

2005

National Land Trust Census Report



USDA / NRCS

Land Trust Alliance
2005 National Land Trust Census Report

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Very special thanks to America's 1,667 member land trust community and to the 940 land trusts who responded directly to the 2005 National Land Trust Census.

The 2005 National Land Trust Census Report was printed and released on November 30, 2006.

About the Land Trust Alliance

The Land Trust Alliance was formed in 1982 to advance the mission of land trusts. Since its inception, the Alliance has trained thousands of conservation leaders, led the effort to increase tax incentives for conservation on private lands, and developed standards and practices to professionalize and safeguard land trust work. The Land Trust Alliance connects land trusts, so that every land trust can benefit from the collective wisdom and innovations of the entire community. It is based in Washington, D.C. with field offices around country.

*We have been the most prodigal of people with land, and for years we
wasted it with impunity. There was so much of it, and no matter how we
fouled it, there was always more over the next hill,
or so it seemed.*

—William Whyte, *The Last Landscape*, 1968

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Executive Summary

Each year America loses two million acres¹ of farms, forests and open spaces. Pristine landscapes are converted to shopping malls, subdivisions and highways. In the process, more than 100,000 acres² of wetlands are destroyed, degrading water quality and contributing to flooding. Americans love their land and yearn to take charge of growth in their hometowns while at the same time respecting the rights of landowners. In this context, *voluntary* conservation by private land trusts is succeeding on a scale never before seen.

The conservation of land in small communities across America is a local story that rarely garners national attention. Yet the combined impact of 1,667 private land trusts operating in every state of the nation is growing significantly, bringing the benefits of clean water, wildlife, parks, urban gardens, family farms, woods and rivers to millions of Americans. From ranchers of wide open spaces in the West, to urban gardeners in dense cities, to kids exploring wetlands, to armchair travelers who enjoy scenic vistas, Americans all have something in common: their love for the outdoors is being protected for future generations.

This is being done through a special type of private, nonprofit organization called a land trust, whose mission is typically to preserve a certain type of land that is important to the character and soul of each community. Little known just two decades ago, land trusts are now one of the fastest-growing and most successful conservation movements in American history. This new report assesses the progress of this largely volunteer movement, with data collected through year-end 2005.

For several decades, the Land Trust Alliance has been tracking national trends in private land conservation, with each five-year report showing dramatically more land protected than ever before. All records were broken with the release of the Alliance's 2005 National Land Trust Census. Some of the most important findings of the report include:

- ***Total acres conserved by local, state and national land trusts increased 54% to 37 million acres in just the past five years.*** This is an area 16 ½ times the size of Yellowstone National Park.³
- ***The pace of conservation by local and state land trusts more than tripled between successive five-year periods.***
- ***The number of land trusts grew to 1,667, a 32% increase over five years.***
- ***The West is the fastest-growing area, for both acres conserved and new land trusts.***
- ***Professionalism of land trusts is increasing, with most land trusts agreeing to more stringent rules of conduct, and securing larger annual budgets and stewardship endowments.***

The National Land Trust Census is the nation's only tabulation of land preserved through private, voluntary land conservation in the United States.

¹ The Conservation Campaign's 2005 Annual Report

² 6/10/03 Testimony of Scott Yaich, Ph.D., Director of Conservation Programs, Ducks Unlimited regarding Wetlands Regulations and the SWANCC Decision before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

³ According to the U.S. National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park is 2,219,789 acres.

Purpose of the Five-year Census

The National Land Trust Census documents the pace, volume and type of private land conservation occurring in America, along with measures of organizational development. The Census is intended to help land trust professionals and policymakers to assess the effectiveness of private, voluntary means of conservation. Whether or not private conservation is working is a critical question in an era of decreased federal and state budgets for land acquisition (although new conservation bond initiatives are stimulating conservation transactions in some areas of the country).

Among the items surveyed are:

- Number of acres privately conserved, at both the state and national levels;
- Types of conservation tools employed by local land trusts and landowners;
- Types of land conserved targeted for conservation;
- Regional growth patterns in private land conservation; and
- Human and fiscal resources of land trusts operating in the U.S.

The 2005 National Land Trust Census findings confirm the importance that Americans place on preserving treasured natural areas coast-to-coast and in their local communities.

Key Findings of 2005 National Land Trust Census

- **Total acreage conserved through private means is 37 million acres**, a 54% increase from 24 million acres in 2000. This includes both land protected by local and state land trusts, *and* the largest national land conservation groups, including The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, The Conservation Fund, and The Trust for Public Land.
- **The pace of private land conservation has tripled** by local and state land trusts. From 1995-2000, land trusts conserved an average of 337,937 acres per year. That pace soared to 1,166,697 million acres conserved per year, on average, from 2000-2005.
- America's land trusts have markedly enhanced their professionalism and **increased their ranks to 1,667 in 2005 from 1,263 in 2000.**
- **Acres conserved by local and state land trusts doubled.** 11.9 million acres were conserved by these groups through 2005—an area twice the size of the state of New Hampshire. This is an increase of 5.8 million acres since 2000.
- **The states with the highest total acres conserved are** California, Maine, Colorado, Montana, Virginia, New York, Vermont, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. Notably, Colorado and Virginia are two of the few states offering a *state* tax incentive for conservation, operating in tandem with the federal incentive—a likely factor in the rankings.

