

# SKAGIT UPDATE

# NEWSLETTER OF THE SKAGIT LAND TRUST

# Partnership Protects Two Miles of Skagit River Shoreline and Wildlife Habitat

"Skagit Land Trust was an invaluable partner in securing the Iron Mountain property for salmon habitat protection." - Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light

In September of this year Skagit Land Trust and Seattle City Light partnered to permanently protect two miles of

the entire Skagit River system. By protecting this shoreline habitat in perpetuity, we as a community can be assured

Skagit River shoreline and floodplain habitat. The Seattle City Council approved granting a conservation easement to Skagit Land Trust on its 236acre Iron Mountain Ranch property located on the south bank of the Skagit River west of Concrete. The land was purchased by the City as part of its salmon habitat protection efforts on the Skagit.



there will be no subdivision and development on this important stretch of the river. Now, the shoreline areas are being restored with native vegetation with a grant to Seattle City Light from the WA State Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The story of

FALL 2005

Bob Butterfield

land — the circuitous route

protecting this

Iron Mountain Ranch Protected By Seattle City Light and Skagit Land Trust.

Funding for the purchase was granted to the City by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the City's "Early Action" Proposal. Extinguishment of development rights was required by Skagit County in exchange for granting permission to subdivide the floodplain land from the ranch house, out-buildings and adjacent upland acreage, which remain in private ownership.

This reach of the river includes some of the most productive spawning habitat for native Chinook salmon in the project took to completion - is a window into the complexity of land conservation in Skagit County, and illustrates the potency of good partnerships. So many people worked to make this project succeed that it's not possible to give all of the credit that is due.

For several years, Skagit Land Trust worked with the US Forest Service and the original landowner, Richard Hoynow deceased — and later with his heirs to protect their beloved ranch. After an expected funding source fell through, the family had no choice but to list the property for

# Directors

John Milnor, President Mount Vernon

Marlene Moore, Vice-President Anacortes

Jerry Haegele, Secretary Anacortes

**Glenn Bordner** Mount Vernon

**Bob Boudinot** Mount Vernon

Ralph Heft Big Lake

**Rusty Kuntze** *Bay View* 

**Patsy Martin** Alger

**Curtis Miller** Fir Island

John Osborn Bow

Pat Sneeringer Mount Vernon

**Ray Taipale** LaConner

Keith Wiggers Burlington

Andrea Xaver Big Lake

# Staff

Molly Doran Executive Director

Martha Bray Conservation Director

**Brenda Cunningham** Stewardship Director

**Diane Bednarz** Administrative Assistant

General Counsel Bradford E. Furlong, P.S.

# Skagit Update

Skagit Land Trust PO Box 1017 325 Pine Street, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273 voice: (360)-428-7878 fax: (360)-336-1079 email: <u>trustmv@fidalgo.net</u> website: <u>www.skagitlandtrust.org</u>

Contributors: Diane Bednarz, Martha Bray, Brenda Cunningham, Molly Doran Managing Editor: Diane Bednarz Editor: Molly Doran

Drawings by Brenda Cunningham

# From the Executive Director

There is now no question that habitat protection is one of the vital legs of the stool needed to avert a spiral of loss. And voluntary land conservation is a tool that is hard to argue with.

Fall in Skagit County – what a place of bounty and beauty. For centuries this has been the season of plenty with salmon thick in the rivers and warm autumn days to complete a season of growth. How distressing it is to



think that we humans could so diminish the land and water that we seriously imperial this natural bounty. But some of the latest scientific indicators are that, particularly with marine species, we are at a tipping point. And the stark and sad damage caused by Hurricane Katrina, whose destructive power was elevated by the severe wetlands loss in the region, is a reminder of how vital protecting natural lands and processes is to all of us.

As a concerned citizen I know most of you try to do your share to voluntarily help our planet in ways that fit your life. As a community member, you are assisting immeasurably by supporting Skagit Land Trust's permanent protection of land, water, forests, shoreline and wildlife habitat through voluntary conservation. There is now no question that habitat protection is one of the vital legs of the stool needed to avert a spiral of loss. And voluntary land conservation is a tool that is hard to argue with.

Thus we are very pleased when we can announce protecting a property large enough that it can be seen from space. Hats off to Seattle City Light and the Seattle City Council for purchasing and then granting a permanent conservation easement to Skagit Land Trust on two miles of the Skagit River. Creative partnerships such as this are increasingly an economical way to get sizeable chunks of natural resource land and habitat protected permanently.

In this issue you will also find our 2004-05 annual report. Our goal is to keep you updated on our accomplishments and on our financial ability to keep up an aggressive pace of land conservation. I encourage you to look at our website, www.skagitlandtrust.org for additional information, maps and photos. Finally, I welcome questions, calls and visits. Only by working together will we accomplish



the vision of passing on a healthy, bountiful, natural world to future generations.

Molly D.

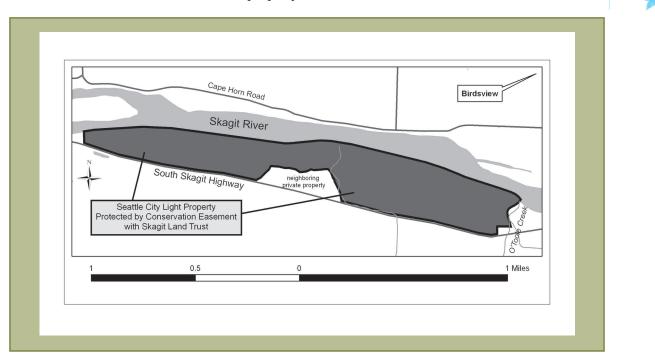
Whimbrel

Phil Green

## Iron Mountain Land - Continued from front page

public sale. The Trust then suggested the project to Seattle City Light, and they managed to put the funding together quickly. Several City Light staff members worked very hard to complete the acquisition including Tom Meyer, Denise Krownbell and Ed Connor.

