

Farms,
Fish &
Forests
Forever



Report to the Community

2015-16

100 YEAR VISION

Photo by Caitlin Battersby

FARMS

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

Photo by Western Wildlife Outreach

HABITAT

“Natural areas are interconnected, support viable populations of keystone species, and provide habitat for biologically diverse communities of wildlife.”

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

Richard Tucker,
Executive Director



Several years ago, we conducted a community process to develop a long-term local vision and conservation plan looking 100 years into the future. The visions that developed are inspirational, and they guide the Land Trust’s work every day.

Over the past year, we asked, “What will it take to make the community’s vision for land and life in Jefferson County a reality? What must we do now to ensure we have clean air and water, productive lands, abundant wildlife, and natural beauty for generations?”

To develop a strategy for the Land Trust’s next three years of work, we conducted a public survey to surface critical local issues and opportunities, gathered responses to key questions at a community open house and during targeted listening sessions, and conducted interviews with partners and stakeholders.

OUTCOMES

It’s no surprise to learn that people here are passionate about what we want for the future. Our charge as a Land Trust is to continue to bring together the right people, places and financing strategies so that this collective community vision can be achieved

We heard we need to focus on projects that have the greatest impact to support thriving habitat, farms and forests. In the next several years, we’ll emphasize connecting existing conserved land to create habitat corridors, ensure ecosystem health, and maintain a critical mass of working farms and forests.

Conservation touches on community character and quality of life, and Jefferson Land Trust can play a critical role, through our mission, in ensuring people thrive, the natural resources we all depend on are managed sustainably, and people have direct opportunities to connect to the land.

To achieve our community vision for life and land in Jefferson County, we developed five strategic goals as our focus for the next three years, and a plan on how to achieve them.

The work ahead is ambitious, so I am grateful to be here, in such an amazing community where I know that, together, we can preserve the places that sustain us.

3- YEAR STRATEGIC GOALS

- ▶ INCREASE and augment the protection of high-priority natural areas, working farms and forestlands.
- ▶ CLARIFY and integrate processes for efficient information exchange and analysis, community collaboration, and risk management to fulfill the Land Trust’s growing stewardship obligations.
- ▶ DEVELOP and implement an integrated philosophy and approach to fostering active community participation and a collective conservation and stewardship ethic in Jefferson County.
- ▶ ENSURE Jefferson Land Trust is a stable, professional, mission-centric organization structured for long-term success.
- ▶ CULTIVATE a well-structured Board of Directors focused on providing guidance and leadership to ensure the Land Trust fulfills its mission.

100 YEAR VISION



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.”



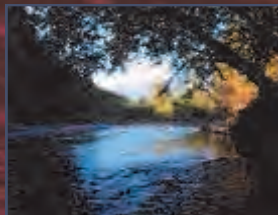
FORESTS

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

WILDLIFE HABITAT

2015
HABITAT
PROTECTION
HIGHLIGHTS

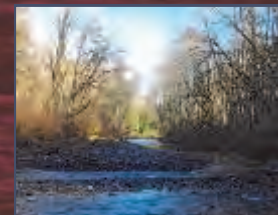
153
ACRES
DUCKABUSH
RIVER



73
ACRES
UPPER SNOW
CREEK



14
ACRES
BIG QUIL
RIVER



STREAM ZONES & MILESTONES

We hear a lot about salmon streams: they have been some of the most-threatened habitats in our area, and they're integral to the ecological health of our landscape.

A blown culvert caused endangered summer chum salmon to go extinct in Chimacum Creek just about the time the Land Trust was founded in the late 80's, and salmon populations in many other East Jefferson County streams and watersheds were close behind. This tragedy inspired an intense community effort to bring them back that continues to this day. We're currently working on a push to protect more critical acres at the creek's estuary and lower main stem.

Preserving creeks and rivers is about more than just fish;

waterways are de facto habitat corridors that are crucial for a majority of the wildlife of our region. 87% of birds, amphibians, reptiles and mammals in western Washington rely on stream zones at some point in their life, or seasonally.

