

BOISE RIVER ENHANCEMENT NETWORK

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



From the Board President

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. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure contribute to our doing good on-the-ground.

You can see this in the black cottonwood "Gather and Grow" project where we harvest native seed and raise cohorts of genetically diverse trees to take us through a period of climate change. And, "The Notch" project where we discover practical means and methods to manage invasive plants, like false indigo, growing along the river. And, our partnership with the University of Idaho in the "Crayfish" project researching changes to water quality.

We are accountable to you, our donors, and with our second Annual Report, aim to demonstrate that your treasure is cared for and well spent.

Please know it is our pleasure to be working with you in the public interest.

Sincerely,
Rob Tiedemann, Ph.D.



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



BREN recognized as Local Climate & Sustainability Partner by City of Boise, including \$1,000 grant.

ACTIVITIES	2022	SINCE 2011
Educational Presentations	6	117
Blogs	2	89
Field Trips	4	36
Float Trips	2	25
Volunteer Days/Workshops	8	85
Gathering Events	4	26

Riverside Chats – Click Below to Watch!

- Jan 11 [Clean Energy & River Health](#), Russ Weeden, Idaho Power Education Advisor
- Jan 19 [Climate Action & River Health](#), Steve Hubble and Hayley Falconer, City of Boise
- Mar 24 [Snow Science & Boise Watershed](#), Erin Whorton, Idaho Snow Survey Hydrologist
- May 6 [Working Like One Entity](#), Brent Orton, Caldwell Public Works Director
- Jul 12 [Boise River Crayfish Project](#), Tate Libunao, University of Idaho
- Nov 15 [Corps Regulations & Boise River](#), Marve Griffith, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Education and Outreach Highlights

- **Boise River Trail Guide Update:** For Sale at [BREN website](#), Idaho River Sports, AIRE, and REI!
- **Boise WaterShed Earth Day Event & Art Tour**
- **Idaho Gives Party by the River:** Partnered with GEAS, Boise Valley Fly Fishers, Idaho Whitewater Assoc.
- **Boise River Clean-up:** Partnered with Stantec.
- **Boise River Floats:** Middleton to Caldwell and IEF.
- **Boise River Outreach to Students:** Endeavor Elementary, Boise High, and BSU Envir. Studies.
- **Boise River Scientific Advice:** Barber Dam FERC Relicensing and Expo Idaho Park Redevelopment.



BREN Float Trip Idaho Environmental Forum, August 31st



Xylem & BREN Volunteers plant willows at The Notch

BOISE RIVER PROJECTS

Cottonwood Gather and Grow Project

Ten dedicated BREN volunteers gathered cottonwood seeds from along the Boise River, planted and grew seeds at home, and then transplanted cottonwood seedlings for placement at Edwards Nursery. Unfortunately, seedling survival continues to be a challenge, but we are learning more and more about how best to germinate and grow cottonwood from seed. Over 50 cottonwood seedlings from 2021 were planted at strategic locations along the Boise River. Black cottonwoods are a keystone species for a healthy Boise River ecosystem. Through this project, we are “building an ark” for the Boise River cottonwoods to take us through a period of climate change.



BREN President, Rob Tiedemann and BREN volunteers prepare for cottonwood seed gathering and planting.

Expo Idaho Birding Project

BREN continued to conduct bird surveys in 2022 at the Expo Idaho site, which is proposed for redevelopment by Ada County. BREN birders performed four surveys in which over 60 bird species were documented! The documentation of such extensive bird use at the Expo Idaho site helped strengthen the call for protected and restored natural areas within the new park design.

Notch Project

Over 50 volunteers planted 90 native shrubs seedlings (syringa, Wood's rose, water birch, and coyote willow) at the notch site in 2022. Many of the volunteers were with Xylem, a BREN Sponsor. Irrigation for the new plantings was provided throughout the summer courtesy of adjacent landowners, which likely contributed to the high survival rate of plantings by the end of the season. Invasive false indigo (shrub) continues to be removed and spot treated with herbicide. The project was added to [RESTOR online platform](#) (a global hub for restoration).

