



Summer 2015

# WallowaLands

News from Wallowa Land Trust & Annual Report

Keep It  
Rural!



*On The Wolfe Farm*

## Farms and Wildlife Make Hay in Salem

by Kathleen Ackley, Executive Director

**“I** never imagined going to Salem to talk about my farm and wildlife habitat, but I’m glad I did,” says farmer Woody Wolfe. I am too!

Woody has a unique, first-person understanding of the connection between conservation and working lands. Together with his wife Megan, Woody has permanently protected almost 200 acres of his Wallowa County farm, providing high-quality habitat while continuing to grow his operation. And now, thanks to Woody’s willingness to brave a road trip with me to Salem, state legislators and elected leaders have heard first-hand how innovative, forward-thinking farmers like Woody are having a positive impact on conservation throughout Oregon.

In back-to-back meetings at the capitol with republican and democratic leaders, Woody spoke eloquently about how working lands can benefit conservation while helping farmers and ranchers meet their bottom line. Woody shared his personal experiences of working with a land trust (us) to protect the future of agriculture on his farm while enhancing and preserving important wildlife habitat. Lawmakers and policy advisors were keenly interested in hearing Woody’s story.



Senator Bill Hansell, Kathleen Ackley & Woody Wolfe in Salem  
photo by Wallowa Land Trust

Woody and Megan own almost 2,000 acres of farmland in Wallowa County. Working with Wallowa Land Trust, they placed a permanent conservation easement on a portion of their farm that allows for continued agricultural production but extinguishes future subdivision or development.

**“I believe in the cause of promoting conservation of working land. Our leaders need to understand that conservation and working lands don’t contradict each other.”** -Woody Wolfe

“I saw this as a win-win for my family and my operation,” explains Woody. “I was able to use the proceeds from the sale of a conservation easement to Wallowa Land Trust to pay down debt and reinvest in the farm.” And now one of the most intact stretches of the Lostine River is forever conserved.

It was a long day spent haunting the halls of our state’s capitol, but one well spent. Woody certainly made an impact, emphasizing the need to increase opportunities to protect working landscapes across Oregon—lands which also are prime wildlife habitat, provide vital open space and sustain rural economies.

It became increasing clear to me over the course of the day that Woody truly is a visionary thinker with a deep love of the land. His knack for conveying the complexities of farming economics and his passion for land conservation touched everyone we spoke with. I am inspired by Woody’s courageous eloquence. He loves what he does and is passionate about land conservation—and it shows.

By speaking up on behalf of conservation-minded farmers and ranchers, Woody is adding to the growing chorus of voices supporting sustainable agriculture in rural Oregon communities. “I believe in the cause of promoting conservation of farms and ranches,” Woody says. “Our leaders need to understand that conservation and working lands don’t contradict each other.”



Wolfe Farm  
photo by David Jensen

## Growing Our Gifts with a Donor-Advised Fund

by Mark Lacey, Board Chair

**A** couple years ago our personal financial consultant told my wife Kathy and me that we should take a look at the advantages of a donor-advised fund. She said it would allow us to contribute even more to the charitable organizations we support by saving us money on capital gains taxes and by the growth of the fund. After doing some research, we decided to create our own donor-advised fund.

What is a donor-advised fund? A donor-advised fund is like a charitable savings account. Administered by a public charity, a donor-advised fund allows you to make charitable gifts, receive an immediate tax break and then recommend grants to organizations like Wallowa Land Trust over time. The fund may accept many types of assets. If you use it like Kathy and I have, you may eliminate capital gains tax for gifts of long-term appreciated securities (i.e. stocks, bonds, and/or mutual funds).

We also used it last year to protect us from a big tax hit we would have taken for a Roth IRA conversion.

The public charity administering the fund provides professional

investment management for your fund contributions with risk options that vary from conservative to aggressive, and ideally the value of your contributions continues to grow within the fund. In the first three months of this year, for example, we advised contributions of \$1,080 to charitable organizations we support, but the value of the fund only declined by \$297. Of course, had the stock market dropped it would have gone the other way.

The donor-advised fund managers verify that each organization to which we recommend a grant is an IRS-qualified public charity. So far, all of our grant recommendations have been approved within a day or two. The charity managing our donor-advised fund has a minimum grant amount of \$50, which allows a lot of flexibility. They also have a scheduling feature that mails checks directly to the organizations we support which means we can donate monthly without even thinking about it.

How much does this service cost us? The charity managing our donor-advised fund charges 0.60% or \$100 (whichever is greater). The asset allocation pools also have a

management fee that ranges from 0.53% to 0.75%. The minimum initial contribution to start the fund is \$5,000. Establishing a donor-advised fund enabled Kathy and me to increase the amount we give each month to Wallowa Land Trust.