This is also a story of perseverance. There were many points over a period of four years when this project seemed doomed. Once listed on the real estate market, the property could have easily been subdivided into six private 'ranchettes' diminishing the habitat value of such a large intact property. Through the hard work and cooperation of many hands, including the original landowner and his heirs, conservation succeeded. Now the real work begins — to protect and restore this magnificent piece of land for fish and wildlife and future generations.



"Skagit Land Trust was an invaluable partner in securing the Iron Mountain property for salmon habitat protection. The Trust's conservation director, Martha Bray, was instrumental in helping City Light secure the property. At several critical junctures the Trust acted swiftly and expertly in working with us to navigate through this complicated transaction. This is a significant acquisition; the alternative to our success would likely have changed this portion of the middle Skagit forever. Seattle City Light is grateful for Skagit Land Trust's assistance and looks forward to our continued partnership with the Trust in protecting the Iron Mountain property." -Tom Meyer and Denise Krownbell, Seattle City Light



At Iron Ranch, two miles of Skagit River shoreline are forever protected with a landowner preservation agreement (conservation easement) granted to Skagit Land Trust by The City of Seattle.



## **NEWSLETTER SURVEY**

Thank you to our members who returned the Skagit Update survey and gave us their input in developing the newsletter to better serve our member interests.

A highlight of the results shows that:

- As a result of receiving the newsletter, 87% make a contribution to the Trust and 81% tell others about the Trust.
- The four top ranked areas members are most concerned about protecting right now are: fish & wildlife habitat; lakes, streams, river shoreline and wetlands; forests and ag. land.
- Our newsletter is well read! 65% of respondents read all of the newsletter.
- All agreed our newsletter content was informative. 75% thought there was enough background information to understand the issues and actions. 25% wanted more information on how to visit protected properties and 25% wanted a guest writer offering added points of view.
- Regarding the layout: 87% found the font easy to read, 77% thought the layout attractive and 74% thought the use of high content recycled paper was important. 51% of the respondents wanted to see more maps and photos.
- Everyone who responded thought the length and number of issues was just right.



Beachcombing on lands protected by Skagit Land Trust.



# Save the Trees, Pull the Ivy!!!!

The following is a quick primer on why we should control English ivy and tips for accomplishing that.

## Ivy kills trees.

Ivy adds substantial weight to a tree, causing limbs to break or the tree to fall over. It can also cover the bark, blocking the tree from air and beneficial microorganisms. Ivy in a tree shades out other plants and provides very little food for native wildlife.

### Ivy can stop a forest.

By shading the ground, ivy can prevent germination of native tree species. As the older trees in a forest are covered with ivy and fall down, there are few young trees to replace them.

Ivy does not help control erosion.

Ivy can cover the ground quickly, leading people to believe it will hold the ground on steep slopes. But in fact, ivy has a very shallow root system, making it a poor choice for holding a slope in place.



Chemicals **have not** been found to be effective against ivy. The most effective ivy control method is to pull the ivy away from the trees and off the ground. Please wear gloves while doing this, as the sap can cause a reaction in some people. If the stems are too big to pull off the trees, cut them at least several feet off the ground and pull the lower part of the plant away from the tree. The vines up in the tree will die in a few months. Pull the plants on the ground away from the tree, clearing a "lifesaver" ring around the tree.

Ball up the pulled plants and leave them on site. If you can limit the amount of area that is touching the ground, you will limit how much the ivy is able to resprout. Eventually the ivy ball will decompose, but until it does, it is a good idea to periodically rotate the ball of ivy to prevent it from rooting. Some people find sturdy bushes to prop the ivy ball on – preventing it from touching the ground and growing roots. Within a few weeks the ivy balls will have wilted and lost the ability to resprout.



# Annual Report 2005 April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

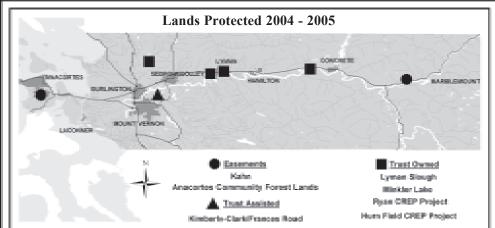
Gene Kahn protected an additional 29 acres of forest at Cascadian Farm.





Anacortes Community Forest Lands were almost halfway to being protected by March 2005.

Stewardship Committee members Ralph Heft and Kari Odden discussing a forest management plan.









Newly protected Lyman Slough Conservation Area.

Minkler Lake Conservation Area purchased in 2005

People of all ages helped steward our land in 2005.

