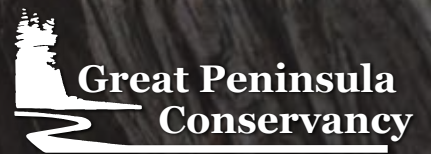


SAVING PLACES WE LOVE



2014
ANNUAL
REPORT

PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE



PHOTO CREDIT: MARY ZABINSKI

What inspires people to make a difference? When the task is saving the places we love, passions run deep.

Our feelings often are rooted in special memories of time spent outdoors. While our actions reveal our commitment to keeping nature unspoiled and close at hand.

Some, like Carolina Veenstra, put their energies into caring for the land. She leads monthly work parties to pull weeds, pick up trash, install signs, and build and maintain trails. Carolina has a passion for keeping nature intact and maintaining a light impact on the land.

Others, like Matt Slaney, are active trail users driven by a desire to protect

recreation opportunities. Matt was one of 157 people who helped GPC raise \$19,000 in just 18 days to complete our campaign to Save Grovers Creek Preserve! Matt's donation was not large but it came at a critical time. His gift tipped the balance in the crowdfunding campaign, getting us 25% of the way towards our goal.

Carolina has a passion for keeping nature intact and maintaining a light impact on the land.

Others soon jumped in with their own donations, including Michael Matz and his mother Janet Holdcroft. They

gave a major gift on the final day of the campaign to surge past the funding goal! Janet has long been active in local efforts to conserve Miller Bay—the estuary at the mouth of Grovers Creek—so this was a natural fit for them.

...the enthusiasm of young people for the project made a huge impact on the campaign's success.

Anyone who watched the incredible Grovers Creek campaign video created by John Williams will know the enthusiasm of young people for the project made a huge impact on the campaign's success. The picture of sisters Lilia and Evenie Manges, next page, cuddled in the embrace of a giant cedar is an image I will remember for a long time. Another young girl, Oonaugh Foster-Bill of Indianola, inspired many of us to take a second look at what we are doing to save land.

Individual actions by Carolina, Matt, Michael, Oonaugh, you, and many others are helping our community to save the places we love, for today and tomorrow. Together, we are protecting the outdoors for wildlife and people. Thank you for making a difference!

Sandra Staples-Bortner
Executive Director



"Place and the outdoors have been essential in my life since I was in my teens. Back then a dear friend invited me for a walk at a bird sanctuary. Since my family was not outdoorsy, I never knew places like this existed."

The bird refuge became my refuge too. Everywhere I have lived in the intervening years I have looked for these refuges, these natural places to be in and find equilibrium. All the volunteer work I do is in gratitude for what these places have given me."

PHOTO CREDIT (left): BRIAN KILPATRICK
PHOTO CREDIT (right): PETER BILL
PHOTO CREDIT (cover): JOHN F. WILLIAMS

Carolina Veenstra

SAVING THE LAND – GROVERS CREEK PRESERVE



path to the big trees. What a treasure they found—200 year-old trees, a rare bog, beaver dams and a gurgling creek!

Since then our journey of discovery has included sharing the magic of Grovers Creek with grant funders, project partners and nature enthusiasts. We have seen how passionate people are about ancient trees and wild places. Many contributed time and dollars to protect this special place.

As one child in the Save Grovers Creek Preserve video asks, “If I hadn’t seen the big trees today, would they still be here tomorrow?” Thanks to all who joined in the campaign, the answer is ‘Yes!’, the big trees of Great Peninsula Conservancy’s new Grovers Creek Preserve will be there for a very long time.

Saving Grovers Creek has been a journey of discovery.

Great Peninsula Conservancy first was drawn to Grovers Creek as a partner in the Kitsap Forest & Bay Project. When this 7,000-acre project first emerged, much of the attention was on the Port Gamble Bay shoreline and surrounding forest. Rightly so, as this is a spectacular Hood Canal property with beaches, wetlands, forest and trails.

What a treasure they found—200 year-old trees, a rare bog, beaver dams and a gurgling creek!

But soon, our attention was drawn to Grovers Creek—a tiny stream that

empties into Miller Bay between Kingston and Suquamish.

The first clue that we might be on to something very special came from renown ‘big tree’ expert Jim Trainer. He told tales of big trees—Sitka spruce, hemlock, cedar and fir—skirting the edge of the Grovers Creek wetlands. Suquamish Tribal fisheries biologist Jay Zischke confirmed the stories and provided details of the creek’s significance to native salmon.

