



Private Forests. Public Treasures.

Fall 2005

Dear Friends:

“We have a tremendous responsibility to make sure we do not allow all of this beautiful land to be developed. Our legacy should be open land, clean air, clean water and productive working forestlands for our grandchildren.”

– Dave Marshall
PFT partner/professional forester

Four years ago, the Pacific Forest Trust (PFT) reported in our publication *America's Private Forests*, that we lose more than one million acres of forestland to development a year here in the United States, and that forestland loss was greater than any other landscape loss and only increasing.

Today, more than two million acres of forestlands are being chopped up and bulldozed for ranchettes and trophy homes each year. The red-hot real estate market and global competition in the forest industry have combined to produce record forestland sales by corporations. And with these sales, the conversion of our forestlands continues to surge.

When private forests are lost, everyone loses. With every acre destroyed, the myriad public benefits forests provide – clean water, thriving wildlife, a well-balanced climate, recreational lands and wood products – vanish forever.

We are in a race against time. We urge you to help the Pacific Forest Trust conserve our nation's private forests. Become a Forest Champion today.
Your generous support is needed now more than ever.

Rather than taking sides or closing our eyes to economic realities, PFT finds and develops new ways to help people keep forests as forest and improve the returns on practicing forest stewardship. Our innovations are used in partnership with landowners, forest managers, public agencies and local communities to sustain private forestlands for their wealth of public benefits.

We are uniting traditional adversaries – loggers and tree-huggers – and helping them put the past aside and tackle the challenges our forests face together. Both sides are beginning to understand that **private forests will be preserved only if they remain productive.**

The Pacific Forest Trust is making conservation an asset for forest owners. We pioneered the use of conservation easements on working forestlands, an innovation that has led to more than five million acres across the U.S. being permanently protected. We spearheaded the first law in the nation that recognizes the crucial role forests play in reducing global warming and rewards landowners who enhance forest carbon stores. By working with private landowners to protect private forests, by introducing new tools and financial incentives that promote sustainable forestry, we're keeping private forests working for us all.

The Presidio
1001-A O'Reilly Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94129
phone 415.561.0700
fax 415.561.9559
pft@pacificforest.org

www.PacificForest.org

(continued on back)

And, we are making a major difference!

PFT's revolutionary **McCloud Project** below Mt. Shasta protects the headwaters of the Sacramento River and encourages state-of-the-art forest stewardship. This working forest conservation easement is the largest in the state and the very first done in partnership with a commercial timber owner.

Our **Yosemite Conservation Project**, which aims to protect the vulnerable western border of Yosemite National Park, continues to progress. By year-end, we will have acquired three properties encompassing a total of more than 1,000 acres.

We're succeeding with our **Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Campaign to Complete the Vision**. We're helping to realize the vision of the Monument – our nation's only monument created to protect biodiversity – by acquiring private inholdings within the Monument's planning area. This spring, we acquired and began to restore nearly 2,000 acres. By year-end, we expect to have agreements in place to purchase roughly 3,000 more acres.

And PFT continues to motivate stakeholders to join the private forest conservation movement. Our **California Forest Futures 2005** conference brought more than 300 people together – landowners, foresters, environmentalists, scientists, journalists, lawmakers and more – to discuss and create new solutions to support private forests. The conference helped confirm the very real progress we've made. Better yet, it served to spread the message that America's private forests are increasingly threatened, and that we must all pull together to save them.

Indeed, that message is spreading. In just the past few months, our work has been featured in the *Sacramento Bee*, *Oregon's Mail Tribune* and on *National Public Radio's "California Report."* These stories can be read and listened to via our website.

Yet, despite these successes, we must continue to do more to prevent forestland loss. With almost two-thirds of America's forests in private ownership, the vital watersheds, fish and wildlife habitats and the rural economies that depend on these forests need your support if they are to survive for your grandchildren and their grandchildren.

Be a Forest Champion. Please give to the Pacific Forest Trust today. Return the enclosed envelope or donate securely online at www.PacificForest.org. Either way, you'll be helping PFT save our threatened forests. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Laurie A. Wayburn
President