



**PACIFIC
FOREST
TRUST**

2025 **CREATING A CLIMATE FOR SUCCESS**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

While 2025 was a tumultuous year, PFT made significant advances in conservation, climate action, biodiversity protection, and the use of good fire to protect both communities and forests from catastrophic fire.

The year began with the Los Angeles fires – a vivid, tragic example of how costly climate change influenced fire is. Financial losses are estimated at \$250 Billion, with loss of life and homes. The damage to people’s futures and environmental quality is not included here, nor the loss in home value or collapse of insurance providers. Altogether, these are the cost of inadequate action on climate change.

Across the US, the home insurance crisis is a top economic issue and climate change is affecting property values to the tune of an estimated \$25 trillion hit globally. Across this country, a majority of voters see the linkage to climate change.

Climate change is not theoretical. We know how to address it. Every dollar spent on forest fuels reduction treatments saves almost \$4.00 in wildfire damages; improving forest and community health while reducing wildfire spread and severity. Working with forests is a proven, cost-effective tool to mitigate climate change risk. It improves resilience and safety. It is the least expensive, most scalable and multi-benefit climate tool we have.



Celebrating the return of Henness Ridge to the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation.

I am proud that in 2025 we played a key role passing critical climate change policy that integrates a broader Nature-based approach in the landmark renewal of Cap and Invest in California. We worked with broad coalitions to expand policies improving forest resilience and increasing good fire, as well as demonstrating its use. We were also thrilled to return key lands bordering Yosemite National Park to the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, as well as work with families and companies to initiate conservation on over 20,000 acres and restore key habitats across both Oregon and California.

Thank you for your support; you are essential to these accomplishments. Onward!

With gratitude,

Laurie A. Wayburn

CONSERVATION

Making Connections for communities, wildlife, cultures, and ecosystems

A defining theme of Pacific Forest Trust's work is to build connectivity across forest ecosystems—for watershed, wildlife, and forest resilience benefits in addition to the direct benefits of the specific properties we conserve. This builds broader and greater benefits for communities, fire safety, and water security, amongst other synergies.

Wildlife corridors connect landscapes and provide healthy habitat and migration routes for wildlife.

2025 was a powerful culmination of years of conservation, stewardship, and partnership, with our transfer of Henness Ridge, nearly 900 acres bridging Yosemite National Park and Sierra National Forest, to the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation (SSMN). This critical forest was intended to be part of the protected area of Yosemite National Park, but was left unprotected in order to log it, followed by development. Now, this critical connecting corridor for wildlife, and part of a traditional path to the Valley for the Miwuk, will again be both protected and stewarded. The land will become a living classroom, where traditional practices—restoring natural forest structure, eradicating invasive species, cultivating native plants, and reintroducing cultural fire—can be revitalized and passed to future generations.

On California's North Coast, PFT is working to build a powerful East West Corridor to link the Sinkyone Wilderness to Island Mountain by permanently conserving the 13,000 acre Adanac Ranch. With 1.5 miles on the Wild and Scenic Eel River, over 50 miles of salmon-bearing streams, and rare shared habitat for Roosevelt and Tule elk, this property is a vital corridor that will remain an unfragmented landscape of working forest, oak woodlands, and grasslands while providing both access to and the backdrop for the Great Redwood Trail.

In Oregon, PFT advanced conservation on multiple projects that expand the connectivity and impact of the Cascades Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM) and Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest. The 420 acre Epstein Family Forest bordering Ashland reflects decades of exemplary restoration by Bill and Sarah Epstein. This property creates vital connectivity between public lands and serves as a buffer for wildfire protection. And at the Willow-Witt Ranch, 450 acres bordering the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM), PFT also optioned the conservation easement to protect the Ranch which directly borders the CSNM. We also began work with Timber Rings Tree Company to conserve 3,100 acres at Evan's Creek which will protect key salmon and steelhead habitat and the surrounding ecosystem. These projects all help conserve globally outstanding biodiversity and secure important linkages needed for wildlife adaptation and climate resiliency.

3,100

Conserving 3,100 acres at Evan's Creek will protect key salmon and steelhead habitat



STEWARDSHIP

Stewarding our Forests Supporting our Landowners

PFT has conserved over 360,000 acres of vital forestlands overall. Of these, we hold and steward conservation easements on 130,000 acres, supporting our 38 landowners in their forest management and conservation goals. We are delighted that we have had a very positive year of stewardship working with all of them.



Fresh green growth emerges at McCloud Soda Springs after prescribed burns, providing better food and water for wildlife and supporting a more biodiverse, fire-resilient forest.

We also implement restoration projects on forests we manage both for forests we own and for landowners for whom we manage their forests. 2025 saw the completing of several major stream and fish habitat restoration projects, as well as expanding our work with beneficial fire.

At the van Eck Oregon Forest, we completed two large projects to enhance critical spawning habitat for threatened Oregon Coast coho salmon as well as new restoration work in riparian and wetland habitats for beaver and coastal giant salamanders. We are also working to restore tidal wetlands, ecosystems that have declined by over 95% across Oregon. And, at van Eck California, we restored a critical oxbow on Lindsay Creek, a key tributary to the Mad River, reconnecting a vital salmon

tributary. Already, we've seen salmon, black bears, elk calves, and giant pacific salamanders using this oxbow!

