

IDAHO  
CONSERVATION  
LEAGUE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016





“Sawtooth Sunset” by ICL 2016 Artist in Residence Josh Udesen

## ART & NATURE



Our report cover features a detail from 2016 ICL Artist in Residence Josh Udesen’s painting, “Sawtooth Sunset.” The whole painting appears above.

Our cover features work by 2016 Artist in Residence Josh Udesen. ICL’s artist in residence program explores the nexus between art and nature and is sponsored by ARTA River Trips.

Among Josh’s adventures this year, an aerial tour by EcoFlight over the Sawtooths inspired Josh to finish a painting in his head “even before I started applying paint to the brush.”

ARTA River Trips guided Josh down the Middle Fork Salmon River, where he took photographs, sketched and explored the area, coming away “with a host of ideas fermenting” in his head.

We thank Josh for his great work and invite you to his exhibition at Gallery Five18 in Boise through January.

ICL now welcomes the 2017 Artist in Residence Linda Lantzy! A professional photographer, Linda has traveled Idaho to capture its rugged beauty. See her work at [www.idahoscenics.com](http://www.idahoscenics.com).

**Mary Beth Whitaker**

Editor & Designer

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# CONTINUING TO BUILD BRIDGES

2016 provided an election for the history books. The story to unfold will significantly affect our work to protect Idaho's clean air, clean water and public lands. Our nation's role in addressing climate change will also change. And in this and many other issues, pressure at a state level will most certainly increase.

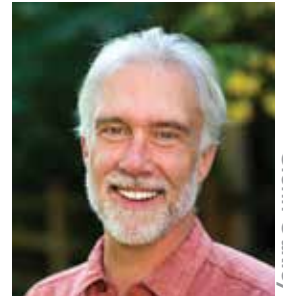
We don't know what the future brings. But we do know that America is deeply divided. As a wise friend long ago helped me understand, "Everyone owns a piece of the truth." Moving forward will be complicated—but necessary.

Focusing only on the difficult rhetoric of the election is unfair to Americans who voted for change. In many cases, these people felt ignored or otherwise excluded from a changing country and global economy. At the same time, ignoring the rhetoric is both foolish and unfair to the rest of America deeply troubled by the outcome.

In a very conservative state, ICL has for many years effectively protected the air you breathe, the water you drink and the special places you love. We have proven our ability to build bridges and community, and we have a great team working every day for you and your children. Together, we have created a record of success that is admired nationwide.

Because of your support, we are as prepared as we can be in these times of uncertainty. Because of your support, we will continue to inform, inspire and empower citizens from all walks of life to protect Idaho, this precious and complicated place we call home.

Rick Johnson  
Executive Director  
[rjohnson@idahoconservation.org](mailto:rjohnson@idahoconservation.org)



Glenn Oakley

RICK JOHNSON

**Because of your support, we will continue to inform, inspire and empower citizens from all walks of life to protect Idaho...**

Wilderness steward, Boulder-White Clouds / Sara Gress



# ICL'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2016

Stay tuned because we will need you to take action in the coming months and years ahead.

It's been quite a year. While rancor and division dominated the news, ICL once again showed that conservation can complement the conservative values that often define Idaho. This coming year may (or may not) see attempts to change environmental laws and their use. ICL works to inform, inspire and empower citizens on behalf of Idaho's outdoor values: those are worth fighting for. Thank you for a great year—and for your support going forward.

## RIVERS

ICL's work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers led to formal designation of the Salmon River as navigable under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. This action corrected a 1933 error and ensured that 259 miles of the river have commonsense federal protections.

ICL also worked with Boise, state and federal governments to see the Dixie Drain permitted and built. This innovative, cost-saving project helps clean up the Boise River, benefiting the Snake River as well.

As the state drafted a sustainability plan to address growing pressures on Idaho's water, it neglected to include fish. ICL's work and outreach made sure that fish are part of what "water sustainability" means in Idaho.

