



2010 ANNUAL REPORT



DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

Defenders of Wildlife is a national, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the protection of all native wild animals and plants in their natural communities.

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Defenders in 2010

DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE achieved many successes in 2010, despite a recalcitrant Congress, a serious economic downturn that pinched our resources, and the devastating oil-well blowout in the Gulf of Mexico.

Month after month, that ongoing oil disaster clearly showed the nation how important it is to find safer alternative-energy sources for the future of our country and our wildlife—and it should have provided the political impetus for Congress to pass offshore-drilling reform legislation. But with Congress unable to accomplish anything in this area, Defenders pressed

on, responding in other ways to the enormous problems resulting from excessive reliance on fossil fuels.

On the heels of the oil-well blowout, we sued the federal government to force it to reduce the environmental risks from deepwater drilling. To help prepare the country for climate change, we pushed the Obama administration to begin serious efforts to develop a comprehensive national wildlife adaptation strategy, which it has now done. And we won increased federal support for the National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center that we helped establish in

2008. The center gathers together the latest climate science to guide federal agencies in their response to climate change, and its work is informing the development of a national strategy to adapt to a warming planet.

This year, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation awarded Defenders a generous grant, allowing us to ramp up significantly our efforts to promote wildlife-friendly alternative energy. We have been working for several years to promote solar, wind and geothermal projects and to ensure that wildlife and habitats are taken into account from the very first planning stages. The current surge of alternative-energy projects presents an incredible opportunity to influence the process from the ground up, and the Duke grant will help us achieve our goals. This grant will help ensure that wildlife conservation has a strong voice in the development of national policy for renewable energy, and we are very grateful to the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation for this substantial support.

In the courts, Defenders also made some crucial strides this year to protect wildlife, including overturning Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's wrongheaded decision to approve the Bush administration's plan for

removing federal protections for wolves in Idaho and Montana. Salazar's decision would have allowed wolf protections under the Endangered Species Act to remain in place only in Wyoming—one section of the Northern Rockies wolf's range—in clear violation of the Endangered Species Act. If allowed to stand, the decision would have undermined this important law by allowing decisions to be based more on politics than on science. Defenders also battled successfully against a concerted attempt in Congress to overturn this court victory and delist wolves throughout the West. Following another Defenders' lawsuit, the National Marine Fisheries Service this year agreed to expand critical habitat for the endangered North Atlantic right whales, and we also won a settlement with the National Park Service that prohibits off-road driving at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. The beach is important habitat for nesting and endangered sea turtles and threatened piping plovers.

Also this year, the Alaska federal district court stopped drilling activity on approximately 30 million acres of public lands on the outer continental shelf of the Chukchi Sea for oil and gas leasing—after Defenders challenged the lease sale on the grounds that it violated the National Environmental Policy Act. This area is the latest battleground over global warming and a critical area for polar bears, endangered bowhead, humpback, fin and right whales, Steller sea lions and spectacled eiders.

Our many accomplishments in 2010 came in the third year of our nation's economic downturn and that has made our work even more challenging. Fortunately, we tightened our belt early and have managed our finances well. We are especially grateful to our donors who continued their support despite these difficult times. Thanks to you, Defenders managed to avoid any significant setback to our on-the-ground work and remained nimble enough to respond quickly to emerging threats. With your help we will continue to defend America's wildlife for many years to come.



**Rodger Schlickeisen
and Victor Sher**
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Rodger Schlickeisen
President and Chief Executive Officer

ABOUT DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

Defenders of Wildlife is a leading force in the protection of America's wildlife and its habitats. Our staff, headquartered in Washington, D.C., with a dozen offices throughout North America, works to conserve native plants and animals and to develop innovative, science-based solutions to the many challenges facing wildlife and wild lands today.



DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

1 Protect and restore America's imperiled wildlife.

More than a decade ago, Defenders led the way for the return of the endangered gray wolf to the Northern Rockies, and we have watched as the presence of this top predator has helped heal broken ecosystems. By working with ranchers and local communities, we have eased the return of the wolf and other key predators to the landscape. Our work with lawmakers to uphold the integrity of the Endangered Species Act continues to ensure their protection. And our work on the ground has helped restore creatures like bison and prairie dogs to their essential roles on wild lands.



WORKS TO:

2 **Safeguard wildlife and habitat in the face of global warming, and promote renewable energy development that is wildlife-friendly.**

Our changing climate is already affecting plant and animal ranges, weather patterns, sea level and much more. In fact, climate change has the power to impact every species on Earth. We work with the best scientific minds to forge policy at the federal, regional and local levels to help wildlife survive the coming changes. We are also pressing for renewable energy sources to reduce heat-trapping pollution while causing the least damage to fragile habitat.

3 **Conserve habitat for native wildlife.**

Our nation's public and private conservation lands offer a foundation for the long-term survival of native plants and animals, but only if they are managed well. Defenders works to strengthen protections for wildlife on national wildlife refuges, national forests and other public lands; to preserve and restore interconnected corridors for wildlife between public and private conservation lands; and to decrease fragmentation of the land by roads and other infrastructure.

4 **Safeguard wildlife beyond our borders.**

From the global amphibian crisis to the protection of sea turtles, Defenders works to protect wildlife around the world from the pressures of human demands and development. Advocating for species internationally, we work with governments to advance the cause of wildlife made vulnerable by international commerce and damaged habitats.

PROTECTING IMPERILED WILDLIFE

Restoring wolves

to former habitats in the lower 48 states has long been one of Defenders' main priorities. After playing a key role in the return of gray wolves to the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and central Idaho, we continued our tireless work on their behalf this year. Here are some highlights:

» Defenders won a significant victory when we prevailed in our lawsuit challenging the delisting of gray wolves in the Northern Rockies and also battled successfully against a concerted attempt in Congress to overturn this court victory and delist wolves throughout the West. With wolves federally protected throughout the Northern Rockies again, sport hunting of wolves did not take place in the fall and winter of 2010-2011. Defenders is working in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming to encourage acceptance of wolves in the wild.

» We won another legal battle challenging the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on its mismanagement of the recovery program for the endangered Mexican gray wolf. The settlement forced the agency to end several harmful management policies, including one that required the lethal removal of wolves after three incidents of preying on cattle.

» Defenders expanded our support of wolf and livestock co-existence projects in Arizona, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon and Alberta, Canada. These include range-rider projects in key wolf-conservation corridors, carried out in partnership with ranchers, state and federal agencies, livestock associations and other conservation organizations.

» In June, Defenders helped make possible a wolf-themed ecotour in partnership with the White Mountain Apache tribe in Arizona. We became involved to help the tribe develop a self-sustaining wildlife tourism program in prime Mexican gray wolf habitat and to expand the Apaches' role in wolf recovery.

» Defenders worked with celebrities to promote wolf conservation, including television ads featuring actor and Defenders' board member Ashley Judd calling on President Obama to again protect wolves under the Endangered Species Act. The ads ran on prominent morning shows around the country. Another online public service announcement, featuring Alex Meraz of the *Twilight* movie series, generated 10,000 new Facebook fans.



Our work with ranchers, state and federal agencies, livestock associations and other conservation organizations helps to find the common ground.

Proactive Wolf Conservation

Defenders strives to find creative and innovative ways to prevent conflict between wolves and humans. Our work with ranchers, state and federal agencies, livestock associations, and other conservation organizations helps to find the common ground among stakeholders, who work together to prevent wolves from preying on livestock. This, in turn, promotes wolf acceptance and recovery.

