



LEMHI
REGIONAL
Land Trust

2025 Annual Report



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Ace Hess • Becca Aceto
Mike Dougherty • Mike Kossler
Kyra Povirk • Lowell Cerise

Staff

Charli Williams
Heidi Messner
Makenze Hodges
Geoff Fast

Stay in touch with us!



(208) 756-8879



105 S. Center Street
Salmon, Idaho 83467



info@lemhilandtrust.org



www.lemhilandtrust.org



Lemhi Regional Land Trust



lemhilandtrust

Twenty years ago, Lemhi Regional Land Trust’s founders were driven to create an organization that protected the very things we all cherish about this corner of Central Idaho--the working ranches, wildlife habitat, open spaces and the rural communities they support--in perpetuity.

With each conservation easement we complete, Lemhi Regional Land Trust makes a commitment to perpetuity--FOREVER. Perpetuity isn’t a commitment we take lightly, but it’s a commitment we’re able to make confidently, thanks to you. For twenty years, you’ve come alongside of us and supported our efforts to conserve the lands where we all live, work and play. Together, we’ve protected some of the very best pieces of Central Idaho, ensuring these places will remain the same for generations to come.

In 2026, together we’ll be permanently conserving more land across Lemhi and Custer counties, protecting multi-generational family ranches, some of the best wildlife habitat you’ll find in the West and vast open spaces ensuring these special places remain intact for generations to come.

Please join us in building a permanent legacy of conservation in Central Idaho by making a gift or signing up to be a monthly donor TODAY!

Happy Holidays,
The Board and Staff of Lemhi Regional Land Trust



The accreditation seal is awarded to land trusts meeting the highest national standards for excellence and conservation permanence.

A Big Year for Local Conservation!

It's been a busy and exciting year for the team at Lemhi Regional Land Trust! Throughout 2025, staff members have been hard at work connecting with local landowners, building meaningful and continuing Lemhi Regional Land Trust's long-standing efforts to keep our valleys vibrant, open, and full of life.

Thanks to these collaborative partnerships and a lot of behind-the-scenes dedication, Lemhi Regional Land Trust was awarded more than \$2.5 million in funding to help conserve working lands, wildlife and fisheries habitat, and open spaces across the region.

Currently, Lemhi Regional Land Trust is moving forward with five new conservation easement projects that will permanently protect nearly 4,000 acres in Lemhi and Custer counties. Each of these projects represents years of trust-building and a shared vision for the future. Additionally, we have also submitted grant application to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Agricultural Land Easement Program and the Heart of the Rockies Initiative's Keep It Connected program to fund two new conservation easements totalling over 2,600 acres.

5

Active Conservation Easement Projects

6,616

Acres to be Protected

4

New Funding Applications Submitted

15

Landowner Inquires

17

Annual Monitoring Visits Completed

Thank You to Our Supporters!

FRIENDS (up to \$75)

Ando, Marie & Norm★
Baker, Melba
Blackadar, Lois & Jim Juza
Cragun, Barbara and TC
Harper, Madison
Jones, Trent
Messner, Heidi
Nemeth, Craig & Marimae
Nichols, Tony & Rosemary

PARTNERS (\$76 - \$150)

Allen, Diz
Baker, Jim
Goodworth, Fred
Hardesty, Doug & Toni
Fealko, Chad & Amy★
Green, Brean & Matt
Hafenfeld, Rick & Patty Bates
Haggas, Cindy
Hoffman, Sharon
Lemhi Title Company
Littlejohn, Lucy★
Lim, Liz

PARTNERS (continued)

McFarland, Janet
Mudd, Dan & Lisa
Ohl, Andy and Cheri
Owens, Jim
Stolp, Gerald

SUSTAINERS (\$151-\$250)

Cook Westfall, Deb
Healy, Christopher & Anne
Kemper, Kathy & Peter
Leidner, Stuart & Nina Chambers★
Loucks, Ann & Bob
Schuldt, Diane & Pete★
Wolf, Arlene

