



Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generous support, the St. Croix River Association (SCRA) had another terrific year of growth in our efforts to protect, restore, and celebrate the River and its watershed.

We work throughout this nearly 7,800 square mile watershed to protect the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway which travels at its heart. How can we have an impact on such a large area? We do this by continually expanding and nurturing our many partnerships, and by cultivating current and future watershed stewards.

This past year, we significantly expanded our four program areas. By leveraging resources, we educated people about invasive species such as zebra mussels; worked to keep phosphorus and other pollutants out of the water to lessen the algal blooms; and provided enriching and engaging river opportunities for children and adults. And, in 2015 we launched a new initiative to raise awareness of Riverway regulations among landowners, local government agencies and realtors.

We know that maintaining the world-class recreational opportunities this watershed offers is important for our environment, economy, and well-being. People need access to clean, drinkable water. Children need the opportunity to swim and play in the outdoors. We all need the peace and solitude that can be found throughout this Riverway. Your commitment makes all the difference.

As we look to the future, our watershed faces considerable challenges. From a proposed copper mine in the headwaters of the Kettle River to a new confinement dairy farm near Emerald, WI and oil pipelines near Solon Springs, the needs of the watershed are growing every year.

Your contributions make a difference in our capacity to serve the watershed and make an impact today and for future generations.

We hope you enjoy reading about how your support gives a voice to the River. Together we will achieve our shared vision — "A thriving watershed, forever accessible, scenic, and wild." Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

With sincere appreciation,



Melanie Kleiss, Board Chair



Deb Ryun, Executive Director

Melanie Vein

Melanie Kleiss Board Chair Deb Byun

Deb RyunExecutive Director

YOUR NATIONAL PARK

Together we're better!

As the official Friends Group for the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, SCRA and the National Park Service (NPS) work together to build capacity and implement programs throughout the Riverway that create opportunities to connect people to the National Park in their backyard.

Together we reach a broader audience, have access to resources that wouldn't otherwise be available, and achieve greater results.

Building Capacity

Paddle with a Ranger

▶ Encourages new park visitors to experience paddling while learning about their national park.

Teachers on the River

 Provides place-based professional development to help teachers use the River as a living laboratory.

Rivers are Alive

 Offers students field-based experiences that highlight underwater habitat and the role that freshwater rivers play in our lives.

River Connections Internships

▶ Builds capacity and sustainability for the Riverway by supporting summer interns who provide interpretation, resource management, lands programming, and invasive species mitigation.



"The Riverway is fortunate to have the strong support of the St. Croix River Association as its Friends Group. Whether restoring rare habitat or welcoming the next generation to the river, the partnership between the National Park Service and SCRA is building critical connections for the future of our national park."

 Julie Galonska, Acting Superintendent St. Croix National Scenic Riverway



36,000 people

reached through education and outreach efforts

170 veterans

experienced healing benefits of time on the River

800 students

attended Riverway education programs—twice the number in 2014

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Our education and outreach program provides enriching and engaging experiences throughout the watershed.

Our programs raise awareness, foster current and future watershed stewards, and encourage everyone to protect, restore, and celebrate the Riverway.

Accomplishments

Fostered Positive Relationships

- ▶ Engaged over 2,400 youth through camping and paddling experiences, nature programs, and programs like *Rivers are Alive*.
- ▶ Provided students and teachers in 11 school districts with learning opportunities to help create a connection to the Riverway.

Expanded Park Use

- ▶ Drew over 13,400 people to experience new outdoor activities through our Active Trails program.
- ▶ Helped 1,870 youth, families, and veterans access their national park by removing financial and logistical barriers.

Built Capacity and Sustainability

- ▶ Provided over 4,200 hours of interpretation, resource management, lands programming, and invasive species mitigation through our Summer Intern Program.
- ▶ Offered the popular Speakers Series together with the National Park Service — a series of educational programs that highlight the rich natural and cultural heritage of the St. Croix Basin.

WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION

Our Water Resource Protection program works to maintain and improve water quality watershed-wide.

Our work protects water quality, reduces pollution to the St. Croix and its tributaries, and increases efficacy through strong partnerships and leveraging financial and technical resources throughout the watershed.

Accomplishments

Protected Water Resources

- ▶ Continued the "Keeping the Woods in the Northwoods" initiative a program focused on working with woodland owners to protect critical forests for water quality.
- ▶ Established a Pipeline Safety Task Force to identify oil pipeline hazards in the St. Croix headwaters and minimize the risk to our pristine headwaters and vibrant rivers.

Reduced Pollution

- ▶ Reduced phosphorus pollution by over 237 lbs. and sediment by more than 270 tons through shoreline restoration, infiltration basins, native vegetation plantings, and gully stabilization.
- ▶ Acquired an additional \$300,000 in Clean Water Act 319 funding to further expand pollution reduction tactics.

Engaged Communities

- ▶ Co-hosted the 2015 St. Croix Summit: Changing Climate, Changing Times, a two day conference where over 40 experts delivered messages on critical watershed issues to inspire future water protection efforts.
- ► Engaged over 500 people through water quality workshops, forums, and outreach activities.



\$300,000 phosphorus reduction

Clean Water Act grant for work in Minnesota

270 tons

sediment reduced in the St. Croix and its tributaries **500** people

engaged in water quality conversations



1,100 people

reached through boat landing outreach

132 river miles

monitored for invasive species

50 partners

created an inter-agency watershed-wide AIS Strategic Plan

INVASIVE SPECIES

Our Invasive Species program identifies and combats aquatic invasive species (AIS) and terrestrial invasive species (TIS) threats.

Through this program, SCRA collaborates with many organizations to strategically address invasive species that can devastate native species including Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels, and Asian carp.

Accomplishments

Developed AIS Strategy

- ▶ Partnered with 50 agencies/ organizations to develop a watershed-wide AIS strategic plan.
- Engaged citizens through public forums to create strategies that combat invasive threats.

Inspired Future Leaders

- ► Created AIS Intern Program with interns visiting more than 40 river businesses and touching over 6,456 through targeted outreach strategies.
- Cultivated the next generation of stewards through school programs.
- ▶ Trained 15 volunteers to identify and prevent the spread of invasive species, reaching 1,127 people at 8 boat landings.

Strengthened Regional Partnerships

- ► Enabled expansion of the St. Croix – Red Cedar Cooperative Weed Management Area.
- ▶ Assumed a leadership role in planning the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference.
- ► Engaged in regional dialog with MN Invasive Species Advisory Council and the Stop Carp Coalition.

LAND STEWARDSHIP

Our Land Stewardship program works to protect and restore important natural and scenic areas and encourage citizens to be the first line of defense for the River.

In 2015, SCRA received funding to create a Land Stewardship program and hired our first River Corridor Steward. This program is part of SCRA's goal to convene citizens around the River and encourage a strong land and conservation ethic.

Program Goals

To provide education, outreach and awareness of Riverway regulations to three target groups:

- Landowners: to build awareness around land-use in the Riverway.
- ▶ Realtors: to educate prospective landowners on the history of the River and how to preserve its beauty while meeting private property needs.
- ▶ Local governments: to improve consistency and transparency in the variance application process and the importance of Riverway regulations.

Accomplishments

- ▶ Provided over 2,000 landowners with information about variances and Riverway regulations.
- ► Educated over 200 realtors on Riverway regulations and how to support prospective home buyers.

- ▶ Presented at 10 city council meetings in the Lower St. Croix.
- Partnered with city staff to build resources for Riverway communities.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The St. Croix River Association gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the donors whose annual support ensures we carry out our mission to protect, restore, and celebrate the St. Croix River and its watershed.