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- Local and state land trusts increased the **acres protected by conservation easements by 148%**. These private, voluntary agreements saved 6,245,969 acres as of 2005, versus 2,514,566 just five years ago. Easements allow landowners to take advantage of IRS approved tax incentives. The use of such easements has been on the rise for more than a decade. Easements are sometimes the only way family farmers can afford to conserve their working farm, ranch or timber lands.
- The land type reported as being the primary focus of land trust efforts is **protecting natural areas and wildlife habitat** (39%), followed by open space (38%) and water resources (26%), especially wetlands. Yet the type of land protected nationwide is quite varied, reflecting the regional differences in landforms. Other protected areas are farms, coastal shores, prairies, deserts, urban gardens and local parks. Another emerging pattern is land conservation in connection with building affordable housing.
- **The American West is the fastest-growing** region in both the number of acres saved and the number of land trusts. Protection of rangeland is increasing in many Western states.⁴ The second-fastest growing region, by percentage of acres conserved, is the Southeast, an area that historically has had fewer land trusts. The Northeast gained the most acreage under conservation easement, nearly tripling the acres held under easement in the past five years.
- **The highest number of land trusts is found in California** (198), followed by Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New York, and Maine (see Chart 4). The preponderance of land trusts in the Northeast reflects the birth of land trusts there more than 100 years ago.
- **Land trusts' numbers, fiduciary status and organizational management are strong.** The number of land trusts grew 32%, to 1,667, during the five-year period. Over \$1 billion in endowments have been established for long term stewardship of protected land; and the average annual operating budget increased 63% as of 2005. Nearly 1,000 land trusts have adopted the 2004 Revised *Land Trust Standards and Practices*, a set of guidelines developed by the land trust community for the professional operation of a land trust.

Definition of a Land Trust: A land trust is a nonprofit organization that, as all or part of its mission, actively works to conserve land by undertaking or assisting in land or conservation easement acquisition, or by its stewardship of such land or easements.

⁴ As of December 31, 2005, the seven member land trusts of the Partnership of Rangeland Trusts (PORT) held 786 conservation easements on 1,061,969 acres in the states of California, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Montana, Kansas and Wyoming.

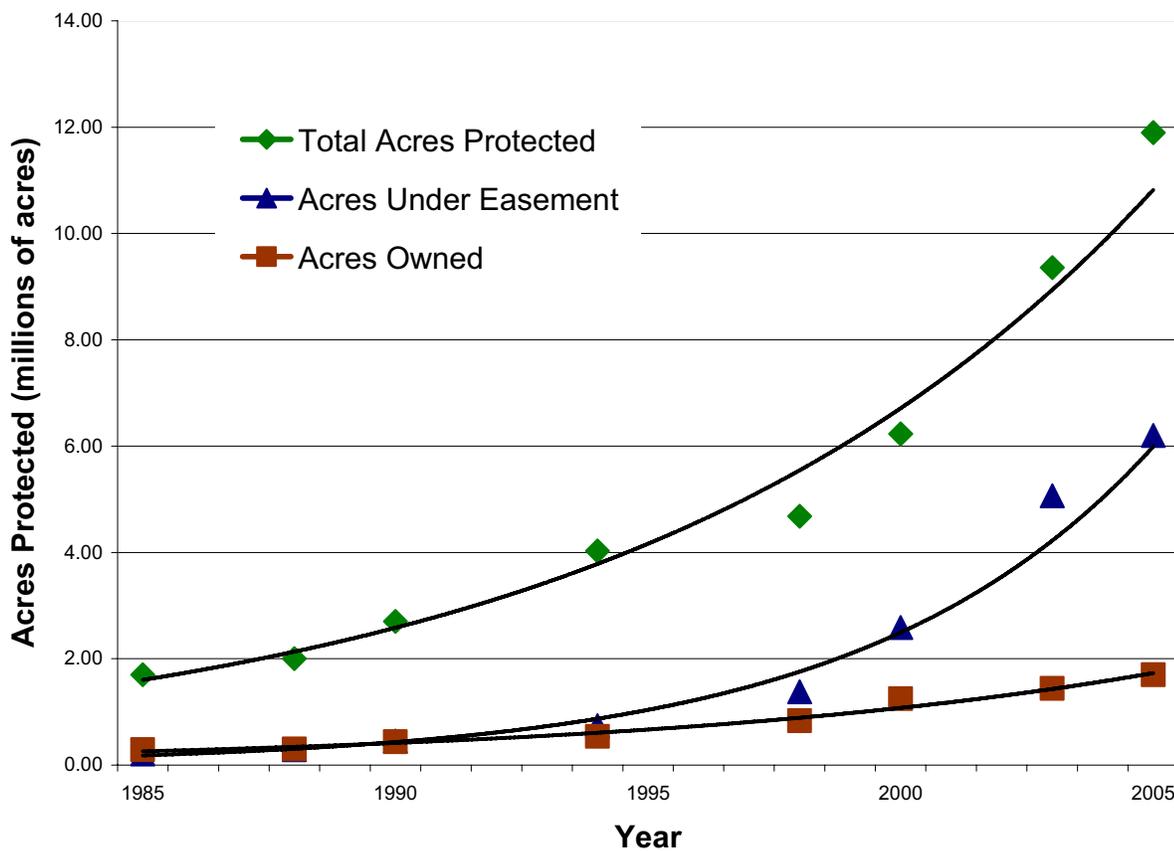
Private Land Conservation: Major Trends from 2000 to 2005

The information from the National Land Trust Census and of the work of the Land Trust Alliance, in cooperation with our 1,667 local land trust members across the nation, have led to the identification of four major trends in private land conservation to watch in the coming years.

Trend #1: Private land conservation is increasing in all regions of the country.

The effectiveness and popularity of private conservation is overwhelmingly demonstrated by the vast gains in acreage protected, and by the establishment of new land trusts in so many communities across America. This is evidenced by a tripling of the pace of private land conservation, a 148% increase in the use of conservation easements, and a doubling of total acres conserved. Simply put, *voluntary* private land conservation by land trusts is a private sector initiative that is working.

Figure 1. Private Land Conservation by Local and State Land Trusts



The total acres conserved in 2005 rose to 11,890,109 from 6,056,624 acres in 2000, a 96% increase.

