



# Funds Distribution Report

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**Recipient Organization:**  
**Whidbey Camano Land Trust**

**Address:**  
765 Wonn Rd, C-201  
Greenbank, WA 98253

**Contact:**  
(360) 222-3310  
<https://www.wclt.org>

**Organization's General Goals:**  
The Whidbey Camano Land Trust works to increase the pace and quality of land conservation. We are also committed to increasing awareness of, and appreciation for Whidbey Osland and Camano Island. We accomplish this through publications, guided tours, stewardship work parties and special events. We believe that love of our islands is enhanced through positive experiences on the land, especially for younger generations.

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<b>Date of Award:</b>	<b>Level:</b>
2024 Q1	\$2,501 to \$5,000

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

8802 27th Ave NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271

**TulipCares.org**

## Charitable Contributions Fund Report

Code: **Q1 2024 14.2**

URL: <https://www.wclt.org/>

**Total Number of Recipients Impacted: 7,595**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust utilized the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions to purchase 5 TRAFx trail counters, create and implement a trail survey, monitor 9 preserves' trail use, and collect and analyze the data. We used that information to better stay on top of trail maintenance, specifically with our shorter trails, and apply for two grants: Land Trust Alliance Western Innovation Grant and American Trails Trail Capacity Grant.

In June, we purchased the 5 TRAFx infrared mobile counters that could be moved to different preserves. We then developed a trail survey and, to be more environmentally friendly and reduce costs, we adjusted the survey to a QR code that we could post up on the trails along with the counters rather than printing paper surveys. Five of our stewardship staff and two summer interns were trained in installing, using, and managing data. Counters were placed on the preserves for about 3 weeks. We utilized volunteer site stewards and other local groups, like horseback riders and mountain bikers, to do control checks for the counters. The counters were checked and assessed every time they were moved to a new site. We did a larger assessment and review at the end of 2024 and are currently updating and improving protocol.

One major achievement from this process is our surveys helped the stewardship team respond to maintenance issues quicker. One surveyor informed us that one of our trails at Beach View Farm desperately needed some maintenance at the end of summer during our busy summer. If it hadn't been for the surveys, we may have missed that need or responded to it much later than we did.

Second, we used the data to apply for two grants to provide more opportunities for our community and visitors to get outside and further the Land Trust mission. We used the tracking process for the LTA Western Innovation Grant to demonstrate tactics already implemented to engage with the public. The Trail Capacity Grant can provide funding for major trail improvements in our Trillium Community Forest post restoration thinning. As we discovered with the counters, Trillium on average is visited 30,000 times a year.

Lastly, we adjusted the protocol for this next coming year. We will be expanding the trail counters to be on a site for a whole month rather than 3 weeks, since we did not have theft or vandalism issues. We'll also be updating and improving the language of trail survey. Now that we have a baseline of how much our sites are used, we are focusing the counters on sites that have upcoming projects, that we are trying to acquire grants for, and which have high user demand.

Thank you for funding this project. It's been an eye opening and extremely useful tool for the Land Trust in the first year. We expect that to only improve and increase our overtime capacity.



Trailer counter placed at trailhead.



Trailer counter placed on trail post.



Dog walkers enjoy Trillium Community Forest trails.



Trail survey posted at kiosk.