

Jefferson Land Trust

C E L E B R A T I N G

30
years

Working to protect places that matter in Jefferson County and shape a future that includes vibrant local farms, thriving fish and wildlife, verdant forests, and the next generation of people who love this land.



2018-19 REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY



Board of Directors

Robin Fitch – *President*
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Michael Machette – *Secretary*
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Craig Britton
Lucas Hart
Kellie Henwood
Sherry Moller
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Carrie Clendaniel
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Kate Godman
Director of Philanthropy
Erik Kingfisher
Stewardship Director
Rebekah Korenowsky
Engagement Coordinator
Paula McNees
Finance & Administrative Assistant
Sarah Spaeth
Director of Conservation & Strategic Partnerships
Blaise Sullivan
Conservation Assistant
Richard Tucker
Executive Director
Stephanie Wiegand
Communications Manager
Sarah Zablocki-Axling
Development Manager

Mission

*Helping the community
preserve open space,
working lands, and
habitat forever.*

Letter to Our Community

Marking the 30th anniversary of our founding, 2019 represents a benchmark year for the Land Trust. Milestone years such as this often provide the opportunity to reflect on accomplishments and look ahead to the future.

Looking back, I'm grateful, that 30 years ago, a few dedicated and visionary local leaders — Stephanie Lutgring, Doug Mason, Julie McCulloch, and Virginia McIntyre — had the idea, the energy, and the fortitude to create Jefferson Land Trust. I'm thankful for this both personally and on behalf of our generous community and this unique and special place.

We began as a volunteer-only organization and operated as such for almost seven years before hiring our first employees. Sarah Spaeth, who still leads our conservation efforts, was one of them.

While we now comprise a small team of dedicated professionals, we haven't lost our volunteer roots. In 2018, local volunteers spent more than 5,175 hours helping us accomplish our mission.

Since our founding, we've worked with more than 100 willing landowners to protect nearly 17,000 acres in Jefferson County. Almost 450 of those acres were protected in 2018. And more than 1,000 of those acres represent 14 local family farms. In fact, preserving working farms and forests has been a priority for the Land Trust since 2003.

With a focus on wildlife habitat, especially on protecting and restoring salmon habitat, some of the land we protect is kept open and available for local wildlife. With a great deal of help from amazing volunteers and partner organizations, we own and care for 23 nature and forest preserves.

For me, a highlight of 2019 was opening our newest preserve. The Chai-yahk-wh Preserve on Marrowstone Island was protected in 2018 with incredible local support. And, thanks to help from volunteers, local contractors, and a Marrowstone Island Eagle Scout, the preserve — with its winding $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile trail — is now open to the public.



Three of the Land Trust's four founders, Julie McCulloch, Doug Mason, and Stephanie Lutgring (L to R) celebrate community conservation at ForeverFest, our annual benefit dinner. Photo by David McCulloch.

Looking forward through the end of 2019 and beyond, our conservation team is in the process of updating our strategic plan. They're also actively working on 17 projects with landowners who wish to protect their land. One of those projects is Chimacum Ridge — our biggest and most ambitious project to date.

Creating a community forest on Chimacum Ridge is an undertaking the Land Trust will be focused on for several years. When successful, this place will showcase sustainable forest management, while also providing healthy wildlife habitat, public hiking and nature viewing, and outdoor education opportunities for local schools.

Looking forward, there's much more to be done. In the face of climate change, prioritizing projects that benefit climate resiliency, such as Chimacum Ridge, and continuing to restore our protected lands will be essential.

I'm excited about the future of Jefferson Land Trust and Jefferson County. With a cadre of partners, tremendous community support, a solid foundation, and a clear path forward, we're only limited by our own imaginations.

If you're interested in learning more about the work of the Land Trust and various ways you can get involved, please call me at 360.379.9501.

With Warmest Regards,



Richard Tucker, Executive Director

Together, we've helped protect almost 17,000 acres!

We're Making an Impact!

Community support of our work has resulted, to date, in conserving 106 properties in Jefferson County. The location of each property is shown by a rhododendron on the map.

What we do together for our land helps determine what Jefferson County will be — for us and our neighbors today, and for our children and grandchildren tomorrow.