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While the reasons for this growth are complex and myriad, and beyond the scope of this survey project, the following are some important contributing factors to the increase in private land conservation:

- 1) The voluntary nature of private land conservation allows landowners to tailor the conservation to their situation, e.g., allowing the continuation of a small family farm or of a sustainable timber operation.
- 2) The type of land protected is tailored to the priorities of the local community. If a conservation project lacks local support, it is unlikely to succeed. Conversely, local projects arise frequently and are more successful when generated by a shared community vision—community members protecting those natural aspects of their town that define their quality of life.
- 3) State and local bond initiatives for conservation are succeeding in many areas. In 2006, \$6.7 billion in state and local conservation funding passed in 133 measures, including California, Georgia, New Jersey, South Carolina and Texas. In 2005, \$1.6 billion in public funding was approved overwhelmingly in 111 ballot measures across the country, including Pennsylvania, Colorado and Massachusetts.⁵ These bond initiatives provide additional funding for many new conservation initiatives, often facilitated by land trusts via voluntary agreements with landowners.
- 4) However, funding from government agencies for land acquisition has significantly diminished in recent years, leaving private conservation—between willing landowners and a suitable land trust—as the primary method for achieving local conservation goals. The federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has been the principal source of land acquisition funding for the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service and provides a matching program for state land acquisition. Total funding for the LWCF was \$999.7 million in FY2001; \$459 million in FY2005; and \$346.8 in FY2006⁶.
- 5) The growing pace of sprawl⁷ and unplanned development is making many communities realize that the land decisions they make in the next decade or two will forever define the quality of life where they live. Many places are choosing gradual growth and green space over unchecked spread of new housing and strip malls.

⁵ Trust for Public Land's Center for Conservation Finance and its LandVote online searchable database as of November 21, 2006. (Several measures were being recounted as this report went to press; these figures could increase.) See also pg. 10 for more detail on Colorado.

⁶ CRS Report for Congress, Land and Water Conservation Fund: Overview, Funding History and Current Issues, July 10, 2006, Carol Hardy Vincent, Congressional Research Service

⁷ *Lifestyle Choices Affect U.S Impact on the Environment* by Sandra Yin, Associate Editor, Population Reference Bureau Copyright 2006, Population Reference Bureau. All rights reserved.

Trend #2: Public tax incentives are spurring private land conservation.

Another major contributing factor to the surge in private land conservation is the availability of state and federal tax incentives. Landowners who would not otherwise have been able to afford to conserve their land are able to with tax incentive support, report many land trust executive directors. The Census found a 148% increase in acres under easement from 2000 to 2005 (see Figure 2 below). In the few places (e.g., Colorado and Virginia) where state as well as federal tax incentives are available, we are seeing some of the fastest rates of conservation.

Figure 2. Acres Conserved by Local and State Land Trusts by Method of Conservation (2000 and 2005)

	Acres Owned by Land Trusts	Acres Under Easement by Land Trusts	Acres Acquired and Reconveyed and Conserved by other means	Total Acres Conserved
2000	1,219,632	2,514,545	2,322,447	6,056,624
2005	1,703,212	6,245,969	3,940,928	11,890,109
Increase (acres)	483,580	3,731,424	1,618,481	5,833,485
% Increase	40%	148%	70%	96%

For the period ended December 31, 2005, Figure 2 compares the total acres conserved by three mechanisms: acres owned in fee by the land trust, acres protected by conservation easement, and acres conserved by other means.

Note: "Acres Protected by Other Means" includes land protected directly because of activities of the land trust such as negotiating and preparing for acquisition by other organizations or agencies.

Policymakers are noticing that private land conservation is a well-leveraged and money-saving alternative to government purchases of land. After six years of educating Congress and the general public about the urgent need to preserve and enhance federal tax incentives, land trusts in the American West pioneered a groundswell of support, championed by the Land Trust Alliance and a diverse coalition of partners, to achieve the boldest change in conservation tax law in two decades.

Signed by the President on August 17, 2006, the new law increases the federal tax incentive for donations of conservation easements, with special provisions to help small family farmers and ranchers. This change brings increased fairness to the tax code and helps willing landowners who own environmentally valuable land but have modest incomes, to conserve the land they cherish and thereby strengthen the fabric of their communities. In the West, where there are vast acreages of working farm and ranchlands that need to be protected, this law will directly benefit working family farmers and ranchers, who deserve this break for preserving a fast-disappearing American way of life. However the new law is now scheduled to expire December 31, 2007,

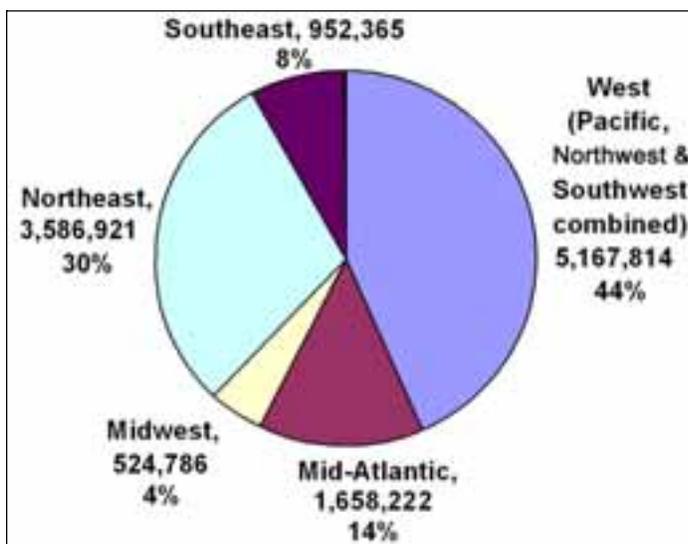
prompting a diverse group of farmers, cattlemen, hunters and outdoorsmen, conservationists, and others to call on Congress to make this tax incentive permanent.

Land trusts are finding that they can be far more effective in reaching landowners when there is a favorable tax policy in effect at the federal, and sometimes state, level. Small family farmers who want to avoid selling their land to pay taxes (which often rise due to surrounding development) simply cannot afford to save their land in its current use without some tax incentive to level the playing field with well-heeled developers. While land trusts are now building capacity in anticipation of increased demand for conservation in light of the new tax law, they are also wary that this critical tool for conservation could be lost if Congress does not make the new law permanent. The federal charitable tax deductions serve as a model of successful public-private partnerships, prompting private initiative at a fraction of what it would cost the government to buy the land. In fact, these tax incentives for donated conservation easements have now become fundamental to successful land conservation in America.