At about the same time, North Kitsap Trails Association was scouting a route for a possible trail, bushwhacking a rough

CAMPAIGN TO SAVE GROVERS CREEK PRESERVE *(as of May 31, 2015)*

— Grants & Donations —
\$1,960,000

— Land Purchased —
200 acres & 25 acres pending

See the Grovers Creek video:
igg.me/at/SaveGroversCreek

“If it wasn’t for my young cousin Oonaugh asking me, ‘Why aren’t people saving the world’s wildlife?’, I would not have stepped up and looked around Kitsap County for a conservation group preserving wildlife habitat. What I found is a huge private and public partnership working hard to rescue almost 7,000

acres stretching across North Kitsap from the beaches of Indianola and Kingston to Hood Canal. A big thank you to Oonaugh for directing our family’s attention and support to local wildlife habitat conservation!!”

Albert Foster
(Shown: Oonaugh Foster-Bill)



PARTNERSHIPS BOOST OUR IMPACT

Imagine climbing Mt. Rainier all on your own. Now imagine climbing as a member of a well-trained team, pooling equipment and expertise. Teamwork is a morale builder when the going gets tough. When you reach the peak, your team is there ready to celebrate the accomplishment with you.

Conservation partnerships work together like a climbing team.

Conservation partnerships work like a climbing team. Each partner brings unique skills and together we achieve outcomes that exceed expectations. Great Peninsula Conservancy places a priority on forging partnerships that boost our conservation impact.

In 2014, Great Peninsula Conservancy worked with Hood Canal Coordinating Council to buy and restore Irene Pond, a 17-acre property in Belfair. Hood Canal Coordinating Council contributed project strategy and funding, and Great Peninsula Conservancy contributed our expertise as a caretaker of conservation lands.

To save a legacy farm in Silverdale's Clear Creek Valley, Great Peninsula Conservancy partnered with the Petersen family, farm agencies, and community groups. With a conservation

agreement that will keep the land in agricultural use forever, a new family is expected to take ownership of the farm in 2015.

The Kitsap Forest & Bay Project partnership has conserved over 1,100 acres. No one of the partners could have accomplished this feat alone. This project moves forward thanks to the teamwork of Kitsap County, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Suquamish Tribe, Pope Resources, Forterra, Great Peninsula Conservancy, Kitsap Audubon Society, North Kitsap Trails Association, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance—West Sound, and 20 other local partners. Each partner brings a unique perspective to the collaboration

and a shared passion for saving the places we love. With each group contributing resources, time and expertise, our impact is boosted many fold.

Each partner brings a unique perspective to the collaboration and a shared passion for saving the places we love.

In South Sound, a new partnership is emerging. Building on GPC's Filucy Bay Preserve, Great Peninsula Conservancy and partners are working to conserve more land along this near-pristine cove. Great Peninsula Conservancy celebrates the contributions of partners in conserving the places we love.



PHOTO CREDIT: IKLIL GREGG

GPC President Art Schick (center) receives a donation from Suquamish Tribal Council Chairman Leonard Forsman (right) and Treasurer Robin Sigo.



"I was working as a water resource technician for the Suquamish Tribe at Grovers Creek salmon hatchery. One day we explored further upstream and came across the wetlands and amazing

old growth Sitka spruce trees! Areas like this are really rare in the world today and the Suquamish Tribe is very happy to be part of conservation efforts like the Grovers Creek Preserve."

*Sammy Mabe,
Suquamish Tribal Council Member*

BUILDING A CONSERVATION LEGACY... — 2014 CONTRIBUTORS —

CONSERVANCY CIRCLE

\$200,000+

WA Recreation and
Conservation Office

\$100,000+

Estate of Gerald E. Petersen

\$50,000+

Hood Canal Coordinating Council
Kitsap County

\$25,000+

Anonymous (2)
Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

\$15,000+

Linda Benedict
Sid & Jeanne Knutson
Gary & Celia Parrott
Frank M. Stutesman

\$10,000+

Gary & Marilyn Cunningham
Virginia Davison
David & Katherine De Bruyn
Kit Ellis
Albert Foster
Sara & Byron Kane
REI
James E. Rodman
Jay & Suzy Wakefield

