

FUND for WILD NATURE



Investing in Cutting Edge Environmental Grassroots Action Since 1982

2016 Annual Report

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Cover: Pronghorn at Bryce Canyon, Monica Bond
Page 3: George Wuerthner
Page 5: Polygonia sp., North Cascades National Park, David Parks
Page 6: Pacific Chorus Frog, Point Reyes National Seashore, David Parks
Page 7: Tortoise, Texas, Doug Bevington
Page 8: Hoary Marmot, Mt. Rainier National Park, David Parks

Our Mission:

The Fund for Wild Nature Invests in bold grassroots organizations and innovative conservation efforts that meet emerging needs for protecting biodiversity and wilderness.

The Fund for Wild Nature is supported entirely by donations from individuals like you. We have no endowment – our ability to make grants depends upon the continuing generosity of our contributors. We invite you to join our many donors whose contributions are making a tremendous difference for wild nature. All donations to the Fund are tax-deductible and may be made on our website.

Fund for Wild Nature

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FROM THE BOARD

Whom do you trust to stand up for wild nature?

The election of Donald Trump has been troubling news for those of us who care about wildlife and wild places. Like us, you have probably received many funding appeals from big brand-name environmental organizations tapping into the legitimate fears about the Trump presidency. There is much need to work hard and be bold in the years ahead to protect the places and species we care so much about. So how should you best use your money to help this important work? Whom do you trust to stand up for wild nature?

We recommend that you focus on environmental groups who have a proven track record of action, rather than those who only talk big when it is politically expedient. The boldest grassroots groups have long been at the forefront of taking effective action in defense of the earth. These are the sort of groups that your contributions to the Fund for Wild Nature help to support. You can clearly see the results in our grantees' accomplishments, as detailed in our 2016 annual report. And we are happy to let you know that already in first two months 2017 our grantees have achieved even more victories.

In January, litigation by the Alliance for the Wild Rockies caused the Forest Service to cancel a massive clearcutting and logging project in endangered lynx habitat on Custer-Gallatin National Forest near Yellowstone. Then in February, a federal judge ruled in favor of Conservation Congress in its lawsuit against a massive logging project in occupied spotted owl habitat on Mendocino National Forest in Northern California.

Grassroots groups such as the Alliance for the Wild Rockies and Conservation Congress have proven that they have the drive and experience to protect forests and endangered species. Their skills and courage will be needed more than ever in the difficult years ahead. Grassroots groups are able to accomplish a lot on modest budgets, but they need our help. Your contributions to Fund for Wild Nature will sustain the boldest and most effective small environmental groups throughout North America. Together we will resist the latest assaults on the natural world, and preserve our beloved forests, rivers, grasslands, deserts, Spotted Owls, Lynx, Prairie Dogs, Grizzly Bears, Black-backed Woodpeckers, Wolves, Bull Trout, Marbled Murrelets, and so much more.

Grassroots Activist of the Year: George Wuerthner



We are pleased to announce that environmental writer George Wuerthner is receiving the Fund for Wild Nature's Grassroots Activist of the Year Award for 2017. Through his writing, George has consistently been a bold voice in defense of wild places and wildlife, and his work has had a real impact.

Case in point, George was selected for the award in part to celebrate the creation of Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in Maine's North Woods in October 2016. The idea for this monument can be traced back to George, who wrote a series of articles proposing new national parks in New England. His writings caught the attention of wilderness advocate Michael Kellett. Together, Michael and George founded a group called RESTORE the North Woods to advocate for a big new national park in Maine.

Thanks to the contributions from our donors, the Fund for Wild Nature has provided grants to RESTORE to support this important work. RESTORE's outreach inspired Roxanne Quimby, the co-founder of Burt's Bees, to buy large amounts of land in the North Woods with the goal of helping create the proposed national park. These forests, which are part of one of largest undeveloped areas in the US outside of Alaska, are home to Black Bears, Lynx, Martens, and Moose. Despite many obstacles created by anti-environmental forces in the region, Roxanne was ultimately able to

donate 87,500 acres to the National Park Service as the Katahdin National Monument. In short, this monument is a great example of how a bold idea can ultimately have a big effect.

