CELEBRATING THE people BEHIND THE land

2010 ANNUAL REPORT
PRESIDENT’S LETTER

As we prepare Cascade Land Conservancy’s Annual Report each year, a perplexing challenge always looms. How do we report on the past year when our mission, our work and our success are measured in a time scale that ranges from decades to perpetuity? I resolve this challenge in my own mind by looking at our recent accomplishments and the big job ahead through the lens of the enduring values behind our work: A deep understanding of our communities and citizens across the region, longevity and persistence of effort and fairness.

A thorough understanding of our communities is at the foundation of each project reported between the covers of this report and is critical to our work in the years to come. The character, dreams and ambitions of our communities shape our understanding of which landscapes need to be conserved and how to make our region livable. The Cascade and Olympic Agendas are a summation or mirror of these aspirations for our region and we succeed because our work is fundamentally a continuation of this jointly held vision.

This deep identity of Cascade Land Conservancy with each of the communities we serve is a necessary beginning, but it is only a beginning. Turning this unity of vision into reality requires organizational longevity and indefatigable persistence to see a project through. Several accomplishments we report for 2010 have taken more than a decade to achieve, most notably the Maury Island project. We have an ingrained axiom at Cascade Land Conservancy: Every project that is truly transformational seems to expire several times over before it is successful. We simply do not give up until we find a way to succeed.

Another core value behind our work to implement The Cascade and Olympic Agendas is a firm and clear sense of regional fairness. With this spirit of equity, we strive for all to get a fair shake with rural businesses and citizens working together. At its root, our work is game changing because it recognizes if one falls we all fall. The whole is very much greater than the sum of the parts.

While this report is about just one year of our work, it illustrates projects that are both examples and the result of the enduring values fundamental to The Cascade and Olympic Agendas. These same values of connection with our communities, persistence and longevity and fairness across our region will guide our work in the decades to come.

Gene Duvernoy, President
Cascade Land Conservancy fills a unique and important niche as the largest conservation and community building organization dedicated solely to this region. As a national leader, CLC is shaping a future that will flourish environmentally and economically. We partner with thousands of leaders and residents across the region to create healthy, livable and prosperous communities. For over 20 years, CLC has led efforts to conserve more than 172,000 acres of forests, farms, shorelines, parks and natural areas and restore critical landscapes.

We are advancing an innovative new approach to conservation that encourages collaboration across all sectors and balances environmental, social and economic needs. The Cascade and Olympic Agendas are our roadmaps for the future.
THE CASCADE AGENDA

The Cascade Agenda is a 100 year vision and immediate action plan for the lands and communities of our region. It is based on the input of thousands of residents across our region and offers pragmatic solutions to the challenges and opportunities created by our tremendous population growth. The Cascade Agenda’s collective vision is grounded in the belief that a broad coalition can achieve fundamental change. The Cascade Agenda brings together business, civic and government leaders to conserve 1.3 million acres and create vibrant and livable communities.

Since the Cascade Agenda was launched in 2005, the broad coalition has conserved 188,000 acres.

THE OLYMPIC AGENDA

The Olympic Agenda is an emerging collaboration with the residents of the Olympic Peninsula to shape a future of great communities and healthy landscapes. CLC is working with residents, organizations and businesses of the Peninsula to ensure that our working lands and rural economy continue to thrive, our communities grow in a sustainable fashion and quality of life is maintained over the next 100 years. Drawing on the experience of creating The Cascade Agenda, CLC will identify and help implement strategies that will provide a non-regulatory guide for conservation and community growth.
During the past 21 years, CLC has conserved over 172,000 acres, from small community parks to working lands spanning tens of thousands of acres. Once our precious lands are conserved, they need continual monitoring, restoration and stewardship. We are responsible for caring for over 12,000 acres across the region. In 2010, we had many great successes that demonstrate our ability to convene disparate stakeholders, leverage diverse funding sources and find solutions that benefit not only our natural environment but our communities and economy as well. None of this work would be possible without the support and partnership of volunteers, landowners, government agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations.

**CONSERVATION**

**MAURY ISLAND**

For over a decade, the future of the Maury Island gravel mine remained in limbo. After years of negotiations and continual dead ends, CLC, the State of Washington, King County and the environmental community successfully conserved 235 acres protecting a critical ecosystem for wildlife and people alike. Along with King County’s 320-acre Maury Island Marine Park just north of the property, the two sites will represent the largest public holding of protected marine shoreline in all of Puget Sound.

