

20
22

Annual

REPORT



OREGON
WHEAT

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Leadership

OREGON WHEAT

Vice President

Collin Crocker



President

Ben Maney



Secretary/ Treasurer

Wade Bingaman



Chief Executive Officer

Amanda Hoey



Past President

Clint Carlson



County Presidents

Baker/Union Counties - Wade Bingaman

Gilliam County - Deacon Heideman

Klamath County - Rodney Cheyne

Malheur County - Kevin Corn

Morrow County - Erin Heideman

Sherman County - Thad Eakin

Umatilla County - Emery Gentry

Wallowa County - Kurt Melville

Wasco County - Josh Duling

N. Willamette Valley - Tom Duyck

S. Willamette Valley - Mike Schrock

Financial

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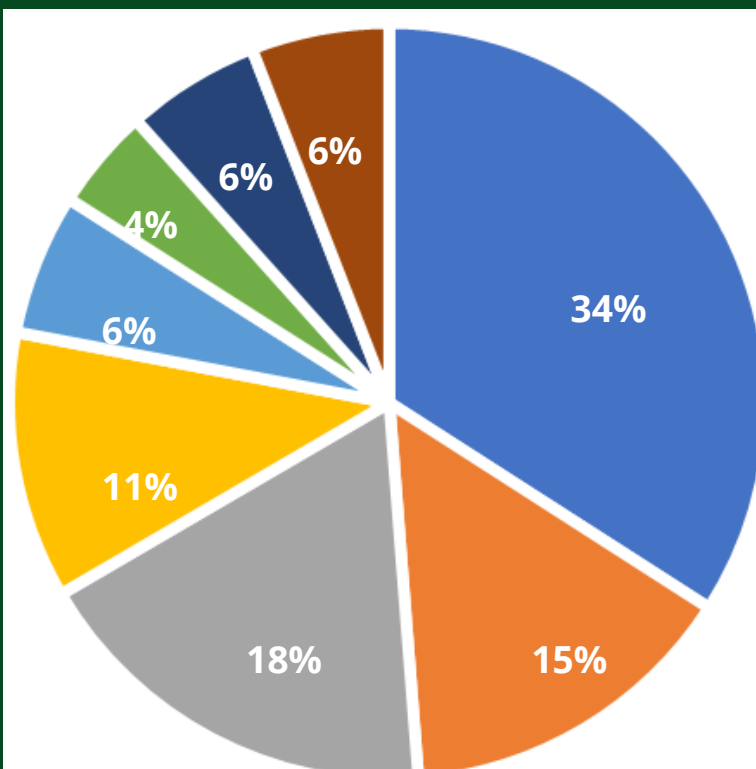
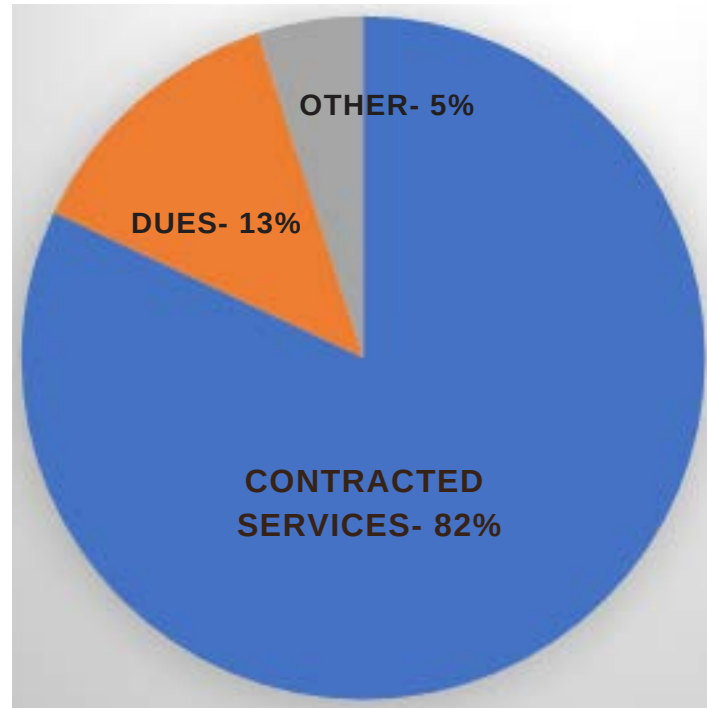
Overall, the League ended the year in a better position than expected, with net income that will support activities into the upcoming year. We enhanced internal controls this year. Notably, the League had another clean audit, with the highest opinion presented by our auditors on the financial statements.



