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InLandNEWS



Building on our past for a bright future.

Cover art by Vanessa Swenson

Letter from the Executive Director

By Dave Schaub, Executive Director

I wonder if some of you feel the way that I've been feeling lately. That the pace of life just keeps accelerating. Here we are, transitioning to fall, after the blink of a hot summer. My wife Heidi and I have just sent our firstborn across the country to start college. Dreams and visions of the future that have been eighteen years in the making are suddenly upon us. As I delight in the courageous young woman who is marching out into the world on her own, I can vividly conjure the feeling of sweeping her into my arms to celebrate her first wobbly bike ride without training wheels.

This blurred experience of the present and past reminds me that our futures are always years in the making. This is true in our personal lives as well as the lives of the organizations we create. As an organization that holds Perpetuity as a core value, it is especially true that our future is solidly grounded in our past, and that our present moments are composites of both.

You, our community of support, have helped our organization become one that is truly thriving in this moment. Thanks to a past built upon integrity and a future inspired by intentional impact, your Conservancy is completing more conservation work, deepening our presence throughout our service territory, building a team to deliver our mission impact, and engaging more and more of our community in a deep commitment to conserving the lands and waters we love.

I'm inspired by Meister Eckhart's description of the future as a manifestation of the Soul. Inland Northwest Land Conservancy's Soul is defined by our core values: Love of Nature, Perpetuity, Discernment, and Collaboration. Let us cast these values out in front of us so that we can walk together into a bright future of our collective making. ■

“When the Soul wants to experience something, she throws out an image in front of her and then steps into it.” -Meister Eckhart



PHOTO CREDIT: Nick James

Olson Family: Homestead to Conservation Preserve

By Heidi Lasher, Conservancy Volunteer

In October 2023, the Olson Family turned their 531-acre homestead into a conservation preserve and wildlife sanctuary. The Olson Family Conservation Preserve, as it will be known, will be owned and managed by the Palouse Land Trust, with Inland Northwest Land Conservancy acting as the land's guarantor and the guardian of the Olsons' wishes.

The property, a mix of knolls, streams, forests and recovering Palouse grasslands near Deary, Idaho has been a place to live, a source of income, and a sanctuary for the Olson family since 1900. When it came time to decide what to do with the land, three generations of Olsons gathered around the campfire on a special place on the land and asked what should become of their land. "We tried to think beyond our immediate situation," explained Keith Olson, Andrew Olson's grandson. "The concept of a conservation preserve was what we felt would be the best way to support my grandparents' legacy and be a benefit to other people."

Rhonda Olson, Keith's wife agreed. "It was easy to sit in that space with three generations and feel the support of extended family for this concept. That's what got us looking ahead. Keith's folks gave the land to their five

children. They really wanted to keep the land together. We feel like we're honoring their vision."

The Olsons reached out to the Palouse Land Trust to receive the generous gift of land, and the Palouse Land Trust reached out to your Conservancy to provide legally binding oversight through a conservation agreement. "We needed to work with like-minded entities in terms of conservation and perpetuity, with the ability and wherewithal to make it happen," said Keith. "These two entities made it a perfect fit."

The conservation preserve will be divided into two zones. The larger zone, comprising almost two-thirds of the land, will prioritize wildlife habitat including a half-mile section of Big Bear Creek, which provides spawning habitat for native steelhead. The smaller zone will support a network of walking trails for limited public access, including research and guided field trips.

"We have consciously set this up as Olson Family Conservation Preserve, Big Bear Creek rather than a park," explained Rhonda. "There's nothing wrong with parks, but our idea here is to focus on nature and all that nature can provide in terms of renewal

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"The concept of a conservation preserve was what we felt would be the best way to support my grandparents' legacy and be a benefit to other people." -Keith Olson

▼ Olson Family Conservation Preserve



PHOTO CREDIT: BJ Swanson

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and quiet. We have intentionally tried to create an environment where the animals can live naturally. We can't even imagine what things might be like 50 to 100 years from now," added Keith. "So, with the conservation easement, we've tried to provide guardrails that will keep this focus in mind and still allow flexibility to adapt to environmental changes that we can't imagine."