**COPALIS RIVER GHOST FOREST**

In partnership with Washington State Parks, CLC conserved 122 acres of marsh, riparian habitat and forest along the lower Copalis River in Grays Harbor County. This unique landscape is the result of a massive tsunami and earthquake that struck the area in 1700 and has become subject to a considerable amount of scientific research. Some of the tree snags in the marsh are 700 to 800 years old.

**DEVIL’S HEAD**

In July of 2010, CLC, Pierce County and a coalition of conservation partners protected 94 acres at the tip of the Key Peninsula, including one mile of shoreline. The land thrives from a diverse environment of forested and aquatic habitats, and will become a county park for all residents to enjoy and experience the outdoors. It will also become an important link in both the planned Head-to-Toe Trail stretching 20 miles along the Key Peninsula and the Cascadia Marine Trail, a water route used by kayakers, day sailors and other boaters from the Canadian border to Olympia.

**1-90 WILDLIFE CORRIDOR ADDITIONS**

CLC conserved an additional 262 acres of forest and riparian lands along the 1-90 corridor as part of the Department of Transportation Wildlife Bridges project. The conservation of these lands adds to 1000 acres previously conserved in this area, providing critical habitat and connectivity for wildlife migration. The results of this project will benefit Northern Spotted Owls, Marbled Murrelets, Canada Lynx, Grizzly Bears and Gray Wolves.

**HOQUIAM RIVER SURGE PLAIN**

CLC and Rayonier Forest Resources conserved a 186-acre tract on the east fork of the Hoquiam River. This acquisition is part of a partnership between a half dozen organizations, government agencies and elected officials that has resulted in the conservation of more than 1,124 acres of forested wetlands and several miles of riverfront of the Hoquiam River Surge Plain flowing into Grays Harbor Estuary.

**NORTH FORK OF STILLLAGUAMISH RIVER**

The Stillaguamish Tribe and CLC conserved 233 acres of riverfront, forests and wetlands along the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River. This stretch of the river contains important spawning habitat for Chinook salmon in the Stillaguamish River Basin. The Stillaguamish Tribe will conduct in-stream restoration to enhance this critical habitat and continue to steward these lands in perpetuity.
RESTORATION

QUEETS RIVER KNOTWEED REMOVAL
In 2007, CLC conserved this 45-acre estuary at the mouth of the Queets River on the Pacific Coast of Jefferson County. The Queets River is one of the few rivers in the U.S. which is undammed and undiked from its headwaters to its mouth. For three years, CLC has been tackling 6 acres of invasive knotweed, reducing it to 1.5 acres in 2010, and replanting 2 acres on the riverbank to prevent erosion. The property is used by migratory birds, elk and deer and streamside restoration will improve water quality and habitat.

CEDAR RIVER RESTORATION
CLC has an ongoing partnership with Seattle Public Utilities, King County, Friends of the Cedar River Watershed and the larger watershed community to restore riparian ecosystems on the lower Cedar River on both public and private property. The Cedar River Watershed contains a majority of the best remaining aquatic habitat in the Lake Washington ecosystem, but is heavily impacted by habitat degradation. In 2010, CLC and our partners treated four river miles and approximately 40 acres of invasive knotweed, installed native plants demonstrating best practices, formed 15 partnerships with private landowners and hosted 16 volunteer events with over 600 volunteers.

In addition to this work, CLC also partners with Seattle Public Utilities in reforestation efforts on a majority of the remaining watershed. This work is critical to the health of the region. The efforts are within the City of Seattle’s Cedar River Municipal Watershed, which provides drinking water to 1.45 million people in Seattle and surrounding areas, linking the work of environmental restoration to public health. In 2010, with the help of thousands of volunteers, we planted thousands of trees and shrubs continuing the improvement of this important watershed.

The people behind the land.
Conserving land is only the first step. Our protected lands need continual monitoring, restoration and stewardship. CLC mobilizes tens of thousands of volunteers every year to restore and steward the lands we have worked so hard to protect. From our dedicated Land Stewards to elementary school students, the community that makes up the volunteer force at CLC is invaluable.

