

Report to the Community

2014-15

*Helping the community
preserve open space,
working lands, and
habitat forever*



Message from the Executive Director



August 12, 2015

It's been just a short time since I joined the land trust and moved here, and I have been greeted with such warmth and friendliness. When I tell people I lived in the Pacific Northwest before family needs took me south, they say, "Welcome home." They get it—the feeling that this is truly home.

People here understand that we live in a special place, and **it's not a passing feeling; it's deep inside. Even longtime residents remain in awe of the beauty of the area and the feel of this place.**

It can hit you in something as simple as taking your dog for a walk, up on the bluffs; walking down the hill toward Admiralty Inlet and seeing the sweep of water, flanked with mountains—it's **not something you can ignore; it's powerful. It's a strong feeling that says, "Wow, this is absolutely amazing. I am so fortunate to live here."**

And we have something to be proud of, because for decades you have been actively nurturing what you love and value about this place. You do it through being part of groups like the land trust, supporting local farms and businesses, and seeking creative ways to shape our future. And the results are amazing: thriving landscapes and people who are connected to the land and to each other.

It has been inspiring to realize how deeply relevant successes in local land conservation are **to life in this community. I've heard about visits to local farms and cideries, walks in Cappy's Trails, children coming home from field trips to salmon streams, inspired, and so much more.** What it means: The people who have worked for, volunteered for, worked with and supported the land trust over the years have made a huge difference to our quality of life here in Jefferson County.

And we are coming across opportunities--and challenges--at an astonishing rate in this grassroots work to create a healthy and sustainable environment.

That's why we're undergoing internal restructuring here at Jefferson Land Trust. I came on as executive director at the end of June, and longtime director Sarah Spaeth has gone from running the organization (while doubling as Conservation Director) to concentrating full-time on the projects and strategic collaborations that are at the heart of our work (see p. 3). **Freeing up Sarah's time to focus on conservation projects makes the most of her unique skills and incredible experience, increasing our impact and effectiveness in our mission of "helping the community preserve open space, working lands and habitat forever."**

The next three to five years has enormous potential for our work in a changing local landscape, so the land trust is embarking on a strategic planning process. We will seek targeted input from the community to assess how we are doing, and where we can have **greater impact in support of our community's needs and priorities. We're asking for your thoughts on these questions through a community survey (see p. 9), and during several events, starting with our open house on August 25 (details in the events listing on the back cover).**

Because this community thrives when we all work together, we sincerely hope you'll participate in our survey and open house. You are our greatest partners and I thank you for your support. Together, we can save the best places in Jefferson County.

With sincere thanks,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink.

Richard Tucker,
Executive Director
Jefferson Land Trust

Land Protection Highlights 2014-15

- Boulton Farm conservation easement protects 144 acres of prime Quilcene farmland (see p. 5).
- Chimacum Commons purchase protects 15-acre agricultural property in the heart of Chimacum with potential to become an incubator farm (see p. 5).
- Tarboo Forest collaboration protects 80 acres in the Tarboo Watershed in the culminating phase of a multi-year, 238-acre project (see p. 7).
- Duckabush Oxbow & Wetlands Preserve addition connects protected elk and salmon habitat (see p. 4).
- Partnership provides five-year window to protect Chimacum Ridge (see p. 6).
- North Preserve on Chimacum Creek grows by four lots purchased with community donations to our Opportunity Fund.
- Quimper Wildlife Corridor conservation partnership adds 5.5 acres of protected land in Port Townsend's Cappy's Trails area.

Thank you! This community has enabled Jefferson Land Trust to protect and steward over 12,000 acres to date



Education on the Land

Several years ago, the Land Trust became part of a community effort to address a mounting concern about children's dwindling connection to nature and the outdoors in this digital age. We began by collaborating with schools and educators to make our preserves available as outdoor classrooms. Then we started providing some environmental education programs, sharing our expertise and passion and directly engaging the next generation on the land.

"In the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught." - *Baba Dioum*



Land Trust Stewardship Associate Carrie Clendaniel has been a driving force behind the Land Trust's *On the Land* education programs. Carrie first started working with the Chimacum Pi program more than three years ago. Since then, our work with school groups has flourished. Lessons developed with the Pi Program have been successful pilot projects that have transferred to collaborations with other school classes from Port Townsend and Chimacum.

This year, Carrie led a series of field trips to explore our landscape, future, and economy. Students learned about the land and factors necessary for healthy habitat, viable farms and working forests, while getting on-the-ground experience in our conservation work. With the



help of many expert naturalists and community members who volunteered their time, the groups performed water-quality tests and macroinvertebrate sampling in salmon streams, tried their hands at plant identification, and explored Bulis Preserve to learn about the timber harvest there.