Recently, each season has brought success in protecting and restoring creeks, rivers, and wetlands all across Jefferson County. There are big landmarks in 2015 and so far this year, with new preserves on Snow Creek, the Duckabush and Big Quil Rivers; and many smaller milestones, a few more acres at a time in ongoing projects on Tarboo Bay, in the Quimper Wildlife Corridor and on Chimacum Creek. And we have made big strides—thanks to many great volunteers!—in the “forever” stewardship work to care for all these protected lands.



Photo by Charles Espy

LEND A HAND

You can help local wildlife habitat by volunteering for community weed pulls, trail-work, surveys and more. Drop by any of our seasonal stewardship work parties to explore amazing places and help preserve them. Details at saveland.org, or email cclendaniel@saveland.org.

2015
HANDS
ON
THE
LAND

27+
VOLUNTEER
WORK
PARTIES

550+
POUNDS
WEEDS
PULLED

1625
POUNDS
TRASH
CLEARED

900+
NATIVE
PLANTS
PLANTED



SALMON VIEWING LOCATIONS

September-December: Summer chum, coho

Directions: Fairmont Rd off SR 20 near Hwy 101 intersection, Discovery Bay.

Discovery Bay Snow Creek Estuary Preserve

P Discover Pass required.

In fall, WDFW operates a fish monitoring station here.

WDFW Historic Larrance Farm

Directions: W Uncas Rd about 1/4 mile off Hwy 101, Discovery Bay.

September-October: Summer chum

In the late summer through early winter, native Pacific salmon return to the streams of Jefferson County to spawn and die, feeding and fertilizing forest ecosystems.

At least 22 species are known to feed on salmon carcasses, including bald eagle, bear, bobcat, coyote, crow, deer mice, dipper, stellar and gray jay, mink, pacific wren, raccoon, river otter, red-tailed hawk, shrew, skunk and squirrel. Only mole, beaver, cougar and elk abstain. Even deer may nibble.



Parking area



Jefferson Land Trust Public Preserve



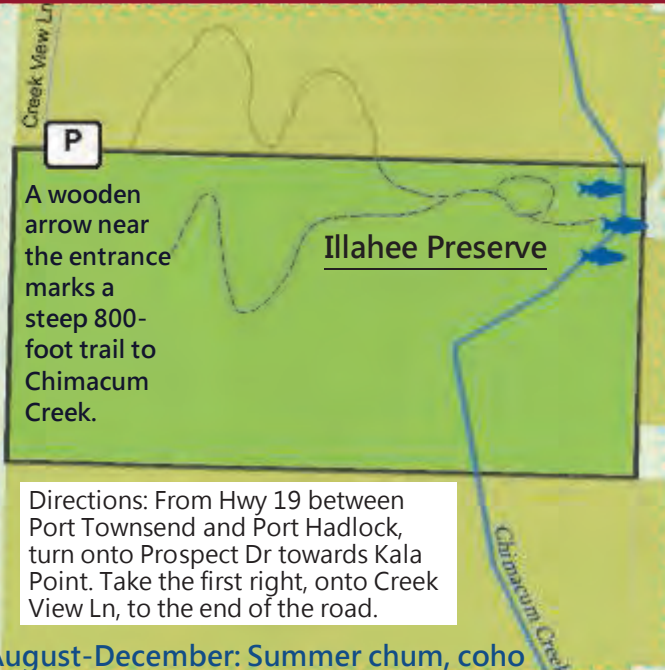
Public land



Salmon viewing



For informational purposes only
Data revised in June, 2015
All data represented are from
various sources and approximations.



A wooden arrow near the entrance marks a steep 800-foot trail to Chimacum Creek.

Illahee Preserve

Directions: From Hwy 19 between Port Townsend and Port Hadlock, turn onto Prospect Dr towards Kala Point. Take the first right, onto Creek View Ln, to the end of the road.

August-December: Summer chum, coho

A gently sloped 50-foot trail leads to a forested stretch of coho spawning habitat.

