



INTERIOR ALASKA
LAND TRUST

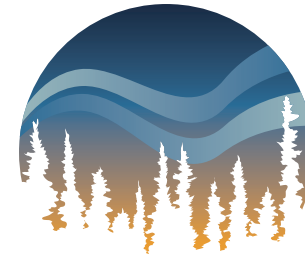
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www.interioraklandtrust.org



Horned Grebes in the Goldstream Greenbelt. Courtesy of Andy Keller

SUMMER 2023



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FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Owen Guthrie
IALT Board President

Greetings! After a very late spring, summer is finally rolling in. Hopefully these gentle spring rains will dampen the wildfire season and we’re headed into another heavenly interior season of soft green landscapes and nourishing warm sun.

It has already been a busy spring for IALT and our volunteers. Thank you! With your wonderful support and the help of other invaluable local partners, our all-volunteer board is pushing ahead with several major initiatives and working with local landowners to establish and maintain our many diverse conservation projects.

Together with our partners at U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the local firm DOWL Engineering, local contractor Drennon Construction, and the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District with their Youth for Habitat program, we are excited to announce the successful restoration of a 3-mile stretch of lower Cripple Creek. This project has been ongoing for years and encountered some significant setbacks. However, with the patience and persistence of all our partners, the historic channel of Cripple Creek is flowing once again after being abandoned more than 80 years ago with the construction of the Cripple Creek Drain. Our website has more information on this amazing project!

We are also working through the process of establishing a new trailhead for accessing Creamer’s Refuge trails on a parcel generously acquired by Jack and Carol Wilbur.

Check our Facebook feed for more timely information related to all our great projects and

volunteer opportunities this summer.

Lastly, a huge thank you to all our members. Your support makes these achievements and many more possible. We make the most of every dollar of your contributions and 2023 is already a very busy year. We need your help more than ever. If you’re interested in getting more involved in our work, please let me or Andy Keller know. Fairbanks is a wonderful community and we enjoy working with you and all of our partners toward making it even better. Best wishes for the summer! ♦

THE NUMBERS	
IALT BOOKS	
Land	\$953,675
Stewardship	\$236,807
Restricted	\$115,306
Unrestricted	\$236,050
Reserve	\$80,207
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,622,045
INCOME	
Public donations	\$235,866
Government grants	\$614,245
Donated Land	\$44,695
Other	\$6,236
TOTAL	\$901,042
EXPENSES	
Program services	\$755,542
Management	\$11,065
Fundraising	\$1,833
TOTAL	\$768,440

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS

ABR, Inc., Helen Adams, Francis & Jeff Adams, Brian Allen, Erin Alvey, Sally Andersen & Michael Wald, Dick & Margaret Anderson, Lillian Anderson-Misel, Paula Ashbridge, Lauri Aylaian, Nellie Ballou & Pete Condon, Tom & Sharon Baring, Ron Barry, Alan Batten, Susan Beck, Elizabeth Belknap, Kurt Bevernitz, Marilyn Biagi, Dan & Sue Bishop, Mary & Dick Bishop, Sam Bishop, Karen Bollinger, Donie Bret-Harte, Larry & Karla Bright, Kate Liddle Broberg, Maida & Timothy Buckley, Shauna Budge, Alex Buetow, Patty & Dave Burns, Helen & David Burrell, Linda & Bob Bursiel, Mary Burtness & Jeff Adams, Jay Cable, Adrienne Canino, Kathy & Bob Cannone, Marjorie Casort, Mimi & Terry Chapin, Karen & Steve Clautice, David & Jo Ellen Cowee, Anthea Craven, Pat & Rick Crisenbery, Janet Daley, Sandy Dauenhauer, Gail Davidson, Linda DeFoliart & Dave McGuire, Jen & Peter Delamere, Design Alaska, Jim & Nancy DeWitt, Katherine Dillon, Anne Doerpinghaus & Bill Witte, Sheree Dohner, Rheba & Joe Dupras, Kyla Durham, Muffie & Jim Durst, Hajo Eicken, Nicki Eiseman & Paul Ewers, Mary Farrell, David Fee, Brian Feeny, Nora Foster, Jimmy & Joanna Fox, Christina & Richard Foytich, Laurel Francis, Joan Franz & Dave Mather, Christopher Garber-Slaght, Tony Gasbarro, Hélène Genet & Benoît Pignon, Tom George, Anna Godduhn, Good Cannabis, Laura & Sven Grage, Joanne Groves, Pam Groves, Owen Guthrie, Mary Lee & Dale Guthrie, David Guttenberg, The Haberdashery, Melinda & Brian Haley, Owen Hanley, Brian Hanley, William Hao, George Happ & Christy Yunker, Joseph Hardenbrook, Robyne & Andy Harrington, Anne Hauer, Melissa Head, William Helfferich, Carla Helfferich, Bob & Joann Henszey, Jenna Hertz & David Jonas, Eva Hewitt, Rich Hompesch, Grier Hopkins, Dee (Diane) Huebner, Tanya Ignacio, Barbie Jackson, Jean James, Redomond Johnson, Marina & Michael Jones, Nichelle Jones, Torre & Janet Jorgenson, Stan Justice, Karl Kassel, Alexander Kaufman, Julie Kaufman & Len Kamerling, Carol Kaynor & Dave Partee, Frank & Jennifer Keim, Andy & Magali Keller, Ryan King, John Koman, Libby Kugel, Brendan & Nettie La Belle-Hamer, Julie Lageson, Jane & Steve Lanford, Cam Leonard, Steve & Becca Levey, Sherry Lewis, Karl Lindig, Kurt Lindig, Carol Linkswiler, Jerry Lipka & Janet Schichnes, Shirley Liss, Carol Roblee, Don Lokken, Matt Macander & Katie Garrity, Margaret Mannix, Philip & Jan Marshall, Philip & Jackie Martin, Steve Masterman & Sarah