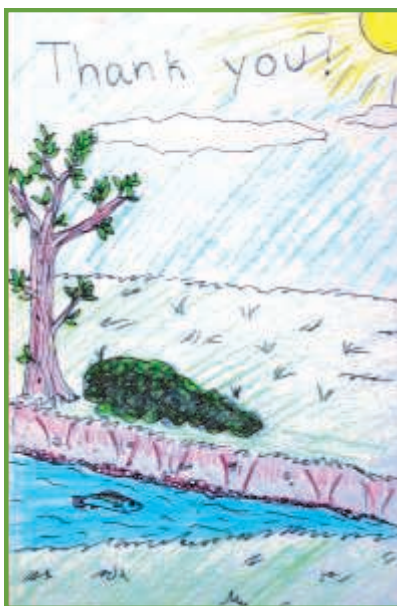
Afterwards, we had a big smile delivered with the mail when a package of handmade thank you cards for Carrie and our volunteers arrived at the Land Trust office. **The student's notes remind us that this work really does make a difference for the future, in more ways than one.**

"I really appreciate you guys hosting my fellow students and I at Uncas and Snow Creek. It was a really great experience to perform what I've been doing in the science room in the field. This experience has gotten me to ponder my possible career choices. It is so touching that so many people went out of their way for us. And I wish I could express more than I'm leading on how truly thankful I am!" -*Sam*

And some delivered a dose of reality... and a breath of relief, like this one:

"I never really liked the outdoors until I went on that field trip. Thank you for making me see the beauty of nature." -*Keith*

At times, the Land Trust has wondered, "Are education programs a core part of our mission?" We realized that when our mission is to preserve land forever, it's important to invest in children's education and ensure they have the opportunity to grow a love of the outdoors; they'll be the next generation to care for and sustain the land.



Strategic Partnerships

Since the Land Trust started up 26 years ago, a lot has changed. With shifting population, demographics, and economy in our county, development pressure on rural and natural lands is increasing. But also, with huge community energy



and enthusiasm for salmon and local agriculture, struggling salmon runs have made a comeback, and our farms are lively and vibrant. These local land conservation successes have moved up the watersheds from habitat to farmland. Now, we have a chance to continue this journey to the top of the watershed in support of the benefits farms, fish, and forests provide for one another, and for our community. **You could say it's a "watershed" moment! We are building on the vision of interconnected, healthy, and sustainable land base in our community with a growing focus on forests (see p. 6).**

In partnership with The Trust for Public Land, **we're working with timberland owners and public agencies on the Duckabush River to protect a large working forest and adjoining riparian buffer that affects water quality and wildlife habitat conditions for salmon, elk beaver, and more (see p. 4).** And just this summer, we completed Phase I of a plan to protect 850 acres of forestland in the heart of Chimacum (see p. 6). And this is only the start; we are already looking at potential to protect other large tracts of forests and farmland of ecological and economic significance in the area.

This evolutionary growth in the scope and scale of the prospective projects knocking on our door pointed out we needed capacity to work on them while the opportunity is ripe.

My transition into the role of Director, Conservation and Strategic Partnerships is a sign of this new evolution of Jefferson Land Trust's work. **We have new partnerships that provide fresh resources and expertise for our toolbox. And they are providing new, incredible opportunities for preserving large landscape features that we haven't had means or capacity to protect in the past.**

Sarah C. Spaeth

Sarah Spaeth,
Director, Conservation & Strategic Partnerships



Photo courtesy of Erik Durfey

Duckabush: Keeping a Wild River

The cool, clear waters of the Duckabush River are a haven for spawning salmon--chinook, cutthroat, coho, pink salmon, and federally-endangered summer chum and steelhead trout frequent these waters. Harlequin ducks breed here, and the land around it is part of an elk habitat corridor. Bear, beaver, and other large mammals also inhabit the surrounding forest, along with many other species. Development at the mouth of the river limits natural areas and habitat restoration opportunities, so protected blocks upstream are even more important for the salmon and other wildlife that make this river and surrounding lands their home. Conservation on the Duckabush has been a long-term collaborative effort among a number of conservation partners, including The Trust for Public Land, the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, the Wild Fish Conservancy, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local groups for many years.



A wildlife camera at Duckabush Oxbow and Wetlands Preserve snapped this resident Roosevelt elk herd at the meadow's edge.

Duckabush Oxbow & Wetlands Preserve

In spring, 2014, the land linking two nature preserves, the **Land Trust's Duckabush Oxbow Preserve** and Duckabush Wetlands Preserve, was permanently protected as wildlife habitat, thanks to funding through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Jefferson Land Trust volunteers and donors. The result is 32 acres of contiguous permanently protected wildlife habitat along the Duckabush River, which will be open to the public and available for outdoor education programs.

