

Gifford Pinchot Task Force • Cascade Forest Conservancy

What's New?

This past year, we celebrated 30 years of conservation at the Gifford Pinchot Task Force. We reflected on our many successes, developed a new strategic plan and vision, and held a successful banquet and fundraiser at Portland's Patagonia Store. With your support, we also moved forward on a number of conservation, restoration, and education fronts this past year.

In 2015, we launched a new campaign focused on addressing climate change and creating a healthy and resilient forest ecosystem. Through this project, we are assessing the species and habitats most vulnerable to climate change and proposing solutions ranging from policy changes to monitoring and on-the-ground restoration efforts. We are excited about this new direction and believe it is a critical component in conserving the Cascade Forest.

As the only conservation group focused on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, we review all timber sales and forest projects and participate closely with two collaborative groups of stakeholders to find community-based solutions in the forest. In 2015, we advocated for new restoration projects and

supported increasing funding for the Legacy Roads and Trails program. Through our recent surveys and timber sale comments, we were responsible for significant new protections that will increase no-cut buffers on streams, provide better habitat for spotted owls, protect areas adjacent to Wilderness, and reduce temporary roads, stream crossings, and clearcuts within project areas.

We revived our campaign to protect Mount St. Helens and the Green River valley from mining development after we learned that Ascot Resources plans again to pursue exploratory drilling permits. We engaged new and old coalition partners to prepare for another public comment period, and we worked with Senators Cantwell and Murray to explore new ways to permanently protect these lands. The local band Modest Mouse also joined us in this

important campaign! We also supported efforts to stop suction dredge mining in Washington streams, and helped the Forest Service restore roads that are impacting watershed health and improve travel management in the forest.

With your help, we had our biggest year for the Gifford Pinchot Stewards program, leading 48 days of volunteer surveys and restoration projects in the forest. Staff and volunteers pulled invasive species, surveyed forest roads and streams, set up and monitored wildlife cameras, and surveyed timber sales. Check out our new video with the Forest Service to promote these efforts: www.vimeo.com/130178583. Please join us for a trip in 2016 and thank you for helping us create a more sustainable future for Washington's South Cascades!



From the Director

Dear friends,

In 1985, a small group of dedicated citizens joined together to propose an alternative to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest's (GPNF) first Forest Plan. This grassroots effort focused on protecting old growth forests, watersheds, and our most sensitive fish and wildlife, and marked the beginning of the Gifford Pinchot Task Force. Over the next 30 years, we worked hard to protect these natural resources. We were successful in preventing logging in ancient forests and roadless areas, and we helped remove dams and stop hydropower proposals to keep our streams healthy and free-flowing. We introduced innovative programs to connect students and communities with nature and provide critical restoration to forest ecosystems.

Our group has come a long way since those first days as a volunteer task force. Today, we have two offices and a full staff and board of professionals committed to conservation. We have

7,000 members, supporters, and volunteers who join us to influence policies and provide on-the-ground support. Our bold new strategic plan focuses on supporting biodiversity and creating resilience in the forest, maintaining healthy streams and wildlife populations, engaging people with conservation, and growing a strong organization.

Through these efforts and feedback from friends and partners, we decided it was a good time to find a new name for our organization that reflects this growth and better describes what we do. We are excited to announce that our new name will be the Cascade Forest Conservancy, and we plan to roll this out over the next few months with a fresh new website and logo.

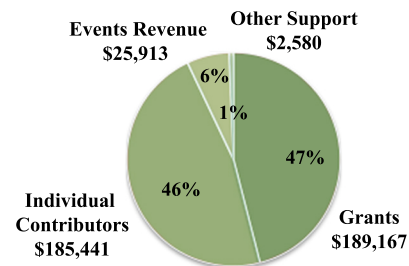
These are exciting times for our group. Please consider joining as a sustaining monthly donor this year and help us shape a bright future for the Cascades. Thank you for your support!

Matt Little

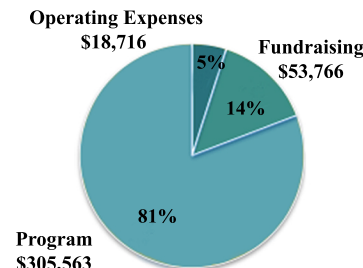


Staff Campout in Indian Heaven

**Total 2015
Revenue:
\$403,101**



**Total 2015
Expenses:
\$378,045**



Thank You Foundations and Businesses

Albina Community Bank
Boeing
Burning Foundation
Charlotte Martin Foundation
Clark-Skamania Flyfishers
Columbia Sportswear
Cornell Douglas Foundation
Giles W. and Elise G. Mead Foundation
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Willamette Valley Vineyards

And thank you to all of our members and donors.