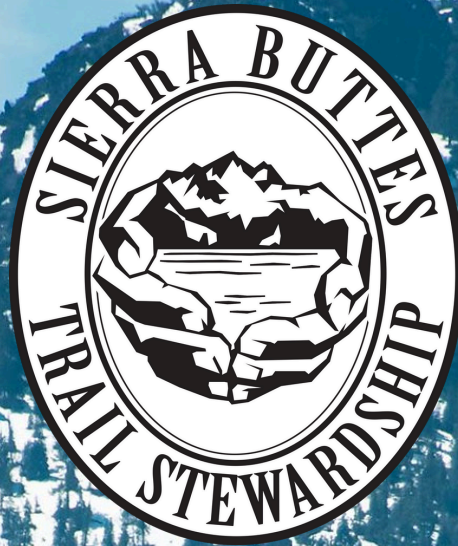

SIERRA BUTTES TRAIL STEWARDSHIP



2024
ANNUAL
REPORT

WWW.SIERRATRAILS.COM / [@SIERRATRAILS](https://www.instagram.com/SIERRATRAILS)

2024, IN REVIEW

In 2024, Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship (SBTS) achieved remarkable milestones in our mission to strengthen mountain communities using trails as the tool.

2024 marked many milestones for our organization—we officially surpassed the 200-mile mark of new trail built since SBTS formed as a nonprofit in 2003, and we expanded our trailbuilding footprint into western Nevada and south to Truckee for the first time. We published the Fire Hardened Trails prescription, a forward-thinking approach to trailbuilding that protects trails and communities from the increasing threat of high-intensity wildfires and promotes the resilience of the entire forest ecosystem. We launched a brand-new event, Mountains To Meadows, while the energy, stoke and participation remained high at our existing races. The organization's operating budget grew, which allowed us to further our mission to boost local employment and economies in the Lost Sierra.

Looking ahead to 2025, we're focused on strengthening our partnerships, which are the backbone of everything we do. We'll be collaborating with a number of key federal and state agencies, including the USFS Pacific Southwest Region 5, CAL FIRE, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, in partnerships that will be crucial in helping us implement Fire-Hardened Trails across California and beyond. We're also excited to deepen our relationships with tribal councils and local counties like Washoe, Plumas, and Lassen to ensure that our projects are built on a foundation of respect, cultural understanding, and shared stewardship. A big goal for next year in trail development is the completion of the Quincy-Taylorville singletrack on Mount Hough and the 13-mile Beckwourth Peak Trail, as we finally bring to life a vision that's been in the works since 2003. But trail development isn't just about the physical work; it's about **economic and community growth** too. By enhancing recreational tourism through world-class trails and events, we're creating opportunities for local businesses and attracting visitors to the Lost Sierra. We're also focused on workforce development—creating jobs and apprenticeships for youth and adults, while supporting the tribal councils with employment and contracting opportunities.

On the events side, the Lost & Found Gravel Festival joins the Gravel Earth Series, bringing new riders into the fold, and Mountains to Meadows will grow into a full-on Endurofest weekend, with the return of Grinduro to Quincy 10 years after it began, and the addition of a new MTB/eMTB enduro on Mt. Hough. And, of course, the legend that is the Downieville Classic will be back for its 27th year.

Through all of this, SBTS remains firmly dedicated to fostering a future where **shared stewardship**, **sustainable recreation**, and **economic growth** go hand in hand. It's through our collective efforts that we are shaping a lasting legacy of vibrant, resilient mountain communities.

-Greg Williams 🙌

2024 TRAIL STATS

311

MILES MAINTAINED

22

MILES BUILT

12

MILES FLAGGED

771

VOLUNTEERS

4,914

VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$174,742

VOLUNTEER MATCH

**ALL TIME
SINCE 2003**

2,869

MILES MAINTAINED

216

MILES BUILT

286

MILES FLAGGED

9,487

VOLUNTEERS

135,966

VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$4,108,467

VOLUNTEER MATCH

READ OUR FULL 2024 TRAILS REPORT ON OUR WEBSITE!
OR BY CLICKING THIS LINK!