Defenders uses many nonlethal techniques to keep wolves away from livestock, including range riders, or cowboys, to protect livestock (a constant human presence discourages wolves from getting too close); guard dogs to alert herders and range riders to nearby wolves; portable fencing and fladry (brightly colored flags strung across a rope or electrified wire that scare wolves) to secure livestock overnight; nonlethal hazing techniques, such as shining bright lights or firing a loud starter pistol, to drive off wolves; good husbandry practices, such as removing any livestock carcasses quickly; and moving livestock to grazing pastures away from wolf dens to avoid conflicts.

To date, Defenders has implemented wolf and livestock co-existence projects throughout wolf country in Arizona, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Wyoming, Oregon and Alberta, Canada. These include range-rider projects in key wolf conservation corridors: northwestern Montana (connecting the United States and Canadian Northern Rockies); the greater Yellowstone ecosystem in southeastern Montana and northwestern Wyoming; and, most recently, the first-ever, range-rider project in northeastern Oregon.

Our proactive work was covered in a flattering feature story in *American Cowboy* magazine after our staff spent time with range riders at our Big Wood River Valley project in central Idaho.

POLAR BEARS

Threats to polar bears continue to mount as global climate change begins to dramatically alter their fragile Arctic ecosystem, making conservation efforts more crucial than ever. This year, Defenders supported the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's proposal to designate 187,000 square miles of Arctic sea ice and land as critical habitat for the bear, the largest designation in the history of the Endangered Species Act. Defenders also released *Sea Bear Under Siege*, a report on the state of polar bears in Alaska, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in December. The report details the status of the two polar bear populations there—the Chukchi Sea and southern Beaufort Sea populations—as well as policy and on-the-ground recommendations that would help them navigate the Arctic's climate change meltdown. And when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began its polar bear conservation planning process in October, Alaska Program Director Karla Dutton joined the stakeholder team.



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JAGUARS

After Defenders won a lawsuit in 2009 requiring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to re-evaluate its decision not to develop a recovery plan for the endangered jaguar, the agency announced in January that it will in fact develop a plan. The first meeting of the jaguar recovery team that will devise the plan is set for 2011. It is not known how many jaguars remain north of the Mexico border in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. In Sonora, Mexico, Defenders supported research on the corridors used by jaguars, with an eye toward discovering how they move between Mexico and the United States.

GRIZZLY BEARS

In the Northern Rockies, Defenders continues to work with a diverse group of landowners, state, tribal and federal agencies to reduce conflicts between bears and humans and to educate the public about ways to reduce conflicts. Projects include building electric fences to protect sheep, cattle and beehives, buying bear-resistant dumpsters for communities, retiring grazing allotments with chronic predation problems and helping ranchers secure bear attractants. Our Grizzly Compensation Trust has paid more than \$200,000 since 1997 to ranchers who have lost livestock to grizzlies.



©JIM CHAGARES



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FLORIDA PANTHERS

With only 100 to 160 adults in Florida today, the critically endangered and wide-ranging Florida panther is in dire need of protected habitat and travel corridors. To this end, Defenders is working to protect a network of new refuges and conservation areas connecting to the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge. In 2010, Defenders and others formally requested that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service significantly expand the boundaries of the 26,000-acre refuge. We are also working with area landowners willing to sell or put conservation easements on their land. Another important step is to reduce panther mortality on roadways, and we continue to advocate for conservation-minded road planning as well as the study and funding of panther-detection devices, warning lights and road crossings. Vehicle strikes are a major cause of death—in 2010, cars or trucks killed 16 panthers—and panther numbers are already dangerously low. Defenders' Living with Wildlife program has provided thousands of households in communities close to panther—and bear—habitat with educational information about the species and ways to reduce or prevent conflict between humans and wildlife.



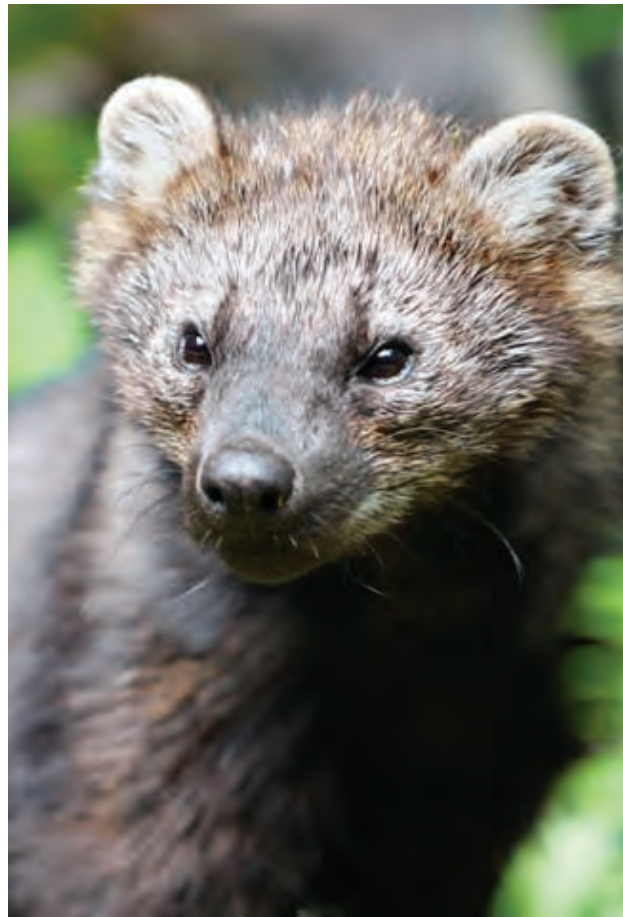
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Defenders' Jonathan Proctor took the lead in convincing the U.S. Forest Service to use nonlethal management of prairie dogs in the Thunder Basin National Grassland in eastern Wyoming, where a 2001 plague had wiped out a large prairie dog colony from a protected area. At the same time, prairie dogs at the edge of Thunder Basin were being poisoned because of conflicts with ranchers.

Defenders helped develop a precedent-setting plan to capture and relocate the animals to the grassland's protected interior. Proctor worked 16-hour shifts for seven straight days in July to relocate 120 prairie dogs. In total, 1,000 animals were moved. "This project is about compromise so we're working collaboratively with stakeholders on this issue now," says Proctor. "In the long run, compromise is what's going to save this ecosystem." If the project is successful, critically endangered black-footed ferrets, which depend on large colonies of prairie dogs for food and shelter, may also be reintroduced here in the future—perhaps as early as 2012.

FOREST CARNIVORES

Defenders continues our ongoing efforts to help the Canada lynx, fisher and wolverine—three rare and vulnerable mid-size forest hunters—by safeguarding their habitat on national and state forests, by organizing education and outreach events, and by working to secure federal protection for the carnivores under the Endangered Species Act. The lynx was listed as threatened under the act in 2000, but it was not until 2009 that Defenders and others won the protection of 25 million acres of critical habitat across six northern states. In 2010, Defenders helped defend that critical habitat designation from a lawsuit by snowmobilers seeking to nullify it. For the fisher, the rarest carnivore in the Northern Rockies, Defenders also won an acknowledgement by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in April 2010 that listing of the species may be warranted. Defenders had petitioned for listing in 2009 and we expect a decision in 2011. And in response to an earlier petition by Defenders, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that an Endangered Species Act listing is indeed "warranted" for wolverines in the contiguous United States, but that it is precluded by other priorities. While we are disappointed that wolverines are still not listed, their new candidate status will gain them additional attention and resources to ensure their survival in our western mountains.



