

# **COLUMBIA LAND TRUST** annual report 2014

Columbia Land Trust conserves  
and cares for vital lands, waters, and  
wildlife of the Columbia River region.

## [President's Letter]



Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the work of Columbia Land Trust over its first 25 years, I am struck by the breadth of what we do. Although land conservation organizations, including Columbia Land Trust, are appropriately recognized for conserving and protecting beautiful fields, forests, and streams that form the neighborhoods of small plants, large animals, and medium-sized fish, the work that really excites me falls under the heading of "restoration." For those of us who have grown up in the later part of the 1900s and with some idea of our country's recent history, we have come almost to accept a reality where the effect of human activity on natural places is in one direction only. Words like "diminish" and "degrade" come to mind.

When Columbia Land Trust's staff, volunteers, and contractors remove asphalt, create stream channels, plant trees, and breach a dike around a portion of land that even in its driest years was still too wet to farm or graze very well, it's like running the years in reverse. On increasing numbers of acres in the area we serve, natural places are getting better, not worse. If you have ever seen the muddy mess that appears right after restoration work begins, you know that much of the beauty is yet to come — to be lived in by the offspring of the offspring of the above-mentioned plants, animals, and fish, and to be appreciated and sometimes visited by the future children of my as-yet unwed sons.

Explanations for why we conserve and restore may be as varied as the many supporters, staff, board members, advisors, and volunteers involved with Columbia Land Trust. For some, it is a belief that nature, in its broadest sense, needs allies, because almost everyone else is on the other team. For others, it is to help to ensure the clean air and water they value for healthy populations. For yet others, the memory of a childhood encounter with a small creature in a patch of wildflowers brings them now to want those creatures and wildflowers to survive so people can enjoy them. For participants in the Backyard Habitat Program, it is a fiercely held belief that in their own yards, in their own way, they are making a difference.

Whatever your reasons or priorities, we are glad you're with us.

Let's get outside.

Carolyn Vogt



[a] Board President Carolyn Vogt.  
[b] a backyard habitat in Portland. [c] Volunteers at Kandoll Farm, Wahkiakum County, Washington.

## [Financial Report 2014]

### Audited Figures

#### Assets

Cash and Savings	\$ 1,124,614
Receivables	1,632,141
Other Assets	80,346
Investments	5,701,225
Fixed Assets	41,713
Conservation Property	47,215,024
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 55,795,063</b>

#### Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 324,353
Contracts and Notes Payable	361,058
Conservation Property— held on behalf of local governments	6,363,594
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 7,049,005</b>

#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$ 42,425,600
Temporarily Restricted	2,990,657
Permanently Restricted	3,329,801
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 48,746,058</b>

