



# FOUNDATION of Wisconsin

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

# NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. (A Wisconsin Non-Profit Organization)

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **December 31, 2024 and 2023**

	Page
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	i – ii
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Statements of Financial Position	1
Statements of Activities	2
Statements of Functional Expenses	3
Statements of Cash Flows	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5 – 19



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. Madison, Wisconsin

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. (a non-profit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.



#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Johnson Block & Company, Inc.

Johnson Block & Company, Inc.

June 3, 2025

### NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. Madison, Wisconsin

### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION December 31, 2024 and 2023

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Current Assets	2024	2023
Cash and cash equivalents Unconditional promises to give, due in less than one year Prepaid expenses Total Current Assets	\$ 1,399,240 268,091 19,867 1,687,198	\$ 1,618,517 143,830 21,195 1,783,542
Fixed Assets		
Equipment Less accumulated depreciation Net Fixed Assets	4,609 (2,074) 2,535	4,609 (1,697) 2,912
Other Assets		
Right-of-use asset Total Other Assets	328,438 328,438	399,731 399,731
Noncurrent Assets		
Unconditional promises to give, due in more than one year Investments  Cash and investments held in escrow accounts  Total Noncurrent Assets	17,007,954 4,268,875 21,276,829	50,000 14,972,649 4,266,292 19,288,941
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 23,295,000	\$ 21,475,126
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET A</u> <u>Current Liabilities</u>	ASSETS_	
Accounts payable Accrued expenses Lease liability, due within one year Deferred revenue Funds held for others as escrow accounts Funds held for others as agency endowments Total Current Liabilities	\$ 111,849 45,424 77,354 4,268,875 3,209,203 7,712,705	\$ 18,980 36,487 74,127 148,934 4,266,292 2,695,785 7,240,605
Long-term Liabilities		
Lease liability, due in more than one year Total Long-term Liabilities	266,158 266,158	337,146 337,146
Net Assets		
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions Net Assets with Donor Restrictions Total Net Assets	1,081,499 14,234,638 15,316,137	1,012,837 12,884,538 13,897,375
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 23,295,000	\$ 21,475,126

### NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. Madison, Wisconsin

# STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

	2024							2023					
	Wi	thout Donor	V	With Donor				Without Donor		With Donor			
	R	estrictions	F	Restrictions		Total	R	estrictions	I	Restrictions		Total	
Revenues and Other Support		_		_		_				_	'	_	
Contributions	\$	988,833	\$	1,141,356	\$	2,130,189	\$	760,758	\$	2,037,269	\$	2,798,027	
Grant Revenue		2,500		263,500		266,000		-		-		-	
Contributed nonfinancial assets		135,754		-		135,754		118,113		-		118,113	
Fees for services		135,593		-		135,593		74,850		-		74,850	
Field trip income		182,928		-		182,928		178,775		-		178,775	
Sponsorships		12,500		500		13,000		11,000		-		11,000	
Other		2,716		203		2,919		3,466		707		4,173	
Investment return (loss)		55,648		1,270,330		1,325,978		40,925		1,598,634		1,639,559	
Net assets released from restrictions		1,325,789		(1,325,789)				1,659,303		(1,659,303)		-	
Total Revenues and Other Support		2,842,261		1,350,100		4,192,361		2,847,190		1,977,307		4,824,497	
Expenses													
Program services:													
Education and outreach		956,176		-		956,176		761,916		-		761,916	
Wildlife		371,766		-		371,766		385,501		-		385,501	
Lands & waters		743,997		_		743,997		847,261		-		847,261	
Sustainable support and endowments		112,171		-		112,171		114,850		-		114,850	
Management and general		172,714		-		172,714		266,951		-		266,951	
Fundraising		416,775				416,775		386,748				386,748	
Total Expenses		2,773,599				2,773,599		2,763,227				2,763,227	
Total Change in Net Assets		68,662		1,350,100		1,418,762		83,963		1,977,307		2,061,270	
Net Assets - Beginning of Year		1,012,837		12,884,538		13,897,375		928,874		10,907,231		11,836,105	
Net Assets - End of Year	\$	1,081,499	\$	14,234,638	\$	15,316,137	\$	1,012,837	\$	12,884,538	\$	13,897,375	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. Madison, Wisconsin

#### STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 2024

	Program Services										Supporting Activities				
	Ed	ucation and					Sustair	able Support	Т	otal Program	Man	agement and			
		Outreach		Wildlife	Lan	ds & Waters	and E	indowments		Services		General	Fu	ındraising	 Total
Personnel Costs	\$	431,322	\$	50,171	\$	110,261	\$	89,041	\$	680,795	\$	100,967	\$	300,341	\$ 1,082,103
Contract Services		220,494		78,262		16,432		10,443		325,631		38,593		37,035	401,259
Program Costs		157,835		233,117		598,982		-		989,934		-		846	990,780
Facility and Equipment		1,157		131		298		241		1,827		5,850		808	8,485
Lease/Rent Expense		31,969		3,508		7,675		6,771		49,923		5,235		22,590	77,748
Marketing and Promotion		33,571		626		156		125		34,478		2,089		10,408	46,975
Office Expense		67,787		4,146		6,718		5,424		84,075		18,016		42,377	144,468
Meeting and Travel		11,557		1,784		3,427		88		16,856		1,732		2,026	20,614
Other Expenses		484		21		48		38		591		232		344	1,167
	\$	956,176	\$	371,766	\$	743,997	\$	112,171	\$	2,184,110	\$	172,714	\$	416,775	\$ 2,773,599

#### 2023

	Program Services										Supporting Activities					
		ucation and Outreach		Wildlife	Lanc	ls & Waters		nable Support Indowments	T	otal Program Services		agement and General	Fu	ndraising		Total
Personnel Costs	\$	347,795	\$	26,135	\$	15,375	\$	88,740	\$	478,045	\$	120,023	\$	276,824	\$	874,892
Contract Services		213,387		15,044		23,331		13,268		265,030		85,052		43,437		393,519
Program Costs		91,125		326,776		803,158		-		1,221,059		754		330		1,222,143
Facility and Equipment		1,412		104		62		362		1,940		8,843		1,126		11,909
Lease/Rent Expense		31,485		2,297		1,377		7,269		42,428		10,012		25,447		77,887
Marketing and Promotion		21,001		1,330		-		-		22,331		2,423		8,653		33,407
Office Expense		42,328		13,666		2,962		5,158		64,114		37,101		28,894		130,109
Meeting and Travel		13,253		140		990		20		14,403		1,994		1,903		18,300
Other Expenses		130		9		6		33		178		749		134		1,061
	\$	761,916	\$	385,501	\$	847,261	\$	114,850	\$	2,109,528	\$	266,951	\$	386,748	\$	2,763,227

### NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN, INC. Madison, Wisconsin

#### STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Change in Net Assets	\$ 1,418,762	\$ 2,061,270
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net		
cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Contributions restricted for permanent endowments	(781,783)	(812,508)
Donated investments	(159,939)	(88,384)
Depreciation	377	377
Unrealized and realized (gain) loss on investments	(966,807)	(1,246,121)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Unconditional promises to give	(74,261)	150,115
Prepaid expenses	1,328	(2,201)
Accounts payable	92,869	(117,409)
Accrued expenses	8,937	4,957
Operating lease assets and liabilities	3,532	4,891
Deferred revenue	(148,934)	(57,849)
Funds held for others as agency endowments	513,418	978,899
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(92,501)	876,037
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Proceeds from sale of donated investments	159,939	88,384
Proceeds from sales of investments	282,235	530,053
Purchases of investments	(1,510,720)	(1,967,801)
r dichases of investments	(1,310,720)	(1,507,001)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(1,068,546)	(1,349,364)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Proceeds from contributions restricted for		
investment in permanent endowment	781,783	812,508
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	781,783	812,508
Net (decrease) increase in cash	(379,264)	339,181
Cash at beginning of year	1,872,601	1,533,420
Cash at end of year	\$ 1,493,337	\$ 1,872,601
Reconciliation to Statement of Financial Position		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,399,240	\$ 1,618,517
Cash and cash equivalents  Cash and cash equivalents held in escrow accounts	94,097	254,084
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 1,493,337	\$ 1,872,601
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	Ψ 1,423,337	ψ 1,072,001