When asked what they'd like people to feel when they encounter the land, both Keith and Rhonda grew pensive. "It would be wonderful if children came and everyone had to leave their cell phones on the bus," imagined Keith. "They would not be allowed to say one word and be very quiet and let nature speak to them." ■



4,441.1

New acres protected through legal agreements and land purchase

Who is the Future of Conservation?

By Garrick Bateman, former Conservancy intern and current volunteer



Cameron Galbreath is young—entering his sophomore year of college—but he's already figured something out that most people spend their whole lives figuring out. When I spoke with him, Cameron was in a transition period. His three-month stint with the Washington Conservation Corps had ended and the slate of fall semester courses was just starting to occupy his mental real estate as September drew closer. When I asked him what he wanted to do once he graduates, he laughed affably. And I can practically see him shaking his head through the phone. No, that's not what Cameron's figured out. He's figured out something much more important—where he's called to be.

Cameron is studying biology, but his interests are not so easily defined by the parameters of his degree. From his

volunteer experience with the WCC and beyond, he's tapped into fieldwork ranging from building sustainable trails at Lake Chelan all the way to riparian restoration at your Conservancy's very own Waikiki Springs. Each of these experiences has been fulfilling in its own way, but there are so many paths his passion for conservation could take him, that it's difficult to choose one. What he does know is that his heart is calling him to protect the lands of Washington State, the place where he grew up. In high school, Waikiki Springs was Cameron's go-to park. In 2020, through a Washington State budget appropriation, Inland Northwest Land Conservancy purchased 95 acres to add to the existing Waikiki Springs Wildlife Area, managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

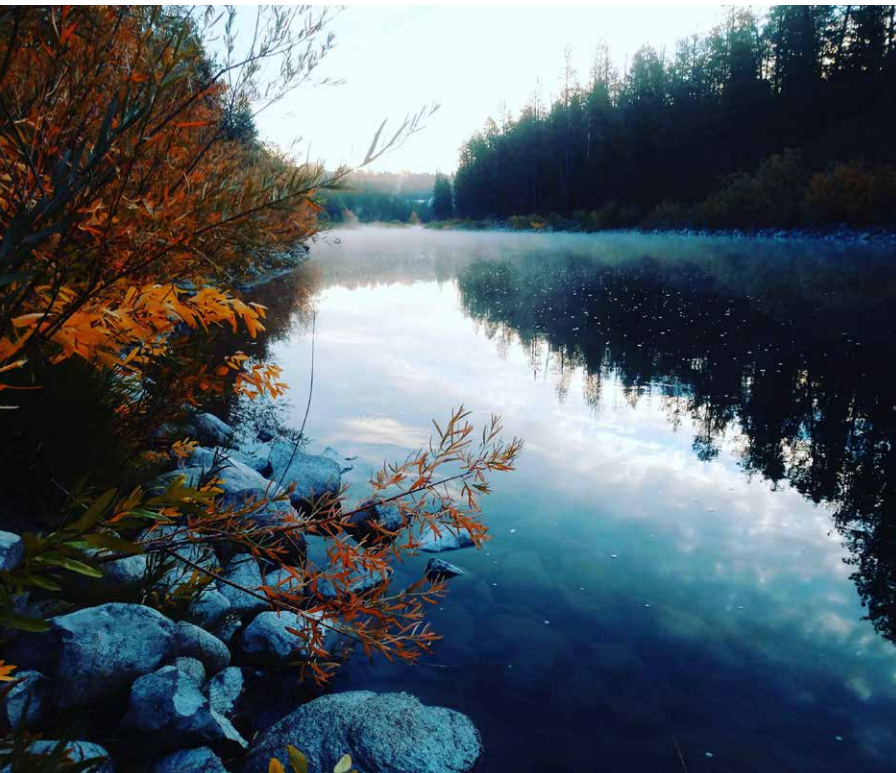
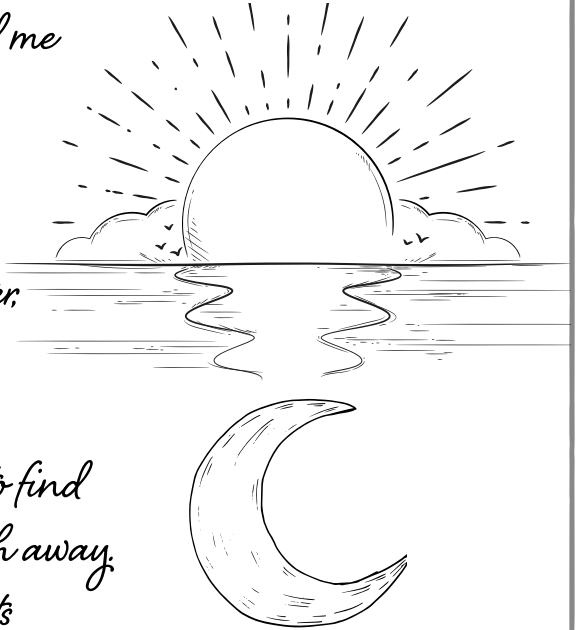
As he grew up, he got to watch the preserve mature as well. He noticed trail improvements to mitigate soil erosion and new native plants populating the riparian zone. Eventually, it seemed like just the obvious next step to get involved himself.

