



2020



ANNUAL REPORT



NEVADA OUTDOOR SCHOOL PARTNERS

including Funders and Program Partnerships

thank you 

We can do what we do, because of you!

Funding of \$50,000 or greater



Bureau of Land Management

Nevada Volunteers

Funding of \$10,000 or greater



Nevada Gold Mines

Nevada Off-Highway Vehicle Commission

Nevada State Parks

Employee Giving Programs (Matched by Employer)



Southwest Gas



Nevada Gold Mines



Advanced Movement and Wellness



American Red Cross



Boys and Girls Club of Winnemucca



California Trail Interpretive Center



Camp Chef



City of Elko



Community in Schools



Community Foundation of Western Nevada



D3 Church



Elite Island Resorts



Elko Broadcasting Company



Elko Convention and Visitors Authority



Elko County School District



Elko County



Elko Daily Free Press



Elko First Presbyterian Church



Elko Institute for Academic Achievement



Family Support Center



Friends of Black Rock High Rock



FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

Friends of Nevada Wilderness



Frontier Community Action Agency



Frontier Community Coalition

Frontier Community Coalition



Great Basin College



Hecla Mining Company



Humboldt County Commission



NEVADA OUTDOOR SCHOOL PARTNERS

including Funders and Program Partnerships



Humboldt County School District



Humboldt County Sheriff



Humboldt General Hospital



KNPB Public Television



Lander County School District



Lassen Park Foundation



Lazy P Adventure Farm



Leave No Trace



National Public Lands Day



Nevada Bighorns Unlimited - Midas



Nevada Chukar Foundation



Nevada Department of Wildlife



Nevada Muleys



Nomadic Broadcasting



North American Association for Environmental Education



NV Energy Foundation



Off Road Nevada



Pershing County Senior Center



Pleasant Senior Center



Port of Subs



Public Lands Alliance



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation



Russell Cellular



Saggio Advertising



Sierra Nevada Journeys



Small Mine Development



Southern Nevada Conservancy



Southwest Gas



Sportman's Warehouse



SSR Mining Marigold



Swick Drilling North America



Tread Lightly!



USDA Forest Service



Wild Sheep Foundation



Winnemucca Publishing



5th Gear Powersports

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Nox the Fox, our new NOS mascot and I, are both extremely proud of the results shared in the following pages of this Annual Report.

For you, we are beyond grateful! Your generosity allows us to do what we do every day. We are thankful for not only our partners, sponsors, and funders that help support our programs financially, but also for all our participants. We are fortunate to be part of such active and adventure-seeking communities that trust Nevada Outdoor School not only with your safety, but your children's safety as well.

Nevada Outdoor School took advantage of what 2020 brought to slow down, review, rethink and reimagine our programs. Due to the overwhelming support and interest in our programs we worked to rise above every challenge thrown our way and offered a variety of programming that was COVID respectful and protected our staff and participants. I am very proud of how Nevada Outdoor School rose to the occasion and provided the best outdoor experience possible for kids and adults during such unique and unprecedented times. Check out the "By Numbers" page where we share some of our celebrated results.

In October we rolled out a new strategic plan that will guide us into the future and allow us to better serve you and your community. Our three focus areas, Youth, Training, and Healthy Community brings us together at the intersection of two things all Nevada Outdoor School supporters can agree on – our love for nature and our love for outdoor recreation. We are blessed to live so close to wide open, public spaces that continue to fill us with beauty and inspiration.

My hope is that you find your own peace, inspiration and joy in nature. As the sun rises on a new year, here at Nevada Outdoor School, we truly believe that while the future may be challenging and filled with uncertainties, it is indeed bright and full of new paths and opportunities.



NOX THE FOX

For more details about our upcoming fun, engaging and creative programs, outreach events and fundraisers that you can be part of, go to our website, www.nevadaoutdoorschool.org or to our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/NevadaOutdoorSchool](https://www.facebook.com/NevadaOutdoorSchool).

The Future is Bright!

Melanie Erquiaga

Melanie Erquiaga, Executive Director

Nevada Outdoor School

BY NUMBERS

What we do, because of you!

