



*The power of together*

# Palouse Land Trust

2023 Newsletter



## The power of together

We can learn a lot about the importance of collaboration by observing animals in their natural habitats. Productivity, orderliness, movement, and most of all industry lie at the heart of a beehive. Much like a hive, all life exists together in a symphony of rhythm and movement.



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Within these pages, you will be inspired by the collective hum of the community-based land conservation movement happening all across the Palouse. Like fuzzy little pollinators with their charismatic movements, there are so many people who are doing the change-making work that needs to be done to protect the beauty of the world around us.

People like Pam and Brian Robertson, who ventured into a “senior project” that forever transformed a dry, lifeless field into a thriving wetland meadow surrounded by healthy, intact forest. People like Keith and Rhonda Olson who tirelessly sought after a legacy option for their family land that forgoes the easy way out of carving it into small plots of land for houses, and instead choosing to create an incredible wildlife preserve for the benefit of community and the natural world.

Other vibrations from busy bees in our hive include people like Libby Walker, who for the past nine years has served on the land trust board, embodying the work that needs to be done to make the hive flourish and now is thinking creatively about the sweet nectar that sustains us. People like Trish Hartzell who, like bees, teach us in really practical ways that we can fluidly share resources across the hive, like successfully bridging private land with public access.

Together in conservation, so much possible. You are part of the hive and sweet nectar that sustains long-lasting partnerships with so many worker bees who steward private lands. When you envision your own daily routines, I challenge you to see yourself as a member of the collective land conservation hive. Perhaps you may find it difficult to relate your own daily activities to the rhythms of the natural world, but I assure you that you are not only part of the natural life rhythm all around us, but you are also part of the movement that shapes the future of biodiversity and open space protection.

With gratitude,

Lovina Englund  
Executive Director

One of the most inspiring and encouraging aspects of land conservation is seeing it through the lens of the next generation of natural resource leaders. It is an honor and a privilege to work collaboratively to embody the Land Grant University ethic of WSU and UI, and to be connected with passionate young people just beginning their conservation careers. But don't just take our word for it.

**Alex Michael,  
Washington State University**

I first discovered Palouse Land Trust through Idler's Rest Nature Preserve. During my time as a WSU student, I would often venture out to hike there when I needed to recharge and connect with nature. I reached out about interviewing someone from PLT, and eventually it turned into more.

From the moment I first stepped foot on the Olson Family's land, I knew it was a special place. I was there to help record a video about landowner Keith Olson's conservation efforts. Palouse Land Trust worked with the Olsons this year to permanently protect their land for future generations.

Standing near the creek, Keith told us stories about the land's rich history. It's been a part of his family for

generations ever since his grandfather homesteaded the land in 1900.

I was so inspired by his commitment to conservation and was excited to share the Olson story with others. I hope the video spreads the word about the fantastic work the Land Trust does and helps inspire others to get involved.

It was so fulfilling to work on a project for an organization that's doing such important work to protect the land that I love. I just secured a job with Washington Filmworks, a nonprofit that advocates for the Washington film industry.



Alex, getting a closeup at the Olson property.

**Kelsey Vershum,  
University of Idaho**

I am so grateful I have had the opportunity to work for Palouse Land Trust as the Stewardship Assistant Intern for the past three summers. I was hired in partnership with the Conservation Without Borders endowment within the College of Natural Resources. This past May, I graduated with my degree in Natural Resource Conservation with an emphasis in Conservation Science and an Academic Certificate in Geographic Information Systems. Go Vandals!

Working at Palouse Land Trust led me to some amazing experiences. Visiting some of the most beautiful protected lands in Idaho and meeting the people that care for it are some of the best parts of this job!

Kelsey on a 2023 conservation easement monitoring visit.

My work here helped me fall more in love with the land around me and appreciate our work so much more. Being part of the next generation of conservationists and land stewards is an essential role, and learning from the landowners and my coworkers at Palouse Land Trust has helped prepare me well for the future.

