

# NISQUALLY LAND TRUST



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FALL 2009

## LAND TRUST ACQUIRES KEY SALMON PROPERTIES ON MASHEL RIVER

ANNUAL REPORT  
PAGES 5-8



*The Little Mashel empties into the Mashel River on the Land Trust's Van Eaton Property*

The Nisqually Land Trust is pleased to announce the acquisition of three key salmon-producing properties on the Mashel River near Eatonville.

The largest of these is a 25-acre property purchased from the Van Eaton family, descendants of the town's founders. It is the first property to be acquired under Pierce County's new transfer-of-development-rights program and is a cornerstone acquisition for the Mashel Reach Protection and Restoration Initiative, a multi-partner project to restore 2.2 miles of the Mashel River.

Only a few decades ago, the Mashel was one of the richest steelhead rivers in the Pacific Northwest, with annual runs in the thousands. Today, only a few hundred steelhead can be found in the entire Nisqually watershed. Restoring the Mashel is critical to restoring this precious salmonid species, which is now listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The Van Eaton acquisition follows close on the heels of two other Mashel acquisitions, the 10-acre Burkland property and the 5-acre Bogardus property. All of the properties contain significant Mashel River shoreline and effectively combine with the Land Trust's other Mashel holdings to create an 85-acre habitat unit.

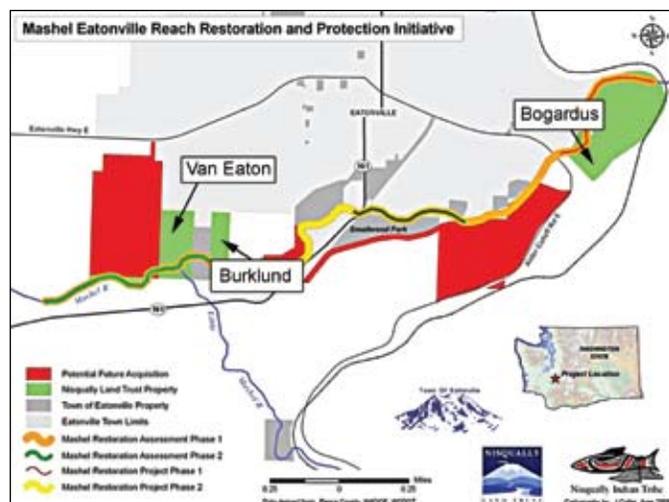
The Land Trust and its partners are securing properties along the Mashel in support of in-stream restoration by the Nisqually Indian Tribe and South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, which are improving conditions for wild salmon and steelhead through the use of engineered logjams and other cutting-edge restoration techniques.

The Van Eaton purchase was a two-step process that paid the family market value for the property while permanently conserving it as wildlife habitat. Under the new Pierce County program, Cascade Land Conservancy first purchased a \$612,000 conservation easement from the Van Eatons that prevents future development by removing all building rights. These rights were then placed in a "bank" and can be purchased by a developer to increase the number of permitted housing units on a more appropriate site, such as an urban center.

With development value removed, the Land Trust then purchased all remaining rights, including title, for \$88,000 in funding from the Williams Pipeline Mitigation Fund. As part of the deal, the Van Eatons also granted the Land Trust a three-year option to buy an adjoining 70 acres along the Mashel for \$1.3 million. The Land Trust is now searching for those funds.

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board provided 85 percent of the funding for the Burkland and Bogardus properties, with the remaining 15 percent coming from the Williams Pipeline fund.

Meanwhile, the Town of Eatonville and the Land Trust have secured funds to purchase an additional 90 acres along the Mashel. Look for updates in future newsletters.



*The Land Trust's new acquisitions will play a critical role in the restoration of 2.2 miles of the Mashel River, which once boasted steelhead runs in the thousands.*

# LAND TRUST PROTECTS CRITICAL SALMON SHORELINE IN THURSTON COUNTY

## *Purchase Expands Wilcox Flats Habitat Block to 212 Acres*

In September the Nisqually Land Trust successfully acquired two salmon-producing shoreline properties totaling 30 acres along the Nisqually River in rural Thurston County. The properties front a broad bend in a dynamic reach of the river, where acreage is gained and/or lost with each winter flood—a highly beneficial condition for salmon recovery. The properties have a total shoreline of nearly one mile and contain spawning and rearing habitat for all five native Nisqually salmon species, including threatened Chinook and steelhead.

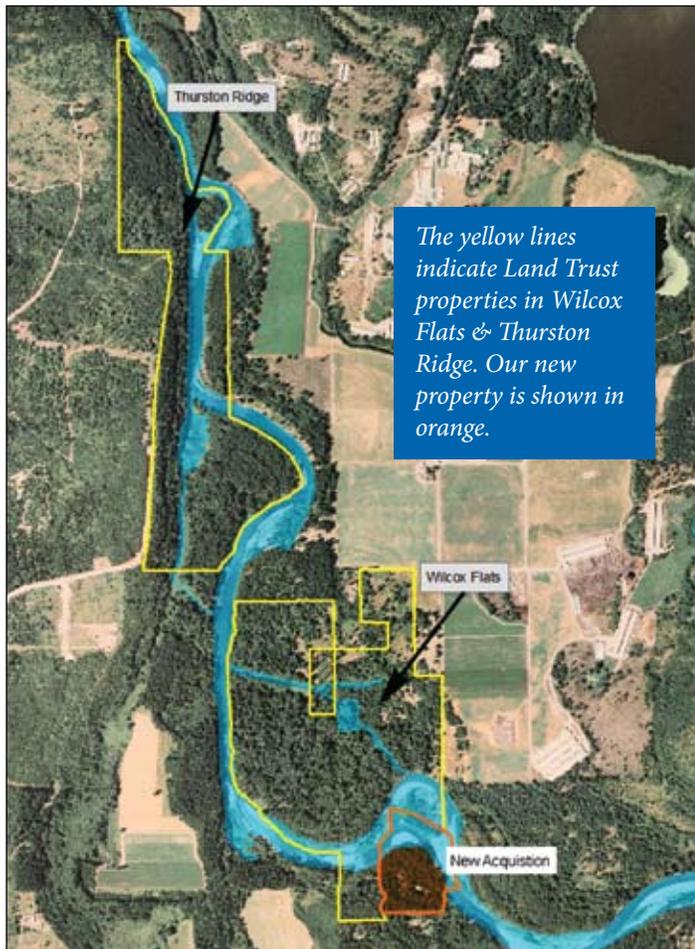
A critical consideration in the purchase was the properties' location adjacent to the Land Trust's Wilcox Flats Management Unit in Pierce and Thurston Counties. The acquisitions expand the habitat block to 212 acres and some three miles of permanently protected shoreline.

