



2020



DESCHUTES
LAND
TRUST

DESCHUTES LAND TRUST ANNUAL REPORT

Working cooperatively with landowners to conserve land for wildlife, scenic views, and local communities.

FROM THE DIRECTORS



DENNIS JONES



JAY MATHER



PROVIDED PHOTO

Despite its unprecedented challenges, 2020 turned out to be a truly remarkable year for the Land Trust. This was true for both our organizational strength, as well as for conservation accomplishments. While 2020 marked the 25th anniversary of our founding, it also represented the beginning of a leadership transition for the Land Trust. Having co-founded the Land Trust and guided it for the past quarter century, the time had come to begin a planned leadership succession. I've stepped into a supporting role, handing off day-to-day management to my colleague, Ann Richardson, who agreed to step off our Board to serve as acting executive director. Ann's deep knowledge of non-profit management provides an important bridge while our Board launches a national search for our next executive director.

Board and staff also revisited and updated the Land Trust's vision and strategic plan, as well as initiating a new conservation plan, all of which incorporate new information on climate change, surging growth, and the other challenges Central Oregonians will face over the next 25 years. And finally, you're receiving our annual report in a new format and time frame as we recently changed our fiscal year to the calendar year. We hope you'll enjoy this new digital format that provides a more interactive experience while also helping conserve our natural resources.

In terms of conservation accomplishments, the Land Trust nearly doubled its acreage of permanently protected lands in 2020. Purchasing the 1,123 acre Rimrock Ranch set the stage for our next major restoration project on Whychus Creek this coming

summer. Over on the upper Crooked River, a series of conservation agreements protected 3,908 acres of Aspen Valley Ranch, helping chart future projects that can protect critical big game habitat and the working ranches between Post and Paulina, Oregon. Further north, our purchase of the historic Friday Ranch on Trout and Antelope Creeks will protect more than 10 miles of some of the lower Deschutes River's most important steelhead spawning habitat, along with 4,500 acres of critical big game habitat. [Learn more about these projects.](#)

Finally, though the pandemic restricted many activities, the Land Trust continued to care for the lands entrusted to us and connect our communities to those amazing places. We are so proud of our staff and volunteers who adapted and persevered this year to continue offering virtual hikes when we couldn't gather together, volunteered their time at a distance with masks on faces, and partnered in new and innovative ways to continue conserving and caring for land in Central Oregon. [Learn more about these efforts.](#)

With a new year upon us, the days getting longer, and vaccines on the horizon, the Deschutes Land Trust has never been more confident about the future. While the current challenges aren't yet behind us, we see great and growing opportunities to protect the land and resources that make Central Oregon so special. Your generous support got us through a difficult year, and with your continued support, we can make an even more profound difference in shaping a better future for Central Oregon. Thank you for making it all possible!

Brad Chalfant
FOUNDING DIRECTOR

Ann Richardson
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Land Trust's fiscal year runs from January 1 through December 31. This financial summary comes from the Land Trust's yet-to-be-audited 2020 financial statement. Audited statements are available upon request. A copy of the Deschutes Land Trust's Form 990 can be found at www.guidestar.org.



ELLI REBERTSON

What did your support make possible this year?

TOTAL \$1,739,847



conservation + stewardship

60%

\$1,048,900



education + outreach

22%

\$383,634



organizational sustainability

11%

\$194,028



management + support

7%

\$113,285

Where did our support come from this year?

TOTAL \$4,378,671

grants

37%

\$1,634,349

restricted donations

35%

\$1,543,827

unrestricted donations

25%

\$1,088,075

investments + other

3%

\$112,420

VITAL SIGNS

acres conserved

17,523



ROBERT PEARSON

endowment for permanent stewardship of conserved lands

\$2,189,289



TYLER ROEMER

number of donor households

1,741



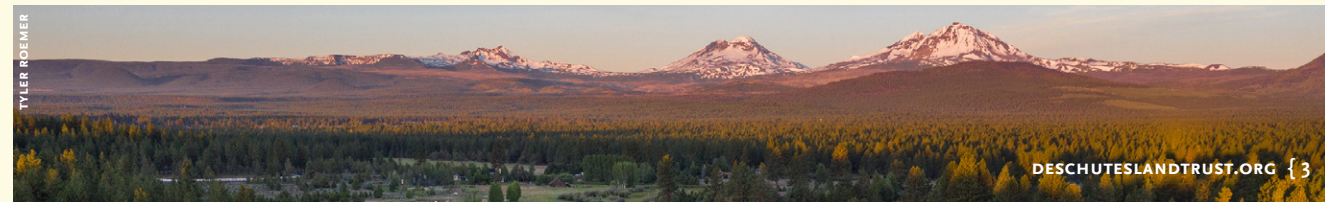
LAND TRUST

volunteer hours donated since 1995

102,419

value of conserved lands

\$17,529,104



TYLER ROEMER

YOUR SUPPORT

In 2020, you helped conserve and care for the land, connect communities, and chart the future of Central Oregon. Check out the highlights below and then click the links to learn more via our interactive online story.



CONSERVES LAND →



The Land Trust conserved a record amount of land in 2020! A total of 8,408 acres were protected, nearly doubling the amount of land we conserved in our first 25 years of existence! Together we protected Aspen Valley Ranch, Priday Ranch, and Rimrock Ranch. [Learn more](#) about these amazing places.



CARES FOR THE LAND →

Hundreds of weeds, thousands of plants, pounds of wire—this is how we measure our collective efforts to care for the land. Together we continued to improve the health of our protected lands by restoring native plant communities, removing fences to improve wildlife habitat, and planning for stream restoration projects. We also ensured that our protected lands were there when our community needed them as places of respite and relaxation. [Learn more.](#)



Despite the pandemic, the Land Trust continued connecting with our community in new and innovative ways in 2020. Our virtual offerings brought the wonder of nature to your inbox, computer, or phone. Physically distanced volunteers showed up with masks to lend a hand, and partners helped us bring hope and habitat to local communities. Most of all, our wonderful community of supporters came together to ensure that the Land Trust would weather a challenging year! Thank you! [Learn more.](#)



CONNECTS COMMUNITY →



→ BUILDS THE FUTURE

Your support is truly charting the future of Central Oregon. The Land Trust's newly acquired Priday Ranch is a great example for our collective future. We will continue to need to conserve places like Priday Ranch—with diverse natural features and strong connections to surrounding undeveloped lands—so they can provide clean air, water, and healthy wildlife habitat as our climate continues to warm. We will also need healthy and functioning natural systems like streams and forests. The Land Trust will continue to lead the way in science-based, innovative techniques for restoring natural systems. Finally, we know we cannot chart our future without you by our side! We look forward to building a broader, more diverse community to conserve and care for the lands we all need for the next 25 years!

Since 1995, the Deschutes Land Trust has conserved 17,523 acres of land in Central Oregon for wildlife and local communities.

2020 BOARD, ADVISORS, AND STAFF

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MIKE CUTTING

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