As someone who has grown up in Idaho my whole life, I have been able to witness the development that has occurred around North Idaho. With that knowledge, it makes me realize just how important land trusts are. The love that people have for the land around us is inspiring and makes it even better to have been part of this organization.

I am excited to share that I just took new job in Dillon, MT as the "High Divide Headwaters Land Protection Specialist" for the Intermountain West Joint Adventure, a collaboration between TNC, NRCS, USFWS and the Wildlife Management Institute.





## Welcome to Penstemon Path



Next time you visit Idler’s Rest Nature Preserve, look about 10 feet to the left of the restroom facility—you’ve found the trailhead entrance to Penstemon Path!

The trail is an approximately 2-mile “teardrop” loop trail, featuring intermediate grades and turns for hiking and mountain biking, and some of the best views available on the entire Moscow Mountain trail corridor. Penstemon Path begins in the parking lot at Idler’s Rest, meanders up through open meadowland, and finally winds through the forestlands on Moscow Mountain.

### A forever trail, for everyone

As landowners, we each have the right to prohibit or grant access to our land. Many conservation landowners in the land trust family elect to allow access for educational or research purposes, while many prefer to limit access, both of which are perfect and appropriate. But every so often, a landowner comes along with the express desire to share the land, and open access to anyone and everyone. One such landowner is Trish Hartzell.

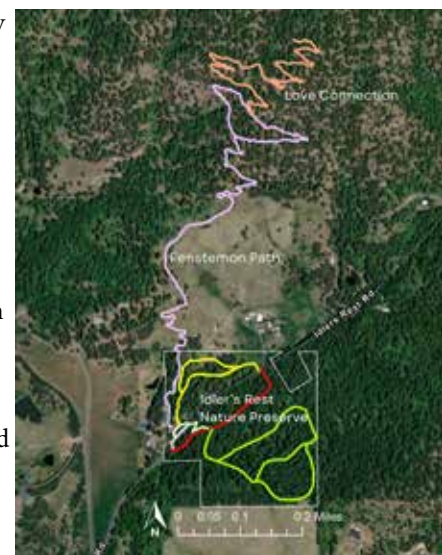
“The moment I saw this property, I knew I wanted to protect it and share it with everyone,” shares Trish.

Leveraging generous funding from the Thomas O. Brown Foundation, the outdoor community stepped up to make the trail a reality in 2022. Members and leadership of MAMBA (Moscow Area Mountain Biking Association), Palouse Road Runners joined other outdoor enthusiasts and rallied together for the Moscow Mountain Forever Initiative to raise an additional \$20,000 in matching funds to construct and steward the trail in perpetuity. **Thank you for making it possible!**

Trish’s trail and easement have now increased recreational opportunities around Idler’s Rest and Moscow Mountain exponentially. The first and second stage of the trail are now complete, with Love Connection officially linking the Idler’s Rest trail system to the bottom of Jack’s Route and the rest of the MAMBA trail corridor atop Moscow Mountain. While nearly all of Moscow Mountain’s current trails are on private land, this will be the first that’s legally protected for the use by the public, forever.

**Above:** Trish and Lovina officially cut the ribbon to open the new trail in June of this year, flanked by MAMBA President, Sandra Townsend, on left and Palouse Road Runners President, Bert Baumgaertner, on the right (Photo by Nick Sanyal).

**Opposite page:** Love Connection is complete, thanks to the super-trails-power of Mike Barker, Mark Deming, and Brant Miller. Map available on our website and the TrailForks app.



## Creating a recreation treasure

Since early June 2022, over 600 hours of volunteer effort have been given to construct the new trail. Community members, project partners MAMBA and Palouse Road Runners, local businesses (thank you METER Group and Knit!), and students from UI and WSU have wielded rogue hoes, shovels, and pickaxes to build Penstemon Path.

With technical support from the dedicated team at MAMBA, the trail has been designed and built with sustainability as a top priority for both hikers and bikers.