Cameron's like a lot of us—he loves his home. After another year of classes at SFCC, he plans to attend Western Washington University in Bellingham, where he'll continue his studies. Maybe, he told me, he'll find the time for another WCC stint. Whatever he ends up doing, don't be surprised if you hear Cameron's name crop up in local conservation circles or if you see him on a trail crew on your way to tag a Cascade summit. At the end of our conversation, we briefly talked about the Gray Fire, and the destruction in Medical Lake. We are both at a loss for new ways to say how terrible wildfire season has become. In some ways, nothing needed to be said. Cameron is already aware there is work to be done and he is primed to be one of the many it will take to do it. ■

Sun River Moon

By Krista Reeder, through Spokane Arts "In the Neighborhood"

*I sought out the River and she welcomed me with Sister Sun,
fiery orange as she melted into the horizon.
River sat me down on her banks and nourished me
with sand, boulder and her water song,
opening a space for gentle friendship
with our words and silences.
We offered her our thanks with stories of water,
testaments to her healing power.
When light had faded into dusk we parted
and I made my way upward, cresting the bluff to find
Sister Moon, full and beautiful, stealing my breath away.
I followed her home through tree-lined streets
and she tucked me into bed,
lulling me into dreams flowing with water and light.*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

The sound of water, sunshine on skin, the smell of flowers, meditating on basalt boulders, and sharing outdoor experiences with good friends is what nourishes Krista's spirit. Translating those experiences into poetry is her way of capturing those moments and sharing them with others.

Autumn's Bed

Barbara Morkill is a long-time friend, volunteer, member, and ray of sunshine for the Conservancy. She's also an avid gardener. Here are her top tips for putting your garden to bed in the fall.

Plant perennials. And shrubs and trees. This allows for good root growth. The exceptions are fruit trees that should be planted in late winter or early spring.

Bed out your bulbs. Fall is the time to plant garlic. When separating garlic bulbs, be careful not to bruise the cloves. Plant scab end down with some bone meal sprinkled in holes three to four inches deep. Space about five inches apart. Water and mulch. Flowering bulbs such as daffodils and tulips should also go in now. They'll come back every year, offering springtime rewards.

Leave your leaves! Leaf litter is vital to beneficial insects. They lay eggs and hide from the cold. There are areas where this is not practical but always find some leaves to leave undisturbed. Raked leaves can go on the compost pile but shredding is best. In the spring, once the temperature reaches 50 degrees for at least a week, rake all the leaves you want!

Leave the seeds. Let perennial seed heads remain in place. The birds will thank you for the winter feast.

Pull weeds! You don't want their seeds to spread.

Store the sensitive. Dahlias, calla lilies and other non-hardy species need to be stored in a dark basement. Once foliage has been killed by frost cut the stalks to 6-12 inches, loosen soil around the bulbs, and gently remove them. Be careful not to damage roots or bulb. Leave the bulbs outside to dry for a few days, shake off excess dirt, put in a plastic pot and store in a dark basement. They'll be ready to plant in the spring.

Down with the dead. Prune dead branches in the fall, or later winter/early spring. Pruning stimulates growth. Many gardeners find there is less injury to roses if they're pruned in early spring, just as buds are beginning to appear.

Gather your gourds. Pumpkins and squash are sensitive to temperatures below 45 degrees. As much as possible, wait to harvest until the rind cannot be punctured by a fingernail. Also, watch for "corking," when stems begin to turn from green to brown.