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COOK INLET BELUGA WHALES

In August, Defenders intervened in a lawsuit in an attempt to uphold protections for the recovery of the imperiled Cook Inlet beluga whale in Alaska, a population that has declined severely in recent years. The state's suit seeks to block the October 2008 decision to list the whale as endangered. Alaska Program Director Karla Dutton serves on the National Marine Fisheries Service's Cook Inlet beluga whale recovery team, which is charged with writing a recovery plan by 2012. Defenders also continued support of the Anchorage coastal beluga survey for the third year, supplying field equipment and data maps for two survey sites and recruiting volunteer citizen scientists. The data they collect is shared with the National Marine Fisheries Service to assist with beluga recovery efforts.

SEA OTTERS

The struggle to survive continues for California sea otters, with a population hovering around 2,700 animals, down from estimated historic highs of 15,000 to 17,000. Thanks to a bill Defenders helped pass in 2006, California taxpayers can help fund research to save this iconic species by checking a box on their state income-tax form to donate any amount they desire, starting at \$1. Defenders is working with Philippe Cousteau, featuring him in posters, public service announcement and other media outlets to promote the tax check-off. These efforts have paid off, with Californians donating almost \$250,000 in the 2010 tax season. The check-off box is on the 2011 form. Last year, Defenders' Marine Program Associate Jim Curland served as a member of the Southwest Alaska Sea Otter Recovery Team, which completed a draft recovery plan for the federally threatened population found in the Aleutian Islands and along the Alaska Peninsula. To promote awareness of this highly endangered creature, Defenders hosted our eighth annual Sea Otter Awareness Week the last week in September, a highly successful event that has spread across the country and is celebrated by zoos, aquariums and communities.



© JOE TOMOLEONI

PIPING PLOVERS

With a record 15 piping plover chicks fledged this year, the most documented since record keeping began in 1992, it was a banner year for shorebirds at Cape Hatteras National Seashore in North Carolina. Defenders was instrumental in negotiations for better management of the seashore and won a 2007 lawsuit that limited beach driving in shorebird nesting areas. Before current off-road-vehicle management practices were implemented in April 2008, the federally threatened piping plover's survival rates had declined to an all-time low with no chicks surviving to fledge in 2002 and 2004. Defenders continues our fight to develop a long-term, off-road-vehicle management plan. In August, a federal judge upheld the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's designation of critical habitat for the winter plover population at the seashore. Defenders backed the designation and intervened in the February 2009 court challenge from a group of off-road-vehicle users.



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RED-COCKADED WOODPECKERS

With only 3 percent of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker's mature longleaf pine forest habitat remaining in the southeastern United States, Defenders has worked for years to curtail further habitat loss. Last year, Defenders and several conservation partners turned their attention to a planned large-scale redevelopment at Fort Benning Army Base in Georgia, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had already determined would harm the woodpecker. Rather than suing the Defense Department, we decided to work with the military on a conservation-minded solution. The result: The Army agreed to curtail some development plans and move others into already degraded habitat on the base. It is also working to expand a buffer between the base and civilian land that will in time provide suitable woodpecker habitat.

RIGHT WHALES

The National Marine Fisheries Service agreed in October to expand critical habitat for North Atlantic right whales, an endangered species that clings to survival with only about 450 individuals remaining. The action comes in response to a federal lawsuit Defenders filed earlier this year with other conservation groups. Listed as endangered since 1973, the only viable population of North Atlantic right whales is found along the East Coast of the United States and Canada. Each year, right whales die from ship collisions or from entanglement in commercial fishing gear. In one 18-month period in 2004 and 2005, three pregnant females on the verge of giving birth died after being hit by ships. In January 2010, Defenders and our partners challenged the U.S. Navy's decision to build its \$100 million undersea warfare training range next to the species' calving ground. The project threatens the already precarious survival of right whales by increasing the risk of ship strikes, entanglement and noise disturbances—in an area critical to mothers and calves.

Defenders is working to help protect endangered animals like this right whale and her calf imperiled by ship collisions and entanglement in fishing gear.



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Sierra Weaver
Staff Attorney



© CHARLES KOGOD/DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

“Right whales were our first offshore-energy catastrophe,” says Sierra Weaver, noting that the whales were hunted nearly to extinction for their blubber, a rich oil used until the late 1800s for light and

heat. “They are another example of unsustainable overuse in our drive for energy and are the species our country was basically built on.”

Today Weaver works to protect the fewer than 450 North Atlantic right whales left on the planet by fighting in court to reduce their two leading threats: entanglement in fishing gear and ship strikes. “Here’s a species that we hunted almost to extinction and then stopped, but now through carelessness—ship strikes and fishing gear entanglements—we’ve wiped out any gains.”

Weaver joined Defenders in 2007 with extensive experience as an environmental attorney, including work on marine conservation, air quality and transportation planning. She has a B.A. in philosophy, politics and economics, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

“Defenders is doing the best species work out there to protect imperiled species and their habitats,” says Weaver. “I consider myself lucky to be working with such a fantastic group of lawyers, policy experts and scientists.”

Gulf Oil Spill

On April 21, 2010, catastrophe struck in the Gulf of Mexico with the explosion and sinking of BP's Deepwater Horizon oil rig, which killed 11 crew members and left many others injured. The massive oil spill that resulted will affect the Gulf region's coastal and marine ecosystems for many years to come.

Defenders immediately responded to the disaster, offering expertise and seeking out accurate and up-to-date information to convey to members and the public. Staff fielded an enormous number of inquiries during the chaos. Executive Vice President Jamie Rappaport Clark, Chief Scientist Chris Haney, Vice President of Communications Cindy Hoffman, photographer Krista Schlyer and board member and TV documentary host Jeff Corwin made several trips to the region to assess the damage, offer their expertise and provide outreach and education through videos, photographs and blog posts.

Haney, a seabird expert and veteran of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill response, coordinated seabird surveys on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish a baseline for several species and document the damage done. Our offshore oil expert, Richard Charter, was flooded with press calls for months, providing valuable information on the deepwater drilling to the public through the media. And we created a blog that gave real-time updates and insights from Defenders' top staff and other experts. We also produced a comprehensive

Facing page left: Jamie Rappaport Clark in front of an off-shore rig in the Gulf.
Facing page right: oiled pelican

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BACKGROUND PHOTO: COURTESY COAST GUARD

Google earth
HERO



series of fact sheets on affected species, such as brown pelicans, sea turtles, sperm whales, Atlantic bluefin tuna, manatees and pelagic seabirds, and habitats, such as coastal wetlands, coral reefs and *Sargassum*, a type of seaweed.

In Florida, our staff took part in agency briefings and helped ensure no harm was done to existing species and habitats during cleanup efforts. We documented pre-spill conditions on Florida's refuges and sponsored beach cleanups before the oil could come ashore. Ninety volunteers showed up and removed tons of trash at the first cleanup sponsored by Defenders and the Ocean Conservancy. Defenders' Florida staff also testified at meetings of the administration's Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force, headed by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson.

We leveraged our conservation registry technology to build a Gulf oil response site within a month of the disaster's start. The site tracks close to 130 conservation and recovery projects throughout the region.

Richard Charter

Senior Policy Advisor for Marine Programs



© COURTESY RICHARD CHARTER

Richard Charter had just settled in as Defenders' senior policy advisor for marine programs when a Senate staffer called asking, "What is the Deepwater Horizon?"

As one of the country's preeminent authorities on offshore drilling, marine wildlife

and coastal ecosystems, Charter's expertise was soon in demand around the clock as the 87-day, 190-million-gallon BP oil spill unfolded.

Charter knew from experience that deepwater spills are almost impossible to contain and that the industry was not ready to respond to a big blowout. "We had tried all the same measures in the Ixtoc spill off Mexico in 1979," he says. "The only thing that works is the relief well and that takes months." Charter adds that there are promising technologies that could help in future spills, such as biodegradable dispersants and better berms and skimmers, but the industry has not been willing to invest in them. This makes the goal of developing renewable energy projects that meet the country's energy needs while safeguarding fragile wildlife habitats and ecosystems ever more urgent.

