



Newsletter
FALL 2017

Moving houses, clean up of dump sites, removing bridges, and weed control galore – not glamorous, but necessary work that returns healthy habitat to our wildlife.

FROM JUNK TO JEWEL

by CDLT staff

Sometimes, the Land Trust needs to do a little “light housekeeping” before a new property is at its best for the native wildlife who live there. When we buy property to protect wildlife habitat, scenic views, and recreational opportunities, we sometimes inherit challenges such as: noxious weeds, dilapidated buildings, fallen fences, and hidden garbage dumps. The best undeveloped habitat may lie alongside places and things people abandoned long ago.

Near the old railroad town of Merritt, the Land Trust recently acquired two floodplain properties with unusual histories and lots of junk falling into Nason Creek – a highly productive stream for wild spring Chinook salmon and steelhead. The longtime neighbor said one of the dilapidated cabins squeezed between the creek and the railroad

tracks was at one time “a house of ill-repute”! We removed it and several others with the help of big yellow machines. Not far away, we found a buried cache of 80s-era Macs, some of the earliest home computers. If the fish only knew!

On our beautiful Nason Alcove property last fall, the Chelan County Natural Resources Department planted nearly 2000 native shrubs and trees to help restore the shoreline and nearby floodplain to a more natural state. In order to ensure the best survival possible, these plantings need to be watered during the summer. So, on a hot August day, we lugged 5 gallon buckets of water over to individual shrubs to hand water them. Working with partners from Chelan County, we tended our little Nootka roses, ponderosa pines, serviceberry bushes, snowberry bushes, willows, and many others, giving them the best chance for making

it through these hot summer months during their first year of life outside the nursery.

Over in the Entiat River, we are in the process of removing a faltering, never-used million-pound “bridge to nowhere,” with help from a local contractor and the

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WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

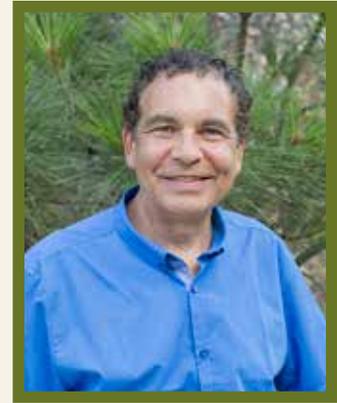
*Curt Soper
Executive Director*

*What cannot be
achieved in one
lifetime will happen
when one lifetime is
joined to another.*

~ Harold Kushner

White River
Photo: Mike de LaChapelle

North Central Washington is a great place to live. And whether you are working here, raising a family, enjoying retirement, recreating, or appreciating a second home on holidays and weekends..... it keeps getting better. As a supporter of the Land Trust, I hope you feel pride in the part you've played as we work together with our many valued partners, in delivering such a high quality of life in Chelan and Douglas Counties. In recent months we have helped bring a wonderful new trailhead facility to Saddle Rock in Wenatchee, acquired new conservation lands along the Entiat River and Nason Creek, continued to restore salmon habitat along the Entiat, and hosted a suite of field trips and outings for our members and the greater community so that they can connect to nature and learn more about our special part of the world.



Curt Soper

But don't take my word for it – listen to what the peregrine falcons are saying. This incredible bird, the fastest living thing on the planet when in a hunting dive, was on the brink of extinction 50 years ago due to pervasiveness of the pesticide DDT (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) in our ecosystem. But in 1972 DDT was banned, and a slow recovery process began for the falcons (and numerous other species). And I am happy to report that in 2017, peregrine falcons returned to nest on Saddle Rock for the first time in decades. This is evidence that our community is doing something right.

As I look back on my first full year as your Executive Director, I am extremely grateful for and impressed by our membership. You are part of a loyal and committed group of people who really have a positive impact on the Land Trust's work. Stay tuned for the rest of 2017 and into 2018. We have some exciting new projects in the works, and with your help, we will bring them to fruition. ■

female greater sage grouse
photo by Ferdi Businger



Hey there, Big Guy

This female greater sage grouse will soon be catching the eye of the more flamboyant male. With dwindling populations due to reduced habitat, this iconic western bird is now considered a “species of concern.” Douglas Co. has the largest population of sage grouse in the state.



male greater sage grouse
photo by John Marshall

Kids in the After School Program get a chance to visit the trails and explore - for some, it's their first time!

LEARNING TO LOVE NATURE

by Hillary Clark

Ana peered through the binoculars at the sand-colored cliffs of Saddle Rock, searching for movement. She and a group of 16 fellow third through fifth graders strained to get a good look at a peregrine falcon nest (eyrie) from the shade of a small grove of ponderosa pines.

Then she spotted it. "I see it!" she said, smiling.

These students were part of Wenatchee School District's *After School Program* for kids who need extra support to succeed in school. During the school year, they spend a couple of hours after the school day working on homework and enjoying enrichment programs. Last year, CDLT Stewardship and Outreach Assistant Omar Garcia taught weekly hands-on, nature based lessons at four schools, and served 180 students!

