

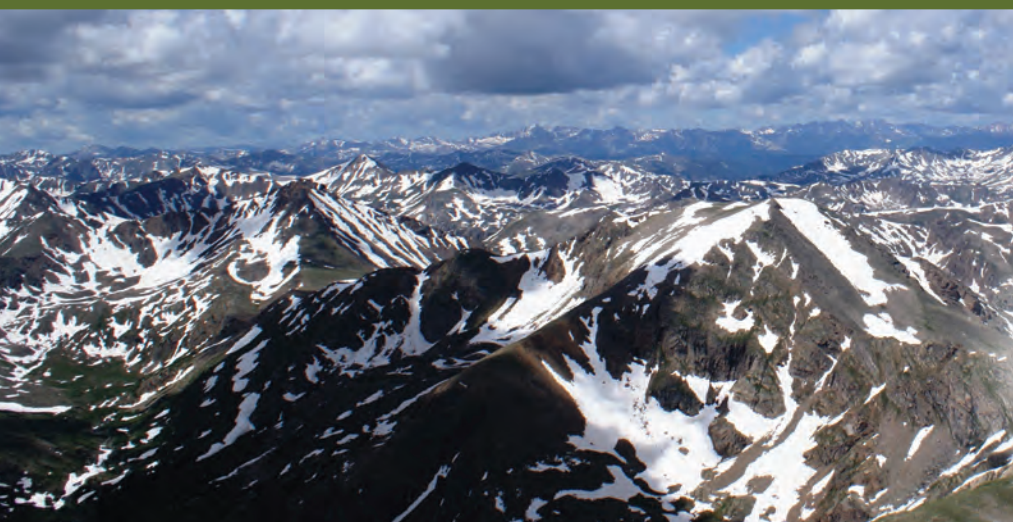


THE
**WILDERNESS
LAND TRUST**

Keeping Wilderness Wild

ANNUAL
REPORT

12-13



Dear Friends,

We are about to observe the 50th anniversary of the passage of The Wilderness Act and the establishment of America's globally unique National Wilderness Preservation System. As Howard Zahniser, its prime architect, observed, "We are not fighting progress. We are making it. We are not dealing with a vanishing wilderness. We are working for a wilderness forever."

The Wilderness Land Trust remains the only land trust specifically and solely committed to that vision and that goal. And as you can see from this Annual Report we've had another successful year, a year that we are proud of. To date, WLT has now preserved 373 parcels in 88 wilderness areas across 8 states. We have completed—that is, we've acquired the last of the private inholdings—in 12 wilderness areas, two in this past year alone.

The Annual Report covers this work and underscores another hallmark of the Trust of which we are also proud—the careful management of our finances and the overall health of our organization. As we work to protect our wild places from mining, logging, oil and gas drilling, second home development and other threats we are

mindful that this inspiring challenge can only be met by the efficient and practical use of the resources provided by valued supporters like yourself.

If there's anything we've learned over the last 50 years of the never-ending campaign, it is that protecting our nation's extraordinary wilderness is priceless, but it is not free. We are deeply grateful for the many people like you who share our vision and sustain our work. With your ongoing support we can keep the promise of unbroken wilderness for generations to come.

"Working to preserve in perpetuity is a great inspiration" was often said by Zahniser. It's true. We are also inspired by the success we continue to achieve with the support of our dedicated community.

Thank you,

Reid Haughey, President

Mark Trautwein, Chair
The Wilderness Land Trust
Board of Directors

2012-2013 ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

Nevada

RUBY MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS

We acquired an inholding in the Ruby Mountain Wilderness last year, completing the northern boundary of the wilderness. The acquisition of this 413-acre property provided a new extension to the 33-mile Ruby Crest National Recreational trail, which leads through the heart of the wilderness and provides unparalleled recreation opportunities. The Ruby Mountain Wilderness has been called the "Swiss Alps of Nevada" with its rugged, glacier-carved mountains and deep, lake-filled valleys.



California

ELKHORN RIDGE WILDERNESS

The Wilderness Land Trust recently acquired the 40-acre Camp St. Michael adjacent to the Elkhorn Ridge Wilderness and we're leasing it to a nonprofit wilderness camp while we work to transfer it to the Bureau of Land Management. Our acquisition enables kids from all over California to continue to attend this 50 year old summer camp, reflecting our vision to protect the wilderness experience for future generations.



Colorado

MOUNT MASSIVE WILDERNESS

The 21-acre Blue Lake property was the last inholding within the Mount Massive wilderness area at the foot of the Continental Divide. The Wilderness Land Trust's acquisition of this inholding completes the 20,540-acre wilderness, and provides new hiking opportunities in this popular area.



We keep the Promise of Wilderness.

