



Celebrating 30 Years COASTVIEW

NORTH COAST LAND CONSERVANCY

SPRING 2016

BUSTING BROOM WITH HELP FROM EWE



PacificLight Images

If North Coast Land Conservancy’s goal is to conserve habitat for wildlife on the Oregon Coast, why are sheep grazing on NCLC’s biggest preserve in the Clatsop Plains? Better you should ask, what happened to all the Scotch broom?

Sometimes it takes unexpected partners—in this case, a fourth-generation Clatsop Plains rancher—and tools ranging from heavy equipment to nibbling sheep for us to achieve our habitat restoration goals.

When we purchased 117-acre Reed Ranch—west of US Highway 101 near Cullaby Lake—in 2008, invasive Scotch broom covered the property, crowding out native coastal prairie plants that once thrived on

**“WE’RE PUTTING
OUR ALL INTO THIS
AND HOPING FOR
THE BEST.”**

the dunes. Over several years we managed to eradicate mature broom from most of the property. However the two easternmost dune ridges were so steep and the infestation was so large that the usual methods of broom removal, including hand cutting, weed whacking, and mowing, had proved ineffective or impossible.

Then in November, we used habitat restoration funds from the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service to

attempt broom removal using a “forestry mulcher”—a large tractor that employs a rotary drum with steel chipper teeth designed to shred vegetation. The forestry mulcher succeeded in eradicating the last mature Scotch broom and the blackberry thickets while leaving native plants such as Nootka rose and willow intact.

Another challenge remained: how to keep the broom from returning. Scotch broom seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to 30 years. Annual mowing, which keeps broom in check elsewhere on Reed Ranch, isn’t possible on these steep slopes. So we arranged with our neighbor, Bill Reed, to graze sheep on the property. Sheep are known to eat brush (*continued on page 4*)

30 FOR 30: CELEBRATING THREE DECADES OF CONSERVATION

In celebration of our 30th anniversary, the conservancy’s staff plans to walk 30 miles of the Oregon Coast Trail past some of our key conserved lands Sept. 23, 24, and 25. Join us! CoastWalk Oregon will begin at the Columbia River and end in Cannon Beach. We will wrap up each day’s roughly 10-mile walk with a mini-celebration at McMenamin’s Sand Trap Pub, Public Coast Brewing Company, or a park, followed by a shuttle back to that day’s trailhead.

We have room for just 50 participants. Registration is \$300, most of which is a tax-deductible donation to NCLC. Registration opened April 1 and is filling up fast; if you are interested, don’t delay. Find complete details and a link to registration at CoastWalkOregon.org. If you are too late, we’re also planning a Virtual CoastWalk: another way for you to help NCLC meet its anniversary-year goal of raising \$30,000 (and meet your own fitness goals) by following the route of the Oregon Coast Trail—from anywhere.

Among the business supporters giving us extra support in our 30th year are Cannon Beach artist Sharon Amber, who is raffling three pieces of her jewelry to benefit NCLC, and Dragonfire Gallery, also in Cannon Beach (see page 3).



SUMMER STEWARDSHIP HUMANS VS WEEDS

Join us outside
as we do battle with
invasive species



Our summer stewardship season traditionally starts in May with eradicating Scotch broom on one of our properties; this year we'll be broom-busting



On the water: Twice this summer we will be doing stewardship from canoes.

at Reed Ranch, where we've been working hard to restore coastal prairie habitat. We plan to spend a day rooting out the new Public Enemy No. 1 at Circle Creek Habitat Reserve (see article below). In mid-summer we will twice be weeding from canoes. One day will be on the Skipanon River, attacking ivy, purple loosestrife, and yellow flag iris seed pods. We also plan to partner with The Nature Conservancy for two days of pulling loosestrife, on foot and from boats, in preserved lands along the river's edge. Find details at NCLCtrust.org, where you can also sign up to get e-mail reminders of these and other summer stewardship events.

FIRST-TIME VOLUNTEER?

Two ways to start volunteering with NCLC:



Fill out and submit our volunteer inquiry form

Find it at NCLCtrust.org/volunteer. We'll contact you with suggestions for how your skills and interests might match our needs.



Sign up for a stewardship day

View options at NCLCtrust.org/hands-on-stewardship.

GOING ALL OUT AGAINST POLICEMAN'S HELMET

The source of this plant's common name is clear when you see it in bloom: a perky pink impatiens the shape of an old-fashioned British bobby's helmet. Unfortunately policeman's helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*) has become easy to spot in northwestern Oregon; in just the past three years, policeman's helmet has appeared and spread widely in the Necanicum River watershed.

