

PROTECTING WILDERNESS...



THE WILDERNESS LAND TRUST  
—  
2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS...

## MISSION

**We Keep the Promise of Wilderness — by acquiring and transferring private lands (inholdings) to public ownership that complete designated and proposed wilderness areas, or directly protect wilderness values.**

## VALUES

**We revere our remaining wild places, a legacy to pass on to future generations, the tenacity to work until the job is done and treating everyone with fairness.**

## VISION

**We envision a National Wilderness Preservation System that is complete, secure and accessible.**



On the cover: **Dr. Sudeep Chandra**, associate professor at University of Nevada, Reno, and director of the Castle Lake Environmental Research and Education Program, enjoys the view of Castle Lake, California while on a WLT guided hike to Heart Lake in August. *Ingrid Ougland photo.*

Above: West Elk Wilderness in Colorado.  
*John Fielder photo. [www.johnfielder.com](http://www.johnfielder.com)*



# THANKS TO YOU



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND PRESIDENT

During the past year, and as a result of your generous support, The Wilderness Land Trust acquired nearly 3,300 acres of private land and secured its protection throughout the western United States. Thank you! Your impact reaches far beyond just the land we buy. Acquiring parcels within existing wilderness represents more room for wildlife to roam free, unlocked access to recreation, and stronger protections for streams and waterways affecting more than 800,000 wilderness acres overall.

When faced with a steady rollback of environmental protections, it's important to celebrate the ways we are making a difference together. Take our recent project in the Castle Crag Wilderness in California. When a privately owned 637-acre parcel of land came up for auction last spring, it sent shock waves through the Mt. Shasta community and beyond. Selling it to another private party could have resulted in a portion of Castle Lake, the Heart Lake Trail and all of Little Castle Lake being closed off to the public.

By purchasing this property, you not only protected the surrounding wilderness, you preserved access for people who love to swim, kayak, fish, hike, backcountry ski, snowboard and ice skate within a wild and beautiful landscape, including the hearty folks who drill through the ice in the wintertime to fish. Climbing the ridge to overlook this property with the Craggs in view reminds us of the profound impact one purchase can make.

Land acquisition takes time, tenacity and considerable financial resources to complete. By generously supporting the mission of The Wilderness Land Trust, you are leaving your legacy.

***Future generations will see a landscape more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate, wild areas lush with clean water and teeming with flora and fauna, and a national wilderness preservation system that continues to expand despite near daily political challenges.***

On behalf of the entire staff and board, thank you for your generous investment in our work.

  
Karen Fisher, Board Chair

  
Brad Borst, President

# WILDERNESS PROTECTED

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

	WILDERNESS AREA	STATE	PARCELS	ACRES	AGENCY
ACQUIRED	Bodie Hills Wilderness Study Area	CA	5	1670	BLM
	Castle Crags Wilderness	CA	1	637	USFS
	Columbine Hondo Wilderness	NM	1	21	USFS
	Hoover Wilderness	CA	1	49	USFS
	Kalmiopsis Wilderness	OR	1	60	USFS
	Santa Lucia Wilderness	CA	3	324	USFS
	Weminuche Wilderness	CO	1	27	USFS
	Wild Sky Wilderness	WA	9	505	USFS
	<b>Total</b>	–	<b>22</b>	<b>3,293</b>	–
TRANSFERRED	Garcia Wilderness	CA	3	480	USFS
	Hells Canyon Wilderness	OR	1	138	USFS
	Rocky Mountain National Park	CO	1	13	NPS
	Weminuche Wilderness	CO	1	10	USFS
	Proposed West Elk Wilderness	CO	2	80	USFS
	<b>Total</b>	–	<b>8</b>	<b>721</b>	–

Ingrid Ougland

## TRANSFERRED

The transfer of two Colorado properties totaling 80 acres to public ownership within the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest in Colorado were the last remaining private inholdings within the proposed **West Elk Wilderness** addition. A third property, the 10-acre Sally Bowman mine on the Animas River (right), was also transferred to the U.S. Forest Service to become part of the **Weminuche Wilderness** in Colorado.



