



# 2022 Annual Report & Winter Newsletter

*Pictured: Sound View Camp Conservation Easement,  
Nisqually Marine Conservation Area shoreline. Photo by Mike Ruth*

*Nisqually Land Trust*



# Cedar, Eagles, and Salmon - signs of success

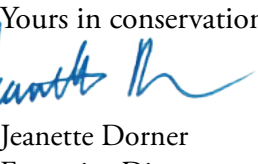


To fully experience the impact of what we are doing at the Nisqually Land Trust, take a walk on one of our conserved properties. In just a few minutes, you will feel, see, hear, and sometimes even smell the results of our work.

Feel the branches of the cedar tree as you brush by it on your way to the bank of the Nisqually River. Watch the merganser family bobbing on the water as they float with the current downstream. Hear the distinctive calls of bald eagles in the trees as you catch the unmistakable smell of salmon at the end of their journey depositing their nutrients back into the cycle of life. These are all signs of the impact of our conservation work in the Nisqually.

For the last 30-plus years, we have been strategically protecting the most critical habitats along the Nisqually River, Ohop Creek, the Mashel River, the foothill forests of Mount Rainier, and the marine shorelines in the Nisqually Reach of South Puget Sound.

You will read in this report about the significant progress we made in 2022 and a few highlights from this year. We are always grateful to our partners, funders, supporters, and volunteers who are essential to our success. Thank you.

Yours in conservation,  
  
Jeanette Dorner  
Executive Director

## CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS



**\$3,429,288** raised for acquisition of conservation properties



**\$64,000** raised for stewardship and restoration of conservation properties

**One mile** of salmon-producing shoreline permanently protected, and over **3 miles** of marine and coastal tributary shoreline

**3,000** hours donated by **310** volunteers to restore protected areas

**457 acres** permanently protected in 2022; and over **10,000 acres** protected to date

**14,340 native trees**, shrubs, and wildflowers planted; over **400,000** planted to date



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# 2022 NISQUALLY PROTECTED LANDS

*The Land Trust acquired six conservation properties valued at over \$6.5 million, doubling our marine nearshore conservation area and protecting another 277 acres in the Nisqually watershed.*

## MARINE CONSERVATION AREA

We passed a historic milestone in 2022, doubling our marine near-shore protected area to 357 acres. The first project completed was the acquisition of Baird Cove, a 86.5-acre forested pocket estuary 6 miles northwest of the Nisqually delta on Johnson Point. This habitat is especially crucial for out migrating juvenile salmon from the Nisqually River.

Then, at the end of last year, we closed on a conservation easement protecting an additional 92.88 acres on the southeastern shoreline of Key Peninsula across from Anderson Island. Read more about our project with the Presbytery of Olympia to conserve their environmental camp, Sound View Camp, on page 12.



*Baird Cove's forested pocket estuary. Photo by Mike Ruth.*

*Marine Conservation Area: 180 acres (Baird Cove and Sound View Camp)  
Importance: Protection of 1.8 miles of valuable marine shoreline. Important habitat for out migrating juvenile salmon as well as forage fish, shorebirds, and other aquatic species.*

## NISQUALLY RIVER/BRIGHTON CREEK

At the beginning of 2022 we completed with the North Cascades Buddhist Priory the final stage of a 270-acre transfer to the Land Trust, with the Priory donating 70 percent of the land. This acquisition significantly expanded the Brighton Creek Protected Area, adding healthy upland forests near Brighton Creek and more than a quarter mile of Nisqually River shoreline and adjacent floodplain. The Land Trust has dedicated the upland forest portion of this property as the first pileated woodpecker preserve in the state.

*Pictured Left, Sound View Camp Conservation Easement. This second Marine Conservation Area protection project protected both a barrier embayment lagoon and this bluff backed beach. Photo by Mike Ruth*

## MIDDLE OHOP

We continued our expansion of protection of the Middle Ohop adding another 20 acres and nearly a half-mile of creek shoreline in 2022. Three parcels near each other totaling just over 18 acres were purchased for protection and a conservation easement was secured for another 1.5 acres on an adjacent parcel.

These acquisitions increased protection of the salmon spawning reach of the creek and expanded habitat restoration opportunities. The sites were directly adjacent or close in vicinity to existing Land Trust properties which increased connectivity throughout the Ohop Creek Protected Area. This will make it easier for NLT partners, the Nisqually Indian Tribe and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, to move forward with the next stage of salmon habitat restoration projects in this reach of the creek.