The primary source of funding was a \$335,000 grant from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Fund, administered by the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Thurston County Conservation Futures then provided \$60,000 in matching funds, without which the project could not have been completed.

The properties were being offered for sale on the open market, and their habitat values would have been compromised had they been further developed as residential real estate. The project will result in the removal of an existing mobile home and outbuildings and a substantial amount of non-native vegetation, followed by habitat restoration.



*The topography of the Land Trust's new property changes with each flood season. The gravel bar in the foreground was deposited last winter*



*The yellow lines indicate Land Trust properties in Wilcox Flats & Thurston Ridge. Our new property is shown in orange.*

## Nisqually Land Trust

*The Nisqually Land Trust acquires and manages critical lands to permanently protect the water, wildlife, natural areas, and scenic vistas of the Nisqually River watershed.*

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Design: Wide Design Team

Special Thanks to Capitol City Press

# LAND TRUST WINS \$3.5 MILLION IN NEW MOUNT RAINIER GATEWAY FUNDING, ACQUIRES HISTORIC PROPERTY

In July the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service awarded the Nisqually Land Trust and its partner, the Washington Department of Natural Resources, a \$3.5 million grant to fund Phase III of the Mount Rainier Gateway Initiative (MRGI), the multi-phase project to conserve critical forests near the main entrance to Mount Rainier National Park.

The new award brings total funding for the MRGI to \$10.5 million since its inception in 2006. Thus far, the Land Trust has spent \$5.2 million of that to acquire 1338 acres. The remaining funds could purchase as much as 1400 additional acres.

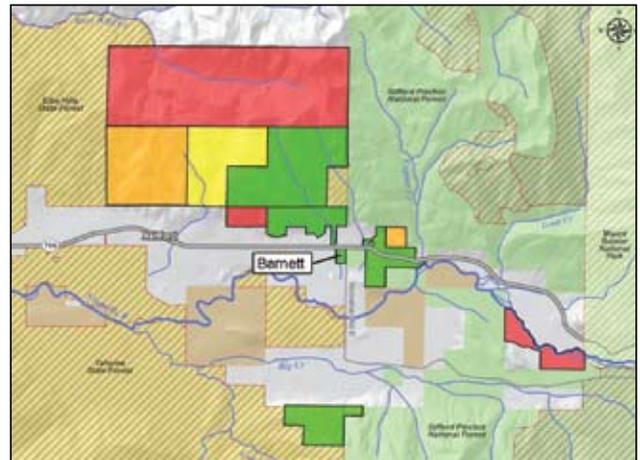
In related news, the Land Trust continued Phase II of the MRGI with the purchase of the 14-acre Barnett Family property at the intersection of Highway 706 and Ker-

nahan Road, near Ashford.

The property is heavily timbered and adjoins a 400-acre habitat block of protected Land Trust, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, and Tacoma Power wildlife lands along the Upper Nisqually River shoreline. As well, the property's scenic qualities are a central component in the majestic tree-lined approach to the national park.

The Barnett family has a multi-generational history in the Ashford area and a long association with Mount Rainier National Park. The family could have logged the site and developed it as residential

real estate but instead worked patiently with the Land Trust to assure its permanent protection. The Land Trust will place a commemorative kiosk on the site to memorialize the family's historic role in the area.



## NISQUALLY LAND TRUST CONTRIBUTORS

June 1 – September 30, 2009

Each \$113 contributed by the Land Trust members listed below translated into 1 acre of wildlife habitat acquired and permanently protected. Our contributors support our operations and underwrite our research and the development of grant proposals, strategic partnerships, and innovative conservation tools. Thank you for your generous support of permanent conservation in the Nisqually River watershed.

### Memorial Gifts

*In Memory of Dolores Dickey West*  
Michelle Hawkins\*

### In Memory of John Michael Robischon

Martha Anderson  
Patricia Bliss  
Alan Corwin  
Sandra Dinwiddie  
James & Millie Pluntze  
Diane & James Reus

### Thank You From the Stewardship Staff

To Patt Brady, for the heavy-duty brush-cutter that helps us do more faster!

