



2021 WASHINGTON STATE ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM ANNUAL REPORT



Aligning to our Vision

2021 marked a number of highs for WASART. Along with record setting temperatures this summer, we also recorded our highest membership rates to date. While we continued to navigate evolving COVID guidelines, our members worked hard behind the scenes strengthening the foundations of our organization.

This year WASART made some exciting new technological advancements. We procured four inReach devices to enable satellite communication during backcountry rescues, and invested in an inventory management program to track gear use and expirations to ensure safer and more prepared deployments.

WASART has continued to grow and mature in areas outside of our record setting membership rates. It is with much pride that I get to report on the first official training for the Technical Water Rescue Team. WASART also celebrated becoming a partner of the King County Office of Emergency Management. We look forward to strengthening our relationships around the community as COVID restrictions continue to relax.

At the end of June, you may have noticed WASART on the local news while reporting on a pet cooling shelter at the Enumclaw Expo Center. Complete with power, water, and air-conditioned tents lent by King County Search and Rescue, WASART supported forty-four animals in need of critical refuge from the rising temperatures. Recognizing this as a likely recurring event, WASART is poised to lend guidance and lessons learned across the state in the years to come.

In November, we put on our second online fundraiser, hosted by Live Oak Studios. The fundraiser followed a narrative format that showed the different stages of a rescue and explained the associated expenses. This integrative educational approach has been adapted to increase our visibility and community outreach at trailheads during deployments and trainings. Come say hello when you see us on your next hike!

Looking ahead to next year in hopes of bringing everyone safely back together again.

In gratitude,
Josette Holden, President

WASART's vision:
To be the premier animal
disaster response
organization throughout
the Northwest.

Vision

- Recognized as a model for other animal response organizations
- Member of the Governor's Readiness Council
- State accreditation and recognition





RESPECT

CREDIBILITY

HONESTY

ACCESSIBILITY

ETHICS

Values

Mission Statement

Helping Animals and Their Owners in Emergencies

Integrity

We do what we say we can do. Above reproach as well as morally and legally responsible for our actions and decisions.

Education

Developing and sharing knowledge and technical expertise. Utilizing skills and available resources to inform and train members and the broader community.

Professionalism

Excellence in reputation and delivery.

Teamwork

Collaborative skills, experience and training, and willingness to work with each other and other organizations. This allows us to expand our capabilities. Respectful collaboration to efficiently achieve our goals.

Volunteerism

Personal commitment to participate; to participate to the level we can. We are committed and we believe in our Higher Purpose.

2021 at a Glance



17

Deployments



162

Members



35,834

Miles Traveled

5,365



Volunteer Hours

520

Professional Hours

\$181,070

Volunteer Value*

\$92,213

Professional Value**



*Value of non-professional volunteers' hours (at WA rate of \$33.75/hr. 2020 rates, most recent available. Source: independentsector.org)

**In-kind value of hours donated by professional volunteers, donating their skill and time in their professional capacities. Rates are reported by the individual.



Board of Directors



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public-info@wasart.org

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Advising Specialist

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Advising Specialist

Balance

Assets & Liabilities	2020	2021
Total Assets	\$226,606	\$244,201
Total Liabilities	\$0	\$0
Net Assets	\$226,606	\$244,201

Income



Fundraising and Income	Amount	Percent
Contributions, gifts, and grants	\$83,253	83%
Program services revenue	\$3,520	4%
Investment income	\$60	<1%
Promotions & merchandise	\$576	<1%
Sale of an asset	\$12,500	13%
Total	\$99,909	100%

Expenses



Summary of Expenses	Amount	Percent
Program service expenses	\$72,891	89%
Management & general expenses	\$7,629	9%
Fundraising expenses	\$1,773	2%
Total	\$82,293	100%

Working in Collaboration

Outreach for 2021 continued to be limited due to the pandemic. We adapted by going online and creating partnerships. We teamed up with #recreateresponsibly, REI, the Washington Trails Association and King County Search Dogs to provide a free online webinar entitled *Hiking With Dogs*. We discussed essential items to take when hiking with dogs and some steps to prevent dog injuries, as well as answering questions.