Income

Revenue was 101.5% of budget, totaling \$581,715.

Contracted services with the Commission continues to represent the majority of funds available to the League. Dues is the second largest category and essential to being able to support expenses related to advocacy efforts.



Expense

Expenses were 79.8% of budget, totaling \$457,752. Personnel continues to represent the largest share of our expenses annually.

- Personnel/Officers
- Operating
- Member Services
- Dues- NAWG/Other
- Travel
- Public Education/Communications

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Membership

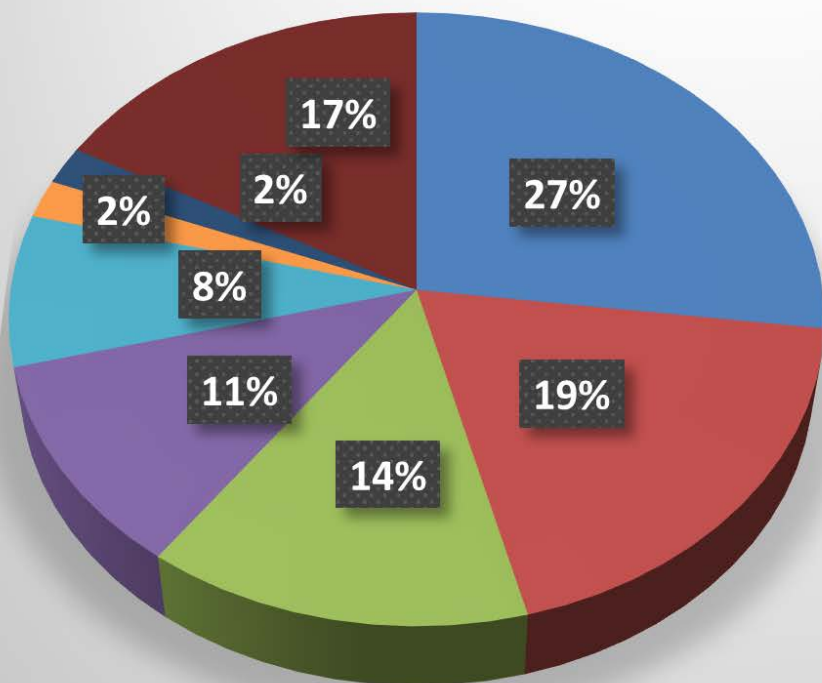
Membership continues to be the heart of our organization. Contributions through dues are used directly to support our contract with Dalton Advocacy, Inc to provide representation at the state capitol and a voice for wheat.

Membership dues payments are more important than ever in advocacy in Salem and Washington DC.

In addition to the advocacy and education work, membership in the League offers auxiliary benefits. Members can benefit from resources and programs available through the League such as the SAIF discount program, supervised fuels, Life Flight Network discount, group rates and more.

PAC contributions: Grower memberships include a voluntary PAC contribution. With funds donated to the PAC, we contributed to a range of candidates in state elections this year, focusing resources to ensure our voice and interests are communicated across the political spectrum. Funds through the PAC help get those elected who will support our industry and make a difference in the future.

2021-22 Membership



- Growers: under 320 acres
- Growers: 320-2000 acres
- Growers: 2000+ acres
- Affiliate: Retired/Landlord
- Associate: Under 10 Employees
- Associate: 10-25 Employees
- Associate: 25+ Employees
- Life

Year in Review

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

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Looking back at 2021, it was undoubtedly a tumultuous year. Extensive drought reduced the crop yield throughout the state by more than 30%. Continuation of the pandemic impacted our ability to get parts/key inputs and affected our advocacy work, with the legislative session taking place in a largely virtual format. Conflict erupted with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, creating massive volatility in wheat markets, escalation of humanitarian crises, and global uncertainty. Input prices skyrocketed and we faced constraints to product access.

It is within that context that the League found opportunities to work on behalf of our members and Oregon wheat producers throughout the state. Despite the challenges, we saw success in research funding, direct dollars for producers to address drought impacts, and agency changes to address producer concerns. We also encountered some headwinds with agency rulemaking and passage of major policy changes.

National

Research Funding: Through our coalitions, we were successful in a new \$2 million allocation to the PNW for the Herbicide Resistant Weeds Initiative. We were able to secure continuation of the resilient dryland funds (\$2 million) and soil health/carbon center (\$1.5 million) for the Pendleton research station. We submitted a facilities funds request.