### Watershed Patron—\$1,000-\$4999

JZ Knight\*  
Margery Sayre  
State of Washington Combined Fund Drive  
Virginia Walter

### Habitat Guardian—\$500-\$999

Caroline Feiss & Gordon Davidson  
Patricia Fluhrer  
J.W. & Nicki Foster

### River Steward—\$200-\$499

Anonymous Donations  
Ruta & Patrick Fanning  
Linda & David Hoffman  
Paul Wiseman

### Osprey—\$100-\$199

Sandra Altman (Stone Creek Lodge)  
Christopher Bayley

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Douglas Canning  
Edward E. Coates  
Barbara & Tom Cook  
Wade & Mary Grace Dozier  
Bill & Cathy Elledge  
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Constance Hellyer  
Stephen Hyer, Jr.\*  
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Rick & Laura Kelley  
Steve Klein  
Niel Lawrence & Eileen LeVan  
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### Salmon—\$50-\$99

Wolfram Abicht  
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Jane Ely\*  
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Elyse Kane  
Ed & Mary Jo Kenney  
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Derek & Ellen Leckrone  
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Larry Miranda  
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Judy & Don Rogers  
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Sandra Ware

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Albert McBride  
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Mark Memovich\*  
Dean & Caroline Mills  
Gina Moulton  
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Robin Reich\*  
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John & Clare Sleeter  
Kelly Smith  
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Vicki Zarrell



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

George Walter

### We Are America's Best Idea

I am writing this message to all those who have supported our Nisqually Land Trust over these past 20 years with their time, energy and treasure. Thank you. Your contributions have led directly to the success of this land trust.

I hope you have had the opportunity to enjoy "America's Best Idea," the PBS series on our national parks and monuments. This program has made me realize that the work of the Nisqually Land Trust is a vital part of this movement – we are America's Best Idea.

Our Mount Rainer Gateway Initiative now includes over 1300 acres just outside Mount Rainier National Park and may top 2000 acres before year's end. This

initiative, which began in response to community concerns from the upper Nisqually watershed about protecting forest and valued scenic vistas, is building a permanent protected area along the primary entrance to Mount Rainier, one of the crown jewels of our national park system.

Meanwhile, since 1999, Puget Sound Fall Chinook salmon and steelhead have been listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. In the lower Nisqually watershed, a major element of the recovery plan for these species is permanent protection and restoration of the river's shoreline habitat. In its 20 years, the Nisqually Land Trust has acquired nearly 10 miles of Nisqually River shoreline and over 1400 acres of habitat along the Nisqually and its major tributaries. We are a major element in Nisqually salmon and steelhead conservation and recovery.

I trust you will agree that with over 2800 acres in conservation ownership and management, at a book value of over \$15 million, your Nisqually Land Trust

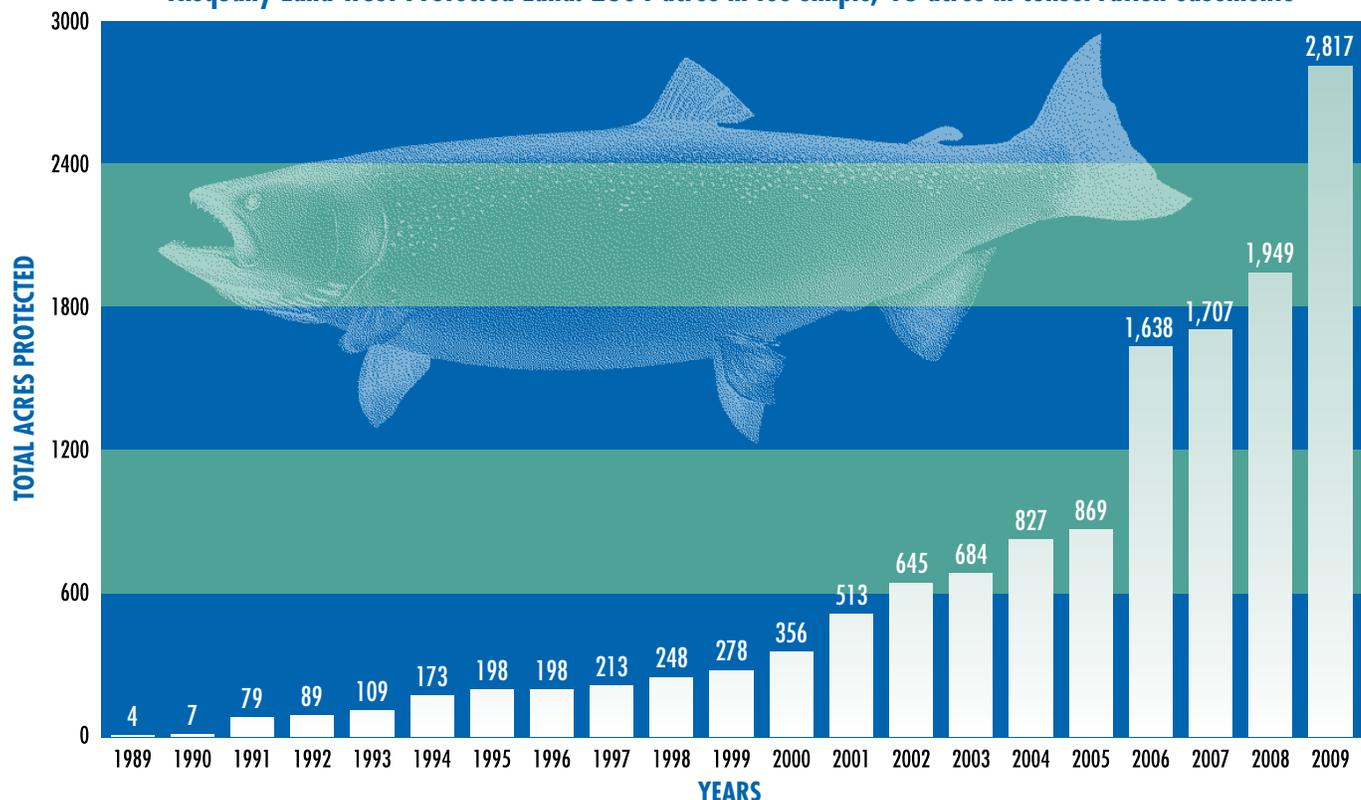
has done well in its first 20 years. We have transitioned from an all-volunteer organization to one with talented and dedicated staff, including a strong stewardship department, all committed to seeing this success grow.

