A ray of sunlight illuminates the clouds over Glacier Peak Wilderness, Washington. Photo by Ryan Weidert.

We’ve all emerged from the past two years as changed people. We’re embracing that change, and are stronger because of it.

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to reshape how we live, work, and play while climate change and racial inequality emerged as the defining issues of our era.

In 2021, PCTA devoted significant effort to making our organization and the PCT more welcoming to persons from all the diverse communities that seek to experience the wonders of the trail. This effort will continue in 2022 and beyond. And a front-line view of the impacts of climate change made much of our work to preserve and protect the trail more relevant and urgent than ever.

Despite the complexity of confronting these and other issues simultaneously, it has been a year of hope and success. As we transition to new leadership, we are committed to meeting the challenges while continuing to fulfill our mission to protect, preserve, and promote the Pacific Crest Trail.

Thank you for continuing to support the PCTA. Through your donations, volunteer time, and enthusiasm you show us how important the PCT is to you. We’re grateful for the chance to do this important work with you and on your behalf.
The PCT remains invaluable.

The Pacific Crest Trail is 2,650 miles of spectacular beauty—a continuous path spanning the heights of the Mountain West across diverse landscapes from desert to alpine stratovolcanoes to old-growth forest. Whether for a day or several months, the PCT is an experience we remember all our lives.

The trail also spans a diversity of values and benefits: It brings people together. It is a source for healing and rejuvenation. It strengthens our minds and bodies through challenge. It contributes to local economies. And it is an important protected corridor for animal and plant species between larger “islands” of safe habitat.

We now recognize that the PCT experience has not always been equal for everyone, and we’re committed to making it safer, more inclusive, and hopefully more diverse. Finally the trail is connected to climate change solutions—through greater awareness of more severe impacts to the trail and continued efforts to protect the wild and scenic lands around it.

We all need the PCT—which is why we’re grateful for your generous support.
Your continued support made a big difference in 2021.

Despite ongoing challenges, your support made 2021 a successful year:

• In rapidly-evolving situations, we helped keep the PCT community safe with timely, accurate, and coordinated information about the pandemic and wildfires along the trail.
• A limited number of volunteers still contributed 60,000 hours of work with no Covid-19 incidents.
• We safely relaunched Trails Skills Colleges to train volunteers.
• The Great American Outdoors Act resulted in over $4 million for deferred PCT maintenance in California.
• 9 new staff positions were added to the PCTA, increasing the capacity of all our programs.
• We implemented a new database and volunteer management portal (PCTAConnect), further increasing our capacity.

PCTA volunteers at work. Photo by Michelle DiMeglio.
The USDA Forest Service announced in 2021 that Lindsey Steinwachs was selected as the new Pacific Crest Trail Administrator. Lindsey replaced Beth Boyst, who retired after a long and successful career in the Forest Service.

Previously, Lindsey worked on the Descanso Ranger District of Southern California’s Cleveland National Forest, where she managed a robust program that included overseeing the PCT from the Southern Terminus north to Scissors Crossing.

“The Pacific Crest Trail is a national gem that provides us an opportunity to build a deeper connection with ourselves, nature, and community,” Lindsey says.

“As environmental and social pressures build along on the PCT, I am dedicated to upholding the trail’s core values and relationships so the trail can continue to bring awe and wonder for future generations.”
A New Digital View of the Pacific Crest Trail

Digital maps have become popular when looking for a trail to hike, driving to a trailhead, or navigating the backcountry with GPS-enabled mapping apps.

In 2021 we introduced the PCTA Interactive Map which features more than 30 selectable layers that display a wide range of information related to climate, wildfire, land management, air quality, Indigenous territories and more—in an easy-to-use map platform that can be loaded in any web browser on desktop or mobile.

The new map makes detailed trail information available to more people everywhere, and helps PCTA staff, volunteers, and the PCT community communicate more effectively about the trail and its relationship to land management, weather, climate, and more.

To view the new map, go to pcta.org/maps on your computer, tablet or smartphone.
A Second Year of Safely Navigating the Pandemic

PCTA volunteers maintain social distance at a campsite in Washington's North Cascades.

Photo by Michael DeCramer.
As the **Covid-19 pandemic** continued, 2021 was a year of **cautious reengagement**. PCTA volunteers were eager to get back on the trail to address the **backlog of maintenance from 2020**, when volunteer work was suspended for much of the year.

Strict **Covid-19 safety protocols** were developed for volunteer crews—and were successful, as **no incidences of Covid-19 infection** were reported for the year among PCTA crews. Most PCTA staff continued to work remotely throughout the year.