Since it will take many years to know the full extent of the damage to the Gulf's species and ecosystems, Charter encourages Defenders' members to be vocal advocates for careful monitoring. "Observation over the next decade will be the only way to document population damage to these important species and to document whether this spill has precipitated extinctions," he says.

Gina LaRocco



Defenders' Conservation Program Associate Gina LaRocco was featured as a "Google Earth Hero" this year for her work in creating www.gulfoilspillrecovery.org, a website dedicated to mapping and tracking impacts and recovery projects following the Gulf oil spill. LaRocco had used Google Maps as a platform for Defenders' Conservation Registry (www.conservancyregistry.org), then used the same platform and added the 3-D Google Earth for the Gulf spill website. Google's video of LaRocco is at www.google.com/earth/changetheworld/#defenders.

COURTESY GOOGLE

FACING GLOBAL WARMING

Our warming Earth is causing dramatic changes for wildlife and wild lands across the globe. Rising sea levels, altered climate patterns and increasing average air and water temperatures are having impacts that will continue for centuries to come.

Defenders is leading a two-pronged strategy to understand and deal with this mounting climate change crisis. First, to reduce the massive quantities of greenhouse gases that humans continue to pump into the atmosphere, we are working to accelerate our nation's move to clean energy. Second, to help wildlife survive the impacts of climatic changes, we are devising strategies that include creating ways for wildlife to travel safely between healthy habitats. This work to guide habitat protection and develop conservation priorities with changing climate patterns in mind will go a long way toward helping wildlife adapt.

In Congress, Defenders moved to advance comprehensive climate legislation. We won significant funding increases in the FY2010 Interior Appropriations law authorizing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to begin writing a national fish, wildlife and plants climate-change adaptation strategy. Although Congress was unable to agree on comprehensive climate legislation, Defenders made substantive contributions to the debate and ensured that wildlife adaptation strategies were included in every comprehensive climate bill considered.

Defenders' efforts to develop and promote an interagency national strategy that addresses the impacts of climate change on wildlife continued this year in the hopes of guiding the federal government, states and

other conservation partners down a more coordinated and comprehensive path. To this end, Defenders has been collaborating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies as they formally launch the development of a national wildlife adaptation strategy.

Defenders continues to advocate for federal funding for the U.S. Geological Survey's Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center, which we helped create. The center, which coordinates climate science with a focus on wildlife issues, received \$15 million from the federal government this year, as a result of our lobbying. Defenders also submitted comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on its draft strategic plan for climate change, urging the agency to provide leadership on a national fish and wildlife adaptation strategy, improve coordination with other agencies, and provide more specific guidance related to climate change for its programs.

At the state level, Defenders worked with partners in North Carolina to build capacity for wildlife adaptation. In preparation for a stakeholder workshop, we prepared *Understanding the Impacts of Climate Change on Fish and Wildlife in North Carolina*, a climate change blueprint for the state. Released in September, the report provides a synthesis of basic climate change science, an outline of threats climate change poses to species and habitats,

and strategies for conservation planning and wildlife adaptation. A model for other states, this report will be used to increase coordination and partnerships in North Carolina as well as educate all stakeholders.

Building on the success of this report, we created webinars for the Land Trust Alliance in the Southeast, educating land trusts on what they can do in their communities to prepare for climate change. Defenders also developed a climate change newsletter for land trusts that reaches more than 600 participants. We also sponsored a three-day workshop for southeastern wildlife refuge

managers in South Carolina, where managers learned about climate change, how it is affecting their refuges, and actions they can take to address it, such as climate-adaptation planning.

In California, Florida, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina and Oregon, Defenders worked with state fish and wildlife agencies to help them incorporate wildlife adaptation strategies for climate change into their wildlife action plans.

Lastly, we prepared a report to assist the conservation community and agencies to understand and integrate all the federal climate change adaptation initiatives currently underway.

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation



“The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation shares with Defenders the goal of addressing biodiversity loss and the impacts of climate change, and we are proud to have supported Defenders’ leadership

in wildlife conservation through our investments over the past decade. We are particularly pleased to now support Defenders’ engagement in crafting a national vision of how to reconcile the needs of wildlife with increased renewable energy production—a vision that is crucial for our transition to a clean-energy economy.”

—Andrew Bowman,

Director, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Environment Program

In June 2010, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation awarded Defenders a three-year grant of nearly \$3.1 million to support a joint project with the Natural Resources Defense Council and The Wilderness Society to develop and inform government policies to promote the sensitive siting of large-scale renewable energy facilities. Jim Lyons, who served as U.S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment during the Clinton administration and most recently as a lecturer and research scholar at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, has joined Defenders of Wildlife to lead the project as senior director for renewable energy.

For the past 10 years, Defenders and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation have partnered to protect wildlife and ecosystems through programs that help states develop and begin their wildlife conservation strategies and revise them to address the impacts of climate change on wildlife and habitat; integrate transportation policy and wildlife protection; and join the Conservation Registry, an online database that is helping to track the implementation of the state wildlife strategies.

Established in 1996, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation seeks to improve the quality of people’s lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child abuse, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke’s properties. The foundation’s Environment Program focuses on enabling communities to protect and manage wildlife habitat and create efficient built environments.



RENEWABLE

To avoid the most severe effects of climate change, we need to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. To that end, Defenders is aggressively promoting the development of renewable energy in the United States. But even “clean” energy can be harmful to wildlife and the environment if large projects are built in sensitive areas. Defenders is working proactively to develop policies for renewable energy development that take into account wildlife and wild lands, ensuring such development is “smart from the start.”

With wind and solar development moving forward quickly to get federal stimulus funding, Defenders extensively reviewed and commented on projects and helped developers choose appropriate building locations in California and other parts of the West by analyzing the sites’ potential impacts on wildlife. Working with the Interior Department and the Bureau of Land Management, Defenders aims to ensure that development on public land occurs first on degraded and previously disturbed lands rather than sensitive wildlife habitat. Defenders is also helping to ensure that developers mitigate any impacts on ecosystems by protecting or restoring similar habitat in other areas. As a result of a Defenders-led dialogue with solar energy developers, California enacted a law that will improve renewable energy permitting in the California desert.

Further, Defenders is helping to guide the planning process for a number of state and federal projects. These include the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, which is identifying energy transmission infrastructure for upgrading; the Desert Renewable Energy Conserva-



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ENERGY



tion Plan, which will map out the best places for large-scale renewable energy development in the California desert; Arizona's Restoration Design Energy Project; and the Bureau of Land Management's Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for solar energy development on public land in six western states. In addition, Defenders' staff is reviewing and meeting with agency staff and commenting on various other documents, including a draft best management practices manual and a renewable energy project guidance manual.

In September 2010, Defenders released the report *Making Renewable Energy Wildlife Friendly*, which provides industries and federal and state agencies with guidelines for developing renewable energy to minimize impacts on wildlife, habitat and natural resources.

We are very grateful to the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Energy Resources Legacy Fund, the Shared Earth Foundation and the anonymous donors that have made these accomplishments possible.

Jim Lyons
Senior Director, Renewable Energy



© CHARLES KOGOD/DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

"We need to learn from the mistakes of the past to design a clean energy future that limits collateral damage to wildlife, water and landscapes," says Jim Lyons, Defenders' senior director for renewable energy. Large-scale solar and wind projects are key to addressing climate change and the nation's energy

needs. But, for these projects to be successful, we need to take their impacts on wildlife and habitats into account from the first planning stages. "I'm excited to help frame a way forward that benefits from lessons learned from past mistakes with offshore drilling, coal and onshore oil and gas development," says Lyons. "Done right, we can meet our long-term energy needs in a wildlife-friendly way."

