Funds Distribution Report



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Recipient Organization:

Whatcom Land Trust

Address:

412 N Commercial St Bellingham, WA 98227

Mailing Address:

PO Box 6131 Bellingham, WA 98227

Contact:

(360) 650-9470

https://whatcomlandtrust.org

Organization's General Goals:

The mission of the Whatcom Land Trust is to preserve and protect wildlife habitat, scenic, agricultural and open space lands in Whatcom County for future generations by securing interests in land and promoting land stewardship. Whatcom Land Trust employs a three-pronged strategy to accomplish its mission—legal securement of land, land stewardship and restoration, and community engagement in conservation action.

Date of Award: Level:

2019 Q3 \$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Whatcom Land Trust.

Disclaimer: This report may be a summary of content provided by the recipient, not always complete quoted material. 6/18/2020



412 N Commercial St • Bellingham, WA 98225 PO 8ox 6131 • Bellingham, WA 98227 www.whatcomlandtrust.org Phone (360) 650-9470

Dear Marilyn.

I am pleased to share our Annual Report with you. Each of the projects and stories represent the full range of Whatcom Land Trust's mission – to preserve, protect, and engage the community in our shared heritage of land. From restoration of wildlife habitat and watershed protections, to farmland, open space and new parks for our growing community, Whatcom Land Trust is at the heart of collaborative new land protections and resource management to benefit generations of people and species. We hope you enjoy reading the report, and see yourself and your collective gifts represented in stories, images, people and our future.

We had every intention of getting this report in your hands sooner but the coronavirus pandemic careened into Whatcom County and, like you, we responded to more urgent needs to keep our community safe, healthy and responsive for people and organizations on the front line and those who are suffering. We have heard from so many people how grateful they are to have Trust-protected property to visit and be appropriately socially distanced, enjoying wild places where they can find solace, peace, and solid ground amid so much uncertainty.

In spite of the upheavals, staff has been working from home on new project development, writing grants and stewardship plans, sharing the Land Trust's story and keeping our volunteers and supporters engaged remotely and online. Some of our current projects include:

- Expansion of California Creek Park- in March we purchased an additional 43-acres of coastal
 wetland forest next to our existing property and we received a grant for \$900,000 to buy an
 additional 40-acres of upstream from CA Creek Estuary. Collectively, these will create a
 permanent sanctuary for juvenile salmon, migratory shorebirds and other wildlife.
- We just signed a \$3 Million purchase agreement with Weyerhaeuser to acquire an additional 1,000-acres of riparian forest in the upper Skookum Creek watershed.

I have enclosed some recent press coverage of two projects of note – a land donation by Neal and Ann Koblitz that will permanently protect over 60 acres of wooded steep slopes in the Lake Whatcom Water, and notice of a US Fish & Wildlife Foundation Coastal Wetlands Grant to purchase 40 additional acres in the California Creek Watershed.

All these successes are possible because our generous community values the wildlife habitat, farmland, shorelines, watersheds, open space and park lands and experiences the benefits permanent protection of land provides for today and for future generations. Thanks to you for your part in complementing our community's generous support with your gifts.

I look forward to keeping you apprised of our progress and hope we can count on your continued support.

Gabe Epperson, Executive Director



LETTER FROM

THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



bollowing the hugely successful year of 2018 when Whatcom Land Trust protected 3.339 acres with projects like Skookum Creek and Gulbruth Mountain, 2019 was focused on smaller acquisitions stowardship of our protected lands and on a big leadership transition.

After giving the Board bine months' notice, our beloved Executive Director, Rich Bowers retired.

in February and our long-time Conservation Director, Gabe Epperson, was nired as his successor. In his conservation role Gabe Ted the effort to define the Trust's conservation vision for the future. He also Ted soled successful projects to protect more than twenty properties including California Creek, Galbraith and Skookum Creek. His even-tempered and collaborative leadership style make him a great ht for our organization. With Gabe's Teadership the Board is Tooking forward to continued land protection achievements, to building a Stewardship Reserve Fund that will guarantee a source of funding for stewardship into the decades ahead and to the continued coalescing of our staff, Board and volunteers into a gracefully coordinated team to implement our community's vision for a sustainable future.

