

CHELAN~DOUGLAS



LAND TRUST

Our Land, Our Water, Our Future

# Chelan-Douglas Land Trust

*30 years of protecting our land, our water, our future*



By GREGG HERRINGTON

**“We have not inherited this earth from our parents to do with it what we will. We have borrowed it from our children and we must be careful to use it in their interests as well as our own.”**

— Various attributed to “Ancient Indian Proverb” and to Moses Henry Cass, Australian Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, in 1974.

After the Native American tribes, the first conservation-minded non-governmental organizations in this country go back more than 120 years. Among them: Sierra Club, 1892; National Audubon Society, 1905; The Wilderness Society, 1935; The Nature Conservancy, 1951; Washington Environmental Council, 1967; The Trust for Public Land, 1972; Yakima Greenway Task Force, 1979. The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) became a legal entity in 1985. This timeline was created to acknowledge its 30th anniversary.

However, it is impossible to identify a moment and place in time that the notion of something like a land trust first crossed the mind of some outdoors-loving Wenatchee Valley resident. No doubt there were many with a dream of preserving open spaces, forests, foothills, wildlife habitat and riverfronts while encouraging the public to experience the outdoors in this magnificent part of Washington State.

Two of those people were Tina and Eliot Scull, who moved to Wenatchee in 1974 and came to realize the Columbia River was virtually inaccessible to pedestrians. The shoreline was home to factories, orchards, a garbage dump, even a shack town. The railroad tracks also blocked access. . . . Among others openly troubled by lack of access to the Columbia River were attorney Bob Parlette, PUD Commissioner Kirby Billingsley and Joan VanDivort of the Columbia River Environmental Study Team (CREST).

Groups of local conservation-minded outdoor enthusiasts included CREST, the Alpine Roamers Club (mountaineers and climbers), the Outdoors Club (hikers, canoers and skiers) whose members included Parlette, the Sculls, David and Kay Jaecks, Mark and Rosemary Shipman, Bill and Janice Asplund and Terry and Suzanne Sorom.

And there was the small but highly visible and feisty Save the Riverfront Committee, which was fighting for a park instead of a highway along the

Columbia in East Wenatchee. . . . Others who shared the conservation vision early on and who in 1985 would join Eliot Scull, Mark Shipman, Joan VanDivort and Kirby Billingsley on the first CDLT Board of Directors were Chuck Largent, Rick Linder, Jerry Keefer, Robert W. Johnson, Edgar Meyer, Gordon Congdon Sr., Gene Fairchild, Len Pugsley, Ronald Doane, and George Makela.

The people and organizations listed above as well as in the following timeline were not the only ones who inspired, worked for and contributed time, skills and money to the founding and growth of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust. Nor does this timeline include all of the CDLT's events, challenges, land acquisitions, conservation easements etc. in its first 30 years.

The timeline is vague where we were unable to pin down the dates of important events. However, the website version ([cdlandtrust.org](http://cdlandtrust.org)) will be updated as new information is received and verified. Any corrections or suggested additions, along with the source of the information, may be sent for consideration to [info@cdlandtrust.org](mailto:info@cdlandtrust.org). Please type “**Timeline Suggestion**” in the subject line.

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**1957** — Washington State Highways Department (now the Department of Transportation) purchases right of way for a **riverfront highway** along the Columbia in East Wenatchee and Douglas County.

**June, 1983** —Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) presents its plans for the highway at a public meeting at the Douglas County PUD auditorium attended by about 100 people. The plan has wide support throughout the Wenatchee Valley, including many business and political leaders.

**October, 1983** — Save the Riverfront Committee is formed by a few residents who prefer a park to a highway. They include Cliff and Mary Bates, Kirby Billingsley, Bill Millett, John Sauer, John Shull, Jack Feil and Dan Feil, They organize and hire Seattle environmental attorney Mickey Gendler.

**March 1984** — In the meantime, riverfront access is progressing on the west side. Under contract with Chelan County PUD, Cusick Construction begins park and trail construction on the Wenatchee riverfront.