TRAILBLAZERS (\$251-\$500)

★
Brostrom, Jody
Kossler, Norma
Kozacek, Susan
Matejko, Ann & George
Rocky Mountain Environmental

(Trailblazers continued)

Snook, Fred
Wallis, Harley & Eileen
Wiens, Paula★
Williams, Charli★

STEWARDS (\$501-\$999)

Povirk, Kyra★
Wild Side Sports

GUARDIANS (\$1,000+)

Gapp, Gary,
Hernandez, Mario & Glenda
Johnson, Ron
Monoyios, Nikos and Valerie Brackett
Perlmutter, Shelly
Russell, Bob and Nancy★
Tonsmeire Ranchlands

★Monthly Donor

Honoring a Legacy: *Mark Davidson Receives Inaugural Mike Overacker Conservation Leadership Award*



Charli Williams, Tom McFarland & Mark Davidson

Lemhi Regional Land Trust is proud to announce Mark Davidson as the inaugural recipient of the Mike Overacker Conservation Leadership Award. This annual award honors individuals or organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and dedication to land and resource conservation in Lemhi and Custer Counties. Named in memory of Mike Overacker, a devoted conservationist and Lemhi Regional Land Trust founder and advocate for the working lands, wildlife, and open spaces of Central Idaho, the award recognizes those who share his deep commitment to protecting this region for future generations. Mark Davidson has been a driving force in advancing land conservation throughout our community. Over the course of his career, he worked for The Nature Conservancy from 2000 through 2020, with a two-year tenure at Trout Unlimited from 2013–2015. His leadership, collaborative spirit, and commitment to practical, place-based solutions have helped shape the conservation landscape of Central Idaho. Mark developed innovative strategies to protect our natural resources while also working closely with landowners and agency partners to ensure those solutions are effective and enduring.

Davidson’s impact extends beyond his professional roles. He has supported Lemhi Regional Land Trust since its founding, working closely alongside founding Executive Director, Kristin Troy, and the organization’s early leaders to establish a strong foundation for its mission. Kristin fondly describe their partnership as “anything but formal”, reflecting a unique camaraderie that has fueled two decades of conservation successes. Mark has also championed public land stewardship and access, understanding that healthy landscapes depend on cooperation, balance, and shared responsibility. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the Blaine County Recreation District and is on the board of directors for the Magic Valley Land Trust, further demonstrating his ongoing dedication to the region’s open spaces and recreation opportunities. His work reflects a deep personal investment in the future of this region — from its working farms and ranches to its abundant wildlife and iconic open spaces.

“We’re thrilled to honor someone who has been a part of Lemhi Regional Land Trust’s story since the very beginning,” said Executive Director, Charli Williams, while presenting the award at Lemhi Regional Land Trusts’s 20th anniversary and Working Lands Celebration.



Mark Davidson & his wife, Jenny Emery Davidson

Etched in History: *The Story of Our Landowner Wall*

At this year's annual Landowners' Social, we unveiled something both new and timeless: the Landowner Wall. This display was created to honor the rich histories of the ranches and properties within our community and the people who continue to shape our working landscapes. This year, we invited landowners with past, present, and in-progress transaction with Lemhi Regional Land Trust to bring forward their livestock brands—whether active or retired--or if they didn't have a brand, to design a board. Displayed side by side, these boards form a powerful reminder of what connects us: a deep respect for the land, and for the legacies built upon it. Looking up at the Landowner Wall, one does not simply see symbols. Instead, you see the stories of families who have



weathered challenges, cared for the land, and invested their lives in a way of work and life that is as demanding it is rewarding.

A brand is much more than a mark on livestock. It is a story, a heritage, and in many ways, a promise. Brands carry with them the history of families, the memory of generations, and the traditions that define ranching life. Some brands still ride the range today, passed down carefully from one generation to the next. Others have been retired, living on in memory as a reminder of the families who once worked that land with grit and devotion.