Most importantly, enjoy your time outdoors!

Autumn weather can be beautiful with cooler temperatures, crisp mornings, and clear sunsets. What better time to celebrate the fruits of your labor outside?



Conservancy volunteers have planted thousands of native plants at Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve in the past three years.



60 People who've been supporting local conservation with us for more than six consecutive years

Bring Them Home

By Caroline Woodwell, Conservancy volunteer

You may have seen puzzles where you're asked to clump: how are these things connected? How are they alike? Which words go together?

Well, here's one from right here in our own backyard:

People. Fish. Land.

Inland Northwest Conservancy. Spokane Tribe of Indians. Washington State Parks.

How about elected legislators from the State of Washington?

Ding-ding-ding! You knew it, of course. The answer is that they all belong together: all the words, all the categories. The people and organizations belong together because they are working in partnership to protect 1,000 acres of land, two miles of the Little Spokane River, and to restore native salmon. On a sunny morning in August, they all converged at one of the Conservancy's newest project areas, Glen Tana, to release 51 salmon raised at the Wells Dam Fish Hatchery, 80 years after the last wild salmon made its way from the ocean to the headwaters.

On that morning, Dave Schaub, INLC's Executive Director, who has led the effort to purchase Glen Tana, adjacent to the Conservancy's Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve, told the assembled crowd that the goal is to protect the land and that stretch of river from development in perpetuity. Eventually, the Spokane Tribe will own part of the land for a fish hatchery and historical and ecological interpretive center.

Washington State Parks will own and manage the rest for public access. When it is finished, Glen Tana, along with Waikiki Springs, will close the gap in a 12-mile, 14,000-acre stretch of protected parkland at Riverside State Park.

The day was a celebration of partnerships, but it was also a homecoming of sorts.

Monica Tonasket, Spokane Tribal Councilwoman, recalled the day two years ago when the first salmon were released into the river. It was a spiritual moment, she said, remembering her grandfather who knew salmon in the Little Spokane when he was a child but lived most of his adult life without ever seeing salmon swim in the river.

Now, Tonasket said, the tribe has a chance to bring salmon back along this stretch of the river. "Today I think of my ancestors, I think of this precious land we're standing on and all the history it holds," she said. "We believe that the salmon are going to bring healing to our people and to our whole region."

Her son, Isaac, sang a song of healing and the group moved down to the river, forming two human chains to pass salmon, one by one, from the tanker truck that brought them from the hatchery to the cool water of the Little Spokane. One by one, each big fish slipped into the water, hesitated for a moment, then swam away. ■

Learn more about our work to protect Glen Tana and its two miles of the Little Spokane River at InlandNWLand.org/Glen-Tana



PHOTOS CREDIT: Lorenzo Menendez

Learn at Our Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve

By Gillian Rowe, Conservancy staff

This fall, Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve turns three! In 2020 the Conservancy purchased the 95-acre preserve along the Little Spokane River to protect it for wildlife, native fish habitat, and the enjoyment of the public for generations to come.

Now just three years later, with over 100 people visiting each day, we hope to enrich experiences at Waikiki Springs through additional way-finding signs and six new interpretive signs. As visitors make their way around the preserve, they will learn more about the first people on the land, about the wildlife who call this place home, what shaped the distinct landscape, and much more. Each sign is equipped with a QR code, linking visitors to more information on our website.

The signage was funded by the State of Washington as part of the initial budget appropriation to purchase the preserve. Trail maintenance, forest management, and habitat restoration in the area is supported by volunteer work and funded this year by Clearwater Paper Corporation. Because of their support, people visiting the preserve will have the opportunity to grow their connection to Waikiki Springs, deepening their sense of place and love for the area.

