

NISQUALLY LAND TRUST



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SPRING 2007

YELM LANDMARK TO BE FIRST NLT TRAIL SYSTEM



The Elledge Ranch will be combined with the Land Trust's adjacent holdings to create a shoreline trail system. Inset: Cathy and Dr. William Elledge

The Land Trust is pleased to announce the purchase of the landmark Elledge Ranch, also known as Trestle Farm, from Dr. William and Cathleen Elledge. Located along the Nisqually River where it meets Highway 507 in Yelm, the Ranch is an important acquisition for several reasons.

For one, the 29-acre Ranch adjoins 95 acres already under Land Trust ownership, thus creating a continuous two-mile stretch of Nisqually River shoreline that is now permanently protected. This reach of the Nisqually provides spawning grounds for coho and threatened Chinook and steelhead salmon, and it is excellent rearing habitat for all five Nisqually salmon species.

As well, the Elledge acquisition assures a lasting connection between the Elledges and the Yelm community, where they are long-time fixtures. In 1979, Dr. Elledge opened what would become Yelm Family Medicine and practiced there until his retirement in May. Cathy Elledge is a renowned equestrian who taught hundreds of local children and adults at the Ranch.

The Elledges believe that a healthy land ethic is essential to a healthy community, and maintaining the Ranch's high conservation values was a priority in its sale. "There is so much going on around us these

days—so much growth and noise," said Dr. Elledge. "This is a way to preserve a retreat from all that chaos."

In that spirit, the Land Trust envisions the Ranch as the anchor for its first public trail system. "Creating trails is an important new direction for us," said Executive Director Joe Kane. "It will fill a critical local need and support the healthy values Bill and Cathy have championed for so long"

Kane said the \$875,000 purchase price "was a great deal. The Elledges could have gotten substantially more from a developer." A Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant provided \$350,000, but the Land Trust must find private means to pay the balance. "It is a risk worth taking," said Kane.

"It's not common to see as many winners as there were in this deal," said Dr. Elledge. "The public wins because this beautiful place is protected. The Land Trust wins because this is a good project for them. And we win because an important part of who Cathy and I are will be preserved forever and keep us connected with the community here. I look forward to visiting this land and just being still and enjoying it."



ANNUAL APPEAL RAISES \$13,500

The Land Trust extends our deepest thanks to everyone who contributed to our annual appeal last fall. We raised over \$13,500, nearly twice what we raised in 2005 and well over our target of \$10,000.

Contributions to our spring and fall appeals are especially valuable because they are unrestricted—we can use appeal funds where and when we need them. That need can be as specialized as a piece of software critical to winning land-acquisition grants or as mundane as paying the telephone bill.

In every case, it is money that goes to work many times over. Already this year, for example, the Land Trust has won more than \$6 million in grants to buy wildlife habitat. But it was the direct contributions from our supporters that enabled us to do the work to win those grants. Thank you.

“WHY DID YOU STOP SENDING ME MEMBERSHIP- RENEWAL LETTERS?”

*You mean the ones that
get stuck in the “to do later” pile?*

Everyone who donates to the Land Trust at least once a year is considered a member. But we decided that one way to thank you for your support is to pester you less. So we're limiting our solicitations to a fundraising appeal in the spring and in the fall (often accompanied by our newsletter, so you can see how we're putting your contributions to work—and so we can save on postage!). And when we send you an invitation to one of our events, we'll probably mention that we would be grateful for your support.

But no more membership letters!

Questions or comments? Please call us at 360-458-1111 or email us at staff@nisquallylandtrust.org

GIFTS RECEIVED OCTOBER 2006 – MARCH 2007

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Special Thanks To:

Jennifer Cutler and the Nisqually
Indian Tribe Natural Resources Dept.,
for GIS and mapping services.

*new member



Red Salmon Creek: In March, over 200 volunteers—kids, teachers, soldiers, business executives—spent two days planting 2000 native trees and shrubs on this important Nisqually Delta salmon stream.