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### A. Nature of Organization

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. ("Foundation") is mainly supported by contributions and its mission is to provide sustainable funding for Wisconsin's most imperiled species and public lands, while connecting generations to the wonders of Wisconsin's lands, water, and wildlife through conservation, education, engagement and giving. The Foundation is a leader and partner in advancing natural resource conservation efforts across the state, annually working with hundreds of conservation nonprofits, land trusts, schools, nature centers, and other local and statewide groups to support conservation and environmental education projects in Wisconsin. In its role as a funder, the Foundation works with its network of over 5,000 members across Wisconsin, small businesses, corporations, foundations, and agencies to secure private sector support for Wisconsin's natural resources. Additionally, the Foundation works with donors to establish permanent endowment funds through its Wisconsin Conservation Endowment, which provides sustainable annual support for priority conservation and education needs in Wisconsin.

#### B. Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### C. Financial Statement Presentation

Net assets are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Net assets are defined as follows:

<u>Net assets without donor restrictions</u> consist of investments and otherwise unrestricted amounts that are available for use in carrying out the mission of Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. and include those expendable resources which have been designated for special use by the Foundation's Board of Directors.

<u>Net assets with donor restrictions</u> consist of net assets that are subject to either donor-imposed time restrictions or donor-imposed purpose restrictions. These restrictions limit the Foundation's choices of when to use and how to use these resources.

#### D. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### E. Income Taxes

The Foundation is a nonprofit corporation exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and Wisconsin franchise or income tax.

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **E.** Income Taxes (Continued)

The Foundation follows the statutory requirements for their income tax accounting and generally avoids risks associated with potentially problematic tax positions that may be challenged upon examination. Management believes any liability resulting from taxing authorities imposing additional income taxes from activities deemed to be unrelated to the Foundation's tax-exempt status would not have a material effect on the accompanying financial statements.

The Foundation's federal exempt organization tax returns are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service, generally for three years after they are filed. With few exceptions, the Foundation is no longer subject to such examinations for years before 2021.

#### F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, the Foundation considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

#### G. Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Credit Losses

The Foundation has maintained historical loss data related to its accounts receivable. Management believes this historical information provides a reasonable basis for estimating expected credit losses as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, as the composition of the receivables at those dates is consistent with prior periods used in developing the loss history. Based on this analysis, expected credit losses are considered insignificant.

#### H. Promises to Give

Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give expected to be collected in future years are initially recorded at fair value using present value techniques incorporating risk-adjusted discount rates designed to reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing assets. In subsequent years, amortization of the discounts is included in contribution revenue in the Statements of Activities. As of December 31, 2024, all amounts were expected to be collected within one year. As of December 31, 2023, \$143,830 was expected to be collected within one year and \$50,000 was expected to be collected in one to five years. Any allowance for doubtful accounts is determined based on historic experience, as assessment of economic conditions, and a review of subsequent collections. Promises to give are written off when deemed uncollectable. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, there was no allowance for doubtful promises to give.

#### I. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment purchases that are greater than \$1,000 are capitalized at cost and depreciated over their useful life using the straight-line method.

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### J. Investments

Investments in marketable equity securities, debt securities and fixed income securities with readily determinable fair values are stated at fair market value in the Statements of Financial Position. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets in the accompanying Statements of Activities.