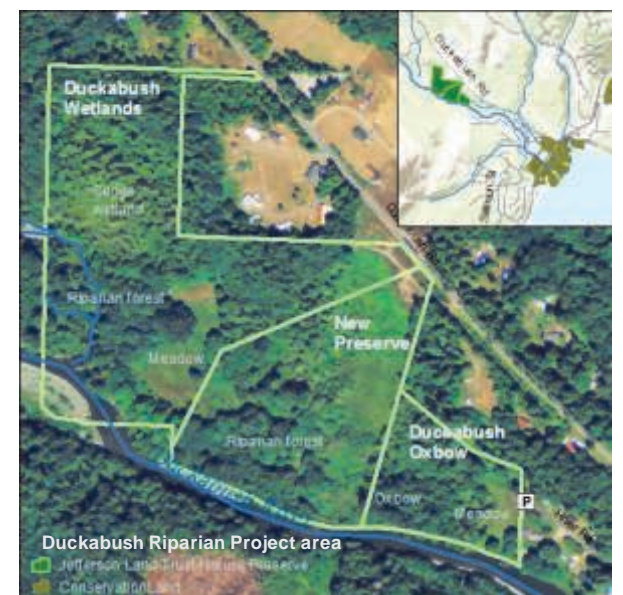
Now that the land at Duckabush Oxbow and Wetland Preserve is permanently protected, we are working in partnership with Jefferson County to restore the habitat conditions that will best serve the long-term habitat needs for the wildlife residing on this property. Preventing dumping **and vehicle access to the river's gravel bars, which** are important for spawning salmon, will be important, as well as removing trash and noxious weeds.

On the Oxbow, more extensive restoration work is planned. Development for a cabin that as been removed from the site resulted in land alteration that cut off an old channel to the river. This created a pond area and affected water flow in the floodplain. Restoration to recontour the floodplain zone will improve water flow and restore the natural hydrological function. The ancient side channel will be dug out, reconnecting the pond area to the river and creating fantastic juvenile habitat for young salmon.

Duckabush Riparian Partnership

We're currently working to protect a large tract of forest and riverbank right across the river from Duckabush Oxbow and Wetlands Preserve.

This opportunity comes to us through one of the strategic partnerships that are proving so effective for ensuring sustainable landscapes, where habitat and working lands co-exist to their mutual benefit. We are collaborating with The Trust for Public Land, Green Crow timber company and other partners on the preservation of a habitat buffer along the river to protect its salmon spawning grounds, in addition to 2550 acres of private timberland to continue to be managed as a working forest. Conservation on both sides of the river multiplies benefits to healthy habitat for wildlife and contributes to a 2.6-mile protected corridor leading to the Olympic National Forest.



Farms Forever



The Land Trust works with farmers and funding agencies to preserve local farmland by purchasing agricultural conservation easements that keep the land available for farming while compensating the landowner for the loss of development potential. This ensures prime farmland is not developed, helps keep it affordable for the next generation of farmers, and provides a capital boost to local farm businesses. Thanks to our community of supporters who make this work possible, over 600 acres of local farmland are permanently preserved, including Boulton Farm, Red Dog Farm, Finnrivier Farm and Cidery, SpringRain Farm and Orchard, Glendale Farm, Brown Dairy, Sunfield Farm and Waldorf School, and more.

Now, we're working on the permanent protection of two more prominent Chimacum farms that will add over 500 acres to our community's local farm legacy, including the beautiful spot pictured here. Can you guess which historic dairy it is?

LandWorks Collaborative

Successful farms require more than just the land itself. Access to markets and infrastructure, capital investment, interns, training and community support are all part of a vibrant local food economy and culture. The Land Trust and our partners in the Jefferson LandWorks Collaborative work to address this holistic picture, each group providing our unique expertise to address the whole spectrum of challenges that local farms face.

Boulton Family Farm

Adapted from an article by Selden Mckee

John Boulton looks out over the farm that has been in his family for 70 years, and knows it will continue to be a working farm for generations to come. In a process that took over six years to complete, John worked with the Land Trust to preserve his farm with a 142-acre conservation easement.



Photo by Selden Mckee

"This working farm is the legacy I want to leave." -John Boulton

Boulton's father bought the land in 1944, but it had been in agricultural production from the early 1900's. His family ran a dairy, and later raised beef cattle. The rich soils were continually replenished with cow manure mixed with wood shavings from a mill.

Now he leases the farm to Zach Willand and Haley Olson of Dharma Ridge Farm, organic farmers who raise about 25 different vegetable crops there. John hopes the couple will be able to buy the land in the near future. **"They've been farming long enough to know the pitfalls, they are hard workers and have a good permanent crew,"** he said.

Funding for this project from the Jefferson County Conservation Futures Fund and the Federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program were matched by a donation of part of the value of **the land, demonstrating John's commitment to conserving his farm.**

"I'm not interested in making lots of money, but in keeping this farm intact as a working farm," says John. "This working farm is the legacy I want to leave." He does not want to see residential development on his land, as has happened to much farmland on the peninsula.

Watch an animated short about Boulton Farm, online at <https://youtu.be/JdHuRI4kx7Y>

Chimacum Commons

This fall in the Land Trust's strategic planning process (see p. 9), we will be hosting forums with the Chimacum farming community to flesh out a vision for an incubator farm at Chimacum Commons.

In 2014, the Land Trust purchased 15 acres of prime, undeveloped agricultural land right around the corner from the Chimacum Corner **Farmstand. The land's central location in a burgeoning farm community presents an opportunity to create solutions to some of the most pressing challenges facing our local farms and agricultural economy.**

Can we make this a place to grow not only food but farmers themselves? We think so.