So, what will the next 20 years bring?

For the near term I imagine we will continue to acquire land, both shoreline property and forest in the upper watershed. But we will also be exploring innovative ways to protect habitat values – for example, through purchase and donation of conservation easements, transfers of development rights, and sale of carbon-sequestration credits. And we will explore ways for our Land Trust to promote and support working lands in the Nisqually watershed, both agricultural and forest.

We live in a fast-paced world; these 20 years have gone quickly, as will the next 20. I'm confident that, working together, we can keep our part of America's Best Idea alive and active.

**Nisqually Land Trust Protected Land: 2804 acres in fee simple, 13 acres in conservation easements**





# NISQUALLY LAND TRUST

## ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

*The Nisqually Land Trust acquires and manages critical lands to permanently protect the water, wildlife, natural areas, and scenic vistas of the Nisqually River watershed.*

### FINDING HOPE CLOSE TO HOME

As the father of two teenagers, I can't deny the dim prospects—catastrophic debt and global warming, to name just two—my generation is bestowing on theirs. But I also find myself grateful for the work being done by land trusts nationwide and in particular by your Nisqually Land Trust's board, staff, members and partners. It inspires great hope.

From the timbered slopes of Mount Rainier to the Nisqually River estuary on Puget Sound, we are permanently protecting thousands of acres of carbon-sequestering forests and miles upon miles of some of the continent's richest salmon shoreline.

Through land conservation, we and our Nisqually watershed partners are also

generating tens of billions of dollars in bottom-line benefits. Clean water, a rich fishery, sustainable timber and agricultural production, flood control, and vibrant tourism are just a few examples.

And we are accomplishing all of this “the Nisqually way” – in which all sides come to the table in a spirit of cooperation that has become a national model.

With that in mind, I'm pleased to say that the last twelve months have been the most successful in your Land Trust's 20-year history. During that span we acquired nearly a third of our 2817 acres and secured some \$5 million for future acquisitions.

We also quadrupled our stewardship staff

and intensified hands-on management of our lands. We adopted an aggressive three-year strategic plan. We again had a clean audit and a positive balance sheet, with administrative costs at just 6.6 percent of expenditures. We retained cash reserves equal to six months of operating expenses and have sequestered an additional \$200,000 towards a permanent fund.

And we continued to develop cutting-edge conservation tools, including completion of the watershed's first transfer-of-development rights deal.

To our board, staff, supporters and partners: Thank you for being part of the solution.

*Joe Kane, Executive Director*

### 2008 FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial highlights since October 1, 2008 include a successful audit of our 2008 books, completed last June by the firm of Aiken & Sanders, CPA. The abbreviated statements below were derived from fully annotated statements presented to our Board of Directors. We are pleased to note that we continue to receive a clean bill of fiscal health and that our management and general operations were just 6.6 percent of our total expenditures.

The complete audit and our 2008 tax return are posted on our website ([www.nisquallylandtrust.org](http://www.nisquallylandtrust.org); select News and Resources).

### Abbreviated Statements of Financial Position

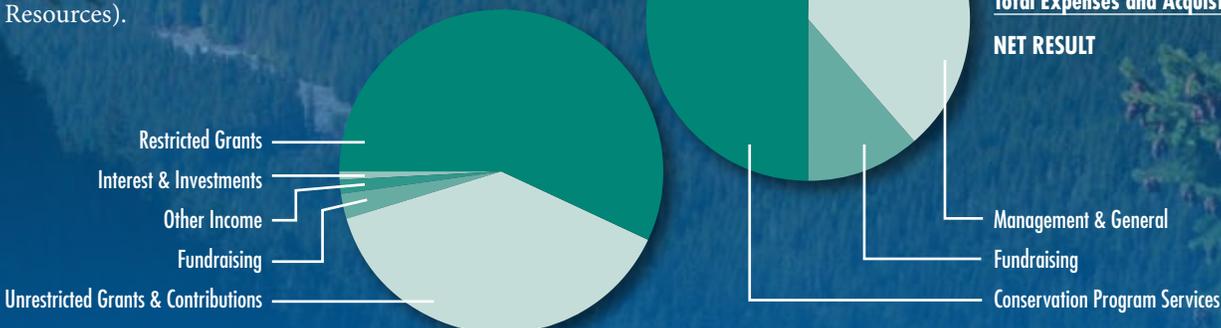
*As of December 31, 2008*

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash	\$ 842,818
Conservation Land	9,860,710
Investments	13,281
Other	3,659
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,720,468</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
	\$ 172,213
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,548,255</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>10,720,468</b>

### Abbreviated Summary of Activities

*For the Year Ending December 31, 2007*

<b>Support and Revenue</b>	
Restricted Grants	\$ 1,328,291
Unrestricted Grants and Contributions	895,501
Fundraising	58,153
Interest and Investments	15,898
Other Income	29,966
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 2,327,809</b>
<b>Expenses and Acquisitions</b>	
Conservation Program Services	143,351
Management & General	108,184
Fundraising	32,049
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 283,584</b>
<b>Land Acquisitions (Purchased)</b>	<b>\$ 1,376,279</b>
<b>Total Expenses and Acquisitions</b>	<b>\$ 1,659,863</b>
<b>NET RESULT</b>	<b>\$ 667,946</b>





