



Pacific Crest Trail
Association

Our Footprints on the Trail

2019 Annual Report





*Above: Oregon's cathedral-like forest. Photo by Csaba Winter.
On the cover: Goat Rocks Wilderness, Washington. Photo by Michael DeYoung.*

Because of you, 2019 was an incredible year for the Pacific Crest Trail and our association.

More people are seeking the trail's incredible beauty and life-changing experiences. Together we permanently protected 17 miles of the PCT and more than 10,000 acres while witnessing amazing acts of volunteerism.



Liz Bergeron



Rick Thalhammer

This annual report touches upon a few of our accomplishments and highlights experiences of those touched by the trail – but doesn't begin to capture our community's spirit. How could it? The Pacific Crest Trail is seemingly limitless. Each year we work together to keep the trail open for countless others to enjoy. We protect lands around the trail, foster new and existing relationships to get the job done and speak as one voice when it matters.

Without your support, we simply would not be successful. Because of you, we continue to stay on the path to accomplish our vision for the trail. Many thanks for all you do.



**Pacific Crest Trail
Association**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Bergeron".

Liz Bergeron
Executive Director and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Thalhammer".

Rick Thalhammer
Chair, PCTA Board of Directors



A weathered sign in Southern California. Photo by Joshua Leung.

Far more than a trail, the PCT is a place, an experience, and a passion worth protecting.

The Pacific Crest Trail means so much to so many:

It contributes to the physical and mental health of countless people.

It contributes to the economic health of communities along the trail in three states.

It offers opportunities to heal and rejuvenate.

It links protected habitats that ensure the long-term health of animals and plants.

It provides opportunities for people of all ages to connect with the natural world and develop an ethic of service to conservation.

It lives in our hearts as a sweeping span of wildness and beauty across the great mountain ranges of the American West.

In 2019, your support for our work helped protect the PCT in many ways...

Thanks to you, we **protected your trail experience** against natural damage including wildfires and erosion, and human encroachment like development, motorized vehicles, and resource extraction.

With your help, we acquired new private properties, getting closer to our goal of **permanently protecting 100 percent of the PCT**.

Your support helped us **advocate for trail funding and protection** with elected officials at the local, state and federal level.

You helped us **influence management of the trail** by our federal agency partners.

And you helped us provide a range of **support services** to increase your enjoyment of the PCT, like managing permits, *Leave No Trace* education, and trail user research.



Students from the Environmental Charter High School in Lawndale, California, work on the PCT near Cajon Pass. Photo by PCTA.

Protecting the PCT



An alpine lake in the Trinity Divide, California. Photo by PCTA.

2019 Land Protection Accomplishments

10,336
acres
protected

17.8 miles
of the PCT protected

\$14,890,000
invested in
land acquisitions

10
alpine lakes
protected

31
parcels
acquired

Hank Magnuski

Palo Alto, California

“Preserving a small piece of wilderness and the wilderness experience is very valuable to me.”

Hank is a donor who partnered with the PCTA to purchase a key property near the trail at Picayune Lake in Northern California’s Trinity Divide. His purchase protects 690 acres and 1.2 miles of the PCT.

People like Hank with a passion for the PCT play an important role in fully protecting the last remaining private lands along the trail.





The Trinity Divide: A Landmark Achievement

In summer 2019, a 5-year effort to protect **17 miles of the PCT** along the Trinity Divide in Northern California became a reality.

The project, a partnership between the **PCTA**, **The Trust for Public Land**, the **Michigan-California Timber Co.**, the **Wyss Foundation** and the **U.S Forest Service**, protected **10,300 acres of alpine landscape** along the trail.

Approximately 10 percent of the trail remains on private land.

The PCTA's land protection program works with willing sellers to conserve land along the entire 2,650 miles of the trail to protect the trail experience, enhance recreational access to our public lands, protect habitat for sensitive species, and secure crucial watersheds.

Bull Lake in the Trinity Divide, California. Photo by Rachid Dahnoun.