**Late fall 1984 or early 1985** — Craig Lee of The Trust for Public Land in Seattle and several conservation activists from Wenatchee attend a meeting of the Save the Riverfront Committee at the East Wenatchee home of Cliff and Mary Bates. Lee describes what a land trust can do, what a conservation easement is, etc. . . . In a subsequent meeting, about a dozen Wenatchee-area residents meet at Mark and Rosemary Shipman's house and move ahead with plans to form the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust with Mark Shipman as the first president. In addition to the Shipmans, participants include Eliot and Tina Scull, Joan VanDivort, Don and Thea Fager, Chuck Largent, Larry Riegert, Edgar Meyer and Gene Fairchild.

Twenty-five years later, CDLT Executive Director Bob Bugert would write: "Through sheer tenacity, willingness to stand up against conventional wisdom and a fair amount of pluck, they pulled it off. . . They created an organization that focused on voluntary agreements to set aside properties to benefit both the public and the individual."

**May 1985** — Articles of Incorporation are filed with the Washington Secretary of State describing CDLT as "exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code." . . . That same month the CDLT Board decides it wants to help protect **Saddle Rock** in the Wenatchee Foothills and **Peshastin Pinnacles**, 14 miles west of Wenatchee on U.S. Highway 2.

**August 1985** — WDOT announces it will proceed with planning an **east side highway** along the river.

**April 1986** — Fundraising for **Peshastin Pinnacles** is underway, with Don Fager and Mark Shipman leading CDLT's effort to ensure preservation and permanent public access.

**1988** —Following weeks of public hearings, the state Shorelines Hearings Board rules a highway may not be built within 200 feet of the Columbia River. The WSDOT appeals and in August Chelan-Douglas County Superior Court Judge Charles Cone upholds the Hearings Board's ruling. WSDOT appeals to the state Court of Appeals in Spokane.

**November or December, 1989** — WSDOT reveals in a KPQ radio interview that it is dropping the appeal and will sell the land as surplus. Bob Parlette, who vividly recalls hearing that radio interview, attends a meeting of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust held to discuss the potential of preserving

the east side right of way from development. He and others suggest campaigning for a trail on the east side. Parlette and CDLT member Gordon Congdon Sr. are named co-chairs of what would be called the Complete the Loop Coalition. For political reasons, it is kept separate from the CDLT and the Save the Riverfront Committee.

**September 1990** — Thanks largely to the leadership and fundraising of Mark Shipman, Don Fager, Ed Meyer and Eliot Scull, the **Peshastin Pinnacles** project is on track. . . . The CDLT Board begins discussion of protecting the **Saddle Rock** area of the Wenatchee Foothills.

**Fall 1990** — **Wenatchee Confluence Park** opens, marking the completion of the west side trail. . . . Some 200 bicycle riders participate in Complete the Loop bike ride to build public support for the east side project.

**June 1991** — **Peshastin Pinnacles** is dedicated as a state park with Wilfred Woods as emcee. Main speakers are Don Fager of the CDLT and Gov. Mike Lowry. This is CDLT's first high-profile project, which builds public awareness and support for the organization.

**Spring-Summer 1992** — CDLT shirts go on sale. Logo designed by Ruth Allan. Through the spring and summer CDLT leaders spread the word about the organization with booths at various festivals and celebrations.

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**1990s — Despite the Peshastin Pinnacles success and growing support for the Complete the Loop campaign, there are challenging times for the CDLT and the conservation movement in the Wenatchee Valley.**

— **Apathy and languishing Membership:** In the summer of 1993 CDLT President Joan VanDivort writes in newsletter, “In order for us to continue to participate in the sensible progress of our valley, we need your support both in membership dues and volunteer activities.” According to one account, “a group of strong women hold the organization together,” including VanDivort, Gloria Kupferman, Lynette McCoy, Theresa Druzak, Patty Whitemarsh, Pat Rasmussen and Kathy Lodato, along with Ed and Jean Meyer, and Larry Tobiska.” They write letters and make phone calls asking people to renew their memberships. Kathy Lodato, who was CDLT president in the late

'90s, recalls there were few active members. “We were just keeping it afloat — barely holding it together.”

