

In 2015 the list of accredited land trusts topped 300—benefiting the land conservation community through increased public trust that helped win permanent federal tax incentives.

The Commission also completed the “Improving the Journey” project, earning thanks from land trusts that provided input along the way. The program remains rigorous and land trusts spend less time applying because of improvements like these:

- Fewer requirements
- Less documentation
- Better tools and resources

It is a pleasure to work with land trusts and the Commission on this journey to advance excellence, trust and permanent conservation through accreditation.

  
Tammara Van Ryn  
Executive Director

## 2015 Key Accomplishments



### Easier Planning

via our new  
accreditation website



### Straighter Path

i.e., fewer steps and  
faster feedback



### Lighter Load

including reduced  
requirements



### Better Tools

such as video  
tutorials



# 317

## Accredited Land Trusts

...making it all worth it!

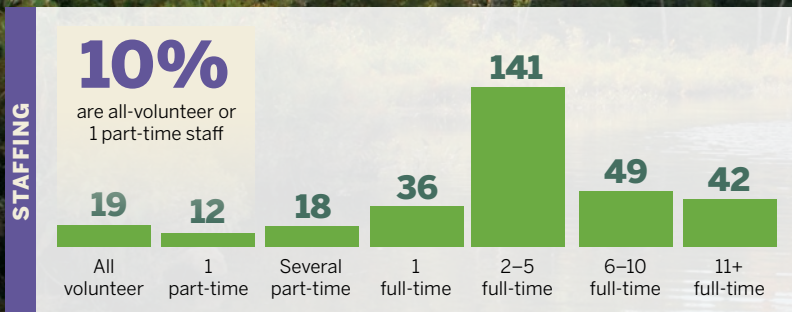


Renewal is a rigorous process and we are proud of this achievement. During the 5-year period since we were first accredited, there have been a number of changes within our land trust, advancements in technology and knowledge gained in the conservation field that warranted this careful review. Our findings resulted in modifications to our policies and procedures, ensuring that we continue on the path of excellence, trust and permanence.”

—**DEBORAH STANLEY**, Executive Director of The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust



## How Diverse Are Accredited Land Trusts?



## 2015 Financial Snapshot

For a copy of our complete financials, please contact [info@landtrustaccreditation.org](mailto:info@landtrustaccreditation.org).

### REVENUE



- Program Service Revenue  
\$557,274
- Contributions and Grants  
\$262,500
- Investment Income  
\$255 (not depicted)

### EXPENSES



- Program  
\$656,752
- Management and General  
\$125,747

## About the Commissioners

Nineteen commissioners and one commissioner-designate volunteer their time to govern the Commission and review applications. All agree it is a great opportunity to work with a dedicated group of conservation leaders on an effective and important program. Interested in learning more about becoming a commissioner? *See [www.landtrustaccreditation.org/about/commissioners](http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/about/commissioners).*

### 2015 COMMISSIONERS

Heather Richards, Chair,  
*Culpeper, VA*  
Molly Doran, Vice Chair, *Bow, WA*  
Daniel Cline, Secretary, *Midland, MI*  
Jennifer Sims, Treasurer,  
*Ridgefield, WA*  
Jamie Brown, *Bolton Landing, NY*  
Marty Coleman-Hunt,  
*Nevada City, CA*  
Elizabeth Crane-Wexler,  
*Silver Spring, MD*  
Scott Dickerson, *Lincolnton, ME*  
Thomas R. Duffus, *Duluth, MN*

Jay Erickson, *Helena, MT*  
Karen Ferrell-Ingram,  
*Swall Meadows, CA*  
Lawrence Kuefer, *Denver, CO*  
Cary F. Leptuck, *Chester Springs, PA*  
Kristen Maneval, Commissioner-  
Designate, *Crownsville, MD*  
Anne Murphy, *Redding, CA*  
Katharine Roser, *Durango, CO*  
Bruce Runnels, *Fort Collins, CO*  
Ann Taylor Schwing, *Napa, CA*  
Stephen Swartz, *Kensington, MD*  
Chris Vaughn, *Charleston, SC*

# 4,000 hours a year



are donated by Commissioners to help keep accreditation fees affordable

**317\***  
accredited land trusts protect  
**76%**  
of all land held by land trusts.  
That's  
**24,596**  
square miles, an area  
larger than West Virginia



\*342 as of May 2016



“As the number of accredited land trusts grows, so does the integrity of the entire land trust community. I believe that, because our community created an accreditation program, we were able to convince Congress to lock in permanent easement tax incentives.”

— Caren Schumacher, Executive Director, Historic Virginia Land Conservancy

## Thank You!

The Commission thanks the Land Trust Alliance for its support of the accreditation program through the Berkley Endowment and *Together: A Campaign for the Land*, as well as financial and administrative support to the Commission and assistance to land trusts preparing for accreditation. We also appreciate the Cashdan/Stein Great Grandmother Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation for its 2015 support of the accreditation program.

## Land Trust Accreditation Commission

An independent program of the Land Trust Alliance

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Photos—Front cover: Save Mount Diablo, Scott Hein. Inside background: Northeast Wilderness Trust; left group shot: DJ Glisson. II; top inset: Feather River Land Trust, Shannon Morrow; bottom inset: Lemhi Regional Land Trust, Ilona McCarty. Back cover: Alachua Conservation Trust, Robert Hutchinson