Climbing up from the path to get perspective is hard, especially when you’re head down in the trenches trying to keep up. Even more so when circumstances have created a swirl of new challenges just to maintaining balance and progress.

2021 was better than 2020, though many of the previous years’ challenges carried on throughout much of 2021. Early in the year, we remained hopeful about being able to return to in-person events and other regular activities, but by late spring we gave up on most of that. It wasn’t until late in the summer that we began to see the potential to return to some sort of in-person interaction, which then meant we accelerated planning and execution for events in extraordinarily short time frames—all while still unsure they would be able to take place.

Those challenges notwithstanding, we had some wonderful successes and wonderful times with the events we were able to hold. Star hikes, our conservation celebration, and then finally being able to hold our annual (interrupted) Conservation Leadership Luncheon at the Detroit Athletic Club were all great successes and greatly appreciated—by all of our staff, volunteers and board members, and all of those who attended.

While interruptions to in-person activities were happening, we were able to continue with some of our regular stewardship volunteer work, since those were outdoor activities. And Ian and other staff members did a great job increasing our virtual engagement efforts. Ian did some great online talks about various natural features, and we increased the scope and frequency of our online communication. One thing we did not do, however, was shift to online events. While many other organizations did a great job with those shifts, we chose to stay hopeful that we would be able to get back together soon, and so held off.

Our land protection work continued apace, carrying on with ongoing projects and picking up some new ones. We were able to complete and close out several projects by year-end, and got others started for the upcoming season.

Our stewardship work also continued largely uninterrupted in 2021. In fact, it picked up significantly with contract work we secured when trying to fill voids that arose in the early stages of the lock-downs in 2020. This has become a welcome addition to both our ability to accomplish mission driven outcomes and to generate revenue from work that supports our mission.

On the administrative side, we welcomed a new administrative manager who has done a marvelous job streamlining and handling the multitude of obligations we face as a non-profit. Many of our staff were able to take advantage of remote opportunities to advance their skills. The board took the opportunity to revisit and update our strategic plan, largely driven by changes to our efforts that were brought about by adjustments made because of the pandemic.

This last is perhaps the single most important development for Six Rivers, perhaps since its founding. Our board boldly adopted a goal of seeking to double the amount of conservation and recreation land in our region. There are 8 million acres of public land in Michigan, but only 200,000 of that is down here in southeastern Michigan, where the majority of the State’s population lives and works, and where the majority of the environmental impacts have taken place. Six Rivers committed to trying to protect 75,000 acres ourselves over the next several years, and working with partners at all levels to ensure that collectively we add an additional 200,000 acres of conservation and recreation land in the region.

As 2021 came to a close, we were all extraordinarily grateful to see conditions in our lives improve from the low stages of the pandemic. While the road ahead will undoubtedly have more bumps in it, we are most grateful for our supporters, our volunteers, and all of you who share in our vision and values for preserving the Nature Near You.
2021: FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$72,677 .... $158,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>$159,375 .... $206,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Current Assets</td>
<td>$6,853 .... $16,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Preserves</td>
<td>$5,884,162 .... $9,219,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Easements</td>
<td>28 .... 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment - Net</td>
<td>$11,646 .... $177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$6,134,741 .... $9,601,092</td>
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</table>

**LIABILITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>$14,868 .... $70,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Liabilities Payable</td>
<td>— .... —</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Payable</td>
<td>$4,233,771 .... $7,739,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$4,248,639 .... $7,810,134</td>
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</table>

**NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$1,886,100 .... $1,790,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>— .... —</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,886,100 .... $1,790,958</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$6,134,739 .... $9,601,092</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FINANCIAL POSITION**

![Graph showing financial position]

**2021 EXPENSES BY CLASS**

- **Stewardship** | 49.76%
- **Land Protection** | 11.1%
- **Development** | 4.3%
- **Administration** | 14.5%
- **Community Engagement** | 17.0%
- **Fundraising** | 3.3%

*Photo by Winnie Chrzanowski*
THE YEAR IN REVIEW:
COOPERATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT AREAS

OAKLAND COUNTY
CISMA YEAR
IN REVIEW

workshops, webinars & presentations

251 acres
of invasive plants treated

16 new outreach materials created

2629 acres
of roads, trails, parks, and more surveyed

480,610+ people reached in outreach efforts

LAKE ST. CLAIR
CISMA
2021 IN REVIEW

Over 1.2 million people reached.