The program has shown a marked improvement in students' school performance. But it also allows these kids – many of whom come from families below the poverty line or have parents that do not speak English

– a range of experiences that they may not otherwise be exposed to. Such as, for example, hiking on our local trails.

This summer, Susan Ballinger, the Land Trust's Conservation Fellow, worked with the Wenatchee Valley College and the After School Program to offer a three-day camp focused on our local trails for these kids.

Each warm morning, boisterous boys and girls headed out on the trail to turn over wood, slide down hills and sand dunes, find bugs and climb on rocks. Then they would spend the sweltering afternoon in the cool biology lab at the College, meeting real scientists, checking out preserved specimens of plants and animals, and using microscopes to take a closer look at things they found outside.

Art was woven in throughout the program, with opportunities to paint what they saw with watercolors. The kids learned how to treat the trails with respect, how to return to each trailhead, and then took home a brochure in Spanish and English that encouraged them to return with their families.

I'm struck by how many people have worked to enable the moment when Ana first saw the falcons moving on the cliffs. Peregrine falcons faced extinction in the early 1970s due to overuse of the pesticide DDT, and have made a comeback due to decades of work by the conservation community. Then, in the last decade, Saddle Rock became a local park due to the support of our members and community. Finally, the After School Program, the College and the Land Trust all came together to make this specific experience possible. It just proves that each conservation success builds upon another success - and the ripple effect is making a big difference! 🐾



After a busy, active morning, these boys were excited to sit down and paint their adventures and all the new things they discovered outside.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

From March 2017 through August 2017, these individuals have joined the Land Trust. Thank you for your generous support!

Juan Aguilar
 Ashlee Allstot
 Kristin Ancell
 Glenn Anderson
 Kevin Arendse
 Penny Bailey
 Jerry Beebe
 Stephanie Bender
 Erin Benton
 Martin Berg
 Sue Berry
 Audrey Bessonette
 Ben Bishop
 Taylor Boglioli
 Mike Brawley & Sarah Englund
 Lindsay Breidenthal
 Barbara & James Brink
 Jeremy Britten
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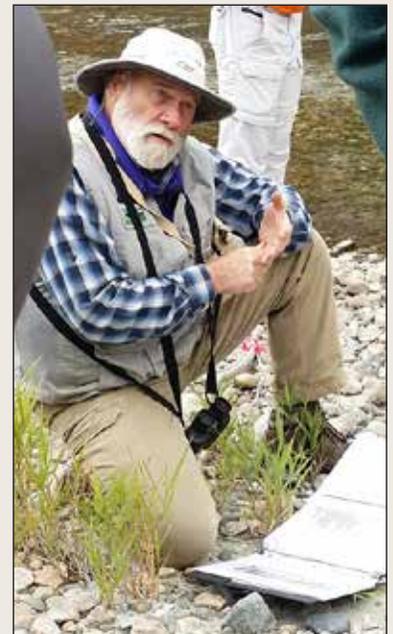
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 Shane Thayer
 Kevin Thompson
 Martha Tibbs
 Kelsey Tjoelker
 Andrew Tokar
 Lisa Trout
 Travis & Kindra Vincent
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 David & Daniel Whiting
 Charles Whittmore
 Brigitte Wiegand
 Kirk & Tina Willett
 Bob & Jackie Wilt
 Cami Wing
 Karissa Witthuhn
 Jessica Womack
 Andy & Lisa Woods
 Scott & Jennifer Wyatt
 Jarred Zachert
 Jennifer Zajac

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

One of the most beautiful spots on the Entiat River is the Land Trust's Stormy Creek Preserve. Phil Archibald has been the Site Steward for this 153 acre gem for the last 16 years! Site Stewards visit properties on a regular basis. They sometimes take care of minor repairs, monitor weeds, pick up litter, and generally keep an eye on things.

As a bonus, Phil, who is a naturalist and fish biologist, leads outings for the Land Trust every year.

Thank you for all you do, Phil!



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MAKING A LASTING IMPACT

As you can see in the successes shared in this newsletter, as a supporter of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, you are making a lasting difference. Thank you so much! You can continue supporting what you value by planning now for a future gift. Including the Land Trust in your will is a simple, yet powerful way to care for the lands and waters you love in the future!



These Legacy Donors have made a special gift by including the Land Trust in their will or other estate plans:

Anonymous (6)	Tom Ettinger & Jill LaRue	Eliot & Tina Scull
Paige & Chip Balling	Jack & Susie Evans	Jean & Russ Speidel
Tami Black	Rebecca Frank	Chris & Mimi Stahler
Bill & Lynn Bourton	Gregg Herrington	Gwyneth Thorsen
Chris Clark	Karen Haugen	Michelle & Eric Tiegel
Rita Clark	Sharon & Greg Lunz	Larry & Penelope Tobiska
Steve & Sylvia DeForest	Jack Mynatt	David & Angela Visser
	Bob & Pat Ogburn	

If you have had the foresight to do this, please consider letting us know. This will help us plan, and ensure that we can fulfill your wishes. For more information, please contact Sharon Lunz, (509) 667-9708, sharon@cdlandtrust.org, or visit the **Legacy Giving** section of our website. We will honor all requests for anonymity, and you can modify your bequest at any time if your circumstances change.

