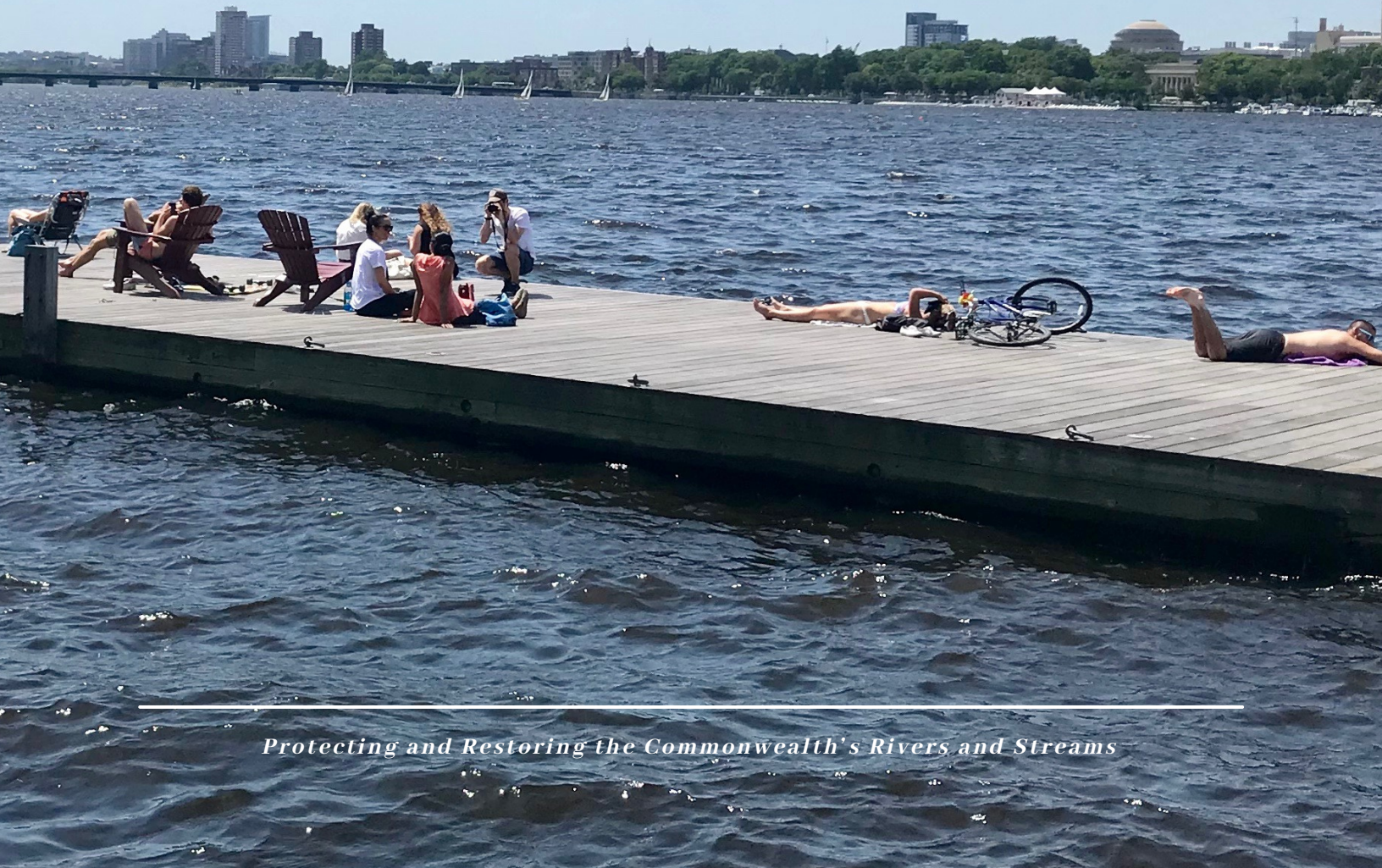




MASSACHUSETTS RIVERS ALLIANCE

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Protecting and Restoring the Commonwealth's Rivers and Streams

OUR PARTNERS IN RIVER PROTECTION



Key Leadership Members:

Charles River Watershed Association
 Ipswich River Watershed Association
 Mystic River Watershed Association
 The Nature Conservancy
 Neponset River Watershed Association
 Trout Unlimited, Nor'East Chapter
(Key Leadership Members have contributed more than \$1,000 to support Mass Rivers in 2020)

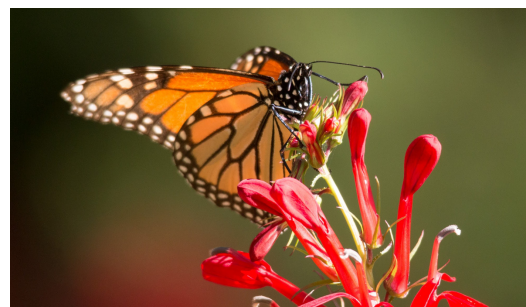
Leadership Members:

Berkshire Natural Resources Council
 Center for Coastal Studies
 The Charles River Conservancy
 Conservation Law Foundation
 Environmental League of Massachusetts
 Greater Northfield Watershed Association
 Hoosic River Revival
 Mass Audubon
 Mass Org of State Engineers and Scientists (MOSES)
 Nashua River Watershed Association
 North and South Rivers Watershed Association
 OARS, for the Assabet, Sudbury, & Concord Rivers
 Save the Bay – Narragansett Bay Riverkeeper
 Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter
 Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Wild & Scenic River Stewardship Council
 The Trustees
 Trout Unlimited, Greater Boston Chapter
 Trout Unlimited – MA RI Council
(Leadership Members have contributed more than \$250 < \$1,000 to support Mass Rivers in 2020)

Member Organizations:

Association to Preserve Cape Cod
 Belmont Citizens Forum
 Berkshire Environmental Action Team
 Biodiversity for a Livable Climate
 Blackstone River Coalition
 Boxborough Conservation Trust
 Buzzards Bay Coalition
 Charlestown Waterfront Coalition
 Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council
 Clean River Project
 Clean Water Action & Clean Water Fund
 Connecticut River Conservancy
 Deerfield River Watershed Association
 Environment Massachusetts

Farmington River Watershed Association
 Fort River Watershed Alliance
 Friends of the Assabet River NWR
 Friends of the Bass River
 Friends of the Belle Isle Marsh
 Friends of the Blue Hills
 Friends of the Malden River
 Friends of the Ten Mile and Bucklin Brook
 Green Newton
 Greenbelt
 Groundwork Lawrence
 Hoosic River Watershed Association
 Hop Brook Protection Association
 Housatonic Valley Association
 Jones River Watershed Association
 League of Women Voters of Massachusetts
 Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust
 Massachusetts Assoc. of Conservation Commissions.
 Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition
 Massachusetts Watershed Coalition
 Merrimack River Watershed Council
 Millers River Watershed Council
 The Muddy Water Initiative
 Nantucket Land Council
 Ocean River Institute
 Parker River Clean Water Association
 River Merrimack
 Shawsheen River Watershed Association
 Sudbury Valley Trustees
 Taunton River Watershed Alliance
 Taunton River Wild & Scenic Stewardship Council
 Ten Mile River Watershed Council
 The Trust for Public Land
 Trout Unlimited, Deerfield River Watershed Chapter
 Trout Unlimited, Pioneer Valley Chapter
 Wareham Land Trust
 Wastewater Advisory Committee (WAC) to the MWRA
 Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee
 Westfield River Watershed Association
 Westfield River Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee
 Westport River Watershed Alliance
(Member Organizations have contributed \$0 < \$250 to support Mass Rivers in 2020)



2020 HIGHLIGHTS | JAN 1 - DEC 31



RIVERS AS REFUGE

In 2020, we radically altered our lifestyles to avoid catching and spreading a deadly virus, we experienced an unusually contentious election year, and our country confronted racial injustice. With access to sports stadiums, movie theaters, shopping malls, movies and restaurants severely limited or gone for most of the year, Massachusetts residents turned to nature for comfort, exercise, and inspiration. A small state, Massachusetts is rich in rivers, and in 2020 they brimmed with rowers, paddlers, boaters, and swimmers.

People in urban and rural areas, along the coast and inland, walked along the rivers, fished them, and marveled at their beauty and wildlife. As the only organization bringing together people and organizations from across the state and beyond of behalf of the Commonwealth's rivers, Mass Rivers plays a unique role in protecting and restoring these special places.

EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY

We did not let the pandemic slow us down when it came to fighting for the rivers. We successfully mobilized our member organizations and individual members to support the sewage overflow notification bill, and worked with colleagues in a successful bid to secure \$11.5M in new dollars for state environmental agencies to protect our rivers and streams. These dollars will go toward monitoring water quality, removing dams, replacing culverts, restoring cranberry bogs, and protecting streamflow.

CONNECTING OUR 80 MEMBER GROUPS

Early in the year, we created "Mass Rivers Connects" to connect our member groups virtually to share ideas for adjusting to our new mode of work. Executive Directors, fundraisers, board members, scientists, and educators each met monthly, offering advice and support, and creating new connections, with a total of over 200 participants. Highlights were a series on equity, diversity, and inclusion; and the state's response to drought.

PARTNERING TO PROTECT STREAMFLOW

In 2020, we introduced a new technical support program to help our member organizations better protect streamflow in their local rivers.