#### K. Right of Use Leased Assets and Liabilities

Right of use leased assets and the related liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date and represent the Foundation's right to use an underlying asset and lease obligations for the lease term. Right of use leased assets are measured at the initial value of the lease liability plus any payments made to the lessor before the commencement of the lease term, less any lease incentives received from the lessor at or before the commencement of the lease term, plus any initial direct costs necessary to place the lease asset into service. Right of use leased assets are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset using the straight-line method.

#### L. Revenue and Revenue Recognition

Revenue from fieldtrip registrations is recognized once participants have attended the trip. The Foundation also charges each endowed fund a management fee for managing and administering fund assets during the year. Fees charged for managing the escrow funds are based on the income for the year and the fees charged for managing the agency funds are charged based on the net asset value of these agency funds.

Contributions are recognized when cash, securities or other assets, an unconditional promise to give, or notification of a beneficial interest is received. Conditional promises to give, that is, those with a measurable performance or other barrier, and a right of return, are not recognized until the conditions on which they depend have been substantially met. As of December 31, 2024, there were \$47,575 conditional promises to give outstanding. As of December 31, 2023, there were \$208,934 conditional promises to give outstanding, of which the Foundation has received \$148,934 in advance.

Support that is restricted by the donor is reported as an increase in net assets without donor restrictions if the restriction expires in the reporting period in which the support is recognized. All other donor-restricted support is reported as an increase in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the Statements of Activities as net assets released from restrictions.

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### M. Fair Value Measurements

In accordance with professional standards, the Foundation follows the accounting for fair value measurement, as it pertains to the Foundation's financial assets and liabilities. Professional standards define fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in any orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value should be based on assumptions that market participants would use, including a consideration of non-performance risk.

Management assesses the inputs used to measure fair value using a three-tier hierarchy based on the extent to which inputs used in measuring fair value are observable in the market.

Level 1 inputs are quoted market prices for identical instruments in an active market that the entity has the ability to access and are the most observable.

Level 2 inputs include quoted market prices for similar assets and observable inputs such as interest rates, currency exchange rates, commodity rates, and yield curves.

Level 3 inputs are not observable in the market and include management's judgments about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

#### N. Contributed Nonfinancial Assets

The Foundation recognized contributed nonfinancial assets within revenue, including contributed supplies, equipment, postage, printing, shipping, and services. Unless otherwise noted, contributed nonfinancial assets did not have donor-imposed restrictions. In valuing the contributed supplies, equipment, postage and shipping, the Foundation estimated the fair value on the basis of estimates of wholesale values that would be received for selling similar products.

Contributed services are recognized as contributions if the services (a) create or enhance nonfinancial assets or (b) require specialized skills, are performed by people with those skills, and would otherwise be purchased by the organization. Contributed services are valued and are reported at the estimated fair value in the financial statements based on current rates for similar services.

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### O. Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs of the Foundation have been summarized on a functional basis in the Statements of Activities and the Statements of Functional Expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the various programs and supporting services benefited. The Foundation's major program services are as follows:

Education and Outreach — The Foundation provides opportunities for people to connect, explore, and engage with Wisconsin's outdoors. Each year, the Natural Resources Foundation's popular Field Trip Program offers more than 300 field trips for families to learn about Wisconsin's natural resources, annually engaging more than 5,000 people in unique field experiences across the state, while the Foundation's Wayfarers initiative connects 20- and 30-somethings to Wisconsin's outdoors, building the next generation of conservationists. The Foundation supports education programs including the Wisconsin Citizen-based Monitoring Network, the Wisconsin Master Naturalist Program, Snapshot Wisconsin, and provides opportunities for dozens of schools each year to get their students outside and hands-on with environmental education activities through the Go Outside Program. Additionally, the Natural Resources Foundation is a program partner of FIELD Edventures, which is building environmental education holistically into K-12 schools.

