



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

# TRCP Enters 3rd Decade

REFLECTING ON THE PAST YEAR WITH EYES ON THE CONSERVATION HORIZON

ONSERVATION IS, ALL TOO OFTEN, A GAME OF PATIENCE. It's a time-consuming process to identify a problem or opportunity, work with partners to develop a solid solution, gather resources to get the job done, and enable our conservation community to put the boots and backhoes on the ground. But through collaboration, incredible tasks are achievable. That's why when the issue at hand has appeared to be too challenging, and the solutions have seemed too immense, the hunting and angling community has, time and again, banded together to ensure monumental successes for conservation, habitat, and access, even if they are years in the making.

In 2023, several such hard-fought wins occurred that secured protections for some of our country's most beloved hunting and fishing grounds. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Minnesota, a treasured haven of outdoor adventure for millions of Americans, was spared from the threat of devastating pollution after the Department of the Interior withdrew thousands of acres of surrounding public lands from federal mineral leasing.

In an epic victory for the largest sockeye salmon run in the world, the Environmental Protection Agency acted under the provisions of the Clean Water Act to stop mining development in Bristol Bay, Alaska. For decades, the fishing community has fought for these protections alongside non-sporting industries such as fine-jewelry manufacturers, chefs, winemakers, and farmers—millions of people advocating together for clean water and healthy habitat.

After months of coordination, keystone agreements have been penned with many of our conservation partners so that conservation and

restoration work can finally be put on the ground as the result of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

As much of a relief as these achievements are, we cannot rest on our laurels. A new challenge arose in 2023, with another iconic landscape coming under threat of development. A proposal to build an industrial corridor looms over Alaska's Brooks Range and its caribou, Dall sheep, and Dolly Varden. TRCP and over 40 hunting and fishing partner organizations have joined together to stand up for fish and wildlife once again. And while a recent action from the Bureau of Land Manage-

ment indicates their intent to deny the permit for construction of the road, we will remain diligent until that decision is made final.

You can learn more about our new Hunters & Anglers for the Brooks Range campaign in the pages ahead, as well as read updates on other important conservation legislation TRCP is working on including the Farm Bill, the MAPWaters and MAPOceans Acts, and more.

The challenges to conservation, habitat, and access will continue, and we thank you for your unwavering support. Alongside our nonprofit and corporate partners, your engagement, advocacy, and donations help TRCP continue to pull the hunting and fishing community together to fight the good fight, for as long as it takes.

Ma Zhare

**OUR LEADERSHIP** 



Becky Humphries



James A. Baker IV

PORTRAITS BY KYLE HILTON



## **Conserving Special Places**

There are some landscapes in America that are so valuable to fish and wildlife species, they simply should be left untouched. Industrial development can have significant, long-term effects on habitat that can be complicated to manage or reverse. TRCP, our partners, and the hunting and fishing community have been advocating for two such special places for decades. Thanks to our collective voices, protections were finally granted for both.

Pivotal safeguards were issued for the headwaters of Bristol Bay, Alaska—home of the largest sockeye salmon run on the planet. Under the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency restricted and prohibited the discharge of mine waste into rivers, streams, and wetlands in the region.

The Boundary Waters
Canoe Area Wilderness
received historic protections when the Department of the Interior
withdrew over 225,000
acres of public land in the
Rainy River Watershed
of Northeast Minnesota—just upstream of
the historic and beloved
wilderness destination—
from federal mineral leasing for the next 20 years.

### TRCP BY THE NUMBERS>

BUSI REPR

BUSINESS SECTOR PARTNERS
REPRESENTED ON THE
CORPORATE COUNCIL

63

NGO PARTNERS ON THE POLICY COUNCIL



### Greatest Gulf Menhaden Conservation Outcome to Date

Louisiana's Wildlife and

Fisheries Commission approved a Notice of Intent for a half-mile coastwide buffer prohibiting industrial menhaden purse seiners from netting close to shore and increased fish spill penalties. The new regulations should reduce net spill incidents and protect sensitive, shallow-water habitats used by redfish, speckled trout, and many other sportfish, birds, and dolphins for feeding and spawning.



# Record-setting Annual Fundraising Gala

The 15th annual Capital Conservation Awards Dinner, co-hosted by MeatEater founder Steve Rinella, was another record-breaking year in both funds raised as well as in-person attendance. TRCP bestowed conservation achievement awards to Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Representative Blake Moore (R-UT-01), and lifetime achievement awards to Becky Humphries (CEO of National Wild Turkey Federation, retired) and Howard Vincent (CEO of Pheasants Forever, retired).