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$ 55,795,063**

**Change in Net Assets** **\$ 965,717**

#### Revenue

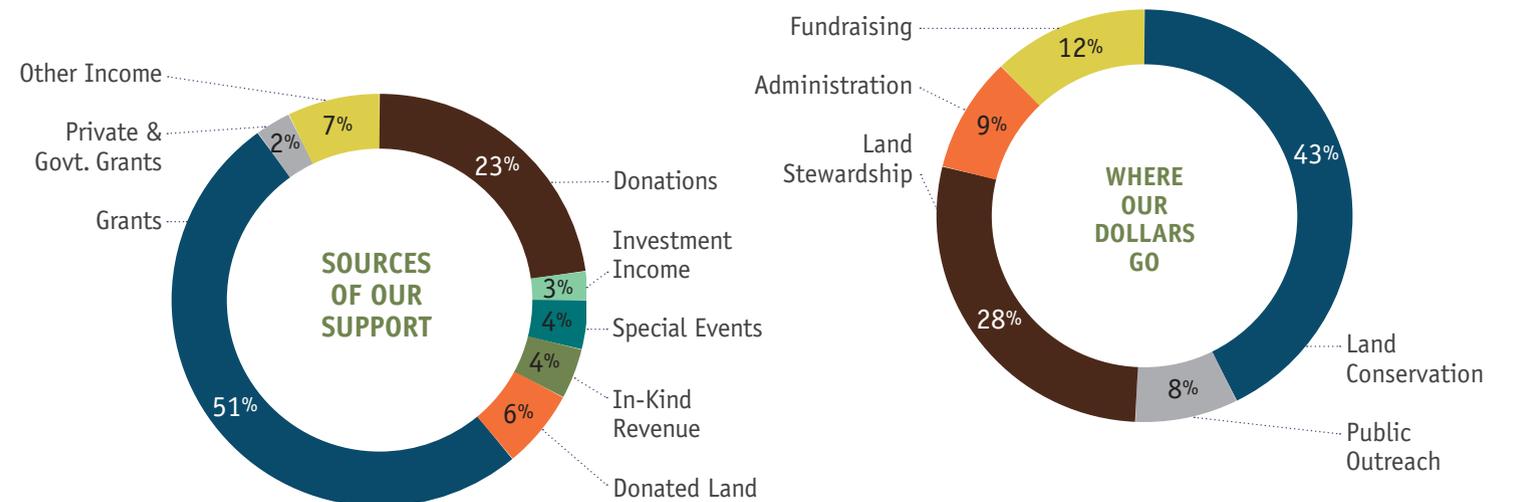
Donations	\$ 1,412,648
Private & Govt. Grants	117,000
Special Events	240,562
In-Kind Revenue	253,230
Donated Land	346,518
Grants	3,170,806
Investment Income	178,207
Other Income	441,358
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 6,160,329</b>

#### Expenses

Land Conservation	\$ 2,219,361
Land Stewardship	1,456,048
Public Outreach	427,349
Administration	491,665
Fundraising	600,189
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,194,612</b>

#### Land Purchases

Donated Land	\$ 346,518
Purchased Land	521,842
<b>Total Land Purchases</b>	<b>\$ 868,360</b>



# 2014 IT'S IN THE NUMBERS

## CONSERVATION

ACRES  
CONSERVED  
**3,367**  
IN 2014



ALL-TIME  
**27,000**  
ACRES CONSERVED

**6** CONSERVATION PROJECTS CLOSED

## SUPPORT

DONORS **3,040**

twenty  
four



STAFF



WEEDS  
TREATED ON

**252**  
ACRES



## STEWARDSHIP

NATIVE TREES &  
SHRUBS PLANTED BY VOLUNTEERS,  
CREW, & LAND TRUST STEWARDS

**74,850**



VOLUNTEER EVENTS

**THIRTY** HELD

TREES PLANTED

**2,000**

## VOLUNTEERING

**1,500** ACRES  
SUPPORTED  
& MAINTAINED  
BY VOLUNTEERS

**275** ACTIVE  
VOLUNTEERS



## BACKYARD HABITAT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM\*

PROPERTY **55**

ACRES OF



ENROLLED **94**

CERTIFIED

PROPERTIES

**511**

ENROLLED



**222**  
CERTIFIED

**7,450**

NATIVE  
TREES &  
SHRUBS  
PLANTED ON  
CERTIFIED  
PROJECTS

\*The Backyard Habitat Certification program is a partnership between Audubon Society of Portland and Columbia Land Trust



## 2014 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### 1 Pine Creek West Skamania County, WA

In December, Columbia Land Trust placed a conservation easement on 3,074 acres along Pine Creek as part of a multi-year effort to protect 20,000 acres of working forest and wildlife habitat south of Mount St. Helens.

### 2 Kandoll Farm Restoration Wahkiakum County, WA

In the spring, staff, volunteers, and crews planted 163 acres along the lower tidal portion of the Grays River with over 35,000 Sitka spruce, willow, and other native species.

### 3 Powerdale Corridor Pipeline Removal Hood River County, OR

In the fall, the Land Trust worked with a contractor to remove a derelict, 10-foot-diameter, steel pipeline from the banks of the Hood River, thereby restoring the river's access to its historic floodplain.

### 4 Hines Marsh, Long Beach Peninsula Pacific County, WA

Acquired in April, the 62.5-acre Hines Marsh property is comprised of wetlands, including sphagnum bogs, Sitka spruce swamp, and open water critical to overwintering Trumpeter swans.