*Ohop Creek: 20 acres (Powell, Krinke, and Bondo)  
Importance: Increased protection of important salmon spawning habitat in Middle Ohop Creek, expanding habitat restoration potential for threatened Chinook salmon.*

A special thanks to our former Executive Director and current Special Projects Consultant, Joe Kane, who is continuing to lead the work on most of our Nisqually watershed acquisition projects. He did say when he stepped down from the ED position “I’m not calling it retirement”. We are grateful for his ongoing help with our work.



*Nisqually River Mainstem and Brighton Creek: 257 acres (North Cascades Buddhist Priory)  
Importance: Protection of 33 acres of Nisqually River floodplain at the confluence of Brighton Creek and 224 acres of adjacent upland forest habitat. Valuable salmon and pileated woodpecker habitat.*



# LAND. WATER. FISH. WILDLIFE. PEOPLE

Securing and caring for important Nisqually habitat lands continues to be our core work and our primary expense. Government grants are our major source of funding for acquiring land. Individual contributions are our major source of funding for caring for our lands. Thank you to our many partners and supporters in the community that make it possible for us to continue this work.

Protected Nisqually River shoreline near Yelm, WA.  
Photo by Ricky Clousing

## Our Vision

- Thriving and resilient native fish, wildlife, and plant communities
- Abundant salmon populations
- Healthy, naturally functioning streams, forests, prairies, and shorelines
- Clean, cold, and plentiful water for people and fish

## Our Values

- Conservation and Stewardship
- Leadership and Innovation
- Sustainability
- Integrity
- Partnership
- Cooperation and Collaboration

## 2022 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

### Condensed Balance Sheet

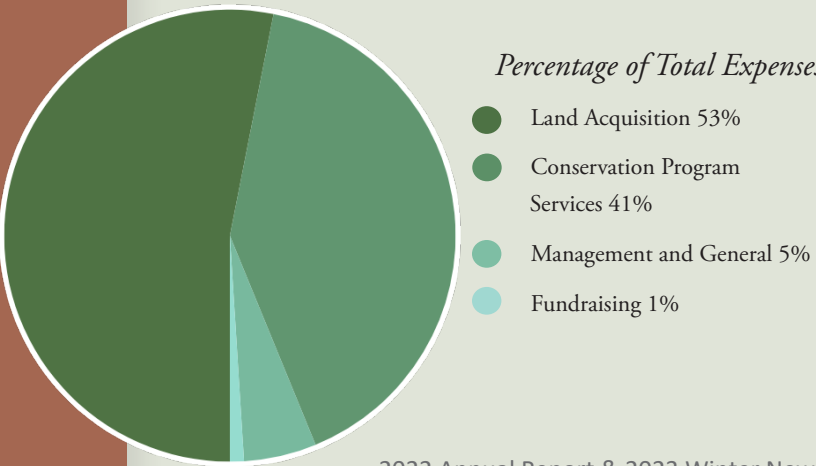
Cash	\$2,018,699
Conservation Land & Equipment	44,748,539
Investments & Other Assets	1,890,545
Grants & Other Receivables	253,593
Prepaid	8,725
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$48,920,101</b>

Current Liabilities	\$893,826
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$48,026,275</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$48,920,101</b>

### Condensed Statement of Activities

<b>Support and Revenue</b>	
Grants	\$4,819,471
Contributions	1,768,226
In-Kind Donations	395,000
Earned Income	66,663
Interest and Investment Revenue	(198,152)
Other Revenue	184,857
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$7,036,065</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	
Land Acquisitions	\$3,884,143
Conservation Program Services	\$2,977,607
Management and General	376,663
Fundraising	73,946
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,312,359</b>
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>(\$253,492)</b>





# Thank You 2022 DONORS

January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

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- ◆ Charter Members
- Three consecutive years +
- ★ Forever Fund Donors
- ❖ Monthly Donors

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*We'd like to thank and recognize Land Trust donors who generously commit a cumulative gift of \$1,000 or more.*

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*Contributions from our supporters are the foundation of everything we do. The Land Trust gratefully acknowledges the individuals, businesses, foundations and agencies that have generously supported our work. Reflected below are the contributions received between January 1 and December 31, 2022.*

