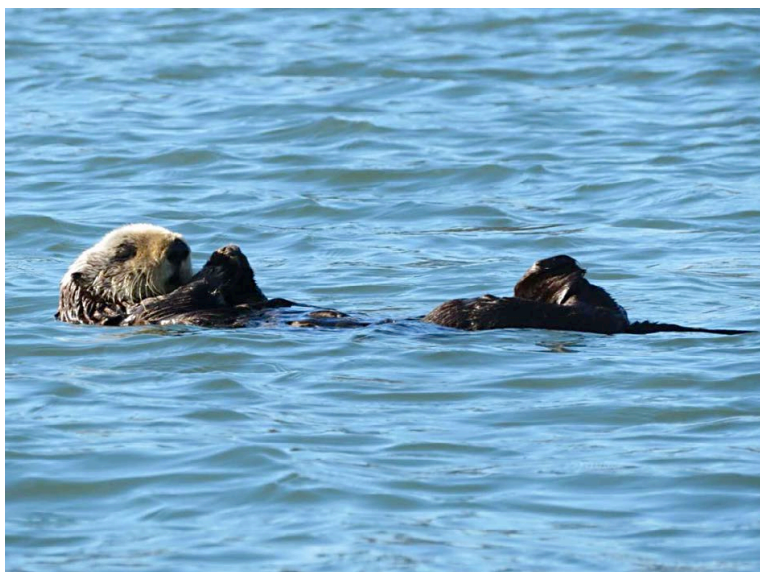


FUND for WILD NATURE



2020 Annual Report

Investing in Cutting Edge Environmental Grassroots
Action Since 1982

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Page 11: Chiricahua Leopard Frog, Stephen Ritchie
Page 13: White Wolf, Sandy Nervig
Back: American Badger, Jay Tutchton

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. The Fund is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization #87-0386717.

Donations may be made by mail or on our website and are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Fund for Wild Nature

P.O. Box 2507, Sebastopol, CA 95473

Phone: (858) FOR-WILD, (858) 367-9453

fwn@fundwildnature.org • www.fundwildnature.org

FROM THE BOARD

We all know that 2020 was a challenging year. A global pandemic, economic turmoil, searing racial divisions, and a presidential election culminating with an attempted insurrection, were enough to have us collectively holding our heads in our hands. As the dust starts to settle and the Biden administration works on overturning some of the Trump-era environmental rollbacks, there's a sense of relief.

But the organizations that the Fund for Wild Nature supports work on safeguards for wildlands and wildlife that transcend changes in national administrations. Take gray wolves and grizzly bears: the Obama administration slashed their protections long before Trump stepped into the Oval Office. Part of the motivation was to keep embattled Democrats such as Jon Tester of Montana in the Senate, and native carnivores were traded away.

Our grantees know that the need to protect wild nature is more urgent than ever. Fund grantees Alliance for the Wild Rockies and Grizzly Times never agreed to give up their fight to protect wolves and grizzlies. These and other organizations that the Fund supports know that we all need to do more than make up for lost ground: the climate and biodiversity crises were already grave and escalating before Trump's egregious setbacks.

Our grantees also face challenges at the state level. Footloose Montana is working to compel the state wildlife agency to end horrific wildlife trapping on public lands. To protect Puget Sound in Washington State, Sound Action plows through hundreds of permits to challenge state agency authorization of development that would harm this ecologically vibrant area.

The groups we fund are bold in their refusal to accept trades for political expediency when lives are on the line. A term that took center stage during the COVID-19 pandemic was the notion of an "essential worker". We consider our grantees to be essential workers. They are daily defending the very basis for life on this planet, and for that we are eternally

grateful. One of our favorite essential workers is Marnie Gaede, the Fund's Board President. The rest of the board teamed up and surprised Marnie with our Activist of the Year award, in recognition of her enduring and zealous defense of wildlife and the habitats on which they depend.

We are honored at the Fund to support groups across the U.S. in providing their essential services to protect native ecosystems from human folly. Their energy and resolve inspire us daily. These are organizations that do a lot with a little. We keep our own overhead extremely low so that your donations flow to our grantees. Thanks for continuing to support the Fund.