Wildlife – The Foundation supports the recovery efforts for dozens of imperiled wildlife species each year, focusing on those listed as endangered, threatened, or at risk on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Through the signature Great Wisconsin Birdathon campaign, the largest fundraiser for bird conservation in the state, the Foundation works with individuals and organizations to raise funds for the highest priority conservation needs for Wisconsin's birds and their habitat. The Foundation supports citizen science projects that connect people to Wisconsin's natural heritage and provide important data to guide conservation efforts for rare wildlife species. The Natural Resources Foundation is a founder of the Wisconsin Monarch Collaborative, a statewide consortium to support monarch and pollinator conservation efforts, and established the Wisconsin Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Fund to provide permanent support for Wisconsin's rarest frog, turtle, snake, and salamander species.

Lands and Waters – The Foundation provides critical support for Wisconsin's most biodiverse landscapes and is the only statewide nonprofit focused on State Natural Areas - designated sites that protect outstanding examples of Wisconsin's native landscapes and natural communities and provide habitat for the majority of Wisconsin's imperiled wildlife species. Thanks to this effort, land restoration and management takes places at dozens of public properties and thousands of acres across Wisconsin each year, which would not otherwise happen. The Foundation also directs the Cherish Wisconsin Outdoors Fund, a public-private partnership that provides permanent funding for habitat management at state parks, natural areas, wildlife and fisheries areas, and recreation areas.

Sustainable Support and Endowments – The Foundation created the Wisconsin Conservation Endowment (WCE) to serve as a "community foundation for conservation". The WCE allows individual donors and non-profit organizations opportunities to build permanent and sustaining sources of private funding for conservation in the state. The Foundation manages the assets of 126 individual endowment, agency, and spend-down funds that support species protection, education, habitat management, and other conservation organizations. In addition, the Foundation manages the funds of escrow accounts under third-party custodial agreements for the purpose of natural area conservation.

**Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)** 

#### P. Subsequent Events

1.

Management has evaluated events through June 3, 2025, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

#### 2. Concentration of Credit Risk

The Foundation maintains its cash balance in one financial institution located in Madison, Wisconsin. The balances are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. Professional standards identify these items as a concentration of credit risk requiring disclosure, regardless of the degree of risk. The risk is managed by maintaining the deposits in high quality financial institutions. At December 31, 2024 and 2023, the Foundation had uninsured cash balances of \$299,856 and \$660,019, respectively.

The Foundation also maintains balances at one brokerage. These balances are insured by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC") up to \$500,000. SIPC covers losses from fraud and negligence of the registered securities dealer, but not against market losses or investment return. Balances held in accounts may still at times exceed insured limits.

#### 3. Equipment

Equipment consisted of the following at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024	2023		
Equipment Less: Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 4,609 2,074	\$	4,609 1,697	
Equipment - Net	\$ 2,535	\$	2,912	

Depreciation expense was \$377 and \$377 for 2024 and 2023, respectively.

#### December 31, 2024 and 2023

4.	<b>Investments</b>

Investments	consisted of	f the	following	at December	or 31	2024	and 2023.
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	2024	2023
Cash and money market Index fund and ETFs	\$ 252,348 16,755,606	\$ 352,264 14,620,385
Total Investments	\$ 17,007,954	\$ 14,972,649
Investment return consisted of the following for 2024 and 2023:		
	2024	2023
Dividends and Interest Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) Investment return allocated to/from agency endowments Investment management fees	\$ 472,433 1,187,536 (301,424) (32,567)	\$ 506,115 1,480,876 (319,250) (28,182)
Total Investment Return	\$ 1,325,978	\$ 1,639,559

