



Newsletter
SPRING 2018

*Protection for a special gem
in the Wenatchee Valley.*

CASHMERE CANYONS PRESERVE

We are excited to share the news about the new Cashmere Canyons Preserve with you – a stunning landscape of expansive views and carpets of wildflowers. Working with the Land Trust, property owners Jabe Blumenthal, Julie Edsforth, and Don Poirier have placed a conservation easement, held by the Land Trust, on their Hay Canyon Ranch property – permanently protecting these lands from any future development.

And, in a rare and generous move, the landowners will open their property to the public for hiking when a suitable trailhead is built. The trail system will be managed by the Land Trust. Recently purchased adjoining land in Nahahum Canyon will provide for the location of the trailhead and public access to the property. The Land Trust needs to raise the money necessary to design and build an appropriate trailhead with ample parking and amenities before the public can access the property, and we hope to do that in the next 1-2 years.

Once completed, the preserve will add over 10 miles of trails that wind through this spectacular landscape. The property has sweeping views from the Columbia River to the high Cascades.

“Since we first stumbled upon this land 28 years ago, our appreciation of its subtle natural beauty has

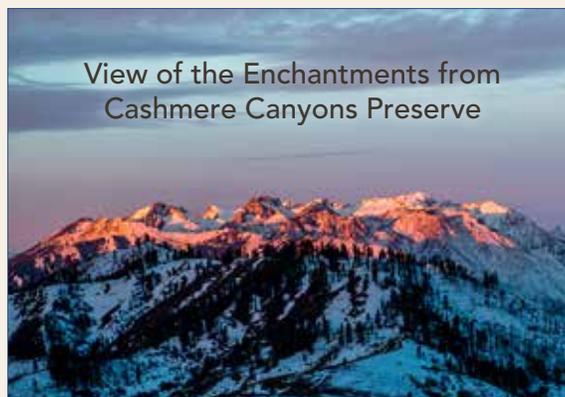
grown with every season. While many people experience its wonders through the paragliding school that operates there, we’ve always dreamed of opening up its rolling trails, flower-covered hills, and abundant wildlife to more people. With the help of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, we’ve finally been able to connect these lands to a suitable public access point,” said property owner Jabe Blumenthal. “We look forward to sharing this land with the community as well as getting their help to protect it.”

The property also has some unique qualities that make it particularly resilient to the effects of climate change. Its large size, diversity of habitat from shrub-steppe to forest, and the connectivity to public lands will allow plants and wildlife the room to move and re-establish as our climate changes. Because of these factors, protection was partially funded through a grant from The Nature

Conservancy to identify and protect Pacific Northwest lands that will provide resiliency in the face of climate change.

Knowing this important natural landscape is protected and will be there for not only us to enjoy, but for future generations of people AND wildlife – now that’s something to celebrate! 🌿

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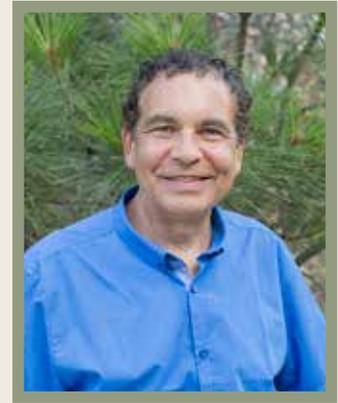
HARNESSING OUR COLLECTIVE POWER TO ADVANCE CONSERVATION

Curt Soper
Executive Director

*“The nation behaves well
if it treats the natural
resources as assets which it
must turn over to the next
generation increased; and
not impaired in value.”*

~ Theodore Roosevelt

If you asked me about the future of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, I would quote Teddy Roosevelt, my favorite President of all time: “Bully!” With your help, we are poised to establish some wonderful new preserves in the next year or two that will make our quality of life and access to the outdoors in North Central Washington even better than it is now. Places like:



*Curt Soper
Executive Director*

- Nason Ridge above the shores of Lake Wenatchee which is a much loved, and highly visible property with outstanding recreational and natural resource values;
- Remote shrub-steppe habitats in Douglas County like Spiva Butte that contain some of the last remaining places in our state where sage grouse populations are still found;
- Public access to the new Cashmere Canyons Preserve, with its stunning wildflower displays, sweeping views, and miles of trails.

How is it that the Land Trust can be playing a role in moving projects like this forward? It is because members and supporters like you are empowering us. Some contribute the financial resources we need to act when acquisition opportunities come along...like the Griffin, Sorom, and Scull families who have donated generously to create the new land conservation Opportunity Fund on behalf of the Land Trust.

Many of you volunteer your time and labor to reduce our out of pocket administrative costs and make the public enjoyment of the Wenatchee Foothills Trails system possible. And all of you advocate for what the Land Trust stands for – Our Land, Our Water, Our Future – by acting as ambassadors in your community and encouraging your friends and neighbors to join you in supporting this cause.

