

CURRENTS & COMMUNITIES



SPRING 2022

OUR MISSION

We promote and steward our water trail and support communities, waterways and paddling across the Northern Forest.

OUR VISION

An unrivaled network of paddling opportunities across the Northern Forest will inspire ongoing experiences and stories, enticing people to fall in love with the region. Their passion and commitment will contribute to the health of our communities, landscapes and waterways.

OUR BOARD

Anne Brewer, Chair
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Paul Egbert, Treasurer
Paul Heintz, Secretary
Dan Brown
Brandon Devito
Nicole Grohoski
Thomas Hark
Kristine Keeney
Zand Martin
Tom Mullin
Eric Plaskonos
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Lindsay Turner
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OUR STAFF

Karrie Thomas, Executive Director
Noah Pollock, Stewardship Director
Chris Morris, Communications Director
Marthe Peterson, Office Manager

CONNECT WITH US

On the web: northernforestcanoetrail.org
On Facebook: @paddlenfct
On Instagram: @northernforestcanoetrail
On Twitter: @nfct
Phone: (802) 496-2285

The wait is almost over.

As our latest newsletter hits your mailboxes (and inboxes), the snowpack across the Northeast is melting away, replenishing the waterways of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. With spring comes the onset of our stewardship season and paddling events and programming. We're pleased to commence a new year with fewer COVID-related restrictions, which means more opportunity to connect with the paddling community.

As interest in paddling and outdoor recreation reaches new heights, the variety and frequency of our activities has also reached an all-time high. In addition to our traditional activities — the Missisquoi Paddle-Pedal and Waterway Work Trips — we also enter year two of running four races in the Adirondacks: 'Round the Mountain, Celebrate Paddling Invitational, the 90-Miler and Long Lake Long Boat Regatta. We've also teamed with Danny Mongno of NRS to co-present the Adirondack Paddling Symposium, and now offer an ongoing Virtual Speakers Series. Read on for more info on these events and much more.

We can't do this without the support of our many generous donors and business partners. We also can't do it without a dedicated staff and inspired board, and we thank outgoing board member and former chair Don Hudson for his tireless work on behalf of the NFCT. We're also excited to welcome some new faces: Brandon Devito, board, and Jordanna Mallach, Adirondack race coordinator. You can find out more about Brandon and Jordanna later on in this newsletter.

Let's all raise our paddles to another wonderful paddling season — see you on the water!

— Karrie Thomas, Executive Director

Stewardship is the heart and soul of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail.

Maintaining safe access to the 740 miles of waterways and portages that connect Old Forge, New York to Fort Kent, Maine is no easy task. In 2021, a record number of volunteers joined us to complete projects across the Northern Forest region — volunteers who are absolutely critical to our success. This year our stewardship crew is leading seven Waterway Work Trips that provide outdoor enthusiasts with an opportunity to complete meaningful work along the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. Two trips — Saranac River Union Falls Campsite and Moosehead Lake West Shore Campsites — are full, but spots are still available for several trips:



June 24-26, Lake Champlain's Valcour Island Campsites, NY: Help complete critical maintenance at a series of campsites on Valcour Island, one of the most scenic and historic islands in the lake. We will be paddling to the island as a group and setting up camp for the weekend.

July 8-10, Nulhegan River Headwaters Campsite, VT: Stay at the cozy Nulhegan Confluence Hut while building a new campsite along the wild and meandering headwaters of the Nulhegan River. This is a great project for those who enjoy carpentry!

July 15-17, Brownway Access and Missisquoi Paddle-Pedal, VT: Help behind the scenes at our annual Missisquoi Paddle Pedal. Then, help install a set of stone steps and a boat slide at the Brownway Access in Enosburg. We will be camping at the Brownway campsite, a peaceful gem nestled in a restored floodplain forest, where bird life abounds. Day volunteers are also welcome.

July 22-24, Colebrook CT River Access, NH: Camp at Lyman Falls, one of the nicest sites along the Upper Connecticut River, and help install a new bridge at a popular river access on the Upper Connecticut River in Colebrook, NH. We'll be sure to leave time to paddle along the river's upper reaches, home to trophy trout and mountain vistas.

July 29-31, Long Pond Campsites, ME: Paddle across this beautiful lake to the Narrows, where you'll help upgrade two campsites with tent pads, tables and moldering privies along this scenic and historic waterway east of Jackman.