“Moscow Mountain trails have brought a lot of joy to our lives, so it feels good to give something back,” shares Mark Deming, trail-building-extraordinaire and PLT Board member.



“Building trail is hard, dirty work, but also incredibly satisfying. We like to joke that it’s basically just cheap therapy. At the end of the day, your muscles ache, but you can look back and see the results of your efforts.”

Mark, along with Business Advisory Council Member Michael Barker of Glade Optics, and UI Professor Brant Miller took on the yeomen’s task of completing the more technical aspects of the teardrop and Love Connection trails this summer and fall. “Knowing that our community will enjoy Penstemon Path for many years to come is the ultimate reward.”

## The future of forever

For Trish, “building this trail across my property brings me joy in so many ways. I’ve met neighbors I didn’t even know were right around the hill and so many interesting new people. They come here to see wildlife and just be in nature and find peace – all the things I love, too. I love that we are creating magical places, together.”

Sandra Townsend, President of MAMBA, couldn’t agree more. “We’re grateful to have trail access for a wide spectrum of trail users at another trailhead. Idler’s Rest helps disperse use and ease carrying capacity on the trails—ideally meaning less wear and tear on trails in the system as a whole. This is a great trail to start or end a day mountain biking on Moscow Mountain, and will quickly become a fan favorite of local hikers who want a view of the

Palouse without the three- to five-mile hike in to get it.

“More importantly, we’re grateful for a supportive community that came together to ensure future access, build a trail, and make sure that the trail is used in a thoughtful and respectful manner. We’re so lucky to have the community support we have to make trails like these a reality. It’s not true everywhere, and MAMBA is grateful that it is here to manage and steward the trail with the Palouse Road Runners and PLT!”

# Supporting steelhead in Little Bear Creek Canyon

**In 2016, you helped Jim and Zoe Cooley permanently protect 99-acres of lush forest and wildlife habitat, and nearly a mile of the West Fork of Little Bear Creek between Troy and Kendrick. The Cooley Easement stretch of Little Bear Creek is home to some of the best steelhead spawning beds (redds) in the upper Potlatch watershed, and has been selected by Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG) as the site of a major restoration project.**

This summer, operators had the opportunity to play Mother Nature on an expedited timescale. Conifer trees were harvested onsite, selecting those that were stressed and unhealthy. The trees were placed in the streambed to increase shade and reduce water temperature. Cold water species such as steelhead need temperatures between 40- and 55-degrees Fahrenheit. The logs also contribute to better shelter for smolts (baby steelhead). IDFG replicated beaver dam structures, which will aid in raising the overall water level of the stream.

Bank destabilization and the invasion of reed canary grass and tansy are also playing havoc with the health of the stream. The historic railbed has greatly destabilized the bank, leading to big changes in stream flow and route. Logs and boulders have been strategically placed for stabilization, in addition to a major restoration planting of cottonwoods and other native plants, shrubs, and grasses.

If you've visited the Latah Trail into the canyon recently, you've no doubt noticed this massive undertaking at the end of the trail. And we know – it's not exactly pretty right now. The major tree-falling and earth work took place in early August, and the site will appear disturbed and a little battered

through this fall and winter.

With habitat improvement projects, it is important to change our lens and keep long-term outcomes in mind. Imagine, if you will, a thriving stream with deeper cooler pools, less erosion, and a more diverse riparian flora that is flourishing and being able to witness the majesty that is anadromous trout. Won't it be exciting to think back to these early days of chaos and how it was all worth it?

The Cooley Family, IDFG, and the Land Trust are seriously invested in enhancing steelhead populations in the Potlatch River Basin, an area once rich with native fishes. The marine nutrients brought by these ocean-going fish is a massive nutrition dump for the ecosystem and its species.

