



# MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST

## ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2010-JUNE 2011

**THE GREENWAY:** The Mountains to Sound Greenway is the spectacular landscape that connects Seattle and Central Washington, including the natural lands, rivers and communities. The Greenway provides easy access to recreation and nature for millions of people in the Northwest, key to the quality of life in this region.

**THE GREENWAY TRUST:** The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance this landscape surrounding Interstate 90, ensuring a long-term balance between people and nature. Founded in 1991, the Greenway Trust coalition works to promote public land acquisitions, connect a continuous regional trail system, teach people of all ages about the importance of conserving forests and wildlife, improve recreation access, create new parks and trails and mobilize thousands of volunteers.

**SEEKING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA DESIGNATION:** In 2010, the Greenway Trust conducted an extensive study on the future of the Greenway and in 2011 completed a new strategic plan. The feedback of hundreds of community members who participated led to the creation of a Feasibility Study that will be submitted to Congress in support of the pursuit of designating the Greenway a National Heritage Area.

### LANDS ADDED TO PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

The Greenway Trust coalition works with many partners to advocate for public land acquisitions by approaching private landowners who are willing to sell, finding funding for purchase and securing public land ownership and management by the appropriate agency. Acquisitions this year included:

- 640 acres were preserved by the Trust for Public Land at Jim Creek for inclusion in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. This section includes a salmon-bearing stream, mature forest and unroaded areas.
- A 40-acre parcel was acquired by King County on the north flank of Cougar Mountain. Long a Greenway and County priority, this parcel protects views and enables trail connections between Issaquah and Cougar Mountain.
- 20 acres were added to the Raging River State Forest by the Washington Department of Natural Resources.
- 264 acres of endangered species habitat at Snoqualmie Pass were conserved by Cascade Land Conservancy, State Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife and State Department of Transportation near the I-90 wildlife bridges project, allowing safe passage for wildlife, over and under the highway.

### HISTORY AND RECREATION

The Greenway Trust plans for and helps communities link a world-class regional trail system, builds and maintains trails and recreation areas, promotes tourism and historic preservation and helps cities retain their cultural identities and urban vibrancy.

- Greenway Summer Festival offers heritage events that highlight historical and cultural activities in the Greenway.
- Duthie Hill mountain bicycling park's five miles of trails entice riders of all ages and abilities, by King County and the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance.
- Washington State Horse Park opened for events, drawing equestrians from around the state.
- Washington State Department of Transportation built a regional trail connection between High Point and Preston that will be managed by King County, with funding from the state legislature at the Greenway Trust's request.

### VOLUNTEERS AND EDUCATION

The Mountains to Sound Greenway serves as a magnificent outdoor classroom, engaging people of all ages in stewardship and outdoor education. Programs managed by the Greenway Trust connect people to this landscape:



*Students from Emily Dickenson Elementary School in Redmond participated in a field study trip to Tiger Mountain with the Greenway education program that focused on the challenge of sustaining healthy forest lands near growing urban areas.*



*A local volunteer team from international engineering firm GeoEngineers removed invasive weeds as part of a major ecological restoration project at Meadowbrook Slough in Snoqualmie.*

- The Mountains to Sound Greenway Education Program taught 3706 students in classrooms and 2951 students on field study trips this year about the importance of salmon and wildlife, soils, forests and recycling biosolids. Volunteers from 59 schools participated in additional ecological restoration events after their education activities.
- Greenway Summer Camps brought young volunteers to do trail maintenance on Tiger Mountain and ecological restoration at Lake Sammamish, Mercer Island and in the Snoqualmie Valley, combined with outdoor education, games and hikes.
- Volunteers donated 52,260 hours to outdoor trail and restoration projects in the Greenway and planted 35,853 native trees and shrubs. Over 50% of volunteers were youth.
- In 2011, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust adopted official boundaries for the Greenway landscape. These boundaries bring new and increased outreach opportunities to communities like Redmond, Shoreline, Maple Valley, and Ellensburg through ecological restoration events.

### INTERSTATE 90 NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY & WILDLIFE BRIDGES

The Washington State Department of Transportation began construction on the first phase of the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East project, which will expand the highway and incorporate some of the most innovative highway-crossing facilities for wildlife in North America. Conservationists and the Greenway Trust coalition have worked for decades to preserve connecting sections of land in the Central Cascades and find a way for wildlife to safely cross Interstate 90.

### 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

In 2011, the Greenway Trust is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a variety of events, activities and educational opportunities for all ages. Included in the list of celebrations is a 130-mile trek from Ellensburg to Seattle during which there will be a multitude of community celebrations. A 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Photo Contest and Traveling Exhibition is planned for the second half of 2011. The exhibition will tour locations in the Greenway bringing attention to the value of the landscape.

### MAJOR DONORS - \$5000 AND ABOVE, INCLUDING OUTRIGHT, ENDOWMENT AND IN-KIND GIFTS

AAA Washington	Sally and Warren Jewell	Potelco
Norman Archibald Foundation	JiJi Foundation	Puget Sound Energy
Steven and Connie Ballmer	K & L Gates	Quadrant Homes
The Boeing Company	King County	RealNetworks Foundation
Betty Bottler	Klorfine Foundation	REI
The Burnsteads	Chris Lewis	Rowley Properties
Carter Subaru, VW and Subaru Ballard	Lucky Seven Foundation	The Seattle Foundation
Bill and Frankie Chapman	Keith & Mary Kay McCaw Foundation	Snoqualmie Tribe
City of Cle Elum	Sue McLain and Steve Persing	Social Venture Partners
Josh Dirks	McKibbon-Merner Family Foundation	Swedish Medical Center - Issaquah Campus
Cornell Douglas Foundation	Microsoft Corporation	Maryanne Tagney Jones and David T. Jones
Jim Ellis	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Taproot Foundation
Groundwire	National Forest Foundation	Gretchen Thomsen
<u>HEARTLAND</u>	Nickelodeon	Tully's Coffee
Issaquah Alps Trails Club	Osberg Family Trust	Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation

### MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST INCOME & EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 7/10-6/11

Income	
Private Contributions	\$880,564.00
Government Grants & Fees	\$828,946.00
Interest Income & Item Sales	\$15,351.00
Value of In-Kind Donations	<u>\$288,792.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,013,653.00</b>

Expense	
Program Expenses	\$1,728,234.00
Fundraising	\$84,867.00
Management & General	<u>\$167,984.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,981,085.00</b>