Following the example of more than 150 incubator farms nationwide, the Chimacum Commons property could provide a boost to new farm businesses with access not only to land, but also infrastructure like greenhouses, implements, local investments and mentoring, allowing young farmers to begin growing their businesses without the steep initial overhead that can cripple so many new agricultural ventures.

Though most of the property will be reserved for agriculture, we know that availability of affordable, accessible housing for farm workers and interns in our area is extremely limited and much-needed. Access to housing is an obstacle to the workers and interns who would like to pursue a career in farming, and to the farmers who need a young, strong workforce but cannot house them. At Chimacum Commons, an area of clustered, affordable, ecological, high-density housing could provide a convenient, centrally-located housing hub for farmers, field hands and interns.

Following this model, this piece of land could seed and nurture new business, bolster the profitability of existing farms and draw a greater pool of interns and workers to our area. These are some of the ideas we are considering for the future of Chimacum Commons; it will take a community effort to make these dreams a reality. But we know if any community can do it, we can!

Protecting Working Forests

No matter where you are in Jefferson County, you are near a forest that is managed for timber production. Having forests in our landscape is beneficial for so many reasons: they contribute to the clean water we drink, the clean air we breathe, the wildlife we watch, and they can also be an economic and community resource.

Forests are critical for our long-term community well-being. Sustainably managed natural resources are important to healthy and resilient places. Our working forests are a resource that **could easily go away if we don't take action** to preserve them.

Timberlands in Jefferson County are being developed rapidly compared with those in other areas. The demand for residential development is high enough that, in many cases, selling forest property to convert into developed land is more financially rewarding than it is to grow and harvest trees, and, as more development occurs, **there's ever**-increasing incentive and pressure to convert even more forestland. Forest fragmentation threatens the timber industry, chipping away at the feasibility of a healthy local logging industry. Departing timber companies sell their holdings, and the cycle of forestland conversion continues.

The loss of working forests damages our economy, wildlife, air and water quality, and the **character of our landscape and community**. That's why, in 2011, Jefferson Land Trust launched its Forestland Conservation Program to actively work to protect them.

Forestland Conservation Program Goals

- Form strategic and innovative partnerships to conserve local working forests
- Sustainably manage large forested tracts for the benefit of the community and environment
- Create a local forest economy, akin to the local farm and food economy, that helps our community and region prosper

Community Forests

Land managed as a community forest involves the local community in its establishment and land use decision-making. We all have a vested interest in the land around us, so community control helps retain the public benefit of local forest resources.

Often, community forest management includes



Chimacum Ridge: A central and defining feature of the Chimacum landscape

timber production through sustainable harvest that retains standing mature forests for hiking trails and wildlife habitat.

Chimacum Ridge

We envision a community forest at Chimacum Ridge. This beautiful forested ridge is a prominent Chimacum landmark, stretching southward from within sight of the crossroads about 2.5 miles between Center Valley and Beaver Valley (above).

Owned by timber company Rayonier since 2006, this 850 acre property is too small and isolated to be part of their long-term portfolio. Although Rayonier had the rights to sell the land for development, they were open to negotiating a conservation sale.

This summer, after years of work, a long-term partnership is in place that will provide Jefferson Land Trust a five-year window of opportunity to preserve the property.

The Trust for Public Land, Ecotrust Forest Management, and the Land Trust collaborated on a phased plan. First, The Trust for Public Land purchased the 850 acres property, and conveyed it to Ecotrust Forest Management, who will hold it for up to 5 years. This will give the Land Trust time to work with funders and supporters to coordinate a local purchase. This will likely include a combination of grants and private contributions.

As part of developing the take-out strategy, we will be asking for local input, starting August 25

at our Open House (details in events listing on back cover) to develop management goals for a community forest on Chimacum Ridge.

“Our incredible working forests define our landscape. Collaborating with new partners to build new strategies together, we are seeing ways to have a true impact on our local forest economy, and grow our long-term landscape security through the **permanence of working forests.**”

-Sarah Spaeth,
Director, Conservation & Strategic Partnerships





Erika and Janis Bullis

The Bulis Forest Legacy

The Bulis Forest Preserve is 130 acres adjacent to Fort Townsend State Park, donated to the Land Trust in 1997 by Erika Bulis in memory of her husband, Janis. Erika provided the means to care for the property by setting aside a 28-acre section as a working forest to financially support the permanent preservation of the remaining land in a natural state.

“The 28 acre working forest is like a built-in stewardship fund for the preserve. The remaining 100 acres is permanently reserved for habitat—for natural forest succession. Having the working forest helps to ensure there’s a way in which that legacy is honored and protected forever,” says Erik Kingfisher, Jefferson Land Trust Stewardship Director

The stewardship of the preserve reflects both **Janis’s and Erika’s relationship to the land.** **“Jan loved the forest. He loved to wander out there without a compass. We used to go out together and try to get lost and then find our way back, and doing that we found places around there that were very unique,”** said Earl Kong, a retired forester who worked with Janis on the property beginning in 1991 and continues to help with its **management today.** **“Jan was more of the forestry management type, and Erika liked the wild land look,”** Earl told us.