Lyons' work over the next few years will do just that. He came to Defenders in June to lead a three-year project to promote wildlife-friendly, renewable energy launched by a generous grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The project is a collaboration of Defenders, the Natural Resources Defense Council and The Wilderness Society.

Prior to joining Defenders, Jim was a professor at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where he continues to be a lecturer and research scholar. During the Clinton administration, he served as under secretary for natural resources and environment at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His expertise covers a wide range of issues, including energy development, natural resource conservation on public and private lands, agricultural and forest policy, wildlife management, and climate change.

"I'm giving it my best shot to protect our wildlife heritage and make sure my daughters—who are great fly fishers—have something to look forward to," he says.

SAFEGUARDING HABITAT

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

The National Wildlife Refuge System is the nation's only network of federal lands dedicated solely to wildlife conservation. Yet despite the “wildlife first” mandate on refuges, many threats remain, such as climate change, oil and gas drilling, new roads and the U.S.-Mexico border wall. Defenders has long been engaged in the development of the comprehensive conservation plans required for each refuge under the Refuge Improvement Act of 1997. In the past year, Defenders commented on more than 20 of these plans to ensure that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service addresses climate change at each refuge and upholds the biological integrity of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Among the plans Defenders is helping to shape is that of the fragile Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Defenders is teaming with our conservation partners and rallying our members to push for the wilderness designation that would help permanently protect the refuge against oil and gas development and other threats.



LIVING LANDS PROGRAM

Defenders' Living Lands Program works with local land trusts to connect them with financial and technical resources and to help them develop strategic and science-based habitat conservation plans. This year Defenders published *Conserving Habitat Through the Federal Farm Bill*, a detailed guide to help land trusts and landowners understand and make use of America's greatest source of private land conservation funding. The guide provides critical resources on securing funding, working with local U.S. Department of Agriculture representatives and partnering with conservation organizations and other landowners.

Forest, California © PAT ULRICH



AMERICA'S WILDLIFE HERITAGE ACT

One of Defenders' top priorities is building support in Congress for America's Wildlife Heritage Act, a bill to bring a balanced, commonsense approach to wildlife management on U.S. national forests and Bureau of Land Management lands. The legislation ensures that the fish and wildlife populations we currently enjoy on these public lands remain healthy and sustainable into the future.

Efforts to move the bill through Congress made progress in 2010, though the legislation was not ultimately passed. The bill passed the House Natural Resources Committee as part of CLEAR, the offshore-drilling bill created in response to the Gulf oil spill, but it was removed before CLEAR passed the House. Defenders is working to have the bill reintroduced in 2011.

FOREST PLANNING

The months ahead should be key for forest planning, as the Obama administration is expected to propose a new regulation governing forests under the National Forest Management Act. Last year we worked with expert scientists and lawyers on a regulatory proposal patterned after the Wildlife Heritage Act and have encouraged the Forest Service to use it in its proposed regulation, which was released for public comment in 2011. We anticipate a final rule in late 2011. Defenders will continue to mobilize a public outreach campaign focusing on grassroots involvement in the development of this significant rule.

Defenders is pushing for wilderness designation that would help permanently protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge against oil and gas development and other threats.

Pelayo Alvarez

Director, California Rangeland Conservation Coalition



COURTESY PELAYO ALVAREZ

When Pelayo Alvarez was working on his Ph.D. in ecology at the University of California-Davis a few years ago, he was surprised to learn that an environmental group was working with ranchers and other unlikely partners in a cooperative effort to conserve rangeland and co-leading a coalition with the California Cattlemen's Association. "The idea that

ranchers and environmentalists could talk to each other and have common goals was very refreshing," he says.

Now Alvarez is the one co-directing the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition out of Defenders' Sacramento office and working with more than 100 organizations in the area to protect and restore grasslands, oak savannahs and oak woodlands in California's Central Valley, a 28-million-acre area.

Alvarez helps ranchers with conservation projects, promoting research and outreach to demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of rangeland conservation. "The goal of the coalition is to keep private ranchers in business," says Alvarez. "If the ranches were sold and developed for other purposes, all the ecosystem benefits they provide would be lost." The coalition is working to define and place a monetary value on the services ranches provide to ecosystems, such as providing carbon sequestration, conserving wildlife habitat and improving water quality. "Grazing, if done properly, can minimize invasive species and lower fire risks," he says. "After all, these ecosystems evolved with elk, which are now missing."

Alvarez says he appreciates Defenders for what it brings to the table. "I really like that Defenders reaches out to other organizations that are traditional opponents because the future of conservation is in partnerships," he says.

CALIFORNIA RANGELAND CONSERVATION

The California Rangeland Conservation Coalition, a partnership with the California Cattlemen's Association to protect private ranchlands in California's Central Valley, works to promote conservation easements and habitat enhancement projects on threatened grasslands. The coalition consists of more than 100 agricultural organizations, environmental groups, as well as state and federal agencies.

This year the coalition won a \$3.75-million grant over five years from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for a program that will fund private ranchers for projects that improve water quality in agricultural areas. Examples include fencing to keep cattle from riverside areas and building water troughs incorporating escape ramps for small mammals and birds.

The coalition provides outreach and education for its members and others, setting up tours of working ranches so that visitors can better understand ranch management and land stewardship. The coalition also held its fifth annual summit in January in Sacramento, where—as the only big gathering of ranchers and conservationists in California—more than 200 ranchers, conservationists, agency representatives and others came together for two days to talk about conservation and share new science.



Volunteer, Roosevelt Island © BRIAN BOVARD/DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

CONSERVATION REGISTRY

The Conservation Registry (www.conservationregistry.org) is an online database that records, tracks and maps conservation actions across the landscape. It aims to help users understand the context, distribution and effectiveness of our collective efforts to protect and restore ecosystems. Defenders created the registry in 2008 as a three-state demonstration project. Since then the site has grown dramatically to include nearly 13,000 projects in 47 states with six partner portals, adding projects from nearly 20 states this year alone.

WILDLIFE VOLUNTEER CORPS

Defenders mobilized our Wildlife Volunteer Corps this year on a variety of on-the-ground projects from beach cleanups in Florida to amphibian monitoring in Vermont. On Earth Day, more than 50 volunteers helped clear invasive English ivy from national park land on Roosevelt Island in Washington, D.C. In Maine, dozens of volunteers helped restore habitat for the state-endangered New England cottontail rabbit at Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. In Alabama, 20-plus volunteers helped with pitcher plant bog restoration at Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, removing woody scrub that had overtaken the area following years of fire suppression. Gulf Coast pitcher plant bogs are among the most biologically diverse habitats for flowering plants in North America.



Florida panther © HEIDI RIDGLEY/DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

HABITAT AND HIGHWAYS

Sadly, more than a million animals are killed on our roads and highways each year. Defenders' Habitat and Highways program—which just celebrated its 10th year—works to reduce the impacts roads have on wildlife and supports efforts to keep new roads out of vital habitat. In 2010, more than 3,500 Defenders of Wildlife supporters in Colorado urged state legislators to pass the Wildlife Crossing Zones Traffic Safety Bill, which now requires state transportation and wildlife agencies to identify “wildlife crossing zones” where animals frequently cross. Similar to construction zones, speed limits are reduced and fines are increased for drivers caught speeding in designated wildlife crossing zones. The new law will help save the lives of local wildlife and reduce costly—and potentially fatal—wildlife-vehicle collisions.

Gilman Ordway

Recipient, Lifetime Award for
Superior Achievement



COURTESY GILMAN ORDWAY

In recognition of his long-standing conservation ethic, advocacy and philanthropy, this year Defenders selected Gil Ordway to receive our Lifetime Award for Superior Achievement in Wildlife Conservation. His impact has been monumental. He has done much to advance conservation across a wide spectrum—from supporting local land trusts to preventing toxic pollution to protecting wildlife around the globe. “With his keen awareness that to be truly effective, conservation requires a comprehensive set

of tools and approaches—scientific, legal, political and educational—Gil has done more to promote wildlife and its habitat than almost anyone I know,” says Defenders’ President Rodger Schlickeisen. “We couldn’t be more pleased than to honor Gil.”

A Yale graduate, Ordway went on to receive a law degree from the University of Colorado. His passion for conservation took root during summer trips he made to Wyoming with fellow students. In 1954, Ordway established Fish Creek Ranch near Jackson Hole, which he has operated as what he calls a “part cattle, part dude ranch.” The ranch has grown to encompass nearly 400 acres.

With the ranch’s brilliant scenery, bald eagles, great blue heron, moose and other majestic wildlife, Ordway was determined to protect it from development. And so Fish Creek Ranch became one of Wyoming’s first conservation easements, today protected in perpetuity through the Jackson Hole Land Trust, where Ordway serves on the advisory council.

Ordway has been on many boards and advisory councils, including those of Defenders of Wildlife, The Nature Conservancy in Wyoming, World Wildlife Fund, The Wilderness Society and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Whether at the local, state, national or international level, he continues to support many environmental groups—protecting countless acres of wildlife habitat and wilderness, strengthening grassroots advocacy, conserving wildlife on land and sea, building popular support and educating future generations of conservation leaders. All who care about America’s imperiled wildlife and wild places are greatly indebted to Gil’s unwavering lifetime commitment to conservation.

WORKING INTERNATIONALLY TO SAVE BIODIVERSITY

CITES

The March 2010 CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) meeting in Doha, Qatar, created new restrictions in international trade for some rare wildlife but left many threatened species, such as polar bears, without much-needed help. Defenders worked with Latin American and Middle Eastern governments to list amphibians under the convention. The delegates agreed by consensus to regulate commercial trade in four species of critically endangered spiny-tailed iguanas, from Honduras and Guatemala, and five species of Central American tree frogs, and to ban trade in a critically endangered salamander from Iran known as the Kaiser's spotted newt. All of the species were threatened by the pet trade. Defenders also worked unsuccessfully to win protections for a number of shark species including hammerheads and for bluefin tuna.

Although a proposal to ban international trade in polar bear parts and products was rejected, there was one bright note for polar bears during the meeting: The delegates agreed for the first time to formally study the role of climate change in implementing CITES, which could lead to future efforts to safeguard polar bears and other wildlife impacted by climate change.

Hammerhead shark

© BRIAN J. SKERRY/NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC STOCK

Red and green macaw

© PETE OXFORD/MINDEN PICTURES





Defenders' Mexico office played a lead role in legislation that bans the capture and export of Mexican wild parrots.

MEXICAN PARROTS

Seeking to halt the trade in wild Mexican parrots, Defenders' Mexico office played a lead role in legislation that bans the capture and export of Mexican wild parrots, a practice that had been widespread throughout the country. A Defenders' report issued in 2007 on the wild parrot trade received widespread press coverage and prompted the Mexican deputy chamber and senate to introduce and pass the bill. This May, the Mexican Environmental Enforcement Agency announced that the ban and educational campaign to dissuade people from buying parrots has worked: Confiscations of wild parrots have significantly decreased since the ban took effect.

From January to September, Defenders spread the word about the illegal trade of parrots through posters, floor banners and other large displays at three Mexico City zoos, where nearly a million people saw them. In addition, tens of thousands of parrot posters, children's story books, coloring books, comic books and stickers were distributed throughout the country in a campaign to change attitudes and to alert people not to buy parrots. Stories about the campaign also appeared in magazines in Mexico, the United States, the United Kingdom and Spain, as well as in newspapers and on radio and TV programs.

Alejandra Goyenechea
International Counsel



© CHARLES KOGOD/DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

In her role representing Defenders at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), Alejandra Goyenechea often faces big challenges to protect small species.

In March, for instance, Goyenechea strategically lobbied the 175 countries represented at the

2010 CITES meeting to list the critically endangered Kaiser's spotted newt, a small salamander found only in Iran. As a result, CITES now bans international trade in the species which has suffered devastating losses in recent years. "It is heartening to see that environmental concern over imperiled wildlife can create some common ground for the United States and Iran," she says. Goyenechea brings the same strong international experience to advocate for the Central American tree frogs, the Chilean frog and other rapidly declining amphibians.

Before coming to Defenders in 2007, Goyenechea worked in the Mexican government in environmental enforcement at the international level, the Organization of American States, and the United Nations Environment Program-North America. She came to Washington in 2000 on a Fulbright scholarship to complete a master's degree in international law at American University, where she first learned about Defenders. "Today I'm proud to be working with such committed colleagues on behalf of some of the most threatened wildlife in the Americas and around the world," she says.

LIONS

With possibly as few as 40,000 lions clinging to existence, Defenders is working with groups in Kenya to protect this wild icon of Africa. To this end, Defenders is supporting a local group with grants to expand our lion protection program into a new area.

Lion Guardians trains Maasai warriors, who previously might have killed lions, to track the big cats and warn herders when the lions come near livestock, and to discourage Maasai livestock owners from killing lions. They also are developing a “Living Boma” program, which creates enclosures out of fast-growing, tough trees to protect livestock from lions.

Defenders is also working with African conservationists to stop the poisoning of lions in Kenya. One of the poisons suspected of killing a number of lions is carbofuran (Furadan). Imported legally as a crop pesticide, the deadly substance is used illegally to bait carcasses, which kills the lions that feed on them. Spurred by the deaths of millions of wild birds, Defenders lobbied successfully to ban the pesticide in the United States.

Defenders and other groups also pressed for legislation that would help protect lions and 14 other foreign species including cheetahs, jaguars, European wolves and maned wolves. The Great Cats and Rare Canids Act would create a \$5 million annual fund, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to aid international efforts to protect these animals. The House passed this bill in 2009. In January 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to establish the program under its existing authority and funding.

With only about 40,000 lions clinging to existence, Defenders is working with groups in Kenya to protect this wild icon of Africa.

Lion, Kenya © GRETCHEN HEIDEN



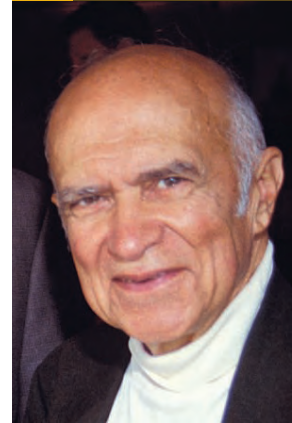


Harlequin frog © MARK CHEATER/DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

AMPHIBIANS

To help combat the spread of the deadly chytrid fungus, a mysterious blight that can rapidly destroy amphibian populations, Defenders of Wildlife partnered with the Panama Amphibian Rescue and Conservation Project, a consortium of zoos, government agencies, research organizations and conservation groups. This project is an effort to capture, conserve and protect as many species of amphibians as possible until the fungus crisis is resolved. The group hopes to capture representatives of 20 different species of Panamanian frogs and move them to a new captive-breeding facility in Panama City before the flood of chytrid fungus washes them into oblivion. Defenders contributed funding for a research biologist with the Smithsonian National Zoo to travel to Panama and serve as international coordinator for the rescue effort. Defenders' staff also provided support for strategic communications and marketing, including writing a feature story about the project in the winter issue of *Defenders* magazine.

George Rabb Board Member



COURTESY GEORGE RABB

One of preeminent zoologist George Rabb's biggest concerns is the rapid and ongoing decline of amphibians across the globe. A major cause is the deadly chytrid fungus. Rabb is helping to deal with the problem through his work with the World Conservation Union (IUCN)'s Declining Amphibian Population Task Force, which he founded as chairman of the group's Species Survival Commission. Currently, he is working to launch the Amphibian Survival Alliance, a desperately needed coordination of efforts to implement the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan created by conservation partners around the world.

"These are tragic circumstances," says Rabb, who was president of Chicago's Brookfield Zoo from 1976 to 2003 and is a member of Defenders of Wildlife's board. "We either do something to give amphibians some security, or it's likely that many of these creatures will absolutely vanish from this Earth." Rabb estimates that half of the more than 6,000 known amphibian species are already critically endangered.

But he is encouraged by Defenders' efforts, namely the control of trade through CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) listings and the backing of the Panama Amphibian Rescue and Conservation Project, which is developing a sort of Noah's ark to save imperiled frogs.

Rabb's pioneering work led the zoo toward its current work as a conservation center, a concept Rabb has championed for zoos everywhere. Rabb is also affiliated with other conservation organizations worldwide, and he is a respected spokesman on wildlife issues.

His published work on the behavior of mammals, reptiles and amphibians includes studies on the social behavior of a captive wolf pack, behavioral development in okapi and the breeding behavior of pipid frogs.

"Defenders is lucky to have George Rabb's vast experience and expertise on our board of directors," says Defenders' President Rodger Schlickeisen. "George brings years of experience working with coalitions and groups all over the world—it is a wonderful match with Defenders' work to bring people together and find conservation solutions everyone can live with."

DEFENDERS ON THE MAP



Accomplishments for 2010

1. ALABAMA

» Filed suit against the Minerals Management Service for its flawed environmental analyses related to offshore oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, including its practice of completely exempting exploration drilling from environmental review.

2. ALASKA

» Sponsored field equipment for citizen scientist volunteers collecting beluga data—which is shared with the National Marine Fisheries Service to assist recovery efforts—at a coastal survey location sponsored by Friends of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge.

» Submitted comments with other wildlife conservation organizations to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the designation of critical habitat for the southwest Alaska distinct population segment of the northern sea otter.

» Secured a legal victory halting drilling in Alaska's Chukchi Sea until more environmental study on the Arctic Ocean ecosystem and the risks of drilling is completed.

3. CALIFORNIA

» Led the effort to enact state legislation creating the Salton Sea Restoration Council, a statewide body charged with restoring and protecting the Salton Sea and the millions of migratory birds that rely on it.

» Worked with renewable energy companies, scientists and local, state and federal agencies to ensure that renewable energy projects are sited and developed in a manner that protects wildlife and their habitats.

4. COLORADO

» Organized more than 3,500 Defenders of Wildlife supporters in Colorado to urge state legislators to reduce roadkills by passing a new law requiring state transportation and wildlife agencies to identify "wildlife crossing zones," where animals frequently cross.

» Incorporated Defenders' priorities for minimizing the impacts of renewable energy development on wildlife into the Southern Rockies Conservation Alliance's Principles for Responsible Renewable Energy Development.

5. EAST COAST

» Prompted the National Marine Fisheries Service to review critical habitat for the endangered North Atlantic right whale through our petition and lawsuit.

6. FLORIDA

» Immediately responded to the Gulf oil spill disaster by providing up-to-date information for the public and input to agencies to minimize harm to marine life and habitat, including sea turtles, shore and pelagic birds, whales and dolphins.

» Led the decade-long effort resulting in adoption of a sound endangered and threatened species listing process for Florida.

» Reached out to 10,000 households in targeted regions with guidance for living responsibly with wildlife and increasing tolerance for panther and black bear recovery.

7. GEORGIA

» Filed suit against the U.S. Navy for its decision to site its undersea warfare training range in the North Atlantic right whale's only known calving grounds.

8. NEVADA

» Protested 49 groundwater applications because of their potential effects on national parks, wildlife refuges and other federal lands, resulting in a court victory that will provide the opportunity to raise these issues on dozens more water rights applications for exporting water from the Great Basin to Las Vegas.

9. NEW ENGLAND

» Secured the release of long overdue biological opinions for four Northeast fisheries known to injure and kill North Atlantic right whales.

» Sent wildlife volunteer corps members to Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge to help plant shrubs that provide browse and cover for the endangered New England cottontail rabbit.

10. NORTH CAROLINA

» Completed a comprehensive synthesis of climate change science and impacts on fish and wildlife for the state of North Carolina.

11. NORTHERN ROCKIES

» Overturned the Interior Department decision to delist wolves in Montana, Idaho and parts of adjoining states.

» Cleared an initial hurdle to protect the Rocky Mountain population of fishers, one of the rarest carnivores in the region, securing a U.S. Fish and Wildlife ruling that the species "may be warranted" for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

» Led four successful "Watch Out for Wildlife" outings into three important wildlife corridors, showing local citizens their importance by identifying and following tracks left in the snow by wolverines, lynx and wolves.

12. OREGON

» Helped pass a statewide ballot measure permanently allocating a portion of state lottery revenues (currently \$85 million per year) to habitat conservation and parks.

» Initiated the state's first wolf-coexistence project in Enterprise, Oregon, recruiting support from ranchers, state agencies and other environmental groups.

13. SOUTH CAROLINA

» Led a climate change workshop of national wildlife refuge managers to discuss how to prepare for the effects of sea-level rise on coastal marshes and other impacts.

14. SOUTHWEST

» Created a wildlife-watching ecotour program with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to help build tolerance for wolves and to provide an incentive to protect endangered species.

» Sponsored six coexistence partnership projects with ranchers to help them live with wolves by reducing predator conflicts by using range riders, fladry fencing and relocating birthing cows from wolf dens.

15. WYOMING

» Saved hundreds of black-tailed prairie dogs from poisoning by funding and implementing the first Forest Service relocation of prairie dogs on Forest Service land at Thunder Basin National Grasslands.

16. MEXICO

» Assisted Mexico and Honduras in a proposal to list the *Agalychnis* genus (tree frogs) in Appendix II of CITES and helped get the proposal approved by the Conference of the Parties.

» Helped draft a new law that bans parrot trapping and is already credited with a decrease in illegal trade in parrots in 2010.

» Successfully lobbied the Mexican government to oppose a proposal to allow resumption of whaling at the International Whaling Commission.

Black bear © MICHAEL MARTINE



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AWARDS DINNER

Friends and supporters

of Defenders of Wildlife gathered in Washington, D.C., on September 22 for the fourth annual Wildlife Conservation Awards Dinner. We honored four extraordinary individuals for their outstanding accomplishments in wildlife conservation.

This year's dinner was co-chaired by Vic and Lee Sher and Lee and Marty Talbot. Defenders' board member, biologist and TV documentary producer and host, Jeff Corwin, served as the master of ceremonies.

FROM LEFT: VIC SHER, JOHN D. DINGELL, MARTY TALBOT AND RODGER SCHLICKEISEN © NICOLE BEDARD PHOTOGRAPHY



This year we paid tribute to the Honorable John D. Dingell (D-Mich.) with our highest honor, the Defenders of Wildlife Legacy Award, for his unparalleled years of championing wildlife protection through authoring, advocating and enacting legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

JOEL SARTORE © KATIE JOSEPH



The Spirit of Defenders Award for Citizen Advocacy went to *National Geographic* wildlife photographer Joel Sartore for his dedication to wildlife conservation and ability to raise awareness and inspire action through his extraordinary photography.

