

## Central Coast Land Conservancy shares information on new website

The Central Coast Land Conservancy, based in Depoe Bay, announced the debut of its new website, which provides the public with an understanding of the organization's goals, projects, and areas of operation (Tillamook, Lincoln, and western Lane counties).

The website also provides information about land conservation, specifically the benefits of conservation easements and other long-term land protection options. It defines common terms and provides details about the possible financial benefits when protecting your property through a land trust. In addition, there is a section on how interested people can get involved with the organization.

Development of the website has topped off a year of progress. In January 2011, Denise Lofman of Garibaldi joined the board, bringing watershed council management, contracting, and restoration experience. In February, Carla Perry of Newport was hired as the Land Conservancy's first part-time coordinator through a grant funded by the Pacific Coast Joint Venture. In June, the conservancy became a founding member of the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, whose mission is to serve and strengthen the land trust community throughout the state. In July, the organization held a board retreat to begin development of a five-year strategic plan, which was finalized and approved in February of this year. Additionally, the conservancy joined the national Land Trust Alliance and adopted their Land Trust Standards and Practices to guide and assure responsible land trust operation. Recently, two new grants were received for a restoration and outreach project along the Big Nestucca River in Tillamook County. One grant was from the Tillamook Estuaries Partnership through its Local Grant Program, and the other came from the Oregon Coastal Management Program through Coastal Zone Management Act funds from NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.

The group also held a contest to develop a new logo for the organization. Robin Black of Bend was awarded prize money when her design was selected. The



The Central Coast Land Conservancy, based in Depoe Bay, recently announced the debut of its new website, which can be found at [centralcoastlandconservancy.org](http://centralcoastlandconservancy.org) Fran Recht, Central Coast Land Conservancy board secretary, is pictured on a Yaquina River monitoring expedition. (Courtesy photo by Laura Brophy)

new conservancy logo, a graphic that includes wave and tree representations, has been incorporated into the website. In an effort to "buy local," several Lincoln County website designers were contacted and asked to provide estimates. Verin Lewis of Microcomputer Resources of Yachats was selected to help design, produce, and host the website at a generous, nonprofit rate.

"Our new website will provide increased visibility for our group," said conservancy board member Fran Recht. "There are many people interested in conservation options for their land, but they don't know where to turn. Now they'll have an easy way to find us."

The Central Coast Land Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has been in existence since 1994. Its mission is to hold and manage for public benefit, lands that constitute the natural heritage of the area, including lands that provide special benefit for wildlife habitat and native plants or are of scenic, cultural, historic, or recreational significance. The land conservancy cur-

rently owns three properties and holds conservation easements on five additional properties in western Lane, Lincoln, and Tillamook counties. A sixth easement is near completion.

The group welcomes interested people and volunteers. Especially desired are individuals with financial, real estate, surveying, and legal experience willing to serve on the board of directors so that their knowledge can be tapped as the organization's holdings increase. In addition, volunteers are needed to help with monitoring and restoration projects and the organization of events and field trips. The group also welcomes cash donations. These gifts will go directly toward protecting and preserving land along the central Oregon coast. Donations can be made through the new website [centralcoastlandconservancy.org](http://centralcoastlandconservancy.org) or through postal mail sent to the Central Coast Land Conservancy, P.O. Box 1344, Depoe Bay, OR 97341.

For additional information contact [info@centralcoastlandconservancy.org](mailto:info@centralcoastlandconservancy.org) or call 541-574-7708.