



FUND for WILD NATURE



Fund for Wild Nature
P.O. Box 900
Kelso, WA 98626

2013 Annual Report



Investing in Feisty Grassroots Action Since 1982

2013 Annual Report

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Cover: American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*) – Annica Kreuter

Page 5: Adobe Town Red Desert, WY - courtesy of Biodiversity Conservation Alliance

Page 7: Western Meadowlark (*Strunella neglecta*) – Jess Alford, courtesy of Southern Plains Land Trust

Page 8: Pacific fisher (*Martes pennant*), photo courtesy of Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife

Page 10: Juvenile Masai giraffe, Tanzania (*Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*) – Derek Lee, Wild Nature Institute

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

*Picking winners...*that's one way to describe the role of the Fund for Wild Nature. We connect individuals who care about wildlife and wild places with the boldest and most effective grassroots groups working on the frontlines to protect nature. By pooling the contributions of donors like you and channeling these resources to groups that are really making a difference, the Fund for Wild Nature provides a way for you to maximize the impact of your money.

For example, through the Fund for Wild Nature, your dollars are helping support the work of Conservation Congress to protect national forests in northern California.

Conservation Congress is a great example of a small group having a big impact. At the beginning of last year, the Fund for Wild Nature chose to highlight Conservation Congress's founder Denise Boggs by selecting her for our 2013 Grassroots Activist of the Year Award. Our previous annual report provided an introduction to Denise's remarkable list of accomplishments in Utah, California, and elsewhere up to that time. Since then, Denise has not been content to rest on her laurels. As a tireless defender of wild nature, she has forged ahead with a bold campaign to use the citizen enforcement provisions of our environmental laws to stand up to the Forest Service, compelling it to stop illegal and destructive logging projects that were proposed in the forest habitat of the endangered northern spotted owl.

Conservation Congress accumulated an impressive tally of victories in 2013. It won lawsuits against two logging projects on northern California national forests, setting important legal precedents. Faced with Conservation Congress's legal claims, the Forest Service was also forced to halt four other logging projects in the region. And there are currently five additional Conservation Congress lawsuits underway. In total, Conservation Congress stopped 20,495 acres of logging in 2013. *That's a whopping 32 square miles of forests that were still standing at the end of the year--* thanks to the work of Conservation Congress that you helped assist through your donations to the Fund for Wild Nature.

That's what I mean when I describe the role of the Fund for Wild Nature as picking winners. Through your ongoing support, you can help us continue to fund Conservation Congress and similarly feisty groups throughout North America, including **our 2014 Grassroots Activist of the Year-- Mike Garrity of the Alliance for Wild Rockies-- who is profiled later in this report.** I feel very proud about the many accomplishments by the groups that received resources from the Fund for Wild Nature, and I hope you feel proud for your role in helping to make these victories possible. Thank you for supporting bold and effective grassroots activism through the Fund for Wild Nature. With your help, we can look forward to celebrating more successes in the year ahead.

For the Wild,

Douglas Bevington

Volunteer Board Member

2014 Grassroots Activist of the Year: Mike Garrity



This year the Fund for Wild Nature celebrates the unflinching work of Mike Garrity in defense of wildlands, rivers and wildlife. Garrity is the executive director of the Alliance for the Wild Rockies, the Helena, Montana-based group that has waged a tireless fight to protect the region from industrial logging, mining, livestock grazing and predator killing.

Under Garrity's helm, the Alliance has become one of the most tenacious and visionary environmental groups in the country. Working on a barebones

budget, the Alliance has fine-tuned the art of environmental appeals and litigation. They fund appeals and lawsuits targeted at stopping the destruction of endangered wildlands and wildlife, from wolves to lynx and from grizzlies to bull trout. Over the past decade, the Alliance for the Wild Rockies has won 85 percent of its lawsuits and appeals. That's an eye-popping record of success, but, as Garrity notes, it also serves as a rather chilling indictment of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management as lawless agencies doing the devious bidding of the extraction industries.

