

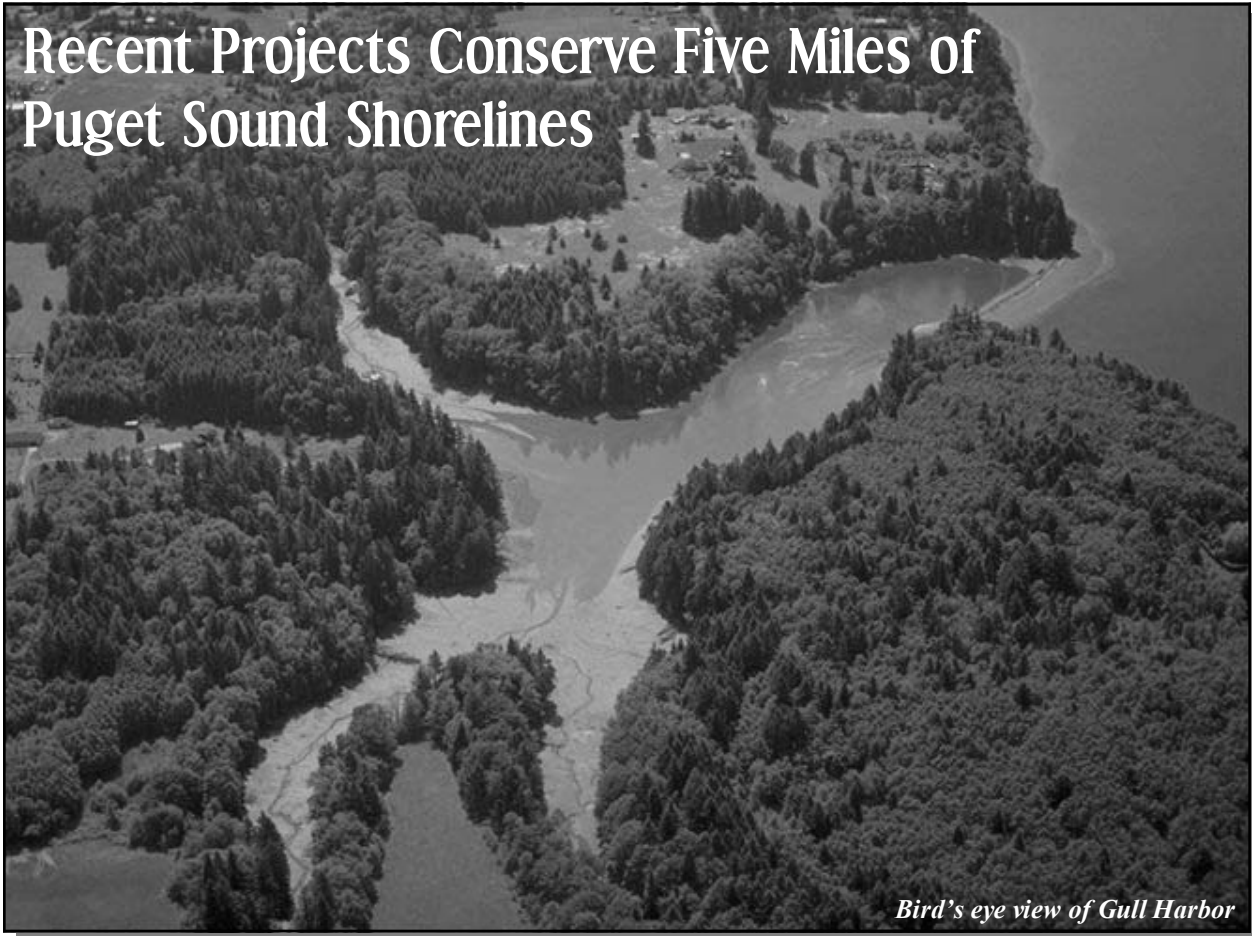


CAPITOL LAND TRUST NEWS

Furthering collaborative and strategic conservation of southwest Washington's essential natural areas.

ISSUE 45 WINTER 2007

Recent Projects Conserve Five Miles of Puget Sound Shorelines



Bird's eye view of Gull Harbor

WA Dept. of Ecology

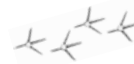
In late 2006, Capitol Land Trust conserved two of southern Puget Sound's signature properties. The Bayfield Resources Company property on Gull Harbor and Triple Creek Farm on lower Eld Inlet uniquely define the region's geographical, cultural and natural heritage.

Gull Harbor

Gull Harbor is one of the most pristine estuaries remaining in the southern Puget Sound region. In June, the culmination of four years of hard work and collaboration with multiple conservation partners resulted in the permanent conservation of this unique ecosystem. While 75 percent of Puget Sound's estuarine environment has been lost or severely degraded in recent decades, Gull Harbor provides a rare example of the spectacular beauty and functionality once common to the region's marine nearshore areas. A conservation easement purchased from Bayfield Resource Company adds to Gull Harbor habitat already conserved by Capitol Land Trust. With the

cont. on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	Hundreds of Acres Conserved for the Future	3
	Land Trusts Galvanized by Reform Movement	4
	Focus on Partners: Green Diamond Resource Co.	5
	Governor Gregoire Headlines Conservation Breakfast	9
	What is a Conservation Easement?	9
	Summer Gala a Swashbuckling Success	10
	Strategic Plan Guides Conservation Work	12
	Puget Sound Targeted for Protection	13
	CLT Welcomes Newest Staff Member	13
	New Federal Tax Law Gives Greater Benefits	14



"Gull Harbor" cont. from page 1



209 Fourth Ave E. #205
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 943-3012



info@capitolandtrust.org
www.capitolandtrust.org



Executive Director
Eric Erler

Conservation Projects
Manager
Kathryn Moore

Membership & Outreach
Coordinator
Kathleen Ackley



Board of Directors
Pene Speaks (President)
Cathy Wiggins (V.P.)
Ken Guza (Secretary)
Cynthia Walker (Treasurer)
Mary Ann Firmin
Jeff Fisher, PhD.
John Konovsky
Stephen Langer, PhD.
Barbara MacGregor
Arden Olson
Keith Partlow
Karin Strelloff
Ward Willits