# Financial Statements 2004 - 2005

## Comparative Financial Statements FOR THE YEARS ENDING MARCH 31, 2005 AND MARCH 31, 2004

#### ABBREVIATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION As of March 31

Assets	2005	2004
Cash	\$279,183	681,625
Pledges and other receivables	42,388	61,211
Investments (land & stewardship funds)	638,725	26,987
Money on deposit	0	230,831
Conservation land	1,749,048	1,600,277
Other	11,817	14,898
Total Assets	\$2,721,161	\$2,615,829
Liabilities	\$8,698	\$204,740
Net Assets	\$2,712,463	\$2,411,089
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,721,161	\$2,615,829

#### ABBREVIATED SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

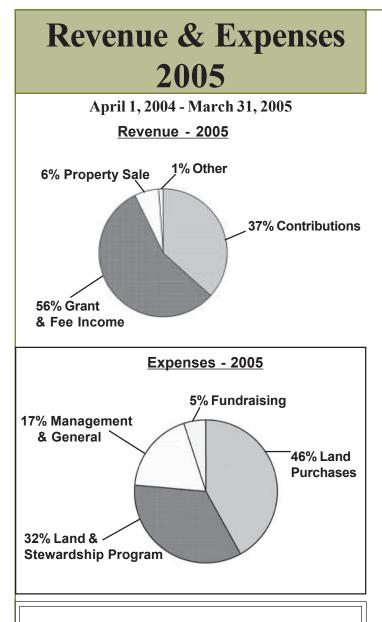
For the Years Ending March 31	[	1
	2005	2004
Support and Revenue		
Contributions (cash and in-kind)	\$103,665	93,513
Grant and fee income	331,259	364,413
Rental income	5,320	4,533
Investment income	1,287	10,154
Net gain on land sales	36,128	330,857
Restricted contributions for land		
acquisition and stewardship	112,500	104,000
Total Support and Revenue	\$590,159	\$907,470
Total Support and Revenue Expenses and Acquisitions	\$590,159	\$907,470
	<b>\$590,159</b> 187,418	<b>\$907,470</b> 213,999
Expenses and Acquisitions		
Expenses and Acquisitions Land and stewardship programs	187,418	213,999
Expenses and Acquisitions Land and stewardship programs Administration and fundraising	187,418 101,367	213,999 74,194
Expenses and Acquisitions Land and stewardship programs Administration and fundraising Subtotal	187,418 101,367 <b>\$288,785</b>	213,999 74,194 <b>\$288,193</b>
Expenses and Acquisitions Land and stewardship programs Administration and fundraising Subtotal Land acquisitions	187,418 101,367 <b>\$288,785</b> 268,000	213,999 74,194 <b>\$288,193</b> 341,000

To accurately maintain and report the financial statements of Skagit Land Trust, the board of directors contracts for an outside annual financial review or audit of the Trust's financial records. For FY 2004 the board of directors selected an audit. For FY 2005 the board of directors selected to use a financial review and will return to an audit in 2006.

This abbreviated financial statement is a summary of the Review Report submitted to your Board of Directors by Larson Gross, Certified Public Accountants, who, based on their review, were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the USA, as of March 31, 2005. The March 31, 2005 financial statement and independent review are on file in the offices of Skagit Land Trust. Also available for review is the IRS 990 tax return for this year.

At year-end March 2005 the Trust held 40 Conservation Easements and owned 20 parcels in fee. Total area under Trust stewardship was 3,708 acres throughout Skagit County. Trust membership totaled 534 households and businesses.





## FINANCIAL NOTES

# Skagit Land Trust completed the following land purchases:

- The Trust purchased 107 acres at Minkler Lake for \$228,000 in April 2004. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board contributed grant funding of \$193,800.
- The Trust purchased 19 acres at Lyman Slough for \$40,000. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board contributed grant funding of \$34,000.

#### Land sales and donations

- Skagit Land Trust donated a conservation easement on 88 acres of farmland on Francis Road to Skagit County's Farmland Legacy Program. The conservation easement extinguished all development rights and ensured the land was permanently protected. The Trust then sold the property to a farmer at farmland prices.
- Skagit Land Trust donated \$5,000 to San Juan Preservation Trust's Sares Bluff Campaign.

# FY 2005 Highlights

April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

#### CONSERVATION

107 acres of important lake shoreline, wetlands and salmon habitat were added to the Trust's ownership at Minkler Lake with help from our members, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Skagit Watershed Council.

We added conservation easements on 75 acres of the Anacortes Community Forest Lands in partnership with Friends of the Forest and the City of Anacortes.

We received a generous conservation easement donation from Gene Kahn who protected 29 acres of native forest outside of Marblemount.

The Trust protected 19 acres of shoreline near the city of Lyman. This land is comprised of large gravel bars and shady backwaters and connects to Skagit River Wild and Scenic River lands.

With Whatcom Land Trust we completed an assessment of the most important lands to protect in the Chuckanut-to-Cascade corridor.

The Trust assisted Seattle City Light to purchase, for protection, two miles of Skagit River shoreline at Iron Mountain Ranch (along the South Skagit Highway).

#### LAND MANAGEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP

Over 11,500 person-hours of time was given by Trust volunteers to steward and maintain Trust-protected properties. Thank you!

The Trust continued its successful reforestation of river shoreline and sloughs on our Tope Ryan and Hurn Field properties, with assistance from the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the Skagit County Conservation District.

### MANAGING THE TRUST

The Trust's Strategic Plan was up-dated through 2007 and we developed a Strategic Funding Plan. The vast majority of our expenses go directly to land protection or property management. However, the funding of dayto-day operations is also critical. Funding our operations makes the difference between having the capacity to take on the necessary work to protect threatened land or not. The Strategic Funding Plan addresses our urgent need to raise more general operating funds so we can protect Skagit County's special places before it is too late.