Bulis Preserve Timber Harvest

In the autumn of 2014, we began a timber harvest at Bulis to replenish the preserve’s stewardship fund and promote timber productivity in the working forest area. Earl helped with the harvest; **“we are harvesting timber, but it’s going to stay a forest,”** he explained. **“You could think of it as a thinning. It’s called individual tree selection harvest.”**

Watch *A Light in the Forest*, a short movie about the Bulis timber harvest, online at

<http://youtu.be/r3jhNPLqAT4>

Sustainable forest management includes keeping trees at three levels of growth: an overstory of large trees, a middle story of intermediate trees, and an understory of relatively young trees.

On the Bulis working forest, selective harvest of mature trees removed dense, slow-growing clusters and gave intermediate trees more light and room to grow, helping the forest become more productive. Then a replanting of cedars in shady spots and Douglas firs in sunny areas will accelerate the rate of timber growth. When the intermediate trees grow large enough so that they begin to compete against each other for space, water, and nutrients, another thinning operation will take place.



A local logger with a load of timber from the harvest at Bulis Forest Preserve.

Tarboo Forest

Eighty acres of mature forest in the Tarboo valley were permanently preserved in August 2014 through a collaboration between Northwest Watershed Institute (NWI) and Jefferson Land Trust. This was the final piece of a multi-phase forest conservation effort totaling 238 acres—one of the largest conservation easement projects completed to date in East Jefferson County.

“We are looking to demonstrate that it is possible to restore old growth forest habitat conditions, while also providing some jobs and high quality forest resources – kind of a middle ground between industrial clear-cuts and “no touch” protection,” said Peter Bahls, NWI executive director.

The conservation easement protects the forest’s standing volume of timber as of a 2011 timber cruise, but allows selective harvest of some of the growth above that base level. **“In banking terms, we are protecting the principle and allowing it to continue to grow, while harvesting some of the interest,”** said Bahls. **“The result, we hope, will be better and better habitat and higher quality**



Carl's Forest

timber over time.”

This also provided a way for people to offset their carbon emissions locally. According to a carbon assessment done by Northwest Natural Resources Group, the protected forest is storing at least **37 metric tons of carbon per acre.** **“This level of carbon protected on the forest as a whole is equivalent to the annual CO2 output of over 2,000 passenger vehicles”,** said Bahls. **“In effect, every protected acre offsets about 7 years of an average American’s carbon emissions”.**

80 acres purchased by NWI, plus the 158-acre **“Carl’s Forest” conservation easement, protected** by Jefferson Land Trust and Leopold Freeman LLC in 2013, were the other components of the larger conservation effort, funded by Jefferson County’s Conservation Futures Program, private donors and foundations.

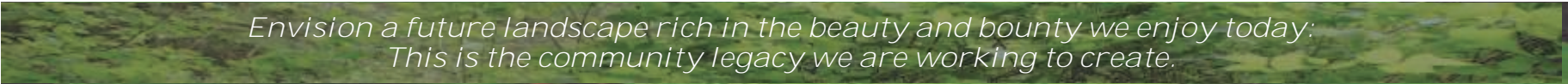
The 238 acres of forest includes seven tributaries to Tarboo Creek, the main freshwater source of Tarboo-Dabob Bay. **“Conserving forestland is key to protecting the water quality for wild coho and chum salmon in Tarboo Creek, as well as the productive oyster and clam beds of Tarboo-Dabob Bay,”** said Judith Rubin, Stewardship Director for NWI.

To date, more than 500 acres along Tarboo Creek and more than 2,000 acres within the Dabob Bay Natural Area have been protected by a coalition of conservation organizations, landowners and public agencies.



Tarboo valley leading to Tarboo-Dabob Bay

A Legacy of Land



Jefferson Land Trust is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, supported by the generosity of people who share the vision of a healthy environment sustaining a healthy community.

We rely on community donations to power our success. The work that your contributions make possible includes meeting with landowners to work on new conservation easements and land purchases, creating big-picture strategy with conservation partners, providing our nature preserves as outdoor classrooms for school groups, applying for grant funding for projects that preserve the health and beauty of the local landscape; protecting farms, forests and wildlands that are top local priorities, and stewarding the land in our care.



“What I am drawn to most about the Land Trust’s work is that it is community-based, hands-on, and transformative. I believe that it takes the engagement and partnership of local citizens to preserve wild places and the diverse species that inhabit them. We can all help leave a legacy of land for the generations to come. Whether you give your time, donate money or land, or make a planned gift, your support makes a real difference for land and life right here in **Jefferson County. Want to help? I’d love** to hear from you—contact me at cclark@saveland.org or (360) 379-9501 **ext 102.”**

-Chris Clark, Jefferson Land Trust Development Director



“I’ve been a supporter of Jefferson Land Trust since its beginning. My love of the outdoors and wild spaces began when I was eight and went to Campfire Girls camp on Vashon Island for the first time; I went every summer after that through my 19th year. Today, as fewer wild and undeveloped places exist, I think that land conservation is more important than ever.”

-Pamela Murphy, Jefferson Land Trust supporter & volunteer Preserve Steward at Illahee Preserve on Chimacum Creek.