Policeman's helmet thrives in moist areas such as streambanks. Dense patches of policeman's helmet choke out native plants, reducing habitat for wildlife, while



Keep your eyes peeled in early summer for this perky pink blossom.

increasing the risk of streambank erosion.

North Coast Land Conservancy plans to vigorously attack this invasive plant throughout the Necanicum watershed this summer, and we can use your help. If you see it on your own property, pull it out by the roots and replace it with native vegetation. Or join us on June 11, when we will be partnering with Necanicum Watershed Council to pull policeman's helmet along the Necanicum where it winds past Circle Creek Habitat Reserve. Details at NCLCtrust.org/hands-on-stewardship.

SUMMER ON THE LAND

PLANNING IS UNDER WAY FOR THE 2016 SEASON

Executive Director Katie Voelke kicks off this year's line-up of guided On the Land outings with a hike at Circle Creek in June, including a walk on the new boardwalk trail (see page 4). There's no registration limit on this hike; all are welcome. We're also planning a guided walk on the Fort to Sea Trail and two visits to the shoreline above new Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. Stewardship Director Melissa Reich will lead a hike in the coastal prairie at Reed Ranch, and Neal Maine will be back leading two Seton Watches (see below). As summer winds down, Katie will offer a second all-are-welcome hike at Circle Creek. Y'all come!

Details on these and more On the Land outings on our conserved lands and adjacent public lands are being posted at NCLCtrust.org. Outings are free, but space is limited at some events, and pre-registration is required. Join our mailing list for timely reminders of upcoming events.



Steve Warner holds a common murre egg he found on last summer's On the Land outing at Oswald West State Park.

WHAT IS A SETON WATCH?

A Seton Watch (see story above) is an opportunity to sit quietly and simply observe the natural world. It is named for writer, illustrator, and naturalist Ernest Thompson Seton, (1860-1946), best known for his nature stories told from the perspective of wild animals.

Led by naturalist Neal Maine, a Seton Watch engages all your senses: eyes, ears, nose, skin, mind, and heart.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Owner Jay Shepard, manager Linda Saucedo, Bonnie Mitchell, and Shelby Wilkinson of Flair.

CANNON BEACH BOUTIQUE FLAIR ALL IN FOR CONSERVATION

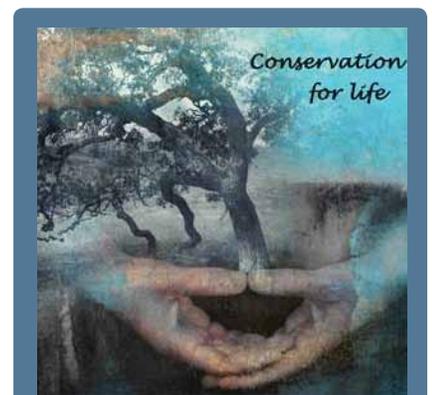
A "natural gift boutique" is how manager Linda Saucedo describes Flair, the shop she and owner Jay Shepard opened in Cannon Beach's Sandpiper Square last May. And at Flair, "nature" is more than a brand. It's a commitment, one spelled out in a plaque posted right outside the shop entrance declaring that 2 percent of all sales are donated to North Coast Land Conservancy.

"It's a natural fit," Linda says of the shop's "give-back" program. "My staff members are huge nature lovers. Most of our customers are local. We share the same goals."

The conservancy first got Linda's attention a couple of years ago, when she realized it was behind the Necanicum River floodplain reconnection project at the south end of Seaside. She had been commuting from Longview to Cannon Beach, and resolution of the highway flooding problem was huge for her. Since then she's learned more about NCLC's work and vision of—as the plaque spells out—"a fully functioning coastal landscape where healthy communities of people, plants, and wildlife all thrive."

"It matters," she says. "We're excited." So is NCLC, whose first gift from Flair, made at the end of 2015, totaled \$3,000.

We can't capture the significance of this business's commitment better than the parting words on the plaque: "Thank you for your support in joining us in giving back to help preserve the Oregon Coast for all future generations."



GALLERY BENEFIT

Spring Unveiling Arts Festival takes over Cannon Beach May 6, 7, and 8. To celebrate its 15th anniversary, Dragonfire Gallery is donating 15 percent of its proceeds on all sales that weekend to North Coast Land Conservancy. Stop in and watch the artists at work!