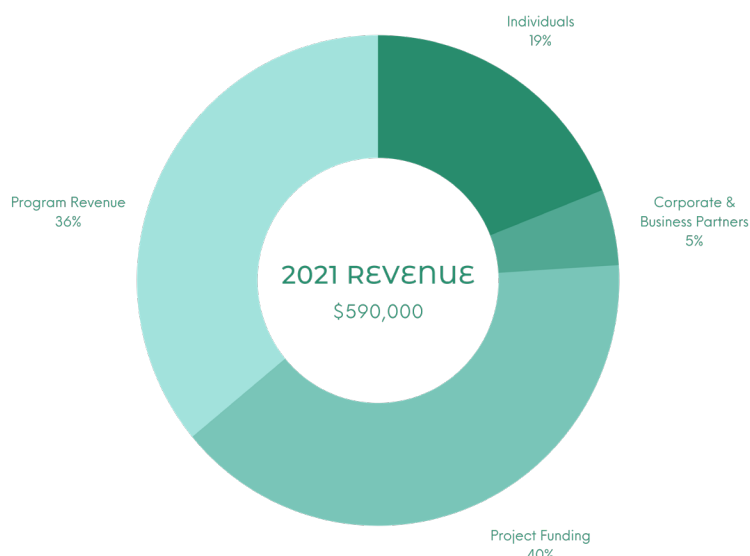
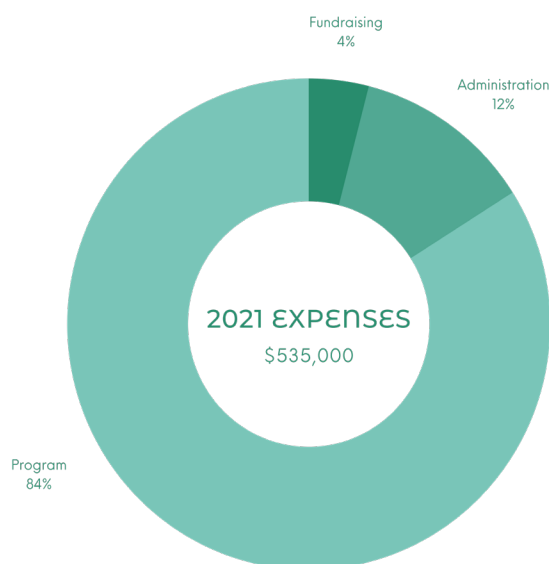
To learn more, visit bit.ly/wwt2022
or contact Noah Pollock:
noah@northernforestcanoetrail.org.

World Tour Paddling Film Fest

This year's virtual film festival offers viewers six different film categories: lakes, rivers, oceans, adventure, adrenaline and culture. Proceeds benefit NFCT stewardship and programming.

To purchase tickets in support of the NFCT, visit bit.ly/nfctfilms. For more information, email chris@northernforestcanoetrail.org.

2021 BY THE NUMBERS: REVENUE, EXPENSES & FUNDERS



Project Funders

Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation
Adirondack Foundation
Adirondack Frontier
Betterment Fund
Davis Conservation Foundation
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Ecopelagicon

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Raquette River Outfitters
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Water's Edge Inn

Class III (\$250-\$499)

Adirondack Health
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Northwoods Outfitters
Placid Waters Kayaking
New York Paddlesports Racing Association
Raquette River Brewing
Saranac Lake Chamber of Commerce
St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center
Stewart's Shops
The Wild Center

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Class II (\$100-\$249)

Floodwood Mountain Reservation
Jamieson Insurance
Northern Door Inn
Paddle Boston
Souvenir Village
Shaheen's Adirondack Inn
Shamrock Motel & Cottages
Town of Inlet
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Winona Camps

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Paul Nolan
Adam Pearsall
Cornelis Rijnbrand
Alan Stearns & Austin Brown
Ethan and Anne Winter
Brad and Sue Wyman

2021 Thru-Paddlers

The NFCT congratulates the following individuals who successfully thru-paddled the canoe trail last year:

Dan Brown
Michelle Brown
Katina Daanen
Clayton Francis
John Klopfer
David Morganwalp
Kelsy Morganwalp
Ethan Schwartz

If you would like to be recognized for your accomplishment as an NFCT Thru-Paddler or Section-Paddler, the recognition forms can be found at northernforestcanoeatrail.org.