In 2010, with the help of many volunteers, we accomplished several major and transformational projects. At the Maxine G. Morse Nature Conservancy property in Pierce County, 2 new miles of trails were cleared, creating more opportunities for environmental education. Native species were planted along the shores of the Clover Creek Preserve to improve water quality and wildlife habitat. Volunteers removed knotweed on the Union River Preserve on Hood Canal and continued to control invasive species. Land Stewards around the region continued to monitor and restore CLC-managed lands. Their commitment to long-term stewardship also included organizing volunteer restoration events, documenting threats and acting as ambassadors to neighboring communities.

Volunteers are the backbone of Cascade Land Conservancy’s efforts to care for the mountains, forests and streams that we conserve throughout the Pacific Northwest. The collective strength of our volunteers combined with CLC’s knowledge and approach provides us the ability to do the work we do.
CLC recognizes that by creating great communities where people choose to live, we can protect rural working and natural lands from sprawling development. We work with leaders and residents to make our cities and towns great places to live, work and raise our families. Leading a network of cities and counties to advance strategies for managing growth, we are cultivating economic development and fostering a sustainable future. We also empower and mobilize tens of thousands of residents to make lasting change in their communities, from advancing public policy to volunteering in local parks.

GREEN CITY PARTNERSHIPS

CLC’s Green City Partnership Program develops public-private partnerships with municipalities to build community-based stewardship programs for forested parklands, natural areas, and community open spaces. The programs galvanize residents, strengthen our communities and improve our quality of life by connecting people to nature and their neighbors.

Green Kent finalized its 20-year plan for the program with the City Council.

Green Kirkland engaged more than 2,000 volunteers planting more than 3,000 native plants.

Green Redmond enrolled over 40 new acres in restoration with nearly 3,000 volunteer hours.

Green Seattle held nearly 1,000 volunteer events and planted over 40,000 trees and shrubs.

Green Tacoma hosted its 3rd annual Green Tacoma Day with over 450 volunteers at 16 sites across the city.

GREEN CITIES RESEARCH ALLIANCE

CLC is participating in a collaborative research effort with the US Forest Service, the University of Washington, the City of Seattle, King County, EarthCorps and other environmental groups to understand volunteer experiences, measure urban forest structure and increase public awareness of the benefits of urban forest restoration. The results of this research will help communities make decisions about land use as well as understand the benefits and costs of urban green spaces.

PEARL JAM PARTNERSHIP

CLC partnered with Pearl Jam to mitigate the band’s carbon emissions from their 2009 world tour. Together we are restoring 33 acres of forests in Kent, Kirkland, Redmond and Seattle through our Green City Partnerships.
COMMUNITY STEWARDS

CLC’s Community Stewards program is training citizen leaders to mobilize, educate and train other community volunteers to become powerful voices for creating communities that better serve our families. CLC is providing the education and tools residents need to become more involved in the civic processes that decide our region’s future. We currently have Community Stewards programs in six cities.

Edmonds Stewards continued to actively support a Complete Streets policy, encouraging their city to create roads that are better designed and safer for drivers, transit users, pedestrians and bicyclists.

Issaquah Stewards have been organizing and advocating for smart growth, conservation, bike/pedestrian infrastructure and affordable housing in the Central Issaquah 30-year Plan.

Kirkland Stewards have been actively advocating for the proposed South Kirkland Park & Ride Transit Oriented Development.

Shoreline Stewards have been engaging the citizens in a conversation about a Complete Streets policy.

Tacoma Stewards organized a Community Summit that led to the creation of four new community gardens.

Tukwila Stewards partnered with refugees from Burma, Bhutan and Somalia, teachers and students from Foster High School and the St. Thomas Food Bank to create a community garden.

CASCADE AGENDA CITIES

CLC works closely with our Cascade Agenda member cities to ensure that these cities are vibrant and healthy. In addition to quarterly member city meetings, the City Leaders Group, which includes Mayors, City Managers, Administrators and Planning Directors, meets regularly to collaborate about implementing The Cascade Agenda at the local level. CLC will continue to use these venues to advance our four priority areas: neighborhood centers, innovative housing, streets for people and natural spaces.

• The Cascade Agenda Cities program grew to 18 cities, representing almost 1.4 million Puget Sound area residents and focused efforts on advancing policies and plans that are derived from The Cascade Agenda.