Next time you go to the preserve, try to find all six interpretive signs and tag us @inlandnwland on Instagram and/or Facebook to let us know what you've learned! If you have yet to visit Waikiki Springs and want to learn even more about the preserve, join us on a guided hike. ■



Find details on hikes to Waikiki Springs or to our other hidden gems at inlandnwland.org/events



8 Volunteer hike leaders

494 People engaged in hikes or other events on the land



2,900 Feet of new protected shoreline

9,000 Feet of new protected river corridors

933 New acres of wetland protected

Bird Bingo

By Gillian Rowe, Conservancy staff

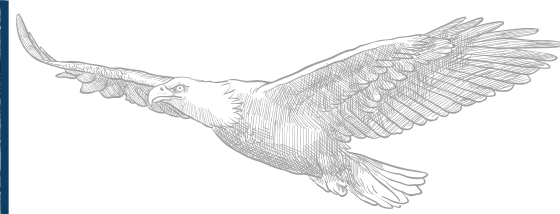
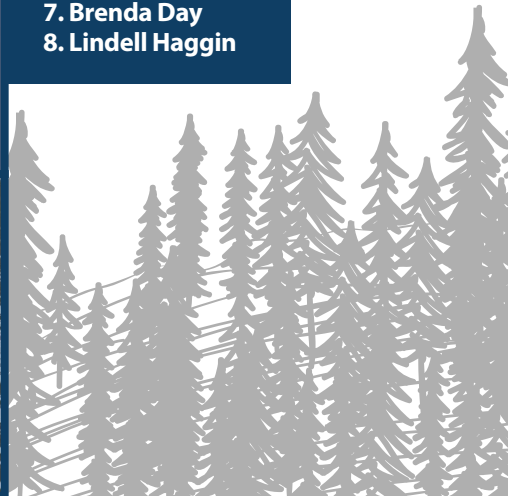


Photo Credits

1. Tina Penny
2. Lindell Haggin
3. Lindell Haggin
4. Brenda Day
5. Tina Penny
6. Brenda Day
7. Brenda Day
8. Lindell Haggin



1. Short-eared Owl

Found in open country grass and shrublands. Frequently seen in daylight.

2. Pygmy Nuthatches

Found climbing up and down ponderosa pines in open forests. Often found in large family groups.

3. Ring-necked Pheasant

Winter is a good time to spot them when vegetation is at a minimum, crops have been harvested, and some areas have a snowy backdrop against which the birds will stand out.

4. Pileated Woodpecker

Look (and listen) for them whacking at dead trees and fallen logs in stands of mature forests. Occur at all levels in the forest, from ground cover to overstory, and are often seen foraging on logs and near the bases of trees.

5. Snowy Owl

Be on the lookout for any visual irregularities in snowy, flat areas. A lump or dirty patch could be a Snowy Owl facing away from you.

6. Bald Eagle

Head for water, and look for them soaring in solitude. These independent birds are likely to be looking for fish.

7. Great Blue Heron

In flight, look for its widespread wings, tucked-in neck, and long legs trailing behind. Scan shorelines, riverbanks, and the edges of marshes, estuaries, and ponds.

8. Hooded Mergansers

Common on small ponds and rivers. Look for them mixed in flocks with other small divers.



Use apps like Merlin to properly identify bird calls and sightings. Tag the Conservancy @inlandnwland on Instagram and Facebook when you get a bingo!



But What of the Family Farm?

By Carol Corbin, Conservancy staff

For the family involved, “This is not a happy story.” I hear the catch in his throat over the phone. “It’s the least bad outcome we could have had.” But as with many endings, this story presents a new beginning that is full of hope and promise for the Coeur d’Alene Tribe.*

From the outside, land trust work can sound dry and clinical. Talk of easements, lawyers, development envelopes, and the like doesn’t have the ring of compelling narratives that drive my inner storytelling animal. But for those in the trenches, saving precious land is as fraught with intrigue, joy, heartbreak, and pitfalls as a Thanksgiving dinner with the in-laws. This is one such story.

In the mid-1950s, a nurse, born and raised here in the Inland Northwest, met a dashing young doctor with a traumatic past as a prisoner of war in Indonesia, and a desire to create a haven for his family for generations to come. The two of them married and over the years, built a thriving tree farm an hour from Spokane. Over her lifetime, she planted more than 500,000 trees on the property. In between his work as a physician, he worked the land, finding a peace there that eluded him elsewhere.

“I didn’t go to school on Wednesdays in first grade,” his son tells me. Instead, they went to the family property, then a working cattle ranch. To work. Many years later, this son, now a surgeon, spent countless hours working to maintain the tree farm his parents had built. But the idyllic skin on this story hid a much deeper, fraught future.