Farm Bill Priorities – The world wheat situation shined a spotlight on the critical importance of wheat, the value of Oregon wheat exports and the need for continued domestic food security objectives. Leading into the next Farm Bill, the conversation helps elevate the issues affected wheat producers. This year weL

- Worked with our national organization to set and communicate priorities for crop insurance, trade programs and conservation resources.
- Voted to increase dues to NAWG to support policy work headed into Farm Bill hearings.

Drought Assistance- A combination of heat and drought damaged the wheat crop around the state, resulting in decreased yields for the 2021 harvest. Congress authorized the Emergency Relief Program in September 2021 to provide disaster payments to offset crop yield and value losses for crop years 2020-2021. The League advocated for more timely delivery for funds, which were released in 2022. The program resulted in nearly \$32 million directly paid to Oregon wheat producers.

Taxes- We engaged with our national association on a successful advocacy campaign to push back against changes to stepped-up basis and other tax provisions that might impact farm operations as part of the reconciliation process.



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Year in Review

Lobby Team

Dalton Advocacy, Inc.

State

Oregon Wheat Growers League continues to be represented by Dalton Advocacy, Inc in Salem. We extended our agreement to maintain that strong voice at the Capitol. Coming out of one of our most successful legislative sessions in 2021, the 2022 session (despite being a short session) was challenging. The lead-up saw major changes at the legislative leadership level.

The 2022 session represented a step toward normalcy in terms of legislative operations, though. While committee hearings were still held virtually, the Capitol was open to the public for the first time in nearly two years. Unfortunately, many legislators still only accepted virtual meetings which resulted in lobbying efforts being nearly fully remote.

Overall, more than 250 bills were introduced in the 2022 Short Session, with roughly 10% tracked by the League. While short sessions are limited to 35 days and intended to be for emergency issues/budget rebalancing, several significant policy bills passed in this short session. Included in that list was the passage of bill ending the long-standing agricultural exemption from overtime laws. We saw success with the defeat of a bill which was initially introduced to ban petroleum diesel and mandate renewable diesel statewide. The League expressed concerns on supply availability, cost and fuel shortage concerns.

The work was not limited to bills. On the regulatory wide, DEQ finalized rulemaking for Cap/Reduce and OR-OSHA established permanent Smoke/Heat rules. Where we found more success was working on transportation issues affecting our members.



Oregon's political ecosystem as a whole will see massive turnover ahead of the 2023 legislative session: from the Governor to the House and Senate.

Nearly 50% of the House seats and seven Senate seats are open or have an appointee on the ballot for the first time in 2022. With so much turnover and new district boundaries in place, the League will be focusing efforts on education of new members on wheat production and the impact of policies to our continued viability.

To support that public education, we elevated our presence with Wayfinder Communications to grow our voice across print and social media. We also launched the stewards videos to begin telling our sustainability story. During the year, Oregon wheat had 89 news article mentions, with an estimated 15 million anticipated article impressions. We reached a further estimated 75,000 through our social media work.

VIEW POLICIES & PRIORITIES AT WWW.OWGL.ORG/POLICY



Your Dues at Work

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- **Establishing Farm Bill Priorities** - Worked with our national organization to set and communicate priorities for crop insurance, trade programs and conservation resources.
- **Securing Funding** - Resulted in nearly **\$32 million** directly paid to Oregon wheat producers in drought assistance funding.
- **Protecting the Farmer's Toolbox** - Fought for the Farmer's Toolbox, with advocacy on proposed pesticide regulations.
- **Preserving Transportation** - Provided direct support to maintain critical infrastructure and navigation along the Columbia Snake River system.
- **Investing to Research** - Successfully secured over \$5 million in continued funding for dryland wheat research.
- **Addressing Agency Issues** - Worked with state agencies to resolve issues impacting the ability to access key inputs.
- **Supporting Family Farm Continuity**- Pushed back against changes to stepped-up basis and other tax provisions that would have impacted farm operations.
- **Advocating for Wheat Interests** - Engaged in advocacy, coalition building and outreach on all issues impacting wheat growers in 2022 Oregon Legislative Session.
- **Building Outreach Efforts** - Grew our voice across social media, launched the stewards videos and increased web traffic.

Social Media Reach

Reach is the total number of people who see our content across Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Think of reach as the number of unique people who see our content.

Reach in FY: **75,000**

OREGON WHEAT

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