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*Please accept our apologies if we have accidentally omitted or misspelled your name. We appreciate you bringing errors to our attention.*

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Continued on page 10



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Jordan Rash ●	Barbara Tomford ●				Tom Eaton			Josh Boisvert	Nisqually Indian Tribe	Samuel Harrison	Liz Murphy	Jeffrey Schrum	Jeffrey Schrum	Alice Walter
Steven & Beth Redman ●	Pam Trautman & Bill Derkland				Eight Generation			Olive Boisvert	Nisqually Reach Nature Center	Tammy Harrison	Suzanne Nelson	Megan Schrum	Megan Schrum	Bob Walter
Adam Reese	Luke Travis				Willie and Peggen Frank			Deborah Boston	Nisqually River Council	Katie Hatam	Hannah Ng	Vincent Schueler	Vincent Schueler	George Walter
Erin Reetz ●	Lara Tukarski				La Bastide Bed & Breakfast			Lital Bour	Nisqually River Education Project	Hilarie Hauptman	Tristan Olson	Travis Schultz	Travis Schultz	Charlie Ware
Sheila & Joseph Reilley	Karen Valenzuela ●				Larry Goldstein			Gia Brar	Nisqually River Foundation	Mike Henderson	Sara Palmerton	Lawrence Shanahan	Lawrence Shanahan	Linda Watkins
Marsha Reilly & Craig Holstine	Juliet & John Van Eenwyk ●				Teri Granger and Deb Boston ●			Parmjit Brar	Nisqually Stream Stewards	Eloise Hendrix	Kobe Parrish	Diann Sheldon	Diann Sheldon	Elizabeth Weiser
Elizabeth Rodrick	Toria Van Horst ●				Amy C. Fisher ●			G. Scott Bright	Northwest Natural Resources Group	Bob Hennings	Peter Paul	Audrey Silliman	Audrey Silliman	Gunnar Wendell
Friends of theNisqually	Richard Van Wagenen				Funghi Perfecti LLC			Desire' Brown	Northwest Trek	Butch Hennings	Brad Peacock	Suzanne Simons	Suzanne Simons	Morgan Wendell
Ash Roorbach ●◆	Alicia Varvaro ★				Angela Steinert			William Bruno	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancment Group	Lynn Hennings	Madison Peters	Jacqui Sinatra	Jacqui Sinatra	Sara Wendell
Douglas & Lillian Ryan ●	Crow Vecchio				David and Jane Stone			Renee Buck	The Evergreen State College	Conor Hicks	Robert Lane	Melody Peters	Jennifer Smith	Tanner Wendell
Andrew Ryan ●	Mari Wada				Stottle Winery			Michele Buckley	University of Puget Sound	Margo Hill	Liz Larsen	Mary Peterson	Kelly Smith	Mary White
Edward Salminen ●	John Walkowiak				Anna Thurston			Walt Burdsall	University of Washington	Alice Hillsbery	Alice Hillsbery	Kitty Piercing	Norm Smith	Sophia Whitney
Loretta Seppanen & Rick Sandler ●	Walter and Kelly Wallace				Taylor Shellfish Farms			Carolyn Burton	US Fish & Wildlife Service	Jessica Hillsbery	Daniel Leskosky	Logan Pilger	Robin Smith	Katie Wilcox-Coble
Paul Scharping ●	Margaret Walter & Dwight				Tacoma Power			James Bush	WA Service Corps / AmeriCorps	Karson Hillsbery	Renee Lewis	James Pilon	Sean Smith	Diana Willie
Vincent Schueler	Snodgrass ●★				Kelsey Hulse			Annabelle Calvi	WA Association of Land Trusts	Maddox Fossom	Brian Linacre	Cleve Pinnix	William Smith	Kevin Wooldridge
Judith Schuler ●	Bob Walter				Jim Hunter			Hannah Calvi	WA Native Plant Society	Margaret Ho	Karen Lohmann	Julia Pinnix	Elisabeth Sohlberg	Mason Worst
Judy Scott	Ehrengard Ward ●				Hands On Children's Museum ●			Robert Carrey	Washington Trails Association	Amanda Hodges	Jody Louise	Martha Pinnix	Mark Spee	Nicholas Worst
Peter Seidman	Friend of the Nisqually				Louise Hull			Jaelynn Carrier	Wolf Camp	Ralph Hodges	Todd Lovshin	Faith Ponte	Kristen Speir	Marissa Wyrwitzke
& Bonnie Benard ●	Laura & Warren Westrup				Eric Hurlburt and Bonnie Kavanaugh ★			Nicolas Cereghino		Lawrence Hoffman	Cindy Hough	Monty Pratt	Jesse Sprio	Shoko Yoshikawa
Mary C Selecky	Kurt Wieland ●				Tore Johnson			Zoe Chamberlain		Cindy Hough	Nancy Lulay	Susannah Prenoveau	Edward Steinweg	Nicole Zock
	Gary Wilburn				Brad Jones			Chris Chapman		Julie Foster	Andrea Ma	Sinque Ramsey	Lasha Steinweg	
	JT & Kathy Wilcox				Hanford McCloud			Lisa Chapman		Jordan Howell	Kelsey Mach	Diana Stokes	Diana Stokes	
	Jim & Beth Wilcox ●				Miir			Janet Cherry		Frank Hudik	Sarah Magnuson	Etsuko Reistroffer	Mark Teply	