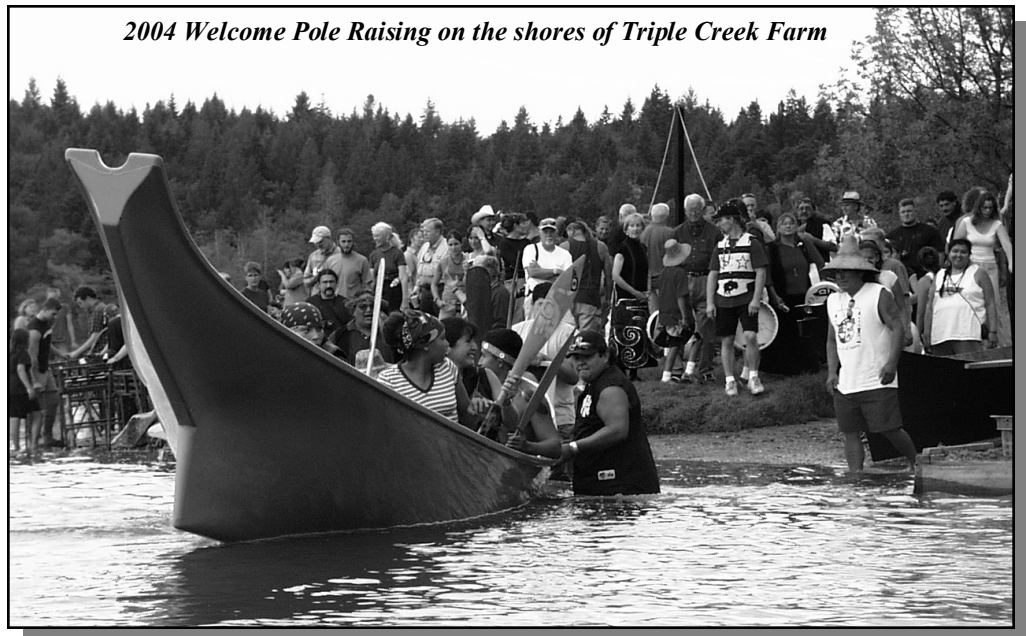
Legal Counsel
Mark Peternell

completion of this project, two miles of forested marine shorelines and 150 acres of surrounding uplands will continue to provide essential habitat for multiple salmon species, bald eagle, great blue and green heron, pigeon guillemot (a threatened cliff-dwelling bird), marten, fox, deer, cougar, coyote, and many other bird, mammal, amphibian, fish, reptile and insect species.

Gull Harbor played an important role in the region's cultural history as the former site of the Cannery Ranch. Its adjacent uplands were once covered with fruit orchards that supplied the Olympia Cannery. Stephen Connor, whose family moved to Gull Harbor when he was six years old, has a strong commitment to the land. "If you were looking for a perfect life as a kid growing up, this is it," he explains, "We've gone out of our way to put the ecosystem back intact."

Pressures associated with rapid population growth threaten Puget Sound's remaining intact nearshore areas and Gull Harbor was no exception. The conservation easement enables Bayfield Resources Company to continue the existing agricultural uses while ensuring the property's fragile fish and wildlife habitat will be conserved in perpetuity.

The completion of this project was made possible by the remarkable support of many conservation partners including the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Thurston County, LOTT Alliance, Cascade Land Conservancy, the Squaxin Island Tribe and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group.



2004 Welcome Pole Raising on the shores of Triple Creek Farm

Triple Creek Farm - Lower Eld Inlet

In August 2006, Capitol Land Trust completed a conservation easement covering 203 acres along 3½ miles of saltmarsh, estuarine tidelands, and freshwater wetland habitat in lower Eld Inlet. Triple Creek Farm, the home of Karen and Ralph Munro, is of central importance to salmon restoration efforts and to the conservation of Eld Inlet, one of the highest quality and most biologically diverse estuarine areas remaining in Puget Sound. This project was one of only 19 projects nationwide garnering support from the National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant program.

Triple Creek Farm is the cornerstone of Capitol Land Trust's Eld Inlet conservation

cont. on page 3

work. To date, CLT has conserved approximately 500 acres and five miles of marine shoreline habitat within the watershed. Triple Creek Farm and the neighboring McLane Point property (conserved by CLT in 2003) can be viewed from the William Cannon Footpath across Mud Bay, which the Munros played a major role in creating. The property is home to a nationally significant native American archaeological site. The Squaxin Island Tribe and South Puget Sound Community College are working in partnership with the Munros to recover artifacts and explain the cultural and historical importance of this unique site. The conservation easement allows for future archaeological exploration while conserving the property's estuarine functionality. Every year the Munros invite hundreds of students, educators and community members to visit the property and learn about the connectivity between humans and nature over the past millennium.

Conservation of Triple Creek Farm was made possible by a partnership between CLT, the Munros, The Trust for Public Land, WA Department of Ecology, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Coast Joint Venture and Entrix.®

Hundreds of Acres Conserved for the Future

Over the past year Capitol Land Trust has been instrumental in conserving more than 1,200 acres in a region spanning southern Puget Sound to Grays Harbor. Here are highlights of some of the other projects we've recently completed.

Baretich Conservation Easement

Frank Baretich and his sister Francie Davis donated this 30-acre conservation easement at a slow-moving bend of the Wishkah River, just upstream from its mouth near Aberdeen.

At the highest tides – saltwater from the Pacific Ocean surges up the Wishkah River and over the river bank into wet meadows and towering conifer forests, creating a dynamic landscape.

This easement represents Capitol Land Trust's first project in Grays Harbor County and an unparalleled opportunity to protect unique old growth spruce and surge plain habitat.

Goldsborough Creek Wetlands Preserve

Capitol Land Trust is now the owner of this 20-acre forested wetland complex donated by Ron and Dawn Pannell. Several years ago the Goldsborough Creek dam was removed downstream from this property opening up miles of salmon spawning and rearing habitat.