In the fall of 2021, we gave a presentation to the Washington Association for Animal Control Officers where we discussed disasters and the lessons learned from emergency animal sheltering.

A core part of our mission is to provide the public with helpful information regarding the safety of their animals as well as helping them prepare for disasters. We look forward to more opportunities for community outreach in 2022.

Hiking with Dogs

wasart.org/recreateresponsibly



**Washington State Animal Response Team • King County Search Dogs
Washington Trails Association • REI • #recreateresponsibly**



Following Evolving Guidelines

As the Covid pandemic continued through 2021, we followed current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Washington State Department of Health, and Office for Emergency Management guidelines for vaccination, masking, and social distancing. We wore masks and were vaccinated, when the vaccine became available, to keep both our team members and animal owners safe. We carried extra personal protection equipment during deployments. As our light system and heavy system trainings are held outdoors, mask requirements were in accordance to current mandates.





Education

Moving Forward

We place a high value on training and education for our volunteer members to prepare them for responding to animal emergency situations. In 2021, we were able to resume in-person training events. We held our Transport Training where attendees learned how to drive our transport trucks and trailer, as well as the box van. Members of the Technical Rescue Team participated in Rigging for Rescue, a 5-day intensive training to learn advanced techniques used in rescue rigging for both large and small animal systems. We also had two Base and Operations Support Trainings, the class needed to deploy with WASART, and increased our number of eligible responders. In the fall, we held our Annual Exercise, a WASART-wide training where we come together and practice skills that we have been learning all year. For 2021, our Annual Exercise focused on emergency animal sheltering.





Swiftwater Preparedness

After a delay due to the Covid pandemic in 2020, our new Technical Water Rescue Team began officially training in 2021. The team practiced at various water locations throughout Washington, learning and honing skills needed to be safe and effective in swiftwater rescue. With the addition of our new swiftwater team, our capability to respond and deploy to help animals and their owners is expanding throughout the state.