\$50,000+

Bush Foundation McKnight Foundation MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Riverway Fund at the St. Croix Valley Foundation Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Katherine B. Andersen Fund at the St. Paul Foundation Mortenson Family Foundation National Park Foundation George Reid U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous
Archie B. and Bertha H. Walker Foundation
Chisago County
Peter and Mary Gove
John and Diane Herman
Richard Ihrig and Dr. Colleen Cooper
Lee S. and Dorothy Whitson Foundation of The St.
Paul Foundation on behalf of Tom and Dianne
Polasik

Richard and Sally Leider Victoria Miller and Jim Carter Mississippi River Fund Pine County

\$2,500 - \$4,999

45 Degrees Sharon and Bill Clapp Karen and Craig Hansen Lee Lynch and Terry Saario Bridget and Ross Levin Sara Rottunda Washington County Presbury West Xcel Energy

\$1,000 - \$2,499

AM and AM LLC Jean and Robert Appert Doug Blanke Colleen Bollom David and Patricia Borchert Central Bank Katie Clapp and Mark Ward

Charles Fuller and Constance Mayeron Cowles Jay and Page Cowles

Brad and Carol Dosch Robert and Vivian Dunbar

Faegre Baker Daniels Foundation in recognition of John Herman

First State Bank and Trust David and Katherine Griffith Richard and Carol Gross

Julia Kaemmer Fund of HRK Foundation

John Kaul and Gloria Gunville Rod and Georgianne Kleiss Jerry LeFevre and Jennifer Gross

Matching Grant Program of the Minneapolis Foundation

Gary Noren and Marty Harding Port of Sunnyside Club, Inc. Chris and Dwight Porter

Lisa Schlingerman and Craig Christensen Helen Silha

Michael and Pamela Smith Holly and Geoffrey Sylvester Tom Triplett Fritz and Cynthia West

Larry and Mary Whitaker
Dan and Ruth Ann Willius

\$500 - \$999

Alice M. O'Brien Foundation on behalf of Alice
O'Brien Berquist

Brian and Bonnie Alton

Laurel Anderson and David Morris

Bill and Ginny Buell Richard Burton Clausen Consulting Peter Cushner Anne DeCoster

loe Duffy and Lois West Duffy

Jim Fitzpatrick

Dennis Frandsen

James and Teddy Gesell

Don Hansen and Sydney Paredes Hayward Fly Fishing Company

Jeff and Lucy Heegaard Mark and Jean Hoffman

Julia Kaemmer

Martin and Esther Kellogg

Melanie Kleiss

Lee Lewis and Steve Bubul

Catherine Mayer Michael Montag

Earl Morren and Vera Wong Thomas and Johanna Omdahl

Philadelphia Community Farms Pam and Scott Rasmussen

Thomas Rumreich and Ruth Ronning

Charles Salmen and Russ Testa Michael Schmidt and Gail Hanson

Patricia Shifferd

Tim and Melissa Stoddart John Stocklosa and Nancy Cole Steve Suby and Susan Logan

The Parent Company John and Shari Thomas Kristin Tuenge

Iohn Velin and Iane Harper

2015 Supporters

Voyageurs National Park Foundation lack and Janice Warren Curtis West Wild Mountain/Taylors Falls Recreation Robert Wilmers and Susan Miles University of Wisconsin

\$250 - \$499

Bending Branches Katie Beutel and Will Mitchell

Bob Bickford

Elizabeth Brock and Chakravarthy Sankarajah

Chuck and Peg Arnason

Patrick Collins Ioan and Bill Cook

Priscilla Farnham

Randy Ferrin and Kathy Trombly-Ferrin

Paul Frenz and Julie Johnson James and Judith Freund

Katy Gaynor Genevieve Hafner Roger Hale IoAnn Hallquist

William and Trudy Harper Jon and Becky Haven **Havward Comfort Suites** Dan and Mary Hooley

Lawrence and Katie Keller Kestrel Design Group

John and Judith Kinkead

Betsv Kremser

Walter Lehmann and Sylvia Strobel

lim and Kristen Lindberg lay and Gail Lund

Troy Lunde

Bill and Alida Messinger

The Honorable Walter Mondale Richard and Valerie Moore Mark and Erica Peterson Katherine Prendergast

Deb Ryun and Steve Rassler lames and Patricia Schoeller

Alfred Sedgwick

Craig Smith and Merritt Clapp-Smith

Standing Cedars Community Land Conservancy, Inc.