J. MICHAEL SCOTT © NICOLE BEDARD PHOTOGRAPHY



We gave the Spirit of Defenders Award for Public Service to U.S. Geological Survey biologist J. Michael Scott for his innovative scientific research and for developing effective tools to inform decisions on how best to protect biodiversity on our public lands.

FROM LEFT: VIC SHER, TERRY ROOT, ASHLEY JUDD AND RODGER SCHLICKEISEN © NICOLE BEDARD PHOTOGRAPHY



The Spirit of Defenders Award for Science was presented by board member Ashley Judd to scientist Terry Root for her illuminating research and innovative work to help wildlife survive and adapt to climate change.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2010, Defenders of Wildlife's more than 1 million members and supporters contributed \$34 million for wildlife and wildlife habitat. Law firms and others generously donated their time and expertise. Whether in the field, the courts or on Capitol Hill, it is the steadfast support of our donors that allows Defenders to sustain our program and public education efforts.

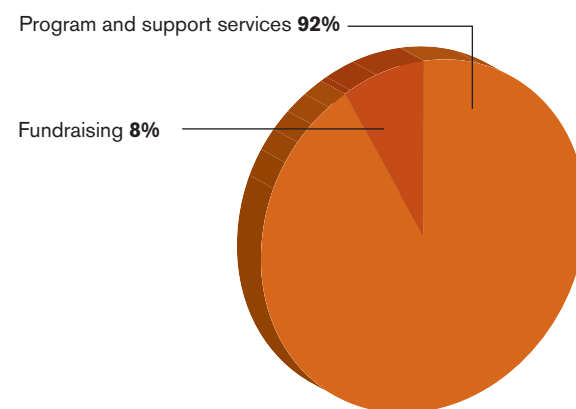
Sources of Funds

Grants and Contributions	\$26,355
Bequests, trust and split interests	\$2,528
Income from investments	\$387
Royalties and other earned revenues	\$3,351
Contributed services	\$1,559
Total Revenue	\$34,180

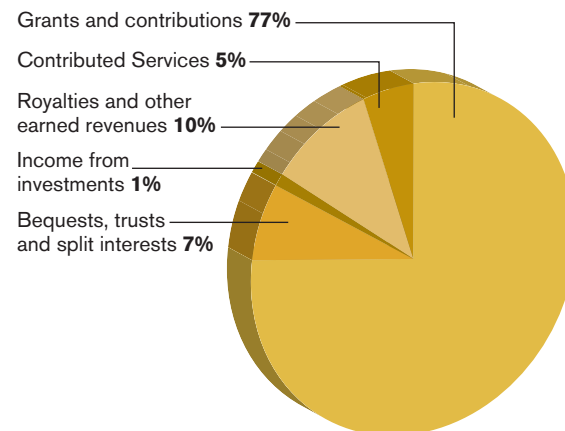
Uses of Funds

Wildlife Action	\$9,660
Law and Legislation	\$3,777
Media and education	\$9,372
Constituency outreach	\$1,333
Fundraising	\$2,564
Management and general	\$4,937
Total Expenses	\$31,643
Change in net assets	\$2,537
Net assets, start of year	\$21,138
Net assets, end of year	\$23,675

2010 USES OF FUNDS



2010 SOURCES OF FUNDS



Dollars are in thousands.

Jeff Corwin Board Member



© SCOTT ROBINSON PHOTOGRAPHY

"I have never witnessed what I am witnessing here," says Defenders' board member, biologist and TV documentary producer and host Jeff Corwin, reporting live from the Gulf of Mexico on the BP oil blowout. That statement means a lot, coming from a man who has dedicated his life to traveling around the world to promote conservation of our planet's precious species and ecosystems. Corwin

is an Emmy-winning host and executive producer for wildlife documentaries and other series on Discovery Networks, NBC, CNN and The Food Network.

On one of his trips to the Gulf, Corwin joined Defenders' Executive Vice President Jamie Rappaport Clark and National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore to document the damage to the region's wildlife and habitats. Corwin not only brought the big spill story to millions of viewers, he also gave us the inside scoop with his postings on Defenders' blog. "What scares me is what we don't see, but what I believe will resonate through nature for generations to come," says Corwin.

In 2008, Corwin was named Ambassador for Global Warming and Climate Change on behalf of Defenders of Wildlife. In 2009, our partnership resulted in Corwin hosting an award-winning documentary series, *Feeling the Heat*, showing how warming temperatures are harming some of Earth's most vulnerable creatures.

Another 2009 landmark for Corwin was the release of his book and accompanying MSNBC documentary, *100 Heartbeats*, which investigates the plight of our planet's most endangered wildlife species and the conservation heroes trying to save them. Corwin also recently published a series of books for younger readers focusing on wildlife, ecology and conservation. His 2004 book, *Living on the Edge, Amazing Relationships in the Natural World*, is now in its fifth edition.

Thanks to Corwin's tireless work and passionate optimism, Defenders is reaching a wider audience with our message from the Gulf and everywhere else we are working to protect America's wildlife. "I'm often sobered by what I see," says Corwin, "but I do think there's hope. We are incredible stewards of nature when we step up, and when given the opportunity, we shine."

WAYS TO GIVE

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Donors of \$1,000 or more are recognized as members of the President's Council. This special leadership group provides important support to Defenders' programs and offers opportunities for more personal involvement in the work of the organization. Visit the President's Council website at: www.defenders.org/presidentscouncil.

WILDLIFE CIRCLE

Members who support Defenders of Wildlife with a donation of \$100 to \$999 are included in our Wildlife Circle. These crucial donors are key partners in our work to protect wolves and other wildlife. In appreciation of their dedicated support, Wildlife Circle members are recognized as a part of our inner circle.

WILDLIFE GUARDIANS

When you join Defenders' Wildlife Guardians, our monthly giving program, your donations can be made easily and automatically through a credit card or checking account. For more information, visit: www.defenders.org/wildlifeguardians.

BEQUESTS AND LIFE INCOME GIFTS

By including Defenders as a beneficiary in your will, living trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy or other estate plan today, you can provide a legacy gift to support our mission well into the future. You can specify that Defenders receive a certain percentage, dollar amount or asset in your estate. Or you can leave specific bequests to family members and friends, and specify that Defenders receive a percentage of the remaining estate value.

To include Defenders in your will or other estate plans, please provide the following language to your professional advisor:

"I bequeath _____ (describe dollar amount, asset to be given or percentage of your residuary estate) to Defenders of Wildlife (Tax ID# 53-0183181), a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the District of Columbia with its principal office at 1130 17th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036."

We can also help you structure life income gifts such as charitable gift annuities or charitable trusts that support wildlife while providing income and tax advantages for you and your loved ones. If you would like more information, please call us toll free at 1.800.915.6789, e-mail legacy@defenders.org, write to us at Office of Gift Planning, Defenders of Wildlife, 1130 17th St, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, or visit: www.defenders.planyourlegacy.org.

CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers match charitable contributions made by their employees. Companies may match donations made by current employees, employees' spouses and even retirees. Check with your personnel office about your company's program or visit us at: www.defenders.org/matching.

WORKPLACE GIVING/EARTH SHARE

Earth Share is a nationwide network of America's leading nonprofit environmental and conservation organizations that raises funds through voluntary payroll deductions at federal, state, city, corporate and private workplaces across the country. Ask about Earth Share where you work and designate Defenders of Wildlife for all or part of your gift. (CFC #10624)



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