

BOISE RIVER ENHANCEMENT NETWORK

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



From the Coordinating Team Chair

The Boise River Enhancement Network, Inc. (BREN) is a gathering of volunteers, community stewards, and natural resource professionals that work to ensure the Boise River remains a happy, healthy place for all to enjoy. With our first Annual Report, we document our successes and recognize your contributions to our work.

With a trim budget, we accomplished much good on-the-ground. Some of those projects are highlighted in this Annual Report for you to celebrate with us.

For example, we sought out community leaders to present educational programs that inform and enlighten us about the wonders of the Boise River. We worked with local governments to amend public policy to better recognize and protect the river and its floodplain. And, we have kept you and our other natural partners informed of current issues that affect the Boise River with our newsletters, blogs, and email alerts.

Please know it is our pleasure to be working with you in the public interest. We thank you with both head and heart.

Sincerely, Rob Tiedemann, Ph.D.
Boise River Enhancement Network Chairperson

WHO WE ARE

We are a network of people that live, work and play in the Boise River watershed that are dedicated to promoting the ecological enhancement of the river.

WHAT WE DO

We bring together stakeholders, ideas and expertise to improve the health of the Boise River through education and on-the-ground projects.

WE ARE GUIDED BY

Our science-based, community-written
Boise River Enhancement Plan

and BREN's
5-Year Strategic Plan

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH



Crayfishing for water quality research, Aug 28th

ACTIVITIES	2021	SINCE 2011
Educational Presentations	16	111
Blogs	10	87
Field Trips	3	29
Float Trips	2	21
Volunteer Days/Workshops	25	52
Gathering Events	5	17

Educational Programs – Click to Watch!

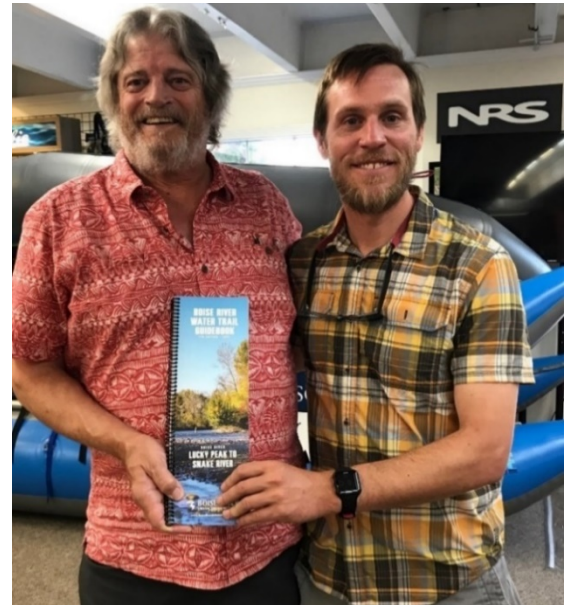
Jan 19	Winter Ducks of the Boise River
Jan 29	Regulatory Primer on River Projects
Feb 27	1920-2020: The Story of Indian Creek
Mar 31	Canyon Hwy District Boise River Bridge
Apr 22	Farmers Clean Up Boise River
May 6	Idaho's Public Trust Doctrine
Aug 22	Boise River Water Trail Guidebook
Sep 20	Hot and Dry – Boise River Water Report
Nov 18	10 Years together for the Boise River
Dec 11	IBO Boise River Side Channel Project

Education and Outreach Highlights

- Over 300 volunteer hours logged!
- Two (2) crayfishing for science days with over 90 volunteers and 52 crayfish collected.
- Six (6) stewardship days at the Notch Project Site with Xylem, Ridgeline Insights, and BREN volunteers.
- Three (3) stewardship days at Charlie Wood Park with Saalt and BREN volunteers.
- Three (3) stewardship days at Hyatt Hidden Lakes with Idaho Realtors, City of Boise (lead), and BREN.
- Five (5) Boise River clean-up events with Odell Brewing, Xylem, Stantec, IBO and BREN volunteers.
- Two (2) bird survey days at Expo Idaho



Boise River "Make it Pretty" Clean-up with Odell Brewing, Jun 26th



Tom Chelsrom and Adam Bass share the Boise River Water Trail Guide, Jul 29th

BOISE RIVER ENHANCEMENT

Notch Habitat Enhancement Project

This project aims to improve the riparian condition of an 0.11-acre property, known as the "Notch", managed by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) along the Boise River. In 2021, volunteers contributed over 200 hours removing invasive species, planting and tending native species, and studying different methods to remove invasive false indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*). Our limited study found that applying herbicide Garlon® 4 directly to the base of the plant, following pruning, resulted in nearly total die back after three applications. Pathfinder® II was a close second. Please see our final report [here](#)! Our Team will be out again in 2022 for more plantings, invasive removal, and site maintenance.



