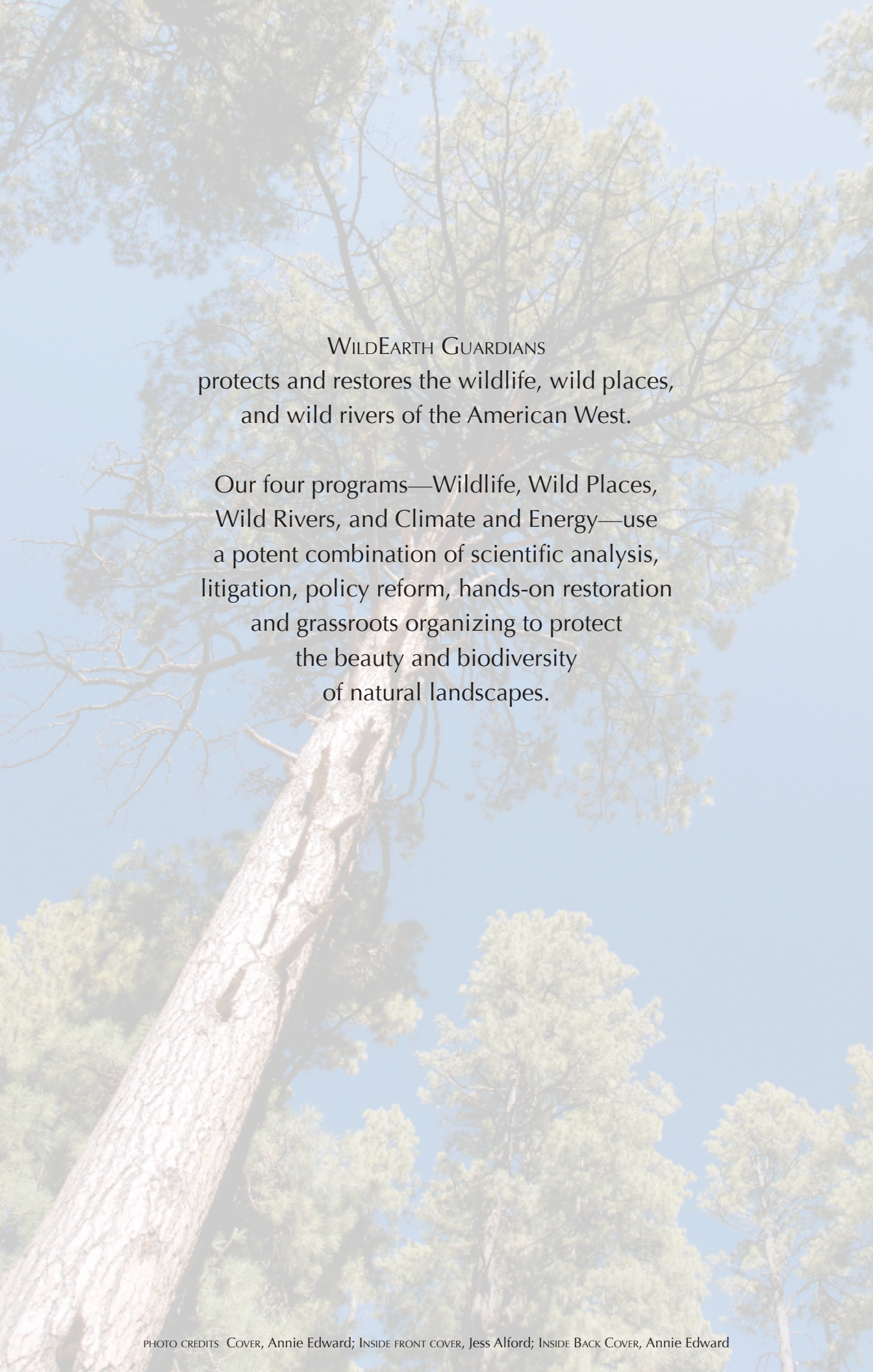




2007

ANNUAL REPORT





WILDEARTH GUARDIANS
protects and restores the wildlife, wild places,
and wild rivers of the American West.

Our four programs—Wildlife, Wild Places,
Wild Rivers, and Climate and Energy—use
a potent combination of scientific analysis,
litigation, policy reform, hands-on restoration
and grassroots organizing to protect
the beauty and biodiversity
of natural landscapes.