## SOUND VIEW CAMP CONSERVATION EASEMENT

*Barrier embayment lagoon at Sound View Camp*

*Right/Bottom: Intact bluff backed beach at Sound View Camp.*

## Sound View Camp Conservation Easement helps double Marine Conservation Area in 2022

Just before the New Year, the Land Trust closed on a conservation easement on just shy of 93 acres on the southeastern shoreline of Key Peninsula. The conservation project was the second of two major projects in our Marine Conservation Area completed in 2022, which in combination doubled the protected area to 357 acres. Both projects were led by NLT special projects consultant Eric Erler with support from Associate Director Kim Bredensteiner.

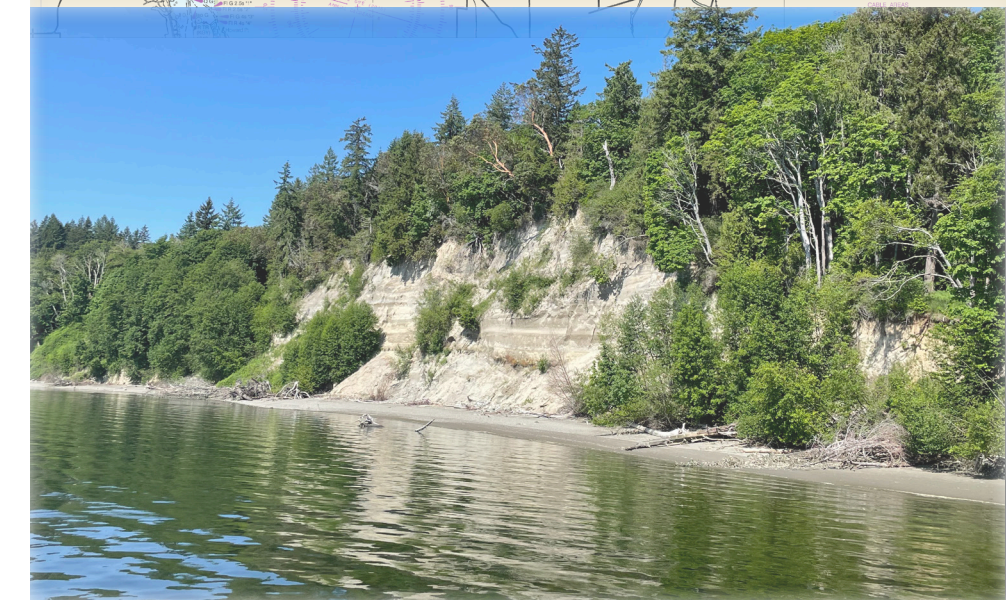
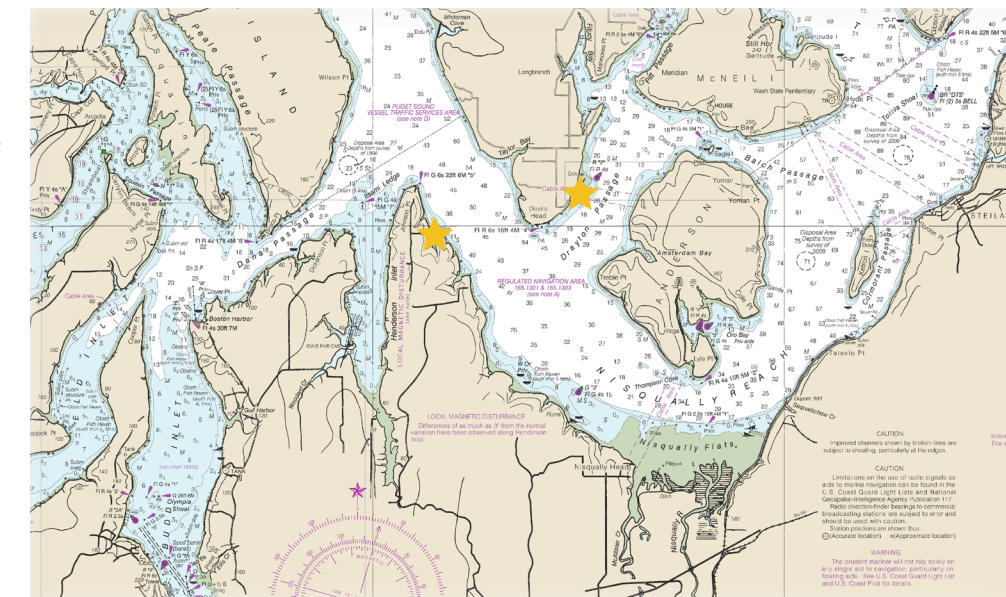
The conservation easement on the Presbytery of Olympia's Sound View Camp ensures that the conservation values of the property will be protected forever while still allowing the Presbytery to use their property as an environmental camp. It protects nearly a mile of unique marine shoreline habitat as well as adjacent upland forest. The property has a valuable mix of shoreline habitats including a bluff backed beach and a barrier embayment lagoon. These habitat types provide important habitat for both out migrating juvenile salmon as well as forage fish such as herring that are an important food source for salmon.