When the parents passed away, there were no clear instructions on what they hoped for, for the future of their

land. The LLC and reserve fund were set up to protect it from outside forces. But they left the estate to five siblings and their children, each with a different idea of what should happen with the land. “If it weren’t for Chris DeForest,” one of the daughters shared with me, “this land would be split up. It would be developed. He stuck with it, and found a way that it could be saved.”

In 2007, Chris DeForest, now the Conservancy’s Senior Conservationist, met with the parents to talk about ways they could ensure the land would stay intact and undeveloped in perpetuity. Over the next almost two decades, Chris stayed in touch with the family, investigating options for the future of the land, presenting at family meetings, and building trust with those involved. The patriarch passed away in 2013, and the matriarch in 2018, with no clear resolution about the future of their beloved land.

Any action required a majority vote of the trustees. There was a near-even split between those who hoped to see it protected and those hoping to make a profit on its sale. Deliberations began. The family soon reached a painful and acrimonious stalemate. With accusations flying, rifts growing wider, and time and resources growing thin, DeForest unearthed another option he believed might work.

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In 2022, Chris convened a first meeting of the family trustees and representatives of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The tribe saw a chance for families to reconnect to their roots. The scientists saw great potential to revive runs of native trout and bring new life to stream corridors. The family saw a "Hail Mary" opportunity to satisfy as many of the siblings' conflicting goals as possible. In the spring of 2023, the family sold the entire place to the tribe. Over 2,000 acres with miles of streams for trout.

"My parents meant for this to be passed down from generation to generation," their son tells me. "But they also wanted it to stay intact. Undeveloped. This was the only way that could happen." The tears in his voice speak to his deep connection, earned through years of sweat equity, to a place his father and mother loved. And his pain in what he sees as a permanent rift in his family because of it.

"Well into her 80s," his sister tells me, "My mom would be out there snowshoeing and cross-country skiing in the winter. She loved it!" And for her dad, "It kept him sane. It was his sanctuary." In the final agreement with the tribe, the family kept lifelong access to the land. She plans to continue to visit for hikes, Christmas trees, and

elderberries. "The sweet syrup on pancakes. Delicious!" she tells me.

This story is not unfamiliar in land trust work. A family spends years building a land legacy for future generations, only to find that "future generations" see that land, and their futures, differently.

When I asked the son what it felt like, now that the land belongs to someone else, he said, "It's like losing part of your identity." But hearing firsthand about the Tribe's experience of being disconnected from their ancestors' land was eye-opening. "Willingly selling it is so different than having it taken . . ." His voice trails off.

*Specifics about the family and the location of this land are left out to protect their privacy. This land is being used by tribal members whose families once relied on it for their way of life. These families are hunting, gathering, and fishing as they once did for time immemorial. The Conservancy is grateful to have been part, through Chris's dedication and tenacity, of seeing this huge piece of critical habitat and beautiful forest protected forever. ■

"The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has long viewed our placement upon this, our homeland, as a privilege. With that privilege comes much responsibility that has been at the forefront of our existence since time immemorial. We thank the family for being the caretakers of this land for nearly a century but also understanding that the best way for these responsibilities to be upheld is for large pristine tracts of land such as this to be under the direct supervision of the Tribe and its members."

Hemene James
Vice Chairman, Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Where's the Annual Impact Report?

Wondering why you don't see our annual report in this issue of InLandNEWS? We have switched from a July-June fiscal year to a calendar fiscal year. That means our final financials for 2023 will come out in our spring newsletter. In the meantime, help us meet our fundraising goals for the year by sending your gift today.

Can't give today? Consider designating Inland Northwest Land Conservancy for a gift from your donor advised fund, your annual Qualified Charitable Distribution, or name us in your estate plan. A gift to the Conservancy keeps giving in perpetuity.



DIY Natural Fire Starters

By Rose Richardson, Conservancy staff

Fire is so much more than a chemical reaction. It's kinship. She's a spirit that shakes memories loose, warms our bodies and minds, brings us closer together, and feeds the spot where she burns. Give her some structure, a spark, a little of your own breath, and she'll roar with you. Nourish her, and she'll stick around long enough to leave the sweet smell of woodsmoke on your clothes. Does she seem to burn brighter and longer with laughter? I think so. Her embers glitter as she leaves, and the cooling air brings with it an appreciation for your friend, and an eagerness to see her again soon.