HJ Carroll Park

P H J Carroll Park Rd
SR 19

Glen Av

November-January: Coho

Directions: From Rhody Dr (SR 19) in Chimacum, turn onto HJ Carroll Park Rd.

Directions: From Hwy 101 in Brinnon, take Duckabush Rd Turn left onto River Rd to the end of the road.

Duckabush Oxbow & Wetlands Preserve



River Rd

Gran Rd

Look for beaver-chewed trees and tracks from cougar, elk and bear along the riverbank.

September-October: Summer chum, coho

FARMS

FARMS FOREVER

We are at a pivotal point where long term landowners are nearing retirement and generational land transfer is imminent. It's an opportunity to help preserve and sustain our local agricultural resources by providing conservation, funding and succession tools to landowners that are interested in preserving their farmland, helping to ensure that the land remains affordable to the next generation of farmers and remains part of our local food system.

Community support for farmland conservation is making a big difference for a healthy local farm and food economy, culture, and landscape.

Right now, we're close to preserving several of the oldest and most productive farms in the county. As of this summer, the Short Family Farm will be protected forever – over 250 acres! We're partnering with the Trust for Public land to bring a large Chimacum farm back to life. Work is in progress to preserve over 720 acres of prime farmland. And we're thinking strategically about community needs to support the next generation of people working the land with our vision for Chimacum Commons. All of this work is possible thanks to community support and collaboration to shape our future for the better.

2015

700+

TOTAL
PROTECTED
FARM ACRES
As of 12/31/15

“Farmworker housing is in short supply locally. With the Land Trust’s Chimacum Commons property, we have a chance to explore creating a hub of clustered worker housing and farm business incubator space on 15 acres of protected prime farmland right in ‘downtown’ Chimacum.”

-Sarah Spaeth, Director, Conservation & Strategic Partnerships

720+

ACRES
PROTECTION
IN PROGRESS
As of 6/29/16

2016



Photo by Debra Elizabeth Swanson

THE FUTURE OF FORESTS

“Forests are a key element of our landscape and communities, and we’re at a crossroads in determining their future.” -Sarah Spaeth, Director, Conservation & Strategic Partnerships

Forests are part of our community identity, economy and way of life. From native habitat for plants and wildlife to recreational trails and natural refuge for people, from keeping air and water clean to sequestering carbon, from scenic beauty to the economic importance of working timberlands, forested landscapes are fundamental to the quality of life—for all beings—in Jefferson County

But all this is at risk. The high demand for residential development means that selling forestland to convert to development can be more financially rewarding, in the short term, than it is to grow and harvest trees. As more development occurs, the local timber economy takes a hit and there’s more incentive and pressure to convert those forests into something else.

The Land Trust collaborates with partners across the forest economy and landscape, including forestland owners, timber companies, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, US Forest Service, ecologists and conservation groups to address this issue.

We’re exploring creative finance mechanisms to protect forested landscapes in our area. Can sustainable timber

harvest and payment for ecosystems services, like carbon sales, produce revenue to save forests, support the local economy and generate long term returns for conservation and stewardship? Can important tracts of working forests also be managed for public access, wildlife habitat and ecological health? Can we maintain our forest landscapes and increase the community impact from the benefits they provide? This is the community forest model, where forest resources are managed locally for increased local benefit.

The results could be comparable to the local food and farm movement, but for wood and forest products. Tiny homes? Specialty furniture? Long-rotation harvest that provides materials for the wooden boat industry? This model could create unique opportunities for our community.

And we’re making progress saving land on the ground. In 2015 we bought some time to permanently protect 850-acre Chimacum Ridge (see below). This year we’re working hard to save the Ridge and are making headway on preserving 60 acres of beautiful woodlands that connect the Ridge to hundreds of acres of conserved farmland. These are just the first steps to save local forests; stay tuned to hear more soon!

2015

FOREST
PARTNERSHIP
HIGHLIGHTS

2500

ACRES
PARTNER
PROTECTED



Through your community support and a grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the Land Trust purchased 140 acres with a mile of riverfront on the Duckabush River— which unlocked additional funding for the Trust for Public Land and project partners to permanently protect over 2500 adjacent acres of private working timberland from subdivision and development.