# LAND PROTECTION HIGHLIGHTS

September 2008-2009

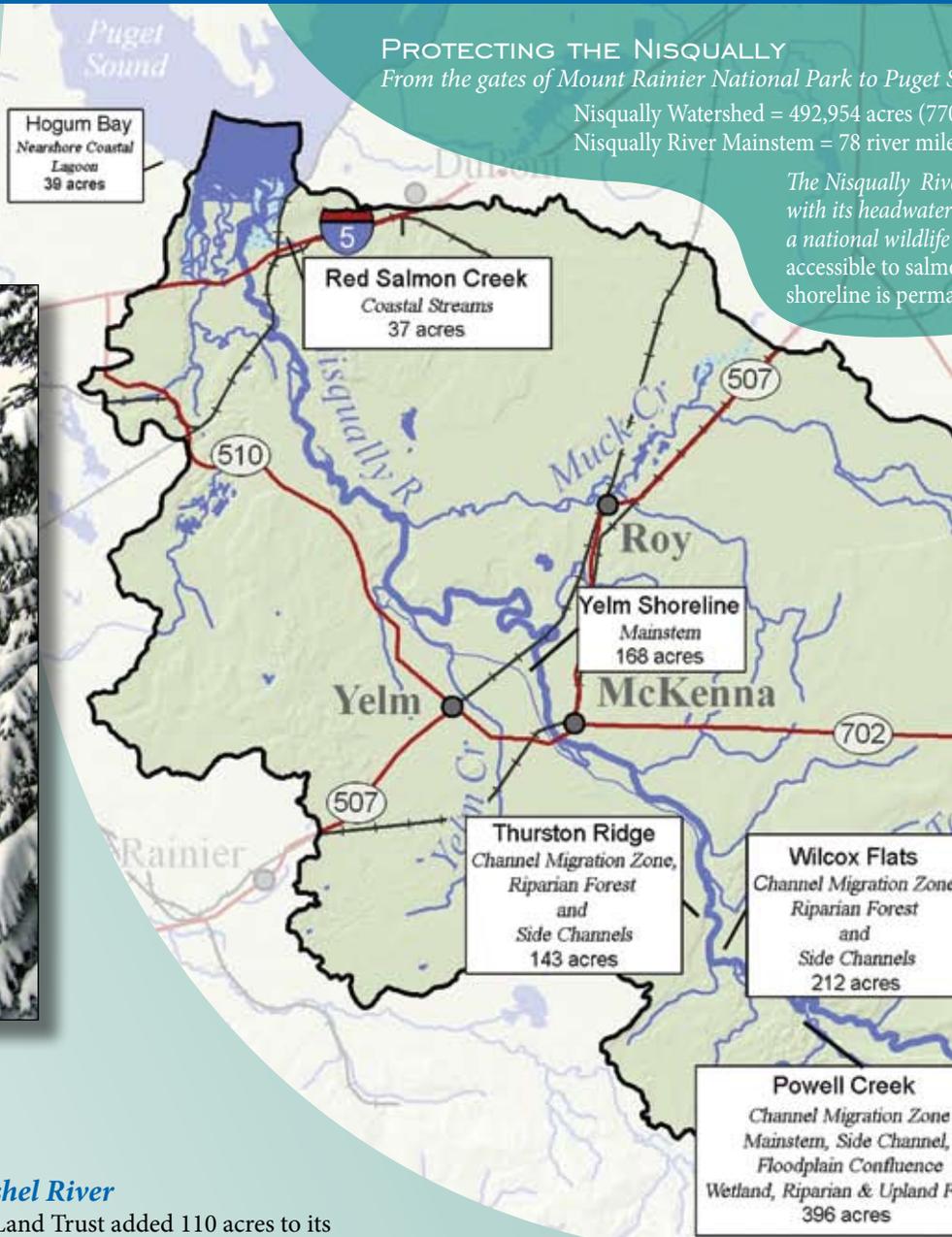
## Mount Rainier Gateway Initiative



In April, the Land Trust acquired the largest and most expensive property in its history, permanently protecting 720 acres of timberlands and wildlife habitat near the main entrance to Mount Rainier National Park. The property, located just above the town of Ashford, adjoins 592 acres already owned by the Land Trust. Funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Cooperative Endangered Species Fund and a donation from the Nisqually Tribe, the purchase permanently protects northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet habitat. Both species are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

We also purchased the 14-acre Barnett property. This heavily wooded property expands our Allen Estate acquisition and adjoins the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, connecting two large blocks of protected habitat.

Combined with previous acquisitions, we now protect 1338 acres of forests, wildlife habitat, and iconic scenic vistas near Ashford and the national park.



### Mashel River

The Land Trust added 110 acres to its Mashel River Management Unit. The 70-acre Manke property, which includes 1.1 miles of mainstem Nisqually River shoreline, is located between the river's confluences with the Mashel River and Ohop Creek, its two primary salmon-producing tributaries, and adjoins the new Nisqually-Mashel State Park. Threatened Chinook salmon and steelhead use this area for spawning and rearing.

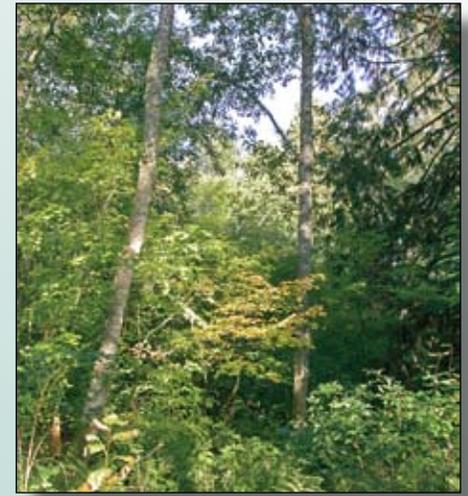
The Land Trust also added three properties totaling 40 acres on the Mashel River itself. This significantly improves the chances of restoring the Mashel's steelhead population, which once numbered in the thousands. Today steelhead are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act and only a few hundred survive in the entire Nisqually watershed.



Sound  
 0 sq. miles)  
 es  
 er is the only river in the United States  
 s in a national park and its delta in  
 refuge. Forty-two river miles are  
 onids and 73 percent of salmonids  
 nently protected for habitat.