Trend #3: The American West sees the fastest growth in acres conserved and number of land trusts. The Northeast leads in conservation easements.

Between 2000 and 2005, the American West experienced a huge groundswell in land conservation support and success. The Western states, divided into Pacific (California, Hawaii and Nevada), Southwest (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah) and Northwest (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming) regions, collectively preserved 5,167,814 acres in 2005, compared to 2,733,985 acres in 2000, an 89% increase. In other words, 43% of the total 11,890,109 acres conserved by local and regional land trusts by 2005 were conserved in the American West. (See Figure 3).

Figure 3. Percentage of Land Conserved by Local and State Land Trusts



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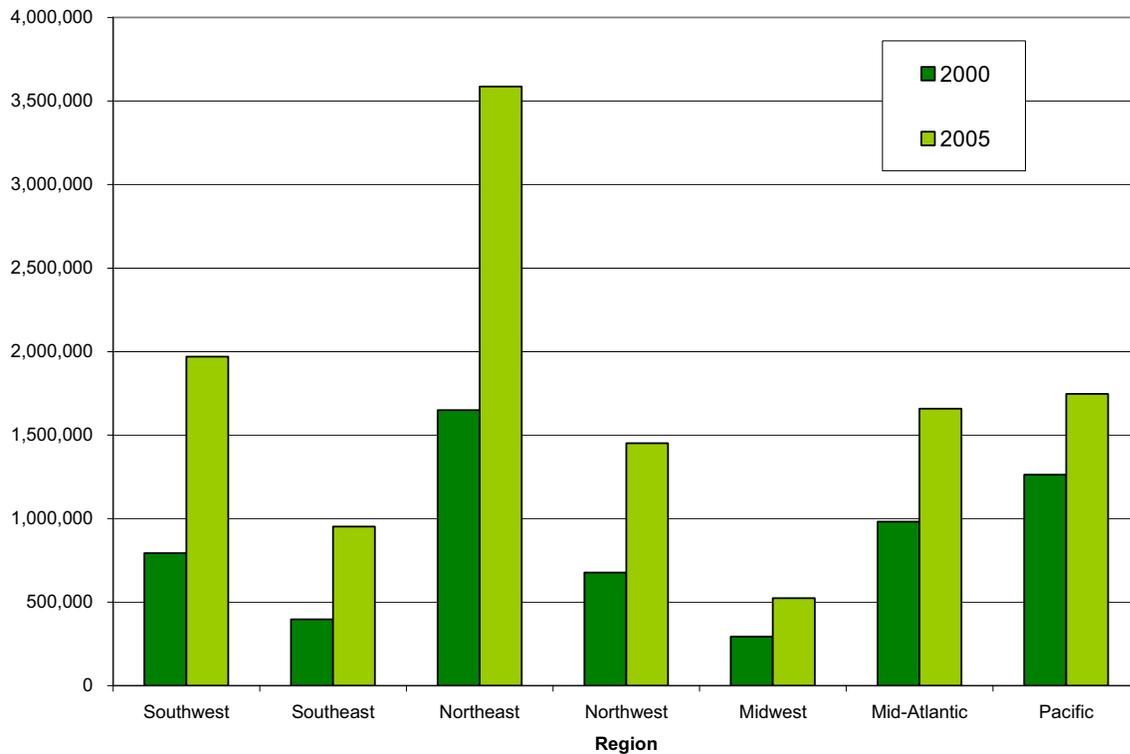
The 10 largest states by area in the United States are in the West. Other factors in the West include huge swaths of unprotected open spaces, forests and grazing lands; the growth of and focused attention by agricultural and rangeland trusts to protect millions of acres of grazing lands and water resources; and overwhelming public support of land conservation. In 2005, \$103 million in bond funds were approved in Colorado. As of December 31, 2005, Colorado conserved 959,324 acres, an increase of 184% since 2000. Between 2000-2004, California voters approved four propositions, securing over \$10 billion dollars in bond funds to be used for resource conservation.

According to the Census, the *Northeast shows the highest increase in acres under conservation easement*, from 763,391 in 2000 to 2,310,487 in 2005, a nearly threefold increase. The bulk of that growth is from the single largest conservation transaction in history: the conveyance of a 762,192-acre easement on Maine's Pingree forest to the New England Forestry Foundation in 2001. The land trust movement began more than 100 years ago in Massachusetts with the incorporation of the Trustees of Reservations. With 161 land trusts and 284,327 conserved acres, the state remains one of the top 10 states in numbers of land trusts, as well as conserved acres.

According to the Census, the *Southwest has seen the greatest percentage increase in total acres conserved* (through all means—direct ownership, easement, or transfer), from 793,055 in 2000 to 1,969,534 in 2005—a 148% rise in just five years. *The Northwest has seen the largest percentage growth in acres directly owned by land trusts*, from 23,731 in 2000 to 44,967 in 2005, an 89% increase. *The Pacific region saw the largest percentage growth (56 %) in number of land trusts*, from 139 land trusts in 2000 to 217 in 2005. California reports a record 198 land trusts and 1,732,471 conserved acres, the top state in both categories.

The Southeast experienced a 42% increase in land trusts—now 166—and a 131% increase in conserved lands, from 411,842 acres in 2000 to 952,365 in 2005. Land trusts across the Southeastern U.S. are organizing and responding to the challenges of huge population increases and corresponding land development pressures in the region; and they are becoming stronger and more effective in protecting more critical natural areas, rural landscapes and community green spaces.