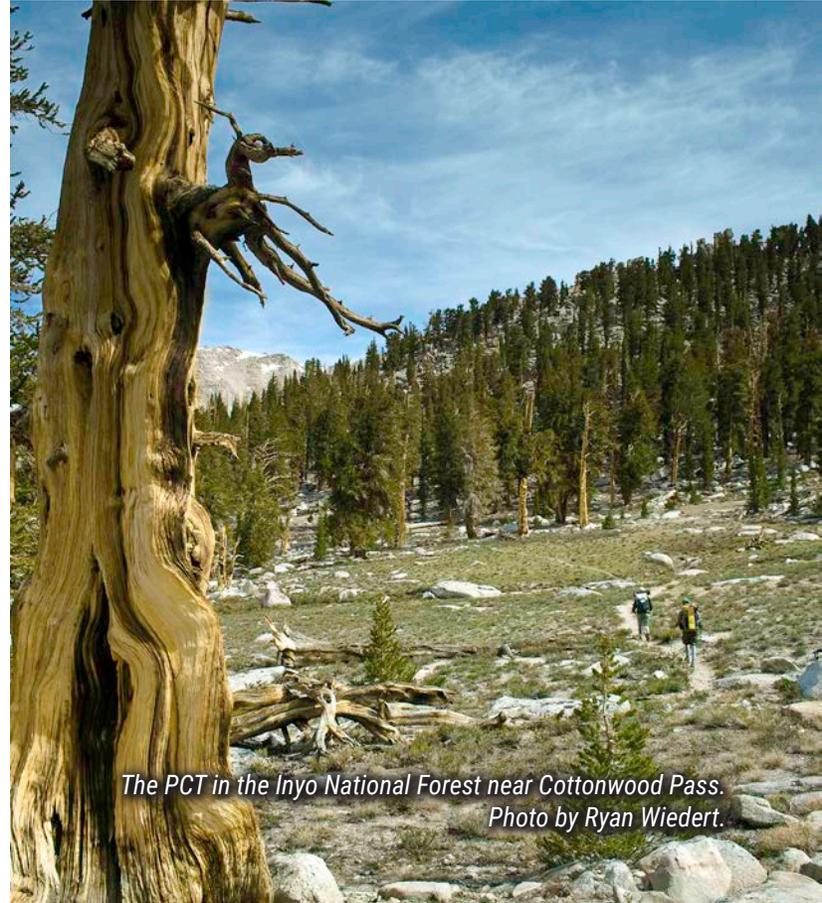
Protecting the PCT

Inyo National Forest: The First Dedicated PCT Management Area

California's Inyo National Forest set an important precedent when its final forest plan included the **first PCT Management Area**, a mile-wide corridor along the trail with specific direction to protect the PCT's wild, scenic, remote and non-motorized character.

PCTA staff worked closely with the Forest Service on plan language that would adequately provide for the nature and purposes of the PCT as directed by the 1968 National Trails System Act.

The PCT Management Area sets a positive precedent for subsequent Forests to follow, ensuring the PCT receives consistent and proper management from forest to forest and meets the intent of the PCT's designation as a National Scenic Trail.



*The PCT in the Inyo National Forest near Cottonwood Pass.
Photo by Ryan Wiedert.*

Improving the PCT Experience



Volunteers at work near Reds Meadow, California. Photo by PCTA.