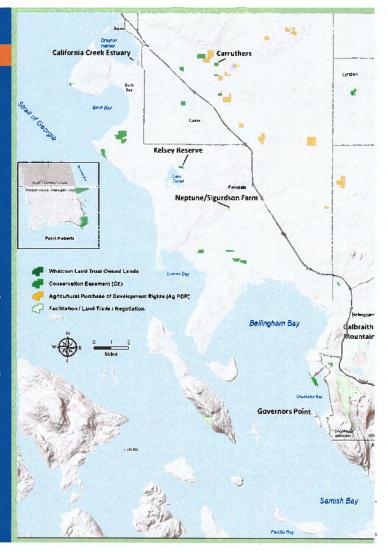
Gabe began his tenune as Executive Director on February 1, 2020 and almost immediately was faced with the challenge of leading in this strange and anxious time of COVID 19.

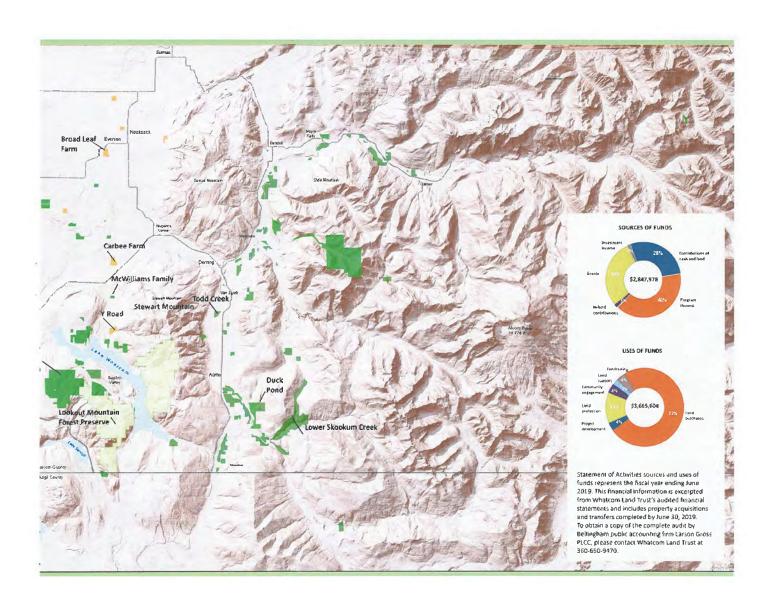
We are fortunate to have Gabe's thoughtful, coilaborative pragmatism at the helm in these uncharted waters. The implications of this crisis for your Land Trust are significant. Working together, the Board, Gabe and staff will safeguard the restriency and sustainability of the Trust and bonor our core commitments to the lands we hold. We must maintain the trust and good will of our community. We will remain responsive to conservation opportunities as shey arise.

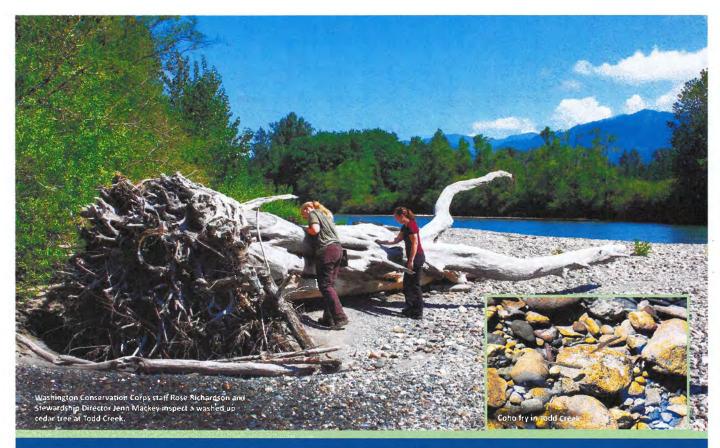
Working in collaboration with you, our partners in government, the Eummi Nation and Nooksack Tribe, and many bus nesses, your Trust has set aside more than 24,000 acres of parks and protected forests, river floodplain, stream corndor, sa twater shoreline and rich farmfland. What we have created is enduring and important to so many in this precarious season. Together we have conserved land to which we can return again and again to be immersed in beauty, to be hourished in body and to be filled in spirit now and for generations to come.