ANNIE EDWARDS

FROM THE
BOARD
PRESIDENT
AND
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



JESS ALFORD

PETER SCHOENBURG & JOHN HORNING

Dear Guardian,

As advocates for deep social change it's not surprising that *change* was the dominant theme of WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' work in 2007. Recognizing a need for bolder, more regional conservation work, the board and staff of Sinapu and Forest Guardians came together to create a new, powerful force for nature in the American West.

The name change and joining of organizations, although not announced until January of this year, were conceived and executed during a busy 2007. In addition to a new name that is more reflective of our diverse conservation programs and broad mission, we have fresh leadership under our new board president.

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS retains our core values, fundamental strategies and long-held conservation priorities. Our fierce commitment to cougars, wolves and bears and other large carnivores have now been amplified across a larger part of the western landscape. Our commitment to carnivores is now married to a focus on keystone species such as prairie dogs and beavers. And our work on behalf of another key to large-scale protection, the sage-grouse of the West's iconic Sagebrush Sea, was significantly increased in 2007.

Amidst change, resilience is key. A strength of WILDEARTH GUARDIANS will be greater synergy between our Wildlife and Wild Places programs. Our Wild Places program confronts threats and promotes solutions, whether by re-connecting wild landscapes through closing unneeded roads or by promoting livestock grazing permit retirement in critical landscapes.

Water and its scarcity are defining characteristics of the arid West, and the work of WILDEARTH GUARDIANS will continue to prioritize the protection and restoration of rivers and streams. Through litigation that seeks to reclaim a river's rights to its own waters or through volunteer hands-on river restoration events, we continue to build a movement for greater protection of our precious waterways.

Another major change in 2007 was our decision to launch a Climate & Energy Program. Because the climate crisis trumps all other conservation threats, and the West's landscape is being exploited for fossil fuel extraction and use like never before. Our new program is essential to our mission. In addition, the program will advocate for clean, renewable energy for our region and promote energy efficiency as solutions to the climate crisis.

We hope you are as excited as we are about the changes in WILDEARTH GUARDIANS and the conservation successes these changes will generate. For your commitment and support of our efforts to make the West a healthier and wilder place, we are deeply grateful.

For the wild,

- - - - -

PETER SCHOENBURG
BOARD PRESIDENT

JOHN HORNING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Wildlife

Our Wildlife Program protects the diversity of life and seeks to prevent extinction and ensure protection of native plants and animals throughout the West.

Wolves in the West

Wolves have been persecuted in the West for more than 100 years. Unfortunately 2007 proved no exception.

In the Southwest, Mexican wolves faced threats from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 13, which allows federal officials to trap or kill Mexican wolves that prey on cattle three times in a year. In Catron County, NM, the County Commission defied the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by illegally authorizing its employees to trap and

even kill Mexican wolves. In July, WildEarth Guardians filed a lawsuit to invalidate this renegade ordinance. We also called for the suspension of SOP 13.

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS led the charge against a plan to snipe elk in Rocky Mountain National Park. Instead, we are advocating for wolf reintroduction to address elk/vegetation issues in the park.

In the courtroom and on the ground, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS works to ensure wolves are given room to roam to reclaim their rightful place in the wild.

Ending the War on Wildlife

In 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS demanded accountability from a federal agency called Wildlife Services (WS). A branch of the US Department of Agriculture, WS killed more than six million animals between 2004 and 2006, largely to protect agricultural interests. The average annual cost was \$100 million, much of it taxpayer funds.

In January, we petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency to ban the deadly toxicants

RAY LIABLE



2007 TIMELINE: GUARDIANS IN ACTION

- January 2 Filed protest of Bureau of Land Management's oil and gas leasing on public lands in NM, KS and OK
- January 3 Protested proposed gas well in an Area of Critical Environmental Concern
- January 24 Filed petition requesting the Environmental Protection Agency ban two of the most toxic poisons used for killing wild mammals



CHUCK CARPENTER

sodium cyanide and Compound 1080 which are used by WS to kill native carnivores, especially coyotes. The EPA received tens of thousands of public comments on our petition. Several major news-

papers covered our efforts. Inspired by our petition, Peter DeFazio (D-OR) introduced a bill in November seeking to ban these toxicants in the US.