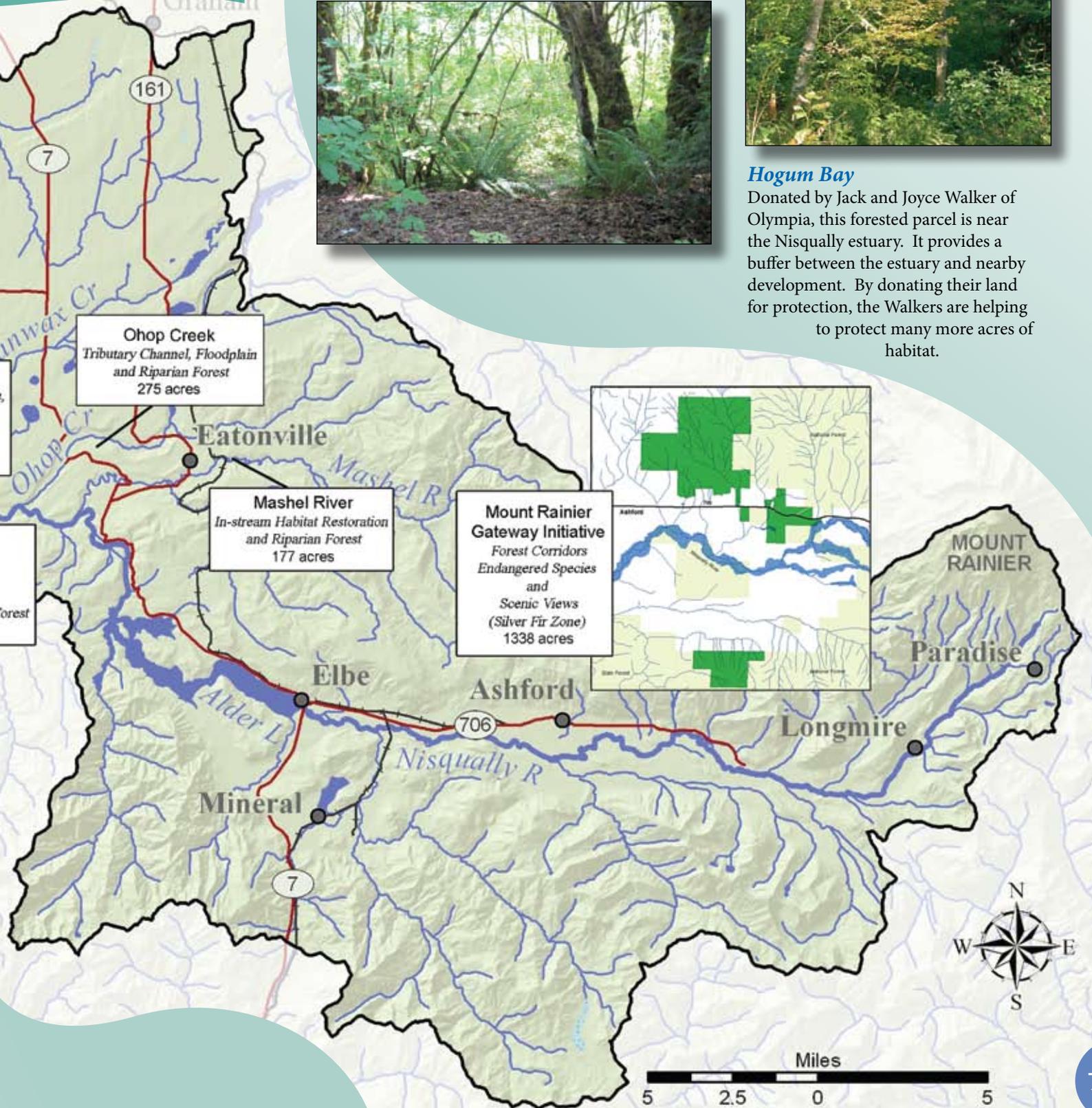
### Wilcox Flats

The Tatrimita property, totaling 30 acres with over a mile of Nisqually River shoreline, is an important addition to our Wilcox Flats Management Unit, an area identified as a priority by the Nisqually Salmon Recovery Plan. The river migrates throughout this region, making it prime spawning and rearing habitat for all five Nisqually River salmonids.



### Hogum Bay

Donated by Jack and Joyce Walker of Olympia, this forested parcel is near the Nisqually estuary. It provides a buffer between the estuary and nearby development. By donating their land for protection, the Walkers are helping to protect many more acres of habitat.



# STEWARDSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

September 2008-09

Volunteer hours: 700+

Trees and shrubs planted: 6,300 on 8 acres

Noxious weeds controlled: 5 acres

Prior plantings maintained: 10+ acres

Prep for 2009-10 plantings: 68 acres (more than 38,000 trees and shrubs)

Active NLT stewardship grants: 10

Partner contributions: 2,500+ hours

Stewardship grant applications pending: 7

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### *Red Salmon Creek*



We completed a three-year project to restore this property and we will continue to monitor the progress of the plantings and control invasive species.

### *Wilcox Flats*

Over 800 willow and cottonwood live stakes were installed along the Wilcox Flats side channels in October. These plantings were completed with help from the Washington Conservation Corps and funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Nisqually Tribe and the Williams Pipeline Mitigation Fund.

### *Powell Creek*



Our site stewards report salmon in Powell Creek streams that were once obstructed by culverts. The culverts were removed, an old logging haul road was

decommissioned and the natural contours of the land were restored to provide essential habitat for all five native salmon species, including threatened Chinook and steelhead.