The Squaxin Island Tribe identified the wetland complex surrounding the Pannell's property as one of the highest priorities for habitat conservation in the Goldsborough watershed.®



Baretich Property as seen from across the Wishkah River



Goldsborough Creek



Large cedar trees found on Willits Tree Farm

Willits Tree Farm Conservation Easement

CLT board member Ward Willits and his wife Rita donated a conservation easement covering 54 acres on the Steamboat Island peninsula. The land is adjacent to an existing 65-acre conservation easement donated by the Willits in 1998. Surface water from these properties, filtered by forests and wetlands, drains to the Sanderson Cove estuary on Eld Inlet.

The terms of the easement allow the Willits to manage the land for sustainable timber and forest product harvest, while enhancing wildlife habitat. Habitat enhancements will include removing invasive species, creating snags for cavity-nesting birds and other wildlife, restoring wetland areas, and managing the health and diversity of forest species.☼

Learn more about conservation easements, potential tax benefits of easement donations, estate planning and more by visiting our website at <http://www.capitolandtrust.org>.

Land Trusts Galvanized by Reform Movement *By Erin Scheel*

Land trusts play a unique and crucial role in protecting natural resources and conserving land. Property owners seeking to keep their land and continue to care for it turn to land trusts as an alternative to the pressure to sell or develop. Trusts are often able to help landowners decrease property, income and estate taxes on land where a conservation easement has been donated. As a non-profit land trust, Capitol Land Trust must concentrate its financial resources to conserve only land that provides key habitat and resource value. CLT operates under high ethical standards in order to ensure that the land we conserve serves the highest public good.

In 2003, responding to isolated cases of abuse, Congress considered eliminating the tax deductions given to easement donors. Conservation donors, outdoors groups, and land trusts around the country rose up to save tax incentives as a tool for conservation. These groups informed Congress that their overreaching reforms would leave financially strapped landowners with no alternative but to develop their land.

The Land Trust Alliance (LTA) channeled the energy of hundreds of land trusts across the country to create a private-sector accreditation program. The program “will maintain the public trust in voluntary land conservation and help build strong and lasting conservation organizations,” claims LTA. The program will provide independent monitoring of member trusts’ adherence to the LTA standards and practices. CLT already operates under these ethical and technical guidelines. Market research done by the LTA suggests that 80% of land trusts will participate in the program once it becomes operational in 2008.

Thanks to the reform movement within the land trust community, proposals within The Tax Relief Act of 2005 take a reasoned approach, mixing increased penalties for abusive transactions with the expansion of the tax incentives offered to conservation easement donors. The LTA accreditation will help maintain the high standards of trusts, and will make them a stronger tool for protecting the integrity of the natural landscape.☼

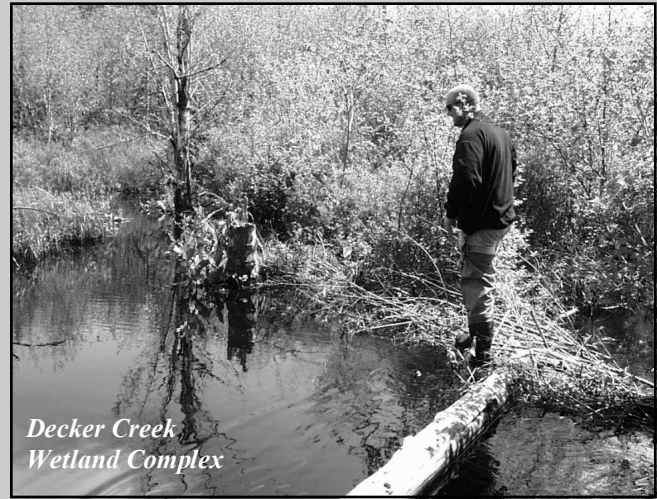
Erin Scheel was an intern for Capitol Land Trust last Spring. She is a senior studying Urban Planning at the Evergreen State College and appreciates the chance to learn and write about land conservation.

FOCUS ON CLT PARTNERS:



Capitol Land Trust works collaboratively with other organizations, government agencies, tribes, businesses and educators to achieve its conservation goals. One of CLT's business and conservation partners is Green Diamond Resource Company. Green Diamond has been an important supporter of Capitol Land Trust's Summer Gala and Conservation Breakfast and is a major partner in efforts to conserve the 500-acre Decker Creek wetland complex. "We work in tandem," says Patti Case, Public Affairs Manager for Green Diamond. "Green Diamond is protecting resources and so are conservation organizations. We may do it in different ways, but the goal is the same."

Formerly named Simpson Timber Company, Green Diamond has had a presence in the region for more than 100 years. With roughly 320,000 acres of land in Washington, and the bulk of that in Mason, Thurston, and Grays Harbor counties, this Seattle-based company is a key partner in the conservation and stewardship of open space in the region. The company supports the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, which since 1995 has encouraged the integration of sound business practices with responsible environmental practices. Green Diamond has met or exceeded the initiative's standards for all of its forestlands. Working with federal agencies and local partners, Green Diamond also developed a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) that enables its lands to remain in productive forest management while seeking to ensure continued habitat functionality for endangered species.

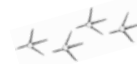


A good example of how Green Diamond works with partners and stewards its property can be seen in the dam removal and stream restoration project undertaken on Goldsborough Creek in Shelton. The dam, built in the 1920's and located on Green Diamond property, was blocking salmon from spawning upstream in a vital stream corridor. Working with partners like the Squaxin Island Tribe and the Southwest Puget Sound Watershed Council, Green Diamond removed the dam and began restoration work in 2000. Now an additional 24 miles of habitat is open to salmon spawning, allowing wild chum, Chinook, coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout to migrate through to protected habitat such as CLT's Goldsborough Creek Wetlands Preserve (see page 3).