In June, we requested that WS end its program to shoot wildlife from aircraft after two agents died in a plane crash while shooting coyotes in Utah. The agency ignored us, and gunners crashed again in September.

Following the plane crashes, and because WS has failed several federal audits concerning the safety of its toxicants inventory, it announced in November a plan for a national safety review of its entire program. We exposed this disclosure in national and international media.

Finally, when WS refused to reveal its annual kill statistics, we sent a demand letter and obtained a court order. The agency complied and posted those data. We continue to mount our campaign against WS.



USEWS



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Protecting the Tapestry of Life

In bold new petitions, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS formally requested ESA protection for nearly 700 endangered species in the West including butterflies, wildflowers, salamanders, and others. We also pushed for expanded ESA safeguards for a variety of wild species already listed under this law.



TIM SPRINGER

Safeguarding the Safety Net

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS vigorously defended the ESA—our nation's most powerful environmental law—from continued sabotage by the Bush administration in 2007. In January, we sent a memorandum to Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) concerning political obstruction in ESA listing decisions. In May, a corrupt Interior Department official resigned amidst scandal over politicized ESA decisions, and Rep. Rahall and others demanded that formerly snubbed endangered species be given a second chance. In December, we protested a new Bush administration proposal to weaken species recovery safeguards.

- January 24 Sent memo to Rep. Rahall (D-WV) on political interference in ESA listing decisions for prairie dogs
- January 29 Opposed Fish and Wildlife Service's announcement that wolf recovery in five percent of their historic range is sufficient to remove the carnivore from the endangered species list
- February 7 Filed suit requesting ESA protection for the black-tailed prairie dog
- February 7 In response to our appeal, Forest Service withdrew a plan to allow cattle grazing in sensitive species habitat in southern NM



Progress for Prairie Dogs

Since 2001, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS has worked to protect all four species of prairie dogs in the US. Prairie dogs are keystone species, animals upon which entire ecosystems depend.

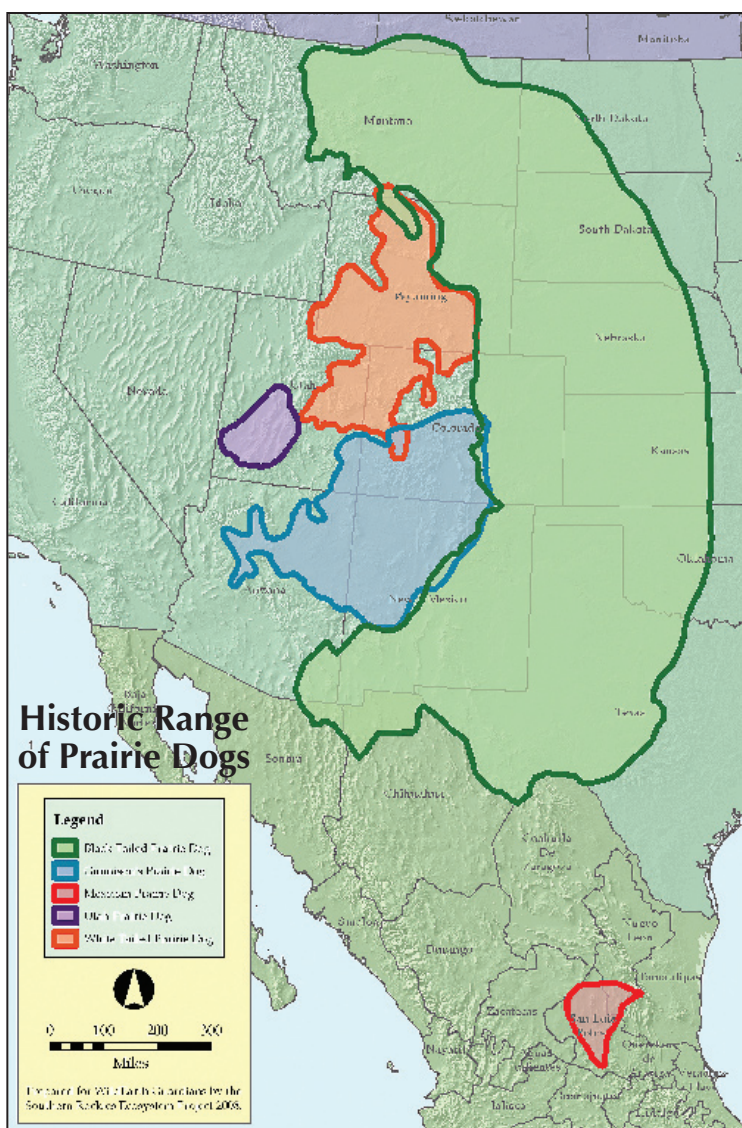
On February 2nd, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS publicized the fifth annual Prairie Dog Day (our western version of Groundhog Day). We visited classrooms, celebrated local proclamations designating the day, held a press conference, and released a video to news outlets. Prairie Dog Day raises awareness of the importance of prairie dogs with thousands of people in the West.