THE NISQUALLY LAND TRUST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM: YOU'RE INVITED



Nisqually Land Trust

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Photography: Constance Bond, Stephen Bond, Robert Brown, Linda Kunze.
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Special Thanks To: Capitol City Press

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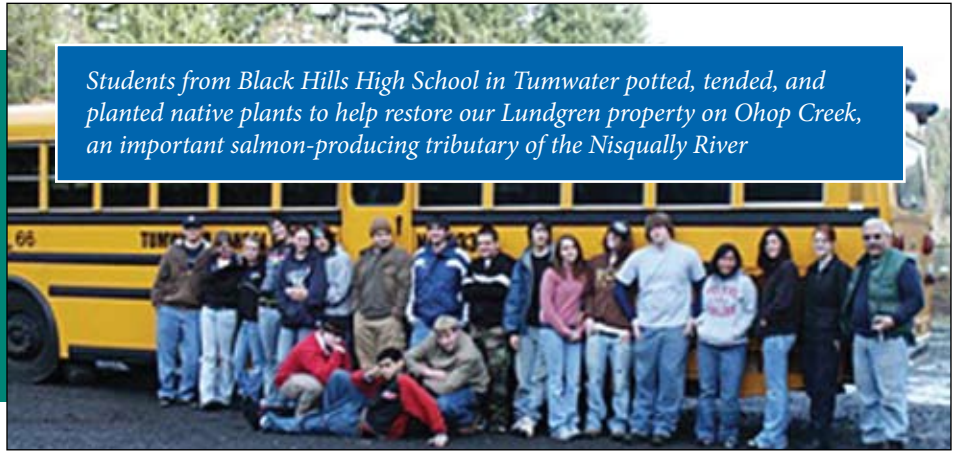
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Website: www.nisquallylandtrust.org

In the following pages you'll find stories about our Stewardship Program and information about how you can participate. The program is only two years old, but we have come a long way in a short time: We now have restoration projects on 550 of our 1600 acres, with more on the way. The program is a hands-on way for our members and supporters to get out on the lands they've so generously helped us acquire.

We started the program because good stewardship means more than just owning land. It means restoring habitat for native fish, wildlife and plants and maintaining it in perpetuity. And that takes more than just getting your hands dirty.

Good stewardship also means writing land-management plans, developing data bases, buying tools and equipment, hiring contractors, coordinating with partners, recruiting and training volunteers—and finding the money to do all of that.

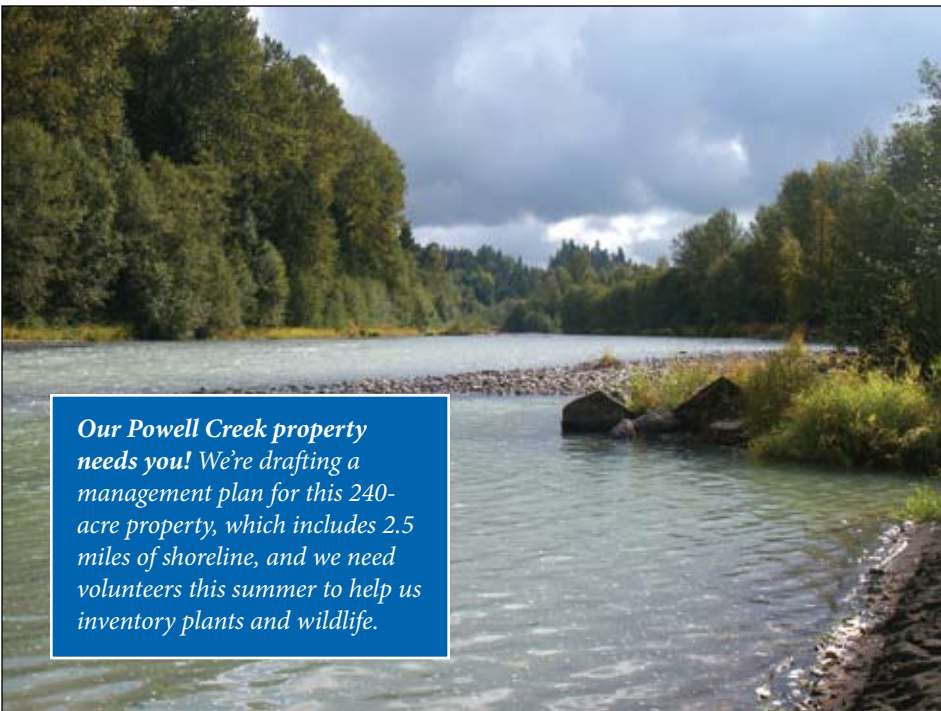
Our program owes its success to the generous support of our volunteers, members and donors. We offer them our deepest thanks, and we invite anyone who's interested to join in. With 1600 acres, there's plenty of work to go around!