## ACQUIRED

A 60-acre mining claim adjacent to the Little Chetco River is the last remaining private inholding within the 180,000-acre **Kalmiopsis Wilderness**, Oregon. This acquisition eliminates forever the threat from a private mining operation, and the potential removal of thousands of tons of river gravel that would have directly impacted critical salmon spawning beds within the Chetco River drainage.

U.S. Forest Service







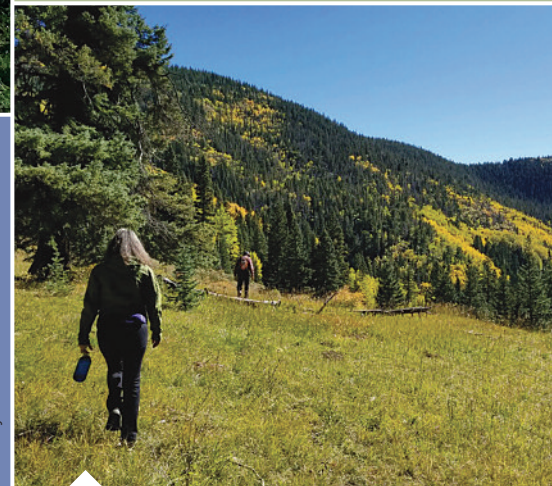
## VITAL PARTNERSHIPS

Access Fund  
 Atascadero Horseman's Association  
 Backcountry Horseman of California  
 Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership  
 Bureau of Land Management  
 Eastern Sierra Land Trust  
 Friends of the Kalmiopsis  
 Friends of Nevada Wilderness  
 Friends of Scotchman Peaks  
 Wilderness  
 Kalmiopsis Audobon Society  
 KS Wild  
 Mono Lake Committee  
 National Park Service  
 New Mexico Wilderness Alliance  
 Pacific Coast Long Riders  
 San Luis Obispo Parks Open Space  
 and Trails Foundation  
 Siskiyou Land Trust  
 Siskiyou Mountain Club  
 U.S. Forest Service  
 Ventana Wilderness Alliance  
 Whatcom Land Trust  
 Wild Rivers Land Trust

### ACQUIRED

*Acquiring the 637-acre Little Castle Lake property in the **Castle Crags Wilderness** in California protects a portion of Castle Lake, all of Little Castle Lake and a section of the trail to Heart Lake. This was the largest remaining private property within the Castle Crags Wilderness and builds on the Trust's recent transfer of a 1,256 acre private parcel within the Castle Crags Wilderness to the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Pictured: The view of Mt. Shasta from Heart Lake.*

Jeffrey Baker



### ACQUIRED AND TRANSFERRED

*Three properties acquired just outside San Luis Obispo, California protect more than 800 acres of scenic viewshed and public trail access into the **Garcia and Santa Lucia Wilderness areas**. In June we transferred two Trout Creek properties totaling 480 acres to public ownership within the Los Padres National Forest. In September we transferred a third 324-acre Trout Creek property, ensuring the public can access both the Garcia and Santa Lucia Wilderness areas.*

### TRANSFERRED

*After removing a two-story house perched atop a highly visible rock formation, the Trust transferred a 10-acre parcel to the National Park Service as an addition to **Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado**. The paved access road will soon be transformed into a hiking trail, giving the public access to the view from the property's overlook for the first time in nearly 100 years.*

### ACQUIRED

*Acquiring a 20-acre property that "cherry-stems" into the **Columbine Hondo Wilderness** in the Carson National Forest, New Mexico, helps protect the viewshed above the north fork of the Red River, a major tributary to the upper Rio Grande River. It also ensures continued public access into the designated wilderness.*



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2019

Fiscal year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019, UNAUDITED\*

**Beginning Net Assets** **\$2,733,648**

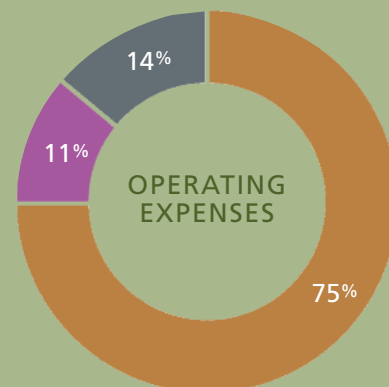
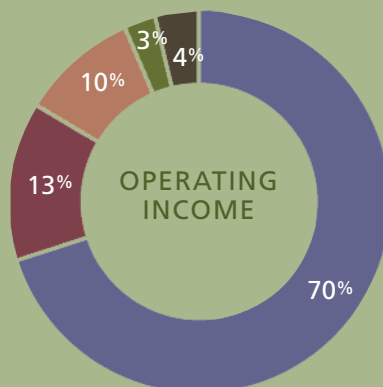
## OPERATING INCOME

