



INDIANA
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION

2016

ANNUAL REPORT

Common Sense Conservation Since 1938

Dear IWF Members and Friends,

What a year! Once again, it is a pleasure to highlight the wonderful accomplishments of the Indiana Wildlife Federation in our annual report. Thank you for taking the time to read about our work and the strides we are making for wildlife in Indiana.

2016 was full of programmatic successes, organizational and capacity building work, and increased outreach efforts. In the spring, we launched our efforts to encourage cities and municipalities to participate in the NWF Mayor's Monarch Pledge. By the end of the year we had twelve cities signed on and committed to actions that will help monarch and pollinator habitat.

Through increased outreach efforts including our successful habitat programs, we reached an estimated 15,000 people throughout Indiana! We explored new events like the Curiosity Fair at Conner Prairie and the Southeastway Park Bug Fest. We also continued with our tried and true events like the IDNR Wild Game Cookout (2016 was the 25th Anniversary!) and the Earth Day Indiana Festival. This increased outreach has led to 228 new certified wildlife habitats in Indiana, increased interest from universities and colleges in the IWF Landscaping the Sustainable Campus program, and a successful native plant sale.

On the business side of things, at the IWF Annual meeting we updated our bylaws to align with our new strategic plan and Board committee structure. Additionally, in an effort to alleviate confusion about membership timelines and minimize administrative burdens on our small staff, we changed our membership renewal process from a rolling renewal to a yearly renewal set on June 1st each year.

Thanks to your support, the Indiana Wildlife Federation continues to expand our impact, lay the groundwork for a strong and stable organization, and promote sustainable wildlife and habitats for generations to come!

Yours in conservation,



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Board President



Erin Baird Wade
Executive Director



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Cody Dubich –
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Lauren Ooley –
Summer Habitat Intern
Kathryn Tolley –
Summer Development Intern

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BUILDING FUTURE CONSERVATIONISTS

IWF expanded our outreach to youth and families in 2016:



>> IWF attended Conner Prairie's Curiosity Fair for the first time in 2016. We engaged 185 children through our bird beaks and feet matching game, needs of wildlife cornhole, and food chain stackers activity.

>> IWF hosted activities at three People in the Environment Days at Cold Spring School. We built milk jug bird feeders, wildflower seed bombs, and suet cakes with 290 kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students.



>> IWF hosted a Wildlife Scavenger Hunt along the White River in downtown Indianapolis for the very first Indiana Children and Nature Network's statewide Nature Play Days event.

>> We talked to over 250 people who were interested in learning about monarch butterflies at the Southeastway Park Bug Fest.

>> IWF hosted a monarch butterfly tagging event during the White River Festival in September. We tagged 13 butterflies and reported them as part of a citizen science initiative.

>> At the Earth Day Indiana Festival we built 120 bird feeders with youth and families.

>> In April, we talked to 35 kids about Indiana wildlife during the Going Green Fest at the Indiana State Museum.

>> Crystal Nichols, a Ball State University student studying aquatic biology, was the recipient of the \$1000 IWF Charles Holt Scholarship.



>> IWF hosted three talented interns in 2016: Cody Dubich, Lauren Ooley, and Kathryn Tolley.

>> The IWF Kids Contest had 230 students from 15 different schools and homeschoools participate.

CREATING **HEALTHY HABITAT**

IWF had another successful year promoting habitat enhancement and certification:



>> The Mayor's Monarch Pledge was a huge success in 2016. 12 cities and municipalities across Indiana signed on and committed to actions to help conserve monarch butterflies and pollinators.

>> IWF presented our Backyard Habitat Workshop at 9 events, reaching 260 people during the year.

>> 228 properties in Indiana were recognized as Certified Wildlife Habitats this year.

>> Through our Native Plant Sale, we sold 48 plant kits totaling over 2400 individuals plugs added to landscapes across the state.

>> IWF handed out 450 milkweed plants at Z'Greenfest in Zionsville.

>> Indiana Tech, located in Fort Wayne, committed to pursuing certification through the IWF Landscaping the Sustainable Campus program.

>> The Urban Wilderness Trail, which runs along the White River in downtown Indianapolis, committed to pursuing certification through the new IWF Sustainable Trails program.



>> IWF was the recipient of a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, funding contract work by John Goss and Jim Bredin to coordinate continuing successful efforts to keep Bighead and Silver carp out of the Great Lakes.