Howard Zahniser was the father of the Wilderness Act—he conceived it, drafted it, nurtured it through a Congress which, in the 1950s-early 1960s, had not yet grasped the coming environmental consciousness. The 109,511,000 acres in our National Wilderness Preservation System—and growing—stand as his memorial.



"Zahnie," as his legion of friends knew him, was a scholarly man, who left a secure government job to become the Executive Director of The Wilderness Society in 1945. He began to nurture

ideas for a wilderness law in 1947, spurred by an insidious pattern of the U.S. Forest Service removing wild lands from their administratively-established wilderness areas by the stroke of a pen...whenever someone decided the trees inside were worth cutting. The point of the law was to make the boundary lines stay put.

It takes an act of Congress to add lands to the wilderness system, and that is a good thing. For though it is very hard and takes a long time, the process demands that advocates cultivate a broad coalition of local business owners, elected officials, outdoors enthusiasts, hunters and anglers. The security of our wilderness areas lies in the fact that once Congress designates a wilderness, fixing its boundary by law, that boundary can only be changed by another law—

and then the burden of proof shifts to those who covet opening a wilderness.

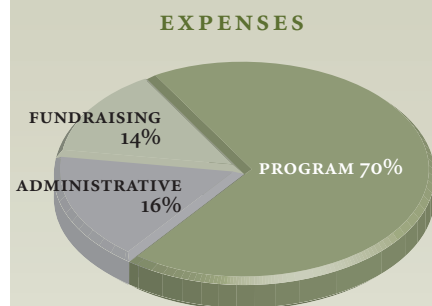
In drafting the Wilderness Act, Zahniser understood that the boundaries of areas would encompass some private lands (just as the old Forest Service wilderness areas had). That is why there is a section about how those private inholding are to be treated in the law.

Today, our Wilderness Act—Zahniser's Wilderness Act—is hailed around the world as the model for what is now a worldwide movement to preserve large expanses of nature for nature's sake.

—Doug Scott

The Wilderness Land Trust Board of Directors,
Author of *The Enduring Wilderness: Protecting Our Natural Heritage through the Wilderness Act*

Financial Summary FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013



BEGINNING NET ASSETS \$ 1,842,719

INCOME

Contributions	\$ 261,926
Other Income	\$ 528,761
Total	\$ 790,687

EXPENSES

Program	\$ 585,428
Administrative	\$ 138,482
Fundraising	\$ 120,315
Total	\$ 844,225

ENDING NET ASSETS \$ 1,789,181

*Audited

WILDERNESS PROTECTED IN 2012-2013

ARIZONA

MT. TIPTON WILDERNESS

(10 acres, Mohave County – transferred)

SWANSEA WILDERNESS

(5 acres, Mohave County – transferred)

CALIFORNIA

ELKHORN RIDGE WILDERNESS

(40 acres, Mendocino County – purchased)*

MOKELUMNE WILDERNESS

(160 acres, Alpine County – transferred)

SAN GORGONIO WILDERNESS

(640 acres, San Bernardino County – transferred)

SANTA LUCIA WILDERNESS

(157 acres, San Luis Obispo County – transferred)

SOUTH FORK EEL RIVER WILDERNESS

(520 acres, Mendocino County – transferred)*

VENTANA WILDERNESS

(160 acres, Monterey County – purchased)

VENTANA WILDERNESS

(120 acres, Monterey County – transferred)

COLORADO

JAMES PEAK WILDERNESS

(318 acres, Gilpin County – transferred)

MOUNT MASSIVE WILDERNESS

(21 acres, Lake County – purchased)*

NEVADA

RUBY MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS

(413 acres, Elko County – purchased)

2564 TOTAL ACRES

1930 ACRES TRANSFERRED

634 ACRES PURCHASED

*now completed wilderness area

MAKE WILDERNESS YOUR LEGACY



2014 IS A BIG YEAR FOR THE WILDERNESS LAND TRUST—it is the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, and we are celebrating it with a special campaign for our Sentinel Fund. The Sentinel Fund allows the Trust to be there ready and able to acquire key threatened inholdings in wilderness the moment they become available. To date, the Trust has acquired 373 inholdings totaling almost 40,000 acres and completing 12 wilderness areas. But with over 400,000 acres of inholdings still threatening America's wilderness legacy, there is much work to be done.

We will be redoubling our efforts to protect more wilderness inholdings in 2014, and we hope that you will redouble your support for The Wilderness Land Trust in honor of America's 50th Anniversary of Wilderness.

www.wildernesslandtrust.org/join

Front cover: (top) East Fork High Rock Wilderness, Nevada. Photo by Paul Andersen
Front cover: (bottom) Mt. Massive Wilderness, Colorado. Photo by Reid Haughey
Back cover: Ruby Mountains Wilderness, Nevada. Photo by David Kirk



WLT Board of Directors and Staff with representatives from one of our cooperating organizations, Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness (Idaho and Montana)

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