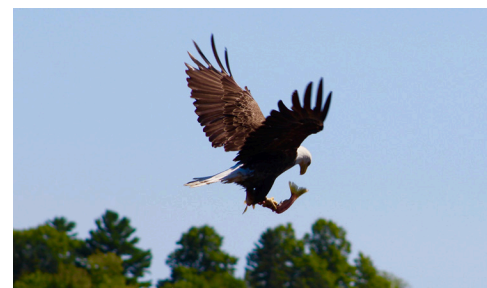
Mend Provisions
Don Metz
Miir
David Motzenbecker
North Mallow
Patagonia
National Park Service
Portage Brewing Company
Prairie Island Campground
Room & Board
Sand Bay Jewelry
Silverwaves Jewelry
Simms Fishing
Sota Suds
Tattersall Distilling
The Armory
The Buttered Tin
Thunderbird Lodge
Vasque Footwear
Voyagaire Lodge & Houseboats
Voyageurs Guide Service
Voyageurs Wolf Project
We Are Nuts
Mike Welch
Dan Wiemer
Wilderness Inquiry
Woody's Fairly Reliable Guide
Service
Sam Zimmerman

TRIBUTES

Susan Anger - Maeve Tuley
Anonymous - Bill Walter
Jacob Clark - Daniel Abramson
Larry & Janis Johnson
- Doug & Karen Franchot
Jeff Risberg - Will Shafroth
Paul Willis - R. Elizabeth Willis

EMPLOYER MATCH

Delta Dental of Minnesota
Fallon
Hewlett Packard Enterprise
Foundation
IBM
Johnson & Johnson
Medtronic
Polaris
Raytheon Technologies
Target
United Health Group
US Bank



MEMORIALS

Deena Anders	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>David Colson & Wallace Simpson</i>
Peggy Coffey	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>William Donnelly</i>
Deanne Adams, Jill Buchanan, Amy & David Demmer, Mark Eaton, Elisabeth Eaton, Dixie Grossman, Holly & Brock Harmon, Kelsy Kuehn, Leigh & Nancy Lacey, Kris Milligan, Barbara Plungy, Sharon Redman, Jill Ross, and Erin Towner	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Kathryn M Kuehn</i>
Tina Ham Peterson	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Carol Ham</i>
Charlotte Hart	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Jean Elmquist Hart</i>
Joe & Joanne Kellogg	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Martin Kellogg</i>
John & Jean Godley, Blake & Stephanie Stuchin, and Marcie Stuchin,	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Tad Shroeder</i>
Virginia Sweatt	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Henry & Cathy</i>
Joan Whipple	<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Gary Whipple</i>



**“THE ROLE THAT VOYAGEURS CONSERVANCY PLAYS IN GETTING PEOPLE TO VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK,
SHOWCASING THE BEAUTIFUL NATURAL RESOURCES WE HAVE IN THE STATE, AND SUPPORTING ITS ONGOING
RESTORATION IS REALLY IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL. I AM SO PROUD TO BE A PART OF THAT.”**

MEGAN DOBRATZ, BOARD MEMBER & VOLUNTEER



STAFF

CHRISTINA HAUSMAN RHODE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BREANNA TRYGG

EDUCATION & OUTREACH DIRECTOR

MEGAN NOETZEL

MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

JESSE GATES

EDUCATION SPECIALIST

NICOLE ANDERSON DAVIS

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