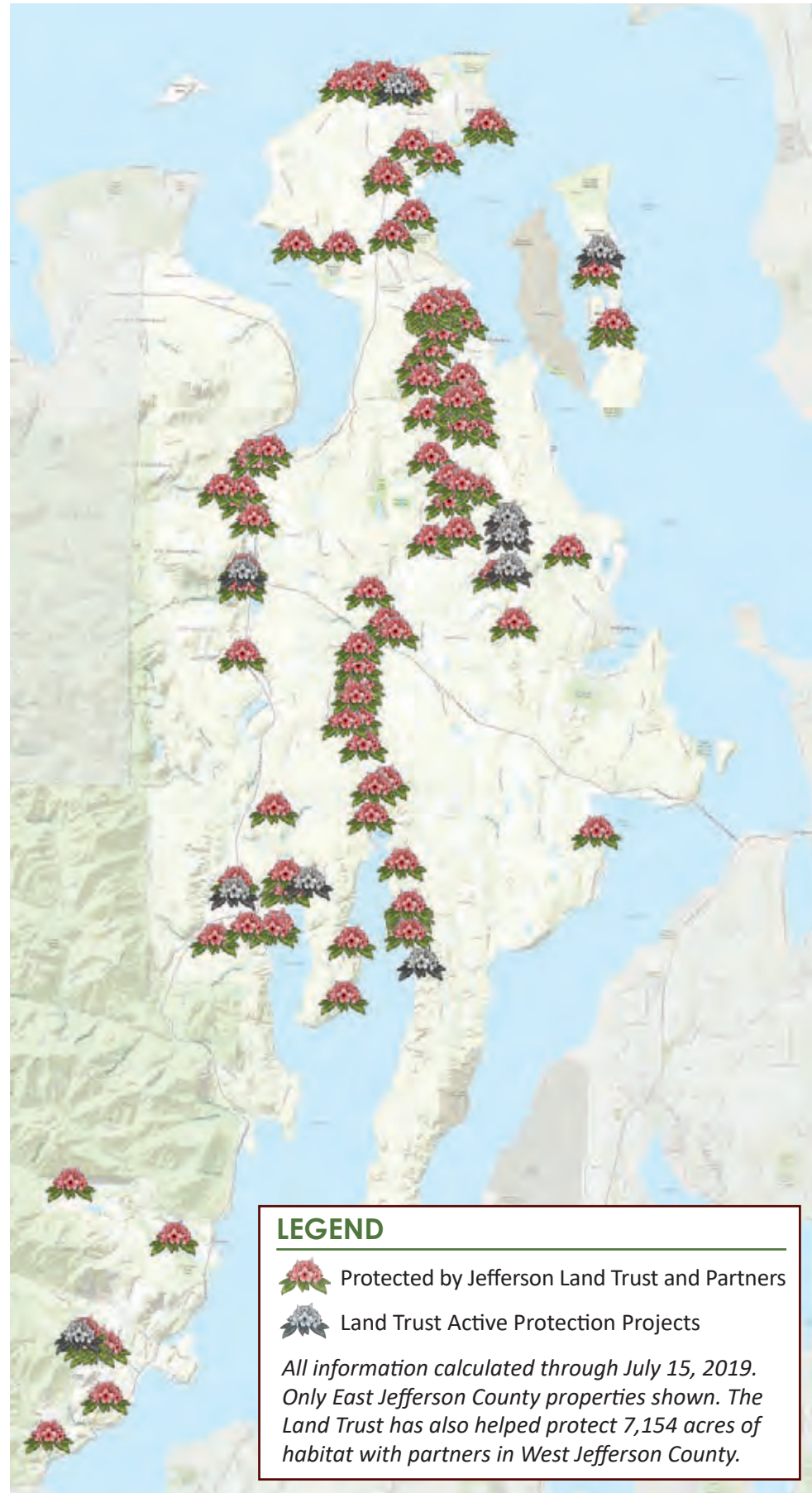
As a land trust, one of our primary roles is to help landowners protect their land from unnecessary development. In doing so, we focus on the most valuable resources our land offers — its farms, fish, and working forests.

Through our focus on farms, we partner with local farm families to protect the rich agricultural valleys of Jefferson County that have allowed these vital lands to thrive for generations. Along with our partners, we also help farmers ensure that their agricultural work can happen in balance with nature.

Through our focus on fish and wildlife, we work to successfully protect and restore treasured salmon habitat, bringing once nearly vanished populations back to our rivers, creeks, and streams, while ensuring that the wildlife that depend on this habitat also continue to flourish.

Through our focus on forests, we work to ensure that verdant forests in Jefferson County can support both industry and recreation, while remaining a healthy place for native plants and animals to grow and live.

Learn more by visiting our website at: www.saveland.org/focus.



