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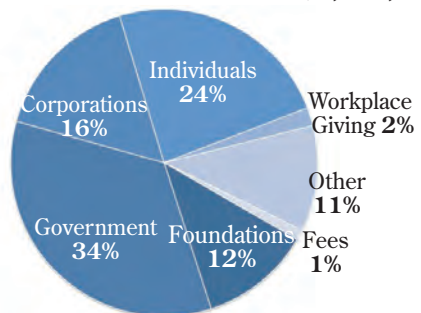
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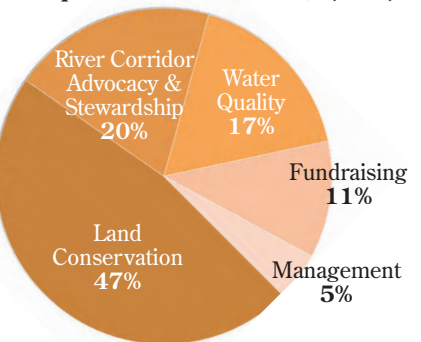
Revenue

Foundations	191,998
Government	562,942
Corporations	261,955
Individuals	391,805
Workplace Giving	31,341
Other	182,805
Fees	17,954
Total Revenue	\$1,640,800



Expenses

Programs	
Land Conservation	752,005
River Corridor Advocacy & Stewardship	313,429
Water Quality & Watershed Protection	275,410
Fundraising	179,599
Management	73,777
Total Expenses	\$1,594,220



THANK YOU DONORS!

Thank you to ALL of the individuals and organizations who enable us to carry out our work. Those listed here made contributions of \$100 or more to FMR or the Fish Creek Open Space campaign in 2012, or made gifts in honor or in memory of another individual. We make every effort to ensure accuracy. If you identify errors or omissions, please contact Heather at 651-222-2193 x20.

\$5,000 and up
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Mississippi Watershed Management Organization
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
Rice Creek Watershed District
Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
Fountains & Non-Profits
Anonymous Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
Art & Martha Kaemmer Foundation
Frank Rog
Martin & Ellen Sampson
Byron & Connie Starns
Ariella Tilsen
Diane E. Williams
In memory of Betty L. Christiansen
Elizabeth & David Lee

Midwest Mountaineering Minnesota Historical Society/Historic Fort Snelling
Minnesota Monthly
Minnesota Museum of American Art
Mississippi Market
Mixed Blood Theater
Mother Earth Gardens
National Park Service (MNNRA)
Nick Wolowski
Northwest Canoe
Paddleford Riverboats
Patagonia St. Paul
Paul Labovitz
Larry S. Veeder
Shirley Venhoeven-Diercks
Mary Verhoeven & Brad VanSprell
David Vickersman
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SUPERVALU Foundation
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United Parcel Service Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation

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Ameriprise Financial Employee Gift Matching Program
Bank of America Matching Gifts
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Piper Jaffray Employee Giving Program
Pohlad Family Foundation
RBC Wealth Management
Saint Paul Foundation/MN Philanthropy Partners
Tennant Foundation
Thomson Reuters
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
UnitedHealth Group
Matching Gift Funds
US Bancorp Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation



DEAR FRIENDS,

In 2012, enthusiasm for our wonderful Mississippi River continued to grow. The support of our partners helped us finish the year with our strongest ever financial results, great volunteer support, an award-winning staff, and numerous accomplishments, both achieved and emerging.

Several milestones marked our year. Our land protection program realized a major success in 2012 with the protection of the beautiful Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area in cooperation with Dakota County and Macalester College. Our *State of the River Report*, issued in September in partnership with the National Park Service, received broad recognition and is a model for clear, concise reporting on the health of our natural resources. Our active and engaged membership continues to grow, and our stewardship initiatives now attract nearly 3,000 volunteers per year.

These achievements reflect our community's enduring values. As we celebrate in 2013 our first 20 years as an organization, we reflect on a journey of proud accomplishments empowered by these values. We have an outstanding staff, faithful supporting partners, committed board members, and most of all, a resilient and magical Mississippi River. The work that remains is vast, but our capacity has grown and the vision now is clearer than ever. Our stewardship today will lay the foundations for a healthier community tomorrow.

Thank you for being a part of this important effort as we continue to restore habitat, reduce pollution, improve public access and work to reconnect our community to this great treasure — the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

Perry H. McGowan
Chair, FMR Board of Directors

FMR meets all the accountability standards of the Charities Review Council of Minnesota.



FMR is a proud member of the Minnesota Environmental Fund.

Protecting Land & Restoring Habitat

One of the cornerstones of FMR's work continues to be the protection and improvement of a system of interconnected natural areas that form the Mississippi River habitat corridor. These increasingly rare and vulnerable natural areas provide wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and offer scenic, recreational and open-space value.

In 2012, FMR worked on nine natural resource management plans covering more than 500 acres. These plans serve as science- and research-based guides for conducting our restoration work.

We began five new habitat restoration projects and continued activities at eleven sites, affecting more than 700 acres of prairie, oak savanna, woodland and bluff top throughout the year.

Of significant note this past year was FMR's role in working with Dakota County and Macalester College to close on a conservation easement that permanently protects 150 acres of the Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area owned by Macalester. This property serves as the northern terminus of the Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area, and its protection expands greenway connectivity in this region.

