PCC FARMLAND TRUST

2015: A Momentous Year

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Don Bailey harvests kale with his daughter, Annie, on their conserved 103-year-old family farm.

Dear Friends,

I am proud to share with you that 2015 was the most significant year in PCC Farmland Trust's history, and we couldn't have done it without you. With your help, we fulfilled our promise to protect more near-urban farmland, and tripled our annual rate of conservation.

Building on our targeted efforts in the Puyallup Valley, we conserved two additional farms in the historic agricultural region: Harman and Shelstad Farms. To further extend our commitment to near-urban farmland, we also conserved Bailey Farm—a county-recognized Centennial Farm, and our first conserved farm in the Snohomish Valley. At 270 acres, Bailey is the largest farm the Trust has conserved west of the Cascades.

While our conservation staff developed affordability tools and our fundraisers secured critical dollars, our stewardship team stayed busy supporting farmers and their protected lands. We began developing our first-ever grant program to incentivize sustainable land management, and connected with nearly 200 farmers to learn about their land-leasing needs.

This momentum speaks both to our diligence and focus as an organization and to our community's unwavering support of our work. Volunteers and donors like you showed up in countless ways over the course of last year. Hundreds of you enhanced 69,000 feet of on-farm habitat by planting native shrubs and pollinator hedgerows. Thousands of you came to our events and engaged with us online, helping extend our reach even further.

Your generosity has ensured farmers like Kim Shelstad can continue implementing biodynamic farming practices in the Puyallup Valley. It has allowed lifelong farmer Cliff Bailey to pass on his agricultural legacy to a fifth generation, realizing a succession plan more than 40 years in the making.

What is special about our work is that it stretches beyond individual farms and farm families. Our collective efforts ripple outward to the communities where we live, the food we eat, and the imprint we leave on our environment. With farms nearby, we can all reap the benefits of good soil, healthy food, and responsible land stewardship.

That's why we're committing to protect more farms, more quickly, in the years ahead. As we look to 2016 and beyond, we are prepared to double down on our vision to build a sustainable farming future and contribute to the long-term health of our communities.

Thank you for standing by us during this exciting time.

With gratitude,

Rick VanderKnyff
Board President

"PCC Farmland Trust has gone above and beyond to help keep us farming. Not only is conserving farmland a professional goal of ours, it is also extremely personal for us as commercial farmers. Without the support of PCC Farmland Trust, we wouldn't be farming."

- Amy Moreno-Sills, Four Elements Farm

Beet and chard sprouts at Four Elements Farm in Orting, WA.

Key Accomplishments

Together, **we conserved 3 farms in our near-urban focus areas,** tripling our annual rate of conservation.

We continued our focused efforts in the Puyallup Valley, conserving Harman and Shelstad Farms.

We launched our conservation work in Snohomish County, protecting the **103-year-old Bailey Farm.**

We were asked to lead the Farming in the Floodplain Project, a key piece of a $9.2 million Department of Ecology grant to promote farming viability in the Puyallup Valley.

145 volunteers enhanced 69,000 square feet of on-farm habitat.

We welcomed 3 new board members, Dr. Stephen Jones of Washington State University, Brad Harrison of Threshold Group, and Elizabeth Pontefract of PCC Natural Markets.

40 volunteers helped us complete a two-year restoration project along Ball Creek in the Puyallup Valley, improving important fish and wildlife habitat by removing invasive species and planting **844 native trees.**

Our long-term partnership with Powers Winery hit the $150,000 mark from wine sold at PCC stores.

PCC Natural Market shoppers supported our work to the tune of $60,000 by purchasing products from 35 vendor partners.

We conducted a bi-lingual feasibility study to assess the land needs of new and beginning farmers across the state.

We tested the feasibility of a Farmland Impact Investment Fund that will deliver a modest financial return and a significant impact to the farming communities of Puget Sound.