2019 Volunteer Accomplishments

106,444
volunteer
service hours

1,605
miles of the PCT
maintained

\$2.7 million
in-kind value of
volunteer hours

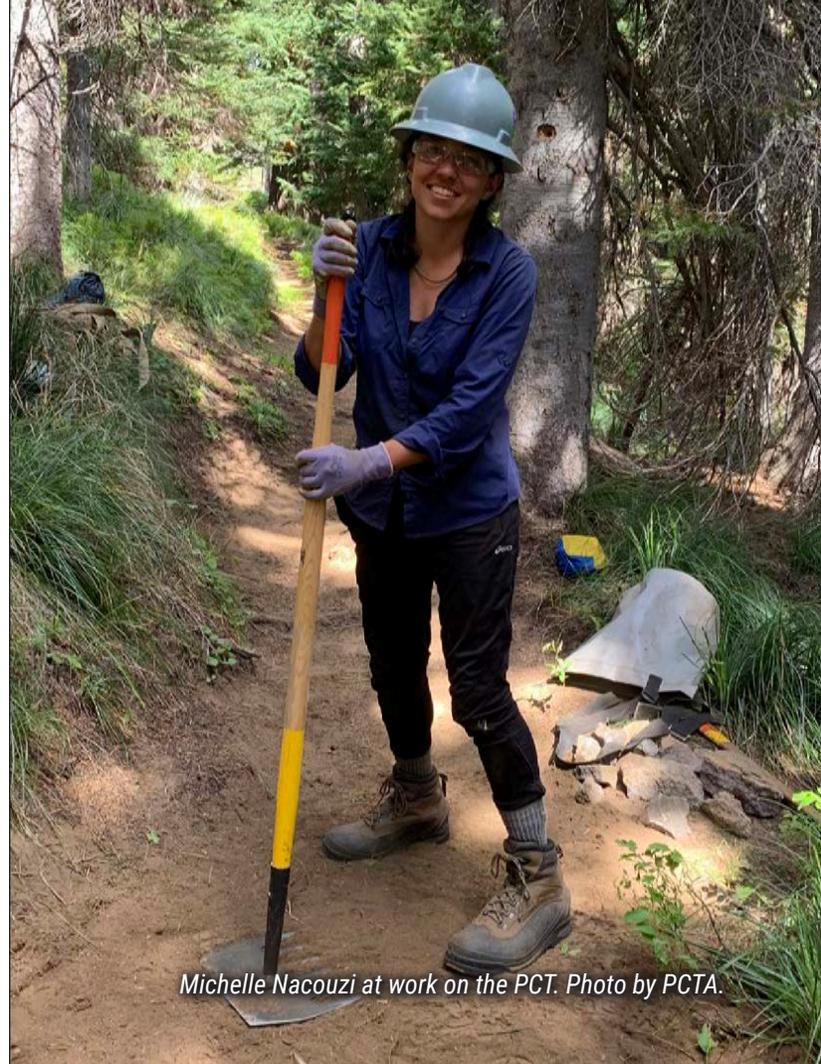
33 Trail Skills College
trainings for volunteers

Michelle Nacouzi

New York City, New York

“As more hikers visit the remote, breathtaking and fragile miles of the PCT every year, the need for us to keep it accessible and maintained increases as well. I cannot think of a single hiker friend who would not have loved the volunteer vacation experience I had. It was the best vacation I have ever taken!”

Michelle, a dedicated PCT section hiker, flew from New York to Seattle to join a **PCTA “Sasquatch Volunteer Vacation”**—a week of backcountry trail work. People like Michelle are the backbone of the PCT, giving their time every year to the trail.



Michelle Nacouzi at work on the PCT. Photo by PCTA.



Earthquake damage on the PCT. Photo by PCTA.

California Earthquake Repair

In Summer 2019, two big earthquakes near Ridgecrest damaged 2 miles of the PCT. The PCTA partnered with the **Bureau of Land Management** and **American Conservation Experience** crews to clear debris and reestablish the trail between Morris and Owens peaks.



A Backcountry Horsemen of Washington volunteer returns to camp after a long day of sawing logs.

Washington Wildfire Recovery

In 2018, the northernmost stretch of the PCT was significantly damaged by the Holman Fire. In 2019, the PCTA partnered with the **U.S. Forest Service**, the **Backcountry Horsemen of Washington**, the **Pacific Northwest Trail Association** and the **Washington Trails Association** to clear the trail in one of its most rugged, inaccessible areas.

