

2025 Annual Impact Report

Columbia Riverkeeper

Letter from the Director

This year marks 25 years of victories powered by work in solidarity with Tribes and communities. I am proud to work for a nonprofit that punches above its weight, tackles complex challenges with optimism and hope, and makes a difference.

At our 25th Anniversary Celebration, Yakama Nation Tribal Councilman Jeremy Takala reflected, “Our shared victories remind us that when we unite, we can move mountains—or in our case, move agencies and systems—to do what’s right for the river.” In 2025, our team of community organizers, attorneys, and policy advocates rose to the critical times we are living through to make an impact. We advanced:

- Lawsuits to stop federal environmental rollbacks and pollution from flowing into the Columbia and its tributaries.
- Creative strategies to secure laws and policies that protect everyone who relies on the Columbia and locally caught fish.
- Work in solidarity with Tribes who are fighting for salmon recovery and Hanford Nuclear Site cleanup.
- Strategic litigation and community organizing to protect our climate from refineries and dirty-energy infrastructure.
- Environmental education to inspire the next generation of river advocates.

We also celebrated many inspiring victories. Case in point: We worked with our allies to stop a proposed oil-by-rail expansion. When Tristar quietly filed paperwork to expand its Vancouver, Wash., facility, we explained the risks; how the permitting process works; and legal arguments to stop the proposal. And we teamed with Advocates for a Cleaner Environment to turn out residents to hearings. We won! Instead of letting fossil fuel expansion slip through unnoticed, we made sure the public interest came first.

In 2025, we launched new advocacy efforts, including a partnership with the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission to tackle the prolific expansion of data centers and their voracious appetite for energy and water. We also raised the alarm about potential impacts of an underwater transmission line in the Columbia. Together, we will protect the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest.

Columbia Riverkeeper is powered by people with a shared passion for clean water, climate action, and a river that unites us. Your support empowers all of us to keep up the momentum.

Warmly,



Lauren

Lauren Goldberg, *Executive Director*

Your Impact in the Last Year

Science & Education



250 water quality samples collected at Columbia River beaches

800+ kids and young adults who experienced bilingual (English and Spanish) environmental education through Columbia Riverkeeper's outreach program

60+ events Columbia Riverkeeper hosted or partnered in to inspire people in Columbia River communities to speak up for clean water, salmon, and our climate

1500+ pounds of garbage volunteers collected at community cleanup events along the Columbia

Climate & Energy



6 lawsuits advanced to protect our climate and reduce air pollution, including legal challenges to NEXT Energy's diesel refinery and the GTN Xpress pipeline expansion

2000+ Columbia Riverkeeper members and supporters who urged the Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality to reject an air pollution permit for the Zenith Energy facility in Portland, OR

13 proposed bills defeated in the Oregon Legislature that would have paved the way for new nuclear energy

Clean Water



5 Clean Water Act legal actions brought or settled in 2025, all with the goal of reducing harmful pollution in the Columbia and its tributaries

\$425,000 awarded to Tribes and nonprofit organizations as a result of our Clean Water Act enforcement actions

70,000+ people who watched our videos in Spanish or English about the fish advisories at Bonneville Dam and how to advocate for cleanup

Salmon Recovery



42,780 artificial barriers to fish migration that remain subject to Oregon's long-standing requirement that barriers, like dams, be upgraded to allow fish to swim freely past. A court upheld Columbia Riverkeeper's challenge to a new rule that would have made it easier for dam operators to trap salmon and load them into trucks for transport around dams—a process with much lower survival rates

2,225 Columbia Riverkeeper members who told their senators and representatives to oppose laws that would undermine salmon recovery, energy modernization, commitments to Northwest Tribes, and progress towards undamming the Lower Snake River

15 nonprofit organizations joined Columbia Riverkeeper's comments opposing the "low-impact" certification of Wells Dam on the Columbia River (which harms migrating salmon and steelhead and drowns 25 miles of fall Chinook spawning habitat), resulting in the dam operator dropping the proposal

Cleanup Hanford



800+ Columbia Riverkeeper members who reminded the U.S. Dept. of Energy that leaked high level waste is still high level waste

70+ people who gathered on the Yakama Nation reservation to remember the bombings of Nagasaki and Hiroshima and the connection to the Hanford Nuclear Site

40+ pages of detailed technical comments submitted by Columbia Riverkeeper on the U.S. Dept. of Energy's proposed plans for remediation of the 324 Building, located less than 1,000 feet from the Columbia River

Our Mission

To protect and restore the water quality of the Columbia River and all life connected to it, from the headwaters to the Pacific Ocean.

Our Vision

A Columbia River that unites people to fight for clean water, abundant fish and wildlife, and our climate.

Our Values

Care: We care for ourselves, others, and the world around us.

Relationship building: Victories are built on strong, lasting, and reciprocal relationships with colleagues, partners, members, and decision-makers.