Each board represents countless hours of labor, seasons of growth and hardship, and decisions made not just for today, but for the generations who would inherit both the land and the responsibility that comes with it. Through the Landowner Wall, we hoped to reflect a simple truth: the history of each property is also something we, as a community, hold dear. Conservation is not only about open spaces, clean water, and thriving wildlife. It is equally about preserving the culture of ranching, our rural communities and the marks—both literal and figurative—that families leave on the land.

In bringing these boards together, we celebrate more than the landowners themselves; we celebrate the shared legacy of stewardship that binds us. The Landowner Wall is a living tribute to where we have been, where we are now, and where we are going. It tells the story of resilience, responsibility, and pride that will continue to guide us in caring for these lands for generations to come.



Help Shape Future Ranch Succession Workshops

University of Idaho Extension, Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust, and Lemhi Regional Land Trust want to hear from you about ranch succession. We've put together a short survey—about 5 minutes—to gather your thoughts on what topics should be covered, preferred workshop formats, and the barriers you face when planning for succession.

Whether you've attended past workshops, already have a plan in place, or are thinking about succession planning for the very first time, your input is valuable. The feedback we collect will guide the development of future ranch succession workshops.

PLUS—everyone who completes the survey will be entered to win a \$50 prize.



From the Executive Director...

I was a fourth grader at Monroe Elementary in Monroe, Utah and always avoided getting up in front of the class, until Mrs. Simpkins asked if anyone's family had cattle and brands they would like to share. As a seventh generation ranch kid and the daughter of a then-Utah State Brand Inspector, it was my time to shine. I proudly marched up to the whiteboard and started drawing. The "duck" from my mom's side of the family, acquired when my grandparents purchased a well drilling company in the 70s. The "74", belonging to my dad's side of the family, used by both my grandparents and great grandparents, and the "lazy BV" registered by my parents as newlyweds. Even as at the age of nine, I was proud of the legacy our brands represented. That legacy was, and has always been present, woven into the fabric of my life and centered on caring for the land that made our legacy possible. Caring for the land, both public and private, was non-negotiable and it was a privilege to be able to do so.

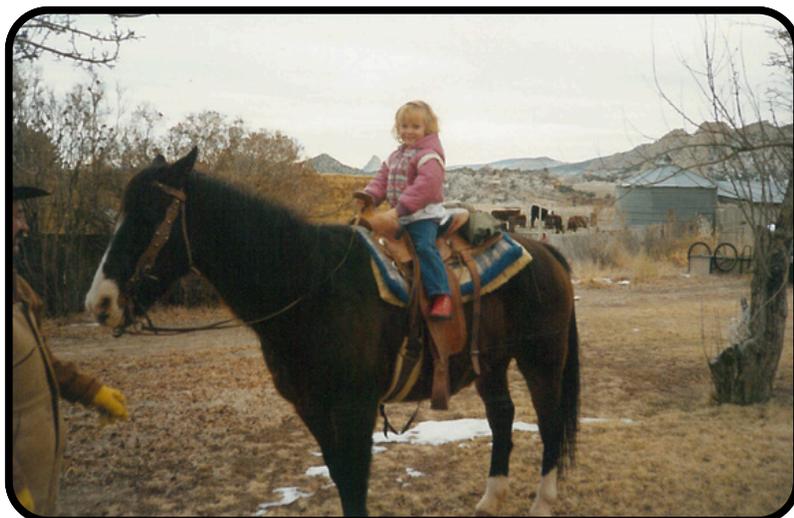
It is my greatest privilege as Executive Director to listen as families share about their legacy and to work with them to permanently conserve their legacy and their piece of Central Idaho. Each property we protect conserves not only a family's legacy, but our shared legacy in this remote corner of Idaho where we live, work and play. It ensures that the generations to come can enjoy fishing and recreating in cold, clean water; hiking and hunting in some of the most rugged parts of the lower 48; wide open views that can't be beat and our rural culture, driven by families making a living on the same land they've ranched on for generations.