As the virus evolved into the **more infectious Delta variant**, PCTA balanced the needs of staff, volunteers and the trail community with health and safety.

**Covid-19 guidance for the PCT** was posted on the PCTA website and frequently updated according to the latest federal and state guidelines.
During the last two years, wildfires have reshaped Western landscapes with increased frequency and intensity. They are curtailing and preventing people’s enjoyment of the PCT and public lands, dampening the already seasonal economies of trail towns and increasing the maintenance backlog on the trail.

In California and Oregon, 532 miles of the PCT were closed because of fires in 2020 and 2021—and 194 trail miles were within burned areas and may require years to repair. Fire is normally a natural and healthy force. But the warming climate has caused an extended drought, damaging once-healthy forests until they are more prone to burn, increasingly leading to catastrophic megafires.

In 2021 (as in 2020) the PCTA worked in close collaboration with land management agencies throughout the ever-lengthening fire season to keep the trail community updated on complex and rapidly-changing closure orders along the PCT.
Another Year of Devastating Wildfires

The BLM-Nevada's Ruby Mountain Hotshot Crew battles the Dixie Fire in Northern California. Photo by the Bureau of Land Management.
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The PCTA’s mission is focused on ensuring the PCT remains welcoming and accessible to all people now and in the future. Centering our work in the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion improves our ability to meet this mission and strengthens the PCTA’s work. We wholeheartedly invite everyone to enjoy the PCT and engage in the work of the PCTA. We are stronger when we work together.

In 2021 we continued the journey to transform our internal culture and external programs to better support the PCT, all of its users, and our mission. We value diversity and spent 2021 learning and strategizing how to transform the PCT into a place of belonging.

At left: the Unity Blaze is a symbol created by Black Folks Camp Too—a nonprofit whose mission is to increase diversity in the outdoor industry. The Unity Blaze is a symbol with a powerful message: Treat Everyone, Everywhere, Equally.
Crystal Gail Welcome’s "Footprints For Change"

In 2021, the PCTA sponsored Crystal Gail Welcome’s "Footprints for Change Hike for Justice" on the PCT portion of the Great Western Loop.

Crystal shared her experience to encourage members of the PCT community to become more aware and more mindful of ourselves. She also writes eloquently about the space that nature allows for meaningful connections between people.

Crystal’s writing was featured in the PCT Communicator magazine and a series of PCTA blog posts throughout her hike.

In 2022, Crystal is continuing her hike on the PCT after completing the Arizona Trail—and we look forward to publishing more of her stories about connection.
Over the past few years the PCTA worked on a major technology upgrade to help meet the growing needs of both the trail and PCTA community. In spring 2021 we launched a custom Salesforce-based database for PCTA staff and an online volunteer portal called PCTAConnect.

PCTAConnect brings together management for trail maintenance projects, volunteer project registrations, volunteer profiles, and agency partner information in one central, cloud-based system.

The updated technology supports the continued growth of volunteer programs and keeps agency partners more closely connected to the plans and efforts of PCTA volunteers.
Improving the PCT Experience

Preserving Habitat for Endangered Species

One of the PCTA’s priorities is to protect the landscapes that make the PCT experience possible. In 2020, the Tahoe National Forest informed PCTA that the PCT traveled through federally-designated critical habitat of a population of the endangered Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog.

To protect the frogs and their habitat, the PCTA collaborated with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Forest to move the trail away from the sensitive area.

The work spanned a two-year period and included a footbridge that was built off-site to protect the habitat. PCTA and the Forest developed an interpretive kiosk, and in 2021 the bridge and reroute were completed with support from the American Conservation Experience (ACE), an AmeriCorps program and major PCTA trail maintenance partner.
Improving the PCT Experience

2021 Volunteer Accomplishments

- 55,167 hours of volunteer trail maintenance or reconstruction
- 1,170 miles of the PCT maintained
- $1.6 million in-kind value of volunteer hours
- 391 volunteers attended 35 training events
In an extraordinary collaborative effort, the PCTA worked in Southern California with the San Bernardino National Forest, the Redshank Riders Backcountry Horsemen of California Unit, a certified blaster from the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, and the American Conservation Experience (ACE) to blast away enormous boulders blocking an iconic section of the trail in the San Jacinto Wilderness.

The remote wilderness location required horse and mule packers to haul gear and explosives five miles, where it was then carried by hand another four miles to the work site.

