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Perpetuity is a long time!

DFLT stewardship relies on community support

As we head into our 25th anniversary year, we reflect on Desert Foothills Land Trust's conservation record: nearly 700 acres conserved on 23 properties in the North Valley! Many of these properties are privately owned—conserved by landowners who wanted to ensure the permanent protection of sensitive natural and cultural features on their properties. Other properties are owned outright by the Land Trust, including some donated by generous landowners, and others purchased through the generous support of financial donors.



Guided preserve tours help connect the community to protected lands - and inspire the next generation of land stewards and conservation advocates.

On the ground, this stewardship commitment takes many forms. For conservation easements, we monitor the properties at least annually, ensuring the restrictions are upheld and the conservation values are protected. We complete detailed monitoring documentation, work with the landowners to share information, and, if necessary, work to enforce the restrictions.

For properties owned by the Land Trust, the stewardship work can be especially complex. A few are closed to public access to

protect sensitive natural features, or to honor donors' wishes. Most, however, are open to the public for exploration. We manage trails and trailheads, including parking areas, install and maintain signage, manage invasive plants and monitor natural and cultural features.

None of this stewardship work happens without the support of the community! Our partners at other agencies and organizations, volunteers, and members of the public who report sightings and problems—all are crucial to the success of these perpetual stewardship activities.

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Each of these conservation projects reflects Desert Foothills Land Trust's commitment to *perpetual* land stewardship. This is a commitment we take very seriously! For example, in the land trust community, land stewardship endowment funds are not just recommended - they are required. In fact, the IRS regulations that permit organizations like ours to be qualified to hold conservation easements, also require that we have adequate funding to uphold our commitment to perpetual stewardship. And you can be assured—we do!

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ACCREDITED LAND TRUST A CREDITATION COMMISSION

Connecting People to Land

Over the last few years, Desert Foothills Land Trust has steadily increased our work to connect people to land. We've added wonderful community events like Desert Discovery Day, expanded the number and type of guided preserve tours, and improved the DFLT website to include maps and preserve information for visitors.

We've continued our photo contest in order to celebrate Black Mountain and Daisy Mountain, and to reach new audiences with our conservation work. Recognizing the important role of the arts in our community, we added an art exhibition and sale featuring DFLT preserves, also aimed at reaching new audiences with our conservation message. And even our fundraising event, Sonoran Stars, is an important community outreach tool.

"Everyone knows it's important to preserve the Sonoran Desert. But not everyone knows that each of us can play a part. Whether it's guided hikes or open-air painting classes, we are getting people involved in this extraordinary landscape. Clearly the mission of a land trust is conservation, and a large part of that includes educating and engaging the community."

—Ronnie Wainwright, volunteer

Additionally, we've expanded partnerships with other organizations in order to have greater impact in the community. We are working with other agencies and organizations in order to coordinate trail and open space connectivity. We're working with other land trust partners around the state in order to advance statewide land conservation. And we're also working with local partners, including town governments, to pursue local land protection projects.

This focus supports our community, and importantly, also builds support for conservation and for stewardship of our protected lands. We hope you will join us at one of these community events!

—Richard Burns, Board Chair

FY 2015 Financial Report

10/1/14-9/30/15, excluding F.O.R.C.E.

GENERAL OPERATING REVENUE

Grants/Contributions	\$ 219,255
Special events	\$ 190,929
Bequests	\$ 41,208
Other Income	\$ 10,967
Loss on investments	(\$ 13,566)
Total Revenue	\$ 448,793
Transfer of in lieu fee funds to AGF*	(\$ 116,190)
Adjusted revenue	\$ 332,603

*Withdrew from in lieu fee mitigation program; existing funds transferred to AZ Game and Fish Dept.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Compensation	\$ 199,802
Professional/Event Services	\$ 45,741
Organization/Event Expenses	\$ 111,509
Occupancy	\$ 65,332
Stewardship and Land	\$ 13,604
Other Expenses	\$ 6,268
Total Expenses	\$ 442,256

ASSETS

Total Cash/Cash Equivalents	\$ 778,887
Investments	\$ 342,290
Land Holdings	\$ 9,792,400
Other Assets	\$ 12,788
Total Assets	\$ 10,926,365

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$ 843,673
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 185,678
Permanently Restricted	\$ 9,897,014
Total Net Assets	\$ 10,926,365

Please contact DFLT for a copy of our audited financial statements or our IRS Form 990.

Upcoming Events

Guided preserve tours - through May. Tours are free but registration is required.

It's Art For Land's Sake at Desert Foothills Library; exhibition March 7-12; sale March 12.

Sonoran Stars - Sat. April 23, 5 pm at Los Cedros USA in Scottsdale

Desert Discovery Day - Sat. Nov. 19, Jewel of the Creek Preserve

Visit www.dflt.org for our full event schedule. Events are also widely shared on our Facebook page!