8 Leave No Trace skits produced by Summer Camp Campers

7 Rural Schools Provided Monthly Classroom Lessons

\$600,000

Operating budget that supported staff and programs throughout Nevada

12

KIDS SAFER ON ATV'S BECAUSE OF ATV RIDER CAMP

15

AmeriCorps Members at 6 Host Sites throughout Nevada

570*

Kids learned on a NOS-led Field Trip

(*Before COVID changed the world!)

1,707

TOTAL VIEWS OF NOS EDUCATION VIDEOS

(During school shutdown)

2

major events converted to virtual events

At least

22

miles hiked by Community Hike participants

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YOUTH



450
LESSONS
TAUGHT
19-20 School Year



Your support allows us to purchase the necessary supplies that allow every classroom lesson to be hands-on and interactive. (Pictured: A student learning about beaver adaptations.)

Through generous donations from **Nevada Gold Mines, Elko County School District, Small Mine Development, SSR Mining-Marigold, Humboldt County Commission, Elko County Commission, and City of Elko** we are able to provide monthly classroom lessons to schools throughout Humboldt, Lander, Elko, and Pershing counties.



The most popular classroom lesson remains "Skins and Skulls"



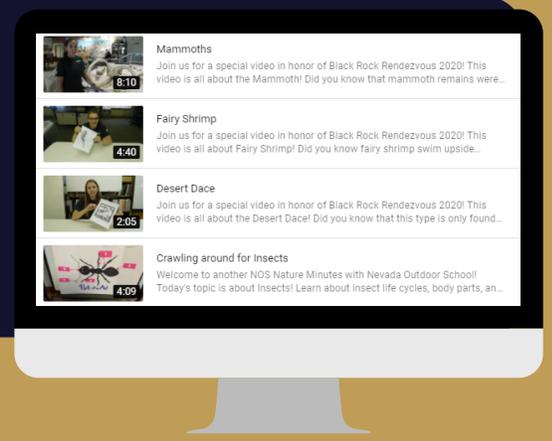
Thank you to **The Petersen Family** and the **Lazy P Adventure Farm** in Winnemucca for providing a venue for our annual Field Trip for over **500** Battle Mountain, Winnemucca, McDermitt, Orovada, and homeschool students. Students learn about life cycles, problem-solving, resource use, and agriculture.

Over **70** 4th graders from Northside Elementary school in Elko experienced the geological marvel of Lamoille Canyon.



Like we teach our students and campers, adaptation is one of the keys to survival. To overcome the limitations of COVID-19, NOS adapted and produced educational videos housed on our very own YouTube Channel. The videos on our channel have received over **1,700** views!

Want to visit our YouTube Channel? Scan the QR Code!



Through longtime partnerships with **Nevada Muleys, Nevada Chukar Foundation, Nevada Bighorn Unlimited-Midas, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the Wild Sheep Foundation**, summer camps occurred again this year. Because our camps were, for many, the first time interacting with others in a group setting since schools closed in March, the excitement level for Summer Camp was **HIGH!**



Adaptation to Day Camp-only formats allowed kids to get outside and have fun while learning about the natural world. Kindergartners through 10th graders had a good time making new friends, learning new outdoor skills, practicing Leave No Trace Principles, cooking food in solar ovens, or cooling off with Zip-Lock bag ice cream!



In Winnemucca, over **25** youth, and in Elko, over **50** youth joined in the fun of Summer Camp at local parks close to home.

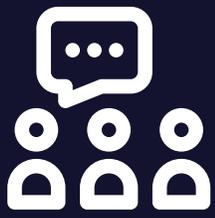


Meanwhile, 12 kids in Reno and Elko are suiting up to ride their ATVs safely and responsibly because they attended a NOS ATV Rider Camp. **Thank you to Elko Parks and Rec, Terry and Randy Bell, and 5th Gear Powersports for the generous donations which supported the ATV Rider Camps.**

Every NOS Camp incorporates the seven Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics Principles to influence youth behaviors and teach them to "share the care" of the natural world.



Nevada Outdoor School also partners with organizations such as the **Bureau of Land Management, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, and Friends of Black Rock High Rock** to provide fun and educational child-centered activities during partnered events in places like the Black Rock Desert or virtually.