We look forward to working with each of you to conserve, protect and steward our shared matural horitage.

Chris Moench, President Board of Directors and Gabe Epperson, Executive Director

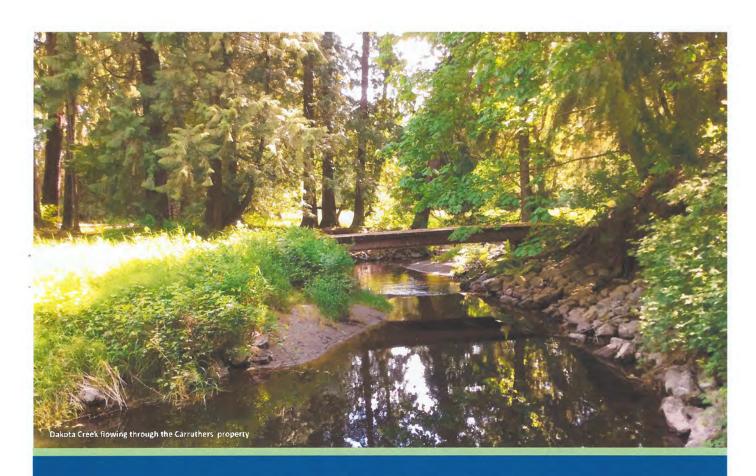






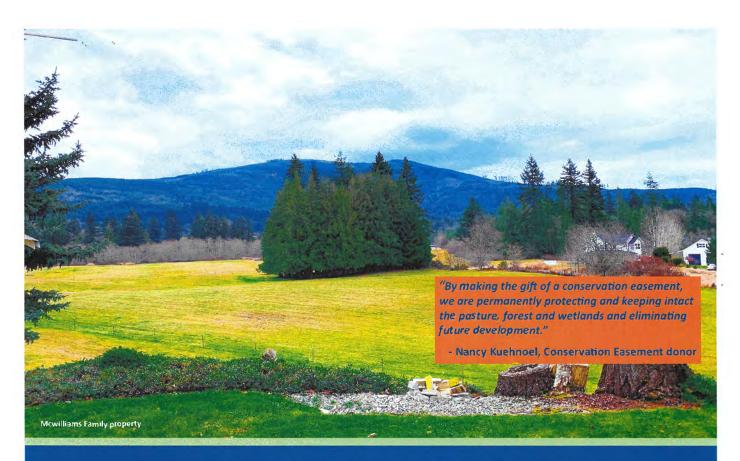
TODD CREEK:
PROTECTING WATER
FOR THE FUTURE

Whatcom Land Trust's new 59 acre property protects a section of Todd Creek, one of many South Fork Nooksack River tributaries that run east from Stewart Mountain through steep-sloped forests, wetlands, farms and rural properties. This 2019 acquisition near Van Zandt is a patchwork of forests, pastures, and wetlands is sected by the salmon-bearing Todd Creek, and is part of the Land Trust's strategy to connect key landscapes to maintain the integrity of their water resources. The impact of this strategy is perhaps most evident in the South Fork Valley, where wild fluctuations – from seasonal flooding to summer drought – stress watershed health. This long-awaked purchase is a key piece of the property puzzle the Land Trust is growing to safeguard future health in the South Fork Nooksack, which is home to all five Pacific salmon species, including the federally – sted Chinook and a vital shared resource for farmers and the rural community. In the coming year, Whatcom Land Trust will be partnering with the Nooksack Indian Tribe to remove invasive plants and restore Todd Creek, including volunteer work partner for community members.