"It took a lot of groups working together," says Warren Dawes, the Watershed Council's president. "This project was so expensive that we had to look for a public and private partnership...and the support of citizens, to get funding." Patti Case adds, "As large forest landowners, we own 60% of the watershed on Goldsborough Creek. If we can work with Capitol Land Trust and others to ensure that that land and the land of others is protected, it protects that entire public resource."

"The partnership between Green Diamond Resource Company and Capitol Land Trust is a great example of how progressive thinking and a willingness to work toward common goals are changing the traditional roles of working landowners and conservationists," says Eric Erler, CLT's Executive Director. "It is essential to recognize that while completion of every conservation project is important, the future livability of this region will be greatly affected by what happens to the lands currently under Green Diamond's ownership. Green Diamond's economic viability and their commitment to this region are critical for the future of our natural environment."

Support from Green Diamond Resource Company and other businesses enables Capitol Land Trust to further its collaborative approach to conservation.☺



Thank you for your support!

We are grateful to the following individuals and businesses whose

Conservator **\$1,000+**

Albohn Family
Foundation
Allen & Company, LLC
The Alpine Experience
Anonymous
Estate of Jocelyn Dohm
Tom & Suzanne Fell
The Gannett Foundation
Green Diamond
Resource Company
Ken Guza &
Diana Larsen-Mills
James & Diana Hanson
Stephen Langer, Ph.D.
David Lazar &
Ann Evans
Carolyn McIntyre
Margaret & Keith Rader
Bart Schmidt
Charlie Stephens &
Becky Liebman
Ralph & Karen Munro
Gerald Suzawith &
Kristin Blalack
Ward & Rita Willits

Protector \$500--999

Deskoba Inc.
Paul & Debi Brainerd
Mary Ann Firmin
Pete Holm
HomeStreet Bank
Joy & Bill Justis
John Konovsky &
Don Martin
Chris & Debbie Meehan
Olympia Food Co-op
Olympic Outfitters
Paladin Data Systems
David Schoen &
Irina Makarow
Richard & Sharon Stewart
Taylor Shellfish Company
Joe & Quite Terrell
Tom & Priscilla Terry
Juliet & John Van Eenwyk

Steward \$100--499

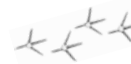
Anonymous
George & Brenda Ackley
William Aldridge
Paul Allen
Anne Appleby
Sam & Karen Armour
Gwen Atkinson
Tom Badger &
Wendy Gerstel
Bob Barnard &
Ann Wessel
Bob Barnes
Tanya Barnett & Jay Geck
Jeannette Barreca &
Bill Yake
Bayside Investments, LLC
Maggie Bell-McKinnon &
John McKinnon
Gary Benson
Ken Berg &
Jan Weydemeyer
Phyllis Birge
Penny Black &
Rich Boyesen
Bliss Investments
Mary Ellen &
J. Thomas Bradley
Karen & George Bray
Scott Breidenbach
Ernie Brooks
John Brown
Nathan Brown &
Diana Moore
Peggy Bruton-Edwards &
David Edwards
Bonnie & Paul Bunning
Tim & Nora Burke
Ann Butler &
Paula Connelley
Capital Medical Center
Warren Carlson &
Pat Gallagher-Carlson
Carpenter Drilling Co.
Lynn Coleman
Stephen Connor
Cooper Point Association
Leslie Cushman &
Jody Smith
Clydia Cuykendall
Diane Dakin & Steve Bray
Liz Dalton & Steve Brink
Don & Cherie Davidson

Deborah Flynn Salon
Rex Derr
Desert Circle Farms
Joe Digranes &
Linda Chesnut
Edwards Family Trust
John & Marilyn Erickson
Jeff & Stacy Fisher
Don Ford
Mary Frye
David & Gretchen Gacetta
Holly & Jim Gadbaw
Rex Garrett
Fred & Mary Gentry
Barbara Gooding
Dr. Timothy Gregg
David Grubb
David Hays & Ann Potter
Jon Halvorson
Jerry Handfield
Linda Hanson
Joann Harper
Jack & Susan Havens
Gerald & Elizabeth Hayes
Woody Hill
Henry Hollweger
George & Lou Anne
Houck
Amy Hunter
Karl Jacobs &
Tamara Crane
James J. Stewart Design
Eve Johnson
Linda Kahan
Katie Knight
Leanne Kramer
Amy Kurtenbach
Ed & Jane Laclergue
Joe & Kathy LaTourrette
David Lazar & Ann Evans
Karen Lichtenstein &
Kaye V. Ladd
Wayne & Roxanne Lieb
Mary Linders &
Peter Plimpton
Tyra Lindquist
Donn & Marnie
Livingstone
Stan & Hazel Loer
Marijo Loftis
Sharon & David Love
Steve Lundin &
Linda Bondurant

Jim & Denise Lynch
Fred & Laurie MacInnes
Robert Macleod
Linda Macs
Stuart Martin &
Maris Peach
Ross, Genny &
Alanna Matteson
Melody Mayer &
Bill Scheidt
Sheila McCartan &
Thomas Schooley
Nikki, Finn McClure &
Jay T. Scott
Mike & Kathy McCormick
Steve & Linda McCormick
Michael & Priscilla McGee
Sam & Susan Merrill
Joy Michaud
Anne & Dennis Mills
Ruth Milroy
Jeff Moore
Moore Trees, Inc.
Roberta Morello
Susan Moriarty
Patrick Morin
Alan & Jane Mountjoy-
Venning
John & Carol Murphy
Nisqually Land Trust
Greg Nordlund
Jim Oberlander
Paddy & Edward O'Brien
Tom Oliva
Oliver Reconstruction
Arden Olson
Olympia Federal Savings
Ellen Oman
Keith Partlow
Ernie Paul & Michael Leigh
Kathleen Peppard &
Jan Vleck
Kathy & Jack Perciful
Mick Phillips
Cleve & Martha Pinnix
Port Blakely Tree Farms
Paul & Angel Przybylowicz
Patricia Pyle
Jim & Carol Rainwood
Emily Ray &
Jim Langenfelder
Greg & Anne Reub
Peter Riggs

contributions were received between August 30, 2005 and November 15, 2006:

Dr. Gerry & Lynda Ring Erickson	Susie Vanderburg	Debra Salstrom	Terry & Bonnie Liberty
Leslie & Henry Romer	Bill & Alice Vogel	Dee Gabriele & Eugene Eckhardt	Sonny & Diana Lindvall
Martha Rosemeyer & Mario Gadea-Rivas	Sally Vogel	Larry Eickstaedt & Joan Lynch	Jean MacGregor & Rob Cole
Jeff Rudeen & Shelley Kirk	Thuy Vu	Carl Erler & Merna Maxwell	Ellen Madsen
Angela & Thomas Ruiz	Cynthia Walker & Lawrence Seale	Daniel Farber	Manger Insurance
Ryan Rutledge	Dave Warren & Ruth Musgrave	Jeff Foisy	Susan & Robert Markey
Carla Rutz	Steve Wells	Joe Ford & Mary Wilkinson	Anne Mathews & Clarence Gadley
Esme Ryan & Raymond Price	Michael & Lynn Welter	Carolyn Fornoff	Steve & Linda McCormick
Mike Ryherd	Wheeler & Peternell	Mark Foutch	Wendi Meador
Kris Schoyen	Diane Wiatr	Russ Fox & Carolyn Dobbs	Judy & Steve Metcalf
Dave & Joanne Schuett-Hames	Chris Wickham & Stephanie Claire	Fred & Nancy Garcia	Julia & Will Mitchell
Kathryn Scott & Brian Hall	Ross & Cathy Wiggins	Sam & Christine Garst	Cheryl & David Mongovin
Steve & Cynthia Sheller	Jean Wilkinson	Meliss Gildersleeve	Patti & Victor Moore
Pennie & Chip Sherman	Betty Wing	Rosalie Gittings	Susan Moriarty
Shipwreck Beads Inc.	Bonnie Wood	Jamie Glasgow	Frances Moulton
Ellen Silverman & Bradford Smith	Frona Woods	Evelyn Greenberg	Lachlan Munro
Sandia Slaby	Worth Law Group	Virginia Haas	John Nelson & Linda Benedict
John Sladek	Gary & Sandra Worthington	Virginia Hamilton	Robert & Betty Nickerson
Nancy Hanna	Charlene & Thomas Wynne	David Hanna	Jerry Parker
David & Lisa Smith	Dr. Gordon Yamaguchi	June Hansen	Paul Parker & Sally Reichlin
David & Paige Sorensen	Lenny Young	Richard & Elizabeth Hauser	Andrea Parrish
Greg Sorlie & Gale Blomstrom	<u>Sustainer \$50--99</u>	Dirk & Dixie Havlak	Marianne & Ken Partlow
Jim & Pene Speaks	Jay Allen	Chris Hawkins	Robert & Patricia Patrick
Todd Stamm & Melanie Tyler	Janet Anderson	Cheryl & David Heywood	Dave & Maria Peeler
Michelle Stevie	Regan & Richard Armstrong	Kayana & Richard Hoagland	Miguel Perez-Gibson
Stillwater Sciences	Jim Bachmeier	Richard Hoey & Stacey Waterman-Hoey	Mark & Jessica Peternell
Joe Stohr	Margit Bantowsky	Linda Hoffman	Kaia Petersen
Stormans, Inc.	Bonnie Betts	Chuck Howe	Janet Peterson
Karin Strelieoff & Andy Anderson	Thera Black	Rep. Sam Hunt	Ginger Phalen & Jeff Chan
Doug Sutherland	Ann & Nigel Blakley	Stephen Hyer, Jr.	Jerry & Carrol Probst
Janet Swanson	David Bonauto	Stephen Hyer, Sr.	Julie Puhich
Jean Takekawa	Jeanie Bond	Tani & Penne Iwashita	Randy & Chris Rahn
Bill Taylor	Wilma & DC Bullington	Karen Janowitz & Craig McLaughlin	Tim & Melanie Ransom
Eliza Taylor	Laura Cannon-Robinson & Peter Robinson	Bob & Bonnie Jacobs	Bill Robinson
Peter & Ginny Taylor	Angela Campbell & Douglas Tuman	David & Nancy Jamison	Elizabeth Rodrick
Carol Thompson	Christine Chapman	Erik Johansen	Susan Roediger
Thurston Co. Chamber of Commerce	Rebecca Christie	Deborah Johnson	Judy & Don Rogers
The Trust for Public Land	Lynn Coleman	Lisa Johnson	Sandra Singery Romero & Dr. Fred Romero
TwinStar Credit Union	Michelle Connor	Nicki Johnson	Jim Rudy & Lucia Perillo
Karen Valenzuela	Barbara & Tom Cook	Terence Johnson	Karl Ruppert
Chris van Daalen	Glen Crandal	Carla Jonientz	Dick & Diane Russell
	Bill & Joan Cullen	Lori Kahn	Lori Salzer
	Carol Cushing	Bonnie Kavanaugh	Adam Sant
	Thea Davis	Cherie Kearney	Steve & Melanie Saunders
	Doug & Merrilee DeForest	Tim Kelly & Lisa Johnson	Jim & Jean Schafer
	Pat Dunn	Dan & Vicki Kimball	Gary Schneider & Nancy Snyder
	Richard Easterly &	Nancy & Pete Kmet	Vince Schueler & Chris Chapman
		Jeanne Koenings	Norma Schuiteman
		Linda Kunze & Gordon White	Suzanne Shafer
		John Labranche	Diane & Ted Seagroves
		Chuck & Sue Lean	Cheryl Sebaska
		Mary Lee & Preston Troy	Joseph Shorin
		Johnny Lewis & Ruth Stubbs Lewis	Keith Simmons
			Mary Gail & Cort Skinner



Thank you for your support (cont.)!