Students from Black Hills High School in Tumwater potted, tended, and planted native plants to help restore our Lundgren property on Ohop Creek, an important salmon-producing tributary of the Nisqually River



The Land Trust has completed a species inventory and is now drafting a management plan for the Kist property, in our Powell Creek Complex



Our Powell Creek property needs you! We're drafting a management plan for this 240-acre property, which includes 2.5 miles of shoreline, and we need volunteers this summer to help us inventory plants and wildlife.

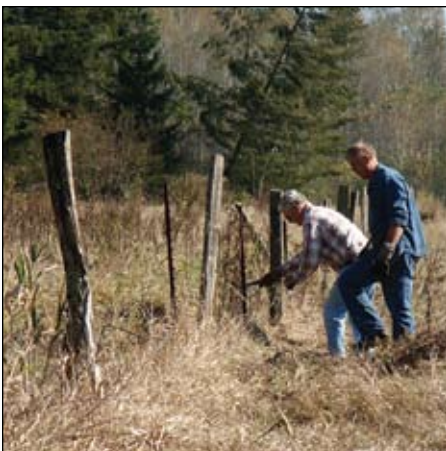




City of Eatonville employees dedicated one of their monthly service days to cleaning up the Land Trust's Boxcar Canyon property on the Mashel River, which contains critical salmon habitat but is also a popular party site.



Left: Stream-choking ivy on Washburn Creek, in the Nisqually Delta, before and after being attacked by the Washington Conservation Corps. These young people have amazing energy! They worked through November's rain, wind, and icy cold, pulling acres of ivy and blackberry to prepare the site for planting.



Removing old fencing on the Land Trust's Browder and Bartlett properties, left, and after replanting them with native trees and shrubs.

We would like to thank the following organizations for their generous support of our stewardship and volunteer programs:

- Agnes J. Waterhouse Endowment Fund of the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
- Black Hills High School
- Burning Foundation
- City of Eatonville
- Fort Lewis
- Hugh and Jane Ferguson Foundation
- Intel
- Komachin Middle School
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge
- Pierce County Community Salmon Fund
- Pierce County Conservation District
- Salmon Recovery Funding Board
- South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
- Sue D. Nilsson Endowment Fund of the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
- Thurston County Conservation District
- Thurston County Plant Salvage Program
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Veterans Conservation Corps
- Washington Conservation Corps
- Williams Pipeline Corporation

STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

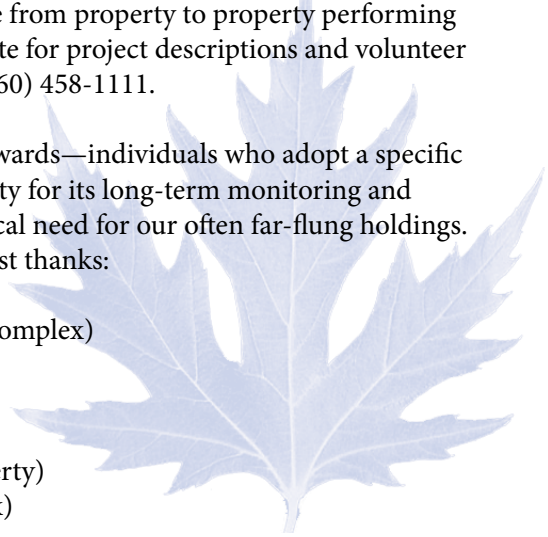
Itching to visit the wonderful properties you've so generously helped the Land Trust acquire? We invite you to roll up your sleeves and help us restore and steward those lands. There's plenty of work to go around!

We need help with such tasks as monitoring fish and wildlife populations, planting native trees and shrubs, controlling non-native species, building and repairing fences, and removing debris. See our website (www.nisquallylandtrust.org) for a calendar of projects.

In addition to our work parties, we'd like to create volunteer teams that focus on a particular property over time or move from property to property performing stewardship tasks. Please see our website for project descriptions and volunteer information. Or call Linda Kunze at (360) 458-1111.