# BLM Ecosystem Restoration and Resilience Projects



INVESTMENT: \$161 Million

BENEFITTING: 21 Landscapes
in 11 Western States

This huge win for public land conservation has TRCP field staff from Alaska to Colorado eager to see habitat improvements in their states.

### Partnering to Pass the Farm Bill

The Farm Bill is the largest investment in conservation the federal government makes yearly. In 2023, TRCP gathered our partners in calling upon Congress to double investments to the conservation programs that hunters and anglers care about. This has included:

- ➤ Leading a Farm Bill platform supported by 27 partners
- **≯**Hunter-angler education campaign promoted by 7 partners
- **▶11,000+ letters sent** to USDA and Congress
- ▶50+ meetings with key members of Congress and the USDA
- ➤ National media coverage in publications that reach the hunter-angler community at large and inside the Beltway



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# MOVING FORWARD TO MODE RNIZE ACCESS

I'd love to see a world where both access and recreation rules are readily available and simple to understand. The MAPWaters Act would bring a much-needed investment in outdoor recreation. I appreciate TRCP for their continued efforts to improve the public's experiences in the outdoors. ??

**-ERIC SIEGFRIED,** Founder of onX



S BLESSED AS American hunt ers, anglers, and other recreationists are with incredible public land and water resources, we are not free from difficulties and confusion when it comes to public access. That's why TRCP is working to solve the most pressing public land and water access challenges.

To fulfill our mission of guaranteeing all Americans quality places to hunt and fish, TRCP is taking the necessary

steps to help pass legislation that will direct federal agencies to identify and make known the locations of existing public access routes, and to clarify and make readily accessible regulations such as vehicle, weapon, boating, and fishing restrictions on those public lands and waters.

### THE PROBLEM

and waters represent an invaluable treasure to the citizens of the nation. Most of these acres are open to hunting, fishing, and other forms of recreation. However, accessing some of these public lands and waters, and the regulations that accompany them, has long been complicated and confusing. It wasn't until GPS units and smartphone applications started showing precise ownership boundaries in

America's public lands

the 2010s that the average American could navigate public land and water parcels near private or between different agency properties without the risk of trespassing or committing a regulation infraction such as fishing over a protected marine boundary.

Using this technology, hunters and anglers came to identify many public lands, and some public waters, as unreachable.

To address this chal-

lenge, TRCP teamed up with onX Maps to quantify the scope of the landlocked public lands problem and offer solutions that would open access to these acres. Since 2018, the team has found a staggering 16.43 million acres of inaccessible public land across 22 states. The problem was nationwide, and a solution had to be found

### OUR ACTION

### The MAPLand Act

In 2022, the TRCP-led Modernizing Access to our Public Lands Act was passed to help enhance access to our existing public lands by requiring federal land management agencies to digitize their paper maps and records. This includes access easements across private lands and detailed road and trail information on public lands. The MAP-Land Act will increase the power of GPS mapping apps commonly found on smartphones, but this information must be implemented before public users will benefit.

### The MAPWaters Act

In 2023, TRCP helped introduce the Modernizing Access to our Public Waters Act, which expanded the reach of the MAPLand Act by directing federal agencies to digitize water and fishing access and recreational use information on federal waterways and make those resources readily available to the public.

# NATIONAL FOREST In the situation above the combined reach of the MAP Acts means that even as a hunter or angler navigates through public lands

### The MAPOceans Act

Completing the suite of access legislation, the Modernizing Access to our Public Oceans Act directs NOAA to digitize navigation and recreational use rules for marine waters and federal fisheries, and to make those resources readily available to the public, increasing and enhancing opportunities for anglers, boaters, and other users who enjoy offshore waters.

under the management of the Bureau of Reclamation and United States Forest Service, they will be able to digitally access the different regulations and boundaries in real time while in the field or on the water. Meaning they can confidently hunt birds on Bureau of Reclama tion land then cast to fish within a National Forest without having to find a map or kiosk

### **NEXT STEPS**

American hunters. anglers, boaters, and other recreationists are urging federal lawmakers to appropriate \$13.5 million toward MAP-Land Act implementation in Fiscal Year 2025. and land management agencies must prioritize the law's implementation by 2027.

MAPWaters and MAPOceans are still in the process of becoming law, and we ask you to join us in urging lawmakers to pass this important access legislation.

Stav informed with updates on these two important acts.