As the Trust has grown, the Board of Directors has acknowledged the need to place Trust investments under professional management. In December 2004 the board selected UBS Financial Services as its financial investment manager.

# **Skagit Land Trust Members and Partners**

April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

We are grateful to the Individuals, Businesses, Organizations and Foundations, listed below whose donations were received between April 1, 2004 and March 31, 2005.

Robert L. Apter, MD

## Corporate Members

#### **Business Benefactor**

Printwise, Inc. Sea-Land Development Corporation Shell Oil Products US Skagit State Bank Timmers Appraisal Services

(\$500 - \$999)

#### Business Patron (\$250-\$499)

First American Title Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje, Inc. MacGregor Publishing Co. Miller Consulting Shorebird Properties

#### Business Sponsor (\$100-\$249)

Art by Thais Concrete Nor'West Dunton's Auto Body Shop Graham-Bunting & Associates Hoekstra & Hoekstra Puget Sound Energy Skagit River Steel & Recycling,Inc. Skagit Valley Healing Arts Skagit Wild Bird Supply Soto McNett Construction, Inc. Woody's Car Wash

#### **Business Supporters (\$50-\$99)**

A1 Builders Christianson Nursery, LTD Earthbound Used Books Fran Little LLC McGregor Insurance Agency, Inc. Meyer Sign & Advertising Co. Preview Properties Skagit, LLC Sauk Mountain Pottery

#### Organizations

Evergreen Islands Fidalgo Fly Fishers Friends of the Anacortes Community Forest Lands Skagit Conservation District Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland The Nature Conservancy

#### Matching Gifts Safeco Puget Sound Energy

#### <u>Granting</u> Organizations & Foundations

The Burning Foundation The Dudley Foundation Horizons Foundation Linnemann Family Foundation Salmon Recovery Funding Board Temcov Foundation Pro-Bono Services Bradford E. Furlong P.S.

## <u>Stewardship Fund</u>

City of Anacortes Brenda Cunningham & Tim Manns Ralph & Ruth Heft Gene Kahn James C. Squires, Jr.

#### <u>Trust Builders</u> Major Donors (\$5000 & up)

Robert Brown & Patricia Hegg Brown

#### Steward (\$2500-\$4999) Anonymous

#### Conservator (\$1000-\$2499)

Anonymous Harold & Shirley Christenson Ann & Bob Dursch Lin Folsom Dr. Jay Ham & Jan Hersey John & Linda Hunt Beau MacGregor Marlene & James Moore Mark Nysether Keith & Jan Wiggers Rich & Beth Williamson Ben Winkes & Sloane Polillo Andrea Xaver

#### <u>Sustaining Members</u>

#### Benefactor (\$500-\$999)

Anonymous Joanne Abelson & Chris Goelz Lloyd & Wendy Brown Jane Clapp Brenda Cunningham & Tim Manns Tom & Catherine Dostart David Duskin Donald J. Finsen Elsa Gruber & Charles Pruett Jerald & Sheila Haegele Gene Kahn Rae Kozloff Rusty Kuntze & Libby Mills Janice Martin & Doug Robinson Sue & George Mehler Gene & Ginny Murphy Dennis Stanchfield & Susan Radkins Erynn E.M. Stephan Richard & Sharon Stewart John & Doris Tursi Ken & Anne Winkes Margaret Yeoman

#### Patron (\$250-\$499)

Anonymous Ruth & Harry Adamitz Mary Kay Barbieri & Linda Jordon Diane Bednarz & Peter Jepson Jim Bishop II Glenn & Theda Bordner Martha Bray & John Day Nadine Burrington & Robert Foist Bob Carey and Kari Odden Laura Deason Bill & Holly Dietrich Molly Doran & Andrew Cline Nick Fahey & Deborah Martin Ron Feld and Lorna Klemanski Kristine & Roger Goodan Phil and Kathy Green Larry and Josie Hedgpeth Bill & Susan Henry Robert MD, & Judith Higgins Marcia Hunt Patricia Karlberg & Robert Keller Sean Kelly Sheila Klein & Ries Niemi Dick & Doris Kohler Patricia Botsford-Martin & Daniel Martin Cynthia McGuiness Kenneth & Enid Oates H. Donald Parry & Vicki Soderberg Parry Bob & Barb Rock Kathleen H. Root William & Kris Rowe Jim & Levy Scheltens David & Eddylee Scott Pat Sneeringer Linda Speck & Ken Willis Kate Stewart & Deborah DeWolfe

#### Sponsor (\$100-\$249)

Astrid Aamot Frances Ambrose & Steve Hunter Bruce & Joanne Ault Bob & Pat Bell Claudia Biermann J.E. Bishop Paul & Patty Calver Cathy Carmody & David Deffenbaugh John A. Carr. MD Tom, Beth & Christine Cleland Debbie & Darrell Cornelius Tom & Barbara Corrigan Patricia A. Cowgill Barbara & Lyle Craner Larry & Lorry D'Arienzo Allison Deets Joyce & Cecil Dillard Paul Dinnel & Vicki McNeil Harold & Diane Eiesland Corwin Fergus Jim & Frances Ford Brad Furlong & Eileen Butler James Gallup Carolyn & Ed Gastellum Warren & Marilyn Gilbert

