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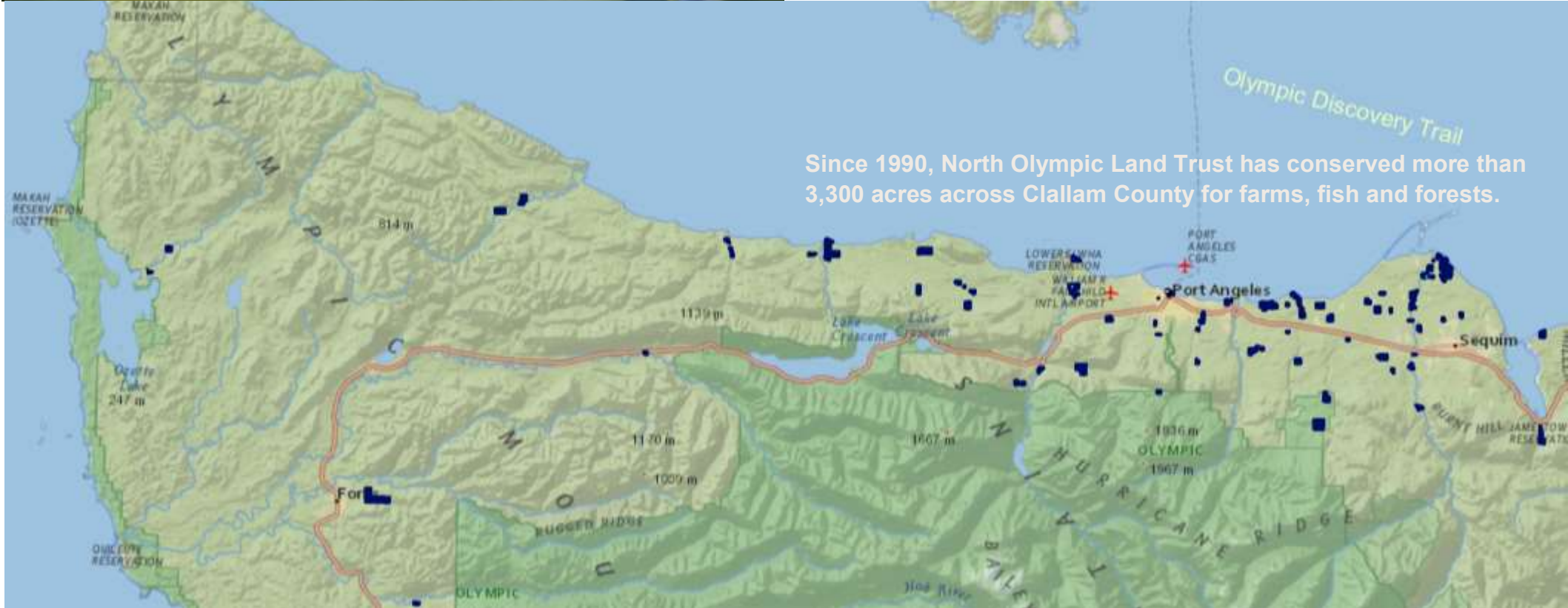
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Mission “to conserve lands that sustain the communities of Clallam County.”

About the Land Trust

North Olympic Land Trust is your community nonprofit dedicated to the conservation of open spaces, local food, local resources, healthy watersheds and recreational opportunities.

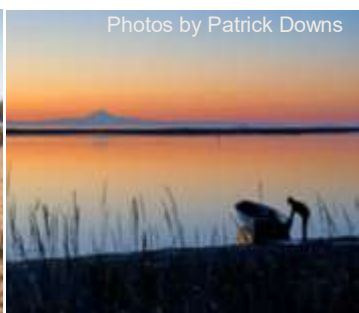
The land is the bedrock of our culture, our economy, our homes and our daily lives. We all depend on this land, and we know that by conserving land for farms, fish and forests, it will pay direct dividends back to our own quality of life.

Land Ethic

The Land Trust’s land ethic supports three categories of value: habitat, resources and aesthetics.

- **Habitat:** Maintenance of healthy habitat for a diversity of plants and animals, including humans.
- **Resources:** Sustainable harvest of food, fish and trees.
- **Aesthetics:** The power of nature to refresh and delight.

When in balance, these three values are mutually supportive and enhance each other. We do not have to pick one over the others, and in fact should not. With proper stewardship, all three support each other and our community.



Photos by Patrick Downs

A need for conservation

Land is a finite resource. Over recent decades there is a history of fragmented, short-sighted development patterns on the Olympic Peninsula. While education and zoning regulations offer some protection by encouraging appropriate development, these strategies alone will not prevent the fragmentation and conversion of farmland and working forests, keep land open for public recreation, or conserve critical wildlife habitat.

Changes to the North Olympic Peninsula's landscape over the coming decades will define our community into the future. We believe that this place can support and even thrive with an increasing human population. However, growth needs to occur in tandem with our evolving land-use ethic and actions that simultaneously support the **ecological, economic, and scenic** values of the Peninsula.

Strategic Plan

The Land Trust's 2017-2021 Strategic Plan lays out a path for action and establishes the foundation for the organization's future work to support and inspire balanced land use and responsible stewardship across the North Olympic Peninsula via these core strategies:

1. Conserve natural areas & working lands that define and sustain our community
2. Promote & foster our community's land ethic
3. Strengthen long-term organizational viability



Photo by Patrick Downs



Photo by Lindsey Aspelund



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Goal 1. Conserve natural areas & working lands that define and sustain our community

Stewardship is our number one priority.

- Steward easements and manage lands we own using best practices.
- Secure sufficient funds for long-term promises.

Additionally, over the next five years, the Land Trust will attempt to mitigate the loss of working lands and natural habitat by prioritizing the conservation of:

- Farms of all sizes.
- Shorelines and wetlands, including estuaries, nearshore areas, and river corridors - especially where activities encroach on nature.
- Forests that support old-growth conditions, endangered species, or working forests and are in threat of residential development.

Goal 2. Promote & foster our community's land ethic

Help community members deepen their relationship with the local landscape and its resources in a manner that paves the way to responsible community and individual land-use actions.

Through active engagement, the Land Trust aims to:

- Enhance civic pride in the nature of our place.
- Build direct relationships with conserved lands.
- Initiate and support communication among the community.
- Increase our understanding of our community's land-use needs, and help address them.
- Strengthen community partnerships to achieve greater success.

Goal 3. Strengthen long-term organizational viability

Due to the Land Trust's perpetual commitments to its landowner partners and future generations, long-term organizational strength is crucial to success. Knowing this, it's key that the Land Trust:

- Strengthens and diversifies its fund development.
- Builds dedicated fund balances to meet emerging land protection opportunities and stewardship obligations.
- Builds public trust and understanding of the organization.
- Collaborates to seek efficiencies, cost-sharing options and innovation.
- Ensures strong leadership from the Board of Directors to meet its 5-year strategic goals.
- Retains and supports a high-quality work environment that fairly values, trains and compensates staff.
- Maintains its accreditation with the Land Trust Alliance Accreditation Commission.



Photo by Patrick Downs



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