

THE CENTER FOR
**LARGE LANDSCAPE
CONSERVATION**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

President's 2018 Overview:

The Center for Large Landscape Conservation—*Our role as the Connective Tissue for Conservation*

2018 is coming to a close with the **Center for Large Landscape Conservation** having secured major successes that support and bolster the worldwide recognition that the **operating unit of conservation on land is at the landscape scale**. Below I highlight some of our most exciting developments.

I am extremely proud of our landscape partnerships with three Montana tribes – the **Blackfoot Nation** (including affiliated bands in Canada), the **Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**, and the **Fort Belknap Indian Community**. We are grateful to work with tribal leaders in supporting climate adaptation efforts and integrated land use planning including transportation planning. We received the first-ever tribal transportation grant to address the wildlife carnage on tribal roads next to Glacier National Park. Our tribal colleagues **Mike Durglo** from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Nation and **Gerald Wagner** from the Blackfoot Nation have each **won the tribal leadership award from the National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy** given by the US Department of Interior.

Our climate adaptation work was also featured in the Faith, Science and Climate Action Conference in Bozeman this fall. Our Center is looking at **the connection of Healthy Landscapes with Healthy Communities**. We see landscape conservation as a public health issue with direct impacts on people's livelihoods. We are working with several Montana communities in exploring this holistic conservation agenda. As part of this work, **we are collaborating with the Global Health Institute at the University of Wisconsin to advance this field of planetary public health**.

We see connectivity conservation as the circulatory system of nature. If parks and other protected areas are heart and lungs of nature, there are no policy mechanisms to conserve nature's connective tissue. Our Center is at the forefront of wildlife corridor policy at all scales of government and across sectors of society. For instance, we are leading the way with our partners at the National Caucus for Environmental Legislators, Wildlands Network and the Endangered Species Coalition in supporting a legislative educational toolbox on **State Wildlife Corridor Policy** with New Mexico, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Our leadership in developing the concepts for a **National Wildlife Corridor Conservation Act** came to fruition this month when Senator Tom Udall from New Mexico introduced his bill with our implementation thinking. Senator Cory Booker from New Jersey has asked for our science in developing wildlife crossing design policy in the next US Transportation Bill. Finally, our work in supporting a new global connectivity designation for IUCN, called **Areas of Connectivity Conservation**, was highlighted at the Conference of Parties for the Convention on Biological Diversity in Egypt in November.

Our expertise in wildlife crossing design and implementation, known as the **Crossroads Conservation** program, has been given an extraordinary boost with a major capacity grant to expand our reach across the nation. We have a unique relationship with Montana State University’s Western Transportation Institute – a transportation research entity started by CalTrans (California Transportation Administration). We share staff and assist in putting their innovative research on road ecology into practice. In addition, **we are fiscal home for a Federal Highway Administration collaborative known as ARC-Solutions.org** (Animal Road Crossings) that seeks to advance innovative road crossing design in order to lower implementation barriers for their use by state highway departments.

The Center for Landscape Conservation is a connector organization in all ways and this is expressed through our regional and global networks on connectivity and landscape conservation. One of our lead initiatives is the **Network for Landscape Conservation, which brings together nearly 300 large-scale conservation efforts across North America**. In general, landscape conservation efforts have one thing in common --- they do not talk to each other.

The Network for Landscape Conservation is a true learning network that seeks to improve the practice of conservation at the largest scales. **We are pleased to share the NLC’s new report, Pathways Forward: Progress and Priorities in Landscape Conservation (<http://landscapeconservation.org>)**. The purpose of Pathways Forward is two-fold: to capture the current state of landscape conservation practice; and to suggest what we can do together to successfully conserve our irreplaceable cultural and natural landscapes. The report explores recent innovations, on-the-ground examples, and action-oriented strategies that are advancing landscape conservation. **We are further grateful to have a five year \$1.9 million investment by the Doris Duke and Hewlett Foundations in helping our Network create a national catalyst regrant fund** to advance landscape conservation across the US and transboundary Canada and Mexico.

The latest IPCC assessment says it all – **we have 12 years to change the course on climate** or we face irreversible extinctions and a new planetary ecological set point. We affirm that protecting as much nature as possible is a key mandate. However, **parks in isolation are less effective and our goal is to build the ecological and social bridges that create effective conservation networks** embedded in healthy landscapes and seascapes.

Thank you for believing in our mission – conserving nature and humanity on this planet by connecting one large landscape at a time.

Financials FY 2017 - 2018

Grants/Foundations Income:	\$1,299,902	Program Expenses:	\$1,011,270
Contributions:	\$243,996	Development:	\$60,571
Fiscally Sponsored Projects:	\$165,760	Administration:	\$220,238
In-Kind Contributions:	\$10,000	Total Expenses:	\$1,298,718
Other Income:	\$6639		
Total Revenue:	\$1,726,297		

Ending net assets: \$925,251

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CONNECTIVITY IS THE SAFETY NET OF NATURE

What is connectivity?

Connectivity is the degree to which landscapes and seascapes allow species movement and natural ecological processes.



What does connectivity do?

Allows species to migrate or disperse to feed, breed, and respond to climate change. Allows natural communities to thrive by maintaining ecosystem functions like pollination and stream flows.

What do we want?

Connected lands and waters: wildlife corridors, landscape linkage areas, free flowing and connected rivers, interconnected coastal and marine zones, and climate-resilient ecosystems.



Why do we care?

Connected lands and waters benefit nature and people. As the climate changes and development increases, we must act now to save and restore natural connections across all lands and waters.



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