### *Ohop Creek*

The Land Trust and its partners completed construction of Phase One of a \$10 million project to restore Ohop Creek's natural meander. The creek was channelized for agriculture 150 years ago, devastating salmon habitat. Phase One adds more than a mile of shoreline to a section of the creek that runs through Land Trust properties and will include revegetation of 80 acres of converted wetlands.

### *Mount Rainier Gateway Initiative*

The Land Trust met with residents of Ashford to develop a management plan in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ashford volunteers and Pierce County organized a knotweed-bending work party on the Allen property to help control the invasive plant.

### *Nisqually Land Trust Conservation Partners*

Many, Many Volunteers  
Cascade Land Conservancy  
Fort Lewis  
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Nisqually Tribe  
Pierce County Community Salmon Fund  
Pierce County Planning and Land Services  
Pierce County Conservation District  
Pierce County Parks  
Private Foundations and Donors  
Thurston County Conservation Futures  
Town of Eatonville  
Salmon Recovery Funding Board  
South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Veterans Conservation Corps  
Washington Conservation Corps  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Department of Natural Resources  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program  
Williams Pipeline Mitigation Fund

# J.W. FOSTER JOINS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



J.W. Foster

The Nisqually Land Trust welcomes J.W. Foster, of Yelm, to our Board of Directors. J.W. is a paramedic firefighter and serves on the Yelm Planning Commission.

J.W. and Nikki Foster and their children, Logan, Coltan, Curran and Taegen, are familiar faces at Land Trust events—they've volunteered for most of them and for many of our planting parties for the last decade or so.

"Our family has a very personal connection with the land and with the Land Trust. I want more people to have that feeling," says J.W. "We're always thinking about who is going to enjoy the trees we plant when they grow up. Someday my kids will be showing their kids and grandkids those trees and sharing the experiences we had together."

Committing to board service required a fair amount of family consideration, but

the organization and the Foster family's community values are a good fit.

"It was a huge decision for us to take on the responsibility of becoming a board member," said J.W. He said he was inspired by the dedication of the NLT Board of Directors and by its accomplishments. He also appreciates the board's focus on developing community connections and ways for the public to access the river.

"I like being a part of something bigger that focuses on my community and its future," J.W. explains. "I think I have always felt a connection to the land, but I didn't connect with larger national groups because they are not *here* in my community. But this group [the Land Trust] was doing something very accessible locally, and I can see the direct result of my endeavors every day."



*On two sunny weekends this past July some 70 people boarded rafts to "Float the Nisqually" with the Land Trust. We offered two professionally guided trips, each on a different section of the river, and participants were treated to sunshine, exquisite scenery, wildlife sightings and a delicious lunch served on the shoreline. If you're interested in floating the Nisqually next summer, please call Connie at 360-458-1111 or email her at [cbond@nisquallylandtrust.org](mailto:cbond@nisquallylandtrust.org).*

## NEW LOOK, LESS MONEY

You're right! Our newsletter does look a bit glossier. We've switched to a coated paper and saved more than \$1,500 a year by doing so. And *this* paper is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified.

FSC-certified paper conforms to the highest social and environmental standards in our region. The use of recycled and alternative fibers and environmentally friendly chemical treatments and waste handling are factors considered for FSC certification.

### Red Salmon Creek



We're happy to report that the Red Salmon Creek plantings that so many volunteers helped us complete over the past three years are looking good. Thank you to the Intel volunteers who helped clean up debris from an old shed and past plantings. We'd also like to thank the Nisqually Tribe field crew for their

help controlling weeds around the new plantings, and our Red Salmon Creek site stewards for invasive species control, mowing and watering.

### Wilcox Flats

The northwest corner of the Wilcox Flats side channel is being prepared for planting and we hope you will join us on **December 12** to plant 2,000 trees and shrubs. Our thanks to the Pierce County Community Salmon Fund, which supported the Nisqually Tribe field crew's maintenance of last October's plantings.

### Powell Creek

We're busy preparing to plant 7,500 trees and shrubs at the downstream end of our Powell Creek Complex in Thurston County. A Washington Conservation Corps crew helped us demolish old buildings at the site, but we'll need *your* help with the planting, so come help restore some shoreline on **January 23**. We'd also love your help on **February 6**, when we pull Scot's broom on the property along Piessner Road.

### Ohop Creek



Construction of the new channel to restore the natural meanders of Ohop Creek is complete, including the installation of over 45 engineered log jams. Willow and cottonwood poles installed in the log jams are already sprouting. Kudos to South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, Entrix, and RV Associates for their great work. The banks of the new channels have been planted and 40 acres have been prepared for planting.

We held our first planting party for this ambitious project on October 31. The Nisqually River Education Project is coordinating student groups to help with a planting in November and the Nisqually Tribe field crew will continue planting during the winter.

Next summer, this phase of the creek restoration will be completed when the new channel opens and becomes a part of Ohop Creek. Funding for this project comes from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Fund, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Nisqually Tribe.

## NISQUALLY DELTA INSPIRES HOGUM BAY LAND DONATION



Jack and Joyce Walker

A desire to contribute to the permanent protection of the Nisqually Delta has inspired Jack and Joyce Walker to donate to the Land Trust

their strategic two-acre property overlooking Hogum Bay.

The property adjoins the Land Trust's 38-acre Hogum Bay Management Unit on the Nisqually Reach. It will help protect water quality in the area by providing a buffer between the estuary and nearby development.

The Walkers live nearby. When they first purchased their properties thirty years ago, they didn't have many neighbors – except for a lot of wildlife. “We'd get sea otters and these *enormous* porcupine, and ducks by the thousands,” said Joyce. “We just fell in love with the beauty of the place.”

“The sea lions used to be so plentiful they kept us awake calling their mates,” said Jack. But the neighborhood is changing – more roads and houses – and although the Walker home still feels very quiet, they see fewer otter and ducks, the porcupines are gone, and the sea lions are fewer and further away.