“Why did we donate a valuable conservation easement to protect our farm? During our property search, it became obvious that prime agricultural land was being valued for its development potential, which made it too expensive for us to buy. We wanted to make sure a new generation of farmers could afford our land when it was time to **pass it on.”**

-Roxanne Hudson and John Bellow of SpringRain Farm and Orchard



*Thank you for being
part of this work!*



For information about including Jefferson Land Trust in your will or estate plans, contact Chris at cclark@saveland.org

A land trust is a promise ... a promise we as a community make that in 50 years, 75 years, 100 years, the farms, fish and forests of Jefferson County will still exist, and that the quality of life and legacy they represent will remain forever.

Looking Ahead

A 100-Year Vision

A decade ago, the Land Trust began to formally **develop the “big picture” for conservation in Jefferson County.** We met with local community members, public agencies, and organizations in working groups and public meetings throughout Jefferson County to gather information and input for a long-term local conservation plan.

Published in 2010, this Conservation Plan identifies local conservation priorities for the next **century. It’s a blueprint for our 100 year vision** for our landscape and community, and sets forth the broad requirements for preserving the best land we have left, before the open spaces and landscapes we enjoy today are erased.

A Five-Year Plan

Now, facing a rapidly increasing rate of change in—and opportunity for preservation of—our farms, fish, and forests and the quality of life they reflect, we need your help again. The Land Trust is building a plan to bridge our current opportunities and the 100-year visions set forth in our **Conservation Plan. We’ll be developing strategies** and goals for the next three to five years of our work, and your voice is a crucial part of this process.

What are your conservation priorities in the next three to five years? What do you believe are the primary threats to the landscape and quality of life in Jefferson County? Are there areas we should be **working where we aren’t active yet?**

Your Voice

As a grassroots community group, we need your input to develop a three-to-five year strategic plan for being the most effective local land conservation organization we can be.

Please share your perspective by taking our community survey, online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2015JLTsurvey>

In the months ahead, we will need your help to determine what a community forest on Chimacum Ridge (see page 6) will look like. And this project is just the beginning of our work on community forests, as well as other strategic partnerships with the potential, unlike any we have ever seen before, to save the most important places in Jefferson County while we have time left to do so.

Our online survey is just one way we are gathering community input for our work. Join the conversation in person at the Jefferson Land Trust Open House on August 25. (See the events schedule on the back cover for details.)

From Our Conservation Plan



Vision for Wildlife Habitat

Habitat is biologically diverse, interconnected, and supports viable populations of keystone species.

Vision for Agriculture

A thriving, sustainable agricultural industry is prominent in the local economy, culture, and landscape and is supported by greater demand for local food.



Vision for Forestry

Large tracts of working forests are permanently protected for stable and sustainable production, wildlife habitat, scenic viewsheds, clean air and water, and recreational uses.

Vision for Recreation

The wild and scenic character of our county is preserved and a network of trail corridors and recreation lands provides abundant access to natural rural areas and connectivity between our towns.



Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteers make a significant contribution to our work. They pull weeds, plant trees, clean up trash, install signs, steward our preserves, lead nature walks, organize talks and lectures, help with events, and so much more.

The volunteers that comprise Jefferson Land Trust's board of directors are a hard-working part of the Land Trust team. Board members can serve up to eight consecutive years, making the decisions that guide the organization, serving on committees to get critical work done, and contributing to the Land Trust in innumerable ways. This year, we bid adieu as long-time board member Kathryn Lamka reached the end of her eight year board tenure. **We are so grateful for Kathryn's industrious dedication** —and that she continues to volunteer for us in so many ways!

Interested in volunteering for the Land Trust? Contact info@saveland.org



Kathryn Lamka,
Jefferson Land Trust Board of Directors
2007-2015

Q: Why is the work of the land trust meaningful to you?

A: **It's about the mission. I love every word of it** and I love the fact that we are working our way up the watershed through the focus areas that our mission proclaims. Open space and habitat were the first two areas of conservation for the Land

Trust, and I feel that our work all along Chimacum Creek and in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor exemplifies these two pillars of the mission. Our habitat projects all over the county (the Hoh River, Tarboo-Dabob Bay watershed, Big Quil, Snow and Salmon Creeks, etc.) are too numerous to name, but they all make me proud of land conservation efforts.

But the most meaningful to me, particularly since I have been a part of it first-hand as it's a focus that took root during my time on the board, is our success in protecting working lands. So many of our local farms are now protected, and others are in the works and set to be preserved soon. Our **community LOVES our farmers and I don't know of anyone who doesn't smile when visiting Beaver Valley and Center Valley**, knowing that these farms are providing us really good food and will continue to do so!

Now the Land Trust is moving up the watershed and we are working to protect timberlands. This will be no easy feat over the long haul, but looking at **Chimacum Ridge makes me proud...so proud!**

Q: What are other points of pride from your board tenure?