Fortunately, the Cooley's had a long-term vision of conservation along Little Bear Creek. More work along this special stream is planned, meaning even greater benefits for native species in the years to come. Your continuing support of the lands and waters that are the lifeblood of our region makes projects like this possible. Thank you for championing private land conservation that benefits us all!



# The newly christened McCloskey Green Space

A little over eight years ago, Elinor McCloskey created a very special part of Pullman's Sunnyside Park. Working with Palouse Land Trust, Elinor permanently protected about 2.5 acres of undeveloped, grassy pastureland, which she then donated to the City of Pullman for inclusion in the park with one condition: keep it as natural and free as it has been for the past seven decades.

Elinor recalls fondly all the children over the years who have grown up in that field and used it as a way to get back and forth to the park. She wanted



to make sure that the field would always be protected as open space, habitat for small mammals and birds, and a place for children to romp around in the tall grass.

In red, the McCloskey Green Space next to Sunnyside Park.



Elinor visiting the newly christened McCloskey Green Space, fall 2023.

“Without Elinor’s vision, and her partnership with the Land Trust and the City, this land would have long since been converted to housing,” reflects Executive Director, Lovina Englund. “It’s really a testament to working cooperatively to make great things happen for generations to come.”

## News from the Neuman Conservation Forest

For Judy LaLonde, a public trail and dedicated space for learning along Big Meadow Creek was a long held dream. With your support and that of many dedicated partners, Judy’s Trail (in Troy) is utilized regularly and the Neuman Environmental Learning Pavilion is hosting classes – and the best is yet to come!



Rockstar volunteer, (above, working hard, as usual) Dave Ostrom, has built and installed a beautiful new bench along the trail, with plans for at least one to two more in the spring. In fact, Dave has a laundry list of plans to make the space even better.

“I’d like to make it more inviting to visitors so that they feel certain that they are welcome and stop to visit. I am planning to add a low log fence to better define the parking area, and add at least one more bench near the creek so that visitors can rest and enjoy the serenity of its sounds.”

Thanks to a special partnership with Matt Bruns’ science class at Troy High School (pictured above), students have been busy restoring native plants near the Environmental Learning Pavilion.

This year, 50 flowers, grasses, and shrubs were planted, with native plantings planned for the spring of 2024. Students are also working on plans for a forest nursery on the site to cultivate native trees for research and future planting.

Thank you for supporting community conservation!



## An oasis for wildlife, protected forever

### THE OLSON FAMILY CONSERVATION PRESERVE

The Olson family has a deep reverence for their 530-acre property, located just outside of Deary, ID, that has been cared for by the family for three generations, dating back 125 years. In recent decades, Keith and Rhonda Olson and their extended family have returned to the family land each year on Memorial Day.

The annual gathering has provided a time for the family to celebrate and reflect on the hands of past family members who have worked the land and contemplate its future. It was at one of these family gatherings that they came to terms with the way the landscape around them was changing.

With memories of a childhood where nary a home site could be seen from any direction, a realization crept in that development pressure was taking hold on this land. One of the largest remaining tracts of privately held land in the Big Bear Creek watershed, the family's care and stewardship over generations has created a refuge for wildlife from black bear and elk, to spawning anadromous steelhead. A mosaic of wetlands, meadows, and forest, their property is a corridor between the forested mountains above and the rugged river canyons below.

#### STANDING FOR WILDLIFE

Like many families across the Palouse, the Olson Family is determined to protect the waterways, grasslands, and forests that comprise their family land for the countless creatures that depend on this landscape for survival. On a landscape scale, this special property is situated in the middle of a critical wildlife climate corridor – a place where animals, birds, pollinators, and insects can move and adapt more easily in the face of a changing climate.

“We’ve thought a lot about who will speak for the creatures with no voice,” adds Keith. Large predators like bear and cougar; iconic species like elk, moose, and deer; and an astonishing diversity of birds and insects. The waters that flow cool and clear through the property support native fish, aquatic critters of all shapes and sizes, and provide a healthy, functioning wetland ecosystem. “We have confidence that Palouse Land Trust will give voice to the deer, elk, beavers, birds and bears after we’re gone.”