— **Catron County Ordinance:** In November 1994, in an outgrowth of the “Sagebrush Rebellion” in several Western states, Chelan County Commissioners vote 2-1 to adopt the Catron County (N.M.) Ordinance. It calls for local governments to have co-equal authority to manage federal land. “The effect of the movement is to curtail government’s ability to protect the environment,” writes CDLT Board member Pat Rasmussen. Chelan County prosecutor Gary Riesen and Washington Attorney General Christine Gregoire say the ordinance is unenforceable under the Washington State Constitution. Eventually, it “just sort of died away,” says Eliot Scull.

— **Growth Management Act (GMA):** The acrimonious and divisive saga of whether Chelan County will adhere to Washington State’s new Growth Management Act colors politics and public discourse in Chelan County for much of the decade. Eliot Scull recalls, “The Chelan County Commission had become suspicious of land-use control. There was open hostility in the community to growth management. It was a very contentious, nasty time, with the conservation community supporting the Growth Management Act.”

*The Washington State **Growth Management Act** is a state law that requires state and local governments to manage Washington’s growth by identifying and protecting critical areas and natural resource lands, designating urban growth areas, preparing comprehensive plans and implementing them through capital investments and development regulations.*

*The GMA was adopted because the Washington State Legislature found that uncoordinated and unplanned growth posed a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development and the quality of life in Washington. Rather than centralize planning and decision-making at the state level, the GMA focuses on local control.*

Here are a few of the GMA-related events:

\* **In November 1993**, CDLT President Joan VanDivort writes that the Chelan County commissioners’ draft resolution under the state Growth Management Act “represents a serious reduction in the levels

of protection and conservation” proposed by three different citizen advisory committees.

\* The Seattle Times reports on a **September 1994** public hearing in Wenatchee at which “One woman compared environmentalists to Mafia enforcers. Another likened bureaucrats who enforce environmental restrictions to Nazis who rationalized they were just following orders.”

\* **In March 1995**, Nye County, Nevada, Commissioner Dick Carver comes to Wenatchee and publicly challenges Chelan County commissioners to join Nye County’s “war” against the federal government. Speaking at a rally sponsored by the Chelan County Citizens Coalition, Carver says Chelan County should go ahead and sell burned timber off federal lands whether the federal government approves or not.

\* **In July 1996**, two experts on Northwest militia tell a Wenatchee audience of 200 that the militia movement is threatening democracy and it's up to the community to come together to stop it.

\* **In September 1996** the Chelan County commissioners vote 2-1 to file a suit with the Washington State Supreme Court challenging the Growth Management Act. As with an earlier suit by the county, the court refuses to hear the case.

\* **In November 1996** voters elect moderates Esther Stefaniw and former Wenatchee Mayor Jim Lynch to the Chelan County Board of Commissioners. They reverse the county’s policy of noncompliance with the state Growth Management Act. In 2015, Bob Parlette recalls that period and says, “With Lynch and Stefaniw on the Board, the sun began to shine again in Chelan County.”

\* **In January 1997**, over protests from Commissioner Earl Marcellus, new Chelan County Commissioners Lynch and Stefaniw end the contract with the attorney who had been hired to challenge the state's Growth Management Act. The county had already spent more than \$125,000 on fees and budgeted another \$75,000 for 1997.



**October 1994** — The 10-mile **Apple Capital Recreation Loop Trail** is completed and touted as the longest urban loop trail in the state. It is an instant hit with walkers, joggers, bikers and skaters.

**Spring 1995** — It comes to public attention that logging and a housing development are being planned for about 330 acres of an old mining claim along the popular trail to the beautiful **Spider Meadow** at the head of the Chiwawa Valley near Lake Wenatchee. Working closely with The Trust for Public Land, Eliot Scull, Pat Rasmussen and Dick Rieman lead CDLT's fundraising campaign to purchase the land and ensure continued public access to the trail and the meadow.

**May 1995** — CDLT celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with potluck picnic at home of Joan VanDivort.

**April 1996** — First Washington State Apple Blossom Festival 10-Mile Run on the **Apple Capital Recreation Loop Trail**.

**March 1997** — Gordon Congdon Jr. and CDLT founding member Tina Scull are among the organizers of a public forum, Smart Growth-Planning for Healthy Communities. Participants examine the impact growth is having on Chelan and Douglas counties and options available to communities.