TRAINING

Health and safety is a high priority at NOS. Through your donations we are able to provide our Staff and AmeriCorps Members many training opportunities, including Summer Camp Management, Student Behavior Management, First Aid, CPR, Wilderness First Aid, Science Wednesdays, Tread Lightly!, and Leave No Trace.



Summer of 2020 Staff and AmeriCorps Naturalists at Ryepatch Reservoir Campground for Summer Camp Management Training



Nevada Outdoor School provides Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly! training throughout the state of Nevada. Despite the closures associated with COVID, we were able to host courses and have educational booths where **over 183 people** became more familiar with the seven Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics Principles by playing engaging games designed to teach while having fun. Recreating responsibly on motorized vehicles was enhanced by **13 people** being trained in Tread Lightly!

Offering Off-Highway Vehicle safety and responsible recreation trainings is a large part of Nevada Outdoor School's mission. Our Outdoor Ethics Program Director, Allana, coordinates trainings throughout the state. Time, travel and materials are funded through longstanding generous partnerships with **Nevada State Parks Rec Trails Program** and the **Nevada Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles**.



Science Wednesday

On the last Wednesday of each month, Staff and AmeriCorps Naturalists participate in a Science Wednesday session to deepen science knowledge. During this time we also learn about the Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core Standards. This helps us effectively communicate to classroom teachers how our lessons support not only science, but also math, language arts, social studies, and other academic standards.



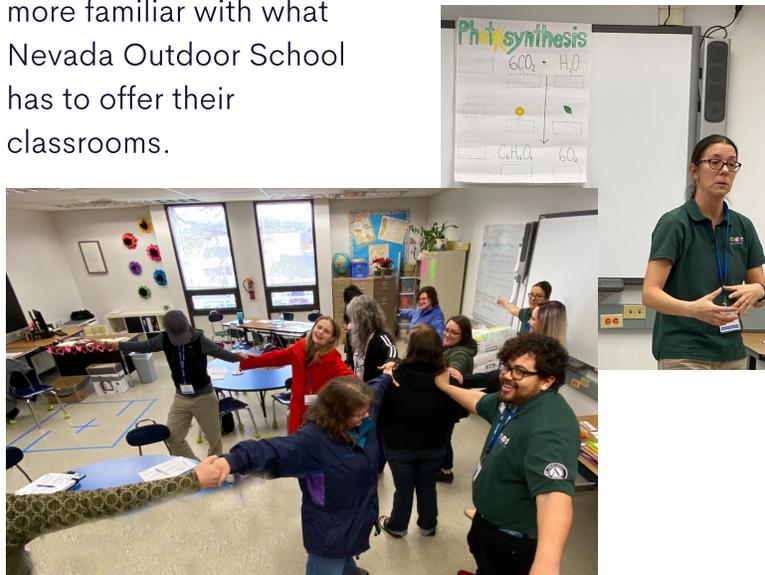
Nox the Fox, Elko Director of Programming, Eva, and the Winnemucca Crew learn together utilizing Google Meets.

Tic Tac NOS is one example of how Nevada Outdoor School keeps trainings fun and interactive.



Science Advisor Brandolyn presents the Nevada Outdoor School AmeriCorps Program to a local Rotary Club.

Nevada Outdoor School was invited to the **Nevada State Science Teachers Association Conference** to share classroom lessons with teachers. Interactive training sessions like these help teachers become more familiar with what Nevada Outdoor School has to offer their classrooms.



Jackie (past Elko Director of Programming) and AmeriCorps Naturalist Matt work with teachers during training.



HEALTHY COMMUNITY



Dutch Oven Cook Off Summary Video

Our favorite and largest fundraising event had to go virtual this year, but thanks to generous sponsors, the 12th Annual Dutch Oven Cook-Off still happened with five teams from across the United States competing via Zoom. Dutch Oven Deb and her Dude joined us from Washington, and the Rock Scars were from Virginia. Three other local Winnemucca teams, Western Cooks, Dutch Oven Dandy's, and Mario Brothers, shared tips and tricks and produced some good-looking food over the 3-hour live event. We are hopeful that we will get to eat that delicious food again in 2021!