## POLLUTION

The federal Superfund law cleans up pollution problems across the nation, often at taxpayer expense. The law also has a bonding provision, like a security deposit paid by potential polluters, that has never been enforced. ICL helped





Volunteer trail maintenance in proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness / Brad Smith

create a nationwide schedule to develop bonding for hardrock mining, chemical manufacturing, petroleum and coal products manufacturing and electric power generation projects. This huge nationwide win counts as one of ICL's greatest accomplishments.

## MINING

Our public lands and waters still face great threats from existing and proposed mining activities. ICL helped stop development of the Golden Hand mine on Big Creek within the Frank Church–River of No Return Wilderness. ICL again challenged the proposed open-pit CuMo mine in the headwaters of the Boise River, one of the only places that the rare Sacajawea's bitterroot grows. This plant was further endangered by the huge Pioneer fire this summer. ICL is also closely tracking early phases of the massive Midas Gold project.

ICL is again challenging Atlanta Gold's failure to contain and address legacy pollution at its proposed mine site. And after years of concern over suction dredge mining in Idaho's rivers, ICL sent legal warnings to

several suction dredge miners who had previously mined illegally in protest of Clean Water Act regulations. Based on our warnings, no unlawful mining occurred in the South Fork Clearwater, which had been the epicenter of such activity in prior years.

## ENERGY AND CLIMATE

Efforts to address causes of climate change varied in scale and location. ICL helped envision and create Idaho Power's community solar program in which customers can invest in a major solar energy project. Perfect for renters and others unable to install rooftop panels, ratepayers can now have a transferable piece of the solar revolution. To promote our own clean energy use, ICL installed solar panels on our Boise headquarters, complementing our connection to the city's geothermal system.

Because ending dependence on coal is an ICL priority, we facilitated an earlier-than-planned shutdown date for the Valmy coal plant in Nevada, one of two that provide power to Idaho.

**ICL helped envision and create Idaho Power's community solar program in which customers can invest in a major solar energy project.**



Baron Lake, Boulder-White Clouds / Randall Kemp

An Idaho-based bill is expected soon for the first designated wilderness in Idaho's Panhandle, Scotchman Peaks.

ICL was active in the multistate campaign on oil and coal terminals and the shipment of dirty fossil fuels in railcars through Sandpoint and across the Idaho Panhandle. Thankfully, nearly all of these ill-conceived proposals have been shelved.

#### PUBLIC LANDS AND WILDERNESS

An Idaho-based bill has been introduced for the first designated wilderness in Idaho's Panhandle, Scotchman Peaks. With excellent prospects in Congress, this forthcoming bill builds off years of collaborative work, including support from the timber industry, local county commissioners and other interests.

Idaho remains a target for forces seeking to transfer federal public lands to state control. Focusing on the Idaho Legislature, ICL has led the charge to mobilize grassroots opposition and explain issues of cost, lost quality of life, and the potential for the state to sell off our public lands.

ICL kicked off a stewardship program in the three new Boulder-White Clouds

wilderness areas and the Sawtooth Wilderness. More than 35 trained volunteers in 19 groups made 116 trips, engaged with about 1,500 wilderness visitors, hauled out nearly 85 pounds of garbage, and otherwise helped overcommitted U.S. Forest Service rangers. We plan to expand the program in 2017.

Last year's Boulder-White Clouds wilderness bill included a unique provision to allow ranchers to permanently retire livestock grazing on certain public lands. ICL finalized the first of these grazing retirements in 2016. More are expected in 2017.

ICL is also a leader in helping create the nation's first "dark sky reserve" in Central Idaho. This campaign highlights the extraordinary values found in the night sky, an increasingly rare resource threatened by light pollution.

ICL is a key player at collaborative tables across the state, such as those focusing on the Clearwater, Panhandle, and Payette and Salmon-Challis National Forests. Collaboratives provide a rare win-win

opportunity to address public land management concerns locally and regionally. Nothing blunts public land takeover rhetoric better than multistakeholder teams that are creating commonsense solutions to management challenges.