Herb & Theresa Goldston Ernie & Joan Handelmann Daniel & Marilyn Hanesworth Mary Mae Hardt & Scott Andrews Lief & Monica Hazelet Ralph & Ruth Heft Mark & Alison Hitchcock Bill & Ruth Hood Hal & Claris Hyatt Jean & Brad Imus Clayton & Barbara James Ryan & Christina Jepperson Stephen & Nancy Johnson James Kaufman Robert & Carol Knowles Fayette Krause Robin LaRue George Lawson Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Lisser Candace L Lower Ann Magnano Robert & Marie Martinez William & Diana McGaw Malcolm & Michelle McPhee John Merrell II Jim & Harlyn Meyer Anne Brooks Middleton & Jack Middleton Gary & Betty Miles Susan & Fred F. Miller John and Marjorie Milnor Tom & Mary Moody David C. Moreland Diane Morton & Wendy Cobb Dick & Joyce Nelson George & Mary Newbury Kathleen Walsh Packard Robert G. Personius Fred Poppe Maragaret Potter Ed & Linda Pysher Denny & Laurie Quirk Richard & Karen Raisler Carl & Jane Randolph Peggy Ratermann Gary A. Richardson Richard & Nancy Robblee Valerie & Gary Robinson Andrew Ross & Laura Cailloux Cyd and Herb Sanborn Herb & Christine Sargo Robert & Emma Schroder Charles Schultz & Terri Bakke-Schultz Terence & Lois Slotemaker Harriet Spanel Mary Augusta Stapp Charles Stavig Terry & Kathy Stevens Tamara Stevens & Todd Rubano Dennis & Mary Ann Taylor Bill & Sally Turner Gary & Ruby Vallat James W. Van Horn Tim & Alice Volwiler

# **Thank You For Your Support**

Jane Wagner & Bruce Bollert Sarah Welch & Jon Riedel James Wells Don Wick Robert & Anne Marie Willis Todd Wood & Judy Gamble Robert C. Woolley Annette Woolsey & Jim Shiflett Ms. G. O. Wright Robert & Kay Wuerth Sara Young & Wade Melton Jane Zillig & Paul Ingalls Stan Zyskowski

#### Contributing Members Supporter (\$60-\$99)

David Adams & Greta Movassaghi Dick Anderson & Lynn Reed Arthur & Marvann Arndt Charles Ayers Scott & Jennifer Aylor Liz & Michael Bart Al & Sue Berger Richard Bergner Rick & Laura Bethke Rich & Feryll Blanc John & Gail Boggs Carol Bohmbach Jon & Ann Bowman Doyle & Gloria Bowzer Karen & Jonathan Briggs William & Joan Colvin Joan Cross Lynne Darnell Daniel & Charlotte Decker Gene & Marilyn Derig Carol & Jon Engels Doug & Cheryl Everhart Nancy & Scott Fulton Peter & Dorothy Haase Helen Heneks George Jay Paul Johnson Beth Kraig & Suzanne Klinger Logan & Allison Knowles Eric & Laura Kraig Von & Elizabeth Kuehn Anne & Bob Kuntz Jere LaFollette & Wende Sanderson Karen A. Lewis-Hart & Derek Hart Meredith & Rick Machin Dr. Jennifer McCoy Mark & Alison Miller W.M. Mohundro Tarn Mower Edward K. Newbold Nicholas Nigro Deborah North & Robert Coffey Mike & Bonnie Olpin Mark Pearson Peter Remick Susan Richardson Marilyn Ross & Robert Schwartzberg Eric & Jenny Sandbo Robert E. Scott Paul Schissler & Sue Willis Jonathan & Scottie Schneider Margaret M. Schulz Anne Schwartz & Mike Brondi Don & Margaret Semrau

Maurice & Virginia Shank Liz Smith Bob & Connie Snell Jane E. Stephens Jack Stephens & Ellen O'Neill Stephens Jaye Stover Jim & Dorothy Stover Steve & Frederica Sulzbacher Nancy Swalling Ann & William Tanner Gina Van Hess Bill & Laurie Wallace Virginia Walsh Dederick Ward & Susan Parke Philip & Carolynne Wright David & Pat Young

#### Partner (\$40-\$59)

Norman Ainslie Anonymous Arbor Pacific Forestry Nancy Ashenfelter Mark & Ruth Backlund Graydon & Joyce Baker Judy Baker John & Nancy Barnard Tom & Helen Bassler Dr. Bruce Berkowsky Paul Blum & Alison Zak Ric & Janet Boge Robert & Victoria Bourns John & Mary Louise Brown Kelly Bush & Russ Dalton Ferdi Businger Daniel F. Casey & Sally Weakley Casey Joan Casey John & Cindy Custer Chris Danilson & Jenny Baker Patricia & Richard de La Chapelle Jack & Sonjia de Yonge Ivar Dolph & Phyllis Dolph Judith Dudley & Thomas Slocum Tom & Stacy Fawell Alix Foster & Rick Shorten Sue & John Freeto Hellmut & Marcy Golde Barbara & Dean Gregory Ramona Hammerly Anne Hillard Steve & Katie Hinton David & Kathy Hirdler Bill & Gail Hlavacek Clara Hogg Steve & Andrea Hood Edward & Valerie Jensen Alfred R. Kraig Kathy & Mark Larson Father Paul Magnano Donald & Mary Magness Michael Maki William & Laurel Malcomson Michael & Suellen Mancer Ingrid & Bruce McBane Todd McNett & Liz McNett Crowl Joe & Judy Menish Scott Mennella & Anne Sidbury Anita Meyer & Josh Greenberg Steve & Betty Miller Michael Monroe Gordon & Joanne Odegaard