\$7,500+

Gayle Peach
Suzanne Tunney & James DePew

\$5,000+

Janine Dolezel
Barry & Laana Fishman
Pierce County
Jerry & Nancy Reid
Greg & Dion Rurik
The Russell Family Foundation
Sound West Group
Ueland Foundation

\$2,500+

Akridge-Peterson Foundation
Wayne & Mary Ann Booth
The Bullitt Foundation
Wanda Butler
Nancy & Dick D'Archange
Alice W. Harris
Kongsgaard-Goldman Foundation
The Morris Foundation
Olympic Property Group
The Suquamish Tribe
TRIFAM Foundation
Pat & Steve Weagant

\$1,000+

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Mark & Peggy Bubenik
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Kathy Mahan & Don Paulson
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Rollin & Mary Morford
Sandra Mowry
National Environmental
Education Foundation
Overton & Associates
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Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Puget Sound Energy
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Kristine Sarles & Melanie
Kuppenbender

Rich & Taffy Satter
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Kevin & Emily Schoenfelder
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Sandra Staples-Bortner & Brad Bortner
Robert & Ethel Story
Winnie Swanson
Ken & Peggy VanBuskirk

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Gail Bronson
Virginia Cowling
Gary & Marilyn Cunningham
David & Katherine De Bruyn
John & Sarah Dickson
Stephen Harris & Susanne
Waits-Harris
Hitoshi & Alice Kawahara
Jim & Mary Kenney
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Gayle Peach
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Bishop, Cunningham & Andrews
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Cities of Bainbridge Island, Bremerton,
Gig Harbor, Port Orchard & Poulsbo
Clear Creek Task Force
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance,
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Flamingo Audio
Forterra
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Hansville Greenway Association
Hood Canal Coordinating Council
Hood Canal Environmental Council
Indianola Beach Improvement Club
Kingston Citizens Advisory Council
Kitsap Audubon Society
Kitsap Citizens for Responsible Planning
Kitsap Conservation District
Kitsap Conservation Voters
Kitsap County
Kitsap Economic Development Alliance
Mason Conservation District
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Mason County Noxious Weed Program
The Nature Conservancy
North Kitsap Trails Association
Northwest Natural Resource Group
PenMet Parks
Pierce County
Pope Resources
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Puget Sound Partnership
Stillwaters Environmental Center
Suquamish Tribe
Taylor Shellfish Farms
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USDA Natural Resources
Conservation Service
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Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife
WA Leg. Dist. 23: Sen. C. Rolfes, Rep.
S. Appleton, Rep. D. Hansen
WA Recreation & Conservation Office
WA State Dept. of Natural Resources
WA Wildlife & Recreation Coalition
West Sound Conservation Council
West Sound Cycling Club
West Sound Watersheds Council
Wild Bird Center of Silverdale
Windermere Real Estate/
Gig Harbor, Douglas B. Murphy
WSU Kitsap County Extension

*Thanks to all who generously gave through the Combined Federal
Campaign and Washington State Combined Fund Drive.*



"I have many fond memories growing up and spending time along the shores of Miller Bay. The online campaign for Grovers Creek Preserve was an excellent way for me to give back to the community which had brought so much joy to my life. I was motivated to donate a portion of the proceeds

from the sale of our family lots along Miller Bay Road so that others will be able to enjoy these lush woods and vibrant waterways. It is my hope that the natural beauty of this area will be preserved long into the future."

*Michael Matz
(Shown with Janet Holdcroft)*

...ONE PERSON AT A TIME — 2014 CONTRIBUTORS

\$750+

AES Consultants
Beth & Bruce Anderson
Anonymous
John & Maille Bay
ESA Engineering Services
Lawrence & LaVonne Greaves
Kitsap Bank
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Morgan Stanley
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Pacific Asset Management
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\$500+

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<\$50

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Judy Tuttle
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Chrlto Von Gontard
Brian Watson & Elizabeth Roberts
Patrick Watson
Lyolya Winsor
Nick Woodson
Eric & Kristina Younger

"As an avid mountain biker and member of Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance–West Sound, I like to do what I can to help in the struggle to preserve open space for both people and wildlife to enjoy. When I saw the campaign to Save Grovers Creek Preserve on

Indiegogo, I knew it was a great way for me to support a great group and that bigger mission of preserving open space."