So stay tuned in 2018 and beyond, and thanks for being a champion for conservation in North Central Washington. Together, we are making a powerful impact! 📌

MORE ABOUT CASHMERE CANYONS PRESERVE

- Over 2,000 acres in Hay & Nahahum Canyons
- New trails to be opened & maintained by CDLT.
- Hiking/foot recreation only
(dogs, bikes, horses, motorized use prohibited per landowner agreement)
- Public access expected in 1-2 years



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

September 2017 through February 2018, these individuals have joined the Land Trust. Thank you for your generous support!

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Pamela Allyn | Chelsea & Justin Evans | Bill Marklyn | Carol Ries |
| Cathy Anderson | Amanda Fisher | Vermont McAllister | Nancy Ritzenthaler |
| Seiko Arakaki | Darlene Frack | Dianne & Bruce McCammon | Irvin Roller |
| Corinne Bassett | Robert Garretson | Dolly McClellan | Tom Ross |
| Tom Beck & Sandy Rost | Dianne Glover | Meghan Miley | Olivia Schilling & Aaron Rosenblum |
| Patrick & Mabell Bodell | Andrew & Megan Gohl | Denise Monge Morun | Christine Speidel |
| Christine Bowlen & Rick Beutler | Jason Golonka | Malerie Morgan | Jonathan Strahl |
| Linda Breneman | Ray Gwinn & Salie Rossen | Al & Nancy Murphy | Petra Swidler & Warren Kinninger |
| Roger & Diane Brunner | Eileen & Jeff Hambleton | Carolyn Sue Neff | Keith & Ester Thomas |
| Nina Carlson & Kim Rose | Donna Hankins | Margaret Neighbors | Mary Timiras |
| Connie Celustka | Eunice Hannah | Mary Carol Nelson | Katherine Triandafilou |
| Carol Cole | Michael Jernquist | Bruce Nourish | Cassandra Trimble |
| Nathan Collyer | Jeff Kimbell | Cameron Nystrom | James Van Ostrand |
| Judy Conner | Mary King | Lisa Osse | Roy & Carmel Wakeman |
| Amy Dahl | Ginny & Neil Kinnebrew | Shirley Osterhaus | Mike & Marcia Walch |
| John Dantoni & Trish Hughes | Bethanne Knebel | Patricia Patterson | Torsten Watkins |
| Carolyn Davidson Piepel | Kristine Knutson | Mary Peterson | Ann Welz & Franz Hajnal |
| Leah Davis | Marianne Kooiman | Steve & Alessandra Piro | David Davin, Wenatchee Valley
College Foundation |
| Cameron Deamer-Phillips | Christie Kay LaMountain | Robert Plumb | Mary White |
| Tom & Judy Derpack | Kathleen & Greg Ledgerwood | Eileen Quigley | Marian Wiggins |
| Kris Deyerle | Marjie Lodwick | John Rae-Grant | Shelda Winschell |
| Ken & Barb Dominguez | David Lynch | Linda Read | Isaac Zumwalt |
| Susan Douglas | Sharman Mailloux Sosa & Paulo Sosa | Jackie & Bruce Reynolds | |

WORKING TO PROTECT NASON RIDGE FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE

If you've ever stood on the shores of Lake Wenatchee – or driven past on an up-valley adventure – you know the breathtaking beauty of Nason Ridge.

But Nason Ridge offers more than just good views. Its forested slopes help ensure clean water for salmon and its trails and existing roads provide an escape for hikers, bikers and skiers.

In the last few years, the Land Trust and the community came together to develop the Upper Wenatchee Community Lands Plan. Together we studied and evaluated an area of 850,000 acres from Cashmere to Stevens Pass and identified 3,700 privately-owned acres on Nason Ridge as a priority for protection.

Last fall, the owners of Nason Ridge (Weyerhaeuser) acquired a permit to harvest almost all the trees on steep slopes above Lake Wenatchee. Nearby landowners circulated a petition to draw attention to the proposed logging, and contacted the Land Trust. Weyerhaeuser listened, and agreed to pause the timber harvest and allow some time to craft a permanent conservation outcome for the property.



Concerned citizens, the Land Trust, and the Western Rivers Conservancy (WRC) are now working to conserve all 3,700 acres. WRC has a 30-year track record of protecting land along rivers and streams in the Western United States. Currently, WRC and Weyerhaeuser are negotiating on a potential purchase of this property.

In the next month or two we will learn whether there is a pathway to purchase the property. If there is, we'll need your help to make it happen. We'll keep you updated. In the meantime, find the petition here: www.change.org/p/save-lake-wenatchee-from-a-clear-cut.

TINA SCULL LAND CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY FUND IS GROWING!

The Scull, Sorom and Griffin families each decided to make a transformational gift to the Land Trust to support what is important in their lives. Combined in the *Tina Scull Opportunity Fund*, their gifts are ensuring that we can take advantage of new, often time-sensitive opportunities to protect the special places we love.

Terry and Suzanne Sorom shared that they came to Wenatchee, in a large part, because of the wonderful outdoor activities in the area and the easy access to them. “We feel that the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust has done more than any other organization to preserve public access to our recreation lands and conserve them for future generations,” Terry said. “We subscribe enthusiastically to our Land Trust’s mission and are fortunate, and happy, to be able to add moral support as well as financially to its continued efforts.”