A: There are a lot of things that make me proud from my time as a board member. One of the **biggest is the success of our "Save the Land"** program that adds a small voluntary donation onto purchases at participating local businesses. Finnriver Farm, The Resort at Port Ludlow and

The Port Townsend Food Co-op have all joined this program to support our work, recognizing the connection between their businesses and farmland preservation. Customers are generous **and want to help us continue to save land.** I'm proud of this community coming together to support efforts that make a difference for everyone.

Thank
you,
SAVE
THE
LAND
business
partners!



PORT LUDLOW
golf marina inn home



Volunteer for Summer Stewardship



Summer Stewardship is a series of volunteer events to explore and care for some of the best protected habitat in East Jefferson County. We welcome folks of all ages and abilities. Jefferson Land Trust provides all tools and instruction necessary. Just bring any water and snacks you may need to work comfortably.

Contact cclendaniel@saveland.org to sign up for stewardship volunteer opportunity announcements. For a schedule of upcoming Summer Stewardship events, see the back cover.

SAVE the LAND



For information about becoming a
Save the Land business partner, contact
cclark@saveland.org

Financial Report

On June 11, 2015 the firm of Clark Nuber PS presented its favorable management letter and audited financials for 2014 to Jefferson Land Trust’s Board of Directors. The final audited financial statement is available online at www.saveland.org/PoliciesRpts.aspx

JEFFERSON LAND TRUST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Moore, President

Joanne Tyler, VP

Michael Machette, Treasurer

Bethany Axtman, Secretary

Heida Diefenderfer

Nan Evans

Robin Fitch

Glenda Hultman

Gary Keister

David Reid

Brie Van Cleve

Debbie Wardrop

STAFF

Executive Director
Richard Tucker

Director, Conservation &
Strategic Partnerships
Sarah Spaeth

Director, Development & Public
Relations
Chris Clark

Stewardship Director
Erik Kingfisher

Finance Director
Ann Baier

Communications Director
Caroline Robertson

Stewardship Associate
Carrie Clendaniel

Finance Assistant
Kathleen Wacker

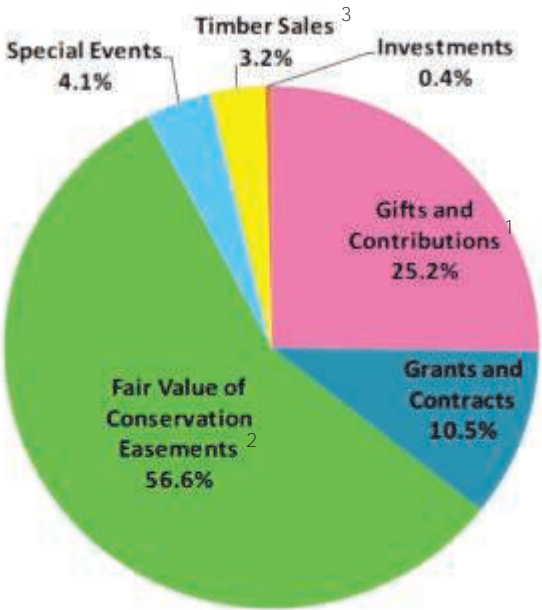
Database Administrator
Shelby Smith

Administrative Assistant
Caitlin Battersby

1033 LAWRENCE STREET
PORT TOWNSEND, WA 98368
INFO@SAVELAND.ORG
(360) 379-9501



2014 Total Operating Revenues



Gifts and Contributions ¹	\$578,247
Grants and Contracts	\$240,149
Fair Value of Conservation Easements ²	\$1,297,250
Special Events	\$93,391
Timber Sales ³	\$74,416
Investments:	\$9,307
Total:	\$2,292,760

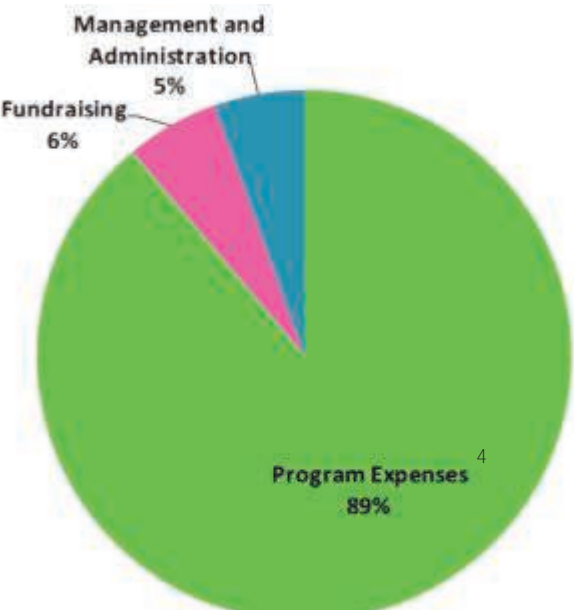
1: Contributions include private foundation grants.

2: Conservation easements are legal agreements, made by willing landowners, to place permanent restrictions on their privately owned land. These restrictions are designed to protect values like rich farm soils, wildlife habitat, forests, wetlands and open spaces. The agreement rides with the title of the land, and as a qualified conservation organization, the Land Trust is legally bound to ensure it is honored so the important values of the protected property are preserved forever.