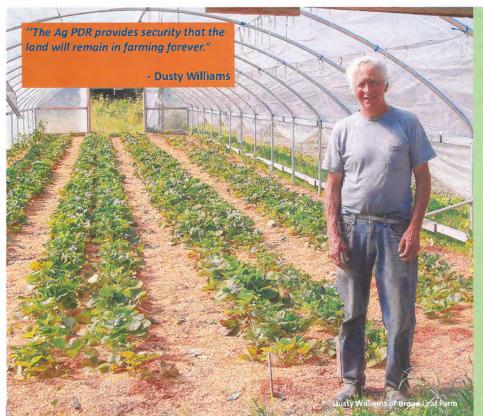


CARRUTHERS EASEMENT

Fulfilling a prospective donor's last wish can be bittersweet. Bob Carruthers turned to Whatcom Land Trust to protect the natural value of his 30-acre farm property in Custer, which includes a portion of Dakota Creek, beautiful views of Mount Baker, horses and pasture land. In addition to the conservation easement, the Trust helped to facilitate a retained life estate and caretaker before Bob's passing, fulfilling a wish to protect his animals during their lifetime and his land in perpetoity. Eventually, the estate gift will transfer to the Land Trust. In the meantime, we will protect the riparian areas for water quality and quantity with a goal to improve the Drayton Harbor Watershed which lies downstream.



MCWILLIAMS EASEMENT: CONSERVING RURAL CHARACTER Nancy Kuehnoel wonted to make a gift of a lifetime – a gift honoring the lifetime of her grandparents, Elsie and Charley McWilliams. Nancy's great grandfather and Charley's father, Walter J. McWilliams, purchased the property in 1902 and gave the 19.5 acre farm between Stewart and Squalicum Mountains to his only soot. The property passed through the generations. For many years, Nancy and her family have cared for an amintained the land – its open pasture, forest and wetlands – while writerissing the rural character of its surrounding landscape slowly give way to development. Nancy and her husband, Mark Prouix, sought out Whatcom rand Trust and learned that they could permanently protect the conservation value and rural character of the property. If we ever decide to self the property, the easement keeps alive the conservation values my family worked so hard to preserve "said Nancy.



BROAD LEAF FARM

Owner Dusty Williams added a third easement this year to his 65.5-acre farm which borders the main stem of the Rooksack River in Everson. Dusty is well known for cultivating a diverse array of organic crops, installing a solar array that generates 25% of farm energy needs, and leasing land to and mentoring the next generation of farmers.

CARBEE FARM

73-acre dairy farm east of Bellingham owned and operated by the Harold and Ellen Carbee family. A portion of salmon-bearing Anderson Creek borders its open pastures and forested wetlands. Conservation efforts focus on balancing the health of the creek, pastureland and forest with maintaining a thriving dairy business.

NEPTUNE/ SIGURDSON OPEN SPACE

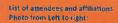
15-acre agricultural open space in Ferndale, historically in corn production, is not currently in active cultivation. The Ag PDR removes three development rights and preserves the property's agricultural value and potential in perpetuity.

Y ROAD FORESTRY EASEMENT

88-acre recreation land bordering Lake Whatcom Park, abundant with multi-use trails popular with equestrians. Historically managed for active forestry and recently purchased by the Department of Natural Resources, a forestry easement now connects recreational access to Stewart Mountain while conservation efforts aim to protect and improve the health of salmon-bearing Olson Creek riparian zone and tributary streams.

FARM AND FORESTRY EASEMENTS

Whatcom Land Trust added four easements to its portfolio in 2019, for a total of over 1,700 acres of working lands protected in percentity since our start in the 1980s. Since 2002 the Trust has managed Whatcom Country's Agricultural Purchase of Development Rights (Ag PDR) program in partnership with or vate landowners and other resource and foresters for the value of the property's development potential, in exchange property owners benefit from more working capital, more opportunities for the next generation of farmers and foresters, and a robust, diverse, and well supported local farm economy. The community benefits from the permanent value of farm and and forests, their soils and water resources, the preservation of our agricultural heritage and way of life, and availability of local food grown by local farmers.



