

● PINE NUTS impact

ANNUAL REPORT • 2021

Our revenue in 2021 totaled \$827,632, an increase of 30% over 2020. Yes, FOI is growing and so is our work. Energized with your dollars, your “pine nuts,” below is an accounting of what we were able to accomplish last year.

Pine nuts, a high-energy food, helped sustain Native peoples of the Eastern Sierra through the winter. Friends of the Inyo's Annual Impact Report is named thus to acknowledge the support of our donors and funders, whose generosity sustains our work of protecting and caring for the public lands of the Eastern Sierra.

Policy/ Advocacy

Grew the Conglomerate Mesa Coalition to defend this special area from destructive gold mining exploration, generating more than 20,000 public comments to the Bureau of Land Management in overwhelming opposition to the project. Also expanded local stakeholder and tribal support for permanent protection.

Strengthened our leadership role in the Keep Long Valley Green Coalition (KLVG)—a diverse group of stakeholders which is defending Long Valley from aggressive attempts by LADWP to increase water extraction from the area—and launched *Every Last Drop*, the official KLVG E-Newsletter, to document the complex issue of water between Los Angeles and Inyo/Mono Counties.

Joined a lawsuit to stop destructive exploratory drilling for gold in the Hot Creek area of Long Valley, east of Mammoth Lakes.

Provided expert advice to assist the Inyo National Forest in developing its Wild and Scenic River Management Plans focused on protecting the values and in-stream flows of Cottonwood Creek and Owens River Headwaters for future generations.

Led the Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership's efforts to permanently protect the Bodie Hills, including extensive collaboration with the ranching community and Bridgeport Indian Colony. Increasing the role of the tribe in decision making for the area is a top priority.

Participated in the State of California's 30x30 planning process to ensure that 30 percent of our public lands and waters are conserved by 2030, calling attention to the biodiversity and climate crisis' impact on Eastern Sierra public lands to help expand protection and conservation efforts.

Contributed to the economic prosperity of Inyo and Mono Counties by organizing single- and multi-day community events throughout the year from Lone Pine to Bridgeport.

Continued to manage four websites in our public land protection efforts: FriendsoftheInyo.org, KeepLongValleyGreen.org, ConglomerateMesa.com, and BodieHills.org.

Stewardship/ Public Lands Protection

Created 4 Trail Ambassador seasonal jobs, and provided an opportunity for one Trail Ambassador to transition into the position of Desert Lands Organizer on our Policy Team.

Interacted with 1,992 visitors to public lands.

Hosted 13 educational hikes and outings and 5 virtual events.

Carried out 9 cleanup events, including 2 multi-day events in the backcountry.

Monitored 568 miles of trail, and maintained 7.5 trail miles.

Removed 126 illegal fire rings.

Collected and removed 677 pounds of trash.

Outreach/ Inclusion Efforts

Increased subscribers to our e-mail list by 19% from 3,760 to 4,470.

Continued to strengthen our partnership with local Native American tribes throughout Mono and Inyo Counties.

Established a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion committee made up of FOI board and staff, as well as community members, to involve underrepresented communities in public land protection efforts.

Hired Friends of the Inyo's first English/Spanish bilingual Communications Director.

Added Spanish-language pages to FriendsoftheInyo.org and ProtectConglomerateMesa.com.

Began contributing a monthly column on conservation issues to Inyo/Mono County Spanish-language weekly, *El Sol de la Sierra*.

Thank you!



Wendy Schneider, Executive Director
On behalf of Friends of the Inyo's Staff and Board



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