Mark Lacey is Wallowa Land Trust’s Board Chair. He and his wife Kathy make monthly gifts to the Land Trust through a donor-advised fund.

## Save the Date! Wallowa Land Trust’s Annual Picnic

What: **Annual Picnic**

When: **Sunday, August 16, 4pm**

Where: **The Lunde Home, 601 South Main Street Joseph, Oregon**

RSVP: **info@wallowalandtrust.org**  
or call (541) 426-2042

Join us for our annual celebration of conservation in Wallowa County!

We’ll have local burgers on hand thanks to Marr Flat Cattle Co., along with drinks and live music. Please come with a side dish or dessert.



Rosie  
photo by Kathleen Ackley

Woody Wolfe  
photo by David Jensen



# 2014 Annual Report

## Wallowa Land Trust



West Moraine Preserve  
photo by Julia Lakes



Confluence Outing  
photo by David Jensen

## Home is Where the Heart is

Recently, I found myself standing at a four-way intersection on a rural northern Illinois road, contemplating the best method for avoiding becoming road kill. Cars whizzed by at 55 mph, threatening to blow me into the roadside shrubbery. When I first stepped out for an afternoon walk, I was imagining a stroll much like the ones I regularly take on the friendly backcountry roads of Wallowa County. Here, walking along the road was a dubious proposition at best. The rural countryside was still dotted with farms, but regularly interspersed with large housing developments, seemingly far from any town centers. A constant stream of cars furiously raced by to unknown destinations—nothing like the quiet corner of Northeast Oregon I have come to call home.

The fact is, sometimes you have to leave home to truly appreciate what you have. The appreciation I feel for our beautiful mountains, picturesque farms and ranches, wide open spaces and friendly faces is enormous. Clean water, fresh air and a close-knit community are exceedingly special—not to be taken for granted. I am deeply grateful to live in this place. I even appreciate the bothersome wildlife that will raid your cupboards if a door is left ajar. But what I appreciate most, is you—our members, supporters, friends and family.

Over the past year, you have cheered us on, volunteered your time, sent us money and bolstered us at every turn. Working with you, we completed two conservation projects on the East and West Moraines in 2014—protecting spectacular forested landscapes around iconic Wallowa Lake. We hosted eleven outings throughout Wallowa County and connected with more than 500 people through our outreach events. You donated well over 1,300 hours of volunteer time—ripping out old fencing, putting up bird boxes and deer exclosures, pulling invasive weeds, doing botany surveys, hosting parties, stuffing envelopes and so much more. On top of all that, you donated \$68,000 towards conservation in Wallowa County! In short, you made 2014 our best year yet—thank you! We are grateful and excited to be a part of protecting this special place with you. It is with pleasure that I present to you our first annual report.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ackley,  
Executive Director

Wild Clover  
photo by Julia Lakes



Julia Lakes and Kathleen Ackley  
photo by Molly Verhey

Out on the East Moraine  
photo by David Jensen



## ASSETS (as of 12/31/2014)

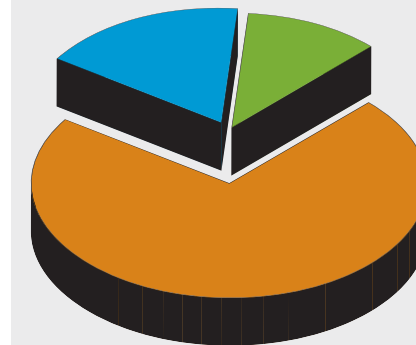
Cash & Receivables:	\$ 297,273
Conservation Property:	\$ 102,620
Investment in Real Estate:	\$ 268,500
Equipment, net of depreciation:	\$ 1,385

Total Assets: \$ 669,778

Total Liabilities:	\$ 56,832
Total Net Assets:	\$ 612,946

**TOTAL NET ASSETS & LIABILITIES:** \$ 669,778

## 2014 Financial Report



### 2014 EXPENSES

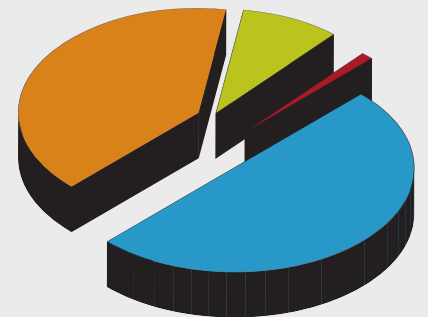
Conservation projects/Stewardship:	\$ 146,538
Management & General:	\$ 34,842
Fundraising:	\$ 21,399
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 202,799</b>

Conservation Projects/ Stewardship-73%	
Management & General-17%	
Fundraising-10%	

