

The science is clear: our planet is warming and the threats to invertebrates are vast. However, thanks to the support of our donors and funders, Xerces is at the forefront of invertebrate conservation and poised to take on this challenge. In the face of climate change, we have protected and restored over 2.5 million acres for invertebrates, helped lead a tri-national effort to protect critical monarch habitat across North America, secured Endangered Species Act protection for a variety of invertebrates, and we have been changing the way that farmers, gardeners, and cities and towns manage land for pollinators. By working together and taking action today—we can make a difference. Thank you for standing with us.

- Scott Black, Director

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## Highlights

Scientists predict that climate change will alter the composition of bee and butterfly communities, shift the seasonal activity of some species, and impede the ability of pollinator species to move across the landscape. **We have partnered with food growers, natural resource agencies, and transportation departments to add habitat to farms and public lands and increase habitat along roadsides and rights-of-way.** The resulting linear corridors and stepping stones of high-quality, climate-resilient habitat will serve pollinators now and in the future.

Our engagement in towns and cities grew considerably when **Bee City USA and Bee Campus USA** became part of the Xerces family in June 2018. These initiatives encourage communities across the U.S. to develop and implement a plan for **helping pollinators by creating habitat and reducing pesticide use.** We now have over 170 cities and campuses in our network working to expand pollinator habitat in their communities.

Whether advocating for policy change or promoting voluntary change, **our efforts are focused on concrete steps to increase the adoption of ecologically sound pest management practices** that support diverse natural systems, reduce reliance on pesticides, and mitigate pesticide risks. Recently, we provided support to legislative efforts in California, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington.



## Making Connections for Conservation



Over the last year, **we reached over 23,000 people** through field days, conferences, short courses, webinars, and other events. The trainings we deliver are tailored to the needs of specific audiences and **reflect the latest science on pollinator and beneficial insect conservation.**



Through our **community science** programs—the Thanksgiving and New Year’s Monarch Counts, the Western Monarch Milkweed Mapper, Bumble Bee Watch, and our most recent regional Bumble Bee Atlas projects—**we are harnessing the power of thousands of volunteers to gather valuable conservation data.**



The monarch butterfly is renowned for its long-distance seasonal migration and spectacular winter gatherings in Mexico and California. Early this year, **we initiated a rapid response to the western monarch’s alarming decline** and are engaging agencies, farmers, and volunteers to take action so monarchs will continue to overwinter in California for decades to come.



In 2018, we developed a **new workshop that offers gardeners and educators a way to learn about pollinator conservation in yards, neighborhoods, parks, and other urban and suburban spaces.** We have delivered the course eight times in seven cities to date, and have scheduled more courses to be held next summer.



Less than two years after launch, **there are now seven Bee Better Certified farms**, including almond, wine grape, mixed vegetable, and fruit and vegetable growers, and the first product carrying the seal has reached store shelves. **In total, nearly 4,000 acres of farmland are now certified** and more than 18,000 additional acres on other farms are currently working toward certification.



**Over 10,000 people have signed our Bring Back the Pollinators pledge** committing to reduce pesticide use, plant flowers, provide egg-laying sites for bees and butterflies, and talk to their friends and families about pollinator conservation. **Many also show their support by hanging a Xerces pollinator habitat sign on their property.**



Over the last four years, **we have presented a series of 61 day-long courses in 49 states on how to integrate habitat for beneficial insects back into farms for natural pest control.** The courses were jam-packed with relevant topics ranging from farmland management practices and pesticide risk mitigation to habitat creation and plant selection.





Cold-water stoneflies are one of many species that deserve protection. They form the base of the food chain by decomposing leaves and other organic material. (Photo: Xerces Society / Candace Fallon, 2018)