#### 5. Funds Held for Others

Funds held for others in escrow accounts consisted of the following at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024	2023
Chippewa River Fish Protection Fund Escrow	\$ 3,587,545	\$ 3,459,703
Chippewa River Natural Resources Fund Escrow	485,696	528,703
Prairie du Sac Habitat Enhancement, Mitigation, Research,		
Study and Fish Passage Escrow	116,002	196,984
Grandmother Falls Fish Passage and/or Protection Escrow	79,632	80,902
Total Funds Held for Others as Escrow Accounts	\$ 4,268,875	\$ 4,266,292

Escrow account funds consisted of the following investments at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024	2023		
Cash and money market	\$ 94,097	\$ 254,084		
Index Funds and ETFs	847,703	826,305		
Treasury Notes	1,954,882	1,855,907		
Bonds	1,372,193	1,329,996		
Cash and investments held in escrow accounts	\$ 4,268,875	\$ 4,266,292		

#### 6. Net Assets without Donor Restrictions

The Foundation's board of directors has chosen to place the following limitations on net assets without donor restrictions as of December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024		2023	
Board designated net assets:		_		
Board designated reserve fund	\$	529,264	\$	445,512
Other endowment spendable allotments		54,821		54,487
Board Legacy Fund		179,920		162,883
Undesignated		317,494		349,955
Net assets without donor restrictions	\$	1,081,499	\$	1,012,837

#### 7. Net Assets with Donor Restrictions

Net assets with donor restrictions consisted of the following at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

Amount subject to time or purpose restrictions:	2024	2023
Accumulated earnings on donor-restricted endowment funds	\$ 2,108,812	\$ 1,439,119
NRF Programs	692,305	830,119
Fiscal Sponsorship	10,494	-
Amount subject to time restriction	48,568	25,000
Subtotal	2,860,179	2,294,238
Amounts that must be maintained in perpetuity:		
Endowment funds	11,374,459	10,590,300
Net assets with donor restrictions	\$ 14,234,638	\$ 12,884,538

#### 8. Fair Value Measurements

Fair values of assets measured on a recurring basis at December 31, 2024 and 2023 are as follows:

	Fair Value	 Level 1	Lev	vel 2	Lev	rel 3
Index Funds	\$ 12,634,588	\$ 12,634,588	\$	-	\$	-
Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)	4,968,721	4,968,721		-		-
Treasury Notes	1,954,882	-	1,9	54,882		-
Bonds	1,372,193	-	1,3	72,193		
2024 Total	\$ 20,930,384	\$ 17,603,309	\$ 3,3	27,075	\$	
Index Funds	\$ 10,926,037	\$ 10,926,037	\$	_	\$	_
Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)	4,520,653	4,520,653		-		-
Treasury Notes	1,855,907	-	1,8	55,907		-
Bonds	1,329,996		1,3	29,996		
2023 Total	\$ 18,632,593	\$ 15,446,690	\$ 3,1	85,903	\$	_

Fair values for mutual funds are determined by reference to quoted market prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions. Fair values for treasury notes, marketable certificates of deposit, and bonds are determined based on recent prices of similar assets.

#### 9. Retirement Plans

All employees who work 20 or more hours per week are eligible to participate in the Foundation's 403(b) plan. The Foundation's contributions are discretionary and may change from year to year. Retirement expenses were \$36,428 and \$29,868 for 2024 and 2023, respectively.

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 10. Leases

The Foundation has a ten-year lease agreement for office space in Madison. The lease is in effect from June 2019 through May 2029. Rent payments were \$73,916 and \$72,112 for 2024 and 2023, respectively. Included in the determination of the right-of-use assets and lease liabilities are any renewal options when the options are reasonably certain to be exercised. The operating lease requires the Foundation to maintain public liability insurance coverage.

The weighted-average discount rate is based on the discount rate implicit in the lease. The Foundation elected the option to use the risk-free rate determined using a period comparable to the lease terms as a discount rate for the lease where the implicit rate is not readily determinable.