Beyond the Katahdin accomplishment, George's writings have often been ahead of the times in terms of exposing a variety of controversial threats to wild places. He has written and edited more than 30 books addressing topics such as the harms to public lands from livestock grazing (*Welfare Ranching: The Subsidized Destruction of the American West*), off-road vehicles (*Thrillcraft: The Environmental Consequences of Motorized Recreation*), fossil fuel extraction (*Energy: Overdevelopment and the Delusion of Endless Growth*), and the suppression of forest fires (*Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy*).

In light of the many threats now facing wildlands, George recently formed a new organization called Public Lands Media—a project of Earth Island Institute—to focus on getting the best available science regarding public lands protection into the hands of reporters, policymakers, and the public. We wish George good luck with this new project and thank him for being such a consistently bold voice in defense of wild nature.

For his vigorous work and unrivaled dedication, the Fund for Wild Nature is proud to honor George with a \$1000 check and a Badger statue in recognition of his selection as our Grassroots Activist of the Year.

2016 Grantees

New grantees are underlined

Allegheny Defense Project (PA), \$3,000

Funding to challenge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's approval of the Susquehanna West Pipeline Expansion and Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline projects to protect wildlife habitat in the Allegheny National Forest.

Applegate Valley OHV (OR), \$1,500

Support for the Applegate Valley OHV Monitoring Project, a grassroots, public land monitoring and advocacy effort that documents OHV impacts, closes unauthorized OHV trails, reduces OHV related impacts and advocates for roadless wildlands.

Arizona Mining Coalition (AZ), \$3,000

Continued support to protect the greater Oak Flat watershed from Rio Tinto's proposed destructive mining project.

Battle Creek Alliance (CA), \$3,000

Provides support to raise awareness about the impacts of clearcutting, salvage logging, and subsequent herbicide usage on the public trust resources of water, air, soil, climate, and wildlife in Northern California.

Campaign to Fight Toxic Prisons (FL), \$3,000

Funding for grassroots organizing and litigation to stop federal prison construction in eastern Kentucky that would harm the ecosystem and native species.



Chattooga Conservancy (GA), \$2,000

Funding for grassroots advocacy to permanently protect two biologically diverse roadless wildlands – the Overflow Wilderness Study Area and the Terrapin Mountain Area – in the Chattooga watershed as Wilderness.

Cherokee Forest Voices (TN), \$2,500

Continued support for Forest Watch activities in the Cherokee National Forest to achieve on-the-ground protection and restoration of ecologically sensitive areas.

Civil Liberties Defense Center (OR), \$3,000

Funding to support, empower, and educate climate justice groups, including Tar Sands Blockade, Great Plains Tar Sands Resistance, Peaceful Uprising, and Rising Tide North America.

Coast Range Forest Watch (OR), \$3,000

Support for protecting the federally endangered Marbled Murrelet and its habitat through volunteer-conducted surveys in threatened old-growth forests on the Oregon Coast.

**Conservation Congress (CA), \$3,000**

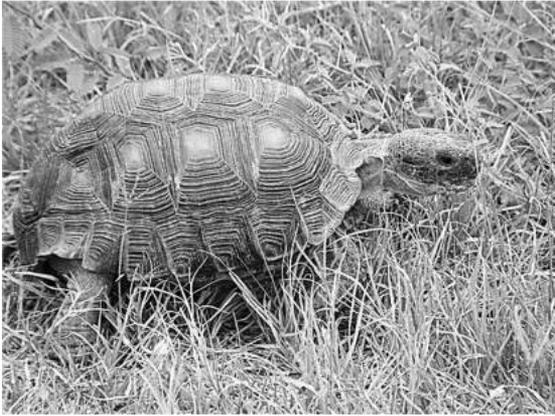
Supports comment, objection, and litigation of timber sales that violate federal environmental laws in northern California, especially Endangered Species Act enforcement for the Northern Spotted Owl, Marbled Murrelet, and Pacific fisher.

Eco Advocates NW (OR), \$2,000

Funding for the Senator Wyden Accountability Project that includes Portland radio ads and an Interstate 5 billboard to expose his attacks on the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act.