With the conservation easement in place, the Land Trust is working with Sound View Camp to plan and implement restoration and habitat enhancement projects on the property. Last summer NLT staff assisted a seasonal crew in mapping and removing invasive plants on the property. NLT is also working with the Presbytery to secure additional funds for restoration projects.

“We are so pleased to have this great partnership with the Olympia Presbytery conserving this unique shoreline habitat,” said Executive Director Jeanette Dorner. “We are looking forward to continuing that partnership, assisting them with habitat stewardship while allowing the continuation of the outdoor camp, connecting countless people to the beauty of these wild places.”

The project was funded by The Conservation Fund, Washington state's Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program, the federal National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Program, the Nisqually Delta Environmental Mitigation Trust, and a generous donation by the landowner.

A special thank you to all our funding partners at The Conservation Fund, Washington State's Recreation and Conservation Office and Department of Ecology, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service who helped make this project completion possible.



**Top Map: Office of Coast Survey NOAA Administration, Chart 18448. Puget Sound, Southern Part. left star: Baird Cove, right star: Sound View Camp**



# Land Trust Board Member Transitions



Kathy Mix



Tom Eaton



John Rosenberg



Justine Capra



Clare McCahill

*We have had dedicated staff and board members throughout our history. Even as some are now transitioning away they never really leave the Nisquamilly. Please help us recognize those who are completing their service and welcome our newest members.*

Straight out of retirement from the state’s Attorney General’s office, **Kathy Mix**, continued her public service as a Land Trust Board member for seven and a half years. Not long after joining our board Kathy became an officer, first as Secretary, then Vice President and finally Board President for her last three years on the board. During Kathy’s tenure on the board the Land Trust grew immensely in land protection, partnerships, and community engagement. We appreciate her strong and thoughtful leadership and commitment to ensuring we have resources for the long-term stewardship of our properties. We wish her all the best on her next adventures of travel, writing, and fly-fishing.

After three years serving on the board including a year and a half as Board Treasurer, retired EPA administrator **Tom Eaton** stepped down from his board duties in April. As Treasurer, Tom chaired our Finance Committee and in partnership with Board President Kathy Mix, helped lead the work to create a new special dedicated fund for the long-term stewardship of our properties. We are grateful for his work to help ensure the Land Trust has the resources to take care of our lands in perpetuity.