Where many other landowners are seeking financial benefit from land sales or conversion to alternate uses, Keith and Rhonda are committed to standing not only

**Top:** Mist rising from Big Bear Creek, which runs through the property (Photo courtesy of BJ Swanson).

**Opposite Page, left to right:** The ideal wetland restoration project, waiting patiently in the fall sunshine; Camas blooms prolifically along an unnamed creek; Water lilies and cattails thrive in one of the property's two ponds.



for wildlife, but the rich biota of our region. They are bravely foregoing the path of least resistance—one that could provide personal profit from subdivision and sale of this land. Instead, they sought out trusted partners they could turn to serve as long-term stewards and conservation champions of their beloved land—an organization and community of support to speak for the natural life within and perpetuate their family’s conservation legacy.

## **PARTNERING FOR PERPETUITY**

**S**aving or losing the family land has become the defining moment of Keith and Rhonda’s retirement years as they reach a golden age where the legacy of their elders rests heavily on their shoulders. Thanks to your continued support, the Olsons are realizing their dream for the land, the animals, and the community right now. In an extraordinary partnership between the Family, Palouse Land Trust, and Inland Northwest Land Conservancy (INLC) in Spokane, the Olson Family Conservation Preserve has become reality.

With the guiding values and wishes of the Olson Family, INLC worked throughout the summer to create the conservation easement, which guarantees permanent protection of the amazing attributes of the property into perpetuity. With protections in place, the Olsons generously donated the property to the loving and caring hands of PLT. We will work with INLC (just like any of our very own conservation landowners) to ensure that the conservation values and goals of the property are fulfilled forever.

Management will be guided by the terms of the conservation easement, and we’re hard at work on a long-term management plan that will honor the wishes of the Olson Family to protect the rich wildlife

habitat, clean waters, open space, and working forest aspects of the property, while also creating opportunities to share the space with community as a whole.

## **A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD**

**W**hile we celebrate the finalization of legal documents and the creation of the Olson Family Conservation Preserve, it is only the beginning. With your continuing support, an active weed management program will be developed alongside restoration and habitat improvement projects further enrich the preserve’s value to wildlife and community. The Family’s rich conservation legacy and land management practices will be continued through sustainable forest management, participation in the USDA Conservation Reserve Program on a portion of the property, and use of the site as a learning laboratory for ecosystem health.

Looking further down the road, we are thrilled to eventually fulfill the Olson’s vision of sharing the space in a “light on the land” manner. “We hope this Preserve can be a ‘speak softly, tread lightly’ place that can allow people to be inspired by a non-intrusive trail walk as they enjoy the experience of open space and nature,” share Keith and Rhonda.

Interpretive signage, activities and educational tours for local schools and organizations will connect hundreds of people in the immediate Deary area – and our entire region – to this incredible space.

Thank you for joining with the Olsons to celebrate the power of land, the power of conservation, and the power of community to protect the special places that define us on the Palouse and north central Idaho.



# Honoring Marjory Stage

Marjory Stage's roots in Idler's Rest Nature Preserve ran deeper than the Preserve's tallest Ponderosa Pine. From the day in the mid-1960's when she met the Berrigans, who owned a large cabin in the cool shade of the cedar grove, to the day of her last breath in July 2022, Marjory was passionately committed to the wildlife, the land, and the plants and trees of this magical space.

The Berrigans offered her the opportunity to lead a special day camp for girls, Camp Kenjockety. With other nature-loving camp teachers, she introduced the campers to the joys, wonder, and necessary skills of a life lived in nature. For three years, she served as camp director, devising treasure hunts, orienteering routes, animal track identification sessions, and woodland hikes as camp activities. In addition, she led hands-on experiences introducing the girls to basic camp cooking and other practical outdoor skills. An important goal was to develop her campers' love of the forest and all the critters that inhabit it.