ART IN THE FLOW

We interviewed five artists working at the intersection of art and nature, and (virtually) experienced their work. A choreographer, a playwright, a muralist, a composer, and a singer/songwriter each shared their story with us in this inspiring free series.



2020 STAFF: Julia Blatt (*Executive Director*), Katharine Lange (*Policy Specialist*), Sarah Bower (*Technical Specialist*), Gretchen McClain (*Operations and Membership Manager*), and Gabby Queenan (*Policy Director*)

2020 INTERNS: Shea Brams, Jayce Cheldin, Will Hollinger, Greta Huang, Rachel Percy, and Horizon Starwood

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Mark P. Smith (*President*), Emily Scerbo (*Vice President*), Andrea Franz (*Treasurer*), Paul Beaulieu (*Clerk*), Anna Aguilera, Wayne Castonguay, Roger Colton, Ian Cooke, Mary Griffin, Nancy Hammett, Andrew Magee, Nagesh Mahanthappa, Deirdre Menoyo, Pam Resor, Heidi Ricci, and Eve Vogel

RESULTS & GROWTH

ACHIEVEMENTS



Led successful statewide effort to pass sewage notification bill

We grew! Added to two new staff to our virtual organization and debuted a technical assistance program.



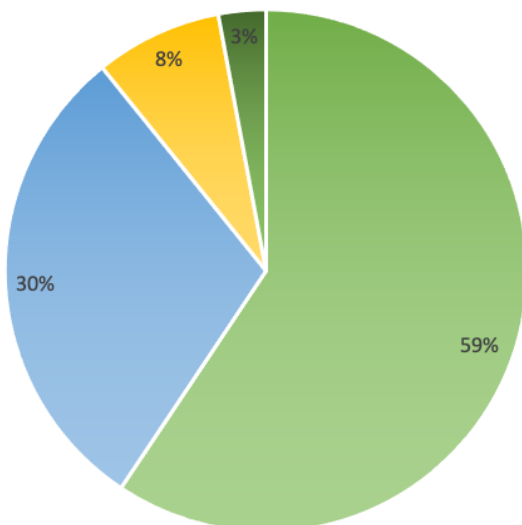
Increased state funding for rivers by \$11.5

Grew to 80 organizational members across MA, RI, and CT!

Connected over 200 staff and volunteers of member organizations with monthly “Mass Rivers Connects” virtual conversations

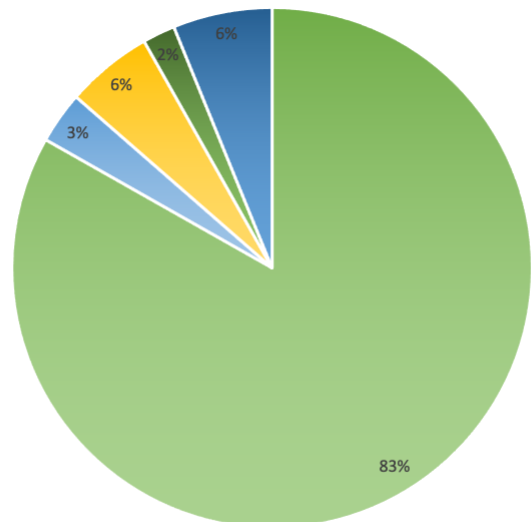
FINANCIALS

2020 REVENUES OF \$330,650



Individual Contributions Grants and PPP Loan
Organizational Member Dues Program Revenues

2020 EXPENSES \$215,000



Personal Program Operations
Tenancy Professional Services

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

\$10,000 +

Sue and Henry Bass**
Sarah Hancock*
Mark P. Smith and Elizabeth Brown**
Nagesh Mahanthappa and Valentine Talland*
Andrea Franz*
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*Stearns Charitable Trust**

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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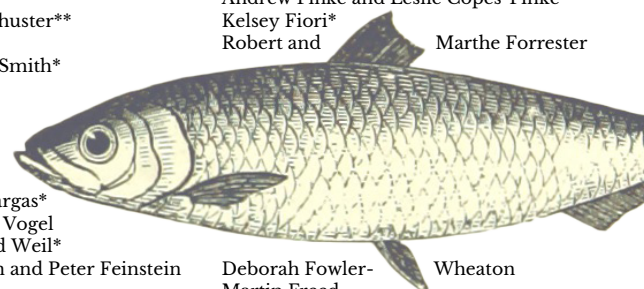
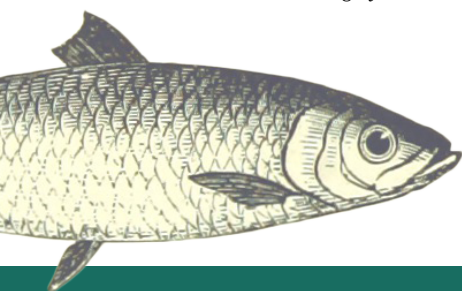
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