WASART

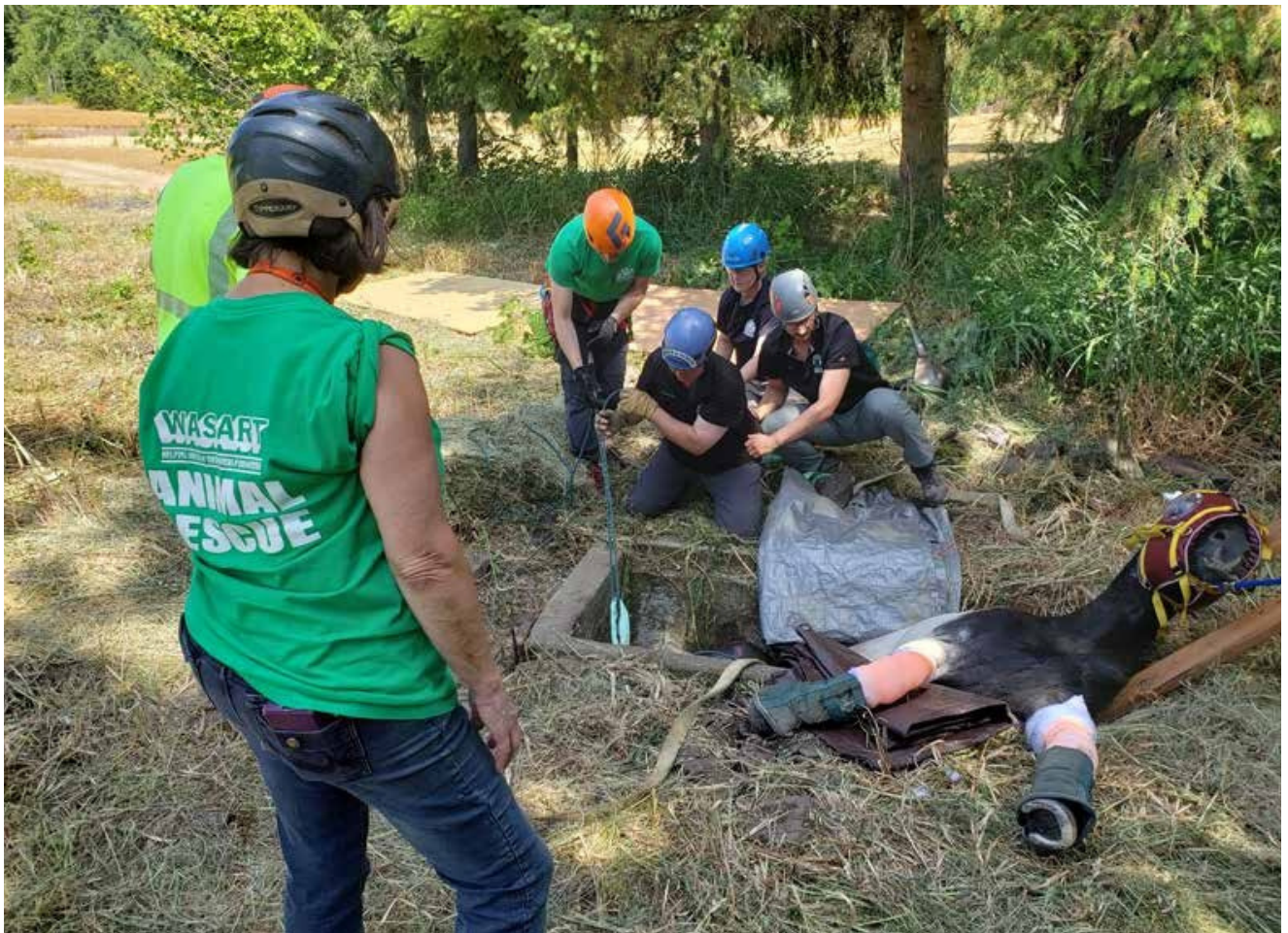
WASART

WASART

Columbia

NRS

WASART #1



Jammer

We received a call about a horse named Jammer that was wedged butt first down an empty concrete well and could not self-rescue. He had been there for several hours.

Jammer was first found with his rear feet stuck in the grates of an overflow drain of a retention pond by a Pierce County maintenance worker. The pond and drain were currently dry. The overflow drain was approximately 3' x 6' rectangular concrete with metal framing about 3-4 feet deep. As Jammer struggled to free himself, the grates dislodged and he fell in rear first. The maintenance worker requested help from the nearby stables and they were able to free the grates from the rear feet. The owner arrived shortly on the scene, quickly followed by the veterinarian. As Jammer attempted to self-rescue, he ended up on his back.

The initial responders were able to work a couple of 2' x 6' boards under his

shoulders to help raise and support his head. The horse was tranquilized and the legs were wrapped to protect them from the metal and concrete edges.

We arrived on scene, assessed the situation, and began working through some options of ways to extract Jammer from the well. The best option seemed to be to set up a bipod, lift the horse straight up by his feet, then rotate to a bed of hay laid out in the grass. The Pierce County workers offered the use of their excavator for the lift which eliminated the need to set up a bipod and haul team.

The veterinarian was concerned about the length of time Jammer needed to be tranquilized, as each dose became less effective with application. The plan was to tranquilize him for the lift, which would give responders about 10-15 minutes to lift him out before he started to wake up.

We grabbed our equipment from the WASART truck and trailer.

Hobbles, slip sheets, and tarps were set up on and around Jammer. The quick release bar was set up on the excavator and the excavator was set into position before the final tranquilizer was administered. The Pierce County worker on the excavator did a slow and smooth lift, and then set Jammer gently down and let him roll onto his side.

All teams stayed and waited for Jammer to wake up to make sure he could make it to his feet. During this time, the veterinarian, veterinarian technician, and owner stitched up a cut and attended to other cuts and abrasions. Most of the injuries seemed superficial.

After about an hour, Jammer woke up and several minutes later he tried to get up. He was able to stand up on the second try. After giving him a few minutes to stand, he was encouraged to walk a few steps which he did. We then walked him the 1/4 mile back to the stable along with the veterinarian and owner.