**ABOVE:** Huge boulders blocking the PCT in California’s San Jacinto Wilderness, and **LEFT:** the ACE crew on the cleared and reconstructed trail.
Alexa Shapiro

“During my time on the Pacific Crest Trail, I learned so much about myself and the world around me. I was filled with gratitude for the immense kindness and generosity of the trail community—a rare breed of people who look out for one another because of a shared love of the outdoors. I learned how to be unconditionally supporting and encouraging of those around me, a lesson I’ve carried with me ever since.”

Alexa founded the Winona Outdoor Collaborative in Minnesota, a nonprofit that reduces barriers to accessing the outdoors through inclusive, educational, collaborative programming and services.
Crystal is an experiential educator specializing in healing adventures and restorative narratives as forms of healing. She is also an author, storyteller, activist, backpacker, and Black outdoor leader.
Jeffrey Derus

“The PCT has always been a point of inspiration and joy for me. While composing a concert work it felt like I was rediscovering the physical and emotional landscape of the trail all over again. From Campo, California to Manning Park, British Columbia, the trail takes you on a path of self-discovery and self-healing while being completely immersed in the beauty of nature. FROM WILDERNESS is my attempt to capture that journey.”

Jeff is a composer, educator and singer, and a founder of the Choral Arts Initiative. His “From Wilderness” is a concert-length work and meditation on the transformative experience of traveling the PCT.
Dianne Daley Laursen

“We give to ensure enduring quality experiences for all who will trek the PCT in the future. We cherish that our children share our deep and abiding love for our national recreation resources. My cultural heritage believes the decisions made today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future, thus we are planning a legacy gift to the PCTA.”

Dianne is Secretary of the PCTA’s Board of Directors. A member of the Chickasaw Nation, she had a 22-year career in natural resources, including time with the USDA Forest Service.

Visit pcta.planmygift.org to learn more about how you can leave a legacy gift to the PCT.
Looking north along the PCT from Rock Pass, Washington. Photo by Andy Porter.

2,650 miles
84 tribes and tribal organizations
48 wilderness areas
25 national forests
16 wild and scenic rivers
9 ecoregions
7 BLM units
6 national parks
5 state parks
5 national monuments
2 Native American sovereignties
One trail.
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John Remmers
Vice-Chair and Treasurer
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Bainbridge Island, WA

Rick Thalhammer
Sacramento, CA

The PCT in Southern California’s Laguna Mountains.
Photo by Stephanie Seitz.
### Financials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Without Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue and Support</strong></td>
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<td>Private Sources*</td>
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<td>Government Grants</td>
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<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Surplus (Deficit) Without Donor Restrictions</strong></td>
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| With Donor Restrictions                        |            |            |
| Individual Contributions                       | $477,347   | $728,024   |
| Investment Income (Loss)                       | $196,221   | $202,200   |
| Net Assets Released from Restriction           | $(960,804) | $(738,420) |
| **Surplus (Deficit) With Donor Restrictions**  | $(287,236) | $191,804   |

| Total Surplus (Deficit)                        | $594,592   | $474,477   |
| Net Assets (Beginning of Year)                 | $4,787,694 | $4,313,217 |
| Net Assets (End of Year)                       | $5,382,286 | $4,787,694 |

*Private Sources include memberships, donations, other revenue, and in-kind donations.

**Total Revenue and Support Amount above is the sum of Total Revenue and Support - Without Donor Restrictions and Surplus (Deficit) With Donor Restrictions.

The PCTA goes through a financial audit every year. We are subject to a more in-depth audit because of the level of federal funding we receive. The 2021 financial statements were audited by Gilbert Associates, Inc. of Sacramento, CA. In the opinion of the auditor, the PCTA’s 2021 financial statements fairly present the financial position of the PCTA in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. For more information or copies of the 2021 audited financials, visit [www.pcta.org/financials](http://www.pcta.org/financials).
Thank you to all the extraordinary businesses and foundations who not only set an example for others who wish to support our work, but play a crucial role in helping to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest Trail.