Ted Morris – Director, Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District 2

Shelli Moore – Commissioner, Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District 2

Luanne Van Werven – WA State Representative, 42nd District

Barry Wenger – Rose Foundation Puget Sound Stewordship & Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee Member

Caitlin Guthrie - Conservation Fund

Kaylee Galloway – Community Lioison, Mt Vernon office for U.S. Congresswomen Susan DelBene

Rich Bowers – Executive Director, Whatcom Land Trust

Sharon Shewmake – WA State Representative, 42rd District

Nick Norton – Executive Director, Washington Association of Land Trusts

Jennifer Mackey – Stewardship Director, Whatcom Land Trust

Michael Penuelas – Legislotive Assistant for Sharon Shewmoke

Betsy Robblee – Outreach and Policy Manager, Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition

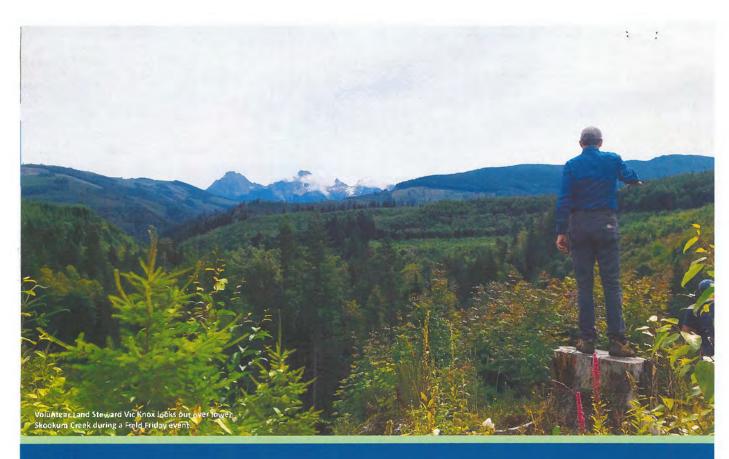
Gabe Epperson – Conservation Director, Whatcom Land Trust



WHATCOM LAND TRUST



CALIFORNIA CREEK ESTUARY: PREPARING FOR A PARK In 2019 the Biane Birch Bay community's dream of a new manne park came closer to becoming reacty, thanks to Whatcom Land Trust, Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District #2 (BBPRD2), and support from our Washington State congressional collegation. Since the initial land purchase in June 2017 and second adjacent parcel our chase in December 2018, the Land Trust has completed significant samon habitat restoration, invasive species removal, and other improvements on £2.5 acres of lower California Greek in partnership with Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, and Whatcom Conservation District, in part with a grant from the Rose Foundation's Stewardship & Mitigation Fund and USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service Funding, Concurrently, BBPRD2 applied for and was awarded two grants from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to assist in park infrastructure and public access, including a boat launch, parking, restrictions, and trails in recognition, BBPRD2 and the Trust co-hosted a property tour for legislators and funders in August. Now, this beautiful and ecologically important place where people meet nature is permanently protected, and closer to beginning the next phase of its life as BBPRD2's California Greek Estuary Park.



IMPACTS

Total Acres Protected = 24,413
Total Conservation Easements = 93 properties totaling 9,275 acres
Total Land Trust Owned = 93 properties totaling 4,275 acres

Recorded Volunteer Hours for 2019=5,551.75
Total Number of Volunteer Land Stewards = 120
Total Number of Volunteers = 770
Native Trees and Shrubs Planted in 2019= 10,431
Invasive Species Removed in 2019= 4,131 square feet

If you would like to learn more about our Fig d Fridays, Work Parties, Volunteer Land Steward Program, or other volunteer opportunities, visit our website at whatcomland trust org