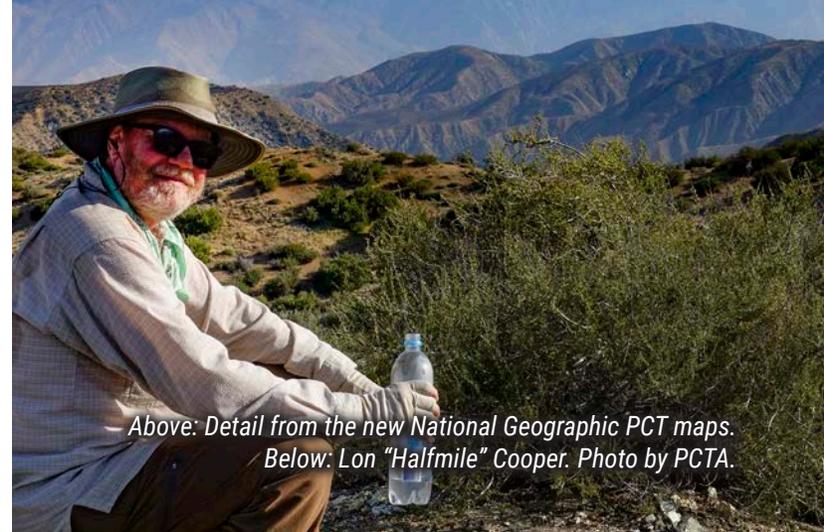
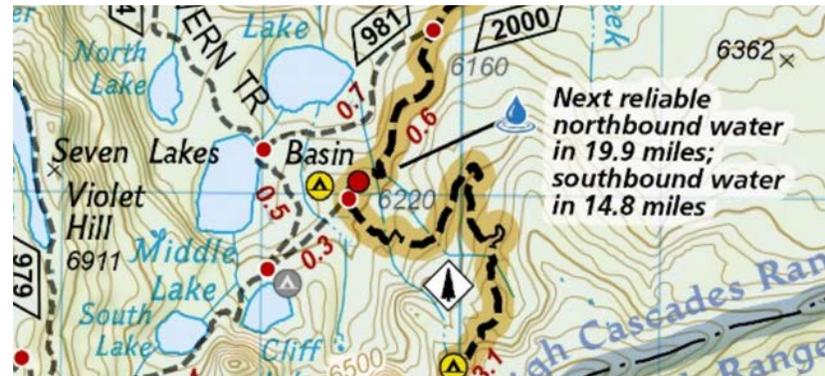
Improving the PCT Experience

A New Era for PCT Maps

For more than a decade, hikers have loved **Lon "Halfmile" Cooper's** free, printable maps of the PCT.

In 2019, the PCTA partnered with **National Geographic Maps** and Lon on a new series of detailed hiking maps of the PCT. The National Geographic team worked closely with the PCTA and federal agency partners to ensure the greatest possible accuracy of the new maps.

The maps incorporate **updated information about campsites that for the first time** encourages people to camp in places that minimize their impact to the environment and other PCT users. The PCTA welcomed National Geographic as a new corporate partner providing financial support for the trail.



Above: Detail from the new National Geographic PCT maps.
Below: Lon "Halfmile" Cooper. Photo by PCTA.



Deb Davis

**Lead Forestry Technician
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest,
Washington**

“The PCT is a national treasure, and that’s how we should think of it. And not just the trail but the land it passes through. While I sometimes wring my hands over the enormous task of taking care of a remote trail that was designed to maximize scenery instead of longevity, it has been a privilege to spend decades as a steward and devotee of the trail.”

Agency partners like Deb are invaluable to the PCTA’s mission, not only for their decades of knowledge but as important liaisons in the successful public/private partnerships that benefit the Pacific Crest Trail.

Lynn Shapiro & Patti McCarthy Southern Terminus Hosts

"It's exciting to see the hikers leave. Each time someone takes off, we think he or she takes a little piece of us as we wish we, too, could be on the trail. But hosting at the Southern Terminus gives us a great opportunity to be part of so many people's incredible experiences. They are engaging in a challenge they once could only dream about."

People like Lynn and Patti, who have been steadily section hiking the PCT for years, are a vital part of our community when they give back to the trail and pass on their knowledge to future PCT supporters.



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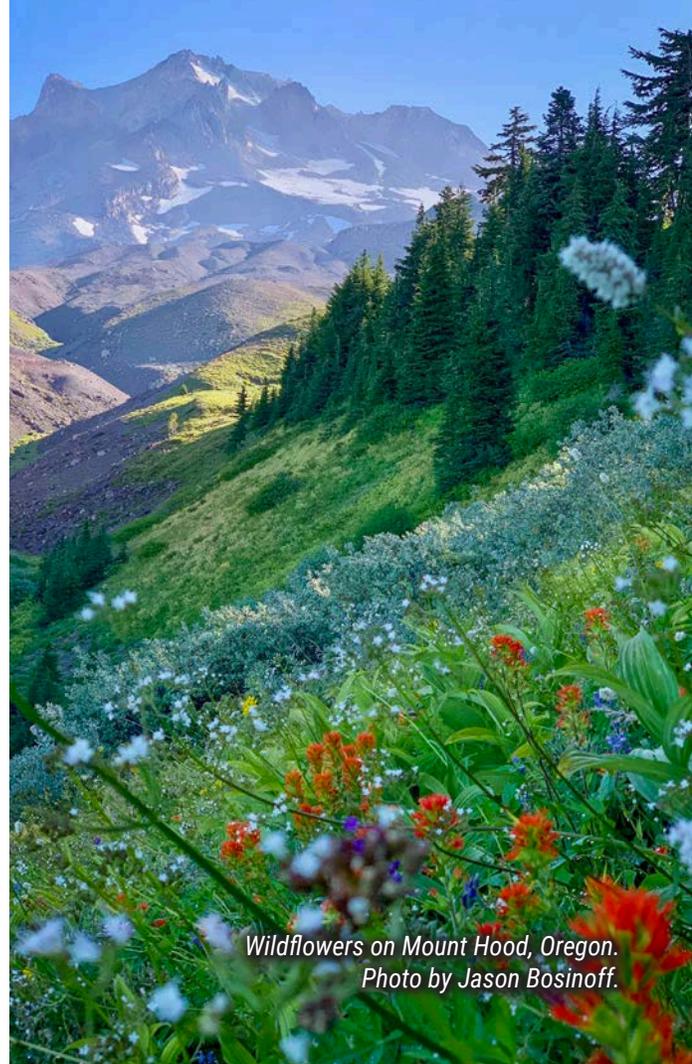
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Corona del Mar, CA