Organized and coordinated over 15,000 acres of targeted survey efforts.

Featured in 11 media outlets including WXYZ and Local 4 WDIV news.

21 workshops/tours delivered.

Expanded reach to Instagram and Twitter. Created a new website.

661.6 acres of invasive species treated
MEMORIAL DONORS——
In Memory of Richard Eugene Elliott Sr
  By Meagan Elliott
In Memory of Peggy Johnson
  By Michael and Patricia Dobosenski
In Memory of Shay McInerney
  By Nancy Gage
In Memory of Alice Tomboulian
  By Ruth Gerlach
  By James and Mary Lloyd
  By Martha W. McKinney
  By Mary Louise Porter
  By Cynthia and Michael Sevilla
  By Lucy Hertel Staley
  By Paul Tomboulian
  By Irene Walter
In Memory of Martino Torello
  By Janis Adams
  By Susan Babcock
  By John Kendrick
  By Maureen Kennedy Perez
  By Alan and Mina Moger
  By Martha Lynn Smith
In Memory of Mel Vaara
  By Anne Vaara
In Memory of Stanley J. Vincent
  By Peggy Ann Lashuay

HONORARY DONORS——
In Honor of Chris Bunch
  By Jeanne Anderson
In Honor of David and Leslie Carleton
  By Bill and Charity Steere
In Honor of Roxanne Fay
  By Kim Fay
In Honor of Roxanne Fay’s Birthday
  By Kim Fay
In Honor of the Linoski Family
  By Allen Linoski
In Honor of Tina Marzolf
  By Jerry Demaire
In Honor of Jim Nicholson
  By Clarence E. Schutt
In Honor of Karen Page
  By Clark Tibbits
In Honor of Past, Present, and Future Family
  By Steve Z. Klein

FOR MORE ON HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR MISSION,
CONTACT:
Kristen Myers, Deputy Director
Phone: 248-601-2816
Email: kmyers@sixriversrlc.org
www.sixriversrlc.org

2021 SPONSORS——
ASTI Environmental
Axalta Corporation
Conti Corporation
Ducks Unlimited
Farbman Group
Heart of the Lakes
Hubbell, Roth, & Clark
ITC Transmission Company
KMI CPAs
Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance
MRC Manufacturing
Signature Associates
Stout
Waste Management
MI/OH/IN Area
WIT Inc
Zale Group Wealth Management

SIX RIVERS STEWARD’S CLUB MONTHLY SUSTAINING DONORS——
Chris Bunch
Janet Briles
Gail Danto
Donna Folland
Fay Hansen
Bruce Kezlarian
Gary Kravitz
Andrea LaFontaine
Scott Lumsden
Kristen Myers
Amy O’Leary
Thank you for your steadfast support of our conservation mission to conserve, sustain, and connect to the natural areas, land, and waters that make the places where we live special.