The total lease costs for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 are as follows:

Lease expense	2024		2024		_	2023
Operating lease expense	\$	77,003		\$ 77,003		
Total	\$	77,003		\$ 77,003		

The following table summarizes the supplemental cash flow information for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024	2023
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities		
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$ 73,916	\$ 72,112

The following summarizes the weighted-average remaining lease terms and weighted-average discount rate:

	2024	2023
Weighted-average remaining lease term in years for operating leases	4.42	5.42
Weighted-average discount rate for operating leases	1.55%	1.55%

#### 10. Leases (Continued)

The future minimum lease payments under noncancelable operating leases with terms greater than one year are listed below as of December 31, 2024:

	Operating
2025	\$ 75,761
2026	77,656
2027	79,597
2028	81,588
2029	40,568
Total undiscounted cash flows	355,170
Less: present value discount	(11,658)
Total lease liabilities	\$ 343,512

#### 11. Contributed Nonfinancial Assets

The Foundation has the status of a friend of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("DNR"). This status allows the Foundation to utilize certain resources from the DNR without charge as long as the Foundation undertakes activities that assist the DNR in achieving its objectives. Fieldtrip leaders are typically experts in the field related to each trip and lead the trips at no cost to the Foundation. Donated materials and services in 2024 and 2023 were utilized for the following program services and supporting activities:

	2024	2023
Program Services		
Education and outreach		
Educational services	\$ 98,236	\$ 80,350
Postage	24,574	20,697
Wildlife		
Printing	12,597	10,877
Supplies	347	553
Equipment		5,636
Donated Services	\$ 135,754	\$ 118,113

December 31, 2024 and 2023

#### 12. Endowments

The Foundation's endowment consists of 126 individual funds established for a variety of purposes and includes both donor-restricted endowment funds and board designated endowment funds. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the board of directors to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

#### Interpretation of Relevant Law

The state of Wisconsin enacted Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act ("UPMIFA") effective July 20, 2009, the provisions of which apply to endowment funds existing on or established after that date. The Foundation had determined that its donor-restricted endowment funds meet the definition of endowment funds under UPMIFA. The Foundation has interpreted Wisconsin's enacted version of UPMIFA as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. In accordance with Wisconsin's enacted version of UPMIFA, the Foundation expects it will need to consider the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds: (1) general economic conditions, (2) the possible effect of inflation and deflation, (3) the expected tax consequences of investment decisions/strategies, (4) the role of each investment within the context of the overall portfolio, (5) the expected total return from income and appreciation, (6) other resources of the Foundation, (7) the need to make distributions and preserve capital, and (8) an asset's special relationship/value to the Foundation's charitable purpose.

#### Investment Objective

The Foundation has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to manage the majority of the portfolio passively. Passive management is an investment strategy involving limited ongoing buying and selling actions. The Foundation will purchase investments with the intention of long-term appreciation and limited maintenance.

Within a passive management strategy, the basic philosophy governing the investments of the Foundation will be prudent growth of principal with the understanding that the Portfolio's values will fluctuate with the capital markets over shorter term time periods. Within this philosophical framework, this policy seeks to provide a competitive total return consistent with historical capital market conditions and subject to risk tolerances and liquidity requirements.

#### Spending Policy

The Foundation has a policy to withdraw approximately 4.5% of the Portfolio annually to fund the programs and support the Foundation's operational needs. For purposes of this spending policy, the amount to be spent will be determined using a rolling average of the 20 most recent quarter end market values of the Portfolio. Annual growth in the dollar amount spent will be limited to the rate of inflation as determined by the Consumer Price Index (or the GDP deflator). The purpose of this limitation is to enable the corpus of the Portfolio to grow during times of market strength, thereby providing a buffer in times of market weakness. The goal is to smooth spending patterns over time, limiting disruption to the Foundation's budget during unfavorable market cycles.

#### 12. Endowments (Continued)

#### Risk Tolerances and Control

The Foundation defines the risk as the expected standard deviation of return based on historical capital market data. The Foundation evaluates the risk in terms of the total portfolio, not each individual investment. To minimize risk, the Foundation diversifies the portfolio across asset classes, economic sectors, industry groups and individual securities as allowed by the target asset allocation of the portfolio.