Swift, Gail Mayo, William McAmis, Dawn McCausland, Katie McClellan, Sara Tabbert & Brandon McGrath-Bernhard, Melissa Mcinelly, Bruce McIntosh, Clint Meyer, Helen Meyers, Julia Mickley, Stefan Milkowski, Stanton Moll, Faye Moore, Jeanette Moore, Phyllis Morrow & Chase Hensel, Eric Muehling, Gael Murakami, Ree Nancarrow, Chena & Gary Newman, Mary Ann Nickles, Stephen Odegard, Daniel & Rita Osborne, Carolyn Parker, Charlie Parr III, Don & Tracie Pendergrast, June & Dennis Pinnell Stephens, Anna Plager & Chris Nye, Max Plichta, Roger & Bonita Post, Karen Post & Leon Lynch, Barbara Powell, Alex Prichard & Angela Larson, Martha Raynolds & Sam Dashevsky, Paul & Terry Reichardt, Jane & Terry Reilly, Bob & Bobbie Ritchie, Stephanie Rivet, Susan Royston, Brittany Rozier, Anne Ruggles & Don Hampton, John Sargeant, Jen Schell, Erik Schoen, Carol Scott, Rich Seifert, Dick Shideler, Libby Silberling, Leonard Simmons, Mark Simon, Doug Sims, Howard Smith, Anna Sorenson, Mike Spindler & Pam Nelson, Nicole Stewart & John Haverlack, Richard & Louise Stoltzberg, Cynthia Stragier, Lisa Stuby, Arthur Sutton, Christin Swearingen, Dan Swift, Chris & Andrea Swingley , Barbara & Russell Tabbert, Walt Tape, Ingrid Taylor, Steve Taylor, Ron Tinsley, Terry Tomczak, Judie Triplehorn, Eric Troyer & Corrine Leistikow, Amy Vagedes, Jean & Steve Van Dam, Brie Van Dam, Skip Walker, William Walters, Jeffery Walters, Vivian Wang, Joe Welch, Andrew & Hillary Weller , Kara Weller , Michael Whalen, Jack & Carol Wilbur, Paulette Wille, Jennine Williamson & John Fitzgerald, Sama Winder & Matthew Whitley, Connie & Cort Zachel, Mary Zalar & Ken Whitten, Stan Zielenski.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Owen Guthrie (president), Brenden Labelle-Hammer (vice president), Martha Raynolds (treasurer), Maxwell Plichta (secretary), Jennifer Schell, Seth Adams and Christin Swearingen

MONITORS Martha Raynolds, Maxwell Plichta, Marissa Breslin, Frank Keim, Julie Lageson, Andrew Keller, Magali Vincent, Scott Bredbenner Tracie Curry, Jerry Lipka, Heather Koponen, Carolyn Loeffler, Betsy and Mathew Sturm, Brie Van Dam, Sara Tabbert, Gail Davidson, Joe McWilliams

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT & THE LAND TRUST

Andrew Keller
Conservation Coordinator

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973. This law has had a dramatic impact on wildlife. As an example, Bald Eagle populations were plummeting continent-wide prior to the passage of the ESA. Now the majestic birds are common in much of their range. Land Trust Lands are used by many wildlife species. Birds have the incredible ability to migrate, often long distances. Two melodious songbirds that nest in Interior Alaska should receive flight distance awards.