David Stephens and Susan Ferron

The Summer Fund

Kris and Jean Van Tatenhove Jeffrey Willius and Sally Gibson

\$100 - \$249

Allina Health Community Engagement

Laurie Allmann

Tom and Gail Andersen

Lynette Anderson

Michael and Carole Anderson

John Baird

Nancy Beduhn lames and Kim Berry

Charles Betz and Sue Magdalene Iulie Bunn and Marlon Gunderson

Mary Burrill-Van Wie Dennis Caneff Paul Chapman

Chuck Chism Ruth Clapp

Paul and Gretchen Clark Whitney and Sarah Clark

Rov and Linda Close Bill and Bev Cook, Ir.

Nancy Cosgriff

Robert Craggs and Anita Foitik-Craggs

Dave Crawford

Guillermo Cuellar and Laurie MacGregor

Donna Dalton Chad Dayton

Loralee and Gene Di Lorenzo Ron and Carolyn Drude Susan and Bill Dustin

Paul Earnev

Cornelia and Roger Eberhart Thomas and Kathy Eimermann

Lindberg and Tracy Ekola Daniel Engstrom and Barbara Coffin

ludith Erickson and lim Birkholz Ronald Erickson and Doerr, Lisa Tom and Mary FitzGerald

Phil Fitzpatrick

Susan and Wendell Fletcher Konrad and Lora Friedemann Christie Gove-Berg and Peter Berg

Tony Grundhauser

Dan Guenther and Margaret Pennings

Hanson Accounting Service

Nancy Hardenbergh Kathy Harker and Curt Moe Harmony Environmental lames and Sharon Harrison

Amv Hawks **Hayward Outfitters** Paula and Doug Hemer Dean Honetschlager

Tom and Karen Howe

Dana lackson

Dorothy Jeffries and Laurence Bilek

Andy Johnson

Brad and Susan Johnson Joseph and Suzanne Johnson

Leta Johnson

Claudia and William Kaul

Tonia Kittelson Kelvin Kobernick

Andrew and Karen Kramer

Deborah Kravik

Ron Kroese and Kimberly Colburn

Andy and Sara Kubiak Peter and Sarah Leete Kate Lehmann Piers and Kathy Lewis Sheryl Lindholm Ann Longfellow

Vincent and Christine Maefsky

lim Maher

lames and Sharon Mallman Robert and Jane Marquard Raymond and Jacquelyn Marshall

Robert Melzer

Chris and Joanne Messerly Michael Miller and Mary Trettin

Garth Morrisette

Nicholas and Kathryn Nelson Timothy and Susan Nixon

lane Norbin

Allissa and Iason Obler Tim and Francine O'Brien

ludith Olson Mary Paul Solvay Peterson Mary Piontek

Bruce Plowman and Arlene Montgomery

Craig Poorker and Joanie Miller

2015 Supporters

John and Gayle Prest Gaylen and Beth Reetz Peter and Anne Reich

Harriet Rice

Lucy Rogers and Larry Grant David and Mary Ruch

David alid ivid

Vicki Ryan

Nick and Karen Schmit

Lisa Schoelerman

Karen and Greg Schulz

Security State Bank of Marine

Phil and Jone See

Denny and Carol Seefeldt Robert and Kathryn Setzer

Jill Shannon Stephen Silha Miriam Simmons Daryl and Nancy Skaar Bill and Jackie Smith

Neil and Beth Soltis

St. Croix Auto Body St. Croix Creative

St. Croix Inn

Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust, Inc.

Cvnthia Stimmler

Jeffrey and Kathryn Stonehouse

Janice Stull

Edmund and Judith Summersby

Rudy and Carol Sundberg

Tom Swain Bonnie Swanson Debra Teachout

Harold and Carol Teasdale

William Tilton

Roger Tobin and Linda Blum

Gavle Trebesch

Lynn Vernon and Bruce Holcomb

Gerald and Nancy Viebrock John and Grace Wachlarowicz Richard and Linda Warner

Richard and Lisa Warren

Thomas Warth and Zantha LaFon Warth

Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association

John and Gracy Waugh Monica and Steven Weekes Werner Paddles, Inc.

Katie Werner

Trae West

David Wettergren and Gretchen Stein

Steve and Terri Wilcox

Jeffrey Willius

Ron Winch and Toni Meglitsch

Monica Zachay

Jim and Kathy Zavoral

\$50 - \$99

Michael Addy and Nancy Johnson

James Almendinger

Carl Almer

Ameriprise Financial Georgiana Anderson Waldo and Irene Asp

Sarah Atkins and John Hoggatt Ann Bancroft and Pam Arnold

Ioan Benner

Linda Besk Turrentine

Leif Bjornson and Meg Luhrs

Jeff Black and Deb Yanker Black

Fred Blake

Chester and Margaret Boike

Brad and Sonia Borg

Jan Braeunig Christine Bremer Don Burger

C and D Storage Pauline Caldwell

Robert and Marjana Callery Ron and Joyce Carlson

Loreen Clayton-Morrell Jacquelyn Cronin

lan Cuccia

Dwight and Rebecca Cummins

Carol Dahl

Suzanne and Matthew Dammann

Todd and Cristina De Sobrino

Greg Dietl Gail Dietrich

Jerry Doherty and Sheila Maybanks Jerry Dorff and Marilyn Chesnik

Jermond and Margie Ellefson John and Marlee Eret

Lee and Mary Ann Fabel Ed and Kathy Fagerlund

Peter and Mary Fernstrum

Paul and Kathy Fredrickson

Eugene Galatowitsch

Michael Gallagher and Linda Cullen Gallagher

Julie Galonska and James Nalen

Cindy and John Gilpin

Donald Greenebaum and Beth Honetschlager

Kenneth and Karen Hannah Jim and Roberta Harper John and Linda Helland John and Melba Hensel

Theresa Hill

Robert and Anne Horn

William and Margo Hutchison

Gae and Peter Jarvis Mary Jerome

Lyn Jewell

Barb and Greg Johnson

Ron and Sheila Johnson Steven and Debra Johnson

Donald Iones

Rob and Kathy Jorgensen

David Kark

Byron Karns

Lee Thompson Kent and James Kent

Frances Kerber Robert Kessen

Bruce and Elizabeth Kiernat Julie Kilpatrick and Andy Jenks Dodd and Nancy Knutson

Kerri Kolstad

Lynne Kolze and Allen Dotson Dave and Jan Kozlovsky Ted and Rachael Kozlowski Leon and Susan Kramer