Even so, wildlife still visits them, and they have even seen orcas and a gray whale with a calf in the bay in recent years. They treasure the nearby Nisqually Wildlife Refuge and support the effort to protect the Nisqually Delta and restore the estuary. It was the possibility of contributing to this effort that led to their donation.

## Mashel River



This summer the Town of Eatonville took the lead in keeping our properties at Boxcar Canyon clean and maintained. The town mowed blackberry thickets, enforced our trespass policy and organized a trash clean-up. The staff of Eatonville Towing towed illegally parked cars and gathered and hauled out tow-truck loads of trash discarded by people who trespass to swim in the river. Thanks so much! Pictured: Jake Block, Steven Sorensen, Shawn Smith and Jared McKee of Eatonville Towing. *Photo by David Smith, Eatonville Towing.*

## Mount Rainier Gateway Initiative

The Land Trust sends a big *thank you* to the Ashford residents who attended multiple meetings and shared their thoughts and ideas about managing our Ashford properties. We have developed an initial management plan which will be reviewed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service this winter.

Paul Nerge and Pierce County coordinated a highly successful knotweed bending party. Thanks to everyone who helped bend the tall patches along the south end of Copper Creek and the southeast edge of the Allen Estate, making it possible for us to apply herbicide to control this pesky invasive.

They once thought they might develop the two-acre property, which is forested with red alder and western red cedar, possibly as a home site for one of their children. “But when we realized it bordered land owned by the Nisqually Land Trust, that’s when we decided to donate it,” Joyce said.

“With this donation, Joyce and Jack are helping protect many additional acres of wildlife habitat, beyond just their property,” said Joe Kane, executive director of the Land Trust. “Their contribution benefits everyone who considers the Nisqually Delta a precious legacy.”

“[Donating our land] made us feel like part of protecting the wildlife refuge,” Joyce said. “It’s a blessing for us to be here. We see eagles and herons all the time, and each time we see one, it’s like the first time.”

## SITE STEWARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE

We need volunteer site stewards to help us manage our lands. If you’d like to help us protect a specific property and work at your convenience, this program might be for you! Site Stewards commit to a minimum of one day per quarter to visit, monitor, and work at their site. Come discover the beauty of our protected lands up close. Contact Joe Kennedy at [landsteward@nisquallylandtrust.org](mailto:landsteward@nisquallylandtrust.org) or 360-458-1111.

## STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR

October – March Volunteer Opportunities

- December 12 • Wilcox Flats Planting
- November 21 • Mashel River Planting\*
- December 5 • Salmon Watcher Training at the Refuge\*
- December 19 • Salmon Carcass Toss\*
- January 23 • Powell Creek Planting
- January 23 • Salmon Homecoming\*
- February 6 • Red Salmon Creek Work Party
- February 20 • Wilcox Flats Work Party
- March 20 • Powell Creek Work Party

If you would like to join us at one of these events, please contact Joe Kennedy at [landsteward@nisquallylandtrust.org](mailto:landsteward@nisquallylandtrust.org) or 360-458-1111 for times and directions.

\*Nisqually Stream Stewards Event. For more information contact Don Perry, Outreach Coordinator—Salmon Recovery Program at (360) 438-8687 Ext. 2143, [dperry@nwifc.org](mailto:dperry@nwifc.org)



*Auction Donations, Volunteers Requested*

# CAN YOU HELP?

NLT's Annual Auction and Dinner Gala (March 13, 2010) is our major fundraiser, supporting land protection expenses that are not covered by grants—including the costs of grant writing—and property management expenses like taxes. Over the past year, we purchased an acre of land for every \$113 we received from our donors. That means that the sales and cash donations from our 2009 auction helped us purchase *more than 350 acres*.

We'd like to accomplish even more in the year ahead, and we need your help!

Can you...

- ...donate an item or service?
- ...Sponsor the purchase of an item?
- ...Volunteer to help before or at the event?

If so, email [cbond@nisquallylandtrust.org](mailto:cbond@nisquallylandtrust.org) or call Connie or Candi at 360-458-1111.



*Curran Foster and Clare Kane display Native American artwork sold at our last auction.*

## ANNUAL MEETING AND SALMON BAKE *Land Trust Celebrates Twentieth Anniversary!*

The Nisqually Land Trust welcomed more than 100 guests to our Twentieth Anniversary Annual Meeting and Salmon Bake in September. We had plenty of sunshine, food and friendship to go around. With Mount Rainier as a backdrop, we dined on Nisqually River salmon, smoked to perfection by our President, George Walter, and complemented by Treasurer Patt Brady's delicious side dishes. Executive Director Joe Kane and Stewardship Coordinator Kim Bredensteiner presented the Land Trust's accomplishments over the past 12 months, followed by questions from the audience. Did we mention there was cake?

To everyone who made this event a success: Nugie Kautz, who donated the delectable salmon; and Fred Fiedler, Tim Tobin, Ellen and Derek Leckrone, the Fosters (J.W., Nicki, Logan, Curran, and Taegen), Bill Kogut, Emily Brown, Justin Hall, Mark Williams, Diane Ludwig and all the others who pitched in to set up, greet, cook, serve, clean, sweep and more—thank you! Thanks also to Mountain Home Bakery in Lacey for the delicious anniversary cake.



LET US KNOW  
WHERE YOU'RE



Share your email address with us and we will send any or all of the following to your online mailbox:

- News updates
- Stewardship and other volunteer opportunities
- Event invitations and news
- Reminders, maps and information for events you are attending
- Newsletters

We will not share your email with others.

To sign up, email [cbond@nisquallylandtrust.org](mailto:cbond@nisquallylandtrust.org), or call 360-458-1111.