Stanley Stahl
 Wendy Sternsheim
 Malcolm Stilson
 Lon Sullivan
 Mary Ann Swain
 Kristin Swenddal &
 Rich Nafziger
 Barbara & Reed Tindall
 Jolene Unsoeld
 Wim & Rae Verhoef
 Karen & Gordon Verrill
 Curtis & Evelyn Walseth
 Steve Wang &
 Kathryn Hamilton Wang
 Cathy Wasserman
 M. John Way
 Marian Wells
 Gary Wilburn
 Mimi & Don Williams
 Lance Winecka &
 Amy Hatch-Winecka
 David & Dolly Yates
 William Zachmann &
 Patricia Olson

Supporter \$30--49

Anonymous
 Kathleen Atwood &
 Donald Lennartson
 Glenn Baldwin &
 Linda Jacobsen
 Frank Baretich
 Brad Bassett & Ilse Heidmann
 Leonard & Lorrie Bauer
 Shannon Beigert
 David Bollinger
 Janet Boyd
 Ken & Katy Cameron
 Doug Canning
 Marci Carte
 Keith Cotton
 Janet Cutlip & Deborah
 George
 Warren & Janet Dawes
 Eric & Rain Delvin
 Joe Dragovich
 Gene & Shirley Dziedzic
 Jeffrey Even
 John Everingham
 Alison & Martin Fisher
 Joe Ford & Mary Wilkinson
 Vicky Friend
 Roger Giebelhaus
 Dorothy Gist
 Larry Goldstein
 Norma Green
 Eleanor Grimstad
 Peter Guttchen &
 Kristina Smock
 Lisa Hallock

Simona Hancock
 Annie Hankins & Roy Short
 Charles & Beverly Heebner
 Lynn Helbrecht
 Thomas Henderson
 John Henrikson
 Bobbi Hickox & Bob Briggs
 David Howard & Melinda Bell
 Simone Javaher
 Sarah Jewett
 Patirica Kay
 Denise & Chris Keegan
 Dave Kirk
 Rob Kirkwood &
 Valerie Hammett
 Kathy Knight
 Kristi & Brian Knudsen
 Don & Carol Kraege
 Maxine Krull
 Barbara & Ronald Kuenstler
 Del & Jennifer Larson
 Katherine Leitch
 J. A. Littooy
 Richard & Jane Lloyd
 Jon Lohrer
 Bruce Lund
 Sheila Lynch
 Dana Lynn
 Suzanne Malakoff &
 Jan Cnossen
 Elizabeth McDonnell
 Janet McLane
 Laura Moore
 William Moore
 Scott Morrison
 Peter Moulton
 Donna Nickerson &
 Uwe Tietze
 Linda Szymarek Oestreich
 Dave Okerlund
 Cheri Olson
 Heath Packard
 Neil Peck
 Mechelle Peterson
 Jon Peterson
 Aline & David Pinkard
 David Ponzoha
 John Pool
 Jim Pruske
 Alan Reichman &
 Diane Kurzyna
 Alan Rice
 Jeanne Robinson
 Terry Rodgers
 Ralph & Jacky Rudeen
 Terry Rudeen
 Emily Sanford
 Al & Pat Sauer
 Jim Sheler
 Tina Simcich
 Jack Sisco

Robert & Pam Smith
 Diana Smith
 Linda & Tim Smythe
 Oscar & Barbara Soule
 Ed Stanley
 Sharon Stewart
 Alison Styring
 Geri Thumser
 Joseph Tougas &
 Karen Lohmann
 Bruce & Priscilla Turcott
 Lawrence Turnbull
 Peter Woodcox
 Gary & Susan Zandell

Friends

Harriet Allen
 Heather Balcomb
 Greg & Diana Bargmann
 Anne Bertolin
 James Bill
 Patt Brady & Fred Fiedler
 Emily & Robert Bjorklund
 Sara Carter
 Ian Christopher
 Brian Cole & Martin Casey
 Alan Copsey &
 Deborah Feinstein
 Ginna Correa
 Sue Danver
 Peggy Duquette
 Flora Edmundson
 Don & Vida Farler
 Hugo & Shaw Flores
 Janet Franks
 Carol Fuller
 Russ Gilsdorf
 Tami Griffin
 Nick Handy &
 Paula Casey
 Saifudden Hakim &
 Jen Popchockhakim
 Jim & Carolyn Harmon
 Jennifer & Andrew Hayes
 Bill & Terra Hegy
 Sandra Herndon &
 David Mackey
 Tom & Lynne Holz
 Carol Horner
 Linda Johnson
 Terrence Johnson
 Christine Lamenzo
 Erik Laurentz
 Russ & Katie Lehman
 Ana Link
 Barbara MacGregor
 Bernadene Main
 Margaret Malakoff
 Jay Manning
 Joan Marshall
 Georgene & Bill

Marshman
 Rae, Anne & Carol Mason
 Kelly McAllister
 Janet McArthur
 Dorothy Mehaffey
 Sara Meza
 Susan & Patrick Miller
 Leslie Morris
 John Morrison
 Gita Moulton
 Olympia Real Estate, LLC
 Kathy O'Halloran
 Laura O'Neal
 James Reddick
 Rebecca Rettmer
 Darin Rice
 Lois Smith
 Jo Sohneronne
 Shelley Spalding
 Barbara Sparrowe
 Tim Sweeney &
 Kim Henderson
 Polly Taylor
 Howard & Gale Thronson
 Bill Tweit & Lucy Winter
 Danielle Westbrook
 Sally Winslow
 Marcella & Richard Yates

Make a Difference with Workplace Giving!



Capitol Land Trust thanks all the generous state employees who have chosen to give through the Combined Fund Drive.

Are you a current or retired state employee? Consider giving through the CFD: an easy, convenient, and secure way to support conservation in your community.

Governor Gregoire Headlines Second Annual Conservation Breakfast

In the early hours of February 10, 2006, more than 240 people filled the Olympia Ballroom to support Capitol Land Trust's work and to recognize leaders in the community who have made conserving Washington's essential natural areas a priority. Headlining the event was Governor Christine Gregoire, who spoke on the need for collaboration and strategic conservation of Washington's natural heritage.