Figure 4. Total Acres Protected by Local and State Land Trusts (2000 and 2005)



(Ranked by Percentage Change)

Figure 5. Top 10 States in Number of Land Trusts

CA	198
MA	161
CT	128
PA	95
NY	90
ME	85
MD	58
WI	54
RI	47
MI	44

Trend #4: Land trusts enhance their professionalism and attract more private funding.

The expansion and enhanced professionalism of land trusts has yielded a corresponding increase in acres conserved, institutional sustainability and enhanced credibility. This report documents a growth in the number of land trusts in the US to 1,667—a jump of nearly one-third in just five

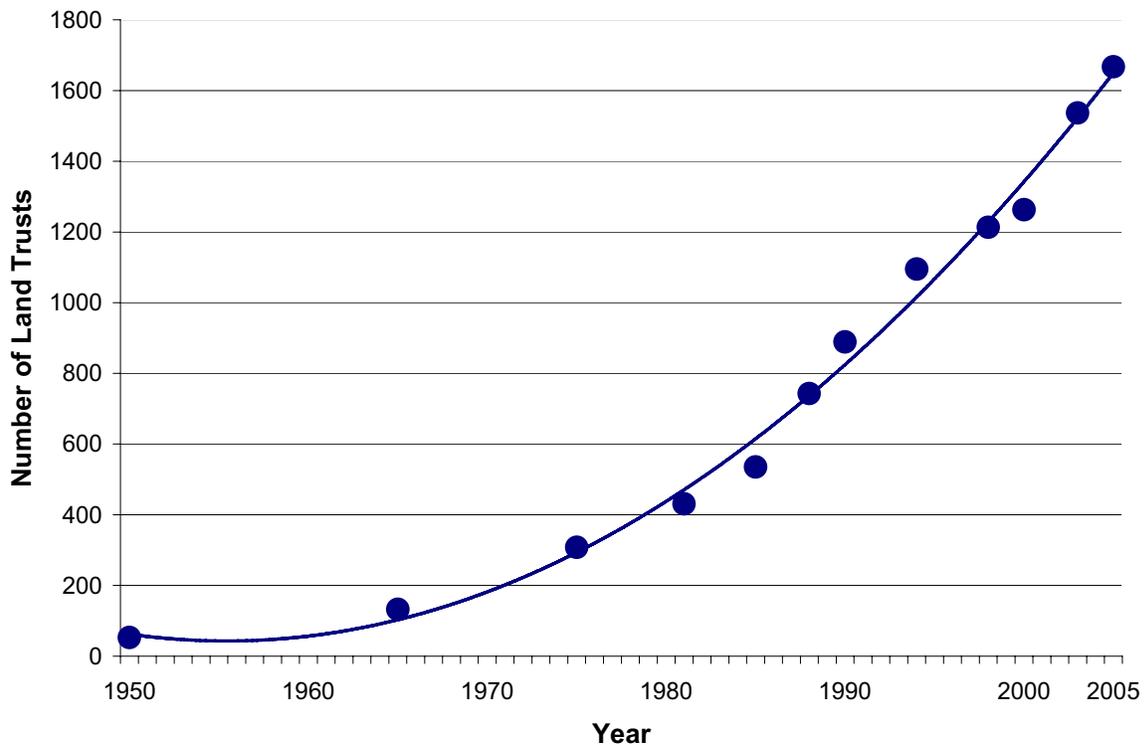
years. In 1950, 53 land trusts existed. In 2000, 1,263 were incorporated; and as of December 31, 2005, the number of land trusts increased to 1,667 (see Figure 6).

Public support of nonprofit land trusts has strengthened over the same period, evidenced by dramatic increases in philanthropic gifts, membership and volunteerism. Philanthropic giving to land trusts increased significantly from 2000 to 2005. Land trust membership saw a historic 61% increase from 2000 to 2005, to 1.5 million by December 31, 2005. Collective land trust operating budgets more than doubled, from \$192 million in 2000 to \$423 million in 2005, due in large part to philanthropic gifts and grants.

The number of land trust volunteers climbed dramatically to 90,871, a 63% increase from 55,597 in 2000. Meanwhile, the number of dedicated board members rose significantly, by 2,767 in two years to 14,906. (The number of board members was not tabulated in 2000, but was first counted in 2003.)

These record levels of public engagement run parallel to increases in the professionalism of land trusts, judged by their levels of staffing, funding, and commitment to standards. There are now 6,181 professional staff working at land trusts, compared to 4,199 in 2000, an increase of 47%. Additionally, nearly 1,000 land trusts have adopted the 2004 Revised *Land Trust Standards and Practices*.

Figure 6. Growth in the Number of Land Trusts (1950-2005)



The most important work of land trusts is their lasting ability to conserve the acres in their care. Legions of landowners have placed their trust in America's land trusts to safeguard their beloved lands for future generations. Having strong volunteer leadership, professional staff, healthy

stewardship, growing operating funds and legal endowments will affirm that trust for the ages. Land trusts now manage over \$1 billion in various types of endowments. Fifty-four percent of all land trusts (904 in total) reported having an endowment of some type in place, up from 48% of all land trusts just two years ago.

Equipped with growing human and fiscal resources, local and state land trusts are increasing the pace and quality of land conservation and strengthening their individual and collective abilities to steward and defend the 12 million acres in their care. Coupled with the areas conserved by the national conservation groups, 37 million acres with important conservation values are now preserved for future generations.

CONCLUSION

Americans love their land, and are meeting the challenge—individually and collectively through land trusts—to preserve the best of the American landscape, rural livelihoods and natural areas across the country. A growing corps of willing and visionary landowners are entrusting their lands to the perpetual care of land trusts, making a commitment that will extend beyond their lifetimes. This growth in virtually every region and every aspect of private land conservation attests to the professionalism and public trust accorded to the 1,667-member land trust community—today and in the future.

Challenges for the future remain. Among them are keeping up with the pace of development, maintaining the high quality of land conservation, ensuring permanent stewardship of conserved lands, and bringing a private, voluntary system of accreditation to land trusts.