Environment Georgia (GA), \$1,500

Funding to organize opposition to a new nuclear plant proposed on the Chattahoochee River and to build support for more efficiency and energy alternatives like solar power.

**Friends of Clearwater (ID), \$2,500**

Support to mobilize citizens to advocate at Columbia River System Operations scoping hearings for breaching the lower four Snake River dams.

Friends of the Wild Swan (MT), \$3,000

Funding for the protection and restoration of habitat for Grizzly Bears, Lynx, Wolverine, Fisher, Bull Trout and other imperiled fish and wildlife in northwest Montana by stopping harmful timber sales and ensuring forest planning that protects water and other resources.

Georgia Forest Watch (GA), \$1,500

Funding to update the “Georgia’s Mountain Treasures” report that gives detailed information about Georgia’s unprotected wildlands. This report will support their nomination as Wilderness Areas in the upcoming forest plan revision for the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.

**GOAL Tribal Coalition (MT), \$3,000**

Support to keep Grizzly Bears on the Endangered Species list, prevent hunting and trapping, protect habitat, and define Grizzly Bear recovery.

Northwest Ecosystem Survey Team Support Network (OR), \$3,000

Support for surveys and legal action to halt logging on ancient and native forests and to create a culture that encourages preservation of the wild.

Quiet Use Coalition (CO), \$2,000

Support for protecting wildlands, imperiled species, and valuable habitat in central Colorado from high-impact motorized recreation through grassroots organizing, advocacy, and boots-on-the-ground projects.

RESTORE: The North Woods (ME), \$2,000

Ongoing funds for preventing rollbacks of existing protection laws, opposing industrial activities, and building public support for a Maine Woods National Park.

Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative (CO), \$2,000

Support for organizing citizen influence over six motorized and mechanized trail planning arenas to preserve large blocks of habitat and wildlands.

Searching for Gold Spot (CA), \$2,709

Support for creation of a documentary film and outreach about the importance of post-fire ecosystems that support rare plants and wildlife as well as thousands of regenerating trees and shrubs.

Selkirk Conservation Alliance (ID), \$2,000

Funding for aerial monitoring of Selkirk Mountain Caribou winter habitat closure areas on federal public lands to document encroachment by motorized vehicles.

Siskiyou Land Conservancy (CA), \$2,500

Support to reduce or eliminate pesticide use on farms surrounding the Smith River Estuary.

Swan View Coalition (MT), \$3,000

Support to enforce Flathead National Forest motorized road/trail closures and reclamation standards to protect wildlife, especially standards for Bull Trout and Wolverine.

Utah Rivers (UT), \$2,000

Support to fight a massive proposed diversion of Colorado River water with a Lake Powell Pipeline that would impact hundreds of species of fish and wildlife across the Southwest.

Wild Farm Alliance (CA), \$2,000

Funding to improve wildland protection by eliminating incentives for conversion of high conservation value land to organic production through a rule change in the National Organic Program.

Wildlands Defense (ID), \$3,000

Support for protection of the Great Basin juniper and sagebrush vegetation and wildlife communities from destruction and fragmentation.

Wild West Institute (MT), \$2,500

Provides ongoing support for the Public Lands Project to mobilize public and political support to protect the Northern Rockies Bioregion through watershed and wildland fire restoration.

Yellowstone to Uintas Connection (ID), \$3,000

Continuing support for pressuring agencies to address habitat quality in relation to mining, timber, off-road vehicles, and livestock grazing in the Bear River Range portion of the Yellowstone to Uintas Corridor.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 2016 Financial Position

Assets	\$80,736
Liabilities	\$14,817
Net Assets	\$65,918

2015 Statement of Activities

Support and Revenue

Contributions, unrestricted	\$63,739
Contributions, restricted	\$0
Investment Income	\$0

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$63,739
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Expenses

Grants awarded	\$76,259
Administration and Fundraising	\$5,159

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$81,418
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Change in Net Assets	\$-17,679
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December 31, 2016 Financial Position

Assets	\$61,553
Liabilities	\$13,314
Net Assets	\$48,239