Among their string of victories: In Idaho, perhaps the most environmentally-hostile state in the West, the Alliance won a spectacular victory where they saved 7,000 acres from logging in lynx habitat on the Targhee National Forest near Yellowstone Park. Moreover, court injunction prevents the Forest Service from any future timber sales in 400,000 acres of lynx habitat in the region. In Montana, they scored a huge victory in the rugged Big Belt Mountains halting an atrocious 2,289-acre logging project; they won a precedent-setting federal case in the East Boulder Range stopping 650 acres of logging in critical habitat for lynx; they won a key injunction outlawing wolverine trapping in the state and successfully pushed the Fish and Wildlife Service to propose listing the wolverine for protection under the Endangered Species Act; and they scored a dramatic victory by cutting off federal payments for low-level helicopter flights aimed at hazing (re: terrorizing) Yellowstone's iconic bison herd.

That's an unrivaled track record for any environmental group. But the Alliance operates on a modest budget with only a single full-time staffer: Mike Garrity. But winning isn't about budgets, glossy magazines, or political connections. It's about guts, smarts and determination. And those qualities are the calling card of Garrity and his team at the Alliance for the Wild Rockies.

For his tireless work and peerless dedication, the Fund for Wild Nature was proud honor Mike with a \$1000 check and a golden badger statue in recognition of his being named our Grassroots Activist of the Year.

2013 Grantees

First-time grantees are underlined

Allegheny Defense Project (PA) \$3,000

Legal advocacy for the withdrawal of all federal mineral leases in the Allegheny National Forest and strengthening regulations .

Alliance for the Wild Rockies \$2,500

Funded attorney fees and research for a lawsuit to protect the northern Rockies fisher under the ESA.

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

Supported an outreach and education project to protect the greater Oak Flat watershed from a huge mine proposed by mining giants Rio Tinto and BHP. The greater Oak Flat watershed is a Native American sacred site, a desert riparian jewel and a recreational mecca.

Battle Creek Alliance (CA) \$3,000

Supported the Citizen Water Monitoring Project to collect data for and raise public awareness about clearcutting, salvage logging and herbicide impacts in the Battle Creek watershed.

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project (OR) \$3,000

Funded the continuation of vital citizen monitoring activities in the four National Forests and a Bureau of Land Management area land in eastern Oregon to protect them from ecologically destructive resource extraction projects.

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

Expand legal support for tar sands resistance groups, including educational trainings and representation.

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

Expand the Marbled Murrelet Survey Project to protecting native, uncut forests along Oregon's Coast Range.

Conservation Congress (MT) \$3,000

Funded litigation under the ESA to stop timber sales in spotted owl habitat in Northern California's National Forests.

Cottonwood Environmental Law Center (MT) \$2,000

Defend an ESA court victory to protect 12 million acres of critical habitat for the Canada lynx.

Earth First! Speakers Bureau (FL) \$1,500

Supported speaking engagements for "Fearless for our Future: Connecting Continental Movements to Stop Extreme Extraction" which connects continent-wide fights against extraction industries.

Environment Arizona Research & Policy Center (AZ) \$2,500

Funded grassroots education and outreach in the Phoenix area to protect Oak Flat - an ecologically sensitive area in the Superstition Mountains near Superior, AZ - from becoming the site of the nation's largest copper mine.

Friends of Knowland Park (CA) \$1,500

Funded the "Save Knowland Park Campaign" to prevent zoo expansion in mountain lion habitat and wildlife corridor.

Friends of the Boundary Mountain (ME) \$3,000

Supported litigation against the Army Corps of Engineers to stop commercial wind farms in Maine's Boundary Mountains, which is prime Bicknell's thrush and golden eagle habitat.

Friends of the Sea Otter (CA) \$3,000

Supported efforts to convince the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to adopt a legally valid and environmentally acceptable policy that protects Alaskan sea otters.