Equity and inclusion: We respect all people, regardless of color, ethnicity, place of origin, culture, language, age, sexuality, or gender.

Hope: We work and celebrate with creativity and optimism.

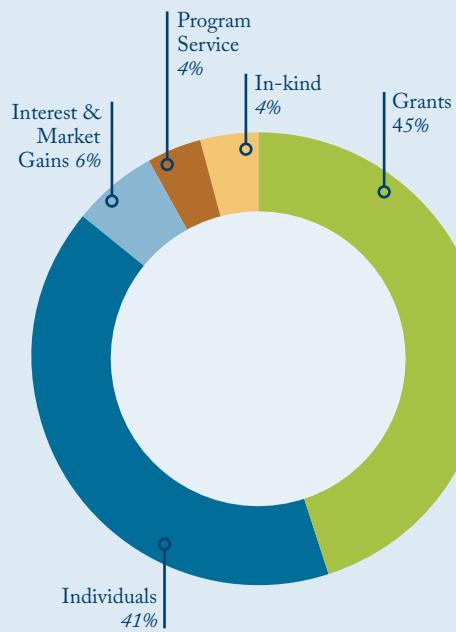
Honesty and integrity: We operate with honesty and integrity, balanced with compassion.

Revenue & Expenses

Oct. 2024. - Sept. 2025

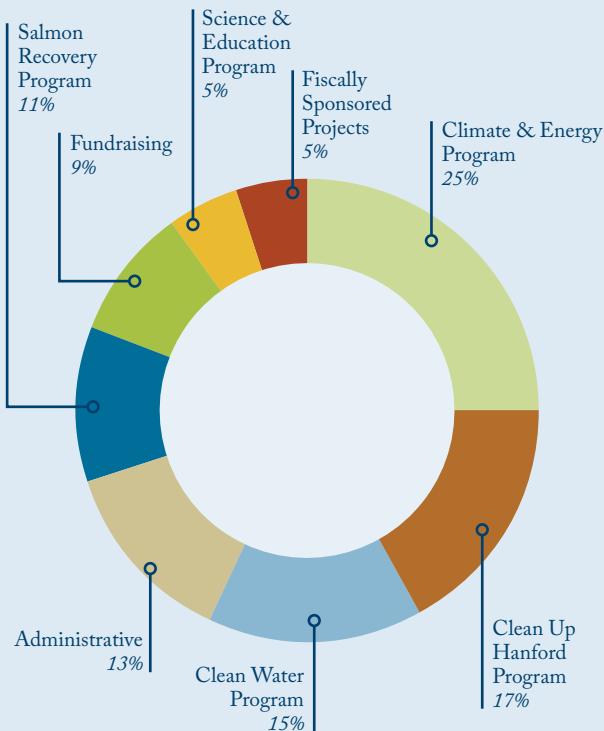
Revenue

Total: **\$4,380,000**



Expenses

Total: **\$3,914,477***



*In December 2024 Columbia Riverkeeper had an additional \$1,274,775 of expenses to release funds held for a fiscally sponsored project that gained independent 501(c)(3) status.

Photo by Paloma Ayala

Our Staff



Simone Anter (She/Her), Staff Attorney & Hanford Program Director



Eric Block (He/Him), Communications & Marketing Director



Kelly Campbell (She/Her), Policy Director



Lorri Epstein (She/Her), Science & Education Director



Lauren Goldberg (She/Her), Executive Director



Miles Johnson (He/Him), Legal Director



Kayla Jones (She/Her), Director of People & Culture



Emily Kao (She/Her), Advancement Director



Audrey Klein (She/Her), Events & Operations Coordinator



Audrey Leonard (She/Her), Staff Attorney



Juan Monje (He/Him), Community Organizer



Lisa Muñoz (She/Her & They/Them), Senior Grants Manager



Kate Murphy (She/Her), Senior Community Organizer



Siobhán O'Halloran (She/Her), Finance & Administration Director



Jessica Price (She/Her), Finance & Administration Manager



Dan Serres (He/Him), Advocacy Director



Alex Smith (He/Him), Development Manager



Liz Terhaar (She/Her), Deputy Communications & Marketing Director



Teryn Yazdani (She/Her), Staff Attorney

*Staff list as of November 2025.

Columbia Riverkeeper, our nonprofit partners, and community members gathered to deliver thousands of petitions against Zenith Energy's air pollution permit. Photo by Alex Milan Tracy.



“These times test our resolve. But the river teaches us perseverance –to keep flowing, even through stone. Together, we’ve proven that change happens when voices unite –when Tribes, advocates, and communities stand shoulder to shoulder.”

—**Jeremy Takala, Yakama Nation Tribal Councilman**

Columbia Riverkeeper earned the highest ratings for top charity guides



Four stars
Exceptional. Exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause.



Platinum
Highest Seal of Transparency.



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Cover caption: Rocky Mountain Trench at the headwaters of the Columbia River in Canada. Photo by David Moskowitz.