YOUTH CREW



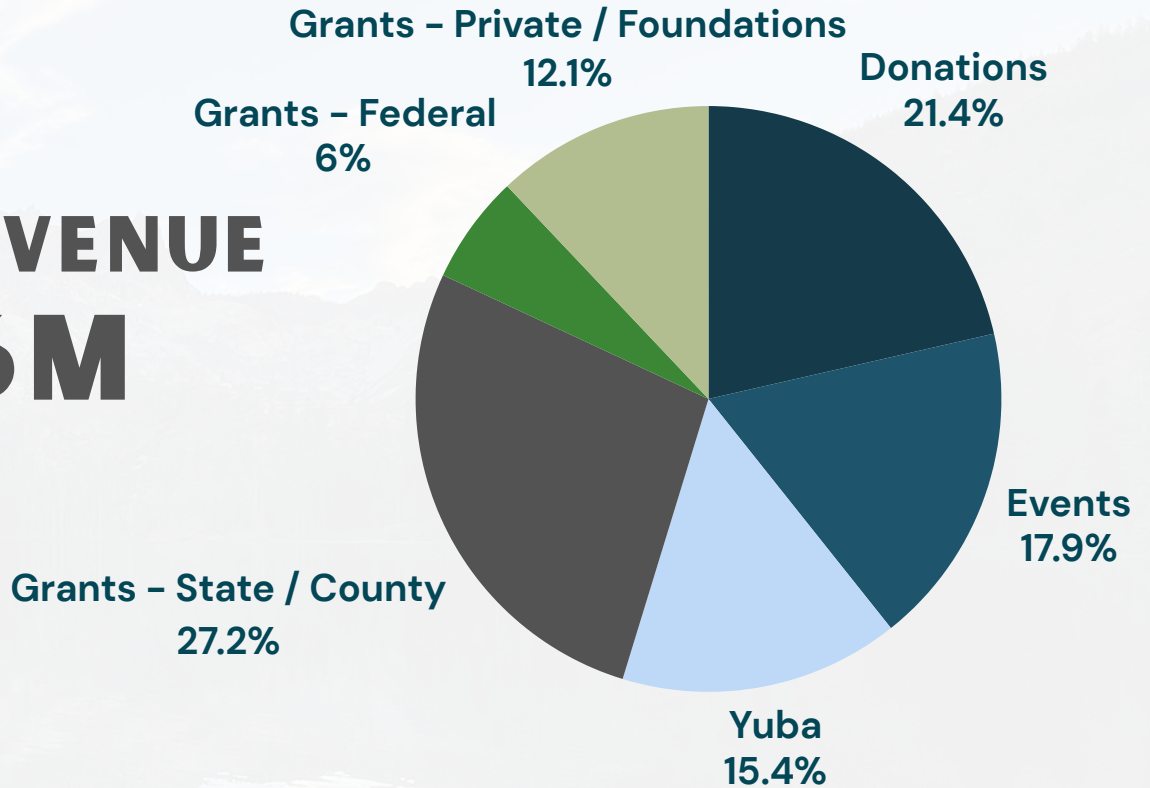
12 YOUTH EMPLOYED (AGES 14-17)
20.4 MILES OF TRAIL MAINTAINED
.5 MILES CONSTRUCTED

35 LOGS CLEARED
92 DRAINS CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED
[LEARN MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