Matt Slaney



EVERY FOREST, EVERY STREAM, EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS

2014 FINANCES¹

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents.....	\$ 363,646
Cash for Restricted Purposes.....	159,031
Pledges Receivable.....	20,326
Prepaid Expenses.....	8,767
Investments.....	884,688
Property & Equipment.....	6,087,697
Total Assets.....	\$ 7,524,155

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Accrued Expenses.....	\$ 12,059
Total Liabilities.....	\$ 12,059

Net Assets

Unrestricted.....	\$ 6,445,947
Temporarily Restricted.....	1,013,194
Permanently Restricted.....	52,955
Total Net Assets.....	\$ 7,512,096
Total Liabilities & Net Assets.....	\$ 7,524,155

REVENUE

Contributions.....	\$ 908,743
In Kind Contributions ²	215,177
Special Events & Other.....	64,926
Interest.....	21,210
Net Gains/Losses on Investments.....	19,615
Total Revenue.....	\$ 1,229,671

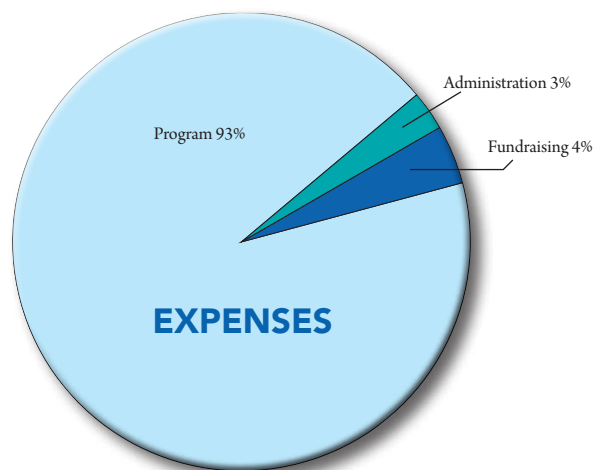
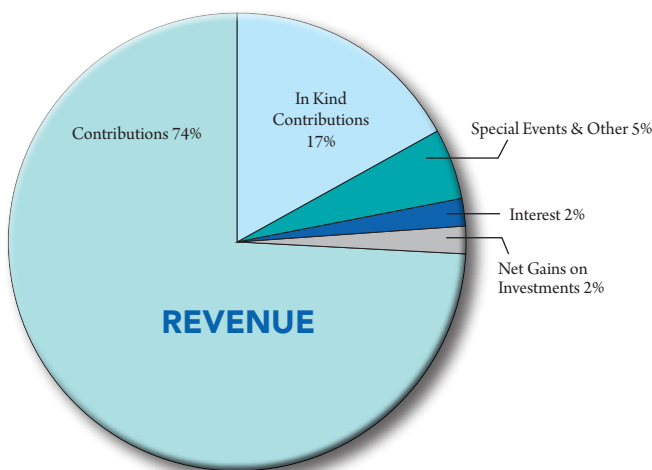
EXPENSES

Program.....	\$ 1,138,585
Administration.....	41,442
Fundraising.....	44,216
Total Expenses.....	\$ 1,224,243

Change in net assets.....	\$ 5,428
Net assets at beginning of year.....	\$ 7,506,668
Net assets at end of year.....	\$ 7,512,096

¹ These abbreviated financial statements are derived from fully annotated financial statements audited by Sanders & Sanders CPAs PS in whose opinion they "present fairly", in all material respects, the financial position of Great Peninsula Conservancy for the year ended December 31, 2014.

² Includes \$197,450 in donated land and rights to land.



Protecting forever the natural habitats, rural landscapes, and open spaces of the Great Peninsula



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Bremerton, WA 98337
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info@greatpeninsula.org
www.greatpeninsula.org



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Great Peninsula Conservancy can be found on Facebook! We regularly post photos from the field, project updates, and news links on Facebook, so sign up and log in if you would like to receive up-to-date conservation news from the Great Peninsula. The best way to find us is to go to www.greatpeninsula.org and follow the Facebook link. *See you there!*



TAKING CARE OF THE LAND – 2014

- ✓ 2,000 trees planted
- ✓ 1,770 acres of GPC conservation lands monitored & protected
- ✓ 1,600 volunteers engaged in environmental stewardship & education
- ✓ 200 tires hauled away
- ✓ 118 feet of new boardwalk built
- ✓ 70 cubic yards of noxious weeds & garbage removed
- ✓ 15.5 miles of trail built or maintained



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