Jill Woodford Jewelry



Eddie Booth

Community Events



An intended snowshoe hike in Lamoille Canyon turned into a regular hike, and fun was still had!



Hike to the Yurt in Water Canyon, Winnemucca.



Outdoor Ethics Director, Allana, and AmeriCorps Outdoor Ethics Specialist Michelle offer a variety of S'mores after a Community Hike. YUM!



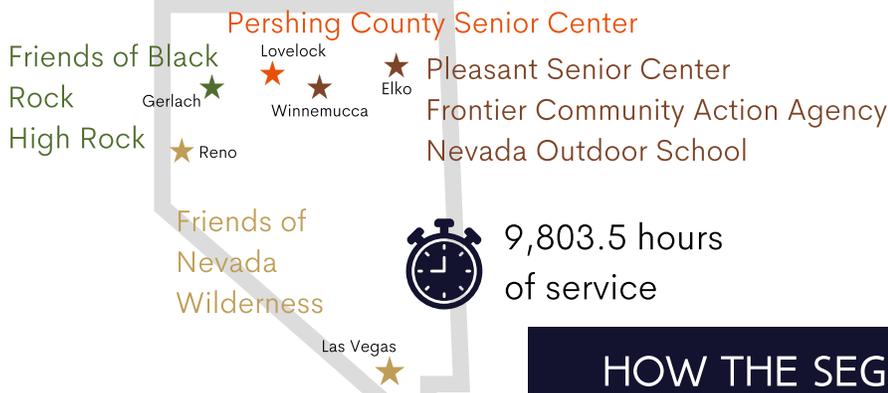
AmeriCorps Outdoor Ethics Specialist Michelle plays a game with a visitor.

Nevada Outdoor School was at over 20 Community Outreach events this year, reaching over 3,000 participants. Events included Cowboy Poetry, STEM Nights at schools, Food Truck Friday in Winnemucca, Elko Sportsman's Expo and the Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience.



Scan to watch a video about AmeriCorps and Nevada Outdoor School

15 Members in 6 Host Sites



9,803.5 hours of service



Members aided over **528** underserved or senior community members



56 acres improved

224 people served



AmeriCorps Members Janice, BayLee, and Crystal assist with food distribution at the Frontier Community Action Agency

HOW THE SEGAL EDUCATION AWARD CHANGES LIVES



"I began my term as a kid and by the end of my term I was a young adult with a great resume including leadership skills, communication skills, and so much more."

Kiko served as an AmeriCorps Member for 3 years right out of high school. She served at Nevada Outdoor School and the Frontier Community Action Agency in Winnemucca. It was during her service that she discovered her passion for working with kids. Kiko was able to utilize her Segal Education Award and obtain her Associate of Arts degree debt-free and recently graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno.



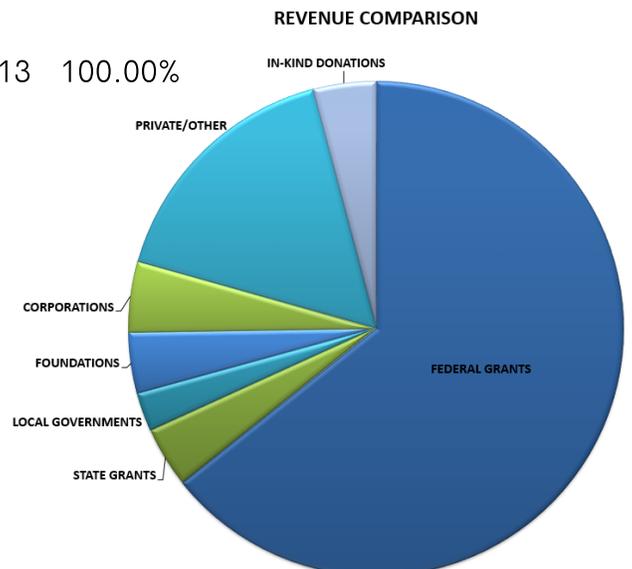
Brandolyn, who served as an AmeriCorps Naturalist in 2017 in Elko, and is now a staff member, utilized a portion of her Segal Education Award to obtain her Wilderness First Responder Certification through NOLS in Hailey, Idaho.