# DEFENDING AMERICA'S

# TRCP Launches Campaign to Conserve Alaska's Brooks Range

PRIVATE MINING ROAD POSES UNACCEPTABLE RISKS TO HABITAT

LASKA'S BROOKS RANGE offers some of the finest remote hunting and fishing opportunities remaining in North America. Home to Alaska's largest caribou herds, along with Dall sheep, moose, grizzly bear, sheefish, and Dolly Varden, the Brooks Range inspires countless Americans who dream of experiencing this big, wild country. Unfortunately, a proposed 211-mile industrial corridor threatens the very qualities that hunters and anglers value most about the Brooks Range. The Ambler Industrial Road—designed to disproportionately benefit foreign mining interests—would fragment important caribou habitat, cross nearly 3,000 rivers and streams, and permanently diminish the wild and remote character of this awe-inspiring place.

TRCP's Alaska team studied this issue extensively and collaborated with local stakeholders before launching Hunters & Anglers for the Brooks Range in the fall of 2023. This collective of 40+ leading outdoor brands, small businesses, and conservation partners have mobilized approximately 10,000 individual advocates who have urged the Bureau of Land Management to deny the permits for this risky project. TRCP and the hunt-fish coalition will continue to deliver credible opposition to the BLM until a final permitting decision is made in 2024 and will work to ensure the durability of a favorable outcome.

66 Simms is proud to be an early partner of Hunters & Anglers for the Brooks Range. Generations of future anglers should know the thrill of casting for trophy sheefish on a truly wild river like the Kobuk. With their deep issue knowledge and tailored communications resources, the TRCP made it easy for our team to engage our customers in this important conservation campaign.

**-JOHN FRAZIER,** Manager of PR, Content + Digital Marketing, Simms Fishing Products



The proposed Ambler Road would require the construction of nearly 3,000 culverts.



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### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended December 31, 2023

### **ASSETS**

TOTAL ASSETS	\$8,522,479
ROU Asset, net	\$1,704,551
Security Deposit	\$45,210
Total Fixed Assets, net	\$50,447
Prepaid Expenses	\$213,823
Accounts Receivable, net	\$1,400,477
Cash and Investments	\$5,107,971

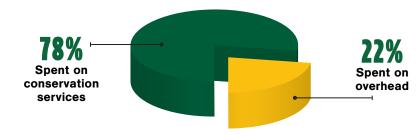
### **LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** LIABILITIES

TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$3,474,813
ROU Liability	\$1,848,823
Deferred Revenue	\$864,686
Economic Injury Disaster Loan	\$157,372
Accrued Salaries and Related Benefits	\$383,397
Accounts Payable/Accrued Liabilities	\$220,535

### **NET ASSETS**

TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$5,047,666
With Donor Restrictions	\$2,657,449
Jim Range Conservation Fund	\$2,365,967
Without Donor Restrictions (Undesignated)	\$24,250

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$8,522,479



### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

### REVENUE

Grant Revenue	\$6,071,446
Event Sponsorships	\$515,870
Individual Contributions	\$1,832,215
Corporate, Non-Profit, and Associations	\$773,056
Other Revenue	\$18,164
In-Kind Services	\$215,512
Interest Income	\$12,522
Investment Income	\$264,346

### **EXPENSES**

**TOTAL REVENUE** 

Program Services	\$7,484,966
Management	\$416,990
Fundraising	\$1,680,479
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$9 582 <b>4</b> 35

### **CHANGE IN NET ASSETS**

The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that takes great pride in its financial accuracy. transparency, and accountability. The TRCP uses every dollar as efficiently as possible to honor the generosity of our donors. In 2023, the TRCP spent 78 percent of all contributions directly advancing conservation, keeping our overhead at a minimum. As a testament to the integrity of TRCP's work, we have received the highest possible rating from Charity Navigator for eight years in a row, a Platinum Seal from Guidestar, and the top-tier rating from the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance.



\$120,696

\$9,703,131





# AFL-CIO

POLICY COUNCIL



























































































































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Special Projects Manager

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Staff member Dan Morgan showing off his son's first ever self-caught trout. Way to go, little angler!



**Noah Davis** 

Communications Manager, Western Conservation

Jamelle Ellis

Senior Scientist

Carl Erquiaga Nevada Field Representative

Christian Fauser

Western Water Policy Associate

**Aaron Field** 

Director of Private Lands Conservation

**Emily Forkey** Digital Coordinator

Alex Funk

Director of Water Resources and Senior Counsel

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Northeast Field Representative

Lvnn Gill

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Sam Kasner

Development and Events Manager

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**Scott Laird** 

Montana Field Representative



Jess Riggleman (center), winner of the 2023 Spring Sweepstakes, with TRCP staff and supporters Janis Putelis, Josh Walters, Steve Rinella, Mark Sledge, and Taylor Sledge.

Jen Leahy

Senior Alaska Program Manager

Rvan Lockwood

Communications Manager, Marine Fisheries

Chris Macaluso

Director, Center for Marine Fisheries

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L.L.Bean

ORVIS





















VISTA