## Achievements with a lasting impact

- In the past year, **we've helped restore over 200,000 acres of wildflower habitat.** These plants provide safe, healthy places for pollinators like bees and butterflies and other wildlife to live.
- With guidance and support from the Xerces Society, **five more communities have recently banned neonicotinoid insecticides,** which have been linked to the decline of pollinators. With these five, our efforts have now helped 28 communities in 12 states since 2014.
- **We continue to use the Endangered Species Act—the world's most effective species conservation law—to protect imperiled species.** In addition, over the last decade, we have helped restore or protect over 1.5 million acres of habitat for at-risk species like the monarch butterfly and the rusty patched bumble bee.
- Freshwater mussels advance healthy watersheds by providing important ecosystem services that benefit native fish and other aquatic life. **Through educational workshops, publications, and in stream mussel protection projects, Xerces promotes freshwater mussel conservation** so that our waters can maintain native biodiversity and be more resilient to the effects of climate change.
- **Our publications are the go-to documents for practitioners in the field.** Recently released publications include *Smarter Pest Management: Protecting Pollinators at Home* and *Protecting Pollinators from Pesticides: Fungicide Impacts on Pollinators.*



Xerces supporters across the nation proudly display our habitat sign in their yards to spread the word about the importance of these creatures to their friends and neighbors. (Photo: Xerces donor Sue Donora, 2019)

Pat, a Xerces Society volunteer Ambassador, reaches out to the next generation at the Oregon Zoo. (Photo: Xerces Society / Rachel Dunham, 2018)



# 2018 Financial Report

Financial Activities January to December 2018 (Audited)

## REVENUE

Foundation & corporate giving	\$1,662,107	31%
Government contracts	1,138,865	22%
Individual donations	1,614,865	31%
Program revenue & publications	826,961	15%
Net other revenue & unrealized gain	47,759	1%
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$5,290,557</b>	

## EXPENSES

<b>Programs</b>		
Pollinator conservation	\$ 2,139,023	
Endangered species	817,941	
Community engagement	271,991	
Other conservation	310,911	
<b>Total programs</b>	<b>\$3,539,866</b>	<b>78%</b>
Development & membership	629,973	14%
Management & general	383,213	8%
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$4,553,052</b>	
<b>Net income</b>	<b>\$737,505</b>	



## Board of Directors

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*(Photo: Xerces Society / Stephanie McKnight, 2018)*

Thank you for all of your support!

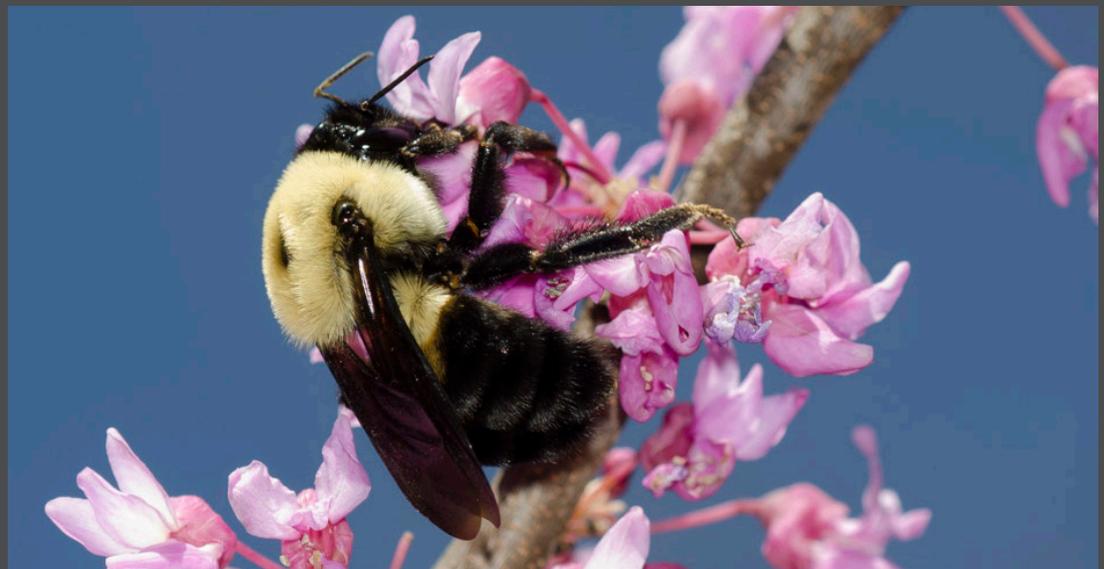


Protecting the Life  
That Sustains Us

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*(Brown-belted bumble bee (Bombus griseocollis) on redbud. Photo: Bryan E. Reynolds, 2017)*

The Xerces Society is proud to be rated  
as a Four Star Charity by Charity Navigator



★★★★  
**CHARITY NAVIGATOR**  
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