At McCloud Soda Springs Forest in California, we continued our multi-year prescribed burn program with another 440 acres. These efforts have strong support from the community of McCloud, California as they reduce the risk of catastrophic fire while promoting a more naturally productive, biodiverse, and fire resilient forest. Here too, we have documented significant, positive response from both the vegetation and increased wildlife usage.

It's an honor to work with our landowners and care for the forests that do so much for us.

130,000

PFT holds and stewards conservation easements on 130,000 acres



POLICY

Advancing Policy Wins and Coalition Building

In 2025, PFT was at the forefront of transformative nature-based climate policy, advancing beneficial fire policies and practices, and catalyzing new approaches to financing fuels reductions. Our work is strengthened through coalitions with governments, non-profits, academics, and a broad swath of stakeholders and practitioners.

Amongst the gains made in California was the enactment of SB 840, authored by Senator Limón, extending California’s Cap-and-Invest program and directing the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop alternative in-state offset mechanisms that support nature-based climate targets and 30x30 conservation goals. Now, PFT is working with CARB to develop this alternative which would be grounded in working lands conservation easements. Additionally, PFT led several fire focused working groups over many months to develop the basis for the Good Fire Act (GFA), introduced by Assemblymember Chris Rogers in February 2026. The GFA, advancing on consensus, will remove some key hurdles to broad adoption of beneficial fire management and improve both community safety and landscape health.

At the federal level, PFT continued advocating for expanding public-private conservation partnerships by allowing accredited land trusts to hold conservation easements funded under the Forest Legacy Management Flexibility Act (H.R. 9602).

In Oregon, PFT supported a growing number of conservation investments across programs including the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program, the Oregon Water Enhancement Board, the Natural and Working Lands Fund, the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, and the Private Forest Accord Grant Program. Sustained funding is vital for watershed health, forest resilience, and sustainable agriculture, and PFT will continue to advocate for such funding in the years ahead.



DONOR REPORT

We rely on the generous support of individuals, foundations, and corporations to safeguard healthy water supplies, provide safe habitat for wildlife, supply wood and jobs for local communities, and remove CO₂ from the atmosphere for the benefit of all.

To learn more and support our work, contact Kevin Connelly at kconnelly@pacificforest.org or call 415.561.0700 x32.

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\$100,000+

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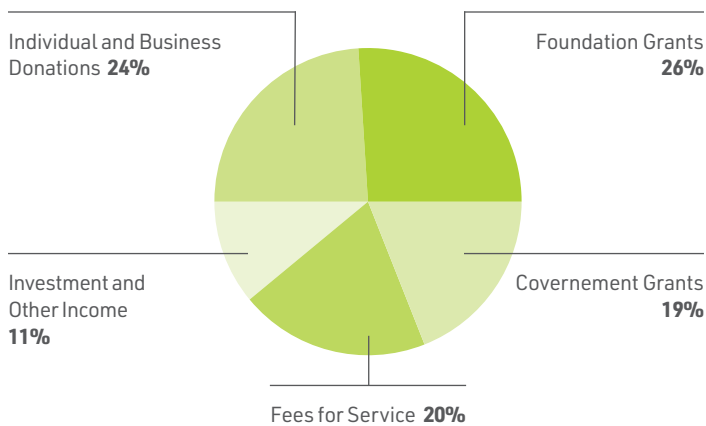
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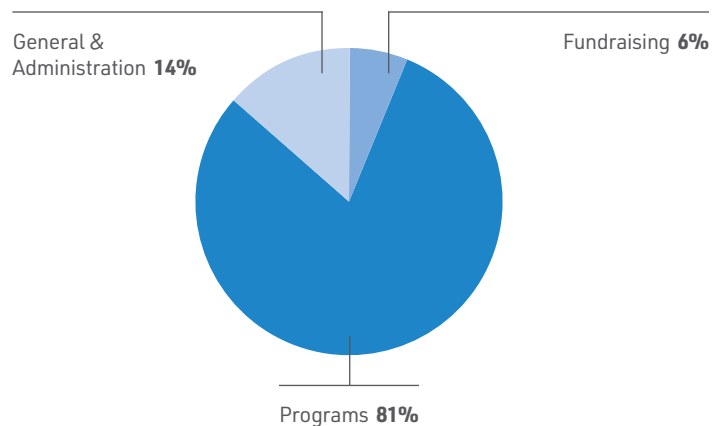
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Pacific Forest Trust's mission is to sustain America's forests for all their public benefits of wood, water, wildlife, and people's well being, in cooperation with private landowners and communities.

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JOIN THE FOREST TRUST SOCIETY AND LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY FOR AMERICA'S FORESTS

PFT's mission is to conserve our private forests to provide society with the wood, water, wildlife, and a well-balanced climate that is essential to a livable planet. One of the most effective ways you can support our mission is with a planned gift. With a charitable bequest or other estate gift, you will become part of PFT's Forest Trust Society. In addition to receiving recognition on our website, invitations to special events, and a subscription to PFT's publications, you will be directly helping to ensure that future generations receive the benefits of conserved, working forests.

Please consider including Pacific Forest Trust in your estate plans; we would be honored to recognize your generosity and welcome you into the Forest Trust Society as a lasting partner in protecting our forest heritage. For more information please contact: Kevin Lemons at klemons@pacificforest.org or call 415.523.4428.