Preserving the Oregon Coast Forever

North Coast Land Conservancy is a nonprofit land trust dedicated to safeguarding Oregon's vital coastal landscapes. Working with a wide-range of community partners, we acquire strategic lands and manage a living network of coastal habitats—from Astoria to Lincoln City—necessary to support abundant wildlife and diverse community needs, now and forever.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Doug Green, President
- Tammi Lesh, Vice President
- Ron Logan, Treasurer
- Tom Horning, Secretary
- Betsy Ayres
- Kevin Brownlee
- Randall Henderson
- John Mersereau
- Vianne Patterson
- Lisa Phipps

STAFF

- Executive Director**
Katie Voelke
- Associate Director**
Jon Wickersham
- Stewardship Director**
Melissa Reich
- Development Director**
Lorraine Ortiz
- Conservation & Stewardship Manager**
Amy Hutmacher
- Administrative & Outreach Assistant**
Lynette Villagomez
- Communications Coordinator**
Bonnie Henderson

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 67
Seaside, OR 97138

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

2609 N. Roosevelt Drive
Seaside, OR 97138

CONTACT US

(503) 738-9126
nclc@NCLCtrust.org

PRINTED ON FSC PAPER
WITH SOY INKS



WE'RE SEEKING SUSTAINING STEWARDS

Sustaining Stewards are the people who guarantee that the lights stay on and the conservation continues, day in and day out, at North Coast Land Conservancy. If you make automatic monthly contributions to NCLC, you're already a Sustaining Steward. For our 30th anniversary year, we're hoping to recruit 30 new Sustaining Stewards.

Why? It's an easy way for a donor committed to NCLC's mission to have a big impact. It provides NCLC with predictable income. It's a seamless way for someone with a philanthropic impulse and a love for NCLC to make a significant difference in conservation on the Oregon coast. You can increase, decrease, or stop donations at any time with a phone call or a few clicks on our website. Click the DONATE button at NCLCtrust.org or call Lynette at 503-738-9126 to set up automatic bill pay.



"My decision to make monthly donations was my way of telling NCLC that they could count on me. If lots of people decide to do it, it makes a big difference. Funding gets more predictable. Work is easier to plan. Goals are easier to set."

—Jeff Roehm, Portland



"I know how important it is for non-profits to have a dependable monthly income. I am able to contribute more to NCLC on a monthly basis than if I simply renewed my yearly donation. I'm delighted to be a part of this vibrant organization and its mission of protecting and saving our Earth."

—Jill Thurston, Manzanita

CIRCLE CREEK TRAILS UPDATE



The trail system is coming together at Circle Creek Habitat Reserve thanks to generous donors and an active group of volunteers, including the new Trails and Barn Committee. Stewardship volunteers planned to spruce up the Legacy Loop Trail (0.8 mile round-trip) in late April, just in time for NCLC's The Forest Remembers memorial event at Circle Creek on April 30. And the boardwalk portion of the new Circle Creek and Wetlands Walk (about 2.5 miles round-trip) was substantially completed last fall; finishing touches include crafting a new path to the start of the boardwalk portion, with wayfinding help from trail markers created by Seaside High School students for their senior-year Pacifica Project. Watch our monthly e-news for trail updates and details about two guided On the Land outings on the boardwalk (and beyond) planned for July 1 and August 26.

(WITH HELP FROM EWE, continued from page 1) such as Scotch broom seedlings. Sheep will be allowed to graze on half of the recently cleared 15 acres, allowing NCLC Stewardship Director Melissa Reich to compare the grazed and ungrazed areas and to assess the sheep's impact. In March she seeded the cleared dunes with grass and wildflower species native to this region. "We're kind of putting our all into this and hoping for the best," Melissa says. "Whatever happens will be better than it was." For more details and photos, visit NCLCtrust.org/counting-on-sheep-at-reed-ranch.

JOIN OUR E-MAIL LIST

If you only receive newsletters from us in the mail, you're only getting half the picture. North Coast Land Conservancy also sends out monthly e-newsletters with breaking news, upcoming events, and blog posts focused on seasonal changes and wildlife on the Oregon Coast.

To subscribe, visit
NCLCtrust.org
and click on
STAY IN TOUCH

We don't share our mailing list with anyone, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Stay current and engaged by following North Coast Land Conservancy on Facebook and Instagram



Find us on the web at
NCLCtrust.org