Crayfishing for Water Quality Science

BREN partnered for a second year with the University of Idaho, Idaho Water Resources Research Institute (IWRRI) to collect crayfish along the Boise River. The crayfish are then tested to understand mercury contamination and distribution within the Boise River. We had 27 volunteers participate and a total of 38 crayfish caught at multiple riverside locations. BREN and IWRRI leaders also provided education on the crayfish life cycle and Boise River water quality. This is a multi-year project, which will continue into 2023. So keep an eye out for more opportunities this summer!



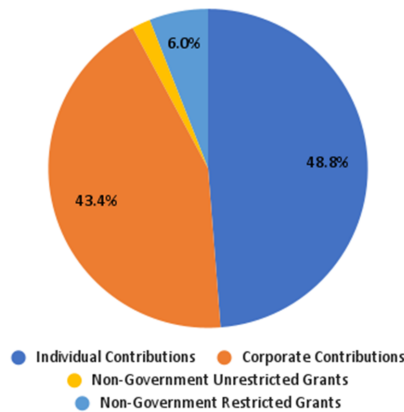
U of I Doctoral student, Tate Libunao, educates BREN volunteers about crayfish anatomy and lifecycle.

2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

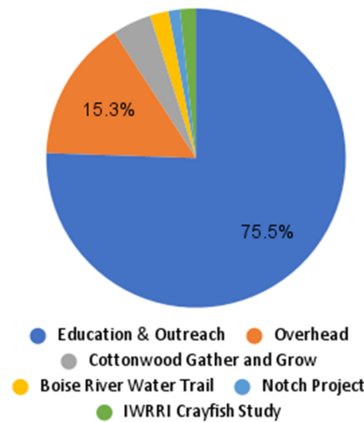
PROFIT & LOSS

Jan 1, 2022	to	Dec 31, 2022
INCOME		
Individual Contributions		\$32,676.99
Corporate Contributions		\$29,100.00
Non-Government Grants		\$5,250.00
Merchandise Sales Profit		-\$2,598.60
Total Income		\$64,428.39
EXPENSES		
Professional Coordinator		\$36,683.51
Bookkeeping/Accounting		\$2,975.00
Professional Services		\$3,525.00
Supplies, Printing, Rentals		\$2,104.32
Postage and Shipping		\$167.15
Software and CRM		\$2,059.37
Internet, Web, Hosting		\$306.55
Rent (P.O. Box)		\$212.00
Meals and Mileage Fees		\$1,327.25
Insurance		\$1,403.00
Memberships		\$55.00
Bank and Merchant Fees		\$311.46
Advertising, Other		\$178.74
Total Expenses		\$51,308.35
Net Operating Income		\$13,120.04
Interest		\$161.56
NET BALANCE		\$13,281.60

BREN INCOME



BREN EXPENSES by PROGRAM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rob Tiedemann, President
 Darryl Khurt, Vice President
 Christy Meyer, Secretary
 Tamsen Binggeli, Treasurer
 Adam Bass
 Mike Homza
 Jonathan Lucas
 Will Tiedemann
 Madeline Wyatt

COORDINATOR

Marisa Keith

2022

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Donna Fowler
 Kim Fuller
 Michael Stauffer
 Cindy Busche
 Doug Zamzow
 R.L. Rowland

2022

BREN "EDDY OF FAME"

Kim Chmura
 Phil Gordon

THANK YOU

DEPARTING BREN LEADERS!

Erv Ballou
 Louisa Evers
 Ben Everson
 Eric Grace
 Jane Kreller
 Maria Minicucci
 John Robison
 Dani Terhaar

A HUGE THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Kennedy Wilson, Veolia, Xylem, and Stantec

Harris Ranch, Harris Ranch Wildlife Mitigation Assoc., Idaho Mountain Touring, Tetra Tech, AIRE, Boise Valley Fly Fishers, T-O Engineers, Idaho Power Foundation, Idaho Conservation League, The Riverside Hotel, Idaho Fish & Wildlife Foundation

AND THANK YOU

Friends of BREN!