In following decades, Marjory and her husband Albert, a well-known forestry researcher, connected with the Idaho Native Plant Society. They experienced new revelations learning the value of native plants, working to restore native ecosystems, and eradicating noxious and invasive weeds.

The Stages were active in the White Pine Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society for most of their retirement years. Al served as Chapter President for multiple terms. The Stage family hosted a number of field trips for members on their 80-acre property on Moscow Mountain, protected in partnership with PLT. They joyfully joined chapter field trips to the other beautiful spots in northern Idaho to identify and appreciate the native flora.

The White Pine Chapter is grateful to honor Marjory's legacy with two special memorial plantings along the meadow at Idler's Rest. Funds for the plants and needed supplies were generously donated by members of the Chapter and have been planted this fall.

Your help is needed now to commission and install a special memorial bench in honor of Marjory, where visitors can sit a spell to enjoy the native plants Marjory so dearly loved. Head to [palouselandtrust.org/marjory-stage-memorial-bench](https://palouselandtrust.org/marjory-stage-memorial-bench) to make your gift safely and securely online, or add "Stage Memorial" on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for celebrating her memory and ensuring her conservation legacy will live on for today, tomorrow, and forever.

**Photos, Top:** Marjory teaching her own family archery skills at the beautiful Stage property above Idler's Rest. **Center:** INPS White Pine Chapter members planting the new memorial garden at Idler's Rest. **Bottom:** Marjory, with her trusty weed bucket in hand, on her prairie restoration planting.



**“When people think of estate planning, the first thing that comes to mind is usually their family. But it is also very appropriate and important to think about organizations that have received our financial support over the years. Why wouldn’t I continue supporting those great causes and organizations when planning my estate?”**



Libby Walker joined the Palouse Land Trust Board of Directors almost a decade ago. She loved the Palouse and knew her talents and passion for fundraising as Dean of the WSU Honors College could help accelerate and catalyze local land conservation. Libby

served passionately on the Board until June 2023, but her commitment to the lands and waters she loves so dearly didn’t end there.

Libby has been a strong proponent of planning for the conservation future she wishes to see by joining the Palouse Land Trust Permanence Circle, a special group of supporters who have included the Land Trust in their will or estate plans.

“For me, the Palouse Land Trust is definitely at the top of my list. Land conservation is vital for us, for our communities, and for future generations. My daughters were blessed with ample room to roam and to go fishing, camping, and backpacking. My wish is that public and private lands will be preserved for all future generations.

“We have the ability to make this happen by

remembering the Palouse Land Trust in our estate planning – and it’s easy! Meeting with your financial advisor is the first step.”

Libby, and many other longtime land conservation advocates like her, have generously and thoughtfully created their conservation legacy by including the land trust in their estate plans. We hope you will too.

Including Palouse Land Trust in your will is one of the easiest gifts you can make, and one that will share your passion for the landscape for generations to come. It’s an investment in the vision we share for our community and the lands we love. And it’s an incredibly powerful gift that not only honors your connection to the land, but is customizable to your needs and desires, and helps reduce the burden of federal and estate taxes.

Your estate advisor can include simple language in your will that leaves a lasting gift to PLT. Your bequest could be a gift of specific assets, a dollar amount, or a percentage of your estate. You can also name the Land Trust as a beneficiary of your retirement or life insurance policies, which does not require you to change or otherwise update your will or trust.

Start the conversation with your trusted financial advisor today, and head to [palouselandtrust.org/permanence-circle](https://palouselandtrust.org/permanence-circle) to learn more about how you can make an impact on the lands you love for generations to come.

# Business Advisory Council

What does it mean for a business to say they're "invested in the community?" Is it as simple as living, working, playing, and buying locally? To the Business Advisory Council of Palouse Land Trust, it is indeed much more.