Friends of the Swainsons Hawk (CA) \$2,000

Funded the protection of nesting, foraging and riparian habitat for Swainson's Hawk and Sandhill Crane in South Sacramento County through scientific and legal advocacy.

Friends of the Wild Swan (MT) \$2,500

Supported a lawsuit against the Glacier Loon Fuels Reduction and Forest Health Project which plans to log 6.7 million board feet of timber in lynx critical habitat, grizzly bear and fisher habitat, and near threatened water howellia ponds

Georgia Forest Watch (GA) \$2,000

Funded litigation and public outreach efforts to protect 21 miles of the upper Wild and Scenic Chattooga River from unlimited boating.

**Indiana Forest Alliance (IN) \$2,000**

Supported the Hoosier Forest Watch project to protect Indiana's state forests from logging through ground-truthing, legal advocacy, and community outreach.

Kentucky Heartwood (KY) \$3,000

Funded the protection of the Daniel Boone National Forest from resource extraction through monitoring, legal advocacy, and community outreach and promoting non-commercial and ecological management.

Klamath Forest Alliance (CA/OR) \$2,000

Supported a project to reform and eliminate grazing on public lands, including the Klamath Mountains Wilderness and Modoc Plateau.

Native Ecosystems Council (MT) \$3,000

Bring a lawsuit to stop a logging project in the Helena National Forest that would impact a key wildlife linkage zone along the continental divide that supports Grizzly bear and Canada lynx.

Northwest Ecosystem Survey Team (OR) \$1,500

Funding helped to preserve public forests in Cascadia by equipping volunteers with tools, gear, transportation, and training to survey wildlife and carry out forest preservation work.

Palm Beach County Environmental Coalition (FL) \$3,000

Legal challenges, grassroots organizing, and direct action to stop the construction of Scripps Biotech that would destroy habitat for many Endangered species in the Briger Forest.

Project Coyote (CA) \$1,500

Funded the "Coexisting with Carnivores" project to teach people how to coexist with coyotes/predators and why killing is ecologically, economically and ethically unsound.

Quiet Use Coalition \$2,000

Legal advocacy, outreach, and road closures to protect central Colorado from high impact motorized recreation.

Raptors are the Solution (CA) \$1,500

Supported a targeted outreach campaign for key bus and BART lines in the Bay Area to educate the public about the non-target victims of rat poison, such as raptors, foxes, fishers, coyotes and pets.

RESTORE the North Woods (ME) \$2,000

Provided ongoing support for the Maine Woods National Park Campaign to preserve and restore the Maine Woods by opposing harmful industrial activities and permanently protecting a 3.2 million acre Maine Woods National Park and Preserve.

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

Offered ongoing support for using the agency motorized route designation process to close ORV trails and preserve Colorado's remote backcountry.

Rock Creek Alliance (MT) \$1,500

Supported the legal and public advocacy campaign to stop the Rock Creek mine within the Clark Fork-Pend Oreille Watershed and the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness in MT.

Siskiyou Land Conservancy (CA) \$2,500

Funded a project to reduce the heavy use of highly toxic pesticides on lily farms that surround the Smith River Estuary, one of the wildest, most pristine rivers in the West that is well suited as habitat for recovery of several endangered species, particularly salmonids.

Save the Scenic Santa Ritas (AZ) \$3,000

Grassroots organizing and outreach to stop development of the open-pit Rosemont Copper Mine in the biologically rich and environmentally sensitive Patagonia and Santa Rita mountains of southern Arizona.

Southern California Bluebird Club (CA) \$1,000

Advocacy, grassroots organizing, and education to create a network of dead and dying trees (snags) throughout California as habitat for cavity dwelling species.

Southern Plains Land Trust (CO) \$3,000

Advocacy and grassroots organizing to protect prairie dogs and shortgrass prairie habitat on state and federal public lands.