• CLC’s Cascade Agenda Cities Program convened a group of City Leaders, consisting of City Managers/Administrators and Planning Directors from around the region to understand the tools and financing options that were needed to create great communities. This group was invaluable in shaping legislation that will ultimately conserve working farms and forests while providing cities the infrastructure funding needed to improve sidewalks, streetscapes, provide open space and create thriving neighborhoods.

• A unique consortium led by Puget Sound Regional Council was awarded a $5 million Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This funding will enable the region to plan for equitable transit communities along existing and planned high capacity transit corridors. CLC will have an active role in implementation, focusing on engaging diverse communities in station areas and reaching out to local elected officials and communities to build support for policies that support the plan.
Looking Forward

In 2010, Cascade Land Conservancy and our many partners conserved some of our region’s most precious landscapes and improved communities for millions of residents. Our successes give us much to celebrate but there is still a great deal more to do. Our shared challenges of a growing population and the risk of jeopardizing our quality of life are still imminent. We must continue to work together to find solutions that will truly serve future generations.

In the coming years, CLC will continue to advance The Cascade and Olympic Agendas through partnerships that use innovative approaches to conservation and community building. Together we will bring these long-term visions and realistic solutions to the forefront of our region’s future. The opportunities on the horizon are promising and will require persistence and tenacity to see them through. CLC will forge ahead with these ongoing projects while seeking new ventures along the way.

Creating great communities is an essential piece in shaping a future worthy of our children and grandchildren. CLC will continue to improve our communities by engaging residents in several ways. Our Green City Partnerships Program will empower citizens to restore the green spaces that provide natural havens close to urban homes. We will continue mobilizing residents to create change in their neighborhoods, whether it be shaping policies that impact how their city or town manages a growing population, or creating community gardens in underserved communities. We will continue to engage city leaders from across the region in advancing a regional approach to growth that cultivates economic development and fosters a sustainable future.

Conserving our region’s most precious landscapes is critical to maintaining our quality of life. CLC will advance conservation projects that exemplify the beauty and breadth of our region. Our work on the Yakima River Canyon Scenic Byway Initiative will restore Washington State’s first scenic byway, making 22 miles of highway a destination for residents and tourists to enjoy one of the most breath-taking routes in the state. We will continue to work with our region’s farmers and foresters to protect our quintessential resource lands that provide us all clean air and water, rural jobs, locally grown food and unparalleled places to recreate and enjoy nature. We will be relentless in pursuing cutting-edge conservation strategies, including the Landscape Conservation and Local Infrastructure Program that will link the future of our communities with the conservation of our rural landscapes.

The gains that CLC has seen over the last year, as well as the aspirations of our future projects speak to the bold vision we have for our region. Each partnership we engage in moves us closer to becoming a region that is responsive to our shared challenges and opportunities. The future of our resource lands, cities and wild places rests in the decisions we make today.
From the lush rainforests on the Olympic Peninsula to the green urban spaces in Central Puget Sound to the rolling sage hills east of the mountains, our natural beauty surrounds and defines our way of life. These breathtaking landscapes are intrinsically linked by the people that choose to call this region home and make the Northwest one of the best places to live. Our values and dedication to our lands and communities embodies the spirit of our region and are evident in our actions to create a better future for our families. CLC’s work embraces these communities and the link we all share between our vibrant cities and beautiful rural land. We all have a role to play in forming a future worthy of our children and grandchildren. Please join us by learning more, volunteering and becoming a CLC member. The power to shape the future comes from you.
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CHAIR’S LETTER

The successes of 2010 are a culmination of Cascade Land Conservancy’s extraordinary work in areas that go well beyond “conservation.” A long-term vision, broad perspective and a relentless focus on execution drive us toward a region that we can truly say is the best place to live, work and play. Partnership and collaboration, ingenious and creative solutions, and economically based market strategies, are just some of the key elements that make our work successful.

Maury Island and Devil’s Head, two significant projects for the health of Puget Sound, were true collaborations between many partners across the spectrum; private businesses, non-profit organizations and community advocates. Our restoration on land ranging from estuaries on the coast to urban forests continues to demonstrate that expert knowledge and persistence are required to restore some of our most precious ecosystems. Our city programs consider not just the needs of today’s residents but also complete solutions for tomorrow’s communities. As an organization that reaches across the entire region, Cascade Land Conservancy has found unique ways to engage these individual communities that make this area so vibrant. By building a regional perspective one community at a time with a long term view of the future and sheer tenacity we have made 2010 a success and believe this unique model will continue to bear fruit well into the future.