Advisory Council Members are exceptional small business owners and individuals who are committed to protecting and championing our high quality of life, abundant natural resources, and shared heritage and culture of the Palouse and north central Idaho. Members do this through direct financial support of the lands and waters we all cherish, and also through board service, volunteer hours, in-kind donations of goods and services, and sharing the value of land conservation to their employees, patrons, and friends.

These businesses truly embody community spirit, and give generously of their time, treasure, and talent to advance conservation of the lands we love: working farms and forests, treasured outdoor recreation spaces, rare and endangered ecosystems like the native Palouse Prairie, healthy fish and wildlife habitat, and the iconic open spaces that define our region.

## Thank you to our generous 2023 Council Members



If you are a small business owner ready to make an investment in the lands you love, call, email or visit [palouselandtrust.org/business](http://palouselandtrust.org/business) to learn how.

# Comm-YOU-nity Conservation

By Ava Cocking, Community Lands Steward



When someone says community conservation, what do you think of? Perhaps it is simply conserving your community, or a place in general. Maybe you think of community conservation projects led by community leaders or influencers, a top down approach. While all of these are indeed community conservation, it is not quite what we envision at Palouse Land Trust. We believe in a conservation identity of the community, by the community, and for the community. *And you all are our community.*

As the newest member of PLT, I am thrilled that a major part of my position is community conservation, a bottom-up approach to preserving and conserving not only open spaces that are important to you and your family, but also identifying community priorities, values, and needs. I see community conservation as a tool to unify people with a common purpose and identity to uphold and strengthen our shared conservation ethos. I am eager to facilitate these conversations about conservation.

My dream is to have a community conservation comprehensive plan that is drafted on behalf of Palouse citizens. This plan would outline a strategic path to move forward with open space initiatives, preserving special places, and increasing accessibility and connectivity across our region. I know these dreams may seem lofty at this point, but I see a path forward with collaboration and taking time to listen.

**Right:** Community Lands Steward, Ava Cocking, and little sprout, Evelyn.  
**Above, left to right:** UI Design-Build students constructing the Neuman Environmental Learning Pavilion at Judy's Trail; Touring the Skinner Preserve and identifying lands of highest conservation concern; METER volunteers building Penstemon Path.

Organizing these initiatives cannot happen in a vacuum, we need everyone at the table and all voices to be represented. We need YOU.

Fortunately at PLT, we have so many dedicated friends, neighbors, and volunteers. In addition to my dreams around community conservation, I see a new and refreshed volunteer program. Not unlike community conservation, I see our volunteer program as a community driven entity, led by the Land Trust. I would like to structure something that is sustainable and appeals to a wide range of talents that members of our community have.

Being new, I have a lot of dreams and thankfully, the upcoming winter season is a perfect time to start outlining these robust community programs with the help of my incredibly knowledgeable team. I'd love to hear your ideas, too. I invite you to call, email, or better yet, stop by the office to share your vision.

Email to: [Ava@palouselandtrust.org](mailto:Ava@palouselandtrust.org).



Like bees in a hive, each of us plays a critical role in caring for one another and the place we call home. Thank you for coming together as a community to champion conservation of the lands, waters, and way of life that defines us.

Together, you're ensuring that we all enjoy healthy forests and farms, clean waterways, open spaces, rare ecosystems, treasured outdoor sites, and our rural heritage, not just for today, but for generations to come.

### **PERMANENCE CIRCLE**

Julie Gerrard (2019)  
Jo Washburne (2020)  
Charles "Chuck" Broscius  
(2022)  
Pete & Rebecca Bloom  
Jim & Cindy Fisher  
Trish Hartzell  
Judy LaLonde  
Libby Walker  
Gerry Wright