With continued public support and tax incentives that support private conservation, land trusts stand stronger than ever in their readiness to meet these challenges. There is little time to lose. Yet in the rush to preserve the lands people love, it is encouraging to pause and reflect on the tremendous progress made in just the last five years.

If America's land trusts, in concert with landowners and continually empowered with private funding and public incentives, maintain the current rate of 6 million new conserved acres in five years, a total of 43 million could be protected by 2010, an area the size of Florida. At this pace, a total of 49 million acres could be conserved by 2015, an area the size of Nebraska. Given the exponential growth we have seen historically and in this latest five-year period, these projections can be characterized as conservative.

But the land trust story is not just about acres; it is about local people taking individual steps to preserve the natural features that define their quality of life. Private, voluntary land conservation is working, community by community, across America.

Laws Change; people die; the land remains.

—Abraham Lincoln

APPENDIX --- Methodology and Survey Data

Survey Methodology

The Land Trust Alliance collected data from January to September 2006 by surveying nearly 1,840 land conservation organizations in the United States both online and by mail. All respondents were asked to provide information on their land conservation and organizational activities as of December 31, 2005. Of those surveyed, 173 organizations did not meet the definition of a land trust. Over 940 land trusts responded directly, a 56% response, slightly lower than in previous cycles. To ensure consistency with prior Census reports, additional data were collected by e-mail, telephone or through land trust support centers. Other data were carried over from the 2003 National Land Trust Census for the land trusts for which no new data were available. For more Census data, go to www.lta.org.

Survey Data

Chart 1. Total Acres Conserved, by Region, as of 2000 and 2005, including Acres Owned, Under Easement or Conserved by Other Means by Local and State Land Trusts

Acres Owned				
	2000	2005	Increase	% Increase
Mid-Atlantic	106,261	130,682	24,421	23%
Midwest	93,539	124,646	31,107	33%
Northeast	486,343	585,423	99,080	20%
Northwest	23,731	44,967	21,236	89%
Pacific	206,689	305,172	98,483	48%
Southeast	48,972	67,534	18,562	38%
Southwest	254,096	444,788	190,692	75%
Grand Totals	1,219,632	1,703,212	483,580	40%
Acres Under Easement				
	2000	2005	Increase	% Increase
Mid-Atlantic	405,723	726,379	320,656	79%
Midwest	83,907	205,335	121,428	145%
Northeast	763,391	2,310,487	1,547,096	203%
Northwest	512,518	893,520	381,002	74%
Pacific	159,955	427,623	267,668	167%
Southeast	183,516	485,638	302,122	165%
Southwest	405,534	1,196,987	791,453	195%
Grand Totals	2,514,545	6,245,969	3,731,424	148%
Acres Acquired and Reconveyed and Conserved by Other Means				
	2000	2005	Increase	% Increase
Mid-Atlantic	470,130	801,161	320,656	70%
Midwest	115,616	194,805	121,428	68%
Northeast	400,481	691,011	1,547,096	73%
Northwest	141,939	512,141	381,002	261%
Pacific	896,098	1,014,858	267,668	13%
Southeast	164,759	399,193	302,122	142%
Southwest	133,425	327,759	791,453	146%
Grand Totals	2,322,447	3,940,928	3,731,424	70%
Total Acres Conserved				
	2000	2005	Increase	% Increase
Mid-Atlantic	982,114	1,658,222	676,108	69%
Midwest	293,062	524,786	231,724	79%
Northeast	1,650,214	3,586,921	1,936,707	117%
Northwest	678,188	1,450,628	772,440	114%
Pacific	1,262,742	1,747,653	484,911	38%
Southeast	397,247	952,365	555,118	140%
Southwest	793,055	1,969,534	1,176,479	148%
Grand Totals	6,056,624	11,890,109	5,833,485	96%

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Chart 2. Growth and Number of Land Trusts by Region and by State, 2000-2005

Mid-Atlantic Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
DC	1	4	3	300%
DE	3	5	2	67%
MD	42	58	16	38%
NJ	29	43	14	48%
PA	75	95	20	27%
VA	17	32	15	88%
WV	7	8	1	14%
Totals	174	245	71	41%

Midwest Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
IA	4	8	4	100%
IL	28	35	7	25%
IN	14	27	13	93%
KS	2	7	5	250%
MI	38	44	6	16%
MN	3	5	2	67%
MO	10	19	9	90%
NE	3	5	2	67%
OH	36	44	8	22%
SD	2	2	0	0%
WI	46	54	8	17%
Totals	186	250	64	34%

Northeast Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
CT	112	128	16	14%
MA	143	161	18	13%
ME	76	85	9	12%
NH	35	35	0	0%
NY	72	90	18	25%
RI	34	47	13	38%
VT	25	35	10	40%
Totals	497	581	84	17%

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Northwest Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
AK	5	7	2	40%
ID	8	12	4	50%
MT	9	15	6	67%
OR	15	20	5	33%
WA	29	36	7	24%
WY	3	5	2	67%
Totals	69	95	26	38%

Pacific Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
CA	132	198	66	50%
HI	5	14	9	180%
NV	2	5	3	150%
Totals	139	217	78	56%

Southeast Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
AL	4	7	3	75%
AR	1	2	1	100%
FL	23	36	13	57%
GA	17	24	7	41%
KY	8	10	2	25%
LA	1	4	3	300%
MS	4	6	2	50%
NC	26	32	6	23%
SC	18	24	6	33%
TN	15	21	6	40%
Totals	117	166	49	42%

Southwest Land Trusts by State, 2000-2005				
State	2000	2005	# increase	% increase
AZ	10	21	11	110%
CO	35	38	3	9%
NM	8	9	1	13%
OK	1	3	2	200%
TX	22	32	10	45%
UT	4	6	2	50%
Totals	80	109	29	36%

Grand Totals	1263	1667	404	32%
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Chart 3. Growth in Land Trust Activities, by Region, from 2000 - 2005