### 2014 INCOME

Grants:	\$ 340,576
Restricted donor contributions:	\$ 268,791
Unrestricted donor contributions:	\$ 68,522
Other:	\$ 2,339
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 680,228</b>

Grants-50%	Unrestricted Donor Contributions-9%
Restricted Donor Contributions-40%	Other-1%



## 2014 Accomplishments

**29 acres** of forestland  
purchased  
on the West Moraine  
of Wallowa Lake

Accepted a **40-acre forested**  
conservation easement  
on the backside  
of the East Moraine  
of Wallowa Lake

**256 acres** surveyed &  
rare plants  
as part of our  
East Moraine  
protection efforts

Restored and  
enhanced more than  
**30 acres** of  
wetland habitat at the  
Lostine-Wallowa  
Rivers Confluence

**1,300**  
VOLUNTEER HOURS

**Coordinated the  
Wallowa  
Lake  
Moraines  
Partnership**  
to conserve habitat, open space, working  
lands and public access around  
Wallowa Lake



**2,850**  
feet of fence removed

**Welcomed  
over 250  
people**  
to our  
**INTO THE WALLOWA**  
outings & lectures program  
& volunteer work parties.

**23** Exclosures built

Developed a stewardship fund to ensure  
the long-term protection of our lands  
and easements with **\$65,000**  
in the fund at year's end!

Jesse Abrams  
George & Brenda Ackley\*  
Kathleen Ackley  
Pat Adelhardt  
Marty Albert & Peggy Wright  
Judy & Mike Allen\*  
Ameriprise Financial, Inc.  
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Karl Anuta  
Dick Baird  
Michele & Jeff Baird  
Tarah & John Baker  
Robin Barker—

*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
Ida Barnack—

*Gift in memory of Gloria Mensah*

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Joyce Barth  
Chris Beck\*  
Maria Belknap  
Kathryn Belknap—  
*Gift in memory of Lee Belknap*  
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Jim & Ethel Chandler  
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Nancy Clarke & James Dameron\*  
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William & Linda Courtney  
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Bart & Jill Eberwein  
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Clem & Jean Falbo\*  
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Kay Firor & Kent Osterberg  
Barb Fletcher & Alex Rush  
Joseph Ford & Mary Wilkinson  
Bob & Konky Forster  
Mary B Fort  
George & Marlene Fox  
Glenn & Beth Franz  
Jerry Gaffke & Elizabeth Enslin  
Shirley & Larry Gangwere  
Theresa Garcia & Fred Nilsen  
Rachel Gerber  
Richard & Katharyn Giever  
Carolyn Gilbert  
Patty Glaze  
Dan Goodenough  
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*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
George Granger

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Karen Heagen  
Steve Healy  
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Janet & Ken Hohmann  
Rita Holland  
Marcy & John Houle  
Dave Jensen & Cathryn Paterson  
Justin & Lindsey Jones  
Larry & Muriel Jones—  
*Gift in memory of Lee Belknap*  
Larry & Susan Jones—  
*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
Al & Melissa Josephy  
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Jason & Chandai Josephy  
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George & Nancy Lower  
Kent & Sondra Lozier  
Andie Lueders & Rob Taylor  
Nick & Angie Lunde  
Karen Maccaskill—  
*Gift in memory of Lee Belknap*  
Judy Macuga  
David & Robin Martin\*  
Andrews Matthew  
Joe McCormack  
Mary Kyle McCurdy & Tom Christ  
Stephen McDuffie  
Karen & Ralf Meyer  
Sue Miller  
Sara Miller & Mike Hale  
Joe & Amy Minato  
James Monteith & Nancy Duhnkrack  
David & Sarah Moore  
Susan Mulcahy  
Joseph Newcomer  
Pat Ormsbee  
Elsbeth Otto  
Ida Pacheco  
John & Marcia Page  
Gregory Parker  
Lanetta Paul  
William F. Paulus  
Jean Pekarek & Jim Waldron  
Lawrence & Susan Peterson  
Victor Pfendler  
Kim & Kit Phelps  
Marky & Ed Pitts  
Steve Ponder & Kathryn Campbell  
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Janet Pulsifer & Ralph Swinehart  
David & Marcia Regnier  
Bruce & Wendy Reininger  
Phil & Colleen Reser  
Deb Reth & Coogan Linder  
Nick Richards & Christy Wheeler  
Timothy & Nancy Roberts  
Nick Robinson—  
*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
Tony & Linda Robinson—  
*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
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Mike Rosenbaum\*  
Angie & Steve Rubin  
Patricia & Clarence Ryan  
Pete Sandrock  
Grant Schaefer  
Karen Schilling  
Donald & Elaine Scully  
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Donna Skovlin  
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Drew & Sue Snyder  
Shirley Spiller  
Edward Spiller  
Susan Sprague  
Eric & Laurel Stahlke  
George & Barbara Stanley  
Doris & Lynn Steiger  
Brad & Anne Stephens  
Marty Stevens\*  
Loree Stoehr  
Maxine Stone  
Mike Straw  
Don & Evelyn Swart  
Bill & Lynda Swarts  
Henry Swigert—  
*Gift in memory of Lee Belknap*