**August 1997** — Dedication ceremony marks transfer to the U.S. Forest Service of protected parcels in Phelps Creek Basin adjoining the trail to **Spider Meadow**. This permanently ensures public access. Years later, Eliot Scull describes the Spider Meadows project as “a watershed event” for the CDLT. “It put us on the state’s radar.”

**Autumn 1999** — Directors of the all-volunteer CDLT, which has 40 supporting members, decide to beef up the organization's effectiveness and profile by raising money to hire staff and open an office. Generous donations from Harriet Bullitt and her Leavenworth-based Icicle Fund are largely responsible for the hiring in October of Gordon Congdon Jr. as Executive Director. The first CDLT office opens at 15 S. Palouse Street, Wenatchee.

**Spring 2000** — Lake Wenatchee residents seek help from CDLT to protect **Nason Ridge** from a proposed harvest by Longview Fibre. CDLT helped mediate a compromise and Longview Fibre substantially modified their harvest to address the local concerns.

**December 2000** — Former Wenatchee physician John Jacobson and his wife Karen donate 35 acres to CDLT on the back side of **Saddle Rock**

along Skyline Drive, creating the **Jacobson Preserve**. CDLT Executive Director Gordon Congdon Jr. calls it “an important first step in our goal of protecting scenic views and public access in the foothills west of Wenatchee.”

**December 2001** — The CDLT spearheads “Save the Sage” fundraising effort to buy a 32-acre property in the **Sage Hills** area of the Wenatchee Foothills. . . . A conservation easement protecting 280 acres of **Warm Springs Canyon** (Nelson family) near Monitor is completed.

**2001-2002** — With two grants from the state Salmon Recovery Funding Board totaling \$1.6 million, CDLT purchases over 420 acres of prime fish and wildlife habitat along the **Stillwaters stretch of the Entiat River**.

**2002** — CDLT partners with the U.S. Forest Service to restore and enhance wetlands and riparian habitat on the **White River**, the major feeder of Lake Wenatchee. . . . CDLT helps organize an Agriculture and Environment Tour, bringing together over 45 individuals to focus on ways that the agricultural and environmental communities can work together. 50 volunteers build two miles of hiking and biking trails on the **Jacobson Preserve**, supported by a grant from the Community Foundation of North Central Washington . . . **Teanaway Ponderosa Preserve Easement** (Scott family) in Teanaway River Valley is completed, permanently protecting 40 acres of wooded hillside . . . 560-acres surrounding the headwaters of **McCartney Creek in Moses Coulee** are protected with the **Camel Spring** (Musland family) Conservation Easement . . . Foothills Advisory Committee is formed, later to be renamed the Wenatchee Valley Trails Coalition.

**2003** — The first **Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest** is in May, with The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust among its founders . . . A Wenatchee Foothills brochure is produced and interpretive signs are posted at the **Jacobson Preserve** as the first educational efforts about responsible use of the Foothills . . . The first Public Lands Dialogue is conducted. This is an effort among the major public landowners (U.S. Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Washington Department of Natural Resources) and other conservation groups to focus on conservation priorities while simultaneously addressing concerns of the Chelan County commissioners.

**May 2004** — Wenatchee Valley Trails Coalition begins work on a Trails Master Plan for the **Wenatchee Foothills**.

**October 2004** — CDLT, in partnership with NCW Association of Realtors, The Nature Conservancy, Institute for Rural Innovation and Stewardship, organized “Economy, Community, Environment: Building a Vision”, a two-day conference exploring our region’s quality of life. The conference packed the convention center for two days, and attendees explored how North Central Washington can continue to grow, while preserving natural, cultural and community resources.

**January 2005** — Thanks to the generosity of landowners Glenn and Ana Martin and a grant from the Icicle Fund, the CDLT acquires a 57-acre property along the **White River** to conserve wetland, riparian and floodplain habitat critical for sockeye and Chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout plus numerous species of migratory birds. Six months later, CDLT reports it has protected a total of 190 acres, including 2.5 miles of riverfront, in the White River flood plain.

**Spring 2005** — The 40-acre **Sam Hill Property**, a popular climbing destination in the Icicle Canyon, is permanently protected by CDLT, The Trust for Public Land, the Washington Climbers Coalition and the local climbing community led by CDLT members Mark Shipman and Freeman Keller.