### BACKYARD CONSERVATION

Our North Idaho office worked with a broad coalition to keep Clagstone Meadows from being developed into a large-scale housing project. Owned by a timber company, this historic ranch provides important wildlife habitat. ICL worked with partners on a conservation easement, but the funds for the easement had to pass through the Legislature. Despite strong local support, forces in the Legislature sought to block it. Thankfully, the coalition convinced a majority of legislators to approve the project.

### A STRONG AND VIBRANT ICL

The It's My ID campaign is heading toward a close. This \$4 million campaign both doubles the endowment and creates a

new fund to support our energy and water work, creating a unique, Idaho-based response to climate change.

Following nearly 20 meetings, ICL's board of directors finalized a new three-year strategic plan to guide ICL into the future. The key goal of building our base of support is proving prescient as we move into new challenges on a federal level.

ICL's new logo triggered many changes this year. Along with the logo, we created a new website and updated the entire branded look for ICL. The website is mobile friendly and provides an anchor for ICL's online presence. It and our social media now better serve the thousands of people we work to inform, inspire and empower to protect Idaho. To fill the huge shoes of departing veterans, ICL hired two staffers for our North Idaho office.

**ICL's new logo triggered many changes this year. Along with the logo, we created a new website and updated the entire branded look for ICL.**

R. J.



# FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

MBWhitaker



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

We greatly appreciate everything that you do, and we may ask you to do more as the challenges we face in these uncertain times become clearer.

On Nov 9, I was in Argentina where many people asked me what I thought of the U.S. elections. I said I wasn't sure other than we should expect changes at the federal level in both our domestic and international policies.

Today it has become clearer that the changes I predicted are underway. What is not changing, however, are the things that ICL members prize about Idaho—our clean water, clean air and special places.

So the challenges for the board and staff are to determine how best to address changes at the federal, state and local levels in constructive ways while protecting what we all value. Board and staff leaders are committed to such a course.

ICL has demonstrated its ability to work effectively in a variety of political environments. With this experience, we

know that we can continue serving as Idaho's leading voice for conservation, even in a changed and somewhat unknown political climate. I expect that we will seek and find new partnerships here in Idaho to help us keep environmental protections alive.

Our work is bolstered by knowing that you, our ICL members, "have our backs." We hope that your support continues—whether you make gifts to ICL, write letters to decision makers, attend important public meetings or volunteer your time. We greatly appreciate everything that you do, and we may ask you to do more as the challenges we face in these uncertain times become clearer.

**Paul Cunningham**, Chair  
Idaho Conservation League Board of Directors







A special thank you to all ICL members and supporters! Listed below are those who donated \$250 or more, either through financial or in-kind support during ICL's fiscal year between October 1, 2015, and September 30, 2016.

\*Members of ICL's Advocates for Idaho monthly giving club who made gifts totaling \$250 or more.

Gifts and pledges to the It's My ID campaign are listed separately on p. 14.

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## In Memoriam

*The following beloved ICL members passed on this year. ICL honors their passion for Idaho. This listing is complete to the best of our knowledge. We sincerely apologize for any oversights.*

Richard Arave  
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 Inez Crookstone  
 Iris Eddie  
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 JoAnne Ferguson  
 Margaret Fosberg  
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## JOIN ICL'S LEGACY CLUB



Your commitment to ICL is important. You can strengthen that commitment by including ICL in your planned giving.

A planned gift is a lasting investment in ICL, enabling us to protect Idaho today and for future generations. Consider something simple like including ICL in your will. We can provide you with language, or you can find it on our website ([www.idahoconservation.org/legacygifts](http://www.idahoconservation.org/legacygifts)). You can choose to be acknowledged in our Legacy Club or keep your gift anonymous.

You can also include ICL in your planned giving through trusts, gift annuities, bequests and more. If you have complex questions about how to include ICL in your planned giving, we can refer you to a planning professional.

For more information, contact me at 208.345.6933 x 15 or the email below. Let me know if you've included ICL in your planned giving.