We packed up our equipment, debriefed, and headed out of the field.

We are glad to have been able to help Jammer successfully extricate from the concrete well and walk unaided back to the barn.







Cooling Shelters

The summer of 2021 saw unprecedented heat in Washington. We had the opportunity to assist the public in caring for their animals by providing emergency pet cooling shelters on two separate occasions.

Working in cooperation with King County Search and Rescue Association (KCSARA), King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), King County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM), and the Enumclaw Expo Center, WASART set up, operated, and maintained an air-conditioned emergency animal shelter in Enumclaw, WA on June 28th and 29th when temperatures reached over 100 degrees. This was accomplished by using air-conditioned tents lent by KCSARA, staffing the 2-day sheltering event, and caring for the animals during their stay. We successfully housed over 40 animals during the June heat event.

WASART was called on a second time in 2021 by KCOEM to set up and operate a pet cooling shelter in response to anticipated extreme heat on August 12th and 13th. Seattle Humane, one of King County Search and Rescue Association's partners, agreed to host the pet cooling shelter for cats, dogs, and small domestic animals. WASART staffed and ran the cooling shelter in a section of Seattle Humane that was air-conditioned and separate from the area where their animals are medically treated or up for adoption. In total, 12 animals were successfully housed for the 2-day emergency sheltering event.

As the possibility of extreme heat and wildfire events continues to be a concern every year, WASART strives to meet the need for emergency animal sheltering when called upon as well as share our knowledge with other emergency response organizations.



In Honor Of

Debbie Meyer — Marquardt,
Linda

Christina Hovind — Carroll,
George

Margaret Schwecke — Snyder,
Kevan

Leo — Taylor, Linda

Kelly Thomas — Rose, Miriam

Kelly Thomas — Beckelman,
Linda

WASART and the Bruns Family
— Bruns, Edith

In Memory Of

Jazz Steinkerchner — Dugaw,
Tim

Jazz Steinkerchner — Marinac,
Anthony

Jazz Steinkerchner — Rodschat,
Carla Susan

Peach Pooh Bear — Beauchamp,
Steven

Jane Brown and Barry Rhodes
— Gregory, Janet

Fritzi Lou — Reed, Denise

Annabelle Meeks — Davidson,
Jeanette

Angel Boy — DiMaio, Leslie

Smoky — Stewart, Susan

Thoroughbred

Jasper Family Giving

Holstein

Live Oak Audio Visual
Potter, Rebecca

Alpaca

Anderson, Leanna
Coons, Debbie
Davison, Lynne
Edwards, Connie
KLeo Foundation
Microsoft
Millar, Jane
Moss, Sandra
Newell, Trisha
Smartpak Equine

Labrador

Anonymous (multiple)
Benedetto Family
Bukes, Holly
Citrone, Steve
Crawford, Bruce
Gately, Teresa
Lyne, Jennifer
Northwest Trek, Tacoma Parks
Maurer, Linda & R.W.
Notenboom, Leo
Olszewski, Julia
Palmroth, Karen & Phil
Parker, William, DDS
Sunde, Marian
Ruth's Dog Walking,
Pedersen, Marcia

Merino

Bell Vernon Kennel Association
Cornwell, Jessie
Cottle, Kenneth L, DDS

Did we get it wrong?

We value your contribution and it's our goal to make sure everyone is correctly represented. If we missed your name or misspelled it, please let us know at fundraising@wasart.org and we'll issue a revision.

Dahl, Jeff, DVM
Daugaard, Lisa, JD
Daugaard, William, PE
Gilbert, Ross
Grateful Pine Farm
Hogan, Abby
Marquardt, Linda
Michell, Shawndra
Mulholland, Diane
Roeben, Gregory, MD
Shirron, Jason
Trull, David
Pettengill, Katherine
Sonker, Jennifer
Wigley, D.D.