Governor Gregoire with fellow Conservation Award recipients Mark Peternell of Wheeler & Peternell, and Bonnie Bunning of the WA Dept. of Natural Resources.

Third Annual Breakfast

Plan to attend Capitol Land Trust's
Third Annual Conservation Breakfast
Tuesday February 6, 2007
7:00 -- 8:30 AM
The Worthington Center
at St. Martin's University

The event will feature keynote speaker
Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna

*For more information or to RSVP contact Kathleen at
(360) 943-3012 kathleen@capitolandtrust.org.*

What is a Conservation Easement?

A conservation easement (or conservation restriction) is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. It allows you to continue to own and use your land and to sell it or pass it on to heirs.

When you donate a conservation easement to a land trust, you give up some of the rights associated with the land. For example, you might give up the right to build additional homes, while retaining the right to grow crops. Future owners also will be bound by the easement's terms. The land trust is responsible for making sure the easement's terms are followed.

Conservation easements offer great flexibility. An easement on property containing rare wildlife habitat might prohibit any development, for example, while one on a farm might allow continued farming and the building of additional agricultural structures. An easement may apply to just a portion of the property, and need not require public access.

In strategic instances, land trusts occasionally purchase conservation easements, but most often they are donated after the terms are worked out. If the donation benefits the public by permanently protecting important conservation resources and meets other federal tax code requirements--it can qualify as a tax-deductible charitable donation.

Placing a conservation easement on your property may also result in property tax savings. Perhaps most important, a conservation easement can be essential for passing land on to the next generation. By removing the land's development potential, the easement lowers its market value, which in turn may lower the estate tax burden. Whether the easement is donated during life or by will, it can make a critical difference in the heirs' ability to keep the land intact.☺

From the Land Trust Alliance <http://www.lta.org>

Summer Gala 2006 a Swashbuckling Success!

Thanks to all of you who attended and generously supported Capitol Land Trust's annual Summer Gala! This year we raised more than \$35,000 that will directly support collaborative and strategic conservation of southwest Washington's essential natural areas. **THANK YOU to everyone who attended or contributed!**



The pirates storm Triple Creek Farm



Looking out over Mud Bay



Andy Anderson and Regan Armstrong serve the fish while Amy Hatch-Winecka and Karin Strelhoff handle all the salads



Appetizers and drinks galore!

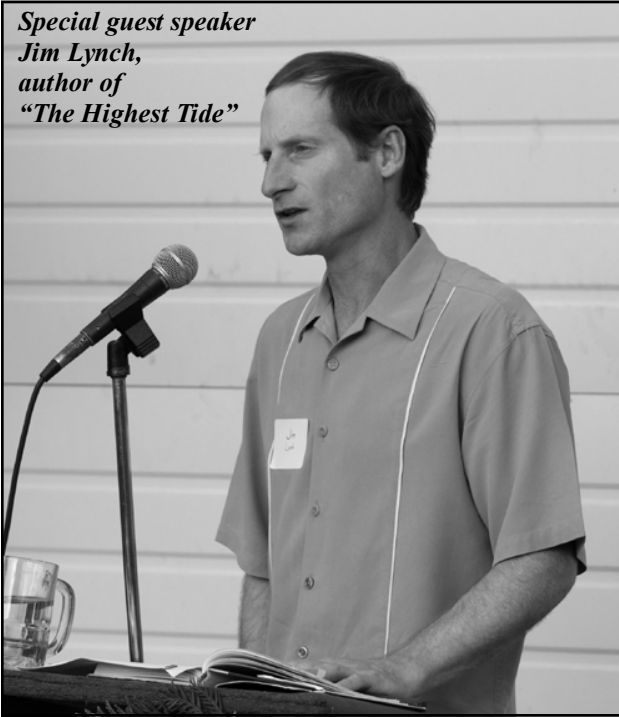


The Steve Luceno Trio serenades guests



The Squaxin Island Tribe donated abundant sockeye salmon

Sixth Annual Summer Gala
August 19, 2006
Triple Creek Farm



*Special guest speaker
Jim Lynch,
author of
"The Highest Tide"*



Dinner is served!

Special thanks to our photographer Wes Kirkpatrick.

This event made possible through the generous support of:



*The Albohn
Family
Foundation*



**OLYMPIA
FOOD CO-OP**



DESKOBA, Inc.

Olympia Federal Savings



PUGET SOUND ENERGY



GOAL #1: Protect Marine Shorelines and Estuaries



GOAL #2: Protect Peninsular Riparian Areas & Wetlands



GOAL #3: Protect Riparian & Prairie Habitat in the Black River and Scatter Creek Watersheds



GOAL #4: Protect Oak Woodlands & Prairie Habitat



Strategic Plan Guides Conservation Work

Last year Capitol Land Trust revised its mission to “further collaborative and strategic conservation of southwest Washington’s essential natural areas.” This important change enables Capitol Land Trust to better address the challenges facing the region and to more clearly define the Trust’s role in developing opportunities and solutions to these challenges. Capitol Land Trust will continue to focus its conservation efforts on landscape features and habitat values unique to this region.

But we also recognize that sometimes the greatest conservation benefit the Trust can provide will be by “furthering” regional conservation, without necessarily having an ownership or easement interest in land. The value of this approach is evident in several recent aspects Capitol Land Trust’s work:

- ✎ Formation of the Washington Association of Land Trusts, a statewide association formed in 2006 that will represent the collective interests of land trusts in the state. CLT is on the Association’s Steering Committee and played an early role in bringing the group together.
- ✎ Encouraging elected leaders and media resources to support greater funding for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition. WWRC is a non-partisan coalition of conservation, recreation, hunting and business groups working to ensure continued access to open spaces and conservation of wildlife habitat in Washington State.
- ✎ Coordinating our efforts with other land trusts and conservation groups in the areas we work to reduce territoriality and ensure efficient use of very limited funding.
- ✎ Building trust between environmental, business, and elected leaders – raising awareness that while differences exist, if this region is to remain a place we want to live and work, we will all need to work together.

