

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



Horned lark
(*Eremophila alpestris*).
Photo by Tara Lemezis


Columbia
Land Trust

BOARD LETTER

From Wendy Gerlach,
Board of Directors President



As a child, I spent weekends in the company of my grandmother, learning about native plants and animals and working in her garden. I can still see her from my perch high in the maple tree as she hands up ladybugs to release to control the aphids. She is wearing her old sneakers and her denim jacket, the same one I'm wearing in this photograph.

My grandmother gave me the gift of a practical familiarity with land and its inhabitants, which has lasted through my lifetime and that is now important to my children. Through my involvement with Columbia Land Trust, I hope to spread that gift to the wide range of people and communities who are connected to our projects.

This involvement is my way to take action for nature without feeling small or insignificant. The Land Trust magnifies my contributions and achieves major on-the-ground, scientific, long-term conservation every day. This 2017 Annual Report will give you a sense of how much the Land Trust accomplishes and how much it leverages what each of us gives it.

For me, this is fearless conservation: to not hold back but to be inspired by the weight we bring as a community in addressing conservation issues, bringing more people to the table, and thinking generously into the future. 🌱

Photo by Missy Gerlach

2017 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



COAST CONSERVATION
Pacific and Wahkiakum
Counties, WA

We had a banner year in conservation on the Southwest Washington Coast. The Land Trust conserved 137 acres across three properties on Long Beach Peninsula, 285 acres along the Chinook River near Baker Bay, 190 acres across Willapa Bay on Seal Slough, and 31 acres near Grays Bay in Wahkiakum County. These six projects include vital salmon and steelhead habitat, forests, and interdunal wetlands that support elk, bear, amphibians, and thousands of migratory shorebirds and waterfowl.

ELOCHOMAN RIVER
RESTORATION
Wahkiakum County, WA

The end of the summer project season also marked the completion of a five-year restoration project along the Elochoman River, located outside of Cathlamet, Washington. We used over 350 logs sourced from the property to create structures that will activate additional floodplain, provide pool habitat, increase habitat diversity, and provide food resources for fish.

BACKYARD HABITAT
PROGRAM EXPANSION
Clackamas County, OR

We expanded our Backyard Habitat Certification Program (run in partnership with the Audubon Society of Portland) to Clackamas County cities beyond Lake Oswego, including Milwaukie, West Linn, Oak Grove, and Jennings Lodge. In 2017, we celebrated a major milestone in that we've now enrolled more than 1,000 acres of urban habitat in the program.

KLICKITAT RIVER
HAUL ROAD REMOVAL
Klickitat County, WA

This September, the Land Trust completed the decade-long effort to remove an old haul road from the banks of the Klickitat River. Together with partners at Yakama Nation Fisheries and scores of contractors, we removed a total of eight miles of asphalt and well over 170,000 tons of road fill. We planted more than 40,000 native trees and shrubs, constructed woody logjams in the floodplain for habitat diversity, and reconnected side channels to the river.



CONSERVATION

25
25-year Conservation
Agenda launched*

800
Acres Conserved

8
Projects Closed



STEWARDSHIP

527
Acres of Vegetation
& Weed Control

103,106
Native Trees & Shrubs
Planted by Volunteers,
Crew & Staff

3
Miles of Road Removed Along
the Klickitat River Floodplain



SUPPORT

3,900
Donors

30
Staff Members

14
Board of Directors

7
Emerging Leaders

25
Advisory Council Members



BACKYARD HABITAT
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

12,577
Native Trees & Shrubs
Planted on Certified
Properties

8
Backyard Habitat
Program Technicians

179
Acres Enrolled

759
Properties Enrolled



VOLUNTEERS

20
Site Stewards

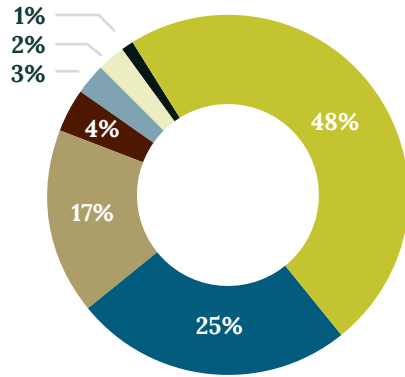
550
Pounds of Trash Removed
from Columbia River
Shorelines

2,250
Volunteer Hours

*Learn about our Conservation Agenda at columbialandtrust.org/fearless-conservation

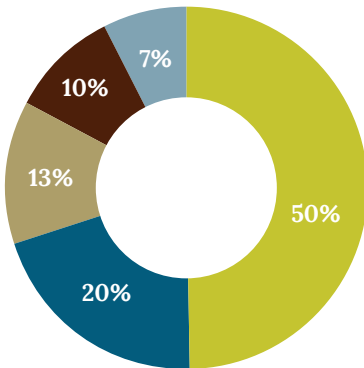
**This program is run in partnership with Columbia Land Trust and the Audubon Society of Portland.

REVENUE



Government Grants	4,343,802.00
Donations	2,245,355.00
Investment Income	1,515,322.00
Special Events	347,513.00
Private Grants	240,000.00
Other Income	225,834.00
In-Kind Revenue	88,975.00
TOTAL REVENUE	9,006,801.00

EXPENSES



Land Stewardship	3,202,056.00
Land Conservation	1,316,560.00
Fundraising	822,707.00
Administration	627,523.00
Public Outreach	471,011.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,439,857.00

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Donated Land	190,976.00
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