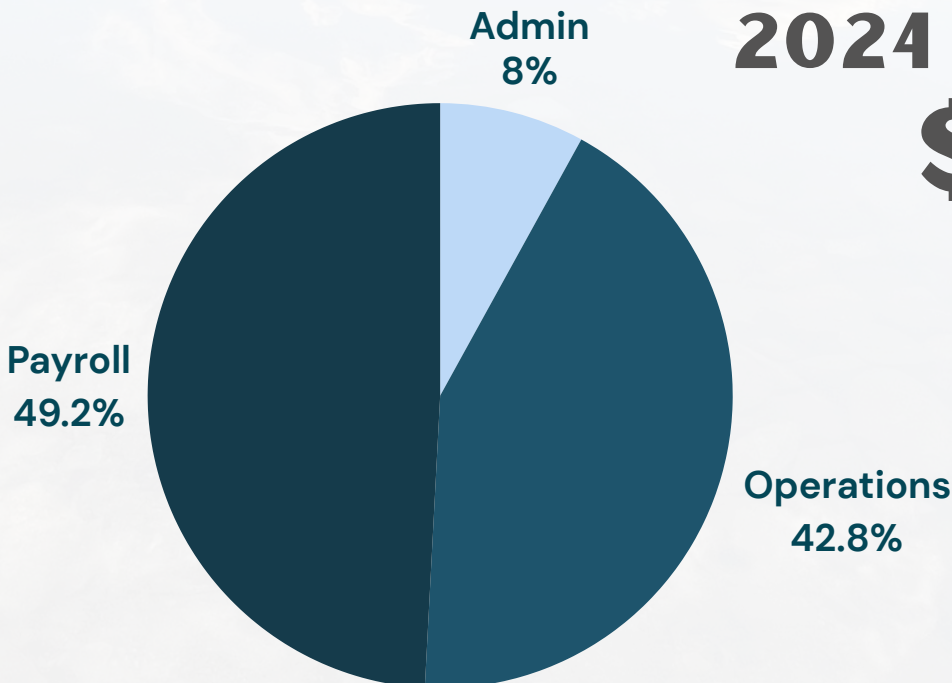
- **Week 1:** Our first group of 6 youth began the season by continuing new construction on Mt. Hough, Trail #6. This will eventually be the top of the Tollgate Trail.
- **Week 2:** The crew spent two days clearing downed trees and maintaining drainage in the Lakes Basin on Round Lake and Long Lake Trails, followed by two days completing full maintenance of Haskell Peak Trail.
- **Week 3:** More new construction on #6! The crew worked through a particularly rocky area this week, moving and smashing A LOT of rock to create some fantastic hand built Sierra singletrack.
- **Week 4:** A full week in the Lakes Basin! Getting away from the heat, the crew went up in altitude to finish maintenance on Long Lake Trail and brush an extensive part of Graeagle Creek Trail, making both trails more enjoyable for summer recreators.
- **Week 5:** Watch out, POISON OAK! It's everywhere on the North Yuba Trail, but nonetheless, the crew maintained over 4 miles of the N. Yuba Trail on the Downieville side. And yes, they successfully avoided the itch! This was the first group's camping week.
- **Week 6:** Hitch 2! The second group began their summer season on Gold Lake Trail & Granite Gap Trail in the Bucks Lake Wilderness... lots of rocks, check steps, and stairs to work on!
- **Week 7:** The crew continued on the #6 new construction, refining the work through the rocky area from Week 3 and continuing on around the backside of the mountain.
- **Week 8:** The crew continued working on the Gold Lake & Granite Gap Trails for two days, followed by turnpike construction on Chapman Creek Trail, trying to alleviate a consistently bogged area.
- **Week 9:** The last week of new construction on Mt. Hough #6. In total, the crew built 0.5 miles of new trail on #6, adding to the over half mile constructed in 2023! So far the 1+ mile has all been constructed by the Youth Crew.
- **Week 10:** Hitch 2 Camping Week, back on the North Yuba Trail! The crew finished maintenance on the Downieville to Goodyears Bar section, including repairing a bridge (and hauling in two 16 foot 4x6 beams to do so!). Thank you to Truckee Tahoe Lumber for the lumber donation!

BUDGET OVERVIEW

2024 REVENUE
\$3.46M



2024 EXPENSES
\$3.42M



IMPACT STATEMENT

OUR MISSION: STRENGTHENING MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES, USING TRAILS AS THE TOOL

SBTS is proud of the economic impact we make throughout the Lost Sierra every year, not only by creating and maintaining world class trails, but by paying salaries to local employees, patronizing local businesses for supplies, catering and lodging needs and contributions from Yuba Expeditions. SBTS' mission is to strengthen rural communities through trails, and in 2024 we contributed more than \$3.2 million to local economies as part of that effort.

2024 LOST SIERRA ECONOMIC IMPACT:

SBTS - TRAILWORK, SALARIES, OPERATIONS
LOCAL SALARIES: \$1,258,419.00

LOCAL BUSINESS SPENDING: \$106,662.00

VOLUNTEER MATCH: \$174,741.00

YUBA EXPEDITIONS - BIKE & SHUTTLE SERVICE
BIKE SHOP REVENUE
(SALES, LABOR, SHUTTLES, RENTALS) : \$442,167.00

ESTIMATED TOURISM IMPACT
(SHUTTLE RIDERS LOCAL SPENDING) : 171,660.00

BIKE RACES -
LOCAL SALARIES, LOCAL BUSINESS SPENDING: \$235,765.00

ESTIMATED TOURISM IMPACT (POST RIDER SURVEY):
\$890,000.00

DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT TO THE LOST SIERRA:

\$3,279,414

EVENTS

LOST & FOUND Presented by **cervélo**
GRAVEL FESTIVAL

RACERS: 964

June 13 & 14, 2024

VOLUNTEERS: 100

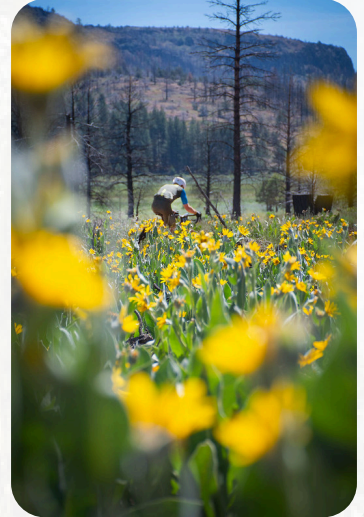
34, 60, 100 mile courses

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 680

up to 7688 feet of elevation gain

ESTIMATED LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

TO PORTOLA, CA (POST RIDER SURVEY): \$430,000



DOWNIEVILLE
ESTD **CLASSIC** 1995

PRESENTED BY
SANTA CRUZ

RACERS: 900

July 11 - 14, 2024

VOLUNTEERS: 135

Cross Country - 26.5 miles

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 1171

Downhill - 15 miles

ESTIMATED LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

TO DOWNIEVILLE, CA

(POST RIDER SURVEY): \$460,000



MOUNTAINS
TO
MEADOWS

VOLUNTEERS: 107

September 19-22, 2024

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 662

A Festival Celebrating Trails



A REFLECTION ON 2024

2024: A Year of Growth, Collaboration and Impact.

Last year, SBTS trail crews constructed 22 miles of new trail and maintained 311 miles across the region.

Our projects expanded into Truckee and Nevada, further connecting new communities to our growing network. Additionally, our collaboration with Nevada's Washoe Tribe deepened, as we trained new Cultural Monitors to help ensure current and future trail development is culturally respectful. Major trail projects in 2024 included rehabilitation of the Pacific Crest Trail above Sierra City, building and maintenance on the Verdi Ridge Trail north of Truckee and continued work on the Mount Hough Phase II development project in Quincy and the Beckwourth Peak Trail in Portola. Close to home in Quincy, we transformed a neglected lot into a vibrant new non-motorized transportation hub in the heart of town and in Greenville, we began work on a trail network that will connect the town to surrounding public lands as part of a larger forest restoration effort following the Dixie Fire.

Mirroring our outward growth, inwardly we expanded our team in 2024, adding staff to handle grant management, GIS and NEPA tasks, as well as seasonal trail crew. We also created apprenticeships and seasonal jobs for local youth, providing valuable experience in recreation, conservation and land management.

We took the show on the road for outreach and fundraising in 2024. Our Trails Tour engaged 15 communities throughout the Lost Sierra, gathering feedback on future trails, and sparking valuable community and stakeholder conversations. We also partnered with Patagonia and filmmakers Ken Etzel and Gordon Klco to produce "Fire Lines," a film highlighting SBTS' vision to leverage trails for climate and economic solutions and wildfire access and prevention, while honoring the region's Indigenous stewardship heritage.

Perhaps above all, SBTS is known for hosting good times with good people, and in 2024 we put on several events that showcased the spirit of the Lost Sierra, while also boosting local economies, which is a pivotal part of the SBTS mission. The Lost & Found Gravel Festival attracted 1,000 riders to race on three wildflower-dotted, high Sierra routes, solidifying its reputation as the region's most beautiful gravel race. For the 26th running of the Downieville Classic, we brought back the legendary river jump and hosted the Cross-Country race and All-Mountain World Championships, drawing over 3,000 attendees to one of the toughest races in the nation. In Quincy, we launched Mountains to Meadows, a new three-day festival, with volunteer work, mountain adventures, camping and live music based at the Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds. In 2025, this event will become Mountains to Meadows Endurofest, featuring Grinduro and a brand-new MTB enduro race. At all of our events, we prioritize patronizing, supporting and promoting local businesses and strive to hire local vendors.

**THANK YOU
TO OUR DONORS,
PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS &
VOLUNTEERS**

**WE COULDN'T DO THIS
WITHOUT YOU!**