The Swainson’s Thrush winters in Brazil and Northern Argentina and the Hermit Thrush winters as far as Southern Mexico. Even small conserved parcels surrounded by residential areas can serve as habitat for nesting and obtaining nutrition for birds. Habitat for these thrushes is threatened in Southern Canada and the adjacent states. Conversion of forest lands to agriculture, urbanization and the millions of acres of climate change driven fires raise concerns about the birds’ populations. ♦

Sketch of Hermit Thrush and chicks courtesy of Frank Keim

LAND CONSERVED

PARCELS OWNED: 19

EASEMENTS: 17

TOTAL PROPERTIES CONSERVED: 36

ACRES - OWNED: 1,363

ACRES - EASEMENTS: 1,318

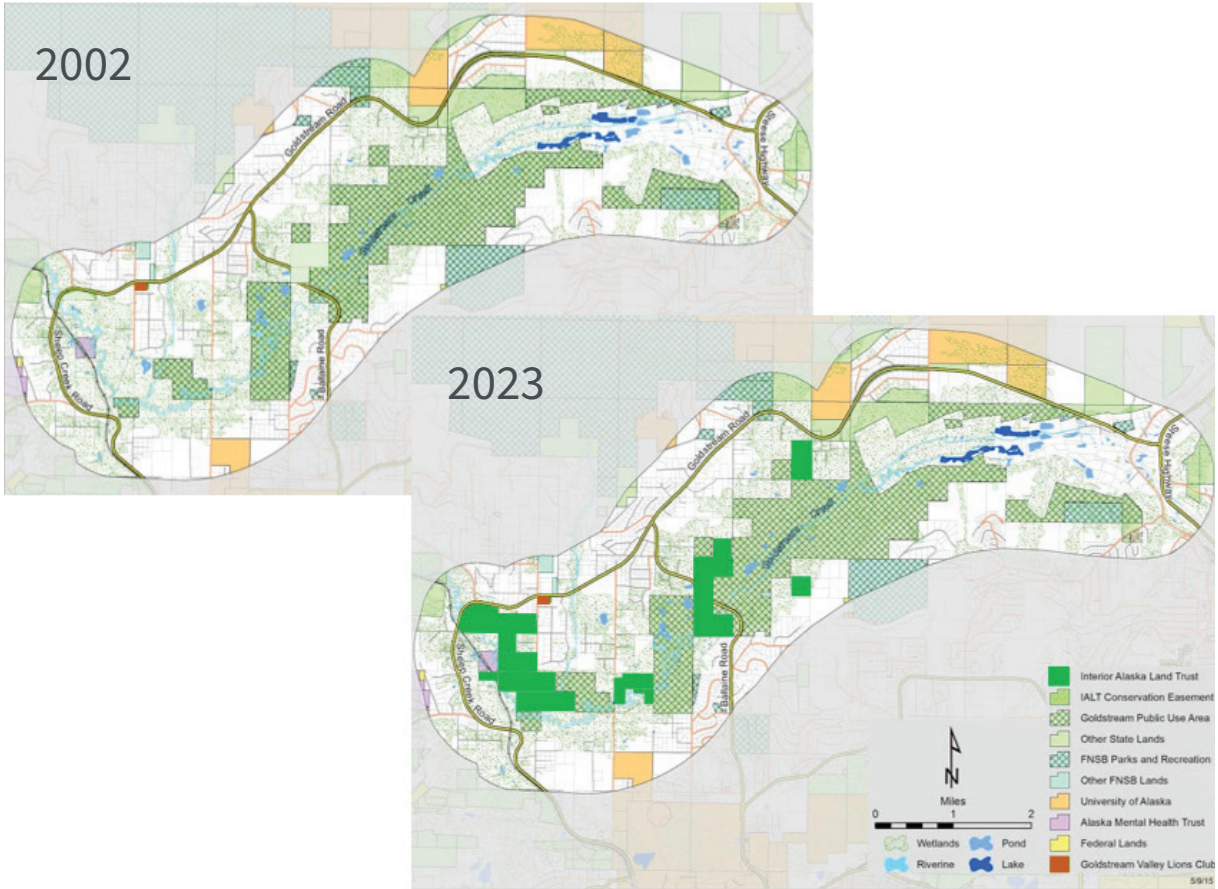
TOTAL ACRES CONSERVED: 2,681

20 YEARS OF CONSERVATION IN GOLDSTREAM

Martha Raynolds
IALT Treasurer

The Interior Alaska Land Trust has been conserving land around Goldstream Creek since 2003, when we acquired our first parcel, “Blueberry Preserves.” Located on Ballaine Road, this property connected two discontinuous parts of the Goldstream Public Use Area (GPUA). Shown in the map below, the GPUA is state-designated land in the Goldstream Valley available for public recreation. In 2009, IALT—along with many of our members—successfully worked with our state legislators to remove the “sunset clause” from the GPUA designation, effectively making it permanent.

Because the state land is comprised of parcels that were not homesteaded prior to statehood, it is a bit of a patchwork. With the help of many generous, conservation-minded donors and landowners, IALT has successfully closed fifteen separate land transactions in the valley. These properties, together with the GPUA, now form a continuous greenbelt that stretches from Murphy Dome Road (near the Peat Ponds) to the mining area near Fox. Though some areas represent important additional conservation opportunities, the connections that IALT and its supporters have made have preserved trails and wildlife corridors for everyone’s enjoyment in perpetuity. ♦



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Scott Bredbenner & his dog Bridgit, monitoring in the Goldstream Greenbelt. Courtesy of Andy Keller

Scott Bredbenner has lived in the Goldstream Valley long enough to have watched spruce seedlings grow into mature trees. After building a house, he spent many years on his property, raising a family and mushing the trails. Though retired from his carpentry work, Scott still enjoys exploring the Goldstream Valley along with his wife Karen and his dog Bridgit. An avid birder, naturalist, and photographer, he also gardens and maintains his property. Though he spends much of his time in Fairbanks, he enjoys traveling to far flung locations like Madagascar to study and photograph wildlife.