**Aimee Moran**

Development Director  
[amoran@idahoconservation.org](mailto:amoran@idahoconservation.org)

## LEGACY CLUB

*ICL's Legacy Club members have made provisions to support our conservation efforts after their passing.*

Anonymous (6)  
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 Michael Flanagan  
 John & Elaine French

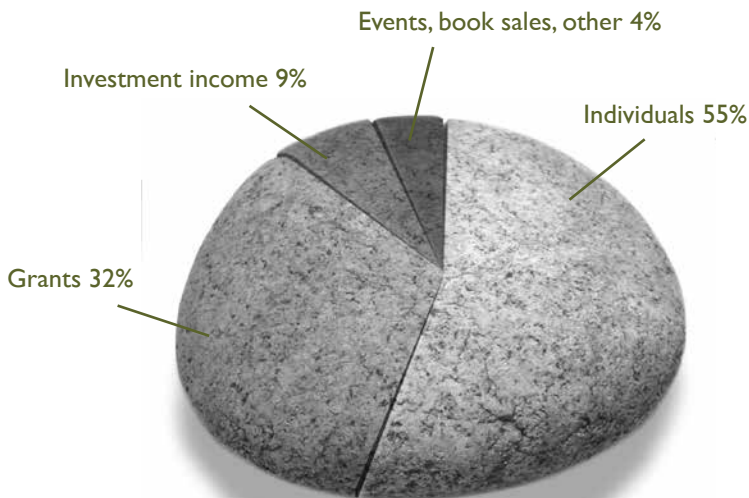
Susan Gilliland  
 Craig Groves  
 Amy Haak  
 Patrick Haas & Alison Beck Haas  
 Mike & Irene Healy  
 Dave Heep  
 Antone Holmquist  
 Rick Johnson & Roberta Crockett  
 James J. Johnston  
 Trish Klahr & Lee Melly  
 Tracy L'Herisson  
 Gregg Lewis  
 Steve Lockwood & Molly O'Reilly  
 David Marshall  
 Wayne Melquist  
 Walter Minnick & A.K. Lienhart Minnick  
 Steve Mitchell & Louisa Moats  
 Suki & Bill Molina

Aimee & Greg Moran  
 Bill & Colleen Mullins  
 Carl & Jane Nellis  
 Jerry Nielsen  
 Rebecca Patton & Tom Goodrich  
 Gary Paul  
 Tom Pomeroy  
 Julia & Alan Richardson  
 Kim Skyelander  
 Bob Swandby  
 Robert Vestal & Jyl Hoyt  
 Dr. Kenneth & Virginia Wright



# HOW WE DID FINANCIALLY IN 2016

## REVENUE



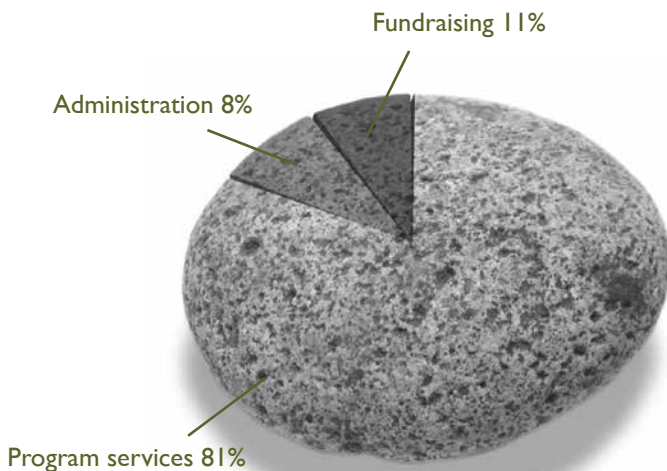
The Idaho Conservation League raised a total of \$2,950,903 during our 2016 fiscal year (10/1/15–9/30/16). Of this, grant revenue equaled \$946,326; event and sale revenues, \$105,995.

Contributions coming from individuals include \$647,054 in annual giving and \$984,944 in cash and pledges for our It's My ID campaign. This exciting campaign is raising \$2 million for a climate fund and \$2 million for our endowment (see p. 13).