Paula A. Ogden-Muse & Jeff Muse Judy & David Olson Helen M. Ovenell James Owens Robert & Maureen Ratfield Robert Raymond & Dorothy Downes Kathy & Robert Reim Lauren Rich Harold & Irene Richardson Bob Rose Kim Sager Jo-an & Bill Scott John & Julie Semrau Sue & Richard Sigmen Robert & Joan Skeele Gail R. Smith John Smith & Cheryl Harrison **Richard Staples** Richard & Daphene Storwick Margaret Studer Linda & Stephen Summers Mary & Bob Taylor Richard & Carol Treston Lynette Trucco-Baier & Doug Baier Kathryn Van Alstyne & Edmund Marmol Natalie & Steve Weatherby June Wheeler Brian & Dvani Wetcher Louise Willis Robert & Polly Winkelman Stedem Wood

#### Friend (\$30 - \$39)

Evelyn Adams Kathryn Alexandra John Allen Helen Andersen Jim & Joyce Anderson Steve & Gail Aslanian Robert T. Bailey Cathy Baker & Rich Feldman Ms. Barbara Bashaw Hazel Blakeslee Gary & Heidi Bletsch Kalman Brauner & Amy Carlson Rone & Marcella Brewer Dr. Gary & Sue Brown Phil Burton Craig E. Cammock Carol Carnahan Howard Christofersen Dorris Civille Eileen Coan & Ross Mc Conahey Barbara Cooper Allen Craney Lee & Mary Sue Dallas Eunice W. Darvill Fred & Virginia Darvill John & Ramona Douglass Gene & Mayo Earnest Ann Eissinger Phyllis L. Ennes John & Marie Erbstoeszer Jay & DeAnn Findlay Harriet Follman Barbara French Mary Froderberg Karen Gardiner & Philip Brown Karla Garey Ms. Dianne Gaughan

Barbara Geraghty Dan Gould Frank Graham Louise Harris Judith Hartford Carol Havens & Vince Streano Ron Haywood & Leanne Lunsford Haywood Albert Heath Ri & Sally Hill Holley Hoag Lillian Hoekstra Bernetta Hoff Ron Holmes Loren Huggins & Marie Lord Sarah Huntington Elmer & Jean Johansen Janette Johnson Robert & Cecilia Johnson Thomas V. & Lane Johnson Vic & Marlene Jones Matthias & Bonnie Kerschbaum Bojan Kuure Amy & Pierre LaBarge Jeannie Lennon Dianne Lindsay & Cordia Sammeth Mr. & Mrs. William V. Lucic Dr. Malcolm Madenwald & Wendy Gray Clarice R. Martin Jeff & Ann May Janet McKinney Dick & Bettie McNeely Duane & Joan Melcher Bob Mierendorf & Lisa Broxson Grace Novicky Melinda Olswang & Bruce Racine Allane Onkst Lorna & Dennis Parent Howard & Carol Pellett Loretta Penrod Daniel Penttila Hazel Pilkinton Andrea & Lyle Poolman Clarence & Virginia Rankin Scott & Martha Rhodes Jack & Cynthia Richardson Teresa L. & Scott A. Rinkler Jim Roberts Shane & Susan Sanderson Mike Sato Mary Schacht Donna Schram, PhD Edward & Carol Schwabe Dan Senour Howard & Kathy Shapiro Howard Shuman Shirley Smith Sharon Stapleton Rosemary Stevens Ken & Liz Stewart Sherri Stites Carol Strandberg James & Mary Jo Stroh Cecil & June Thomas Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tjersland Julia & William Toomey Patty Wasson & Bob Shelly Rowena Watson & Paul Troka Ken Berg & Jan Weydemeyer Jennifer & William Woyski Patricia Youngman 9

# Thank You For Your Support

#### Associates

Otto Allison Dan & Donna Brauer Ellen Bynum John & Mervdee Carlson Barb & Terry Doran John Freeman Dee Gibson Ellen Gray Anthony G. Hamerski Kathryn Heron Marii Hoff Janene Kenaston Konrad Kurp Karen MacDonald Philip & Anne McCracken Jim Murphy David & Sydney Olausen Suzanne Perlmutter John & Elizabeth Perrin Ruth Elfstrom Riggles Alice Royer Linda Sanford Jay Smith & Susan Wood Laura Smith Chester Wood Rosann Wuebbels & George Reeves

# Special Gifts

In Honor of Christine Bergner & Jeffrey Bergner Richard Bergner

**Eleanor Gandy Memorial** Mary Augusta Stapp

Karen MacDonald Memorial Dr. Gary & Robbie Holz Robert & Norma Maris Mr. & Mrs. William Morningred Judi Munn Gene & Ginny Murphy Betty Rockwell

In Honor of Floydene Myers & Ester Zimmerman Susan Richardson

### In Kind

All American Master Locksmith Applebee's Restaurant Art by Thais Jim Bishop II Blue Heron Farm - Ann Schwartz Glenn Bordner Bob Butterfield Carpenter Creek Winery Catapult Heavy Construction Cheesecake Creations Chinook Expeditions Christianson Nursery Concrete Nor'West Brenda Cunningham Crown Pacific Pamela David Molly Doran & Andrew Cline

Catherine & Tom Dostart El Gitano Restaurant Brad E. Furlong, P.S. Phil Green Josh Greenburg Larry & Ginny Groesbeck Gene Hall Peter Jepson Kenmore Camera Bob Knowles Trevor Kyle Patty Lavrette Lee Mann Patsy Martin John Milnor



Volunteer Jim Owens helps remove ivy and holly from a Little Mountain conservation easement.