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS filed suit to protect one of the largest remaining Utah prairie dog colonies from a removal plan which would kill 90% of the animals and protested plans to

Throughout 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS worked to protect the four species of prairie dogs found in the US

undercut their habitat protection. In 2007, we also filed lawsuits seeking ESA protection for white-tailed and black-tailed prairie dogs.

When illegal political interference from the Bush Administration threatened Gunnison's prairie dogs, we demanded and got reform. We discovered agency interference involving the Interior Department's refusal to list Gunnison's under the ESA, despite clear scientific evidence supporting their protection. WILDEARTH GUARDIANS and our partners called for the resignation of corrupt agency officials and demanded reconsideration for listing the Gunnison's prairie dog.



- February 27 Established a first-of-its-kind fund that allowed water to be leased to stay in the Rio Grande
- March 10 Planted hundreds of native cottonwood and willow trees at Las Huertas Creek Stream Team volunteer river restoration event near Albuquerque
- March 12 Publicly demanded a wildlife-killing agency to release 2005 and 2006 records showing kill data
- March 19 Filed Notice of Intent to Sue a renegade NM county for their ordinance unlawfully authorizing the trapping and killing of Mexican gray wolves despite ESA protections

Wild Places

Our Wild Places Program protects the West's natural wildness and splendor while restoring previously degraded areas to a more natural state.

Into the Fire

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS has worked diligently to shift the public discourse and restore wildland fire to its natural place on the landscape for years. We made significant progress on this long-term project in 2007. In October, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS released the second edition of our *Born of Fire* report. It revealed that the Forest Service spent an average of \$84 million of taxpayer money each year for six years to suppress wildland fire in Arizona and New Mexico alone. The report also found that approximately 80% of

all fires in these two states are suppressed before they reach even a single acre. In November, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS submitted a letter to the Forest Service from more than a dozen scientists who are experts in fire or biodiversity. The letter recommended scientific review of the agency's fire management plans.

We followed up in December by filing a lawsuit against the Forest Service. The lawsuit demanded that the agency open its fire management plans to scientific review and allow more ecologically-rejuvenating wildland fire to burn in our national forests. WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' message that we can fire-proof our homes but we can never fire-proof our forests got a little louder with the filing of this suit.

Wildland fire is a fundamental element of every healthy forest ecosystem in the West. We will continue to battle the fear and pandering to the logging and livestock industries, which continues to drive the "suppress at all costs" mentality that pervades Forest Service fire policy.

Saving the Sagebrush Sea

In 2007, the Sagebrush Sea Campaign, which endeavors to protect and restore the vast ocean of diversity in the interior West known as the



TIM SPRINGER

- March 20 In response to our demand letter, wildlife-killing agency releases partial kill records
- March 29 Filed appeal to the 10th Circuit requesting protection for lynx in NM
- April 3 Urged Forest Service to rescind its management plan for the Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands based on a court ruling that declared the plan in violation of federal law
- April 3 Filed protest of Bureau of Land Management's oil and gas leasing on more than 25,000 acres of endangered species and other natural habitats in NM and OK

Sagebrush Sea, became an official part of WILDEARTH GUARDIANS. With this shift, we intensified work to protect this iconic Western landscape and the various species of grouse that live there.