The fair market value of conservation easements represents the transfer of rights that could affect the land’s conservation values, such as the right to subdivide or develop a property, to the Land Trust, who cannot and will not exercise them. This ensures future uses of the property will not impact the important values that the conservation easement protects.

3: Timber sales were from a sustainable harvest to fund stewardship for Bulis Forest Preserve. (See story on p. 7.)

2014 Total Operating Expenses



Program Expenses ⁴	\$1,862,944
Fundraising	\$118,437
Management and Administration	\$114,422
Total:	\$2,095,803

4: Program expenses include the fair value of conservation easements, reflecting that our obligation to steward the land in perpetuity means the transferred rights have no marketable value once held by the Land Trust.

“Foundation grants comprised 7% of our revenue in 2014, compared with 1.2% in 2013. This increase in private foundation grants gave us the opportunity to focus on local conservation priorities that are crucial to our community and organizational well-being—like On the Land Learning education partnerships, Chimacum Commons, Phase I of the Chimacum Ridge protection partnership, core infrastructure, and more—that might not fit available public funding programs. We are so grateful to Horizons Foundation, Peach Foundation, the Scheinfeld Family Foundation, Norcross Wildlife Foundation, the Land Trust Alliance, Satterberg Foundation, and the Ferguson Foundation for their generous support of this important work.”

-Ann Baier, Jefferson Land Trust Finance Director

Upcoming Events

Summer Stewardship at Quimper West Preserve

Thursday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Calling all volunteers! Come investigate the tangle of trails in this beautiful mature forest, while helping remove a holly infestation.
Location: Gate and trailhead are near the end of N. Jacob Miller Rd in Port Townsend, on the left when coming from Hastings St. Look for the Land Trust sign. Contact cclendaniel@saveland.org for more information.

Jefferson Land Trust Open House

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Everyone is welcome at this free community event. Come enjoy live music, cake and refreshments. Ribbon cutting for our new office at 4:30. At 5:30 p.m., we'll share recent work, and look at some of the opportunities on the horizon for local land conservation, and asking for your feedback about the priorities and direction of our work for the next five years.
Location: Jefferson Land Trust office and courtyard, 1033 Lawrence Street, Port Townsend, Uptown at the corner of Polk and Lawrence.

Natural History Society Dungeness Birding Field Trip

Wednesday, Aug. 26, 8 a.m.-2p.m.
Take a trip with Ken Wilson and the Land Trust Natural History Society to observe the diverse bird species of the Dungeness shoreline during fall migration. Bring lunch and binoculars and be prepared for any weather. Check jltnatural.org for details.
Location: Meet at 8 a.m. at the Port Townsend Park and Ride by Safeway.

Summer Stewardship at North Preserve

Thursday, Sept. 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Calling all volunteers! Come explore some of the most magical habitat on the Quimper Peninsula, along lower Chimacum Creek **where seals and salmon play. We'll look for** returning salmon while clearing the creek of noxious weeds and trash.
Location: 9th Avenue and W. Melissa, Port Hadlock. Look for the Land Trust sandwich-board sign on the day of the event. Contact cclendaniel@saveland.org for more information.

Volunteer for Summer Stewardship



Thursdays: 8/13, 9/10, & 9/24 ; 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

To receive monthly Jefferson Land Trust news and event announcements, contact info@saveland.org



Thanks to our 2015 Presenting Sponsor



San Juans 3-Day Cruise with Puget Sound Express

Tuesday, Sept. 22-Thursday, Sept. 24
Puget Sound Express presents an exciting 3-day cruise through the San Juan Islands. Use coupon code LANDTRUST15 and 10% of your fare will be donated to Jefferson Land Trust!
Location: Days are spent on the water in the comfortable Glacier Spirit, then relax in the evenings at luxurious Roche Harbor Resort.
Registration: \$1700 per couple/\$925 per individual. Visit PugetSoundExpress.com **and don't forget to enter coupon code LANDTRUST15.**

Summer Stewardship at Lower Donovan Creek Preserve

Thursday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Calling all volunteers! Help tackle invasive teasel and nightshade, and bring binoculars for birding on this Quilcene nature preserve.
Location: From Center Rd, turn onto E. Quilcene Rd; take the 1st left onto McInnis Rd; proceed 0.3 miles & park at the first driveway on the right. Look for the Land Trust sign. Contact Carrie at cclendaniel@saveland.org to carpool from Port Townsend.

RainFest Auction

Saturday, Oct. 10, 5:30-8p.m.
Join us for a festive party and fundraiser to help preserve the best and most beloved places in Jefferson County.
Location: The Commons at Fort Worden, Port Townsend
Registration: Advance registration required. Tickets are \$75, on sale via saveland.org or (360) 379-9501.

Wildlife Tracking 2-Day Certification Workshop

Saturday, Oct. 17, 8 a.m.-Sunday, Oct. 18, 4:30 p.m.
Join wildlife tracking expert David Moskowitz for a track and sign workshop and certification evaluation.
Registration: \$260; call (360) 379-9501 or go to saveland.org/Events/ to sign up. Registration closes October 5. Space is limited and all registration is final.