**John Rosenberg** who joined the board in 2022, stepped away from his position after a year of service to the Nisqually Land Trust. John had a

unique background with expertise in salmon recovery combined with many years serving as a Lutheran pastor. We appreciated his thoughtful insight and support for our work in his time on the board. Thank you, John, for your guidance and dedication.

**Clare McCahill** joined the board in September. She is originally a North Carolina native whose love for the outdoors grew from exploring the Cumberland Plateau forests. She and her husband moved to the Ashford/Elbe community in 2015 and founded Perigee Farm, where they employ principles of organic, regenerative, and biodynamic agriculture. In total, they steward 100 acres of land on the Upper Nisqually River. We are grateful for her commitment to conservation and community engagement in the Upper Nisqually Watershed.

**Justine Capra**, our newest board member, joined in October. She has lived in Olympia since 1991 and is the Director of Governmental Affairs for the Nisqually Indian Tribe. Justine has worked in law enforcement, education, and real estate in various capacities. She also recently served as the President and grant writer for the Tumwater Education Foundation (TEF). We thank Justine for joining us in service to the Nisqually Watershed.

# NEW & RETURNING STAFF



Jake Pool



Kayla Jenkins

**Jake** transitioned this summer from serving as a volunteer Board Member to becoming a full-time staff member as our Stewardship Manager. Jake, a fifth-generation Eatonville and Nisqually Watershed resident, has a B.S. in Public Horticulture with a focus on park management, restoration ecology, and forestry from the University of Washington and 20 years of professional experience in horticulture, conservation, restoration, and lands management. We are excited to have his extensive expertise to help us care for our lands.

**Kayla** is happy to be back as our Office & Development Assistant. She left to travel to Ecuador and start a new land conservation non-profit in partnership with an indigenous A’i Cofan community in the Amazon rainforest, the Kuan-Kuan Foundation. She appreciates the opportunity to be part of the Nisqually family again and hopes to nurture connections between our local community and South America.





## Roots in the Ground

*Over the past two years the Land Trust has been honored to have supporters choose to celebrate their birthdays and remember past friends by inviting people to help steward the Nisqually River Watershed. This year, our former board member and dear friend Mary Gentry dreamed up a whole campaign she called: “Roots in the Ground”. She turned her milestone birthday into a tree-planting event raising over \$30,000 to restore our precious Nisqually River*

### Excerpt from Mary Gentry’s new book “The Best is Yet to Be”:

*“With my eightieth trip around the sun looming, I knew turning my birthday into an event to look forward to rather than to dread would make it easier to get my head around. I wanted to celebrate the wonderful life that has come my way unbidden, just by living between two magnificent mountain ranges, the Olympics and the Cascades, on the shores of the Salish Sea. So, in collaboration with the Nisqually Land Trust, we launched Roots in the Ground, a shoreline restoration project along the shores of the Nisqually River. Mimi Williams created Restoration, the print featured on the back of this book, for the cards that I sent family and friends, inviting them to “invest” in this project. And in February 2023—a few months before my true birthday, but a good time for planting indigenous species — family and friends gathered along the bank of the Nisqually River and planted native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers. (Mimi captured this scene in her print for the front cover, of me, Kate, Eleanor, and Beatrice.) The project was a great success—two hundred and fifteen “investors” ensured that over three thousand new roots will enhance the shoreline. Roots in the Ground is a gift in perpetuity for my granddaughters—something they will neither outgrow nor mislay nor leave behind.”*

Inspired by Mary’s Roots in the Ground campaign, current and former board members Sally Toteff, Kathy Mix, and Tom Eaton, remembered their dear recently departed friend Polly Zehm in a similar way. On one of the rainiest days of November friends and family of Polly’s gathered together along the banks of the Nisqually River to plant over 250 native trees and shrubs in Polly’s honor. They also raised over \$9,000 to help grow the long-term stewardship fund that will allow the Land Trust to care for these lands in perpetuity.

The Land Trust is deeply grateful for both of these efforts. We appreciate their choice to honor loved ones in such a meaningful way.