FT Staff by Region (2000 2005)				
	2000	2005	Increase	% change
Mid-Atlantic	692	855	163	24%
Midwest	286	455	169	59%
Northeast	906	1,123	217	24%
Northwest	219	295	76	35%
Pacific	221	405	184	83%
Southeast	155	326	171	110%
Southwest	92	153	61	66%
Totals	2,571	3,612	1,041	40%

PT Staff by Region (2000 2005)				
	2000	2005	Increase	% change
Mid-Atlantic	220	328	108	49%
Midwest	163	195	32	20%
Northeast	916	1,496	580	63%
Northwest	74	138	64	86%
Pacific	127	182	55	43%
Southeast	79	143	64	81%
Southwest	49	87	38	78%
Totals	1,628	2,569	941	58%

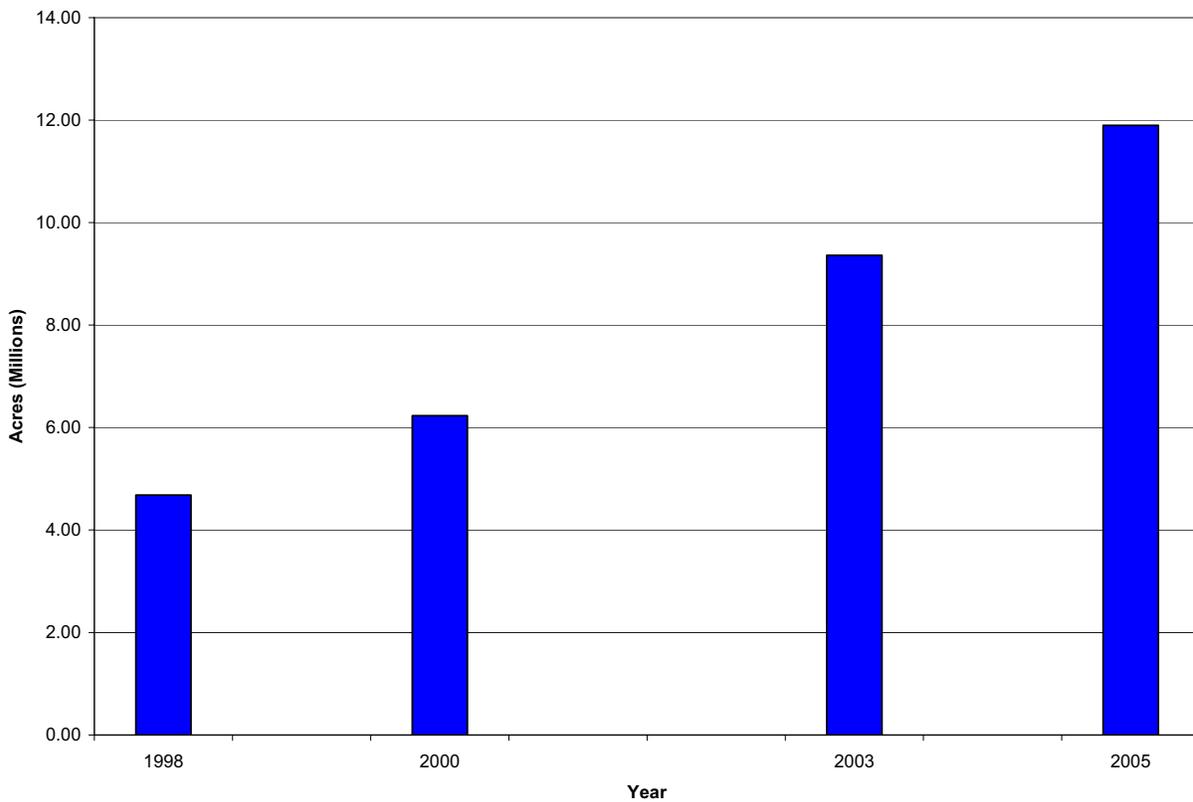
Volunteers by Region (2000 2005)				
	2000	2005	Increase	% change
Mid-Atlantic	12,721	15,354	2,633	21%
Midwest	13,808	16,871	3,063	22%
Northeast	18,168	26,908	8,740	48%
Northwest	1,433	14,483	13,050	911%
Pacific	2,824	7,438	4,614	163%
Southeast	4,300	5,636	1,336	31%
Southwest	2,343	4,181	1,838	78%
Totals	55,597	90,871	35,274	63%

Supporters by Region (2000 2005)				
	2000	2005	Increase	% change
Mid-Atlantic	221,333	374,123	152,790	69%
Midwest	89,734	126,283	36,549	41%
Northeast	266,825	377,189	110,364	41%
Northwest	19,567	189,767	170,200	870%
Pacific	179,993	188,387	8,394	5%
Southeast	115,471	148,788	33,317	29%
Southwest	17,508	63,565	46,057	263%
Totals	910,431	1,468,102	557,671	61%

Chart 3 (cont'd). Growth in Land Trust Activities, by Region, from 2000 - 2005

Board Members by Region (2003 - 2005)				
	2003	2005	Increase	% change
Mid-Atlantic	1,622	2,106	484	30%
Midwest	2,193	2,351	158	7%
Northeast	4,357	5,685	1,328	30%
Northwest	760	883	123	16%
Pacific	1,030	1,269	239	23%
Southeast	1,288	1,612	324	25%
Southwest	853	1,000	147	17%
Totals	12,103	14,906	2,803	23%

Chart 4. Total Acres Conserved (millions) by Local and State Land Trusts (1998-2005)



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Chart 5. Number of Land Trusts and Acres Protected by Local and State Land Trusts as of December 31, 2005