Grassroots Activist of the Year: Marnie Gaede



Marnie Gaede, the board president of the Fund for Wild Nature, has been selected to receive the Fund's Grassroots Activist of the Year Award for 2020. The rest of the Fund's board of directors unanimously reached this decision without Marnie's knowledge. We did so enthusiastically, both to celebrate a recent victory and to honor Marnie's extensive history of bold advocacy in defense of the wild.

The Fund for Wild Nature's board of directors consists entirely of volunteers with direct experience with grassroots biodiversity activism. That experience helps us find exceptionally effective groups as recipients for the Fund's grants. Marnie is a great illustration of this synergy.

Marnie, who lives near Pasadena, California, became involved in assisting her community in challenging a problematic plan by the County of Los Angeles to remove almost 4 million cubic yards of sediment from the Hahamongna watershed —dubbed the “Big Dig.” The project would damage an important wildlife corridor, and the sediment-hauling diesel trucks would bring air pollution and other dangers to the community. Marnie brought this issue to our attention, and the Fund for Wild Nature gave a grant to the Pasadena Audubon Society for its litigation with the Arroyo Seco Foundation to challenge the Big Dig. In 2020, the litigation resulted in a settlement in which LA County agreed to curtail the project, reducing it to 1.7 million cubic yards and allowing more riparian areas to grow and provide wildlife habitat, while the County also created incentives for the use of non-diesel trucks for the remaining portion of the project.

Marnie spends summers living in the remote mountains of southern Colorado where she has actively assisted conservation activists there too. One key issue has been the efforts to stop a massive development at Wolf Creek Pass Ski Area, which would harm an important wildlife corridor for lynx. That development is currently on hold following successful litigation by Fund for Wild Nature grantees, including 2017 Grassroots Activist of the Year Christine Canaly of San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council.

Marnie joined the board of directors of the Fund for Wild Nature in 2000 and has become the Fund's longest-serving president. She came to this role building on her experience on the board of directors of the ocean wildlife defense group Sea Shepherd. She served two terms on the board of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. As its board president, she helped navigate Sea Shepherd through the challenging times when the Japanese whaling industry filed a lawsuit against the organization.

In addition, Marnie has been involved in other international conservation work. She has served on the board of the Galapagos Preservation Society since 2010 and had rebuilt the organization into Galapagos Conservation Action, where she currently serves as its president. Marnie and her husband Marc Gaede have also provided assistance to the famous Virunga National Park in the Congo. As featured in the award-winning documentary of the same name, Virunga is home to about one-third of the world population of the critically endangered mountain gorilla. Yet Virunga is besieged by heavily armed poachers, so aerial patrolling became essential to the survival of the park. Marnie and Marc took a lead role in securing and rebuilding three donated airplanes to support Virunga National Park rangers and operations.

In sum, Marnie Gaede works at both the local and global level to defend wildlife and wild places. She does all this work as a volunteer, in addition to being an adjunct professor of environment issues and activism at the Art Center College of Design for nearly thirty years. Some of the most impactful activism happens with little publicity and fanfare, yet this behind-the-scenes role is often crucial to larger victories. Marnie epitomizes a humble, yet highly effective approach to grassroots biodiversity protection. This is exactly the sort of work that the Fund for Wild Nature seeks to support through your donations. Therefore, we are pleased and honored to recognize Marnie Gaede as the Fund's Grassroots Activist of the Year for 2020.

2020 Grantees

New grantees are underlined

Alaskans FOR Wildlife [AK] \$5,000

Funding for protecting wolves and other wildlife, reforming wildlife policy, and promoting citizen participation.

Alaska Wildlife Alliance [AK] \$3,000

Support for protecting Alaska's wildlife from overhunting by advocating for ecosystem-based management at Alaska's Board of Game.



Alliance for the Wild Rockies [MT] \$5,000

Funds for an attorney to stop the Stonewall timber sale in Canada lynx, grizzly bear, and bull trout habitat.

Applegate Neighborhood Network [OR] \$3,000

Support for protecting late successional and native forest habitats through grassroots activism, community organizing, and advocacy.

Arizona Mining Reform Coalition [AZ] \$3,000

Funds to stop Rio Tinto's proposed mine at Oak Flat by using the public permitting process to create permanent protection.

Battle Creek Alliance [CA] \$5,000

Ongoing funding to save the Battle Creek watershed from cumulative impacts to forests, habitat, and water quality through data collection and legal action.

Blue Mountain Biodiversity Project [OR] \$5,000

Continuing support for conserving forests in eastern Oregon from ecologically destructive projects through field surveys, public comments, and litigation.

Buffalo River Watershed Alliance [AR] \$4,000

Funds to protect the Buffalo National River from large swine Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) by securing a permanent watershed-wide moratorium on CAFO permits.

**Chattooga Conservancy [GA] \$3,000**

Funds to protect outstanding waters and brook trout habitat through Wild & Scenic eligibility for Overflow Creek's East & West Forks.

Community Action Project [CA] \$3,000

Funds to conserve habitat for 34 special status species from development by litigating the 2019 Calaveras County General Plan.

Conservation Congress [CA] \$5,000

Ongoing funds for forest monitoring, objections and litigation to halt timber sales in habitat for Northern Spotted Owls and other late-successional forest dependent species on national forests in northern California.

Cottonwood Environmental Law Center [MT] \$3,000

Support for stopping logging in critical habitat for Canada lynx through litigation.

Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics, and Ecology [OR] \$5,000

Funds for protecting forest ecosystems and communities from inappropriate logging and firefighting by organizing forest and climate activists.

Flathead-Lolo-Bitterroot Citizen Task Force [MT] \$3,300

Support for preserving grizzly bears using the best science and stopping government plans to delist the grizzly bear, destroy its habitat, and start trophy hunting.

Footloose Montana [MT] \$3,000

Funds for grassroots organizing to ban trapping of wolves, coyotes, otters, beavers, and bobcats at the urban-wildlife interface.

Friends of the Wild Swan [MT] \$3,000

Support for the Habitat Protection Program that challenges plans, timber sales, and road building to protect grizzly bears, bull trout, lynx and other wildlife.

Gallatin Yellowstone Wilderness Alliance [MT] \$3,000

Funding to protect wildlife and habitat from multiple threats with a short film advocating for the Alliance's model wilderness bill.

Grand Canyon Wolf Recovery Project [AZ] \$3,000

Funds for saving Mexican gray wolves from extinction by organizing to increase their legal protections and expand their habitat.

Grizzly Times [MT] \$3,000

Funds to protect grizzlies from threats due to delisting, and habitat threats from cows, trains, roads, logging, and mountain bikers.

**IlluminOcean [CA] \$5,000**

Support for the production of the film FIN to promote effective dolphin protection through perspective and action.

Klamath Forest Alliance [OR] \$3,000

Continued funding to conserve species requiring late successional habitat and protect important anadromous fisheries from federal land logging projects.

Lynn Canal Conservation [AK] \$3,000

Support to protect wild salmon, bald eagles, and the Chilkat watershed in Alaska from a proposed mine by targeting investors and educating the public.

Native Ecosystems Council [MT] \$3,000

Funding to stop the proposed logging and burning of 22,500 acres of prime wildlife habitat in the Castle Mountains, Montana.

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

Support for NEST to conduct volunteer wildlife field surveys to halt logging on ancient forests, protect ecosystems, and support the preservation of wild places.

Ocean Defenders Alliance [CA] \$3,000

Funds to document locations along the coast of southern California where lobster traps create entanglement risks for migrating whales.

Public Lands Media [OR] \$4,000

Funds to protect forests from destructive thinning (logging) by providing the public with ecological information about wildfire ecology.

Raptors are the Solution [CA] \$5,000

Funds to protect raptors and other wildlife from the dangers of rat poisons through advocacy, legal, and public education efforts.