Where Employees Count: Business and Land Conservation A strong community is a healthy, connected community, one that reflects diverse and shared values that help to define our quality of life. Safe, clean drinking water Farmiland for local healthy food and farmers. Open space and wild places for employees and their lamillies to enjoy. This shared vision links Whatcom Land Trust with members of our business community whose giving principle reflect those of their employees. Since 2018 Fernidale's Alcoal Intalice Works has been an integral Land Trust partner, providing both funds and employee power to restore acres of property to improve wildlife habitat and watershock has been an integral Land Trust partner, providing both funds and employee power to restore acres of property to improve wildlife habitat and watershock habitat to thoughout Whatcom County Additionally partnered with American Forests over the last two years, more than two acres along Butter Creck, northeast of Lake Terrell at the Trust's Kelsey Reserve, were planted with native trees. This year, the A coal foundation provided funds, an alemployees day of volunteer work to help restore more than an acre of habitat along Canyon Lake Creck at the Trust's Lower Middle Fork Complex near Welcome. "At the end of the day we can step back, see the impact of the work we've done, and know we're investing in our environment for years to come," said Carryn Vande Griend, Alroa Intalco



SHARING A VISION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE Whatcom County is filled with beauty, and many people value our community's access to the outdoors. For years, Galbraith Mountain has been utilized by mountain bikers, runners, and others to immerse themselves in the woods on a large network of trails near Bellingham. In 2018, Galbraith was permanently protected with recreation and conservation easements on over 2,000 acres of the mountain in partnership with the City of Bellingham and Galbraith Tree Farm. Once its protection in perpetuity was ensured, partnerships not only expanded but they also strengthened towards our community. Year after year, we continue to steward lands we helped to protect and lend a helping name in summer trail work with several organizations including Whatcom County Parks 8. Recreation, Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, Washington Trails Association, and RLL. When members of the community come together and work cooperatively to achieve their vision, we can accomplish many tongs. The Whatcom Land Trust strives to bring people together with we can preserve the land we love, now and into the future

BUSINESS PARTNER'S BREAKFAST Whatcom Land Trust awarded the 3th annual Bob Keller Leadership Award to The

Conservation Alliance in recognition for its support of the Skookum Creek acquisition in 2019 and permanent protections for Galbraith Mountain in 2015. Local Conservation Alliance members American Alpine Institute, NuuMuu, REI, Runner Girl Races and Superfeet were on hand to accept the award and celebrate the Land Trust's 100+ business supporters. Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz served as keynote speaker at the annual breakfast in October. Learn how your business can support land conservation in Whatcom



Eric Brown, Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, Hilary Franz, WA Commissioner of Public Lands, Rich Bowers, Whatcom Land Trust, Rob Janicki, Janicki Tree Farm, Leslie Bryson, Bellingham Porks & Recreation celebrate the win-for Galbraith Mountain in 2019



Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary address as former Executive Director Rich Bowers looks on

BUSINESS PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

































































Tim Fischer, IFG,LLC

Hardware Sales

Consulting K'ul Chocolate

Kulshan Brewine

Larson Gross

Kulshan Services LLC

LTI/Milky Way Lummi Island Wild

The Mount Bakery

Old World Deli

Mount Baker Imaging

Northwest Surveying

Lummi Island Heritage Trust

Healthy Pet

Greenbean Bookkeeping

Herrera Environmental









Avenue Bread Axis of Hope Prayer Wheels The Bagelry Barkley Company Bay City Supply Bellewood Acres Bellingham Cider Company

Liz Vennos, MD. Bellingham Dermatology Birch Equipment Black Drop Coffeehouse **Boundary Bay Brewery** Brandywine Kitchen

WAYCROSS

Brett Baunton

Photography Broadview Farms Cascade Joinery Cedarville Farm Chrysalis Inn. Coldstream Farms Community Food Co-oc Community Strength

Painters. Courtney Excavating Culligan of Bellingham Diehl Ford Edaleen Farm Evolve Chocolates Fairhaven Village Inn Family Care Network Fidalgo Coffee

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⊠Wilson

Regenis, an Andgar Company

San Juan Preservation Trust



RMC Architects

Southern Expasure Environmental Stockton's Paint Stone's Throw Brewery Taylor Shelifish Turner Photographics Twin Brooks Creamery Village Books Wandering Waters Farm Wilde World

Communications Wild & Scenic River Tours

JOAN CASEY:

A LEGACY OF COMPASSION AND GENEROSITY



John and Joan in mountain bliss.