FARMLAND

1,063 acres
14 properties



FISH and WILDLIFE HABITAT

10,477 acres
77 properties



WORKING FOREST

5,409 acres
11 properties



URBAN OPEN SPACE

4 acres
4 properties

2018 IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

Protecting the Land



435.5

new local acres protected in partnership with willing landowners, including **3** protective easements



60

conservation easements visited for required annual monitoring

5

new preserves created for the benefit of wildlife and people



Caring for and Appreciating the Land

658

acres of habitat actively cared for at our preserves



3,120

hours of time spent caring for and teaching on the land



400+

1st-12th graders from **3** public school districts engaged



23

work parties held to care for our preserves



152

site visits by staff and volunteers to monitor habitat conditions at nature preserves

5



benches built by volunteers to be installed at our preserves, creating a restful spot for visitors to sit and enjoy nature

6



pick-up truck loads of trash removed from various nature preserves



12

wildlife camera site visits by trained volunteers at **3** local preserves

Thank You to Our Dedicated Volunteers!

You're amazing! Collectively, you spent more than 5,175 hours improving wildlife habitat, assisting in the office or at events, serving on our board, and helping us accomplish our mission in 2018. Talk about making an impact...

Thanks to everyone who volunteers in so many different ways to help do this important work. Whether you're helping in the field, educating students in our outdoor classrooms, or pitching in at one of our fundraising events, we couldn't do what we do without your willingness to help.

Thank you!



Local public school students apply math and science skills in our protected forests to calculate height and volume of trees, while learning about ecosystem benefits at a Land Trust preserve. Photo by Wendy Feltham.



Kathy Ryan is one of more than 25 volunteers who pitched in to help at ForeverFest, our annual fundraising benefit dinner. Photo by Robert Tognoli.



Volunteers planting native trees to replace invasive blackberries along the banks of Snow Creek at a Land Trust preserve. Photo by Charles Espy.

Want to Get Involved?

There are many ways to get involved as a Land Trust volunteer. If you enjoy being outside, join us every 2nd or 4th Tuesday at one of our outdoor work parties to care for our preserves.

If you want to help in other ways, please contact us and we'll do our best to find something that fits both your interests and your schedule.

Learn More!

Visit www.saveland.org/events where you'll find a number of upcoming opportunities.

You can also call 360.379.9501 or email info@saveland.org.



Visitors enjoy the 3/4-mile trail at the recently opened Chai-yahk-wh Preserve on Marrowstone Island, which winds through a mature forest. This special place was protected in 2018 thanks to donations from more than 260 individuals and organizations, along with funding from the Department of Defense.

Let Us Count the Ways...

Thank You for Partnering in Our Success!

We appreciate all the creative and generous ways our community comes together in support of our work! **This is YOUR Land Trust**, and you're a key partner in our shared successes. Land protection and stewardship are a community effort. It takes all of us coming together to care for and protect the wild places and open spaces around us. In doing so, we give a gift to each other and to future generations.

Some of the ways you can get involved include:

- Supporting us financially – gifts of all sizes are meaningful and make a difference
- Volunteering in our office and out on the land
- Liking us on Facebook or Instagram and sharing our posts
- Donating a conservation easement on your land
- Introducing family and friends to us at a work party, event, or by visiting one of our preserves
- Sharing your stories from the land and photos of landscapes, wildlife, and people out in nature
- Including Jefferson Land Trust in your will or estate planning
- Becoming a business sponsor or a Save the Land Partner by donating a percentage of your business profits

Each of these contributions is a local investment in our rural heritage and quality of life. To find out more about these and other ways to get involved or support our work, contact Sarah Zablocki-Axling at 360.379.9501 x 108 or visit www.saveland.org.

Jefferson Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



You're Invited!

Jefferson Land Trust's
30th Anniversary Party

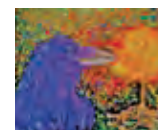
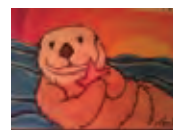
Thursday, September 26
6 – 8 p.m.

**Join us in celebrating our
30th Anniversary.**

**We'll enjoy light refreshments
and cake, clink our glasses
to cheer our shared
accomplishments, and ask for
your input in helping to shape
the next 30 years of
community conservation in
Jefferson County.**

**Get details and RSVP online at
www.saveland.org/30years**

A Big Thank You to Our 2019 Business Sponsors!



Protecting places that matter since 1989

About Jefferson Land Trust

Jefferson Land Trust is a local, nonprofit land conservation organization dedicated to preserving the rural character and iconic landscapes of Jefferson County. In partnership with the community, the Land Trust has helped to protect almost 17,000 acres of our area's most important places.



- Sound Finances
- Ethical Conduct
- Responsible Governance
- Lasting Stewardship

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