A friendship with fire is built with time and experience. Often through family. Thank you to my family for leading me down the path of friendship with fire and showing me tools, like this one, to entice her to come visit more often.

This simple recipe is for anyone who hopes to call a fiery friend to their hearth a little easier this winter. Made from 100% recycled materials, these fire starters can be made with common items found in just about anyone's home. They burn hot, long, and are water resistant – a camping essential! Hold onto your egg cartons, old candles, and fallen conifer needles; this recipe will become a regular in your house!



Material Check List:

- ☐ One medium-sized pot
- ☐ One large tin can for melting wax
- ☐ One rubber spatula
- ☐ One egg carton
- ☐ Wax, about 6 ounces
- ☐ Green (but dry) conifer needles, enough to fill egg carton

Notes: Needles burn differently! Species with more flammable needles include Grand Fir, Douglas Fir, and Western Red Cedar. Firs are one of the most common holiday trees, so this is a good opportunity to give that tree a second life once the holidays are over. If you don't have conifer needles handy, a good alternative is shredded paper!

Beeswax and **soy wax** burn longer than paraffin wax, so these work slightly better when trying to start a fire. However, making fire starters is a good opportunity to put old candles to good use. Recycle or upcycle before seeking out new materials!

Optional: Aromatic flowers, like rose petals or lavender. Small pieces of tree pitch.

Note: Pitch is extremely flammable and can extend how long your fire starter will last while you feed your initial fire. Gather pitch responsibly. Pitch is a sign of a tree attempting to heal itself, so only take pitch from the ground or if it's fully dried on the tree. If the pitch is still wet and sticky, it's not ready to be collected.



5,500 lbs of garbage removed

Pack it in, pack it out.

Directions:

1. Prepare the egg carton:

- Cut the top half of the egg carton off, so you're left with just the cups.
- Fill these cups with the conifer needles or shredded paper.
- If you're adding flowers or pitch, now is the time to sprinkle those on top of the conifer needles or paper.

2. Melt the wax:

- Place the wax inside the large tin can.
- Make a double-boiler by placing the can inside the pot, then filling the pot about halfway with water.
- Put the pot on the stove and heat over medium-low. You don't want the water to quite boil, just get warm enough to slowly melt the wax.
- Be watchful during this part and stir the wax often with a rubber spatula! The wax will be very hot and is flammable!

3. Coat the egg carton:

- Pour the wax evenly over the egg carton. Make sure to coat the needles or paper too!
- If you manage to soak the whole carton, your fire starters will be nearly waterproof!

4. Let them set, then cut and store!

- Let the fire starters sit for a couple of hours to cool fully.
- When the wax has hardened, cut the cups apart with kitchen scissors or a knife, and store them in an air-tight container or bag.

5. Start your fire!

- Build a small structure of kindling in a dry fire-safe spot and place the fire starter inside.
- Light the fire starter and slowly feed it increasingly large materials until your fire is a desirable size!

7-75
volunteers age range
this year



35
active volunteer
land stewards



103
New members of
the Conservancy



Good news at Glen Tana!

1,060
acres on the Little Spokane
River purchased for
permanent conservation

2
miles of
riverbed
protected

3
key partners, including
your Conservancy,
Spokane Tribe of
Indians, Washington
State Parks

80
of the 1,060 acres
transferred to Spokane
Tribal Fisheries

1 community of conservationists (that's
YOU!) at the ready to pitch in for this
critical connector project!

51
Chinook salmon released
from this site

\$2M of funding from the
Conservancy's conservation
opportunity fund

\$3M
of funding from the
State of Washington

We look forward to 2024, and sharing with you how you can help protect this beautiful place, forever.

Some for Now, More for Later: Patty Houff Fund Continues to Benefit Conservation

By Emalee Gillis, Conservancy volunteer

An avid backpacker, nature lover, and longtime member of the Conservancy, Patty Houff made a lasting contribution to conservation through the way she lived her life. And although Patty has been gone for a decade, the Conservancy continues to receive the benefit of Patty's forethought and generosity.

"If we don't preserve our natural areas now, pretty soon they won't be available to be preserved."
-Patty Houff

During her lifetime, Patty served on the Spokane Mountaineers Committee for Conservation. That group worked with others including the Conservancy on a number of projects with the goals of increasing access to recreation and preserving land for wildlife. Patty's proudest accomplishment was her work with the Dream Trail, an aspirational connection between the Palouse and Camp Caro in Dishman Hills to the north.