*Wildflowers on Mount Hood, Oregon.
Photo by Jason Bosinoff.*

Financials

Without Donor Restrictions	2019	2018
Revenue and Support		
Private Sources*	\$ 3,365,451	\$ 2,864,924
Government Grants	\$ 993,982	\$ 1,086,652
Total Revenue and Support	\$ 4,359,433	\$ 3,951,576
Expenses		
Trail Operations	\$ 1,688,961	\$ 1,574,495
Land Protection	\$ 315,561	\$ 390,244
Public Information and Education	\$ 891,118	\$ 945,023
Fundraising	\$ 736,215	\$ 665,810
Management and General	\$ 478,735	\$ 423,360
Total Expenses	\$ 4,110,590	\$ 3,998,932
Surplus (Deficit) Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 248,843	\$ (47,356)
With Donor Restrictions		
Individual Contributions	\$ 829,065	\$ 911,309
Investment Income (Loss)	\$ 250,619	\$ (61,420)
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$ (538,845)	\$ (654,162)
Surplus (Deficit) With Donor Restrictions	\$ 540,839	\$ 195,727
Total Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 789,682	\$ 148,371
Net Assets (Beginning of Year)	\$ 3,523,535	\$ 3,375,164
Net Assets (End of Year)	\$ 4,313,217	\$ 3,523,535

Total Revenue & Support

2019	2018
\$ 4,900,272	\$4,147,303

Total Expenses

2019	2018
\$4,110,590	\$3,998,932

Total Surplus (Deficit)

2019	2018
\$ 789,682	\$ 148,371

The PCTA goes through a financial audit every year. We are subject to a more in-depth audit because of the level of federal funding we receive. The 2019 financial statements were audited by Gilbert Associates, Inc. of Sacramento, CA. In the opinion of the auditor, the PCTA's 2019 financial statements fairly present the financial position of the PCTA in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. For more information or copies of the 2019 audited financials, visit www.pcta.org/financials.

**Private Sources include memberships, donations, other revenue, and in-kind donations.*

Thank You to Our Supporters

Thank you to all the extraordinary trail enthusiasts who contributed \$1,000 or more in 2019. These dedicated individuals, foundations and companies not only set the pace for others who wish to support our work, but play a crucial role in helping to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest Trail.

TRAIL BLAZERS - \$10,000+

Anonymous (2)
Kevin M. Bacon
Michele and Dan Coleman
John and Julie Crawford
Janet "Rock-Kicker" Grossman
Ben Hammett
David and Robin Hanna
Kim "Twodog" Hastings
Hope for Today Fund of
The Oregon Community Foundation
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Vicki Kellerman and Laurie Fink
Mitchell H. Lasky and Cecilia M. Barajas
Bill and Nadean Meyer
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Kim and Pamela Owen
Don and JoAnn Ralphs
Tom and Teita Reveley