Bill and Marge Griffin wanted to honor Bob Bugert, past Executive Director of the Land Trust, and his wife Carolyn Griffin-Bugert. “For years, Bob and Carolyn have served the Wenatchee community through his work at the Land Trust and her work at the Wenatchee School District,” Bill said. “In addition, both have volunteered time and talent to many other local causes. We could think of no better way to honor what they have done.”

To grow the fund’s conservation power we are focusing on adding major gifts of \$25,000 or more. To learn more or explore whether this could be a good fit for you, contact Sharon Lunz, Development Director, at (509) 667-9708.



Eliot and Tina Scull established the fund with a \$1 million gift last year, to enable the Land Trust to pursue strategic projects not otherwise feasible. Eliot shared “I have been honored by CDLT on numerous occasions over the years, and it has meant a great deal. However, my wife Tina has been a steadfast and effective leader behind the scenes, and has had a major role in bringing the Land Trust to where it is today. I very much wanted to honor her in the creation of the Opportunity Fund.”

PERSISTENT, PERNICIOUS, & PROBLEMATIC

There are many ways to improve habitat for wildlife – plant shrubs, seed bunchgrass, remove fences, protect water sources. But one improvement that is often overlooked is controlling weeds. When weeds move in after soil disturbances, they crowd out the native plants that are important to our local wildlife. Songbirds such as western meadowlark and vesper sparrow, red-tailed hawk, and mule deer are a few of the animals that suffer when weeds take over. CDLT is currently fighting over 20 species of aggressive noxious weeds that are degrading habitat on our preserves.

Some the worst offenders are whitetop, Russian knapweed, and Dalmatian toadflax. Left unchecked, these weeds can form monocultures where little else grows - except cheatgrass. With the help of a Regional Impact Grant from the Community Foundation and generous gifts from many of you, we plan to expand the scope and scale of our control efforts in 2018 and 2019. We hope to reduce and contain the most aggressive weeds and snuff out new infestations where we find them. And we’re trying some new, innovative methods!

In November 2016 we started an experiment to control cheatgrass, the ubiquitous annual grass that

fills your socks with its sharp seeds in early summer. We sprayed a newly developed strain of native soil bacteria, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, known as ACK55, across the Horse Lake Reserve fields that we are restoring to a native shrub-steppe community. ACK55 inhibits the growth of cheatgrass roots without affecting native grass. It takes several years for the effects to show, so we don’t expect to see much change this year, but for the next five years, we will intensively monitor the treated areas looking for signs of change. If our experiment is successful, invasive cheatgrass will be eliminated, thanks to a soil microbe! 🍷



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OUTINGS EVENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Visit us online for full details, more outings, events, & volunteer opportunities
www.cdlandtrust.org or call 509-667-9708

MARCH

- 13 Environmental Film & Lecture Series:
A River Film
- 20 Environmental Film & Lecture Series:
Elwha a River Reborn
- 29 Invaders in our Foothills: Help Stop the Weeds! @ Wen Public Library

MAY

- 2 Upper Valley Nature Walk @ Ski Hill
- 9 Plants, People, & Wildfire Resilience, #1
- 15 Environmental Film & Lecture Series:
The Garden
- 16 Plants, People, & Wildfire Resilience, #2
- 16 Birds & Blooms @ Horse Lake
- 17 Birding @ Mountain Home
- Mid-May Bird Walk @ Stormy Creek Preserve
- 23 Plants, People, & Wildfire Resilience, #3
- 30 Upper Valley Nature Walks @ Ski Hill
- 30 Plants, People, & Wildfire Resilience, #4 @ Jacobson Preserve

APRIL

- 1 Foothills Trails Open!
- 2-6 Spring Break Nature Camp for kids
- 16 Wildflower Walk @ Balsamroot Trail
- 17 Environmental Film & Lecture Series:
Leave it to Beavers
- 17 Upper Valley Nature Walk @ Ski Hill
- 21 Early Wildflower Walk @ Sam Hill
- 22 Earth Day Scavenger Hunt for Families @ Jacobson Preserve
- 26 Celebrating Wildflowers Walk @ Jacobson Preserve - for Native Plant Appreciation Week

JUNE

- 5 Upper Valley Nature Walk @ Ski Hill
- 10 Geology @ Mountain Home
- 29 Moon Walk: Up & Over Saddle Rock

TRAIL TALK

CDLT will be busy out on the Foothills trails and beyond this spring. Be sure to check on our website for dates, details, & sign-ups as information develops!

- Expect to see new **wayfinding signage** in the Foothills.
- We will be partnering with our local chapter of Evergreen Mountain Bike Association to host **SageFest**, a trail maintenance work party open to all on Saturday, April 7.
- **Trail Thursday** work parties to attend to maintenance throughout the Foothills system – check our website in March for more info!
- The Land Trust will begin construction of the **Burts Trail** at Horse Lake Reserve, which rounds out the work outlined in our Horse Lake Trails Plan, and will serve as a nice connection to the lower end of Glacier View Trail. 📍