**June 2005** — The CDLT, the City of Wenatchee, the National Park Service’s Rivers and Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Wenatchee Trails Coalition and local citizens conduct a three-day Design Charette at Wenatchee Valley College. Participants explore ideas for trailheads to connect **western foothills** to the city and increase public awareness of the Wenatchee Foothills trails and the foothills’ shrub steppe landscape.

**Fall 2005** — More than 100 people attend public meeting in Cashmere to discuss possibility of developing a “**Valley Trail**” from Leavenworth to Wenatchee. Chelan-Douglas Land Trust takes a leading role in advancing the proposal.

**Fall/Winter 2005-2006** — CDLT and Wenatchee Sportsmen’s Association announce that options have been acquired to purchase 813-acre **Burts Ranch** and 720-acre **Wallace Ranch** (originally Cherry Springs Ranch homesteaded by the Barnhill family) at the north end of the Wenatchee Foothills. CDLT purchases both properties with a loan from the Icicle Fund

and a grant from the U.S Fish & Wildlife Service. Together they make up most of what would become the **Horse Lake Reserve**.

**Summer/Fall 2006** — CDLT undertakes its largest fundraising effort to date with At the Crossroads– Building an Endowment to Conserve Our Natural Legacy campaign. \$1 million matching grant from Icycle Fund inspires generous supporters, resulting in \$2.67 million raised for a permanent endowment fund.

**September 2006**— Executive Director Gordon Congdon reports the CDLT has recently received grants totaling nearly \$2 million to acquire land or development rights to protect land along the **White River** and its floodplain. As a result, 411 acres with over three miles of riverfront are permanently conserved.

**Winter 2007** — Three-year grant allows CDLT to hire trails coordinator to explore possibility of a **Valley Trail** between Leavenworth and Wenatchee.

**May 2007** — Gordon Congdon resigns as Executive Director. He is replaced by **Bob Bugert**.

**Summer/Fall 2007** — Chelan-Douglas Land Trust steps up its efforts to establish the **Valley Trail**. It could eventually extend more than 20 miles along the valley floor, connecting communities and offering recreation, exercise, and a bicycle-commuting route. Chelan County adds the trail to its Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. The trail would later be added to Leavenworth and Cashmere parks and recreation plans and the Upper Valley Regional Trails Plan.

**August 2007** — Following a protracted legal battle to extend the eastside **Loop Trail** five miles north to Lincoln Rock State Park, The Wenatchee World editorializes, “We should have stopped talking a dozen years ago. The trail will be a supremely logical extension of one of the most successful and valued trail systems in the state, or for that matter, anywhere. It would be built for public use on public land, for the betterment of the entire community.” Eventually, the courts would clear the way for the extension, known as **Rocky Reach Trail**.

**October 2007** — Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) announces it intends to surplus 400 acres in Douglas County that includes the **Apple Capital Loop Trail** along the Columbia River.

**February 2008** — CDLT establishes a 30-person “Friends Of Our Community Trail” (FOOT) Committee to work on the **Valley Trail** project.

**April 2008** — CDLT receives bequest of **Leavenworth riverfront** property and home from former Leavenworth mayor Lorene Young.

**Fall 2008** — CDLT acquires 169.5 acres on **Mountain Home Ridge** above Leavenworth through a joint project with The Trust for Public Land and funded by The Icicle Fund.

**Spring 2009** — CDLT, TPL, Chelan County and the City of Wenatchee launch the Foothills Community Strategy. This 14-month community planning effort to guide conservation, recreation and development of the **Wenatchee Foothills** is a true community-wide process, involving some 1,600 people, including businesses and diverse organizations.

**Spring 2009** — Over 60 volunteers create the first 500 feet of the **Valley Trail** on an existing grade along the Wenatchee River on CDLT’s Lorene Young property. The new trail connects to Leavenworth’s Waterfront Park.

**Summer 2009** — The City of East Wenatchee and Douglas County hire Project Groundwork to conduct a community planning process to determine community priorities for the east side loop trail and adjoining lands. “More than a Trail” research reveals strong community support for maintaining the land in public ownership.