Manx

Aber, William
Adams, Barbara
Ahern, Zanna
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Barrett, Jo Ann
Baxter International Foundation
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Bourton, Lynn
Bristol, Sheela
Brown, David
Brown, Joel
Bruns, Edith
Bryan, Pete
Burke, Monica Cheryl
Carlyle, Beth
Carousel Mobile Veterinary
 Services

Champion, Catherine
Claypool, Cindy
Cochran Jensen, Sharon, DVM
Cottle, Brent
Cramer, Ben
Craven, Myca
Cybergrants-CAFA
Dancing Fish Winery
David, Jane
Delpilar, Dante
deWilde-Petersen, Linda
DiMaio, Leslie
Dorrah, Ilse
Dorsey, Crystal
Drost, Penny
Dyen, Michael
Eaves, Dan & Megan
Eaves, Pia
England, Juli
Erckmann, Lynn
Erckmann, W. James
Estrada, Christine
Fawcett, Shaley
Ferguson, Katrina
Fiala, Mary
Firth, Julie
Gagnon, Carrie Lee
Gallion, Harry & Martha
George, Melissa
Gerdes, Cynthia & Johnson,
 Bruce
Goodwin, Bradford & Sunde,
 Minde
Greene, Shana
Hall, Jr., Francis
Hannus, Robert & Suzzane
Hawks Prairie Veterinary
 Hospital
Healy, Doreen & Don
Helzer, Lorelie
Henry, Joanne
Hewlett Packard Enterprise
 Foundation
Hoel, Holly
Hollinger, Chris
Hovind, Christina
Howard, Christopher

Hurley, Karen
Irle, Christopher
Jackson, Blunt
Johnson, Diane
Kammenga, Kathy
Kelly, Michelle
Kelly, Stacey
Kerr, Sandy
Kinney, Maurice
Klupenger, Lisa
Koza, Teresa
Kremer, K.M.
Kroger
Lacey-Baker, Sandra
Larsen, Mark
Lewis, Kathryn E.
Loew, Carolyn
Lollis, Kathleen
Lontine, Karry
Lopez, Luz
Lui, Barbara
Lunnum, Margaret
Mansfield, June & Guy
Matthews, Sarah
Maxwell, Marian
McDowell, Maggie
McKoon, Chris
McLain, Nick, PhD
McMullen, Mike
Metro Dogs Seattle
Meyer, Deborah
Milne, Bruce & Rebecka
Mirhoseini-Kelleher, Krista
Montz, Jessica
Moore, Gwendolyn
Mozeika, Nanette
Mullen, Betsey
Murthy, Shashank
Musser, Brian
Oda, Deborah
Okamoto, Niko
Orban, Bonita & Bickley, Robert
Ormsby, Anna
Paris, Tamara
Parman, Hannah
Paton, Heather
Peterson, Dave



Pierce, Janah
Pierce-Magdalik, Erin
Pinkers, Diane, DVM
Powers, Carol
Powers, Daniel
Pozega, Nancy
Prater-Harrelson, Beverly
Rabah, Safouen
Ramirez, Rachel
Ramsey, Scott
Rawlings, Holly
Riggins, Lisa
Rosen, Joshua
Rudd, Sandra
Russell Investments
Russell, Ann
Schmeits, Angela
Schwecke, Margaret
Scocca, Jane
Seattle Water Tours
Sebelsky, Patricia & Scott
Serrill, Douglas & Debbie
Serrill, Justin
Shipman, Julie
Simmons, Keith
Skalina, Rachel
Slayden, Greg & Hendershott,
Tracy



Smith, Alyxandria
Smith, Lisa
Spoiled Dog Winery
Spring, Marilyn
Stenslie, Stacy
Stephan, Elizabeth
Stewart, Susan
Stock, Laura
Stodgel, Dana
Sugar Mountain
Swift, Jennifer
Taylor, Linda
Tegeler, Kate
Thomas, Kelly
Tibbetts, Teri
Ton, Hai
Towery, Jane
van Caspel, Pim
Vandermay, Lisa
Ver, Daniel

Vifian, Nicole
Vogel, William (Bill)
Walkush, DVM, Jamie
Wannamaker, Joy & Ouder Kirk,
John
Weiner, Steve
Wilkinson, Cathy, MD
Wirsch, Sue
Wyatt, Jennifer
Young, Renee