Dr. Ken and Kathy Schwarz
Barry Teschlog
Bennie and Margo Tschirky

TRAIL CHAMPIONS - \$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous (4)
Dave "Lightened Up" Bewley
Daniel P. Collins
Lon "Halfmile" Cooper
Daniel and Marina Eisenbud
Richard Gibson and Carol Peterkort
Denise Gilbert
Clinton and Mary Gilliland
Jim and Jan Hawkins
Patty, Collin, Joel and Reed Janke
Dan "Marmot" McKean
Lisa Naito
Randall Family Fund
Frederick and Belle Tanis
Bob Scheulen and Kimberly Wells

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Anonymous (2)
David Anders
Backcountry Horsemen of California,
Kern Sierra
Dick Baumgartner and Liz Salzer
Liz Bergeron and Lori Harmon
Larry Church
Dave Clausus
Jeremy Cowperthwaite
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Del P. "Steelaway" Granlund
Kevin Haggard
Dan C. Hane
Scott Jacobsmeyer and Tiina Hameenanttila
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Barney and Sandy Mann
Lance and Suzette Olson
Fred and Melouise Pfeffer
Sandals and Sheepdog
Angie Williamson and Paul Kawasaki
Glyn and Jeffrey Wilson-Charles
Joseph and Michael Wirth
Kirt and Beverly Zeigler

TRAIL GUARDIANS - \$1,000 - \$2,649

Anonymous (32)
Linda Adams
Ralph and Susan Alcorn
Justin Almeleh
Laura Alpert
Paul and Karen Andersen
Jim Backhus
Tim Bailey
Justin and Jennifer Bajema
Luann and Dana Basque
Kathie Bate
Christine D. Beatty
David Beaver and Harry Trines
Michael P. Biggs
John Blevins
Arlene and Mark Bradley

The Pasayten Wilderness, Washington. Photo by Elizabeth Wright.

Thank You to Our Supporters

TRAIL GUARDIANS (continued)

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of the Shasta Regional
Community Foundation

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JoAnn and Phillip Coleman

Mary E. "Medicare Pastor" Davison

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James and Patricia Holly

Nancy Holmes
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Seth Hufstедler

Jim Irvin/Irvin Designs

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Mark Konetchy

Ann Kresge and Mike Nord:

In honor of June Kresge

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Diane and Fritz Lampe

Lois T. Langlois

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The Thalhammer Family

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Don Wellmann and Lynn Yamaoka

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Jack Yates
Bruce Young
Michael "Ranger" Zaroni
Benjamin Zax

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California Alpine Club Foundation
Courtney Knight Gaines Foundation, Inc.
Gladys and John Zurlo
Charitable Foundation
International Humanitarian Fund (IHF): In
Honor of Mihajlo Labalo
and Jean Sauer, M.D.
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Partnership for the National Trail System
Sustainable Futures Fund
Tarbell Family Foundation:
*In Honor of Shamil Tarbell
and Sheila Quinlan*
The Hyde Family Foundation
Union Pacific Foundation
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CORPORATE PARTNERS

Forester Pass - \$50,000+

Hydro Flask
Michigan-California Timber Company

High Sierra - \$15,000 - \$49,999

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Tuolumne Meadows - \$5,000 - \$14,999

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Powers Inc.
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Big Agnes
Cedar House Sport Hotel
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Montbell
Mount Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest

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Good Deeds Mortgage
H&R Block
Plaza Super Jet
Point6
Quest Fabrication Corporation
Shaw Construction Co.
Summit Sales NW
The Rikoon Group

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Trailside Business Members - \$250 - \$999

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Revival Lending
Tahoe Pourhouse

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Laraine Downer
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Robert Francisco (go-BIG, 2006)

Linda Gass
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Susan Gilliland
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Alison Grass
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Photo by Joshua Leung.

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Leslie Sabin

Executive Assistant

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Assoc. Director of Trail Operations

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Mila Benson

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Dana Hendricks

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Ian Nelson

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*Communicator Magazine
Design and Production*

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Tammy Marsh

Accounting Manager



14,300
PCTA members

7,888
PCT long-distance
permits issued

\$3.4 million
in private contributions

*A PCTA Mid-Oregon volunteer in the Three Sisters Wilderness.
Photo by Bri Leahy.*

PCTA's Mission Statement

The mission of the Pacific Crest Trail Association is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail as a world-class experience for hikers and equestrians, and for all the values provided by wild and scenic lands.

*Mule packers supporting trail work on the PCT in Southern California.
Photo by Mara Beach.*

PCTA's Agency Partners



**Pacific Crest Trail
Association**

www.pcta.org

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