Please join us as we continue to build a conservation legacy in Central Idaho by making a donation, joining us at one of our events or stopping by to chat about a conservation easement.

Best,

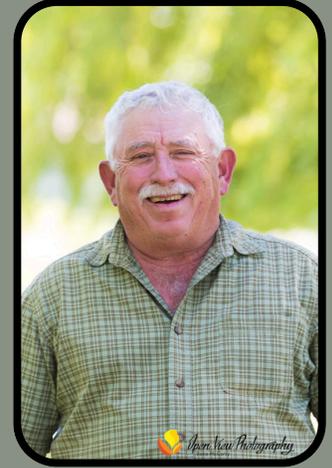
Charli Williams

Charli Williams
Executive Director



Thank You, Bob Russell!

You'd be hard pressed to find someone more supportive of local nonprofits than Bob Russell, and for the past eleven years Lemhi Regional Land Trust has been privileged to have him as a member of our Board of Directors, and most recently as our Co-Chair. Bob joined the Board in 2014, and is perhaps best known for championing the 2017 purchase of the Salmon School Garden property by Lemhi Regional Land Trust. Inspired by a Land Trust Alliance "Community Conservation" training in early 2017 and knowing Lemhi Regional Land Trust was sitting on a donation from the estate of Lemhi Regional Land Trust founder, Fran Tonsmeire, Bob recognized an opportunity to ensure the kids in our community always have a place to dig in the dirt, learn where their food comes from and explore the outdoors, all while paying tribute to Fran's legacy as a rancher and outfitter.



Building Bonds, One Craft at a Time; *2025 Friendraisers*



This year, Lemhi Regional Land Trust found joy in gathering our community—whether through springtime terrariums or sparkling sea glass Christmas trees. Our 2025 Friend-Raiser Workshops weren't just creative projects; they were celebrations of connection, creativity, and the shared love of this place we call home.

In March, our Glass Garden Gathering terrarium workshops welcomed spring with hands-on fun and fresh starts. Participants layered soil, moss, rocks, and plants while swapping stories, laughter, and inspiration. New friendships formed, families bonded and

everyone left with a little living reminder of how creativity can help grow community.

As the year wrapped up, we carried that same spirit into the holidays with our Santa's Seaside Christmas Tree Workshops. What began as a simple idea blossomed into two fully booked sessions overflowing with holiday cheer. Though sea glass trees aren't directly about conservation, the people around our tables certainly are—folks who cherish open spaces, wildlife, and community. Their laughter and conversations reflected the warmth and unity that define life in our valley.

From tiny gardens in spring to shimmering trees in winter, this year's Friend-Raisers reminded us that conservation is rooted in people. Each workshop strengthened connections, sparked creativity, and deepened appreciation for the landscapes we work to protect.

At Lemhi Regional Land Trust, we believe that when people come together—whether to create, learn, or share a laugh—they help nurture the community spirit that makes conservation possible. Thank you to everyone who joined us this year to grow friendships, support our mission, and celebrate connection in 2025.



Keep an eye out for more friend-raiser workshops in 2026!