"We're gonna win this thing!"

If you're a paddler in the Adirondacks, chances are you've heard those words emanate joyfully from the mouth of Brandon Devito. The NFCT certainly came out as winners this year as Brandon joined our Board of Directors. Longtime racer, purveyor of the finest craft beers and all-around great human, we're grateful to have his knowledge and enthusiasm on our Board ... welcome, Brandon!



GETTING KIDS OUT ON THE WATER

Every year, the NFCT works with guides and organizations from New York to Maine to offer overnight paddling experiences for kids age 9-15. These trips are geared toward those who don't usually get the opportunity to spend time in the outdoors.

This year, our partners in New York, Vermont and New Hampshire are offering incredible experiences. With support from NFCT donors and partners, we're able to offer scholarships to families to make sure cost isn't a barrier to participation. Learn more: bit.ly/northernforestexplorers



NFCT WELCOMES NEW ADK RACE COORDINATOR



Jordanna Mallach has joined the NFCT's staff as Adirondack Race Coordinator.

Jordanna, who lives in Saranac Lake, NY with her husband and daughter, will work with our team to manage logistics for the four races the NFCT took over from the Adirondack Watershed Alliance: the 'Round the Mountain, Celebrate Paddling Invitational, the 90-Miler and Long Lake Long Boat Regatta.

"Paddling is a great way for anyone of all ability levels and ages to enjoy the outdoors," Jordanna says. "I am excited to get more people out on the water and experiencing this great place I get to call home"

Jordanna moved to New York's North Country in 2006. She has served in the National Guard for nearly 20 years, and is currently town supervisor for Harrietstown, which encompasses part of Saranac Lake.

We're offering two raffles in 2022.

Through May 16, tickets are on sale for a chance to win a Kokatat Legacy Drysuit (pictured right). Tickets are one for \$5 or five for \$20. This drysuit is a perfect addition to your cold water paddling gear. Learn more and buy tickets at bit.ly/kokatatraffle.

This summer, we'll be raffling a Trillium Pack Boat from our partners at Northstar Canoes. This raffle will run from June 1 to Aug. 15; check our website starting in June for more information and to get your tickets! If you have questions, email marthe@northernforestcanoetrail.org.



The Adirondack Paddling Symposium is back.

We've teamed up with Danny Mongno of NRS to co-present the Adirondack Paddling Symposium, a comprehensive weekend of paddling instruction offering beginner and intermediate course tracks for kayaks, pack boats, SUPs and canoes.

This year's Symposium will be held June 17-20 in Saranac Lake, part of Celebrate Paddling month in the Adirondacks.

The Symposium's goal is to build skills so that paddlers can maximize the fun and enjoyment of getting out on the water. Instructors focus on beginners and intermediates to help them understand how the body and boat work together.

The symposium is \$300 for the weekend and includes all classes, some meals, evening programs, morning yoga sessions and socials. There is also an optional Monday tour. To learn more, visit adirondackpaddlingsymposium.com.

N F C T E V E N T S

'Round the Mountain

May 14, Saranac Lake, NY

Adirondack Paddling Symposium

June 17-20, Saranac Lake, NY

Celebrate Paddling Invitational

June 26, Saranac Lake, NY

Missisquoi Paddle-Pedal

July 16, Richford, Vt.

Adirondack Canoe Classic

Sept. 9-11, Adirondacks, NY

Long Lake Long Boat Regatta

Sept. 24, Long Lake, NY

For more information on events, visit bit.ly/nfctevents.





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Waitsfield, VT 05673



FAROUT, NFCT TEAM UP FOR NEW APP

The NFCT, in partnership with FarOut Guides, has launched a new trail app just in time for the beginning of paddling season.



The new GPS-enabled guide features over 1,400 waypoints, site photos and several base maps, which work online and can be downloaded for offline, out-of-service use.

The new app is available for purchase as a guide for the entire 740-mile canoe trail, or for individual sections. To purchase the app, users can download the FarOut Guides app on their smartphone and search for the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, or visit bit.ly/faroutnfct. NFCT members receive 20 percent off their purchase price; to claim a coupon code, email marthe@northernforestcanoetrail.org prior to placing an order.