We also need more Volunteer Land Stewards—individuals who adopt a specific Land Trust site and assume responsibility for its long-term monitoring and management. Land Stewards fill a critical need for our often far-flung holdings. We owe our current stewards the deepest thanks:

Mary Fitzpatrick-Netz (Powell Creek Complex)
Jim Harman (Wilcox Flats)
David Hymel (Ohop Valley)
Keith Kusler (Mashel River properties)
Kathryn and Clyde Powell (Trent Property)
Cheryl Stephan (Powell Creek Complex)



THE LAND TRUST NEEDS A TRUCK

Need a tax deduction? We need a truck. We could really use a four-wheel drive, one-ton pick-up in good working condition, diesel if possible. If you have one you would like to donate, please contact Linda Kunze at (360) 458-1111 or nltsteward@nisquallylandtrust.org.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

The Land Trust has a new website! We've redesigned our old site to provide better and more user-friendly information, including maps and photos of our properties, descriptions of our stewardship projects, a volunteer calendar, and news about upcoming events. Visit us at www.nisquallylandtrust.org.

Upgrading our site was made possible in part by a grant from the **Pierce County Community Salmon Fund** and the **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**.



2007 AUCTION SETS NEW RECORD

We had a full house and a “wild” time at the Land Trust’s Fifteenth Annual Auction Gala on March 17. And by the end of the party we had a new record, raising nearly \$50,000 for land acquisition, stewardship, and operations support.



Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland (right) and Bonnie Bunning of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources accept the Nisqually Land Trust 2007 Partner of the Year Award from President George Walter.

The majority of these funds will go to support Phase Three of our Mount Rainier Gateway Initiative, which seeks to protect 4500 acres of threatened timberlands near the main entrance to Mount Rainier National Park.

We are especially grateful to our auctioneers, Joe Hyer of the Alpine Experience and Jeff Kingsbury of Capital Playhouse; to our army of volunteers, whose hard work made the event so attractive and enjoyable; and to the many conservation-minded individuals and businesses who donated to the event.

Most of these businesses are local, and we encourage you to patronize them. Links to their websites can be found at www.nisquallylandtrust.org.



Our Auction Gala was a heck of a party! More than 200 Land Trust supporters joined us for a festive dinner, greeting old friends, making new ones, and bidding with abandon. The Land Trust Board of Directors provided each table with a complementary bottle of wine and The Professors Three jazz trio provided live music. If you missed out this year, plan on joining us for next year’s auction, tentatively scheduled for April 5, 2008.

2007 Auction Sponsors

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Glacier Northwest
T.L. Fitzer Logging
Temperate Forest Solutions
Pope Resources
Venture Bank
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Capital City Playhouse
The Alpine Experience
Provided Our Auctioneers

2007 Auction Donors

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Araquin Designs (Peter Boome)
Ashford Creek Pottery
BackRoads Teller
Batdorf & Bronson Coffee Roasters
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Kristin Blalack and Gerald Suzawith
Steve Bond
Deb Boston, Ohop Valley Woodworking
Boston Harbor Photography
Dana Botka
Craig Bowhay
Andrea Brannon (Mt. Rainier Art Studio and Gallery)
Robert Brown
Stan Butler
Briggs Community Branch YMCA
Campbell, Dille, Barnett, Smith & Wiley, PLLC
Capital Playhouse
Cecilia Svinth Carpenter
Cedar Creek Treehouse
Cedar Loft Cabin at Mt. Rainier
Childhood’s End Gallery

Colorado River and Trail Expeditions
Tom and Barbara Cook
Clear Lake Pottery (Cheryl Popek)
Copper Creek Inn
Coquina Studio and McKenzie Jewelers
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D and J Rhodies
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Eatonville Hometown Sports
Ed Newbold, Wildlife Artist
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Heron Dance
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Michaela Mastini
Ashylee Tillman
Gnoulim Ninhnaphah
Pat Warren Hoenig
How ’bout a Basket
Debby Hyde
In Tune with Nature Watercolors by
Teri Granger
Island Jane
Tom Johnson
Tom and Sue Johnson