**April 2010** — Grand opening of viewpoint and trailhead at **Horse Lake Reserve**, with funding from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

**Summer 2010** — CDLT purchases an historic 1908 downtown building at 18 North Wenatchee Avenue with grant funding, and volunteers help remodel it for use as offices for CDLT and The Trust for Public Land.

**October 2010** — City of Wenatchee approves purchase from the CDLT of the 325-acre **Saddle Rock** property for a Natural Area Park. This fulfills a dream dating at least to 1909 when Mayor J. A. Gellatley proposed that Saddle Rock become a city park. The sale, with a conservation easement

held by the CDLT, is later approved by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. . . . CDLT moves into the new office.

**October 2010** — CDLT receives \$624,000 from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board to conserve an additional high priority habitat along the **Entiat and White rivers**. By the end of 2010 CDLT has permanently protected a total of 480 acres with over 5 miles of riverfront in the Entiat valley.

**January 2011**— With the land abutting the 50-foot-wide east side **Loop Trail** corridor to be declared surplus and sold by the WSDOT, the CDLT forms a committee to influence eventual use of the land. The committee, led by Eliot Scull and Mike Scott, represents agriculture, developers and the conservation community. It begins weekly meetings and adopts the motto, “Our Shoreline’s Future — an Opportunity to Do it Right.”

**June 2011** — Having reached consensus on a proposal for the land adjacent to the east side trail corridor, the “Our Shoreline’s Future” committee presents its “Vision Report” to Douglas County and East Wenatchee elected officials, local legislators and others.

**July 2011** — Thanks to huge support from the community, CDLT completes fundraising for acquisition and stewardship of **Saddle Rock**, and City of Wenatchee takes ownership of the property, accomplishing 100 year-old community goal of protecting the landmark in perpetuity. . . This is the start of the **Wenatchee Foothills Campaign**.

**January 2012** — Bart and Sheila Clennon sell to the CDLT 52 acres in **Broadview Canyon** in the north end of the Foothills where as many as 60 homes could have been built. The Clennons sell the property well below market value as a donation to CDLT.

**Mid-2012** — Eliot and Tina Scull donate \$1 million to the Wenatchee Foothills Campaign from the estate of Eliot’s mother, Patricia. Their gift repays the debt for the 1,700-acre **Horse Lake Reserve** and provides money for taking care of the property. . . . CDLT and The Trust for Public Land purchase Jack Corning’s **Broadview Heights** property that had been preliminarily rezoned for 80 residential lots. John and Mary Ann Corning and John’s Real Estate Corp. sell the property below market value as a donation to the campaign. . . . CDLT’s latest riparian acquisition is a 53-acre

property in **Entiat River's Stillwaters Reach**. Overall, the CDLT has protected 5.1 miles of riverfront and 536 acres of habitat in the Stillwaters Reach.

**February 2013** — The **Wenatchee Foothills Campaign** goes public with Todd Kiesz, Eliot Scull and Rufus Woods sharing chairmanship. The “quiet campaign” of major donors has produced \$6.38 million of the \$8.145 million goal. . . . CDLT announces that an agreement has been reached with Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) to put on hold construction of any hatchery facilities along the **White River**. This is the culmination of many public meetings and input from CDLT and community members.

CDLT Executive Director Bob Bugert says the **Wenatchee Foothills** “create a setting that attracts top talent to the area, and boosts tourism and recreation dollars from visitors who come for everything from mountain biking to nature photography. They make us a fitter community. They are home to shrub-steppe habitat, and are critical for wildlife and clean water. And they serve as an outdoor classroom for school children and adults.”

**April 2013** — The Hands Across the Foothills event draws about 1,000 participants. Steve Maher writes, “This event “clearly signaled the community was passionate about enhancing and preserving its open space.”

**June 25, 2013** — Signing ceremony marks the official transfer of ownership of the 50-foot-wide **east side Loop Trail** corridor from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to Douglas County and East Wenatchee.

But, the CDLT says, “Much work remains to be done to determine the fate of the land on both sides of this trail corridor— and the shoreline in particular” in keeping with the 2011 Vision Report. The Our Shoreline’s Future committee and the Land Trust continue efforts to work with the appropriate entities to implement the remaining recommendations.