According to Vicki Egesdal, Associate Director of the Conservancy who knew Patty for years, "Patty was quiet, and her compassion ran very deep. It was part of her faith. She was a deep person. Some people come across as spiritual. Patty definitely came across that way. She was full of kindness and compassion." Vicki shares, "Patty's

values for conservation came out of her view that it was critical to care for what God has given us. She knew nature was important and animals were important. She never said those exact words, but her actions showed her values."

Toward the end of her life, Patty established a donor-advised fund with Innovia through the sale of appreciated stock. Her fund generates earnings each year, supporting the work of Inland Northwest Land Conservancy. According to Innovia, Patty once said, "If we don't preserve our natural areas now, pretty soon they won't be available to be preserved." The beauty of Patty's story is that she was crystal clear about her values. And she found a way to support those values long after she was gone.



Are you thinking about the kind of world you want to see?

Please consider lending your support, in perpetuity, to the protection of local lands and waters.



To learn more about estate gifts, donor-advised funds, or other giving to the Conservancy, talk with your financial advisor or estate attorney, or contact Dave Schaub at (509) 328-2939.

Sample Bequest Language:

"I give, devise and bequeath to Inland Northwest Land Trust, dba Inland Northwest Land Conservancy, a Washington nonprofit corporation (Tax ID No. 91-1510539), located at 35 West Main Avenue, Suite 210, Spokane, WA 99201

- 1. Percentage:** " ____% of my estate."
- 2. Specific Bequest:** " The sum of \$ ____." • ____ shares of stock in ____ (Company/Mutual Fund)." • My real property commonly known as ____."
- 3. Residual Bequest:** "... all the residue of my estate, including real personal property."
- 4. Contingent:** "In the event of the death of any of the beneficiaries, I give, devise and bequeath to Inland Northwest Land Trust, dba Inland Northwest Land Conservancy, a Washington nonprofit corporation, (Tax ID No. 91-1510539), located at 35 West Main Avenue, Suite 210, Spokane, WA 99201

2023 in Pictures



Spokane Tribal Council secretary Monica Tonasket shares the importance of **salmon** to the history and future of the tribe with Washington State Parks commissioners in the spring.



The Schlepp property along the **Coeur d'Alene River** is one of several conservation agreements designed to support the work of the Restoration Partnership to clean up legacy mining waste in the Silver Valley.

LightHawk **volunteer** pilot Rick Durden took INLC staff members Mike Crabtree, Carol Corbin, and visual storytelling Megan Kennedy on an aerial tour of the Inland Northwest.



Volunteer **Hike Docent** Patti Zeigler poses with her posse on a bridge at Liberty Lake County Park. Your Conservancy was instrumental in protecting the popular Cedar Grove at Liberty Lake.



Washington State Parks staff Danny Murphy, Justin Krogstad, and Noah Voss witness salmon being returned to the **Little Spokane River** on August 11.

Salmon Safe, Brick West Brewing, and INLC hosted the River Reunion, to launch **Upstream**, a Salmon Safe-certified draft beer.



Staff member Gillian Rowe and volunteer Gavin Christensen check participants in for a screening of the **Spokane Climate Project**, hosted by Measure Meant and Rogue Heart Media on behalf of the Conservancy.



Volunteers construct a "bug hotel" under the tutelage of Conservancy Stewardship Director Rose Richardson at our **Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve**.



Inland Northwest Land Conservancy
35 W. Main Ave., Ste. 210
Spokane, WA 99201
509.328.2939

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Save the Date

Tuesday, December 5th

For Common Ground, our annual celebration of local conservation. Join us on Tuesday, December 5 at the Wonder Building in Spokane for an evening of storytelling, food, drink, and celebration with others just as passionate about our local natural spaces as you are.

Register for this free event, or learn more at our website: InlandNWLand.org/Common-Ground



Your financial support makes a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in the Inland Northwest every day!

YOUR SUPPORT IN THE LAST YEAR MEANS:



945

Native trees planted since last thank-a-thon



\$290,086

in volunteer time spent in local outdoor spaces



18,000

visitors to Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve so far this year



89

Plant species found and identified during citizen science projects