Another activity that Scott enjoys is monitoring properties for the Interior Alaska Land Trust (IALT). His daily dog walk takes him through several parcels, so he is very familiar with and knowledgeable about our land. Annually, Scott monitors six properties, sometimes even more! In addition to writing reports, he regularly reports wildlife activities and natural events. He also picks up trash at the Peat Ponds, as well as all the other parcels that he visits.

Monitoring meets the conservation requirements to legally protect IALT lands for the enjoyment of the community. It is a fun and rewarding activity, as well as a wonderful way to make new friends (human and otherwise) and see unfamiliar parts of the Fairbanks area. I look forward to my next monitoring excursion with Scott!

Though IALT very much appreciates all of its monitors, we are always in need of volunteers for other activities. We engage in outreach at events like the Tanana Valley Fair, and we would love to train you to help us with this enjoyable activity. At present, the IALT Board of Directors consists of seven members. They meet monthly to set the policies and make decisions about property purchases and easement acquisitions. We are always looking for new board members. We also welcome volunteers with computer, mapping, and writing skills, as well as people interested in helping with trash cleanup and more. Please contact us so that we can tap your talents for the benefit of the community. Visit our website or contact Andy Keller at 907-699-2281 or amkeller@alaska.edu. Thank you! ♦



Gail Davidson, a long-time member and volunteer with IALT, deserves special recognition for her continued support. Recently, Gail volunteered at the Earth Day event at Pioneer Park, braving cold and windy conditions to raise awareness about IALT and our mission.

Gail also plays a crucial role as a land steward, monitoring properties to ensure their conservation values are upheld and reporting any significant changes. Gail has monitored Dosch and Vanderpool for five years and has also helped with the Koponen property.

An avid outdoors woman, Gail loves skijoring, cross-country skiing, biking and paddling. She also teaches fiber-related classes at Osher Lifelong Learning and the Folk School and has timed ski races for many years.

IALT extends heartfelt gratitude to Gail and all passionate volunteers. Their invaluable contributions help conserve land north of the Alaska Range for the community's benefit. ♦

MEMBERSHIP

Member donations make the work we do possible. Please consider making a donation or renewing your membership today on our website interioraklandtrust.org. Membership levels start as low as \$25.

Prefer to donate by check?
Please make checks payable to
Interior Alaska Land Trust and
mail to >>>

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Questions? Call 907-322-3462