### **CONSERVATION CATALYSTS**

Roger & Alane Blanchard  
John Bolles & Mary McGregor \*  
Scott & Diane Cornelius  
Susan Daniels & Paul Spencer  
Gail DeSantis  
Jim & Cindy Fisher  
Ron & Jo Ellen Force  
Archie & Mary George  
David Hall  
Mary Jo & Joel Hamilton  
Jim Heidelberger  
Gary & Bev Hyde  
Nancy & Dick Mack  
Dale & Kari Miller  
John & Ann Norton \*  
Barbara & Charles Robbins  
Stephanie & Nate Schiele \*  
Sharon & Mike Scott  
Janice Smith-Hill & Jack Hill  
Ian von Lindern & Margrit von  
Braun  
Bill Voxman & Joanne Reece\*  
Libby Walker  
Gerry Wright

### **CHAMPIONS - \$1,000+**

Richard Anderson  
Anonymous  
Jocelyn Aycrigg & Bill Seybold  
Charlotte Aycrigg  
Rodland & Celene Bell  
Cadeau Foundation  
Cross Charitable Foundation

Clarice Coyne & Chris Oakley \*  
Jill & Ray Dacey  
Sue Durrant  
Lovina & Karl Englund \*  
Susan Spalinger & Jon Firehammer  
Hoey & Ronnie Graham  
Terry Gray  
Trish Hartzell \*  
Andrew & Alyssa Hoehn \*  
Mark Hume & Mary Dupree  
Judy LaLonde \*  
Land Trust Alliance  
Latah County Community  
Foundation  
Angela Lehman  
Dan & Joyce Leonard  
MAMBA  
**Moscow Chamber of Commerce**  
Rodney & Heidi Mead  
**Northwest River Supplies**  
Keith & Rhonda Olson  
Linda Rogers \*  
**Rusty Schatz, DA Davidson & Co.**  
Kath Strickler \*  
Julie Thomas Duncombe  
Thomas O. Brown Foundation  
John & Cherish Visger  
Walmart, Pullman  
Marilyn Wanner & Peter Van Eck  
Kathy Warren \*  
Barbara Wells \*

### **BENEFACTORS - \$500-\$999**

Nancy Bell  
Don & Lisa Bender  
Mary Collins & Michael Jepson  
Don & Melinda Crawford \*  
**Crites Seeds**  
Mark & Sarah Deming  
Ruth Green  
Hunga Dunga Brewing  
Michael & Karen Jennings  
Karl & Karen Launchbaugh  
Elinor Michel & Walter Hesford  
**Moscow Realty**  
David & Nancy Nelson  
Dave Ostrom \*  
Kathleen Potter & Tom Besser  
Becky Priebe  
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## A restoration dream turned reality

Brian and Pam Robertson knew that something about their stream wasn't right. When streams in forested headwaters go from functioning as sprawling wetland sponges holding water and then releasing it slowly during the peak of summer heat, to functioning as ditches where water moves quickly downstream during peak runoff, the entire watershed downstream suffers.

Over the last five years, they've undertaken a large-scale stream restoration project on their property bringing the stream system back to its natural state, known as the Stage 0 condition. This project is the first of its kind in Idaho, and this caliber of restoration being undertaken by private landowners is virtually unheard of.

Knowing they want to save what remains of the lands and natural world we depend on, the Robertsons worked with Palouse Land Trust to ensure that their property will be protected forever.

"We love this place," says Pam, "the creek and

trees are very special. We knew caring for it and bringing it back to life was the right thing to do." Brian adds, "and now we are so pleased it will always be here. Working with all the agencies that helped make this possible was a real pleasure and we thank them all for their help and all they have taught us."

This June, the Robertsons signed the closing documents to permanently protect not only the 12-acres of restored wetland, but 150-acres of habitat. The final papers are signed and recorded, putting 150-acres of valley, creek, forest and upland watershed under permanent protection.

"The legacy of this project and process to this point could not have been possible without the collaboration of many dedicated people and agencies. Working with them and their positive outlook made this happen," adds Brian. "To quote our good friend, advisor and NRCS Conservation Planner of the Year, Pamela Pavek, "TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More!"

Visit Brian and Pam's project website to learn more about this amazing property:

