

CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



2013
ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The forces that drive wildlife extinction — climate change, pollution, habitat destruction — never rest, so neither do we.

In 2013 the Center for Biological Diversity secured new protections for 55 animals and plants, including wolverines, Florida bonneted bats, streaked horned larks and Acuña cacti. We achieved habitat protections on 750,000 acres of land and along more than 700 miles of coast and gained proposed protection for another 29.7 million acres.

We also waged key battles in 2013 on fracking — particularly in California, where we led a multifaceted and highly effective statewide charge to put the brakes on this dangerous and clearly destructive practice — as well as on other aspects of climate change and the Keystone XL pipeline.

Exciting new achievements in our Oceans program included a federal commitment to study a Hawaiian island as a potential Superfund site due to plastic pollution; new protections for whales, corals and sea turtles; and an agreement to use oil-spill dispersants more carefully in California’s waters. On the science front, we published a new study on the effects of sea-level rise and got the EPA to commit to studying water-quality standards to protect species from ocean acidification.



We blocked a massive water grab in Nevada, got more protected acres for jaguars, expanded our innovative Population and Sustainability program, fought offshore drilling in the Arctic, and helped push through a precedent-setting ban on lead ammo in California that will save the lives of untold condors, eagles and other birds and wildlife.

None of this would have been possible without your help. My deepest thanks go out to you for fighting with us to preserve the wild.



Kieran Suckling
Executive Director

SAVING THE LAST AMONG US

2013 was an epic year for the Center in sheer numbers of newly protected species and wild places — an arena where we've always been trailblazers and continue to excel. Our 757 species settlement agreement, signed in 2011, has already brought final Endangered Species Act protection to 105 species of animals and plants as well as proposed protection to another 33; in 2013 alone the deal brought final protection to 55 species, including streaked horned larks, Florida bonneted bats and Acuña cacti.

We locked down final critical habitat protections for 18 species in 2013, covering more than 750,000 acres for animals ranging from little-known cave-dwelling beetles to beautiful southwestern willow flycatchers. We secured 739 miles of protected nesting beaches and marine foraging areas for loggerhead sea turtles. And our advocacy achieved proposed protection for an additional *26 million acres* for lynx and *2 million acres* for yellow-legged frogs and Yosemite toads — plus *1.7 million* proposed acres for the splendid Gunnison sage grouse.

We published a groundbreaking report in 2013 highlighting the disastrous impacts the Keystone XL pipeline would have on wildlife, and we organized scores of rallies, petition drives and letter-writing campaigns against the federal plan to strip protection from wolves across the country.

Mountain yellow-legged frogs are hardy survivors of freezing, high-elevation winters but are vulnerable to a host of modern threats that have driven them from 93 percent of their mountain homes. In 2013, we helped win 2 million acres of protected critical habitat for these frogs.



IN OTHER VICTORIES, WE:

- Won proposed habitat protections for Santa Barbara monkeyflowers and other rare flora in California, Nevada and the Southeast; Oregon spotted frogs; Florida butterflies; and a species of southwest fish called the Zuni bluehead sucker;
- Secured an injunction on logging Oregon state forests to protect marbled murrelets; and
- Stopped the capture of wolves entering the United States from Mexico and ensured a plan was finalized to let Mexican gray wolves roam more widely.

LOOKING AHEAD:

2014 will bring dozens of new species and habitat protections based on our historic 757 agreement, including decisions on American wolverines and yellow-billed cuckoos and millions of protected acres for lynx, frogs and birds.

LIFE ON A WARMING PLANET

Climate change looms as the single-greatest threat to a livable and diverse planet, and the Center's campaigns on this front are among the most uncompromising in the country. Using sound science and existing law as our linchpins, we've kept ramping up the pressure on President Barack Obama and Congress to confront the crisis more courageously.

Among other actions, we published a major report in 2013 that found 233 federally protected species in 23 states to be threatened by rising sea levels. Left unchecked, sea levels in some parts of the United States could rise more than 4 feet, putting people at risk along with imperiled wildlife like loggerhead sea turtles, Florida Key deer and western snowy plovers.

We had great success expanding our Clean Air Cities campaign — through which cities call for national action to use the Clean Air Act to cut the greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change — to almost 80 communities nationwide including Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and St. Petersburg, Fla.

In California, where we play a clear leadership role in the fight against fracking, we scored a landmark legal win that halted — albeit temporarily — oil and gas leasing on Bureau of Land Management lands. Through a series of strategic public protests and media pieces, we brought heavy pressure on Gov. Jerry Brown to institute a state fracking moratorium. We presented evidence of the dangerous practice of offshore fracking to the California Coastal Commission, which had been unaware of fracking in state waters until then.



The American pika — a small, herbivorous, conspicuously cute mammal related to rabbits and hares — is adapted to the cold climate in high-elevation boulder fields and alpine meadows in the mountains of the American West. But the very adaptations that have allowed this species to survive make pikas extra sensitive to the changes wrought by global warming.

LOOKING AHEAD:

We'll wage cutting-edge legal and policy campaigns to cut CO₂ emissions, address rising seas, expand our Clean Air Cities campaign and curb the use of fracking and destructive fossil fuels.

WE ALSO:

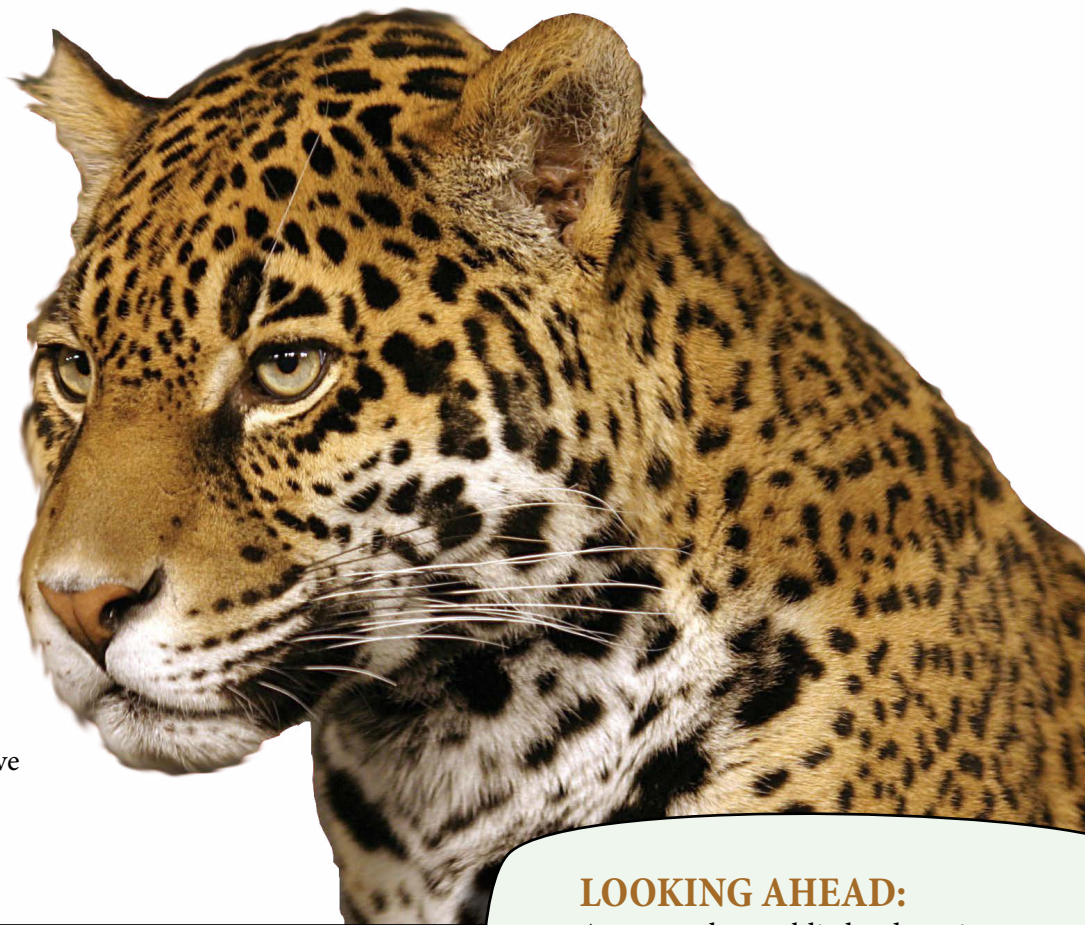
- Organized and joined rallies and marches against the Keystone XL pipeline around the country;
- Took out an eye-catching billboard in Los Angeles warning of fracking's dangers to local communities; and
- Brought our message on the urgency of the climate crisis to media outlets around the country, including *USA TODAY* and *The New York Times*.

PRESERVING A WILD LEGACY

To preserve public lands and waters for the sustenance of species that need them — which certainly include human beings — the Center this year blocked logging on thousands of acres of post-fire habitat that are vital to the survival of species like black-backed woodpeckers, soot-colored birds that eat wood-boring insects in burned trees. A Center petition also earned an in-depth study that may protect these woodpeckers in three states. In other forest-related victories, we helped bring Pacific fishers back toward protection, spurring a status review for these charming yet ferocious porcupine-eaters that are threatened by logging and development. Our legal work stopped the logging of 20,000 acres of old-growth woods in Oregon, Alaska and Arizona for the sake of Alaskan wolves and two subspecies of owls.

In the Southwest we helped reintroduce rare bighorn sheep to Arizona's Catalina Mountains and secured 19,095 additional acres of critical habitat for jaguars in Arizona and New Mexico — it now tops 764,000 acres, including areas being eyed for the Rosemont copper mine, which we continued to oppose vigorously this year. Finally, our litigation recently blocked a massive Las Vegas water grab that would have threatened dozens of species.

Revered as deities amongst the Mayan and Aztec peoples, jaguars inspire through their grace and power. These agile hunters once roamed from South America through the southern and central United States. In response to a lawsuit from the Center, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finalized protection for 764,207 acres of critical habitat for the species in southern Arizona and New Mexico in 2014.



IN OTHER WINS ON PUBLIC LAND, WE:

- Forced the feds to fully analyze how snowmobiles affect woodland wildlife and plants in five California national forests;
- Reduced off-road vehicles on wetland meadows in the Eldorado National Forest; and
- Ensured that solar and wind projects minimized wildlife impacts in California and Nevada — making sure they're healthy for wildlife as well as the climate.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Among other public lands actions, in 2014 the Center will fight water withdrawals from southwestern rivers, mountaintop-removal mining in Appalachia, and Arizona's Rosemont mine, planned for the same area where jaguars are struggling to return.

SAVING WILD PLACES & WATER

Our Urban Wildlands program is devoted to saving wildlife habitat and water from sprawl and other forms of destructive development on key endangered-species lands that aren't always in the public domain — and currently centers on California, a massive ground zero for endangered species-development conflicts. We notched some important victories in that realm this year, including a big legal win against plans to develop a steep and rugged part of the Tehachapi Pass area north of Los Angeles, winning a lawsuit against the Frazier Park Estates project and then celebrating when the developer sold the land to California State Parks.

We successfully defended against an attack on federal protections for some of the last remaining habitat for vanishing fish called Santa Ana suckers in Southern California. We also continued our long fight against the massive Newhall Ranch development, which would transform more than 2,000 acres along the

Santa Clara River from rugged open space and agricultural land into a sprawling new suburban city. As the new year began we and allies sued over federal permits for the project.

And as the California drought deepened, we stepped up our fight against efforts to privatize California's State Water Project in hopes of returning the world's largest underground reservoir to the public's hands. We notched an important victory in the new year with two court rulings that struck down the environmental review of the water bank and remain hopeful this critical water supply is on its way toward public control again. We also ramped up our fight to stop misguided state transportation projects in California, especially those that are unnecessary and cut through prime wildlife habitat, like highway expansion plans in California's Richardson Grove, a prime spot for redwoods.

Historically, the San Joaquin kit fox was widely distributed throughout grassland, scrubland and wetland communities in the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent low foothills, but agricultural, urban and industrial development in the Valley — including oil and gas development — has led to extensive and continuing loss of native habitat, the primary threat to kit foxes.

LOOKING AHEAD:

We'll build on our 2013 victories over sprawl, including efforts to protect the San Francisco–San Joaquin Bay Delta and its native species and challenging misguided highway projects by California's transportation agency.

OTHER 2013 WORK IN PROGRESS INCLUDED:

- A challenge to a colossal groundwater-mining scheme that would pipe water from the Mojave Desert to feed more suburban sprawl;
- Intensive advocacy to protect the San Francisco–San Joaquin Bay Delta and its many endangered species; and
- Expanding our fight against destructive highway projects in Northern California.



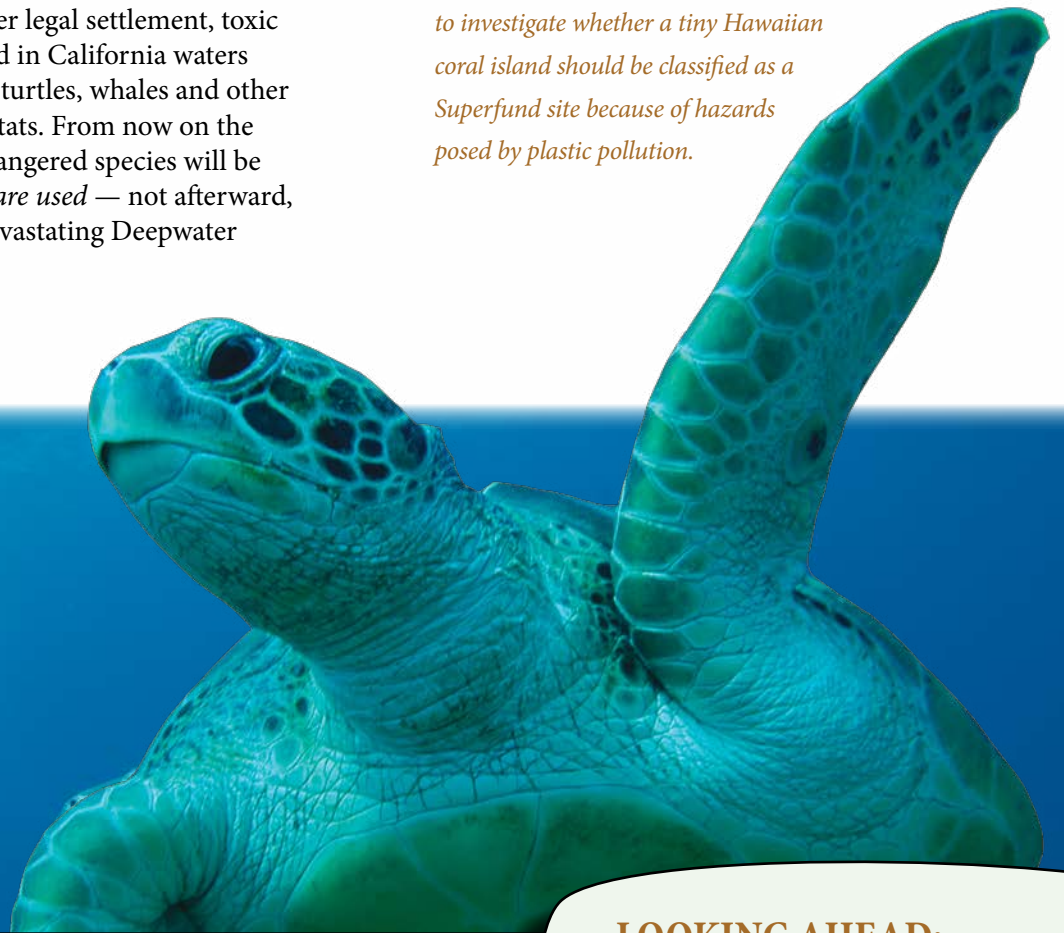
SAVING LIFE IN THE SEAS

The Center's energetic, innovative Oceans program had a banner year. Our action pushed the EPA to commit, for the first time in history, to assessing a plastic-polluted area as a potential Superfund cleanup site: a Hawaiian island near the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. We also won a settlement requiring the National Marine Fisheries Service to develop recovery plans for elkhorn and staghorn corals being hit hard by climate change. The two Florida and Caribbean corals, for which we originally won protection in 2006, were the first species ever to be protected because of global warming.

And following another Center legal settlement, toxic oil-dispersing chemicals used in California waters will now do less harm to sea turtles, whales and other threatened animals and habitats. From now on the effects of dispersants on endangered species will be studied *before the chemicals are used* — not afterward, as occurred during 2010's devastating Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Fewer endangered whales are dying from entanglement in fishing nets off the coast of California because of emergency regulations we secured in 2013. And on the East Coast, we secured a final rule limiting ship speeds to save the lives of endangered Atlantic right whales.

Green sea turtles are one of hundreds of marine species threatened by plastic litter in our oceans. In 2013, following a petition by the Center, the EPA agreed to investigate whether a tiny Hawaiian coral island should be classified as a Superfund site because of hazards posed by plastic pollution.



ALSO IN 2013 WE:

- Filed suit against the federal government for failing to address ocean acidification that is killing oysters and hurting other marine life in Oregon and Washington;
- Won a positive ruling in our fight to save dolphins, whales and other ocean animals from the U.S. Navy's sonar in the Pacific Northwest; and
- Persuaded the EPA to launch an in-depth study of the need for better water-quality standards to protect shellfish, corals and other marine life from ocean acidification.

LOOKING AHEAD:

In the coming year we'll keep confronting threats to our oceans, from acidification and water warming to plastic pollution and dangerous sonar. We expect to secure final protection in 2014 for no fewer than 66 species of coral.

LIFE ON A CROWDED PLANET

The Center remains at the vanguard of the new population movement, breathing fresh life into this critical environmental issue. There are now more than 7 billion people on the planet, and we're adding 227,000 more every day. The toll on the wildlife is impossible not to miss: Species are disappearing 1,000 to 10,000 times faster than the natural rate.

Hiring two dynamic new staff to head the program, the Center greatly expanded the scope and ambition of our population and sustainability work in 2013. We commissioned a headline-stealing national poll confirming that the majority of Americans agree: Population growth is a driving factor in many of today's environmental crises. Our poll and population work was featured in media around the country, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Huffington Post*, *The Miami Herald* and *The Daily Beast*.

We also brought national media attention to the 2nd birthday of the world's 7 billionth baby — and all the environmental costs that come with adding more people and recklessly consuming resources and wildlife habitat.

As 2013 drew to a close, our award-winning Endangered Species Condoms project reached a historic milestone: distribution of more than a half-million condoms since 2009. The condoms have been given away at college campuses, churches, libraries, bars, Earth Day events and other places where people have gathered to talk about important environmental issues. The condoms continue to be a proven attention-grabber — both for people and the media — and one of the best ways to start a conversation about population, consumption and sustainability.

Human population growth and all that comes with it — including pollution, habitat loss, and climate change — exact a toll on wildlife. By far the greatest threats to Florida panthers are habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation — all driven by Florida's burgeoning human population and the developments and highways that accommodate it. Without room to roam, male Florida panthers clash, often with fatal consequences.



LOOKING AHEAD:

We'll widen the conversation to include meat consumption, bad energy policy, and other unsustainable practices that limit our ability to ensure a world that's livable for all.

OUR NEW STAFF HIT THE GROUND RUNNING

- Interviewing major writers like Alan Weisman on population-consumption issues;
- Bringing our message to conferences on population and conservation; and
- As the new year began, launching an exciting meat-reduction campaign to help transform diets away from carbon-intensive protein sources.

DEFENDING AGAINST POISONS

To defend rare and endangered species from insidious toxics in our water, air and wild places, the Center this year struck a pioneering settlement to protect California red-legged frogs from seven highly toxic pesticides. And we generated so much public pressure that the federal government this fall finally withdrew its approval of 97 percent of arsenic compounds in animal feed — poisons that risked hurting all of us. To protect California condors and other animals that eat lead-shot game, we rallied public support that helped catalyze far-reaching, historic legislation to ban poisonous lead ammo in California, passed by the state legislature and signed into law by the governor in fall.

Also in California we forced enhanced restrictions on rat poisons that can kill kit foxes, spotted owls, fishers and other imperiled animals. We helped convince officials to tighten up the Golden State's suction-dredge mining ban to protect water, wildlife and fisheries from pollution.

We led more than 250 groups in pushing the Environmental Protection Agency to ban another dangerous pesticide, atrazine, and our litigation prompted the National Academy of Sciences to issue a key report that faulted the EPA for failing to address the harmful impacts of pesticides on endangered species across the country.

Poisonings from d-CON, a commercial rat poison, have been documented in at least 25 species of wild animals in California, including mountain lions, hawks, endangered San Joaquin kit foxes and northern spotted owls, as well as numerous cats and dogs.



IN 2013, OUR ANTI-TOXICS CAMPAIGNERS ALSO:

- Sued to limit soot pollution and prevailed in court to reduce airborne lead;
- Forced a Bay Area power plant to pay \$2 million to help stave off pollution in local communities, as well as stave off extinction for Lange's metalmark butterflies; and
- Continued to fight hard against the NRA and other powerful lobbies to enact a national ban on lead ammo.

LOOKING AHEAD:

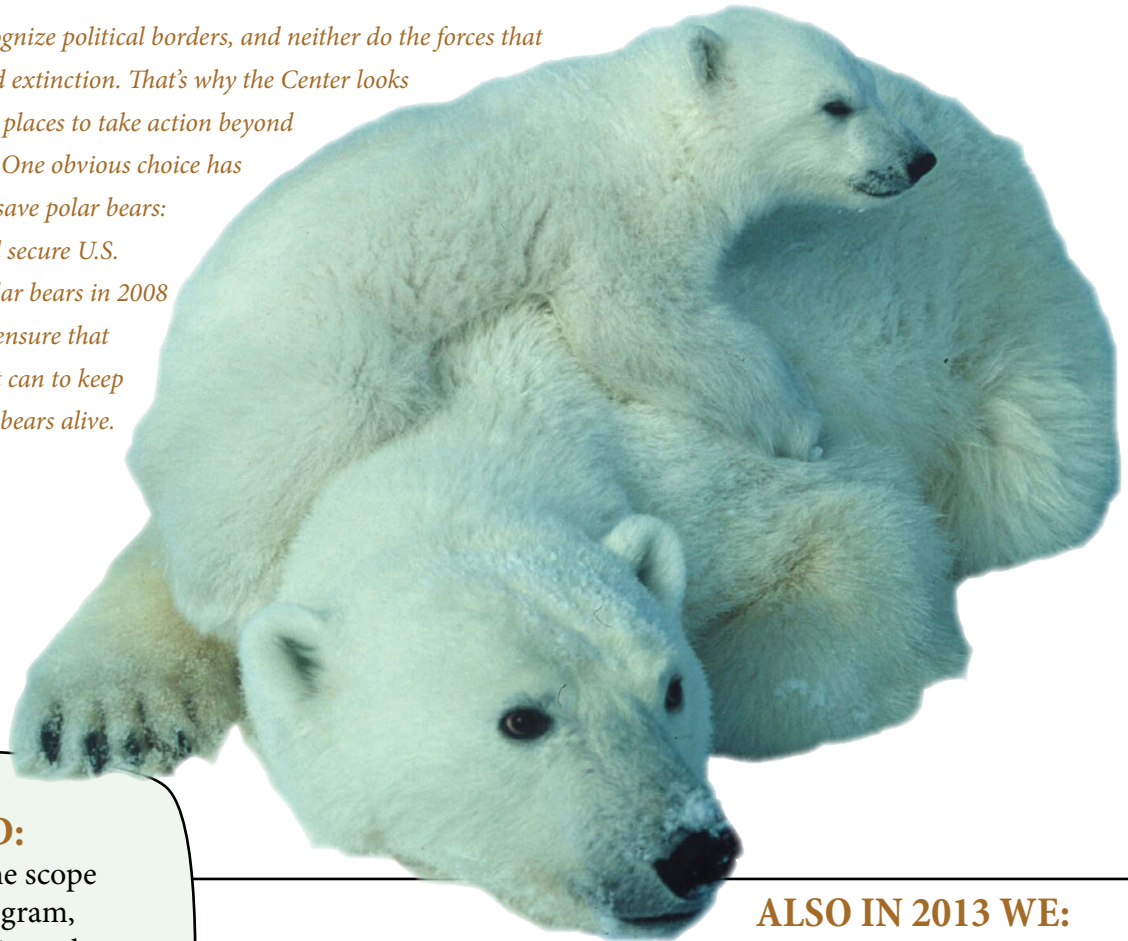
Our toxics program will fight to make sure landmark deals to protect wildlife from toxins are enforced; keep up the tough battle against the NRA's defense of lead ammo; and combat deadly soot pollution in the air.

PROTECTION BEYOND BORDERS

The Center's International program builds on decades of experience using science and the U.S. court system to protect species by extending that mandate across borders, applying American law strategically to save endangered species abroad. In 2013 we took legal action to stop U.S. funding of destructive fossil fuel projects in Australia's world-famous Great Barrier Reef; there we amended our existing lawsuit to challenge American funding, to the tune of \$5 billion through the U.S. Export-Import Bank, for construction and operation of the two massive liquefied natural gas facilities that threaten sea turtles, dugongs and many other rare and protected marine species, as well as the precious reef itself.

And in our ongoing battle to force protection of polar bears — not only in the American Arctic but throughout the bears' deeply threatened northern home — we made progress this year when a key environmental dispute body, established under NAFTA, responded to our petition challenging Canada's denial of "endangered" or "threatened" status to polar bears. The secretariat recommended an official investigation that will look at, among other issues, whether Canada used the best available climate science when it declined protections to polar bears in 2011.

Wildlife don't recognize political borders, and neither do the forces that drive them toward extinction. That's why the Center looks for the most effect places to take action beyond the United States. One obvious choice has been our work to save polar bears: The Center helped secure U.S. protections for polar bears in 2008 and is fighting to ensure that Canada does all it can to keep these magnificent bears alive.



LOOKING AHEAD:

We'll keep expanding the scope of our International program, finding new opportunities to have maximum impact on saving species across the world using the science and law tools in which we're expert.

ALSO IN 2013 WE:

- Requested U.S. sanctions to stop endangered sea turtles from being killed in Mexican fishing nets;
- Won international trade protections for three American turtles; and
- Won a positive initial decision on a petition challenging Canada's failure to protect wild salmon from industrial fish farms, which will now receive an official response from the Canadian government.

MOBILIZING THE GRASSROOTS

Too often, politicians don't lead, they follow. It's especially true for important environmental issues like climate change and wildlife protection. That's why the Center has put significant effort into mobilizing the public to raise their voices, take to the streets, write letters, meet with their representatives and do whatever it takes to be heard.

The Center's work to mobilize the public saw exciting growth in 2013. Our base of online supporters went from 539,000 to an impressive 675,000 people, who took 1.8 million actions over the course of the year — an increase of about 300,000 actions over the year before. Our highly successful letter-writing and petition campaigns

Center supporters took more than 75,000 actions to urge the Obama administration not to take away protection for gray wolves nationally.



were targeted at a wide range of causes, including saving freshwater turtles, protecting coral reefs from ocean acidification, keeping open-pit mines out of endangered species habitat, reforming cruel rattlesnake roundups, and asking Congress to cut its massive subsidies of the rich and dirty fossil fuel industry.

And it wasn't solely online action — not by a long shot. More than 60,000 of our online supporters took a pledge to engage in protests and even, if necessary, civil disobedience to stop the disastrous Keystone XL pipeline from becoming a reality. We helped to set up and draw crowds to no fewer than 16 “No Keystone XL” rallies and actions across the country, ramping up the pressure on President Obama to reject the project. It was also heartening to see so many people take action on behalf of America's wolves. Thousands of people organized by the Center and allies spoke out against indiscriminate wolf killing in Idaho and the Obama administration's proposal to remove protection for nearly all wolves in the United States. In California, we also galvanized the public behind our petition to secure state Endangered Species Act protections for the fledgling population there.

WE ALSO, IN OUR ONLINE CAMPAIGNS, WE GENERATED:

- More than 80,000 comments on a single effort to stop wolf killing;
- Almost 46,000 comments to stop the slaughter of Alaska's charismatic sea otters;
- More than 45,000 comments to get super-toxic rat poisons, linked to poisonings of wildlife, pets and children, off store shelves.

LOOKING AHEAD:

We'll keep building the numbers of people willing to speak out to our decision-makers across the nation and push them to make policy for a safer, healthier planetary future rich with wildlife and wild places.

REACHING NEW AUDIENCES

The Center continued to garner record amounts of free media in 2013, achieving an estimated 27,982 media hits in venues as prominent as *The New York Times*, *USA TODAY*, *The Washington Post* and *Los Angeles Times*. Much of our focus was on holding President Obama accountable for dealing with the climate crisis, so we sent a highly visible and garrulous Frostpaw the Polar Bear — bearing his strong anti-Keystone message — to shadow the president at the White House, at fundraisers from coast to coast, and even during his winter vacation in Hawaii, where TV news footage showed the president waving at Frostpaw during a golf game and saying, “Hey, polar bear!”

We produced a series of popular videos — some funny, some serious — on a range of key issues, including Keystone XL, sea-level rise and the extinction crisis. The videos are part of an aggressive online strategy to reach broader audiences and create new activists around the country.

We also generated dozens of letters to the editor and op-eds celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, our most successful wildlife law. The letters and op-eds were written by individual citizens in communities across the country and published in a slew of different newspapers. Our staff made numerous TV and radio appearances on channels ranging from public television to FOX News to discuss issues from solar power to water boondoggles in the desert to lesser prairie chicken; and we made and successfully publicized a research-based, time-lapse video called “America’s Dangerous Pipelines,” revealing the dangerous history of U.S oil pipeline spills — which even garnered a retweet by former Vice President Al Gore.

Frostpaw has appeared at global climate conventions, enormous rallies against climate change, and even in The New York Times. In 2013 he followed President Obama in California, Hawaii and Martha’s Vineyard and spent a week outside of the White House during Thanksgiving to ask him to pardon polar bears by rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline.



LOOKING AHEAD:

We'll keep using ingenious tactics to draw public attention to — and push decision-makers in the right direction on — crucial issues like Keystone XL, the climate crisis, and the vital role the Endangered Species Act plays in saving American wildlife.

ALSO IN 2013 WE:

- Gathered nearly 15,000 votes on our 2013 Rubber Dodo Award, which is given annually to those who have done the most to drive endangered species extinct; 55 percent of those were cast for our winners, the climate-denying, ultra-rich Koch Brothers;
- Authored regular columns in the popular and much-read Huffington Post on subjects ranging from Yellowstone’s wolves to airplane pollution to the need to reform the killer Wildlife Services agency; and
- Sent our executive director across the Atlantic to debate population-growth deniers on the BBC.

Thank You, Members

The Center extends special thanks to our Leadership Circle members, who give at the \$1,000+ annual level.

\$100,000⁺

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Marcey Olajos
Estate of Dorothy Russell
Fred & Alice Stanback

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Felicia Russell, The
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\$5,000⁺

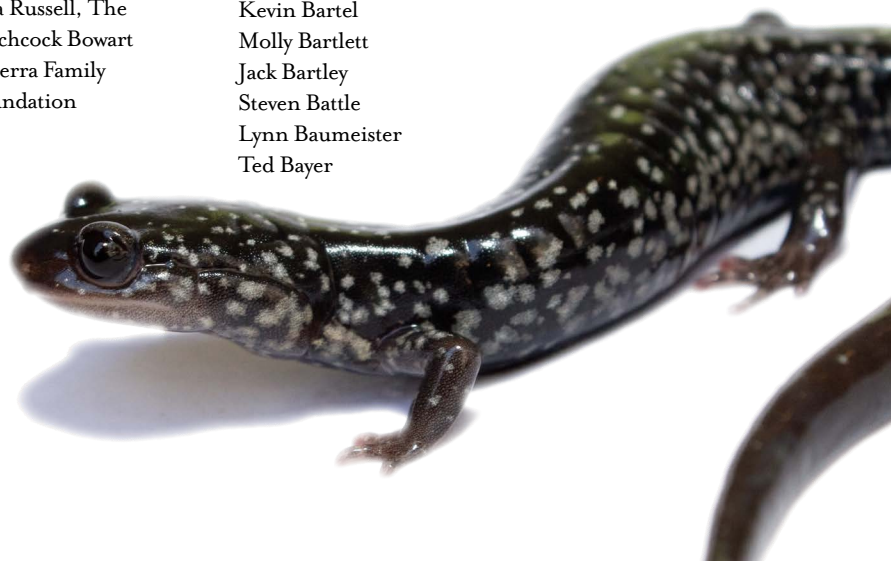
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Baldwin, The Baldwin
Family Foundation for
Peace & Justice
Philip Theodore Bee
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 Jennifer Zarro & Joan Zarro & John Zarro
 Michael Zatto, DDS
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MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS

The Center thanks employees of the following foundations and companies for directing funds from their workplace giving programs to support our work.

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 Libra Foundation
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OWLS CLUB

The Center for Biological Diversity thanks the following members of the Owls Club (formerly LEGACY SOCIETY) who are leaving a legacy for our planet and the diversity of life it supports by including the Center in their retirement plans, wills or other estate plans. The Owls Club is so named in recognition of the Center's beginnings 25 years ago when we set about protecting the Mexican spotted owl and its old-growth forest habitat of ancient Ponderosa pines, ultimately halting the clear-cutting of New Mexico's pristine Gila wilderness. Owls, universally recognized as ancient symbols of wisdom, helpfulness and protection, have since been among the vast suite of species we've fought to save. Joining the Owls Club and making a planned gift to the Center helps ensure the continued success of one of the most widely recognized and effective species-oriented conservation organizations in the world. We invite you to join the Center's Owls Club, by contacting Paula Simmonds at (646) 770-7206 or psimmonds@biologicaldiversity.org.



Anonymous (5)
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Sen Spartacus Charitable
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MEMORIAL GIFTS

Thank you to all who gave gifts in memory of:

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Donald & Rose Engel
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Brian Fink
Faith Fisher Forbes
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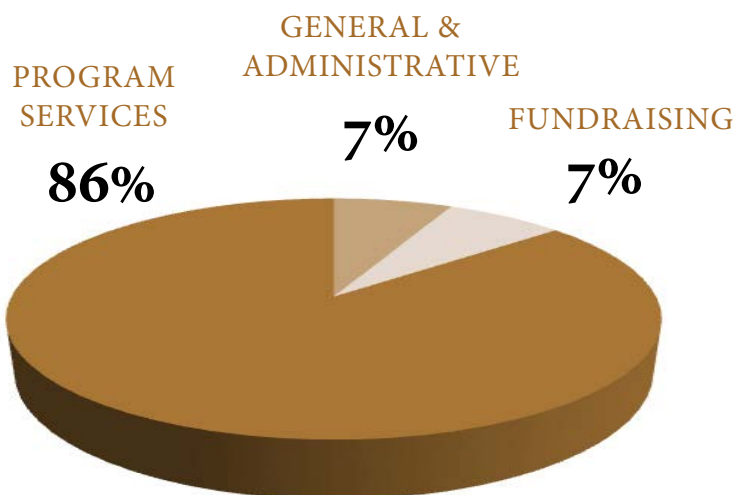
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2013 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For year ended 12/31/13. Totals include restricted and unrestricted support. Audited financial statements are available on request.

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Grants and donations	
Foundation grants	\$ 1,633,300
Membership and donations	7,000,207
Total public support	8,633,507
Revenue	
Legal returns	649,119
Contracts	18,340
Miscellaneous	18
Investment income	27,335
Total revenue	694,812
Total support and revenue	9,328,319



EXPENSES

Program services	
Climate	1,328,145
Endangered Species	1,998,399
Oceans	866,064
Population	261,452
Urban Wildlands	580,884
Public Lands	1,564,288
Other (International & Litigation)	231,770
Total program services	6,831,002 (86%)

Supporting services

General and administrative	540,583 (7%)
Fundraising	556,359 (7%)
Total support services	1,096,942

Total expenses 7,927,944

Change in net assets	1,400,375
Net assets, beginning of year	11,940,638
Net assets, end of year	\$ 13,341,013

Center members contributed more than \$8.6 million to our work to defend endangered species and their habitats in 2013. With an enthusiasm that inspired us to work even harder, our supporters gave us funds to take on major challenges while keeping administrative costs down. We used those funds effectively and efficiently, putting \$.86 of every dollar into our conservation programs and earning “Top Rated” status from Charity Watch and “Best in America” from Independent Charities of America. You — and our rapidly growing base of more than 775,000 members and activists — are the key to our success. By taking decisive, substantial action, adding energy and resources to our campaigns, and ambitiously expanding nationwide with nearly 100 Center staff, we will continue to win great victories for wildlife.