Working Lands Celebration Supporters

- Ace Hess
- Allen Janda
- Allen Marquette
- Amy Bertram
- Andy & Cheri Ohl
- Ann & George Matejko
- Barbara Miller
- Becca Aceto
- Bertram's Brewery
- Bob & Nancy Russell
- Brad & Shannon Williams
- Breann & Matt Green
- Bruce McFarland
- Camille Evans
- Charli Williams
- Chuck & Pam Mark
- Craig & Jessica McCallum
- Cramer Fish Sciences
- Dan Tonsmeire
- David Anderson
- Frances & Nate Muller
- Garret Stahl
- Gary & Tamara Power
- Gary Gapp
- Gina & Andrew Griffiths
- Gina Knudson
- Hadley Dotts
- Hannah Alverson & Joe Stewart
- Heidi Messner
- Highlander Beer
- Hyde Creek Ranch
- Ingrid & Buck Fulstone
- Iron Maiden Welding
- Jane Dougherty Sanstram & Mike Dougherty
- Janet McFarland
- Jody Brostrom
- Ken & Shery Helfrich
- Ken Sherman
- Kevin & Amy Hoffman
- Kyra Povirk & Dave Lingle
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- Marie & Norm Ando
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- Merridee Overacker
- Mike & Ann Kossler
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- Mountain Harvest Community Market
- Nicole Manson
- Perpetua Resources
- Price Custom Sewing LLC
- Rebecca & Charlie Stipe
- Revival Gold Inc.
- Rick & Sherri Snyder
- Rio Applied Science & Engineering
- Salmon River Chiropractic
- Serviceberry Nursery
- Seth McFarland
- Seth Tonsmiere
- Shane & Mimi Rosenkrance
- Sherry Elrod & John Treankler
- Suzy Avey
- Swift River Farm
- Tawna Skinner
- Teton Toyota
- Teton Volkswagen
- Tom & Teresa McFarland
- Tom & Molly Page
- Toni Ruth
- Trish Dotts
- Valley Agronomics
- Wild Side Sports
- Williams Saddle & Tack

**Thank you for
your support!**

Leaving a Legacy

Lemhi Regional Land Trust is founded on the principle of perpetuity-that the work we are doing today to conserve land in Central Idaho will last for generations to come. By supporting Lemhi Regional Land Trust you are a part of a legacy that will endure just as long as our conservation easements - forever - and one of the easiest and most long lasting gifts you can make is including Lemhi Regional Land Trust in your will and estate planning. It's an investment in the vision we all share for the future of our community, landscapes, and the lifestyles we all cherish.

The Tonsmeire Eddy is a group of individuals who have invested now or pledged to invest in the future of conservation through a contribution to our operating endowment. Establishment of this group and its associated endowment fund is how our organization is planning for perpetuity. As an endowment, the principal of these funds will always remain intact and we will only ever utilize the interest generated from this account to support our operations.

But perpetuity isn't cheap. Our long term goal is to raise and invest \$5 million. Enough to ensure that Lemhi Regional Land Trust will always have the financial resources necessary to carry out our mission. **Help us meet that goal by making a contribution TODAY or including Lemhi Regional Land Trust in your estate planning.**



LRLT founding board members, Fran and Joe Tonsmeire.

Tonsmeire Eddy Members

Amy Tonsmeire • Bob and Nancy Russell
Jody Brostrom • Ken Hill • Norma Kossler
Seth Tonsmeire

Interested in learning more about legacy giving options? Contact Charli at (208)756-8879 or email charli@lemhilandtrust.org. We would be honored to help you design your own conservation legacy!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**I wish to support
Lemhi Regional Land Trust as a:**

- Friend: \$50-\$100
- Partner: \$101-\$250
- Sustainer: \$251-\$500
- Trailblazer: \$501-\$750
- Steward: \$751-\$1,000
- Guardian: \$1,001+
- Other: _____



**Visit www.lemhilandtrust.org and click
“Donate” or scan the QR code to set up your
MONTHLY GIFT!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Lemhi Regional Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and your gift is tax deductible as provided by law.

Want more bang for your buck? Become a monthly donor!

Monthly giving is an easy way to support our work and those gifts truly do add up! Just \$10 a month turns into \$120 over the course of a year. Our monthly givers are the backbone to our work and in addition to their generosity, they're practical and know that giving monthly allows us to devote the most time to conserving those places we all love.

Lemhi Regional Land Trust
105 S Center St
Salmon, ID 83467