Corporations and Businesses

Forester Pass ($50,000+)
Eagles Nest Outfitters

High Sierra ($15,000 - $49,999)
Hydro Flask
Mom’s Pie House
REI

Tuolumne Meadows ($5,000 - $14,999)
Harney & Sons Tea
HIKE For Mental Health
National Geographic
North Drinkware
Zpacks, LLC

Columbia River ($1,000 - $4,999)
Backcountry Press
BearVault
Buff
Darn Tough
Del Rio Vineyard Estate
Dru Bru Taproom & Brewery
Go Beyond Racking, LLC
Inviting Light Photography
M C Enterprises
Next Mile Meals
Outdoor Viewfinder
Powers Inc.
Rumpl
Seek Dry Goods
Tarptent, Inc.
The Trek
Wilderness Press
Yellow Blaze Transit
Mojave Desert (in-kind goods or services, $1,000 or greater)
Mount Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest

Business Members ($250 - $999)
Adventure Maps, Inc.
Backcountry Foodie
Coyote Matters
Good Deeds Mortgage
High 5 Cannabis
Johnson Braund, Inc.
Juniper Ridge

Plaza Super Jet
Point6
Tahoe Oral Surgery and Implant Center
Woodshop Creations

Trailside Business Members ($250 - $999)
Justin W. Byington dba Radio Cab
Thunder Island Brewing Co
Triple Crown Coffee

Foundations

Courtney Knight Gaines Foundation
M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Namaste Foundation
The Hyde Family Foundation
William A. Kerr Foundation

Background photo: Granite Chief Wilderness, California. Photo by James Lamers.
The PCTA Legacy Society honors donors who have designated contributions to the PCTA in their estate plans.

An asterisk (*) signifies a deceased donor.

Anonymous (21)
David and Joan Allen
Patty A. Andersen
Jonathan Arp
William Ballenger
Bruce Bates
Burton and Susan Bates
Jane and Jay Baxter
Stace E. Beaulieu
David Beaver and Harry Trines
Chris and Jason Benz
Liz Bergeron and Lori Harmon
Donna and Dave Bewley
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James “Conductor” Call
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Richard Sammut
David and Jo Seeber
Lexi Shear
Amanda L. Silvestri
Lolly Skillman
Tina Smith
Jed L. Staley
Tom Straus
Wayne and Kristi Teague
Jay and Terri Thesken
Joan Tomlinson
Phyllis Tompkins*
Thomas Troutner*
Ron Vaughn, PCT Class of 1998, 1999 and 2001

Dick Vogel
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Dr. Cynthia and Curt Wrinkle
Alan Young
Janet "Smudge" Zalewski
Judith Zineski*
Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite National Park, California. Photo by Stephanie Seitz.
PCTA Staff

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Teresa Raichart, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer
Leslie Sabin, Executive Assistant

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Justin Kooyman, Associate Director of Trail Operations
Jack Haskel, Trail Information Manager
Cassidy Barkalow, Trail Information Assistant
Ellen Ginda, Volunteer Programs Manager
Hazel Platt, Volunteer Engagement Associate
Landon Coates Welsh, Volunteer Training Coordinator
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Jeanine Russell, Columbia Cascades Regional Representative
Ian Nelson, Northern California/Southern Oregon Regional Representative
Connor Swift, Northern Sierra Regional Representative
Ben Barry, Southern Sierra Regional Representative
Anitra Kass, Southern California Regional Representative
Galen Keily, GIS Specialist

Matt Rump, Regional Trail Stewardship Coordinator for Northern Sierra
Michelle DiMeglio, Regional Trail Stewardship Coordinator for Southern Sierra
Michelle Daneri, Regional Trail Stewardship Coordinator for Southern California

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Shari Hansen, Associate Director of Philanthropy, Membership
Mark Waters, Associate Director of Philanthropy
Jen Havener, Philanthropy Manager
Uriel Reynoso, Philanthropy Assistant
Katherine Eason, Philanthropy Clerk

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Virginia Lorne, Conservation Project Manager

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Scott Wilkinson, Content Development Director
Daniel Carmin, Communicator Magazine Designer and Producer

ADVOCACY
Mark Larabee, Advocacy Director

ACCOUNTING & OPERATIONS
Ryan Brizendine, Systems Administrator and Web Developer
Tammy Marsh, Accounting Manager
Gaby Guerera, Salesforce Database Administrator
Arian Kitto, Staff Accountant
Sheila Garcia, HR Generalist
57,643 volunteer and corps crew service hours
15,400 PCTA members
$2.8 million in private contributions
3.6 million unique website visits

2021 Numbers
The mission of the Pacific Crest Trail Association is to protect, preserve, and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail as a world-class experience for hikers and equestrians, and for all the values provided by wild and scenic lands.

BG admiring the view near Soledad Canyon, California. Photo by Gary Pegg.

PCTA’s Agency Partners

www.pcta.org
2150 River Plaza Drive, Suite 155
Sacramento, CA 95833