John and close friends were Joan's passions. Throughout her successful career as a pioneer in computer science in California's Bay Area, to her active retirement in Whatcom County since 1990, Joan generously supported organizations dedicated to conservation and preservation of the natural world.

"We're all connected. How can you say you care about nature and not about your fellow human beings?"

Joan Casey loved life. Her

laughter were a glimpse into

had her values straight," said

her generous heart. "Joan

John Watts, Joan's partner of 33 years and husband

since 1990, "Her love of

nature and social justice, her independent spirit and

Buddhist beliefs all came

together in the way she lived

her life and the causes she

supported."

bright smile and joyful

Whatcom Lond Trust was high on her giving priorities, in life and in her untimely passing in April 2016. Joan's gifts have helped to purchase and protect the lands, waterways, birds and nature that brought Joan joy and meaning. A bequest from Joan's estate will keep the special places that Joan loved thriving for generations.

LEGACY GIFTS

Legacy gifts keep conservation values dear to you and your loved ones alive in perpetuity. Have you thought about including Whatcom Land Trust in your will, retirement plan, or life insurance policy? It's one of the simplest steps you can take to protect the Lands You Love for future generations, and is as easy as signing your name.

Let us show you how you can plan today to help nature tomorrow and make a world of difference for our community. Contact Jill Clark at jill@whatcomlandtrust.org and (360) 746-3423.

A DEEP BOW OF GRATITUDE

There is a gift within this trauma of pandemic, the beauty and solace of the land. We go outdoors to gardens, parks, trails and wild places.

The Land Trust's Board and staff celebrate all of you who have so generously given to the Land Trust's work! It is said that the health of a community can be measured by the health of the land on which it lives. By taking part in the work of the Land Trust you are taking direct action to root that relationship in reciprocity. The land gives us clean water, fresh air, nutritious food, places to exercise our bodies and feed our spirits. In the face of relentless pressure from humanity, through the Land Trust we pledge to the land our stewardship. Together we have conserved land to which we can return again and again to be immersed in beauty, nourished in body and filled in spirit. Now and for generations to come. Thank you

Chris Moench - President, Board of Directors

HONORARY & MEMORIAL GIFTS

IN HONOR

In honor of Sara Shimpson Breimmer Anonymous

In honor of Jill Clark
Amy McLiveuse

In honor of the Clark family Laung Satushek, Satushek Real Estate

In hance of Dennis Conner Wah Burken & Jell Chark Lee Christie & Torn Keffer Cathi & Steve Leccop

In honor of Elaine Enckson & Carle Galloway
Albie & Kathryn Jarvis

In honor of my family Angela Shambaugh

In honor of Julie Hubrier Barbara Gilday

Inhonor of Janet Lightner & Ed Bennett Roberta Vollendorff

Inhonor of Rand Jack Antonymous Susan Holland & Anthony Ickes Robert Jack and Jamily

In honor of Janet Lightner & Ed Bennett Roberts Vollendorft

Inhono rof Chris Moench & Jenny Hahn Katherine Lawrence

Inhonor of my parents
Laura Elbs

Inhongs of Andrew Perkins
John Frey & Debra Anderson-Frey

In honor of Annue Prevose & Bob Lemon Margar et Vanderberg

Inhonor of Apchelle Schraeder Robin Backer

In honor of Roger Weiss James & James Dougherty Cherie Ruck

In honor of John & Margaret Woll

Doug Salkeld & Holly Woll-Salkeld

In honor of Richard and Place Zamowitz Julie Carpenter

INMEMORY

In memory of Tony Amison Helen Amison & Poul Campbell

In memory of Jerry Bajema Karen & Jerry Gilliam

In memory of Manlyn Ballard Jennifer Ballard

bi memoryus Joloi Beliale Mono deJohn Gillies Lesh Beliale Hend Josanie de Dennis l'Aradise Kevin Pawlowski, Parmors Equipment Co. Kurend, Gohn Steenmen