**Swan View Coalition (MT) \$2,500**

Supported a project to protect the fish, wildlife, and quiet enjoyment of the Flathead National Forest through citizen monitoring/enforcement, legal advocacy, and public outreach.

Utah Environmental Congress (UT) \$3,000

Funded UEC's Forest Monitoring Program that tracks, appeal, and litigates harmful Forest Service projects on all six National Forests in Utah, primarily evaluating timber sales, livestock grazing, coal mining, oil and gas development and motorized recreation.

Western Lands Project (WA) \$3,000

Supported litigation against the Department of Interior's Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for failing to consider environmentally-responsible alternatives to industrial scale solar on public lands.

Wild Connections (CO) \$1,500

Map BLM lands with wilderness characteristics within the Royal Gorge Field Office of Colorado and create a citizens management alternative for management of biologically rich lands within this area.

Wild Equity Institute (CA) \$3,000

Advance two lawsuits against Sharp Park Golf Course and the construction of four power plants near Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge in order to protect habitat for the imperiled San Francisco garter snake and the Lange's Metalmark butterfly.

WildWest Institute (MT) \$2,500

Provides ongoing support to protect and restore public lands in the Northern Rockies Bioregion through ecosystem defense and watershed and fire restoration, and Roadless Rockies Program.

Yellowstone to Uintas (ID) \$2,500

Funded the effort to stop further habitat fragmentation of the Bear River Range by pipelines, water troughs and fences for livestock on 200,000 acres of public land and impacts of a 2,500 acre phosphate mine being developed in its foothills.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Financial Position

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Assets	\$84,158	\$88,894
Liabilities	\$21,550	\$9,149
Net Assets	\$62,608	\$79,745

Statement of Activities

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
<u>Support and Revenue:</u>		
Contributions		
Unrestricted	\$81,826	\$100,667
Restricted (Wild Nature Institute)	\$40,073	\$20,060
Investment income	\$74	\$12
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$121,973	\$120,739
<u>Expenses:</u>		
Grants awarded and Program costs	\$136,073	\$107,965
Administration and Fundraising	\$22,211	\$23,344
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$158,284	\$131,309
Change in Net Assets	-\$36,311	-\$10,570

Copies of filed IRS 990 forms available upon request

Wild Nature Institute

The Wild Nature Institute (“the Institute”), a fiscally sponsored project of the Fund for Wild Nature since the fall of 2010, expects to be an independent 501(c)(3) organization in 2013. At that time the Fund will cease to be the Institute’s fiscal sponsor. Fiscal sponsorship is a way for 501(c)(3) groups like the Fund to support a project which is consistent with its mission when that project does not have its own non-profit status. The mission of the Wild Nature Institute is to conduct scientific research on at-risk wildlife species and their habitats, to advocate for their protection, and to educate the public about the need to preserve wild nature. **The Institute has always been responsible for securing 100% of its donations and grants, and money earmarked for the Institute is restricted to Institute project funding only.** Please see the financial statement on page 9 of this report for more information.

The Institute’s work focuses on collecting scientific data necessary to better understand habitat requirements of at-risk wildlife species around the world. The Institute’s scientists disseminate their research findings to decision-makers and the public, and advocate for the preservation of critical habitats to ensure that these at-risk wildlife species can recover and thrive.

The Wild Nature Institute currently has two major projects. The Snag Forest Habitat Protection campaign ensures that research on fire, insect outbreaks, and wildlife in the western North American forests is translated into improved forest-protection policies and effective forest-management activities that conserve snag forests – critical, scarce, and misunderstood wildlife habitats.

The Institute’s scientists are also learning how natural and human factors affect survival, births, and movements of giraffe in the Tarangire Ecosystem of northern Tanzania, which supports one of the largest concentrations of wildlife in Africa. This research is urgently needed to provide effective conservation measures and ensure the future of wild giraffes and all creatures of the savanna.