Contributions	\$659,886	●
Operating Grants	\$127,000	●
Land Sales	\$95,323	●
Other Income	\$25,337	●
Reimbursements	\$34,893	●
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$942,439</b>	

## OPERATING EXPENSES

Lands Program	\$610,918	●
Administrative	\$91,526	●
Fundraising	\$115,165	●
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$817,608</b>	

**Ending Net Assets** **\$2,858,479**



\*See audited financials on our website in December 2019

## Leave a Wilderness legacy for future generations

The 1964 Wilderness Act created a globally unique National Wilderness Preservation System that is a safe haven for threatened and endangered species, a reservoir of clean air and water, a refuge from the noise and pace of cities, and an opportunity to experience the profound beauty of nature.

They are special places meant to be cherished by ensuring they remain untrammelled, wild and free.

Help us fulfill the legacy of wilderness for future generations through the creation of a bequest in your will, a relatively simple and powerful way you can support our work to protect the wild places you and your family love.

Speak with a knowledgeable, reputable financial advisor today to help you get started.

To learn more contact Brad Borst, President, at 206-397-5240 or [brad@wildernesslandtrust.org](mailto:brad@wildernesslandtrust.org)

**Thank you for your generosity.**



John Robison

*"I took my six-year-old twin girls to the Little Jacks Creek Wilderness in Idaho for their first overnight wilderness backpacking trip. Families didn't always have access here. With the help of the Wilderness Land Trust, 'No Trespassing' signs have been replaced with trailhead signs."*

—John Robison, Boise ID

# THANKS TO YOU

## 2019 HONOR ROLL

For 27 years, The Wilderness Land Trust has been focused on one thing: making wilderness areas complete and secure. With sincere gratitude, we thank each and every one of you for your generous investment in our work.

www.johnfielder.com

### Sentinel Fund

The Sentinel Fund advances The Trust's critical lands work. From acquiring high priority inholdings and edge holdings, to transferring these lands to public ownership and permanent wilderness protection, this is how the Trust fulfills its mission.

### Sentinel Society Members

Sentinel Society members provide essential support for ongoing wilderness lands projects by generously contributing \$1,000 or more annually.

### Sentinel Society Patron (\$10,000+)

Currie & Thomas A. Barron,  
Merlin Foundation  
craigslist Charitable Fund  
Fred Dietrich  
Eastern Sierra Land Trust  
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Scott Jonas  
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Jack & Sheri Overall  
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Margaret Walker

### Sentinel Society Member (\$1,000 – \$9,999)

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### (\$500 – \$999)

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John Fielder  
Jeff & Sharon Guddat  
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Wilhelm Northrop  
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Shell Oil Company Foundation  
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Andrew F. Wiessner  
& Patsy Batchelder  
Marsha M. Zelus

### (Up to \$249)

Thanks to the 165 committed members who are the foundation of The Wilderness Land Trust.

We appreciate the opportunity to recognize every donor. The Donor Honor Roll above includes gifts received during our last fiscal year, July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. If you find an error or omission please accept our sincere apologies and contact us so that we may correct our records.

### Grants

The Trust partners with grantors specializing in wilderness lands projects. We are very grateful for the essential resources they provide as well as their guidance and counsel.

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
The Cinnabar Foundation  
Resources Legacy Fund

### Wilderness Opportunity Fund

Donors to the Wilderness Opportunity Fund invest in The Trust's revolving capital fund for wilderness land acquisitions. The fund includes donations, grants and loans – including project specific funds and revolving funds.

Anonymous  
Warren M. & Sharon R. Clark  
Eastern Sierra Land Trust  
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Meridian Press  
Mono Lake Committee  
Kathleen Redden  
San Luis Parks Open Space  
and Trails





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# KEEPING WILDERNESS WILD

Bruce Capdeville

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David Kirk, Senior Lands Specialist  
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