Marlene & Jim Moore Gene & Ginny Murphy Ed Newbold Nitty Gritty Garden Club NOLS John Osborn Lavone & Dick Reim S&H Nurserv Sakuma Brothers Farm, Inc. Dave Shaw Skagit Conservation District Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Skagit River System Cooperative Skagit Watershed Council Sky Nursery Terry Stevens Richard Stewart Stratum Group Summersun Nursery Wells Nursery Brian Wetcher/Fidalgo Landscape Keith & Jan Wiggers Andrea Xaver

## PARTNERS - 2005

City of Anacortes Ducks Unlimited Farm Service Agency

Friends of the Anacortes Community Forest Lands

> Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Nature Conservancy Salmon Fisheries Enhancement Group Salmon Recovery Funding Board San Juan Preservation Trust Skagit Conservation District

> Skagit County Farmland Legacy Program

Skagit River System Cooperative Skagit Watershed Council US Forest Service Seattle City Light Whatcom Land Trust



Sometimes visiting our protected properties requires rowing.



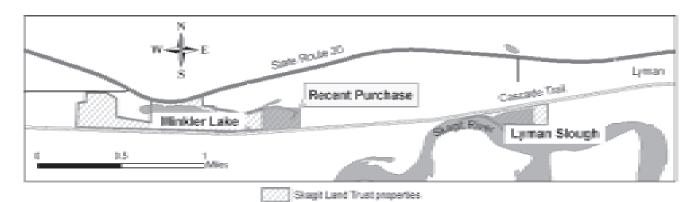
'Saving land for future generations'

# Land Acquisition in Partnership with Ducks Unlimited Protects More of Minkler Lake

This summer the Trust purchased another 21 acres on the eastern end of Minkler Lake adding to the existing 107-acre Minkler Lake Conservation Area. The acquisition was made possible through a partnership with Ducks Unlimited (DU). The Trust and DU have entered into an agreement to provide grant funds to the Trust from the North American Wetland Conservation Act to acquire and protect important wetland habitat in Skagit County. The Trust will be working with DU in the next year to identify additional wetlands for Trust purchase.



The new purchase includes high quality waterfowl habitat and creates a total of more than 125 acres of contiguous protected habitat on Minkler Lake



# In Memory of Robert V. Brown, Founder of Benson-Hegg Opportunity Fund

One of Skagit's great conservationists, Robert V "Bob" Brown died August 26<sup>th</sup> in Palo Alto California. He was 79 years old.

Fifty years ago Bob met his life partner and wife, Pat Hegg, at Stanford. Pat grew up outside of Sedro-Woolley, near Skiyou Island. Both sides of Pat's family, the Bensons and the Heggs, are pioneering Skagit families. Although Bob and Pat resided in California, they never forgot the Skagit.

In the past ten years Bob and Pat's belief in the importance of preserving land while it is still available, led them to start and fund the Benson-Hegg Opportunity Fund. This fund allows Skagit Land Trust the financial ability to take advantage of protection opportunities expediently. The Browns also funded the executive director's position for 2.5 years, allowing the Trust to accelerate its land protection pace.

John Milnor, Skagit Land Trust president, says "We simply would not be where we are today without Bob and Pat's help and generosity. Significant stretches of the Middle Skagit River and other landscapes have been permanently preserved with their help."

Bob's tireless belief in conservation affected both the Pacific Northwest and California. His memory will live on here in the waters, forest and wildlife habitat he was so much a part of preserving for the future. Bob is survived by his wife, Pat Hegg Brown and his children and grandchildren.

The Benson-Hegg Opportunity Fund is a capital fund dedicated to the purchase of land or options. Community members may donate to the fund at any time.



# SKAGIT LAND TRUST WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER, Rusty Kuntze

Skagit Land Trust is extremely pleased to welcome Rusty Kuntze to our board of directors.

Rusty was born in Germany and grew up in the New York City area. After college at Columbia University and law school at Franklin Pierce Law Center in New Hampshire he served as a VISTA volunteer attorney in Alaska. In 1980 Rusty moved to Skagit County and began working for a consortium of Puget Sound tribal courts. Since 1987 Rusty has worked exclusively for the Swinomish Tribe, most recently as chief judge of their Tribal Court System. He has taught at Skagit Valley College and was a founding member and first Director of Common Ground - Skagit County's

Conflict Resolution Center. His previous board experience includes serving as: Chairperson of the Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation; President of the Skagit Audubon Society; and tribal representative on the Northwest Intertribal Court System. Rusty retired from his work for the Tribe in 2004 and continues to live in Bay View with his wife, Libby Mills. When not birding, biking, hiking or kayaking here in the Northwest, Libby and Rusty enjoy exploring and experiencing the natural wonders and cultures of Mexico, and Central and South America.

Rusty and Libby have been long time supporters of Skagit Land Trust. Rusty says, "I take great pride in being asked to join the other dedicated board members and exceptionally qualified staff of the Trust in furthering its mission – the protection of this amazing place we all call home, for us and future generations."

