



TWO PROJECTS, ONE VISION

A community forest will protect Arch Cape's drinking-water source, from headwaters to tap.

ARCH CAPE COMMUNITY FOREST TAKES SHAPE

In June, the Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District took a major step toward connecting the community to its drinking-water source by purchasing approximately 1,500 acres of surrounding forestland. The acquisition lays the foundation for creating the Arch Cape Community Forest.

This was no small accomplishment, coming at the conclusion of several years of planning, raising funds and collecting input from community

members and other stakeholders. On its own, this project will permanently protect the source of Arch Cape's drinking water, from headwaters to tap. A healthy forest with diverse streamside vegetation is vital to holding soil in place, preventing erosion, and improving downstream water quality.

However, the Arch Cape Forest is also part of a larger story of connectivity unfolding on the northern Oregon Coast. The forestland is adjacent to North Coast Land Conservancy's 3,500-acre Rainforest Reserve, along with Oswald West State Park and the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve.

In fact, the Rainforest Reserve and Arch Cape Forest—while two unique projects—arose from a shared vision of protecting coastal rainforest and

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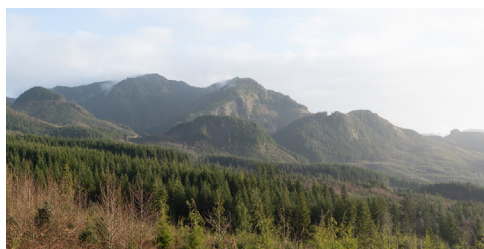
REINFORCING LAND-TO-SEA CONNECTIVITY

Since establishing the Marine Reserve Program in February, North Coast Land Conservancy has experienced an opportunity to engage in summit-to-sea conservation in an exciting way.

The purpose of the new program is to educate on and advocate for the abundant values of the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve site.

As the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve site is located offshore to Oswald West State Park and the Rainforest Reserve, it plays a unique role in NCLC's commitment

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The Arch Cape Forest is adjacent to NCLC's Rainforest Reserve.

NCLC RECEIVES ACCREDITATION RENEWAL

In February, North Coast Land Conservancy achieved renewal of its land trust accreditation, demonstrating once again the organization's commitment to professional excellence and to maintaining the public's trust in its conservation work on the Oregon Coast.

"Our strength means special places—such as Circle Creek Conservation



Center, Boneyard Ridge and the Rainforest Reserve—will be protected in perpetuity, ensuring the Oregon Coast

is a place where wildlife, plants and people thrive," Executive Director Katie Voelke says.

NCLC was originally accredited in 2015 and embarked on the renewal process starting last year. The organization provided extensive documentation and was subject to a comprehensive third-party evaluation prior to achieving

this distinction. A public comment session also was conducted. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission awarded renewed accreditation, signifying its confidence that NCLC's lands will be protected forever.

Read more at NCLCtrust.org/north-coast-land-conservancy-receives-accreditation-renewal/.



NCLC IS GROWING!

Over the past several months, North Coast Land Conservancy has added a couple of new positions and brought on staff to accommodate its organizational growth. Meet the newest team members!

Marine Program Coordinator Kristin Bayans (from left) is overseeing the recently adopted Marine Reserve Program of NCLC, centered on Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. Morgan Bender-deMoll, who served as a seasonal stewardship assistant in 2021, assumed the role of Conservation Manager. Kassia Nye took over as Development Director after the retirement of Lorraine Ortiz. Finally, Chris Mathison joined NCLC in May as the new Office Manager.

ARCH CAPE FOREST

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simultaneously sustaining a high quality of life for people, plants and wildlife on the coast.

"It was such an honor to work with the district, providing support services and our expertise with fundraising, grant writing, and transactional due diligence," NCLC Executive Director Katie Voelke says.

This exemplifies one of NCLC's core conservation strategies: facilitation, or providing services to partners working toward the conservation of land that will eventually end up in public ownership. Services may include helping to facilitate negotiations between partners, raising public awareness, assisting with grant writing, and acting in an advisory capacity for the partners involved.

"We can bring our skills and expertise to the table and make community conservation happen, even if we are not the ultimate owner," Associate Director Jon Wickersham says. "We've done this with state and national parks, the cities of Seaside and Cannon Beach, and now the Arch Cape Water District."

Read the full story at NCLCtrust.org/arch-cape-forest/.



Tidepool Ambassador Program (TAP) lead Angela Whitlock leads a training for volunteers at Haystack Rock in Cannon Beach in June.

CONNECTING COASTAL VISITORS WITH THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

This summer, volunteers with the Tidepool Ambassador Program (TAP) have been at Short Sand Beach, alongside the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve, to spread awareness about the abundance of living organisms inhabiting tidal pools.

