



# 2017 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT RECAP SOKOL BLOSSER WINERY



## INTRODUCTION

As recognition of our commitment to sustainability and to provide a framework for becoming even more sustainable, we became B Corp certified on April 15, 2015. We went through recertification in 2017 and improved our score by 32 points, increasing from 80 to 112 out of a possible 200 points. Sustainability plays a critical role in how we measure our success at Sokol Blosser. Our definition of sustainability, and therefore how we measure our success each year, is based on doing good as measured through the triple bottom line. Simply put: it is people, planet and profit. Our long term viability and success as a company is dependent on how we treat our staff and the community around us, how we care for the environment on a local and global scale, and running a profitable business. We have developed goals in each of these three areas.



## PEOPLE

The first leg of the triple bottom line is people. We support and encourage our employees as well as care for the community in which we do business. In 2017 we:

- Offered a comprehensive and generous benefits program for employees. 80% of premiums of platinum level insurance were paid by the company for medical, dental and vision; we matched 100% of the first 3% of an employee's salary and 50% of the next 2% for our 401(k) plan; offered generous paid time off, wine allocation, and professional development programs.
- Supported local charities. In 2017 we gave a total value of \$52,615 in in-kind donations. Additionally we offered staff paid volunteer days. In 2017, our staff volunteered 181.73 hours, a 39% increase over the 130.99 hours that our staff volunteered in 2016.
- Valued and promoted a diverse work environment.

## PLANET

Being good stewards of the land to leave it in as good or better shape for the next generation is a key part of being sustainable at Sokol Blosser. In 2017 we:

- Reduced our landfill waste by shipping back 20 pounds of batteries through our recycling program.
- Exceeded our goal of reducing water by 5%.
- Engaged in good practices that help protect our environment.
- Continued to farm our 85 estate acres organically and helped a vineyard we farm and manage undergo a transition to organic farming.
- Maintained about 15 birdhouses as members of the Prescott Western Bluebird Recovery Project.
- Harvested over four gallons of honey from our beehives.

## PROFIT

Running a profitable business is perhaps the most important element to having a long-term viable and sustainable company. As a small, closely-held company owned by the Sokol Blosser family, we do not disclose our financial statements yet take great pride in being in business for the last 47 years. In 2017 we:

- Were voted the number 29 Best Green Company and number 10 Best Medium Company to work for in Oregon by *Oregon Business Magazine*.
- Earned write-ups in several publications including *USA Today*, *Food & Wine*, and *Architectural Digest*. Received high accolades from notable wine reviewers including *Wine Spectator*, *Wine Enthusiast* and *Wine Advocate*.