### $25,000 - $49,999
- Americana Foundation
- Land Trust Alliance
- Marvin and Betty Danto
- Family Foundation

### $10,000 - $24,999
- Axalta Coating Systems
- County of Oakland
- Highfield Foundation
- Louis & Nellie Sieg Fund
- RoseAnn B. Comstock
- Living Trust

### $5,000 - $9,999
- Mike & Kathy Ableson
- Kurt & Dr. Maura Jung

### $1,000 - $4,999
- Jerry G. & Clara Carvey
- Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
- Community Foundation of St. Clair County
- Gail E. Danto & Dr. Art Roffey
- Ducks Unlimited
- Farbman Group

### $500 - $999
- Don Apfel
- ASTI Environmental
- Chris & Maureen Bunch
- Conti Corporation
- John & Gina Erb
- Cynthia & Daniel Goulston
- Judith Graham
- Hubbell, Roth, & Clark
- Robert & Francine Ignasiak

### $250-$499
- Jeff & Mary Bednar
- Jim Bier
- Jeffrey Bozynski

### $500 - $999
- KMI, PLC
- Lawrence Lax
- LPL Financial Foundation
- Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance
- John A. & Martha Nitz
- Nancy Philippart
- Bill Remer
- WIT Inc.

### $250-$499
- Keith Creagh
- Joanne Duick
- David Fischer
- Donna Folland
- Paul Gambka
- Lynn Hansford
- Melinda Hill
- Stephen Kelley

### $1,000 - $4,999
- Clyde & Kristine Gilbey
- Myron Grant
- ITC Transmission Company
- Lapeer County Community Foundation
- James H. & Mary Lloyd
- MRC Manufacturing
- Nicholson Family Fund
- Bill Schaufler

### $1,000 - $4,999
- James M. & Carolyn Schenden
- Mar & Steve Sclawy
- Cynthia & Michael Sevilla
- Paul Tomboulian
- Mark Van Faussien
- Waste Management MI/OH/IN Area

### $1,000 - $4,999
- Signature Associates
- Robert Sparks
- Stout
- Thomas and Carol Cracchiolo Foundation
- Clark Tibbits
- Anne Vaara
- Andy Zale

### $1,000 - $4,999
- Melissa Kevra
- Scott Lumsden
- Robert Moll
- Kristen & Mike Myers
- Amy & Dan O’Leary
- David Richter
- Michael & Shawn Rousseau

Continued on page 6
THANKS TO OUR DONORS!

$1 - $249

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Janis Adams
Chip Amoe
Jeanne Anderson
Gary Dean Andersen, Jr
Linda Aulicino Andress
Marjorie Apostolos
Doris Applebaum
Russell & Sandra Ayers
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Schaffarzik
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Yvonne Schilla
Clarence E. Schutt
Marcia D. Schwarz
Linda Carol Scope

Continued on page 7
A heartfelt “thank you” goes out to all of the volunteers who attended our abbreviated stewardship workday schedule in 2021. Thank you for all that you do!

Dhruv Acharya
Isaac Anselmo
Samuel Auten
Leo Banuelos
Glenroy Bowe
Nancy Broyles
Christina Calcaterra
David Case
Erica Clites
Ruth Devin
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Ray Peterson
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Michele Swider
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Chris Tippen
Dominic Vecchio
Domenico Vechchio
Zachary Westcott
Debbie Williams
Susan Winay
Robert Winkler
Alex Woodle
Sal Zaragoza-Rodriguez
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JOIN THE SIX RIVERS STEWARDS CLUB

To help us continue to protect more land, please consider becoming a monthly or quarterly donor.

Our monthly giving program, the Six Rivers Stewards Club, is the safest, simplest, and most effective way to support our land conservation and stewardship programs and places you in our inner circle of ambassadors. Whether it's a $10, $25, $35 or $100 monthly donation, your investment will directly impact our work and provide us with consistent, sustainable funds so we can continue working with you to protect more land.

There are 8 million acres of public land in Michigan, and only 200,000 acres here in southeast Michigan where the majority of the population lives and works. Let's work together to change that, and become a Six Rivers Stewards Club member! Join by donating online at www.sixriversrlc.org/donate and choose the monthly or quarterly option under “Donation Frequency”.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Kristen Myers, Deputy Director
Phone: 248-601-2816
Email: kmyers@sixriversrlc.org

Photo by Theresa Ray