



CENTRAL OREGON LANDWATCH
STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Central Oregon LandWatch
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MISSION

We defend & plan for Central Oregon's livable future.

ABOUT US

We work to create well-planned cities and protect wild, open spaces across our region.

There is a critical need to ensure a balanced, sustainable, and planned approach that guides growth where it belongs and protects the land and water that sustain communities and ecosystems. Using land use law, policy, and planning, Central Oregon LandWatch works to meet this need.

VALUES

We operate from four core beliefs:

- We believe that the land, the river, and wild living things have intrinsic value and are also essential for human wellbeing.
- We believe that our region's lands must be defended from urban sprawl and inappropriate resource extraction.
- We believe that the benefits and burdens of land use policy and decision-making should be distributed equitably.
- In the spirit of sustainability, we believe in the need to think and plan multiple generations ahead.

VISION

Well-planned cities and wild, open spaces are mutually connected. In our ideal future, regional growth will be managed and directed for the benefit of people and the protection of nature.

- Our towns and cities will serve all their residents well and will remain compact, vibrant hubs of human life.
- Land and water will be available to meet the needs of working farms, ranches, and forests that produce food and timber, and wild lands, rivers, and streams that support native plants and animals.



- Many years from now, our region retains its wildness and beauty. The cold, clear waters of the rivers and streams teem with fish. Migrating mule deer and elk move freely across their range. The night echoes with the sound of frogs.

PROGRAMMATIC GOALS AND STRATEGIES

WILD LANDS

Our region's wild lands are protected to support biological diversity and critical wildlife habitat.

In close coordination with partners, LandWatch will continue to bring its expertise and legal skills to defend and strengthen policy and legal protections for the region's natural resources. We will participate in the planning and management of our region's federal public lands. In doing so, we will be a legal voice for our region's wild ecosystems, including their fish and wildlife, water quantity and quality, and native forests.

RURAL LANDS

Our region's rural lands are protected for open space and livelihoods in forestry, farming, and ranching.

LandWatch will continue to play a strong role as land use watchdog and litigator, challenging and defending against inappropriate development. Ensuring effective implementation of Oregon's land use laws protects Central Oregon's rural community character, scenic views, productive agriculture, clean water, and fresh air. On our watch, the line will remain clear when leaving town and coming into the country.

WATER

Water management in our region is improved to restore critical habitats for fish and wildlife in our rivers and wetlands.

State and Federal policies over the past century have facilitated the damming, dredging, channelizing, and dewatering of our rivers. The future of the Deschutes River for the next 30 years is on the table, being decided through federal permitting under the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act. LandWatch will challenge federal actions with respect to Incidental Take Permits



issued to irrigation districts by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. LandWatch will deploy its water policy and legal expertise to shape a more positive outcome for the river.

CITIES AND TOWNS

Central Oregon's cities and towns have compact, complete, and vibrant neighborhoods accessible to all.

Central Oregon LandWatch will bring our expertise in land use planning to ensure regional and local comprehensive plans and their implementation create new solutions and lift up voices from throughout our communities. For the next three years, we will continue to *focus proactively* on Bend as the region's population center. We will *responsively address* immediate threats in the region's other towns and cities, and we will engage in their planning processes, including urban growth boundary expansion and comprehensive planning.



THEORY OF CHANGE

OUR BEDROCK	OUR CAPACITY	OUR STRATEGIES	OUR GOALS	OUR VISION
BASED IN OUR BELIEF THAT	AND WITH THESE RESOURCES	WE CONDUCT THESE ACTIVITIES	WITH THE RESULT THAT	AND THIS ULTIMATE IMPACT
<p>The land, the rivers, and wild living things have intrinsic value, and are also essential for human wellbeing.</p> <p>Our region’s lands and waters must be defended from urban sprawl and inappropriate resource extraction.</p> <p>The benefits and burdens of land use policy and decision-making should be distributed equitably.</p> <p>In the spirit of sustainability, there is a need to think and plan multiple generations ahead.</p>	<p>Staff expertise in environmental law, Oregon land use law, water policy, and land use planning</p> <p>Board leadership, expertise, engagement, and networks that connect LandWatch with funding, knowledge, strategic relationships, and opportunity</p> <p>Key partners, including Crag Law Center, WaterWatch, Oregon Wild, Center for Biological Diversity</p> <p>Activated membership base of supporters, to ensure there is more than only LandWatch's voice</p>	<p>Land Use Planning Bring our expertise in land use planning to ensure effective regional and local comp plan development and implementation, create innovative solutions, and lift up community voices.</p> <p>Advocacy Influence policy at the local, county, and state levels to strengthen existing land use laws and to support shifts in water policies and practices at the federal, state, and local levels.</p> <p>Litigation Use federal and state law to defend and protect the natural environment.</p> <p>Communications and Outreach Help our community understand what we do and why it matters.</p>	<p>Central Oregon’s cities and towns have compact, complete neighborhoods accessible to all.</p> <p>Our region’s rural lands are protected for open space and livelihoods in forestry, farming, and ranching.</p> <p>Our region’s wild lands are protected to support biological diversity and critical wildlife habitat.</p> <p>Our region’s waters are managed to sustain the needs of both people and planet.</p> <p>An engaged community base understands why water, wildlife, and livability matter to Central Oregon, and supports our work financially and through grassroots action.</p>	<p>Regional growth will be managed and directed for the benefit of people and the protection of nature.</p> <p><i>This means...</i></p> <p>Our cities will serve all their residents well, and will remain compact, vibrant hubs of human life, <i>so that...</i></p> <p>Land and water will be available to meet other needs: working farms, ranches, and forests that produce food and timber, and wild lands, rivers, and streams that support native plants and animals, <i>so that...</i></p> <p>Many years from now, our region retains its wildness and beauty. The cold, clear waters of the rivers and streams teem with fish. Migrating mule deer and elk move freely across their range. The night echoes with the sound of frogs.</p>