FROM JUNK TO JEWEL *(continued from p. 1)*

biggest crane in the region. When completed, fish will once again use side channels and wetlands across the property, critical habitat that they haven't been able to access for decades – giving them a much better chance for survival.

In late May a small group of staff and volunteers followed narrow deer trails into a remote canyon to try to control whitetop, the most vexing of the 22 weeds that we battle each year. Everyone was on the lookout for rattlesnakes as we climbed through a brushy, wet draw to reach our target, a solid two-acre area where whitetop had taken over, replacing the native plants. Two hours of spraying, and backpacks 24 pounds lighter, we tightened our belts for the hike out, gratified in knowing that with a few more years of attention, a beautiful diversity of wildflowers, sagebrush and native grasses will replace the solid whitetop, benefiting both people and wildlife.

While not always glamorous, this necessary work helps care for, maintain, and restore the properties that your support has protected. Native wildlife have healthier places to thrive and native plants have a chance to take hold. And we can all feel good about that! 



Good-bye, bridge to nowhere.



Weed work is tough, but you can't beat the views!

OUTINGS EVENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Join us for outings, learning opportunities and work parties. More online - for details, updates, more events, and to sign-up: cdlandtrust.org or call 509-667-9708.



VOLUNTEER

RSVP Required

TRAIL WORK

Trail Thursdays

- Oct 12 2:30-5:30 pm @ Saddle Rock
- Oct 26 2-5:30pm @ Sage Hills
- Nov 2 2:30-4:30pm @ Sage Hills

Trail work & property spruce-up

- Oct 21 9:30am-2:30pm @ Sam Hill property

Trail work, restoration

- late Oct - Nov @ Sage Hills
(more info: hanne@cdlandtrust.org)

STEWARDSHIP

Info on our website or contact neal@cdlandtrust.org

- Oct 5 9am-3pm Sagebrush thinning @ Horse Lake Reserve
- Oct 18 9am-3pm Fence removal @ Horse Lake Reserve
- Dates/times TBA Fall weed control @ Foothills & Entiat properties

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY 2017

Sagebrush seedling planting at Horse Lake Reserve. Lunch & snacks provided!

- Oct 28 9am-2pm @ Horse Lake Reserve
RSVP Required



OUTINGS

RSVP Required

FALL FAMILY DAY HIKES

Kid-focused hikes exploring nature at Saddle Rock Trailhead

Tiny Things

- Sept 30 @ 9am & 11am

Our Wild Foothills

- Oct 6 @ 3:30 pm & 5:15pm

AMERICAN INDIAN STORIES

A Trailhead Talk with Wendell George. An exploration of stories and their importance to our local area.

- Sept 28 6-7pm @ Saddle Rock Trailhead

MORNING BIRDING

With Susan Ballinger. Beginner to expert - learn from fellow birders and hone your bird ID skills! Easy walk at Walla Walla Park.

- Oct 4 7:30-9:45am
- Nov 1 7:30-9:45am
- Nov 29 7:30-9:45am
- Dec 20 7:30-9:45am

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Plant monitoring, eBirding & more—find out how easy it is to help out! Contact susan@cdlandtrust.org for more info.



EVENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES

@ Wenatchee Valley Museum

“Lost Homeland”

- Oct 3 7-8:30pm
- “Coppermine River Trip”
- Oct 17 7-8:30pm

“Seed: The Untold Story”

- Nov 14 7-8:30pm

“Switch”

- Jan 16 7-8:30pm

“The Million Dollar Duck”

- Feb 20 7-8:30pm

“Elwha: A River Reborn”

- Mar 20 7-8:30pm

“Leave It to Beavers”

- Apr 17 7-8:30pm

“The Garden”

- May 15 7-8:30pm

ANNUAL CELEBRATION DINNER

Celebrate conservation with good food and friends, old and new. Reserve your spot!

- Nov 4 6-9pm @ Leavenworth Festhalle

RENEWING OUR ACCREDITATION

The Land Trust is renewing its accreditation with the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. There is an opportunity for the public to submit comments. Details on our website:

www.cdlandtrust.org/who-we-are/history/accreditation



- Sound Finances
- Ethical Conduct
- Responsible Governance
- Lasting Stewardship



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Photo by Judy Jacques

Celebrate!

ANNUAL CELEBRATION DINNER

LEAVENWORTH FESTHALLE
NOVEMBER 4, 2017, 6-9PM

*Come celebrate this year's successes with friends, good food,
and your Land Trust community! Make your reservation
online, over the phone, or return the response form
included in your mailed invitation.*