850

ACRES
IN THE
BALANCE



Chimacum Ridge rises between Center and Beaver Valleys, a central feature of the Chimacum landscape. We now have a window of opportunity to protect this iconic forestland as a community forest. Managed sustainably through selective timber harvest, a healthy, mature forest can thrive and provide wildlife habitat, clean air and water, community green space and recreational trails.

87%

LAND IN JEFFERSON
COUNTY IS
FORESTED... FOR NOW

LEARNING ON THE LAND

Carrie Clendaniel
Stewardship Associate

“Thank you for taking us on the awesome field trip...I got to have a better perspective of the outdoors. I never really liked the outdoors before that trip.” -Keith, Blue Heron Student

Jefferson Land Trust partners with local public schools to take kids and their classroom curricula out into the field. Math and science concepts are applied through habitat assessments, water quality monitoring; and lessons on the economics, resources and long-term planning involved in forestry, farming and more.

Why do it? We promise to protect local conservation lands forever. As a grassroots group, the Land Trust’s work is not just rooted in the land; it’s grounded in the people here. An introduction to conservation and natural resources management helps today’s schoolkids value ecological health, support a sustainable natural-resource based economy, and become the next generation of environmental stewards.



Photo by Wendy Feltham

“Learning about the values of the trees and the forest and the ways that the forest impacts Snow Creek and Discovery Bay was ... intriguing. More than the obvious economical values that come with the trees, the trees also provide habitat to many living organisms. I found the forestry part of the trip and the whole trip to be a very valuable experience. Thank you so much!” -Kincaid, Blue Heron Student

So three years ago I began collaborating with teachers and students in the Chimacum Pi program. Our outdoor education partnership became a model for programs with other Chimacum classes and soon branched out to the PT School District.

This year we continued outdoor classes with the entire Blue Heron Middle School eighth grade. And I’m thrilled to have expanded our public school partnership to include Grant Street School’s first and second graders this year. This means we can give every student in the Port Townsend school system the opportunity to learn about local conservation and natural resource lands.

Because I believe strongly that land protection and stewardship efforts are critical to our future, I believe engaging younger generations on the land is not just fun; it’s absolutely necessary.



2015 | 300+
KIDS
ENGAGED

Photo by Wendy Feltham

2015 | 300+
COMMUNITY
VOLUNTEERS
3800+
VOLUNTEER HOURS

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JOANNE TYLER

“I wanted to contribute to the preservation of this landscape and not let it be destroyed, as has happened in so many other places.”

How did you come to be part of the Land Trust?

I’ve been involved with the Land Trust since I started coming to Port Townsend in 1989. I immediately recognized that Jefferson County is a very special place—both in its wondrous landscape and in its thoughtful community. I wanted to contribute to the preservation of this landscape and not let it be destroyed, as has happened in so many other places.

Since I was initially here during the summers only, early on I contributed items to the annual silent auctions. As soon as we moved here permanently in 2006, I have been more deeply involved. I served for eight years as a Board member, bumping up against term limits in December 2015, and I continue to be involved as a volunteer for the Land Trust.

What is it about local conservation that resonates with you?

Conservation is a long-standing commitment of mine. The way I express that commitment is heavily influenced by my observation and belief that important change takes place mostly at the grass-roots level. So, though I support national conservation efforts, my main focus is the preservation of local lands, working through an effective nonprofit organization. Jefferson Land Trust fills that bill, and more!

What are the points of pride from your board tenure?

Having participated in several significant conservation projects is a great source of satisfaction and pride. Also, I’ve learned a lot—about how land trusts work, what qualities make for a successful and contributing board member, and more about how to work successfully as part of a team.

It has been an utter pleasure to know and work with the wonderful people on the Land Trust staff and board. It has also been a true pleasure to come to know many of those in our community who give so generously of their friendship, expertise and financial support for local conservation.

Do you have any words for folks thinking of getting involved?