In 2016, a new electric barrier was constructed in the Chicago Area Waterway and a permanent barrier was completed at Eagle Marsh in Indiana. Extensive monitoring, netting, and electrofishing continued around the Great Lakes and in Illinois waters to control the spread of these highly invasive species of carp, which are plankton eaters devouring the food supply for native fish.

SPEAKING FOR **WILDLIFE & HABITAT**

IWF continues to be a strong voice for wildlife and habitat in Indiana and beyond:



>> Throughout the year, IWF commented on many issues and regulations surrounding sporting, recreation, and wildlife.

>> We engaged in legislative and policy issues, Natural Resources Commission meetings, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Committee, and authored or signed on to many letters of support or opposition.

>> Captive shooting facilities were legalized in the 2016 legislative session, a big loss for wildlife in Indiana. IWF continues to monitor the Board of Animal Health's management of these facilities and support local and national efforts to slow and stop commercialization of wildlife.

>> IWF added its voice in support of protection of our public lands both in Indiana and across the nation.



>> Conservation funding in Indiana was a continued priority for IWF. We also supported the national Recovering America's Wildlife Act.

>> IWF joined the Watershed Organization Advisory Committee to the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Committee (ORSANCO).



REACHED
THROUGH
EVENTS



NEW SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS



NEW EVENTS
ATTENDED



NATIONAL AND
REGIONAL EVENTS



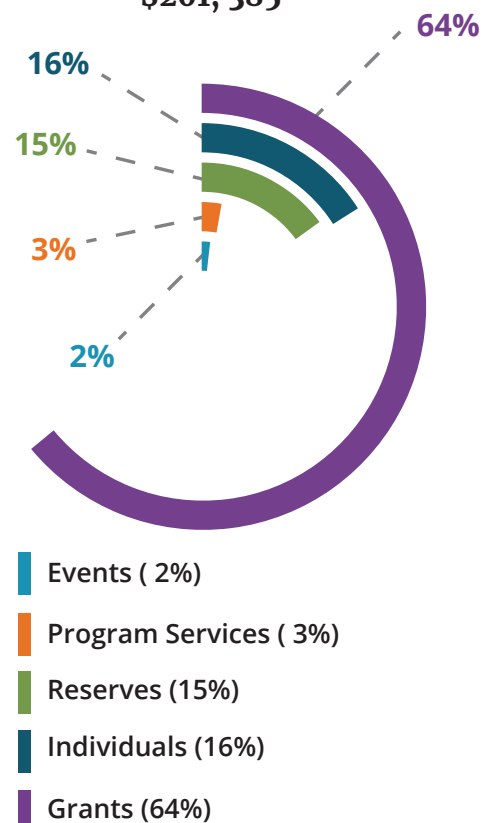
NEARLY
15,000
REACHED
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MEMBERSHIP & FINANCIALS

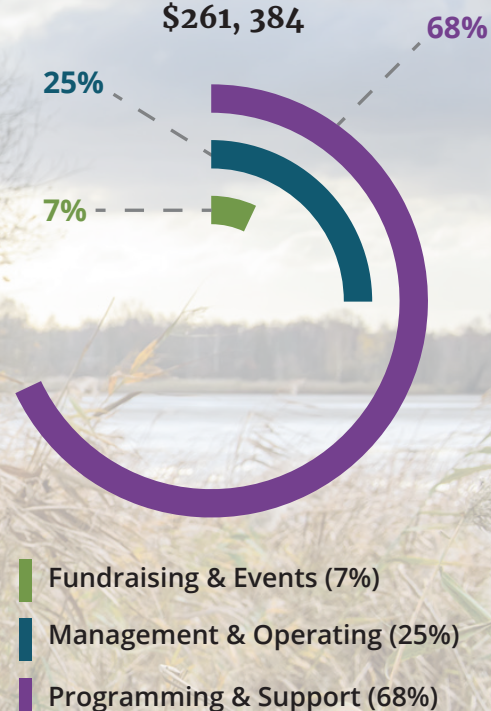
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Indiana Deer Hunters Association
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LaPorte County Conservation Council
Little River Wetlands Project
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North Dearborn Conservation Club
Pheasants Forever - Central Indiana Chapter
Pheasants Forever - Coal Creek Chapter
Pheasants Forever - LaGrange County Chapter
Porter County Conservation Club
Reel Women Reel Men
Saugany Lake Conservation Club
St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers
United Are We Conservation Club
White Creek Conservation Club

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EXPENSES \$261,384



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2016 Annual Report

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