Given current patterns of development and rapid conversion of open spaces and working lands, Capitol Land Trust focuses its conservation efforts in the four primary areas outlined to the left.

We serve the needs of landowners through non-regulatory tools and financial incentives. By mapping, identifying and prioritizing conservation lands, and seeking funding for acquisition and restoration when appropriate, we protect lands that add to or complement our existing conservation lands and leverage the work of community groups and government agencies working toward similar goals.✎

Puget Sound Shoreline Targeted for Conservation *By Erin Scheel*

It looks like the water goes out forever, turning and dodging around tree-covered points, lending even the most mundane human activities that take place near it a kind of importance and heft.

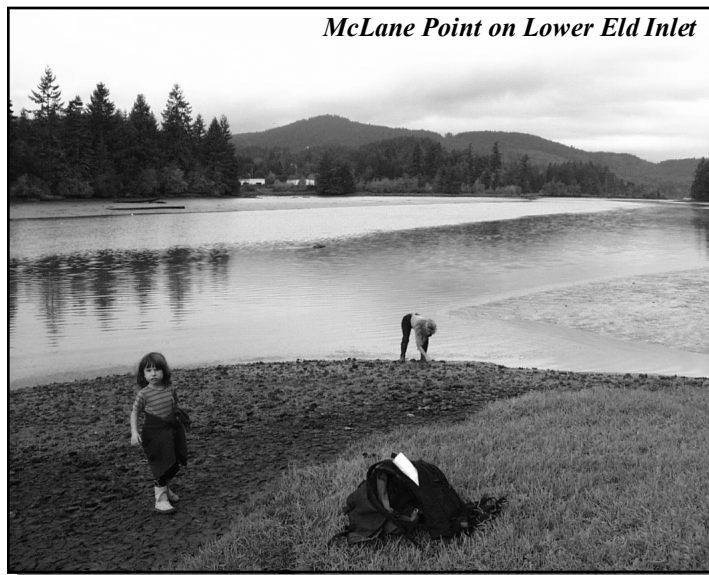
Puget Sound is the basis for life in the region, and supports an array of recreational and economic activities. Yet it is in poor shape these days. Urban growth is having an unprecedented impact on the health and vitality of the Sound. From armored shorelines to stormwater runoff and the leakage of fertilizer and sewage, human impacts pose the greatest threats to the Sound's health. Protecting the health of Puget Sound is one of Capitol Land Trust's top priorities. The first goal of the Trust's Strategic Plan is to protect marine shorelines and estuaries. One of the ways Capitol Land Trust does this is by working collaboratively with landowners, government agencies, organizations and individuals to protect contiguous areas of key habitat in the southern Puget Sound region.

Formed when the glaciers receded north 13,000 years ago, Puget Sound is the second largest estuary in the lower 48 states. From the Strait of Juan de Fuca in the north, salt water enters the Sound and mixes with fresh water that has found its way down from mountain tops, through streams, over roads and into our storm drains and groundwater.

As it travels, the fresh water brings whatever is in its path and deposits these nutrients, chemicals, and sediments into the marine waters. The photosynthetic plankton that is produced when these nutrients are exposed to sunlight forms the bottom of a food chain that supports over 3,000 species. This is where water quality dictates the health of larger organisms, and why conserving marine shorelines and estuaries is so important.

Where it stretches its fingers south and peters out near Olympia, the Sound is comparatively shallow and it circulates poorly. What enters Budd Inlet stays in Budd Inlet, for quite some time. It's the Vegas of inlets. Same goes for Eld and Henderson. These characteristics unique to the South Sound make the conservation of nearshore areas especially important. Developed or armored shorelines can no longer provide the benefits of filtration and wildlife habitat. These alterations make the shoreline hostile to the fish, plants, and birds that depend on coastal estuarine and marine ecosystems.

The Trust's conservation efforts in the southern Puget Sound are not in a vacuum. These efforts are part of a much larger movement in the state to protect and



restore the health of Puget Sound. In fact, Governor Christine Gregoire brought the importance of a healthy, sustainable Sound into focus when she presented her environmental agenda in December 2005.

Our economy, our complex ecosystem, our sense of place in the world, our food sources, and our health hinge on our relationship with the Sound. By targeting especially sensitive shoreline and Inlet watershed properties for conservation, the Trust is focusing its efforts where they are most urgently needed.☼

A WARM WELCOME to KAT MOORE!

Kathryn Moore (Kat) is our new Conservation Projects Manager. Kat recently graduated from the University of Oregon where she received a law degree and a Masters in Environmental Studies.

During graduate school, Kat focused on land trust issues, especially stewardship and tax benefits. Although she claims the east side of the Cascades as home, Kat is excited to be working for the Trust and learning more about the southern Puget Sound area. Stop by our office and welcome her if you're in the neighborhood!☼





209 Fourth Ave E #205
Olympia, WA 98501

Address Service Requested



Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #371
Olympia, WA

New Federal Law Gives Greater Tax Break for Conservation Easement Donations

In August 2006, Congress passed new federal legislation that will help moderate-income landowners, including family farmers and ranchers, receive significant tax benefits for making the valuable donation of a conservation easement (see description on page 9). The new tax reform allows many landowners to deduct much more than they could under the old rules. Here are some of the key changes:

- ☛ The new law **raises the deduction** a landowner can take for donating a conservation easement from 30% of their annual adjusted gross income to 50%.
- ☛ Qualifying **farmers and ranchers can now deduct up to 100%** of their annual adjusted gross income.
- ☛ The carry-forward period for a landowner to take tax deductions for conservation easement donations has been **extended from 5 to 15 years**.

If you are considering a conservation gift, it is also important to note that these incentives **expire at the end of 2007**, although conservation easement donations made in this two-year window will carry forward in tax deductions for up to 15 years. It's not too early to start work on your transaction!

For more information, please visit:
www.capitolandtrust.org/taxincentives.htm
www.lta.org/publicpolicy/tax_incentives_updates.htm