I would give them my unbridled encouragement to do so—in whatever ways suit their time and preferences. I think it will be one of the most satisfying experiences of their lives. It certainly has been for me.

“Important change takes place mostly at the grass-roots level”

PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES, TOGETHER

You can create new local wildlife refuges. You can protect our scenic vistas and woodland trails. You can preserve Jefferson County's heritage of family farms, working forests, and healthy ecosystems both now, and for generations to come.

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

Community donations make this work possible. Whether you can give \$10, \$100 or \$1000, your contribution is meaningful to the places and way of life we are working to protect.

Each gift is invested locally, right into the land around us, to permanently protect and restore the places that make Jefferson County special. To find out more, or to become a supporter, please visit our website at www.saveland.org.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

The generous people who have included Jefferson Land Trust in their estate plans are some of the most crucial contributors to local conservation. If you are among this important group, you have our deepest appreciation. And if you have not yet considered your charitable priorities and estate plans, please consider establishing a personal conservation legacy through your estate gift.

Today, 80% of Americans donate to charity each year, yet only 8% make gifts in their wills. Imagine the potential for collective impact if those who give during their lifetimes also made charitable bequests through their estates.

Many people don't consider their estate plans because they don't realize how significant legacy gifts of all sizes can be. Our estate plans are an opportunity to express what we have cared about most deeply in our lives. And any gift you choose to leave, whether it is \$500, \$5,000 or \$500,000, is part of a solid funding base of support fundamental to fulfilling our community promise to save protected lands forever.

We hope you'll consider naming Jefferson Land Trust in your will, and please let us know if you do! When you include the Land Trust in your estate plans, you are leaving a lasting legacy of farms, fish and forests for the future.

HOW TO ESTABLISH A PERSONAL BEQUEST

If you currently have a will, you can easily add an amendment, or codicil, to include a bequest to the charity of your choosing. If you don't have a will, perhaps this is the time to consider preparing one. Your will is fully revocable while you live—you retain control and can easily make revisions should your circumstances or wishes change in the future.

For more information, visit our website at www.saveland.org, or contact our Development Director, Chris Clark, at 360.379.9501 ext 102 or cclark@saveland.org.

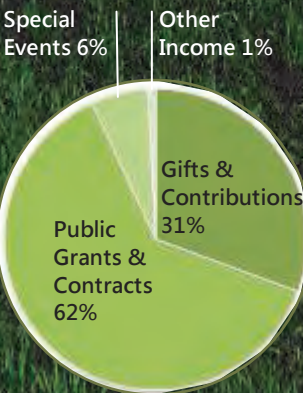
A land trust is a promise ... a promise we as a community make that in 50 years, 75 years, 100 years, the wild spaces, farms and forests of Jefferson County will still exist, and that the quality of life and legacy they represent will remain forever.



On June 21, 2016 the firm of Aiken & Sanders, Inc PS presented its favorable management letter and audited financials for 2015 to Jefferson Land Trust's Board of Directors. The final audited financial statement is available by request from Chris Clark at cclark@saveland.org.

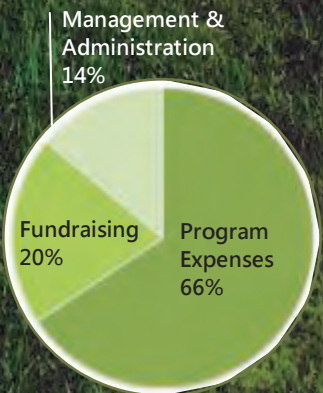
2015 Total Operating Revenues

Gifts & Contributions	
Donations	\$442,508
Private Foundation Grants	\$178,000
Public Grants & Contracts	\$1,263,631
Other (earned & investment)	\$17,458
Special Events	\$123,726
TOTAL	\$2,025,323



2015 Total Operating Expenses

Program Expenses	\$557,064
Fundraising	\$172,916
Management & Administration	\$118,765
TOTAL	\$848,745



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

STAFF

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Erik Kingfisher, Stewardship Director
Chris Clark, Director, Development &
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