

## TOBY TYLER RECEIVES 2ND ANNUAL Land at Heart Award

**K**achemak Heritage Land Trust is honored to award Homer icon Toby Tyler our second annual Land at Heart award. This award recognizes individuals from our communities for their “distinguished contributions to land conservation on the Kenai Peninsula.”

Toby Tyler has been at the heart of KHLT since its very beginning. As a founding KHLT Board member, donor of a beautiful conservation easement, and as a person with great commitment to our community, we are honored to have him as part of this organization and with great pride present him with this award. ✧



Toby Tyler's 20-acre property in Homer, a valuable wildlife habitat and an important link between the moose summer and wintering grounds. photo © Wild North Photography

## EFFLER TRAIL Celebrates Official Opening

**KHLT'S** Effler trail and viewing platform on W. Skyline Drive in Homer had its official opening during the 2015 Shorebird Festival in May. The ribbon cutting ceremony was a great success with local naturalist and KHLT founding board member Daisy Lee Bitter speaking about the importance of the headwater fen. Two of Gene and Mim Effler's great-grandchildren were there to cut the ribbon. The 18-acre property was donated to KHLT in 2007 by the Effler family and is part of a headwater fen in the Bridge Creek Watershed, which provides Homer's drinking water. ✧



Effler Trail official opening during the 2015 Shorebird Festival



New addition to KHLT's Anchor River Salmon Conservation Area

## KHLT Rocks!

**W**hen KHLT contacted me to see if I was interested in putting the land I own on the Anchor River into the Trust, I was somewhat skeptical and thought it was one of those things that is just too good to be true. It is something that I have always wanted to do – to save the land for future generations.

I contacted KHLT and soon came to realize that they are indeed a group of phenomenal people who have a great mission. Just saying “thanks” could never be enough for all of the hard work and dedication that the employees put into their work. I feel that they consistently go ‘above and beyond’. My main point of contact at KHLT was Conservation Director Mandy Bernard, who was kind and always maintained a wonderful positive attitude.

Sometimes people do things and say “this really changed my life.” But honestly, this really has changed my life. After having the land in my family for over 15 years, this makes me feel great. My family and I have always loved the great outdoors so it was only natural for us to want to preserve this beautiful parcel of land that is now part of KHLT's Anchor River Salmon Conservation Area. ✧

Thank you, KHLT.  
Debra S. Kelley