Roger Rosentreter and Xylem Volunteers at the "Notch"

Crayfishing for Science

In partnership with the University of Idaho (UofI) Idaho Water Resources Research Institute (IWRRI), BREN educated and engaged over 90 volunteers in the collection of crayfish in Ada County and Canyon County. Collected data will help us gain a better understanding of mercury levels and crayfish throughout the Boise River Watershed. And, it turns out crayfishing is a ton of fun! Stay tuned for more crayfishing opportunities in 2022.

BREN Provides Scientific Advice:

- Ada County Expo Idaho
- Barber Dam Relicensing
- Idaho Shakespeare at Gateway Reserve
- City of Boise at Willow Lane
- Riverside Hotel
- City of Eagle Charlie Woods Park
- Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands on the Barber Pool Master Plan
- Garden City and Star River Ordinances

Black Cottonwood Gather and Grow

BREN continues to work with our public (City of Boise Parks and Recreation) and private partners (Edward's Nursery) to propagate from seed black cottonwood, a keystone species in the Boise River watershed that is at risk. BREN volunteers Kim Chmura, Jan Egge, and Rob Tiedemann recruited 34 volunteers to gather and perfect the cleaning of black cottonwood seed from trees growing along the Boise River, germinate seed in notable amounts, and grow seedlings to maturity. All will be strategically planted as young trees throughout the Boise River floodplain in 2022. Please [click here](#) to read our blog on this important project!



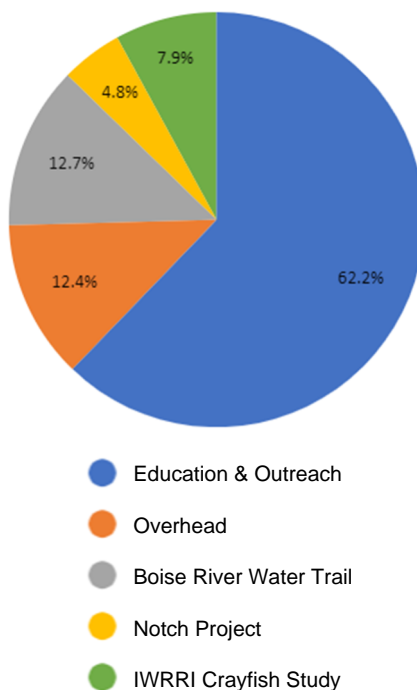
Native cottonwood seedlings grown by BREN volunteers

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

Jan 1, 2021	Dec 31, 2021
INCOME	
Individual Contributions	\$54,007.97
Corporate Contributions	\$26,021.78
Non-Government Grants	\$14,000.00
Merchandise Sales	\$2,556.71
Total Income	\$96,586.46
EXPENSES	
Professional Coordinator	\$43,000.00
Professional Bookkeeper	\$2,475.00
Professional Services	\$5,000.00
Supplies, Printing, Rentals	\$3,946.46
Postage and Shipping	\$295.90
Software and CRM	\$2,051.84
Internet, Web, Hosting	\$301.55
Rent (P.O. Box)	\$188.00
Meals and Mileage Fees	\$311.69
Insurance	\$1,403.00
Memberships	\$50.00
Bank and Merchant Fees	\$637.59
Advertising	\$177.51
Total Expenses	\$59,838.54
Net Operating Income	\$36,747.92
Interest	\$104.20
NET INCOME	\$36,852.12

EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



COORDINATING TEAM

Rob Tiedemann, Chair
 Louisa Evers, Vice Chair
 Christy Meyer, Secretary
 Adam Bass, Treasurer
 Erv Ballou
 Ben Everson
 Mike Homza
 Jane Kreller
 Jonathan Lucas
 Maria Minicucci
 Dani Terhaar

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COORDINATOR

Marisa Keith

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Tom Bassista
 Kim Chmura
 Jan Egge
 Meg Fereday
 Susan Hawke
 John Ossenkop
 Darcy Sharp

THANK YOU DEPARTING LEADERS!

Cassidy Connolly
 Sean Finn
 Jim Nunley
 Liz Paul
 Brandon Watson

A HUGE THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Kennedy Wilson – Title Sponsor

**Stantec, Suez, Xylem, Odell Brewing, Idaho River Sports,
 Harris Ranch, AIRE**

RIVHAB, Natural Grocers, Idaho Whitewater Association, Idaho Mountain Touring, Resource Systems Inc., Roundhouse, Rio ASE, The Nature Conservancy, Tetra Tech, Idaho Conservation League, Alta Science and Engineering, Bardenay Restaurant and Distillery, Idaho Power, T-O Engineers, Boise Valley Fly Fishers, Idaho Water Engineering, Brady Industries, Forsgren Associates

AND THANK YOU

Bates Family Foundation & Friends of BREN