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David & June Taylor  
Peter & Laurie Thimm\*  
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Janie Tippet  
Dolores Tukich  
Heather Tyreman & Bill Finney  
Lyle & Donna Ulrich  
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Maya Waldron & Thad Blank  
Dennis & Kathleen Walsh  
Rich Wandschneider  
Adele & Charles Warsinske—  
*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
Hendrik Wats  
Harold Weight  
Ann Werner—  
*Gift in memory of Lee Belknap*  
Bill Whitaker & Cheryl Simpson  
Geoff & Charla Whiting  
Alan Wilcox  
M. Boyd & Janet Wilcox  
Michael & Barbara Wirt—  
*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
David Wood  
William & Loralyn Young—  
*Gift in memory of Regan Robinson*  
Amelia Zahm\*  
John & Yvonne Zavoshy  
Jennifer & Igor Zelen  
Kim Zumwalt

*\*All Seasons Club members*

*background photo by David Jensen*

Foundations and other Grantors

American Association of University Women  
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Land Trust Alliance  
Meyer Memorial Trust  
Oregon Community Foundation  
Oregon Humanities  
Oregon Parks & Recreation Department  
Oregon Parks Foundation Fund  
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Pacific Power Foundation  
The Nature Conservancy  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Wallowa County  
Wallowa County Alternative Ed. Program Community 101  
Wallowa County Cultural Trust Coalition  
Wildhorse Foundation  
YARG Foundation  
Hells Canyon and Eagle Cap Land and Restoration Subfund of the Oregon Community Foundation

Thank you to all the individuals and businesses who supported us in 2014 with volunteer hours and in-kind gifts! We apologize for any oversight we may have made in recognizing your support. Please call our office at (541) 426-2042 and we will update our records. Thank you!

Confluence  
photo by David Bridges





Wallowa Land Trust  
PO Box 516  
Enterprise, Oregon • 97828

*Our mission is to protect the rural nature of the Wallowa Country by working cooperatively with private landowners, Indian tribes, local communities and governmental entities to conserve land.*



*Great horned owl fledgling  
photo by Leon Werdinger*

#### *Board*

Mark Lacey, Chair  
Jean Pekarek, Treasurer  
Amy Zahm, Secretary  
David Bridges  
Benjamin Curry  
Rich Wandschneider

#### *Staff*

Kathleen Ackley, Executive Director  
Julia Lakes, Conservation Director

#### *Office Address*

116 South River Street  
Enterprise, Oregon 97828  
(541) 426-2042

#### *Mailing Address*

PO Box 516  
Enterprise, Oregon 97828

[info@wallowalandtrust.org](mailto:info@wallowalandtrust.org)  
[www.wallowalandtrust.org](http://www.wallowalandtrust.org)

*A heartfelt thank you to founding board members David Jensen, Joe McCormack, James Monteith and Geoff Whiting for their years of dedicated service to Wallowa Land Trust.*

*Please join us at our Annual Picnic to celebrate their commitment to conservation.*

## *Into The Wallowa Outings & Lectures Summer 2015*

**Explore, learn and celebrate the Wallowa Country with us this summer!**

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to all ages.*

- July 4, 9am—12pm: East Moraine Geology Hike with photographer, geology enthusiast David Jensen
- July 11, 9am—12pm: East Moraine Forest Ecology and Conservation with Wallowa Land Trust Staff
- July 16, 7pm—9pm: Good Food, Bad Food discussion with author Kristy Athens
- July 18, 7am—10am: Birding at the Confluence with biologist Janet Hohmann
- Aug 1, 9am—12pm: What's that Growing There?: Farming 101 with farmer Woody Wolfe
- Aug 8, 9am—12pm: Wallowa Lake State Park Wanderings with WLT Conservation Director Julia Lakes
- Aug 13, 7pm—9pm: walwá·kiñix: Of the Wallowas presentation by historian Tim Nitz
- Aug 20, 7pm—9pm: The Longest Journey: Ancient Places presentation by author Jack Nisbet

**SPECIAL!** Aug 22, 9am—12pm: *Plein Air Art* with artist and teacher Jennifer Klimsza. Co-sponsored by Josephy Center for Arts & Culture. Registration required, group size limited to 15 people, ages 13 and up. \$10 materials fee.

For full details, visit [wallowalandtrust.org](http://wallowalandtrust.org).



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