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020 REVIEW

TOTAL REVENUE

AmeriCorps Nevada - Nevada Volunteers	\$170,772	28.95%
AmeriCorps Host Site Partnership Match	\$24,125	4.09%
Bureau of Land Management	\$75,000	12.71%
City of Elko	\$5,000	0.85%
Community Foundation of Western Nevada	\$5,000	0.85%
COVID Relief -PPP Loan (WaFd)	\$96,664	16.39%
Elko County School District	\$5,000	0.85%
Fundraiser Revenue	\$2,762	0.47%
Humboldt County Commission	\$5,000	0.85%
In-Kind Donations	\$24,250	4.11%
Nevada Bighorn Unlimited - Midas	\$5,000	0.85%
Nevada Chukar Foundation	\$5,000	0.85%
Nevada Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles	\$23,296	3.95%
Nevada Gold Mines	\$17,062	2.89%
Nevada Muleys	\$5,000	0.85%
Nevada State Parks Rec Trails Program	\$36,779	6.23%
Newmont Legacy Fund	\$18,950	3.21%
NV Energy	\$5,000	0.85%
Program Revenue	\$3,460	0.59%
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	\$3,500	0.59%
Small Mine Development	\$5,000	0.85%
Southwest Gas Fuel for Life	\$4,115	0.70%
SSR Mining - Marigold	\$5,000	0.85%
Other Misc. Donations	\$39,198	6.64%

Total REVENUE \$589,933.13 100.00%



TOTAL EXPENSES

Accounting	\$3,683	0.64%
Advertising and promotion	\$4,379	0.76%
Background checks	\$823	0.14%
Conferences/Conventions/Trainings	\$3,079	0.53%
Employee benefits	\$24,206	4.19%
Fundraiser Expenses	\$4,737	0.82%
Information Technology	\$1,040	0.18%
Liability Insurance	\$21,711	3.76%
Occupancy	\$32,332	5.60%
Office Expenses	\$5,075	0.88%
Payroll taxes	\$33,699	5.84%
Program specific supplies	\$11,618	2.01%
Staff salaries	\$294,816	51.05%
Stipends for AmeriCorps Members	\$99,869	17.29%
Student lodging and transportation	\$1,278	0.22%
Travel Expenses (including Fuel)	\$31,493	5.45%
All other expenses	\$3,627	0.63%
 Total EXPENSES	 \$577,464.77	 100.00%

YEARLY COMPARISON

	<u>FY 2015</u>	<u>FY 2016</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>FY 2018</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>
Income by year	\$498,116	\$554,076	\$644,511	\$762,067	\$650,651	\$589,933
Expenses by year	\$502,804	\$563,753	\$628,050	\$759,666	\$690,287	\$577,465



Inspiring exploration of the natural world,
responsible stewardship of our habitat
and dedication of community, since 2003.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Russ Yowell - President/Treasurer
Aaron Nelson - Secretary
Gene Hunt - Member
Brett Worsham - Member

STAFF

Melanie Erquiaga - Executive Director
Zulma Mayora - AmeriCorps Program Director
Sarah Welsh - Finance Director
Allana Havernick - Outdoor Ethics Program Director
Jessica Snaman Myers - Outreach Director
Brandon Allen - Winnemucca Education Director
Eva Clelland - Elko Director of Programming
Dr. Brandolyn Thran - Science Advisor



AMERICORPS MEMBERS

2018 - 2020 Matt Jones - Naturalist
2018 - 2020 Crystal Rodriguez - Naturalist
2019 - 2020 Elizabeth Lovell - Naturalist
2019 - 2020 Michelle Rookstool - Outdoor Ethics Specialist
2019 - 2021 BayLee Kirkendoll - Naturalist
2020 - 2021 Taylor Billows - Naturalist
2020 - 2021 Emilie Stone - Naturalist
2020 - 2021 Macy Rohr - Naturalist
2020 - 2021 Julia Janson - Naturalist

CALIFORNIA TRAIL CENTER PARTNERSHIP

Becky Stanton



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