To support our program work, we spent \$1,562,244, and administration costs came in at \$158,289. Our fundraising expense of \$216,771 includes our general fundraising work as well as that for It's My ID.

At fiscal year end, our endowment totaled \$2,208,994, with investment growth of \$266,584.

## EXPENSES



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES 2016

(for the year ending Sept. 30)

### REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

Grants	\$946,326
Individuals	\$1,631,998
Events, book sales, other	\$105,995
Investment income	\$266,584
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$2,950,903</b>

### EXPENSES

Program services	\$1,562,244
Administration	\$158,289
Fundraising	\$216,771
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$1,937,304</b>

<b>Endowment fund value</b>	<b>\$2,208,994</b>
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### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- The Idaho Conservation League is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- This financial information is drawn from audited financial statements by the accounting firm Harris & Co., P.A.

If you have questions or comments about finances, call Suki Molina, deputy director, 208.345.6933 x 18.

**Suki Molina**  
Deputy Director  
smolina@idahoconservation.org

## HERE'S YOUR IT'S MY ID UPDATE

Exciting news on our It's My ID campaign! This campaign is raising \$4 million to both double our endowment for long-term sustainability and create a climate fund that supports our water and energy work.

Our climate fund will go a long way in helping ICL make a difference. One simple climate solution is to get out of coal plants in neighboring states. Each year, Idaho imports nearly 40% of our electricity from out-of-state coal-fired power plants. By investing in Idaho's own clean energy, we protect our state and grow our economy.

Your contributions to the climate fund also help us in our ambitious goal of making the Snake River swimmable and fishable again. Clean, abundant water is not something we can take for granted. Scarcity brought on by overuse and

worsened by climate change requires us to protect our water and keep more of it in the rivers for fish.

We are getting close and need just under \$415,000 to reach our \$4 million goal, and thanks to a \$110,000 matching gift from ICL leadership, gifts of \$3,000 or more are being matched and can be pledged over three years. If you haven't contributed to It's My ID yet, do it now! You can email Suki Molina at [smolina@idahoconservation.org](mailto:smolina@idahoconservation.org) or call her at 208.345.6933 x 18 to give to the campaign.

**Elaine French**

Chair, It's My ID Campaign  
Idaho Conservation League Board of Directors



## IT'S MY ID GIFTS & PLEDGES

The following people have made or pledged gifts to our It's My ID campaign as of December 1, 2016. Their gifts are helping to both double our endowment to provide unrestricted income into the future and create a climate fund to support our crucial energy and water work. Thank you all! To give to the campaign, contact Suki Molina at [smolina@idahoconservation.org](mailto:smolina@idahoconservation.org) or 208.345.6933 x 18.

### \$500,000+

John & Elaine French

### \$250,000+

Anonymous  
Judy Baker  
David Bonderman  
Tom Goodrich &  
Rebecca Patton  
Walter Minnick & A. K.  
Lienhart Minnick  
John Osberg

### \$100,000

Mary Donovan & Steve  
Seward  
Patrick Haas & Alison  
Beck Haas  
Rick Johnson &  
Roberta Crockett  
Trish Klahr & Lee Melly  
Steve Lockwood &  
Molly O'Reilly  
Robert Swandby

### \$50,000+

Anonymous  
Mary Bachman &  
William Downing  
Lori & Tom Banducci  
Russ & Janet Buschert  
The Butler  
Conservation Fund  
Paul & Heidi Cunningham  
Lauren & Alan Dachs  
Christopher Davidson  
Don & Kay McCarter  
Suki & Bill Molina  
Jim Norton  
Molly & Tom Page  
Julia & Alan Richardson  
Lewis & Connie Ulrey

### \$25,000+

Dave & Lyn Anderson  
Greg Carr

Elsie & Gene Cheston  
Mark & Vickie Daly  
Dennis B. & Tracy L.  
Fitzpatrick  
Steve Mitchell & Louisa  
Moats  
Margrit von Braun &  
Ian von Lindern  
Mary Lou Reed