**July 2013** — CDLT completes acquisition of 15 acres of spring Chinook spawning and rearing area along **Nason Creek**, combining three previously subdivided but undeveloped parcels, including 2,000 feet of stream bank.

**Summer 2013** — CDLT announces the permanent protection of the 36-acre **Lower Castle Rock** property. Bob Bugert writes, “This brings us one step closer to surrounding the city we love with natural beauty that everyone can access.” . . . CDLT reports it has been accredited by the Land

Trust Accreditation Commission. As of 2013, only 12 percent of the nation's 1,700 land trusts are accredited.

**December 2013 — Wenatchee Foothills Campaign** concludes with \$8.67 million raised from more than 600 donors — public and private institutions and foundations, businesses, government and private grants and individuals.

Sharon Lunz, the CDLT's Communications & Development director, says, "This is an amazing community. They looked at what they wanted and had a say in what happened. This community has a can-do attitude and a sense of optimism." . . . Rufus Woods writes in *The Wenatchee World*, "This achievement will one day be looked upon with the same reverence that people remember our predecessors who dared to create public utilities and take the risk of building dams on the Columbia River."

**February 2014** — CDLT announces it is partnering with The Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy and Chelan County to develop an Upper Wenatchee Community Lands Plan (UWCLP). It will guide future ownership and management of 38,000 acres in three different watersheds: **Peshastin/Blewett, Chumstick and Nason Creek**.

**March 2014** — Construction begins on final phase of five-mile **Rocky Reach Trail** from Lincoln Rock State Park to connection with the Apple Capital Recreation Loop Trail at the Odabashian Bridge. The land is owned by Washington State Department of Transportation and Chelan County.

**Spring 2014** — City of East Wenatchee purchases three parcels of the surplus land along the east side of the **Loop Trail**, thus preserving it from potential development. The CDLT continues its efforts regarding the remaining land alongside the trail corridor that is intended for surplus.

**July 2014** — CDLT announces the purchase of two significant properties along the **Entiat River**, 133 acres total. Each parcel is high-priority salmon habitat and each adjoins other properties that the CDLT owns. This is a big win for salmon, for the Entiat River and for the heritage of an old family homestead.

**December 2014** — The Nelson Family donates a conservation easement of 750 acres of wildlife habitat on the lower slopes of Burch Mountain to

CDLT (Eagle Rock Conservation Easement), connecting this land to the Swakane Wildlife Area.

**Spring 2015** — Public meetings are conducted at Dryden, Leavenworth and Lake Wenatchee to gather input for the Upper Wenatchee Community Lands Plan. Bob Bugert calls it “grass roots community planning at its finest. If we do this well, there will be great economic, environmental and recreational benefits to our community.”

**Summer 2015** —The five-mile **Rocky Reach Trail** opens on the east side of the Columbia, linking the Apple Capital Recreation Loop Trail at the Odabashian Bridge to Lincoln Rock State Park.

**October 30, 2015** — The 30th anniversary of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is celebrated at annual meeting and dinner at the Wenatchee Convention Center.



I am grateful to many people for their help in piecing together the fascinating history of the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust through good as well as difficult times. Among these helpers were Susan Ballinger whose earlier research offered an invaluable starting point for this project and Sharon Lunz, the CDLT Communications and Development Director, whose editing, fact-checking and enthusiasm were not only helpful and crucial, but graciously tendered; CDLT Executive Director Bob Bugert and Outreach Coordinator Kathy Peven for their encouragement and support throughout the project; volunteer CDLT historian Diane McKenzie; Greg Jones of the Chelan County PUD; David Erickson of the Wenatchee Parks and Recreation Department; Linda Barta of The Wenatchee World library; Wenatchee World stories and columns by Rufus Woods, Tracy Warner and various reporters; Craig Lee of the Whatcom Land Trust and these individuals whose personal recollections were enlightening and important: Tina and Eliot Scull, Mark Shipman, Bob Parlette, Cliff and Mary Bates, Andy Dappen, Don and Thea Fager, Gene Fairchild, Connie McCauley, Kathy Lodato, Pat Rasmussen; Jack Feil and David Millett.

— **Gregg Herrington, June 2015**

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