

BIG WATERS LAND TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2024 – 2025

In this 2025 Annual Report, you will see how we achieved BIG things because of our conservation communities' generous and steadfast support. Despite multiple hurricanes and public policy headwinds, we made a lasting impact on Florida's land and water, for the benefit of people and nature.

We completed our first-ever Conservation Plan, which informed our new 2030 Strategic Plan. In these plans, we mapped out how, together with our communities' generous support, we will continue to protect irreplaceable natural and working lands— safeguarding clean water, fresh air, local food systems, abundant wildlife, and the resilience of our region for generations to come. Because protecting these special places also offers something less tangible, yet just as vital: places to connect with nature, restore our well-being, and experience the beauty that defines Florida.

Land conservation is one of the most powerful investments we can make in the health, prosperity, and future of our community. We need your support, your belief in this work, and your voice to fuel our work protecting these special places.

If you are a supporter, we thank you! And we invite all to join our conservation community - we need you! Because the urgency to protect what makes this region special has never been greater. Yet, there is also tremendous hope. We are quickening the pace of land conservation, advocating more and stronger for public land conservation funding, and getting more people connected to nature.

We hope you are inspired with our 2025 accomplishments and that you will join us in our BIG mission to save land and water for the benefit of people and nature. We can't do it without you!

Onward!

Christine P. Johnson, President

TO DATE

20,070.60

ACRES SAVED ACROSS

65

PROPERTIES

AS OF 09/30/2025

We envision a future where the human and natural worlds flourish together.

Our mission is to protect the land and water for the benefit of people and nature.



View of Elling Eide Center Property



2.72 ACRES

PERMANENTLY SAFEGUARDED ACROSS 5 CITY LOTS IN CAPE CORAL TO PROTECT CRITICAL HABITAT FOR THE FLORIDA BURROWING OWL, IN COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL, STATE, AND NONPROFIT PARTNERS.

13 ACRES

CONSERVED ALONG THE MYAKKA RIVER IN MANATEE COUNTY, EXPANDING CRANE PARK AND PROTECTING VITAL GREEN SPACE FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE.

Photo by Mary Lundeberg



14.5 ACRES

PROTECTED OF COASTAL LAND ON LITTLE SARASOTA BAY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ELLING EIDE CENTER AND SARASOTA COUNTY.

34 ACRES

ON SANDPIPER KEY IN ENGLEWOOD PROTECTED WITHIN THE LEMON BAY AQUATIC PRESERVE.

SINCE OUR INCEPTION, WE'VE LEVERAGED EVERY DOLLAR RAISED **4** TIMES FOR LAND CONSERVATION.

Reporting for fiscal year ending 9/30/25

Photo by Sarah Denison Williams



67

COMMUNITY PARTNERS FURTHERING OUR REACH AND DEEPENING OUR RELATIONSHIPS THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

22

YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATION PARTNERS.

Photo by Sarah Denison Williams



1,828

YOUTH SERVED THROUGH OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

1,815

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ATTENDED OUR EDUCATION AND NATURE EXPERIENCES.



Photo by Sarah Denison Williams

1,862

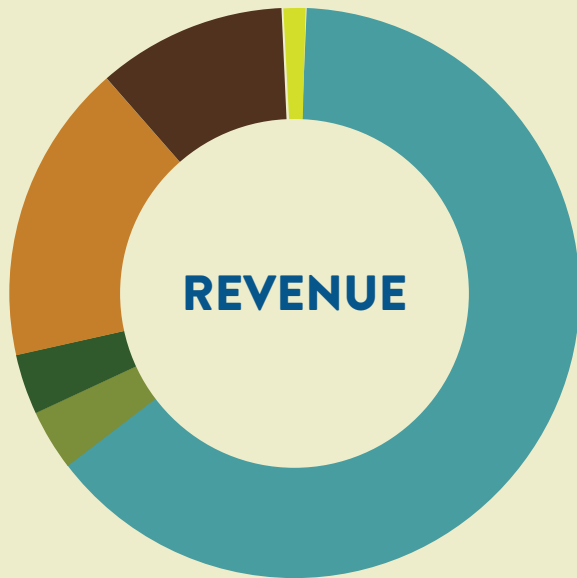
HOURS VOLUNTEERS DONATED TO FURTHER OUR MISSION AND INCREASE OUR IMPACT.

OUR LEGACY SOCIETY GREW TO INCLUDE

54

MEMBERS COMMITTED TO LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY ON FLORIDA.

FY 2025 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



- Grants: 1%
- Contributions and gifts: 73%
- Special Events, net: 3%
- Program income: 3%
- Investment earnings: 12%
- Gifts In-Kind: 8%

TOTAL REVENUE: \$4,941,901

EXPENSES



- Land Acquisition & Stewardship: 34%
- Quads: 23%
- Outreach & Education: 20%
- Core Mission Support: 23%

Operations: 10%

Administrative: 4%

Fundraising: 9%

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3,793,880