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As our organization has matured, we increasingly recognize that our work to connect people to land is a fundamental part of our long-term stewardship work. Community members who know and love these lands will be the advocates who will rally to their defense when needed. As the saying goes, "we protect what we love."

DFLT's work to help our community experience the wonder of a coyote's howl, a hedgehog cactus in bloom or a cottonwood in full fall color is important for the individuals whose lives are touched. It is also crucial for the perpetual stewardship of these special places.



This year, our land stewardship work included cleaning up heartbreaking vandalism at Jewel of the Creek Preserve. However, the outpouring of support and assistance from the community was both encouraging and inspiring - and the clean-up was successful.

2015 Highlights



It's Art For Land's Sake - inaugural exhibition and sale celebrating DFLT preserves, and raising money for conservation. (Above: "Cactus" by Charlotte Moore, first place winner.)



Desert Discovery Day - fourth annual event at the Jewel, introducing this Sonoran Desert landscape to children of all ages. (Photo above by Jon Klas.)



Mountains of the Land Trust Photo Contest - online contest celebrates Daisy Mountain and Black Mountain. (Photo above by Mike Burns, Peoples' Choice winner.)



Sonoran Stars - the 20th anniversary of our fundraiser raised \$125,000 for our work. (Photo above by Jon Klas.)

Sonoran Guardians

Thank you to our Sonoran Guardians, who support Desert Foothills Land Trust through annual leadership-level gifts! We deeply regret any errors or omissions. Please notify our staff of any inaccuracies. Gifts shown below are from February 1, 2015 through January 30, 2016.

Saguaro (\$5,000+)

Anonymous (2)
Arizona Community Foundation | Fred Runnels Padgett Charitable Foundation
Elizabeth and Richard Burns
Sue and Philip Clement
DLA Piper LLP (US)
Mary Ellen and Gates Hawn
IFS Family Foundation
The Louise Menk Family
Marilyn and Mark Nadeau
Cathie and Fred Rosenbaum
Sanderson Lincoln
The Seattle Foundation | Walter E. and Alicejo P. Saubert Fund
Western Program | Land Trust Alliance

Ironwood (\$2,500+)

Fidelity Charitable - Bingham Charitable Fund | Jean and Barry Bingham
BMO Harris Bank
Carefree Physical Therapy | Cynthia Driskell
Patricia and Paul Ellsworth
Patricia and Matthew Freeman
Carolyn and Glendon French
Linda Garrett
Michael R. Honkamp
Barbara and Donald Mullett
Alnic Realty Corp. | Alice and Nicholas Salerno
The Minneapolis Foundation | Watson Family Fund
Robert Wilkens
Fidelity Charitable | Willow's Mead Charitable Fund

Ocotillo (\$1,000+)

Anonymous (4)
Eleanore and Vaughn Beals
Karin and David Benson
Suzanne and Ted Bosler
Carolyn and Brian Butler
Christine Coleman
Linda and Allen Courter
John Crane and Betsy Lynn
Betty Jayne Dahlberg
Joe Fetzer and Marie Frantz
Elisabeth and Al Finch
Stacy and Aron Fischer
Beverly and Jon Holt
Lynne and Robert Hoss
Ann Hutchinson and Paul H. McAllister
Mary Ghrist James
Barbara and John Jorgensen
Joyce and Stanley Kerber
Barbara and David Kirr
Tina and Kirk Leazier
Edward Lesser
W. Jeff Marshall and Judy Smith
Bessemer National Gift Fund | McCormick Fund
Mary Louise Menk
William Moeller
Larry Niederhofer
Marilyn and Armand Norehad
Northern Trust
Suzanne and William Oelman
Sonia and Adam Perillo
Jane Randolph
June and Timothy Reilly
Trudy and Thomas Rhoades
American Endowment Foundation | Bill Riffle and Ruann Ernst
Rita and Richard Russell
Shangri La Ranch an affiliate of American Association for Nude Recreation, Inc.
Elizabeth Summers
Michael White and Marci Zimmerman
Bruce Winter
Bitsy and Clyde Wyant
Sybil and Shelby Yastrow

SONORAN ★ STARS ★

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Los Cedros USA • Scottsdale • 5 pm

Help protect the land you love while enjoying a stunning equestrian facility, open bar, tours of stables with costumed horses and riders, gourmet dinner prepared by **Chef Tony Rea**, **Wild at Heart** owl release and smooth jazz music by the **Jerry Donato Trio**.

An evening
to benefit
land conservation

DESERT Foothills
LAND TRUST

Accepting reservations and sponsorships now at www.DFLT.org or 480-488-6131

*Please
Join Us!*



P.O. Box 4861
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www.dflt.org

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