#### Liquidity

The Foundation has established the target asset allocation and asset allocation rebalancing policies to assure funding for foreseeable liquidity events. It is anticipated that the Portfolio will distribute 3-5% of its annual allowed distributable amount. Withdrawals for liquidity needs may come from capital appreciation and income, and from assets upon approval of the trustees.

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund was as follows at December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	Without Donor Restrictions				Total
Donor-restricted endowment funds Board-designated endowment funds	\$	- 8,966	\$ 13,483,271	\$ 13,483,271 8,966	
Total 2024 funds	\$ 8,966		\$ 13,483,271	\$ 13,492,237	
		out Donor	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
Donor-restricted endowment funds Board-designated endowment funds	\$	1,806	\$ 12,029,419 -	\$ 12,029,419 1,806	
Total 2023 funds	\$	1,806	\$ 12,029,419	\$ 12,031,225	

From time to time, certain donor-restricted endowment funds may have fair values less than the amount required to be maintained by donors or by law (underwater endowments). The Foundation has interpreted UPMIFA to permit spending from underwater endowments in accordance with prudent measures required under law. At December 31, 2024, funds with original gift values of \$114,905 fair values of \$112,663, and deficiencies of \$2,242 were reported as net assets with donor restrictions.

#### 12. Endowments (Continued)

Changes in endowment net assets for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 were as follows:

2024	Without Donor Restrictions		With Donor Restrictions		Total
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$ 1,806	\$	12,029,419	\$	12,031,225
Investment return Investment income(loss)	-		346,910		346,910
Net appreciation/depreciation (realized and unrealized)	 		953,837		953,837
Total investment return	 		1,300,747		1,300,747
Contributions Appropriation of endowment assets	260,422		784,158		1,044,580
for expenditure	 (253,262)		(631,053)		(884,315)
Endowment net assets end of 2024	\$ 8,966	\$	13,483,271	\$	13,492,237
2023	out Donor crictions		With Donor Restrictions		Total
Endowment net assets, beginning of year Investment return:	\$ -	\$	10,415,192	\$	10,415,192
Investment income Net appreciation	-		384,367		384,367
(realized and unrealized)	 		1,229,397		1,229,397
Total investment return	 		1,613,764		1,613,764
Contributions Appropriation of endowment assets	236,034		937,686		1,173,720
for expenditure	(234,228)		(937,223)		(1,171,451)
Endowment net assets end of 2023	\$ 1,806		12,029,419	\$	12,031,225

#### 13. Liquidity and Availability of Financial Assets

The Foundation monitors its liquidity so that it is able to meet its operating needs. The following table reflects the Foundation's financial assets as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, reduced by amounts not available for general expenditure within one year. Financial assets are not considered available when the assets are not liquid or not convertible into cash within one year, assets held for others, perpetual endowments and accumulated earnings net of appropriations within one year, or because the board of directors has designated funds for specific reserves or long-term investments such as board-designated quasi-endowments. The board designated amounts could be used within one year if approved by the Board of Directors.

	2024	2023
Combined financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,399,240	\$ 1,618,517
Unconditional promises to give	268,091	193,830
Investments and amounts held in escrow accounts	21,276,829	 19,238,941
Total financial assets	22,944,160	 21,051,288
Less those unavailable for general expenditure within one year due to:		
Endowments and accumulated earnings subject to appropriation beyond		
one year	(13,483,271)	(12,029,419)
Funds held for others as escrow accounts	(4,268,875)	(4,266,292)
Funds held for others as agency endowments	(3,209,203)	(2,695,785)
Other donor restrictions	(751,367)	(855,119)
Board designations	 (764,005)	(662,882)
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for		
expenditures within one year	\$ 467,439	\$ 541,791