Water Quality & Watershed Protection

For nearly a decade, FMR has emphasized enhancing water quality and watershed protection through education, monitoring, stewardship, and advocacy. In 2012, FMR again coordinated the Rice Creek Stream Health Evaluation Program (SHEP), a volunteer program to monitor the health of local streams – and communicate results to key decision-makers – in order to improve how Rice Creek communities manage their land and water resources. Given the measurable increase in macroinvertebrate populations over the past six years, water quality is improving in the Rice Creek watershed!

FMR also continued to coordinate the Minnesota Environmental Partnership Water Cluster in 2012. The Water Cluster is a coalition of environment, recreation, and natural resource groups dedicated to advancing clean water programs and policies throughout the state. The group's chief 2013 legislative initiative, the Clean Water Accountability Act, will improve the state's watershed clean up and ensure better targeting of Clean Water Fund dollars.

On the South Metro Mississippi River sediment clean-up plan, FMR coordinated public comments throughout the year. FMR members contributed hundreds of comments in favor of strong clean-up plans for the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers.

FMR expanded the Blue Star Award Program, honoring Minnesota cities that take a leadership role in reducing stormwater runoff pollution to Minnesota's waters. FMR also led public outreach and education efforts to reduce triclosan pollution to Minnesota's waters; on March 4, 2013, Governor Dayton signed an executive order requiring state agencies to phase-out the use of most triclosan products.

And in September 2012, after many months of development, FMR released the *State of the River Report* in partnership with the National Park Service. Detailing the status and trends of key indicators of water quality and river health in the Twin Cities, the report received significant press coverage and has been presented to more than 1,900 people at 40 regional events.



River Corridor Advocacy

FMR has always recognized that riverfront communities often struggle to balance growth and development with the essential values of public access, scenic views, historic preservation and environmental quality. Each year, we work to provide leadership, technical assistance, and expertise to help communities thrive while remaining committed to river protection.

In 2012, FMR staff served as co-chair of the Above the Falls Citizen Advisory Committee and facilitated the committee's involvement in the Above the Falls Master plan revision process and RiverFirst. FMR also participated on the task force for and provided extensive comments on new plans for St. Paul's riverfront known as the Great River Passage. The RiverFirst plan in Minneapolis and the Great River Passage plan in St. Paul will add vibrancy, new ecological amenities and better access to these urban riverfronts. FMR also served on the Community Advisory Team and submitted comments on the St. Anthony Falls Historic District Guidelines.

As Asian carp continue to threaten the Mississippi and its tributaries, FMR helped launch the Stop Carp Coalition and designed the StopCarp.org website. To help raise awareness of how the carp are getting upstream, we even changed the day-one route of the Mississippi River Challenge in 2012 so that the event would not go through the locks. FMR has become an important resource on the Asian Carp issue for local governments, citizens and the media.

Community Stewardship & Engagement

Recognizing the importance of community involvement, FMR engaged 4,642 people in events and volunteer activities in 2012, including:

- 1,386 volunteers who contributed 5,478 hours of hands-on volunteering at restoration events, clean-ups and the Mississippi River Challenge.
- 235 people paddled the Mississippi River Challenge.
- 1,281 students and community volunteers contributed 3,035 hours to stencil storm drains with the message "Don't Pollute! Drains to Mississippi River!" and distribute educational doorhangers to neighborhoods in St. Paul.
- 52 volunteers contributed 132 hours of office and event support.
- 1,688 people participated in educational programs and workshops.

FMR also launched new volunteer stewardship programs at Indian Mounds Park in St. Paul and in South Washington County in 2012, expanding our work into key areas where volunteer stewardship has not been offered before. We are pleased, in particular, with the success of our partnership at Indian Mounds Park with Harding High School's Earth Club. This multicultural group of students worked hard, learned a lot, and many are returning this year for additional restoration, recreation, and education activities.

Engaging non-traditional community members in stewardship, and helping them build connections to the river, has become an important aspect of our work. In 2012, FMR successfully partnered with the Cedar-Riverside Youth Council to engage the East African immigrant community in river and watershed protection activities at Riverside Park.

In addition, FMR planned and scoped new stewardship sites and programming for parkland in the Above the Falls area in Minneapolis. This area encompasses North and Northeast Minneapolis, both of which have been disconnected from their riverfronts and underserved in regard to stewardship programming.

For more information on these projects and others that FMR is working on, please visit our web site at fmr.org.



Photo © Matt Holland Photography

The 2012 Mississippi River Challenge was significantly different from the first eight years of the event. FMR is working to prevent Asian carp from traveling further upstream, so we changed the first day route to avoid using the locks.



This gave us an opportunity to explore the Mississippi's largest local tributary, the Minnesota River, and all of the beauty and wildlife that this river offers. 235 paddlers – helped by over 150 volunteers – paddled the Minnesota River on day 1, took out at Fort Snelling, enjoyed great food and the sounds of The Roe Family Singers in the Fort, and paddled a gorgeous stretch of the Mississippi on day 2.

Over the past nine years, paddlers have raised over \$1 million for FMR's work. A huge thanks to all who have paddled, volunteered and pledged!

2013 is the 10th year of the Mississippi River Challenge! New this year are monthly meet-ups and the opportunity to fundraise as a team. Join us to celebrate and enjoy another great event. www.mississippiriverchallenge.org.



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CELEBRATING
20
YEARS
OF RIVER
STEWARDSHIP