KGy Radio
Knottywood Art
International Mountain Guides
Tim Kilgore
Dan and Barb Klennert
Robin Lee and Joyous Creations
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Pendleton Northwest and the
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Riverman Guide Service
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Sally’s Photos
Judith Scavone
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Robert and Marjorie Smith
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David Troutt
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TwinStar Credit Union
David Uberuaga
Louise Wackerle
Jim and Sharon Waldo
Alice Walter
Walter Dacon Winery
Washington Rock Quarries
Waterstreet Cafe and Bar
Wellspring

Werner Paddles
Whitaker’s Bunkhouse
Des Whitchurch and Barbara Karshmer
Wild Birds Unlimited
Wildwater River Tours
Mimi Williams

2007 Auction Volunteers

Grace Bell
Karen Bond
Stephen Bond
Steve Bond
Dana Botka
Patt Brady
Adele Brandt
Robert Brown
Marilyn Bucso
Kyra Faller
Curran Foster
Colton Foster
J.W. Foster
Nicki Foster
Justin Hall
Sofia Kane
Clare Kane
Sally Kronoff
William Kogut
Jessica Lawrence
Betsy Loyer
Evan Marks
Jim Matheson
Ginger Phalen
Sandia Slaby
Lasha Steinweg
Noll Steinweg
Cheryl Stephan
Thong Sontanansumpun
Audrey Zimmerman
Robert Zimmerman

DATES SET FOR SUMMER FLOAT TRIP

The best way to see the Nisqually River is to step into a raft and float it! This summer, join us for a relaxing excursion along a seldom-seen stretch of the river, including its confluence with Powell Creek, site of one of our largest and most recent acquisitions.

We'll be offering the trip on two dates: Saturday, July 21, and Sunday, July 29. Seats are \$75 for members and \$100 for non-members. Your ticket includes a delicious catered lunch on the river and transportation to and from your car.

The raft trip is a 13-mile, six-hour journey. We start at the river's



confluence with the Mashel River, site of the new Nisqually-Mashel State Park, and finish near the Land Trust's 170-acre Wilcox Flats complex, just upstream from McKenna.

Our professional outfitter, Wildwater River Tours, rates the trip as easy and family friendly, suitable for most people age six and up. However, be prepared for the possibility of a short, slippery walk when we board the rafts.

You'll be receiving reservation information by mail shortly. Space is limited, so make your reservations early. For more info, visit our website, www.nisquallylandtrust.org.

RED SALMON CREEK OPEN HOUSE JUNE 9 — YOU'RE INVITED!

The Land Trust will host an open house at its recently restored Red Salmon Creek property in the Nisqually Delta on Saturday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please join us for guided tours of the property and our new planting. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy this beautiful site.

Directions: Take I-5 to the Mounts Road exit (#116). Coming from Tacoma, at the top of the exit turn right; from Olympia, turn left. Follow Mounts Road about 1.3 miles, driving through the golf course and continuing on until you reach the driveway on the left just before the railroad trestle. Park along Mounts Road and walk down the driveway to the third and last home, where the open house will begin. People with problems walking may drive to the third house, where there is limited parking.

If you are coming from the Nisqually Valley, Old Highway 99 becomes Mounts Road at its intersection with I-5.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2007 SALMON BAKE!

Sunday, September 16, 4-7 p.m.

Don't miss this year's Salmon Bake and Annual Meeting at Odd Fellows Park near the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge. Join us for a free dinner of fresh Nisqually River salmon, complemented by delicious side dishes and desserts. Help us celebrate a successful year of habitat



conservation and find out what the Land Trust will be doing next year.

There is no charge for dinner and all Nisqually Land Trust supporters are welcome. For information, driving directions and reservations call (360) 458-1111, email us (staff@nisquallylandtrust.org), or visit our website (www.nisquallylandtrust.org).

MONTHLY GIVING: HELP CONSERVE OUR BEAUTIFUL WATERSHED ALL YEAR LONG

A consistent, convenient, and hassle-free way to support the Nisqually Land Trust's conservation work year-round is through our monthly or quarterly giving program. This program helps you actively contribute to local land protection each month of the year. It helps us lower our processing costs; saves trees by reducing mail; and provides the Land Trust with a reliable stream

of resources so that we can better plan our protection work.

It's easy to sign up for the program. Most of our members prefer to set up an automatic payment through their bank or have a set amount charged to their credit card monthly. We also accept regular monthly checks. Please call us at 360-458-1111 to sign up or for more information.