Their job is to speak with beach visitors and educate them on how to respectfully interact with these sensitive marine habitats. The goal, says TAP lead Angela Whitlock, is “to connect the visitor with the environment.”

“When you establish that relationship and make that connection, then you start caring,” she adds.

The 2022 season kicked off with a training at Haystack Rock in Cannon

Beach on June 4, co-sponsored by the Haystack Rock Awareness Program (HRAP). The season runs through September at Short Sand Beach.

Nearly a dozen volunteers have divvied up 18 weekend shifts surrounding the lowest tides of the season. During their shifts, the volunteers connect with beach-goers and share information about proper tide pool etiquette, as well as educating them on the types of species that thrive at Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. This includes an array of anemone species, such as giant green and aggregating; nudibranchs; sea stars; barnacles; crabs and much more.

Read the full story at NCLCtrust.org/tide-pool-ambassadors/.

STEWARDSHIP SEASON IN FULL BLOOM DURING SUMMER 2022

Summer stewardship at NCLC is back in full-force this year. Field work has consisted of weekly Weed Warrior Wednesdays and monthly volunteer work parties to remove invasive plants and support healthy plant and wildlife habitat.

From pulling and stomping a policeman’s helmet to freeing the trees from non-native blackberries at Thompson Creek, volunteers make it possible for NCLC to thoughtfully steward its reserves across the northern Oregon Coast.

The organization also brought back seasonal internships. Astoria High School students Aiden Hogan and Silas Griffin and Oregon State University student Brendan Deur have contributed numerous hours of support since June. They will be with us through the end of summer.



Find out more about volunteering at NCLC at NCLCtrust.org/volunteer

CONNECTIVITY

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to connectivity. For decades, NCLC has worked strategically to conserve ecological systems that are the basis of all life. On the Oregon Coast, the ocean and beaches are inextricably linked to the mountains, wetlands and other ecosystems.

Creating a corridor of conserved

spaces is a meaningful way to support species biodiversity and resiliency in a changing world.

As part of being stewards for the marine reserve, NCLC has invited the public to participate in community science opportunities and other engaging activities to learn more about marine conservation. The marine reserve program hosted a Land-to-Sea Community Science BioBlitz in

June and July to gather data about the species who live in and around the reserve. More than 50 people contributed observations from Short Sand Beach, Falcon Cove Beach and Neahkahnie Beach. The marine reserve is also the site of seabird and sea star surveys and other research.

Find out more about the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve at NCLCtrust.org/cape-falcon-marine-reserve/.

*Helping to conserve
Oregon's coastal lands,
forever.*

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SUPPORTER PROFILE

LEAVING A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

For Ryan Blum and Britta Herwig, Astoria was a chosen home.

"This is the only town in the whole of the U.S. where we both visited and said, 'We could live here,'" Ryan says.

For Britta, it reminded her of Germany, where she was born and raised. For Ryan, it was the opposite of his desert-like hometown in Central California. They were drawn to the Oregon Coast's lush landscape, the weather, and the fact that—although the area possesses renowned beauty—there's a living, working and engaged community with a connectedness to the surrounding environment.

Even before moving to the coast in February 2021, the couple sought out ways to get involved locally. One of the ways they chose was North Coast Land Conservancy.

"Because we cherish this part of the world, we wanted to find an organization that shares those values and does something about it," Ryan says.

Motivated by NCLC's vision and strategic decision-making when it comes to acquisition and stewardship, they became Coast Legacy Circle members.



They feel concern about the erasure of critical species and the misconception of land as an endless resource, which often leads to careless misuse. They see conservation of wildlife habitat and other ecologically rich sites as a way to address those challenges.

It's also a means of leaving an important, intangible legacy. Through supporting land conservation, they want to be part of something long-lasting that honors those who've come before and the generations yet to come.

"The last few years have taught us that we shouldn't take anything for granted," Britta says, adding each person has a responsibility to preserve the things that matter. "Everybody should be involved at whatever level is right for them."

"If one cherishes the North Coast for the reasons that everybody comes here—natural beauty, activities in nature, the various waters of the Columbia and the Pacific, the wildlife, breathtaking views, dramatic weather, natural products and foods—then finding a way to keep that available for others really falls to all generations," Ryan says. "The world is enough—just keep it around for others to enjoy."

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INVOLVED AT THE
LEVEL THAT'S
RIGHT FOR THEM.'**

WHAT IS THE COAST LEGACY CIRCLE?

This special group of donors has made conservation of the Oregon Coast their legacy by including NCLC in estate plans.

Learn more at
NCLCtrust.org/planned-giving/.

Stay current and engaged by
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Find us on the web at
NCLCtrust.org

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