**Restore: The North Woods [MA] \$4,000**

Support for fighting climate change and biodiversity loss by protecting lands in Massachusetts and Maine from logging and other exploitation.

Rio Grande International Study Center [TX] \$3,000

Grant to protect the Rio Grande ecosystem in South Texas from the proposed Border Wall by nonviolent direct-action training, and promoting compelling stories about life along the border.

Sequoia ForestKeeper [CA] \$5,000

Funding for photo surveys to document the distribution of the southern Sierra Nevada Pacific fisher to protect its habitat.

Snake River Waterkeeper [ID] \$3,000

Support for protecting Snake River salmon, steelhead and redband trout from habitat degradation and extinction by abatement of illegal discharges.

Sound Action [WA] \$5,000

Funding to protect the Puget Sound nearshore habitat from development impacts through watchdog work and legal action to enforce environmental laws.

**Southwest Environmental Center [NM] \$3,000**

Funds to conserve native wildlife and ecosystems in New Mexico by enacting legislation to reform state wildlife policies and institutions.

Swan View Coalition [MT] \$3,000

Support for efforts to preserve grizzly bears, bull trout and other wildlife by limiting logging roads and commercial recreation on the Flathead National Forest.

Tennessee Heartwood [TN] \$5,000

Funds to protect Tennessee's state and federal lands from commercial exploitation through advocacy, legal work, and education.

The Forest Advocate [NM] \$3,000

Funds for a website and public outreach to protect the Santa Fe National Forest from ecologically damaging "fuel treatment projects" (i.e. logging).

The Maine Wolf Coalition [ME] \$3,000

Funding for efforts to protect wolves from hunting and trapping by documenting their presence in Maine.

The Rewilding Institute [NM] \$3,000

Support for puma recovery in the East and wolf recovery in the West, through education and advocacy.

Unite the Parks [CA] \$3,000

Funding to protect millions of acres of forest from logging in the Southern Sierra Nevada for the endangered Pacific fisher through a lawsuit.

Upper Missouri Waterkeeper [MT] \$3,000

Funds to conserve one of the Lower 48's last wild, blue-ribbon trout streams through a combination of science, citizen action, and the law.

Western Slope Conservation Center [CO] \$3,000

Support for protecting the wildlife, lands, water, and economy of the North Fork Valley in Colorado from oil and gas development.

Wild Alabama [AL] \$5,000

Funds to conserve biodiversity and protect the Bankhead and Talladega National Forests from logging through Forest Watch activities.

Wildlands Defense [ID] \$3,000

Funds to protect pinyon-juniper and arid Douglas-fir forests through comments, appeals, protests, litigation, site visits and reports.

WildWest Institute [MT] \$3,000

Continued funds to protect and restore forests, wildlands, watersheds and wildlife in the Northern Rockies through Ecosystem Defense, Watershed and Wildland Fire Restoration and our Roadless Rockies programs.

Yellowstone to Uritas \$4,000

Funds to restore habitat in the wildlife corridor spanning Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming through increased agency oversight, closure of illegal OHV routes, and litigation to stop illegal domestic sheep grazing on public lands.



Financial Statement

Financial Position on January 1	Year 2019	Year 2020
Assets	\$199,049	\$285,411
Liabilities (unpaid grants)	\$15,500	\$12,000
Net Assets	\$183,549	\$273,411

Statement of Activities	Year 2019	Year 2020
<u>Support and Revenue</u>		
Contributions, unrestricted	\$213,358	\$98,711
Contributions, restricted	\$0	\$0
Investment Income	(\$97)	(\$23)
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$213,261	\$98,688

<u>Expenses</u>		
Grants awarded	\$116,500	\$154,300
Administration and Fundraising	\$6,900	\$7,053
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$123,400	\$161,353
Change in Net Assets	\$89,861	(\$71,665)

Financial Position on December 31	Year 2019	Year 2020
Assets	\$285,411	\$210,745
Liabilities (Dec 31 unpaid grants)	\$12,000	\$9,000
Net Assets	\$273,411	\$201,745



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fwn@fundwildnature.org • www.fundwildnature.org