

lympic Forest Coalition

Promoting the protection, conservation and restoration of natural forest ecosystems and their processes on the Olympic Peninsula, including fish and wildlife habitat, and surrounding ecosystems

December 2024

Dear Olympic Forest Coalition Members and Supporters:

It has been our great honor to work on behalf of the members and supporters of the Olympic Forest Coalition and its predecessor, the Quilcene Ancient Forest Coalition since 1989. It is with bittersweet sentiment that we are informing our members and supporters that the Olympic Forest Coalition (OFCO) is ceasing operations this year. Our Board of Directors voted to "pass the baton and go out with a bang". We have members, supporters, Board members, and staff who are moving onto to other activities and retiring from public life. We have not been able to raise the funds necessary to provide a reasonable wage and benefits for staff to continue our mission.

We are very happy to inform you of our "passing the baton" and "going out with a bang" activities to protect and conserve the public federal, state, and marine waters of the Olympic Peninsula.

Passing the baton

OFCO supports the next generation of environmental leaders in their efforts to protect and preserve the Olympic Peninsula.

- OFCO made \$30,000 grant each to the Center for Responsible Forestry and the Legacy Forest Defense Coalition for their efforts to protect older forests on state managed public lands.
- OFCO made a small grant to the Wild Olympics campaign.
- OFCO has established a \$100,000 impact litigation fund charitable trust to support legal challenges that will protect public state and federal, and private lands on the Olympic Peninsula.

If you have already sent in your donation for 2024-25, OFCO will add the remaining end of year balance to the litigation impact fund. If you have not sent in your donation for this year, but would still like the opportunity to support work on the Olympic Peninsula, our Board has selected a group of charitable nonprofit organizations continuing to work in this field. Please see the attached list of organizations to consider for your year-end giving going forward.

Going out with a bang

OFCO will publish major reports of our work on state and federal lands through our website and directly to the agencies and elected officials we hope to impact with our research and recommendations.

- Retrospect Field Study: Olympic Experimental State Forest 1970-2023 (Dr. Catharine Copass).
- The Marbled Murrelet Re-initiation of ESA Section 7 Formal Consultation A Position Paper from the Olympic Forest Coalition March 2023 (Karen Sullivan, MSC).
- Database of timber sales reviews on state public lands (2002-2023).
- Olympic Forest Coalition: Challenges and Opportunities Ahead (2024)

Please check in on our website at olympicforest.org for these upcoming publications.

Thank you for your generous support over the years to our effort to protect and preserve the Olympic Peninsula. We hope you continue being the voice for the forests!

Sincerely,

Connie Gallant

President, Olympic Forest Coalition

Put Your Environmental Advocacy Support to Work for the Next Generation

If you have supported OFCO in the past – please consider supporting these great organizations doing wonderful work!

Center for Responsible Forestry https://www.c4rf.org/

Elwha Legacy Forest Coalition https://elwhalegacyforests.org/

Legacy Forest Defense Coalition https://www.wlfdc.org/

Northwest Watershed Institute https://nwwatershed.org/

Olympic Climate Action https://olyclimate.org/

Olympic Park Advocates https://olympicparkadvocates.org/

PT Marine Science Center Elenor Stopps Environmental Leadership Award https://ptmsc.org/

Washington Conservation Action https://wca.org/

Washington Wild https://wawild.org/

Wild Olympics https://www.wildolympics.org/