*Far left/above: Friends and family of Mary Gentry and Polly Zehm putting “Roots in the Ground” and planting hundreds of native trees and shrubs along the Nisqually River Shoreline.*

*Thank you to Olympia Federal Savings who chose “Roots in the Ground” as their April Two Cents Campaign recipient. Close to \$3,000 was raised to benefit restoration in the Nisqually Watershed!*

*Bottom, middle: Mimi William’s “Restoration” block print that features the Nisqually River Watershed and the native species planted to help restore it.*





2023 ANNUAL

## Conservation Dinner and Auction

### OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Watershed Partners



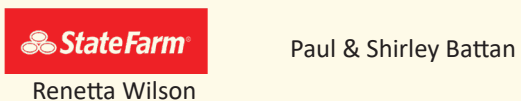
Sustaining Partners



Green Partners



Supporters



Renetta Wilson  
In-Kind • Cindy Schorno, Fusion Growth Partners  
Calendula Farm & Earthworks • Choro Tomorrow  
Fish Tale Brew Pub • Top Rung Brewing Co.

## Land Trust Auction Raises a Record Amount for Conservation

With the generous support of sponsors, item donors, attendees and volunteers, this year's Conservation Celebration & Auction raised a record \$206,000 for land protection and restoration in our beautiful Nisqually River Watershed. Auctioneer Cindy Schorno raised spirits and paddles during the high-energy live auction, where a good time was had by all. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make the evening such a huge success!

## Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake

Our Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake brought together over 200 of our friends on a sunny afternoon in early October. This marked our first ever Annual Meeting hosted by the Nisqually Indian Tribe at the Nisqually Culture Center on the former historic Braget farm. Land Trust Board Member, Hanford McCloud, and other Nisqually tribal members provided a traditional salmon bake which also included delicious fry bread and huckleberry lemonade.

It was a beautiful day to come together to celebrate our continued work throughout the Nisqually Watershed and the incredible community that makes this possible. We enjoyed visiting with so many Land Trust friends and reflecting on our collective efforts and successes throughout 2023. At the event, Executive Director Jeanette Dorner announced the recent acquisition of 55.8 acres along Ohop Creek. Read more about this story on page 19.

Thank you to the Nisqually Indian Tribe for hosting this special event, and thank you to our generous sponsor, Amazon. 🍷



## Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake



Thank you to our sponsor!



## Land Trust Protects 55 More Acres Along Ohop Creek

Mid-Ohop Acquisition Instrumental to Future Restoration Projects



Ohop Creek Shoreline

This summer the Land Trust acquired 55 acres in the mid-Ohop Valley west of Eatonville, increasing the total protected Ohop Valley acreage to 927. The newest acquisition is part of a larger proposed habitat restoration area by our partners the Nisqually Indian Tribe and South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group. The property is adjacent to existing blocks of conservation lands owned by the Land Trust and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Its northern boundary includes over a half-mile of Ohop Creek providing important spawning habitat for ESA listed Nisqually Chinook as well as many other Nisqually salmon stocks.

“We’re excited to significantly increase the amount of protected floodplain and creek in the Ohop Valley in this critical salmon spawning reach,” said Executive Director Jeanette Dorner. The project is key to expanding opportunities for future habitat restoration.

The former pastureland includes a mix of steep forested slopes with seeps and springs as well as significant wetlands. The Land Trust will gradually restore the natural hydrology and wetland vegetation by reconnecting the slope springs to the creek, removing invasive plant species, and planting native trees and shrubs.

“The seeps and springs in the valley walls are an important contributor to the stream-flow in Ohop Creek,” said Dorner. “Protecting and reconnecting these important water sources is helpful to maintaining a healthy flow in the creek.”

The project was made possible by grants from the Washington Department of Ecology Streamflow Restoration Program and Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office’s Salmon Recovery Fund.



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#### OUR MISSION

*Founded in 1989, the Nisqually Land Trust protects and stewards lands to permanently benefit the water, fish, wildlife, and people of the Nisqually River Watershed.*

*Students planting trees this fall in our Ohop Protected Area.*

## 2023 Conservation Campaign

***The Nisqually Needs Your Support.*** Please consider a year-end donation to help protect the forests, mountains, rivers, and streams of the Nisqually River Watershed. Help us save the rich natural legacy of the Nisqually – now and for the future.

Please consider making a donation online at [nisquallylandtrust.org](http://nisquallylandtrust.org). Call us at 360.489.3400 for more information. Thanks!



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