In memory of Eric Braun Maureen & Rick Braun

In memory of Jerry Brownfield Both Brownfield

In memory of Don Jensen Etizabeth Brown Rosemary Esser

In memory of Bob Keller Leslie Conton George Lawson Pat kalberg Merrill Lewis This Navarte Mary Lou Stern & Kreneth Fox

In memory of Nathan Kronenberg Kathryn Uter Batchelor Cornine Gimbel-Levine & Henry Levine Sate & Robert Watson Sylvia & John Williams

Gwen E. Parker

In memory of Cynthia Millar Helen & David Millar

In memory of Durothy & Robert Meyer Denise Meyer

In memory of the Orcas Asuna Laurie Wattson Lamb In memory of Richard Parker Gwen E. Parker

In memory of Rebecca Fetch
Sandra Barth
Kathyn Utter Ratchelor
Rich and Stephane Bowers
John Birns & Julië Jleenood
Walter Brodie and Linda Versage
Many Charjer & Michael Miser
John Birns & Julië Jleenood
Walter Brodie and Linda Versage
Many Charjer & Michael Miser
John Brodie & Carol Reumehawa
John Romen Stephane
And Self Jacobson
Dario Rand Jock
Dario Rand Jock
Dario Rand Jock
Dario Rende
Stephane
Elizabeth Kervich
Virginis & Mille Mise Brodie
Soe Manhall
Joyce & Robert Myhr
Mary & Kesh Nielon
Stammon & Corrdon Newled
Less Oblome
Dianne Rappapor
Rach Family Triats
Rach Family Triats
Ref Carol Rende
Tible
Jeonifer Wingh)

In memory of Judy Russo Sal Russo

In memory of Bruce Savida
Dean & Mary sterf
Conne de Tim Bitchley
Joyce & Teery Suss,
Greec Case
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Modelli Rogotha & Sasan Weight
Whattom County
Jerna & David Maso
Ann Morras
Jennet & Favid Maso
Ann Morras
Jennet & Robert Morre
Patricia Morte
Joan and Michael Moye
Martin Molbollund
Carol & Rob Salibbury
Carolyn Scott
Mark A. Taylor
Richard Taylor
Jatene & Honor Tace
Jatene & Honor Tace
Jatene & Honor Tace

Remember or honor a loved one with a memorial or honorary gift in recognition of their love of the land. Contact Jill Clark, Philanthropy Director at (360) 746-3423 to learn more.



Today: 24,413 Acres Protected 2017 20,729 Acres 2013 11,569 Acres 2001 6,232 Acres 1996 2,061 Acres 1991 415 Acres

The mission of Whatcom Land Trust is to preserve and protect wildlife habitat, scenic, agricultural and open space lands in Whatcom County for future generations by securing interests in land and promoting land stewardship.

Photo Credits: Rich Bowers, Cheryl Crooks, Alan Fritzberg, Jennifer Mackey, Karen Parker, Lauren Sacket.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

It is because of your strong support that new land protections for the Lake Whatcom Watershed, upper Skookum Creek, east Stewart Mountain, Governors Point, and the future California Creek Estuary Park in Birch Bay will move toward completion.

GROWING A NATURAL LEGACY OF WHATCOM'S SPECIAL PLACES

Each of the many successes enjoyed by the Whatcom Land Trust were made possible by each of you.

Of the total acres protected to date through conservation easements, land purchases and facilitations – including 349 new acres in 2019, you have made the following possible:

- » 47 miles of protected marine, river and lake shorelines
- » 11,473 acres in the Lake Whatcom watershed
- » 1,438 acres of working agricultural lands
- » 13,837 acres of parklands

Thank you for making this, and so much more possible.