# Give a gift this holiday where proceeds help protect <u>more land</u>:

## **<u>Gift Memberships or Contributions</u>**

Honor someone special. Your gift makes a lasting tribute through land conservation.

### Poster

"Our Valley" A brilliantly colored aerial view of Skagit Valley created for the Trust by renowned photographer Lee Mann.

## Note Cards

Beautiful watercolors of Skagit County landscapes and wildlife. Art by Thais Armstrong.

## Baseball Caps

Show your support with an artistically designed Skagit Land Trust hat. Available in several attractive colors.



Thank You - Jim Bishop || and Jeanne Glick for serving on the Skagit Land Trust Board of Directors.

# **Call for Board Member Nominees**

Each fall we ask our members to help us widen our search for potential board members who will shepherd the Trust for the next three years. Skagit Land Trust's board of directors provides leadership for the Trust, assuring that programs and procedures are conducive to carrying out the Trust's mission. The board meets monthly. Board members typically also serve on at least one committee.

Although each board member is unique, our future openings indicate a need for people with any of the following skills and abilities: excellent business and financial management experience, public relations and marketing skills, proven leadership ability and/or experience in non-profit leadership. Board members who are wellconnected in the community (Skagit County) or the region (Seattle) or who may help us reach out to less represented sectors of our community are also being sought. As we enter a time when our organization goes into the next decade and beyond, we are especially interested in finding candidates with leadership skills who will guide our successful conservation organization into the future.

If you know of someone who cares about conserving the natural legacy of Skagit County and who might add valuable skills and perspective to Trust's board, please contact Glenn Bordner, nominating chair, at trustmv@fidalgo.net.



# Monthly Giving -Help Preserve Our Beautiful County All Year Long

A consistent, convenient and hasslefree way to support Skagit Land Trust's protection 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 eliminating reminder letters, and provides Skagit Land Trust with a reliable stream of resources so that we can better plan our protection work.

As one donor said, "I decided to have \$15 charged monthly to my credit card to help save Skagit County's wildlife habitat and beautiful lands. That amount is affordable for me and it feels good to know that, each month, I am doing my small part to help preserve important natural lands for future generations and for wildlife."

It's easy to sign up for the program. Most of our members prefer to have a set amount charged to their credit card monthly, although we also have the capacity to accept electronic fund transfers (EFT) from your bank or regular monthly checks. Call us at 360-428-7878 or on your next membership renewal letter, check the box that says you'd like to pledge monthly or quarterly giving.

# Thank you to the on-going Trust Builders and Partners in Conservation

# <u>Trust Builders</u>

**Major Donors (\$5000 and up)** Robert Brown & Patricia Hegg Brown

**Steward (\$2500 - \$4999)** Anonymous

Conservator (\$1000-\$2499)

Anonymous Harold & Shirley Christenson Ann & Bob Dursch Lin Folsom Jay Ham & Jan Hersey Linda & John Hunt Beau MacGregor Marlene & Jim Moore Mark A Nysether H. Donald Parry & Vicki Soderberg Keith & Jan Wiggers Rich & Beth Williamson Ben Winkes & Sloane Polillo Andrea Xaver

#### **Benefactor (\$500 - \$999)**

Joanne Abelson & Chris Goelz Lloyd & Wendy Brown Jane Clapp Elsa Gruber & Charles Pruett Jerald & Sheila Haegele Gene Kahn Rae Kozloff Rusty Kuntze & Libby Mills Janice Martin & Doug Robinson Sue & George Mehler Gene & Ginny Murphy MaryKay Pasnick Erynn E.M. Stephan Richard & Sharon Stewart Ken & Anne Winkes Stan Zyskowski

# Corporate Members

Business Benefactor (\$500 - \$999) Lee Mann Photography Sea-Land Development Corp. Shell Oil Products US Skagit State Bank Timmers Appraisal Services

#### **Business Patron (\$250 - \$499)**

First American Title Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje MacGregor Publishing Co. Miller Consulting Scott's Bookstore, Inc. Shorebird Properties

#### **<u>Granting Organizations</u>** and Foundations

The Burning Foundation The Dudley Foundation Horizons Foundation Jewish Communal Fund The Linnemann Family Foundation Salmon Recovery Funding Board Clarence Steward Endowment Fund of the Skagit Community Foundation Temcov Foundation

### Stewardship Fund

City of Anacortes Brenda Cunningham & Tim Manns Ralph & Ruth Heft Gene Kahn James C. Squires Jr.

Thank you to all new and renewing members. Membership gifts will be listed in the Winter and Summer Newsletter and our Annual Report.

# Mission Statement

Skagit Land Trust protects wildlife habitat, wetlands, agriculture and forest lands, scenic open space and shorelines throughout the mainland and islands of Skagit County for the benefit of our community and as a legacy for future generations.



325 Pine Street, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273 www.skagitlandtrust.org Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Mount Vernon, WA Permit No. 195

# Saving Land for Tomorrow

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# December 3rd Heronry Tour and Tree Planting

Join us for a one hour tour of this renowned heronry at March's Point. Stay afterwards and help us plant trees to hold heron nests in the future.Tour starts at 10 am. Call Brenda for details, 360-428-7878.

## December 8th Skagit Land Trust Open House

Come celebrate another year of land conservation successes. December 8, 4-7 pm at Skagit Land Trust office, 325 Pine Street, downtown Mount Vernon. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Watch for more details.

