

Endow a Legal Campaign

Sponsor a WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' litigation campaign to protect wildlife, wild places, and/or wild rivers from private industry and short-sighted government policies.

\$150,000 each per year

Led by Jay Tutchton, Esq., our legal program holds public agencies accountable to the nation's environmental laws including the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water and Clean Air acts, the National Forest Management Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. We have literally dozens of cases in process at a time often working in collaboration with other groups and environmental attorneys. Our legal efforts support our major programs and include:

- Requiring the federal government to ensure that imperiled species are afforded protection under Endangered Species Act. This litigation focuses on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's legal obligation to list deserving species under the Act and ensure their recovery.
- Defending our nation's last best public lands from the threat of logging, road-building, oil and gas development and livestock grazing. Our litigation challenges U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management decisions that ignore fundamental legal requirements.
- Securing the future of wild rivers by ensuring that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and state agencies follow federal and state laws to protect river flows and water quality.

Invest in Conservation Champions

Ensure that WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' most valuable resource, the intellectual capital and vast experience of our campaign directors, is retained for years to come.

\$75,000 each per year

- **Wildlife Director** – Nicole Rosmarino received her PhD from the University of Colorado at Boulder and wrote her dissertation on the evolution of the Endangered Species Act. A staff member for nine years, she is an ardent advocate for the value of the diversity of life and a fierce believer in the vision of the Endangered Species Act.
- **Wild Places Director** – Bryan Bird holds a Masters degree in conservation biology from New Mexico State University. After working on projects in Central America and Mexico, Bryan has worked at WILDEARTH for more than a decade to protect the West's wildness and beauty while restoring previously degraded areas to a more natural state.
- **Climate and Energy Director** – Jeremy Nichols has been an environmental advocate working to protect wildlife and challenge air pollution in the Rocky Mountain West since 2000. He believes the climate crisis is the greatest threat to the West's wildlife and wild places and works to challenge fossil fuel extraction and use while promoting renewable energy.
- **Wild Rivers Director** – WILDEARTH GUARDIANS currently needs a full time director to work on keeping our cleanest water clean and fighting to give rivers throughout the West rights to their own waters. Until a full time director is secured, Executive Director and seasoned environmental advocate John Horning spearheads river campaigns.

Confront the Climate Crisis

Support WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' campaigns to protect the health of current and future generations by addressing the causes of the climate crisis in the American West.

\$100,000 per campaign per year

- **Challenge Coal-Fired Power Plants** – Join WILDEARTH GUARDIANS in targeting coal-fired power plants across the West with public and legal pressure. Both will increase the cost of coal to help expedite the transition to a new energy economy that is built on clean, renewable energy.
- **Safeguard Clean Air** – Protect the wide blue skies that are a hallmark of the American West. Join WILDEARTH GUARDIANS in working to ensure that the Environmental Protection Agency and state agencies reign in polluters to protect our blue skies and clean air for present and future generations.
- **Doable Renewables** – Help us secure a future that is 100% dependent on clean, renewable energy as part of our doable renewable campaign. By introducing policy changes, pressuring government agencies and using grassroots organizing, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS is making renewable energy a reality in the West.

Sponsor an Endangered Species

From grasshoppers to sage-grouse to wolves, every species weaves a vital thread into the complex and diverse web of life that sustains our planet. Unfortunately, many human activities threaten the species that create this living fabric. Spread the word about WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' current campaigns to protect and recover endangered and threatened species through a video campaign. Videos are the fastest growing media and can be spread swiftly and easily on the Internet, reaching the most number of people for the lowest possible cost.

\$10,000 each

- **Cougars' Challenges** – A one- to two-minute animated video that highlights the challenges cougars face in the West. The script would be humorous yet poignant, drawing on both the hostility and wonder these cats inspire. Threatened by sport hunting, predator control, human population growth, habitat fragmentation, and the frequency of human-cougar conflicts, people must be aware of ways to co-exist with cougars. The goal of the video is to change fear to awe.
- **Ending Wildlife Slaughter** – A 30-second public service announcement about our campaign to eliminate the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services lethal animal control programs. Between 2004 and 2007 this federal agency spent \$100 million annually to kill more than eight million animals. This video will amplify our legal and legislative strategies.
- **Prairie Dog Days** – A one- to two-minute animated video that highlights the plight of prairie dogs across the West. Each of the five species of prairie dogs are ecologically crucial but are imperiled due to a 92-99% reduction in suitable habitat. The goal of the video is to raise public awareness surrounding the prairie dog's role in ecosystem engineering as well as dispel long-held myths about the burrowing critters.

Make the Rio Grande a Great River Again

Save the West's ecological and cultural backbone by supporting WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' programs to stop the overuse of this Great River's limited water supplies. More than 500 species of Rio Grande fish and wildlife face threats such as habitat degradation, pollution, groundwater pumping, and other harmful human activities. By properly allocating river land and water, the Rio Grande will be able to support the incredible abundance of life in its ecosystem.

\$75,000 per year

- **Secure the River's Right to Its Own Water** – By making agricultural water users more efficient and through municipal water conservation, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS is promoting policies to ensure that this over-allocated and over-appropriated river has sufficient flows to sustain it. Our municipal check off program gives residents the opportunity to donate one dollar or more via their monthly water bills to acquire and preserve flows.
- **Protect the River's Habitat** – Housing development in the floodplain, levees and past river channeling all threaten this Great River and the wildlife that depend on it. WildEarth Guardians' work ensures that the Rio Grande can meander across its floodplain, providing diverse aquatic habitat and sustaining the great forest along its banks.

Adopt America's First Wilderness

Protect land in the Gila, America's first Wilderness Area and a priority wildland for WILDEARTH GUARDIANS because of its vast open space and suitable habitat for species like the endangered Mexican gray wolf, by providing financial compensation to ranchers who retire their land from livestock grazing.

\$1,000 per acre (25 acre minimum)

- **Retire Livestock Permits** – After federal legislation establishes the program, we intend to expand the geographic scope of grazing permit retirement and wilderness designation in the region. Buying out grazing lands in the area will facilitate eventual protection of the Gila as a National Monument or National Park, a long-held goal of the conservation community, as well as expand habitat protections for iconic and endangered species such as the Mexican gray wolf and jaguar.
- **Expand Wilderness** – Establishes a pilot program that links permanent retirement of federal grazing allotments to the designation of eligible roadless areas as wilderness so that the Gila can become America's next great protected landscape. We envision an area greater in size than Yellowstone National Park, that includes the Gila and the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Areas, becoming the core of this protected region.