Ted Larson

Bill and Rita Lawson Don and Marlyce Lee Sally Lehmann

lane Leigh

Dennis and Karen Lien Tracy Maki and John Dybvig

Ann Martin

Joan and Rick Meierotto

Donald Mitchell and Barbara Staub

Jeffrey Moreno

Robert and Delores Nelson

Shirley Nelson

2015 Supporters

Colleen O'Brien and Jon Berglund Jim and Phyllis O'Connor John and Yvette Oldendorf Meredith Oliver Gaila and Gary Olsen Rebecca and Shawn Otto Alan Pearson Rober and Alice Peters Gloria Phillips Ioan and Helmut Porcher Sarah and Mark Porubcansky Paul and Peggy Quinn Mike and Sally Reiter Riverwood Canoe LLC Leslie Roberts David and Diane Robishaw **Kevin Rogers** Heather and Andrew Rutledge Karen Schik and James Martin Norma Scott Douglas Seitz and Joan Beaver Nancy Shook William Simpson Kirby and Marcia Smith Erik Sorensen Buzz Sorge Joe and Sue Sperber St. Croix Basin Water Resources Planning Team Suzanne Steil Donald and Mary Jo Teed Mike and Charity Thurston Norman and Darlene Toensing Tom Trant and Louise Trant Dobbe Penny Van Kampen Merry Vinette Katharine Widin David Zanussi and Susan Winsor

This list represents gifts given from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. It also includes in-kind and memorial gifts. Every attempt was made to ensure the accuracy of this report. We sincerely regret any errors or omissions. You may call our Development Office at 715-483-3300 with questions or corrections.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2015

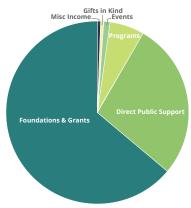
Balance Sheet	FY 2015
Assets	
Current Assets	
Checking / Savings	\$146,494
Other Current Assets	94,000
Total Current Assets	240,494
Total Assets	\$240,494
Liabilities & Equity	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$5,153
Other Current Liabilities	23,922
Total Current Liabilities	29,075
Equity	211,419
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$240,494

Financial statements audited by Carlson Highland. A copy is available upon request.

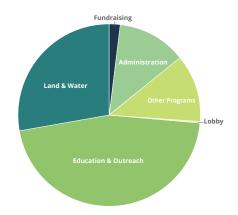
Expenses	FY 2015
Programs	
Land & Water	\$175,749
Education & Outreach	291,489
Lobby	2,130
Other Programs	76,836
Total Program Expenses	\$546,203
Administration	77,834
Fundraising	12,770
Total Expenses	\$636,807

Expenses shown as greater than income is due to timing of grants.

FY 2015 Income \$585,208



FY 2015 Expenses \$636,807







BOARD AND STAFF

Board of Directors (2016)

Melanie Kleiss, Chair Don Hansen, Vice-Chair

Bonnie Swanson, Treasurer

Kristin Tuenge, Secretary

Brian Alton

Bob Bickford

Katie Clapp

Patrick Collins

John Herman

Richard Ihrig

Dana Jackson

John Kaul

Tonia Kittelson

Bridget Levin

Gary Noren

Mark Peterson

Tom Polasik

Pamela Jo Rasmussen

Patricia Shifferd

Tom Swain

Advisory Council (2015-2016)

Jeff Anderson Chuck Arnason Ann Bancroft

Denny Caneff

Ron Carlson

Bill Clapp

Jerry Dorff

Dan Engstrom

Randy Ferrin

Dave Ferris

Tracy Fredin

Amy Frischmon

Peter Gove

Shaun Hamilton

Jane Harper

Jim Harrison

Jane Hetland Stevenson

Steve Hobbs

Martin Kellogg

Judith Kinkead

Ron Lawrenz

Sally Leider

Buck Malick

Rosemary Mansfield

Dan McGuiness

Mike Miller

Honorable Walter Mondale

Tia Nelson

Scott Peterson

Mike Prichard

Jane Prohaska

John Separd

Nancy Speer

Chris Stein

Tom Triplett

John Velin

Mary Vogel

Wendy Williamson

Dan Willius

Staff (2016)

Deb Ryun, Executive Director

Angelique Dahlberg, Invasive Species Coordinator

Katy Gaynor, Development Director

Lisa Giefer, Administrative Assistant

Jenny Makosky, River Connections Steward

Allissa Obler, Donor Relations & Program

Support

Natalie Warren, River Corridor Steward

Monica Zachay, Water Resource Steward







OUR VISION

We strive to create a thriving watershed forever accessible, scenic, and wild.