We began developing our first-ever farmer-focused grant program, **Advancing Farm Sustainability**, to incentivize sustainable land management practices.

334 donors gave over $65,000 in only 24 hours through GiveBIG, King County's biggest day of online giving .

We convened and led land trusts and community partners to secure funding for farmland conservation in Washington.

THANK YOU!

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the support of our donors, corporate sponsors, grantors, partners, and friends. You each serve an important role in our farmland conservation efforts, allowing us to be strategic, nimble, and responsive to the needs of farmers. Your commitment to our work is truly making a difference, and will continue to do so for future generations.

Farmer Kim Shelstad tends to the cows on his conserved biodynamic farm in the Puyallup Valley.

Looking Ahead

We have a full pipeline of conservation opportunities in the Puget Sound region, which will enable farm business succession and provide affordable farmland for the next generation.

As we grow our portfolio of protected farms, **we are working to better connect sustainable and organic farmers to land opportunities in Washington.**

By the end of 2016, **we will complete two pilot cycles of Advancing Farm Sustainability,** funding 10 projects aimed at improving soil, water, or habitat on our conserved farms.

Based on our feasibility study findings, **we are collaborating with farm management organizations** to creatively address land access issues in Washington State.

Financial Report

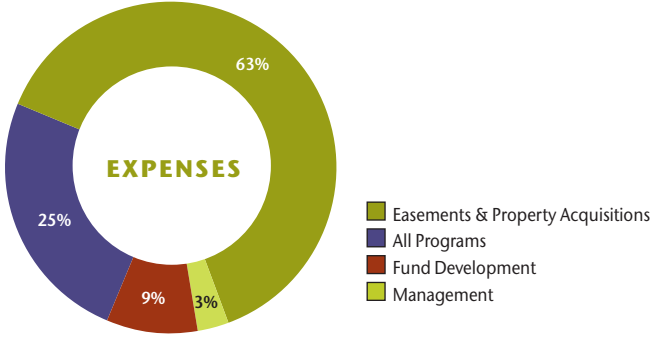
JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2015

OPERATING EXPENSES

Fund Development	**$265,118**
Management	**$93,636**
All Programs	**$763,701**
Community Engagement	$328,147
Stewardship	$224,644
Farmland Conservation	$210,910
TOTAL	**$1,122,455**

CONSERVATION CAPITAL EXPENSES

Easements & Property Acquisitions	**$1,901,788**
COMBINED EXPENSE TOTAL	**$3,024,243**

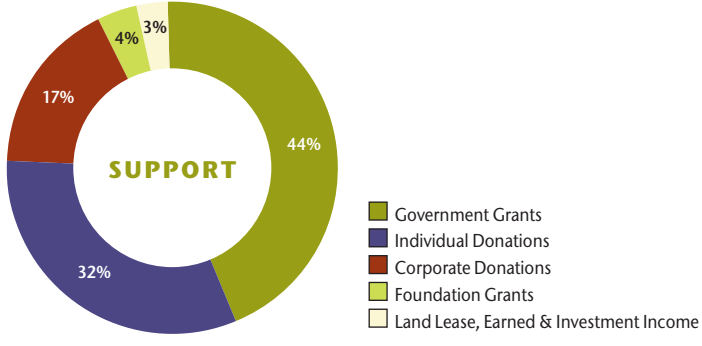


OPERATING SUPPORT

Individual Donations	**$606,553**
Corporate Donations	**$324,104**
Foundation Grants	**$84,551**
Land Lease Income	**$37,694**
Earned Income	**$9,919**
Investment Income	**$2,880**
TOTAL	**$1,065,701**

CONSERVATION CAPITAL – RESTRICTED SUPPORT

Government Grants	**$853,766**
COMBINED SUPPORT TOTAL	**$1,919, 467**



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IN-KIND

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EVENT THANKS

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Photos: Tom Marks, Molly Goren, Amelia Skinner