### \$10,000+

Anonymous  
Tony & Amie Bell  
Jerry Brady  
Claire Casey  
Carolyn & Chuck  
Coiner  
Paul Collins, M.D.  
Jane & Ken Dunbar  
David & Carrie Eichberg  
Equinox Foundation  
Wayne & Gerry Faude  
Margaret & Willy  
Gorrissen  
Mike & Irene Healy  
Hull Family Foundation  
Josephine & William  
Lowe  
Patricia Millington  
Tom Pomeroy  
Char Roth  
Jerry & Carrie Scheid  
Robert & Joyce Sulanke  
Jim Thompson &  
Priscilla Pounds  
Bill & Marisa Weppner  
Julie Weston & Gerry  
Morrison

### \$5,000+

Perry Brown & Desiree  
Brunette  
Charles Herrington &  
Ilene Shell  
Chuck & Jo Hower

Wendy & Jim Jaquet  
Diane & Jack Leaverton  
Ronald Mamajek &  
Denise Zembryki  
John & Ginny Moody  
Aimee & Greg Moran  
Ben Otto  
Michael & Charlotte Page  
Buddy Paul & Beverly  
Lingle  
Jen Pierce & Dave Wood  
Elisabeth Ratcliff &  
Charles Tate  
Lucy & John Schott  
Elizabeth B. Simon

### \$1,000+

Tanya Anderson  
Kahle & Kathy Becker  
Stoney Burke  
Natalie & Todd Chavez  
Confluence Fund  
Jim & Bobi Dekleinhans  
Susan Drumheller &  
Mike Murray  
James & Barbara Fillmore  
Cyndi & Justin Hayes  
Anne Herndon & Russ  
McKinley  
Paul Martin  
Dani Mazzotta & Steve  
Southard  
John O'Connor &  
Jennifer Durbin  
Skip & Esther  
Oppenheimer  
Greg & Lori Sims  
Stanley Family Fund  
Marjorie & Barry Traub  
Kim & Frank Trotter  
Genie Sue & Robert  
Weppner  
Mark & Erin Zaleski



"Dreams of Trout" detail / ICL 2016 Artist in Residence Josh Udesen

## EYES ON THE FUTURE

Annual reports are often about the past; we choose to look forward. A steady eye on the horizon sees long-term goals and priorities. Looking around us and remaining nimble to breaking opportunities and challenges are key to our success.

ICL's work is guided by a three-year strategic plan. The new plan, developed in 2016, was based on many inputs and resulted from nearly 20 meetings. It incorporates a clear assessment of what works now and what's needed for tomorrow.

You're familiar with many ICL priorities—protecting public lands and waters, securing greater protective designations and shifting from fossil fuels to clean energy sources. Defending key Idaho values, like wildlife habitat and clean air and water, is always core to our work.

Broadening our base for both grassroots power and financial stability is a rekindled

area of focus. We are growing our work on climate change. We are also focusing on best practices for nonprofits to make sure that our supporters get the most bang for their buck and that we can respond to the challenges of advocacy in a changing world.

It's My ID, ICL's campaign to raise \$4 million to double the ICL endowment and create a new climate fund, draws to a close this coming spring. Endowment earnings provide unrestricted income, while the climate fund—so important as federal policies shift—enhances ICL's work with businesses, Idaho leaders and you, our members, as we create Idaho-specific responses to effects of climate change.

Eyes on the future. Feet on the ground. It's what you expect. It's what we do.

**Defending key Idaho values, like wildlife habitat and clean air and water, is always core to our work.**

R. J.



**Membership renewal made easier!** Your annual membership renewal date is printed on the mailing label below. Please help save costs by renewing your membership before it expires. Renew online at [www.idahoconservation.org](http://www.idahoconservation.org) or use the enclosed envelope.



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CONSERVATION  
LEAGUE

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Boise, ID 83701

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League

# Wishing you a joyous New Year!



The ICL staff wish you the very best in the coming year!  
Wherever your journeys may take you,  
you are assured that these folks are continuously working on your behalf  
to protect the air you breathe, the water you drink and  
the special Idaho places you love.