	No. Land Trusts	Acres Owned	Acres Under Easement	Acres Acquired and Reconveyed and Conserved by Other Means	Total Acres Conserved
AK	7	1,057	4,854	37,251	43,162
AL	7	4,940	48,428	43,526	96,894
AR	2	1,018	2,320	884	4,222
AZ	21	1,129	35,645	69,790	106,564
CA	198	304,393	427,411	1,000,667	1,732,471
CO	38	4,822	849,825	104,677	959,324
CT	128	50,349	24,164	21,094	95,607
DC	4	1	3	-	4
DE	5	21,723	2,394	79,042	103,159
FL	36	9,653	37,458	39,610	86,721
GA	24	5,303	87,643	10,110	103,056
HI	14	289	212	43	544
IA	8	12,396	6,000	69,265	87,661
ID	12	4,127	29,987	24,792	58,906
IL	35	7,708	7,532	49,080	64,320
IN	27	11,743	5,648	3,200	20,591
KS	7	184	4,583	1,000	5,767
KY	10	1,721	5,026	4,682	11,429
LA	4	257	24,042	543	24,842
MA	161	118,240	61,569	104,518	284,327
MD	58	5,334	191,330	17,136	213,800
ME	85	84,274	1,492,279	141,104	1,717,657
MI	44	33,024	54,762	17,633	105,419
MN	5	2,171	24,500	7,108	33,779
MO	19	10,302	9,460	2,672	22,434
MS	6	782	48,423	5,183	54,388
MT	15	8,793	714,993	224,427	948,213
NC	32	23,199	112,874	92,451	228,524
ND	-	-	-	965	965
NE	5	17,338	12,916	4,403	34,657
NH	35	79,719	133,836	50,078	263,633
NJ	43	55,331	11,832	145,858	213,021
NM	9	402,735	142,072	29,677	574,484
NV	5	490	-	14,148	14,638
NY	90	168,259	191,095	264,887	624,241
OH	44	11,379	35,262	4,061	50,702
OK	3	5,263	3,507	384	9,154
OR	20	7,440	50,627	16,535	74,602
PA	95	35,432	139,309	265,916	440,657
RI	47	15,378	7,863	1,482	24,723
SC	24	7,673	98,349	70,439	176,461
SD	2	280	10,769	9,484	20,533
TN	21	12,988	21,075	131,765	165,828
TX	32	28,597	131,520	83,246	243,363
UT	6	2,242	34,418	39,985	76,645
VA	32	12,135	365,355	284,812	662,302
VT	35	69,204	399,681	107,848	576,733
WA	36	22,889	43,701	153,395	219,985
WI	54	18,121	33,903	25,934	77,958
WV	8	726	16,156	8,397	25,279
WY	5	661	49,358	55,741	105,760
Totals	1,663	1,703,212	6,245,969	3,940,928	11,890,109

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Chart 6. Total Acres Protected by Local and State Land Trusts, Increase in Acreage, and Percentage Change (2000 and 2005)

Region/State	Total Acres Protected			
	2005	2000	Increase	% Change
Mid-Atlantic				
DC	4	3	1	38%
DE	103,159	102,041	1,118	1%
MD	213,800	141,673	72,127	51%
NJ	213,021	138,628	74,393	54%
PA	440,659	336,788	103,871	31%
VA	662,302	204,660	457,642	224%
WV	25,279	58,321*	-33,042*	N/A
	1,658,224	982,114	676,110	69%
Midwest				
IA	87,661	65,212	22,449	34%
IL	64,321	45,683	18,638	41%
IN	20,591	9,754	10,837	111%
KS	5,767	2,451	3,316	135%
MI	105,419	71,156	34,263	48%
MN	33,779	16,788	16,991	101%
MO	22,434	9,347	13,088	140%
ND	965	758	207	27%
NE	34,657	16,772	17,885	107%
OH	50,702	20,255	30,447	150%
SD	20,533	9,625	10,908	113%
WI	77,958	25,262	52,696	209%
	524,787	293,062	231,725	79%
Northeast				
CT	95,607	70,879	24,728	35%
MA	284,327	216,001	68,326	32%
ME	1,717,656	136,712	1,580,944	1156%
NH	263,633	193,563	70,070	36%
NY	624,241	571,519	52,722	9%
RI	24,723	16,770	7,953	47%
VT	576,733	444,770	131,963	30%
	3,586,920	1,650,214	1,936,706	117%

*An organization based in WV works in several states but reported all acres saved only under WV for 2000.

Chart 6 (cont'd). Total Acres Protected by Local and State Land Trusts, Increase in Acreage, and Percentage Change (2000 and 2005)

Region/State	Total Acres Protected			
	2005	2000	Increase	% Change
Northwest				
AK	43,161	28,939	14,222	49%
ID	58,906	36,532	22,374	61%
MT	948,213	505,659	442,554	88%
OR	74,602	24,572	50,031	204%
WA	219,985	41,728	178,258	427%
WY	105,760	40,759	65,001	159%
	1,450,627	678,188	772,439	114%
Pacific				
CA	1,732,471	1,250,509	481,962	39%
HI	544	8	536	6700%
NV	14,638	12,225	2,413	20%
	1,747,653	1,262,742	484,911	38%
Southeast				
AL	96,894	29,916	66,978	224%
AR	4,222	1,496	2,726	182%
FL	86,720	63,460	23,260	37%
GA	103,057	36,901	66,156	179%
KY	11,429	4,012	7,417	185%
LA	24,842	13,645	11,197	82%
MS	54,388	4,405	49,983	1135%
NC	228,524	102,226	126,298	124%
SC	176,461	97,381	79,080	81%
TN	165,828	43,804	122,024	279%
	952,365	397,247	555,118	140%
Southwest				
AZ	106,564	38,175	68,389	179%
CO	959,324	338,650	620,674	183%
NM	574,484	268,923	305,561	114%
OK	9,154	5,151	4,003	78%
TX	243,363	85,675	157,688	184%
UT	76,645	56,483	20,163	36%
	1,969,534	793,055	1,176,479	148%
Totals 2005	11,890,110	6,056,624	5,833,486	96%
Totals 2000	6,056,624			
Increase	5,833,486			
% increase	96%			

The conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem. Unless we solve that problem, it will avail us little to solve all others.

—Theodore Roosevelt