Peter Orser, Board Chair
In May of 2010, the Cascade Agenda Campaign successfully reached its $20 million goal in support of the Cascade Agenda. We would like to thank the following donors for their generous contributions to the Campaign.

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**Bridging Communities in South Seattle**

A profile of Andrea Ostrovsky and Mary Dejong, Forest Stewards at Cheasty Greenspace

With a “passion for the need for safe forested parks in our urban neighborhoods within which ALL could safely enjoy and recreate” Andrea Ostrovsky and Mary Dejong set to work on reclaiming and restoring the Cheasty Greenspace. Before 2008, the park’s trees were being smothered by English Ivy, its open spaces were being filled in by dumping, and its dark trails regularly hosted an assortment of illicit activities. Today, the park feels safer as sunlight streams through the trees (now ivy free) to welcome visitors who come to enjoy the Greenspace’s natural beauty. This change is the result of the hard work of Cheasty’s neighbors, including Andrea and Mary, the restoration efforts of devoted leaders and hundreds of volunteers from across the city.

Aside from the ongoing restoration happening at Cheasty, Mary and Andrea have a greater vision for their work. They see the Greenspace as a potential link between Beacon Hill’s Lockmire neighborhood and Columbia City. “How amazing would it be to walk in the woods en route to the Columbia City Light Rail Station en route to work downtown?” asks Mary. The value of adding natural area to the morning commute is very clear. The two also see Cheasty as a venue for the diverse and traditionally underserved Rainier Valley community to get outside and enjoy experiences in an urban wilderness.

With assistance from the Green Seattle Partnership, Seattle Parks staff and two rounds of Department of Neighborhood grants and support, the group is ready to implement a new trail plan that will give neighbors safe access to and through the park.

**2010 donors**

17
Youth Take the Lead

Volunteer Spotlight on Alvin Loong and Laura Svancarek

Act locally. That catchphrase is manifested completely in the volunteer work that Alvin Loong and Laura Svancarek do on behalf of their local urban green space, Hartman Park, in Redmond. These two high-schoolers volunteer with the Green Redmond Partnership as Forest Stewards for Hartman Park, and are responsible for coordinating and leading work parties there to get other volunteers involved. They also work with CLC and Redmond City staff to help come up with work plans for restoration in the forested greenbelt in the park. The youngest Forest Stewards in the program, yet highly involved, Alvin and Laura got their start in conservation work with their school’s Environmental Club for the exuberance that Alvin and Laura display and the great work they’ve made a change on my outlook of life—I don’t do it for any credit or out of boredom whatsoever. I do it only because as one person, I really can make a difference,” says Alvin. Their enthusiasm is hard to resist, and comes across to easily other volunteers they work with. “It’s a great feeling to see what a huge difference an event can make on an area,” added Laura. CLC is thankful for the exuberance that Alvin and Laura display and the great work they’ve done to keep Redmond’s urban forest healthy. Their passion for taking care of their local park makes it easy to think regionally about conservation.
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<tr>
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<th>31 Dec 2010</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>$11,392,075</td>
<td>$11,237,336</td>
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<td><strong>Conserved Land &amp; Easements</strong></td>
<td>24,109,896</td>
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<td><strong>Other Assets</strong></td>
<td>405,646</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>35,907,617</td>
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<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>745,235</td>
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<td><strong>Long Term Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>2,205,224</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>966,859</td>
<td>2,852,138</td>
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<td><strong>Unrestricted Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>26,958,162</td>
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<td><strong>Board Designated Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,935,599</td>
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<td><strong>Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>34,940,758</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>$35,907,617</td>
<td>$33,215,010</td>
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### OUR FUNDING
- Philanthropic Revenue: 34%
- Government Grants & Contracts: 45%
- Other Project Revenue: 7%
- Sale of Land: 11%
- Other (investments, in-kind, misc.): 3%

### OUR SPENDING
- Acquisition of Land & Easements: 39%
- Conservation/Stewardship/Education: 32%
- Policy: 11%
- Management: 10%
- Fundraising: 6%
- Outreach & Marketing: 2%
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<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trees</td>
<td>4147 gallons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>3 million BTUs</td>
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<td>Solid waste</td>
<td>252 pounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenhouse gases</td>
<td>861 pounds</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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