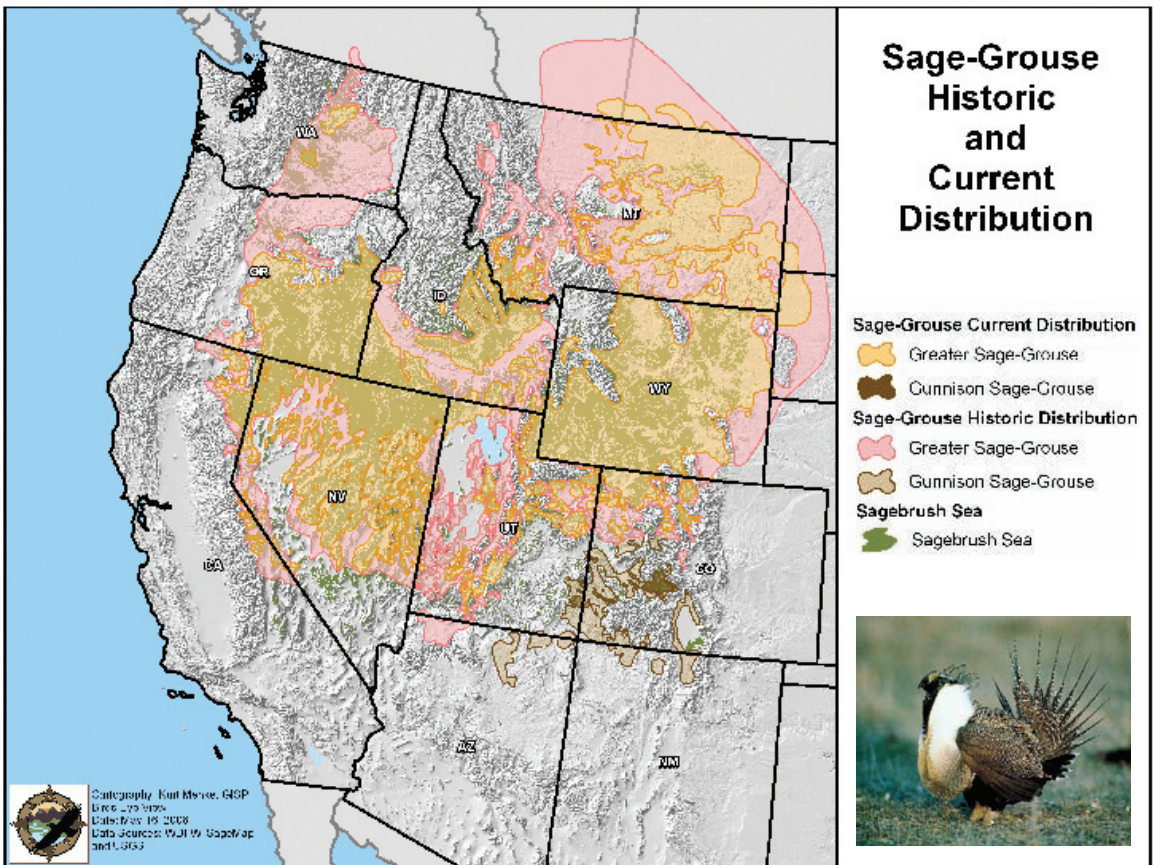
The campaign has a bold conservation vision the goal of which is to create interconnected sagebrush preserves across the West. These preserves would ensure large areas of the Sagebrush Sea remain intact and functional. These preserves are critical to conserve habitat for wildlife that cannot survive without sagebrush. These preserves would provide a safeguard against the encroaching threats to this landscape such as fossil fuel extraction and off-road vehicle use, without which the sea of sage may not survive for future generations.

Last year, the campaign celebrated success in our effort to protect native grouse, and by

extension, the Sagebrush Sea they call home. We exposed illegal political interference that led to biologically illegitimate decisions not to protect the greater sage-grouse and the Gunnison sage-grouse and their habitat. Now these species are getting a second chance at being protected under the Endangered Species Act.

In August, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS and others filed a lawsuit challenging the Fish and Wildlife Service’s failure to consider listing the Mono Basin area sage-grouse. And in December, a federal court reversed and remanded the Service’s 2005 decision to not protect the Greater sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act.

In October, the Sagebrush Sea campaign submitted testimony to a Senate committee that identified livestock grazing as a fundamental threat to sagebrush habitat throughout the Great Basin.



WILDEARTH GUARDIANS worked to protect the Sagebrush Sea and the landscape’s flagship species, the sage-grouse, in 2007.

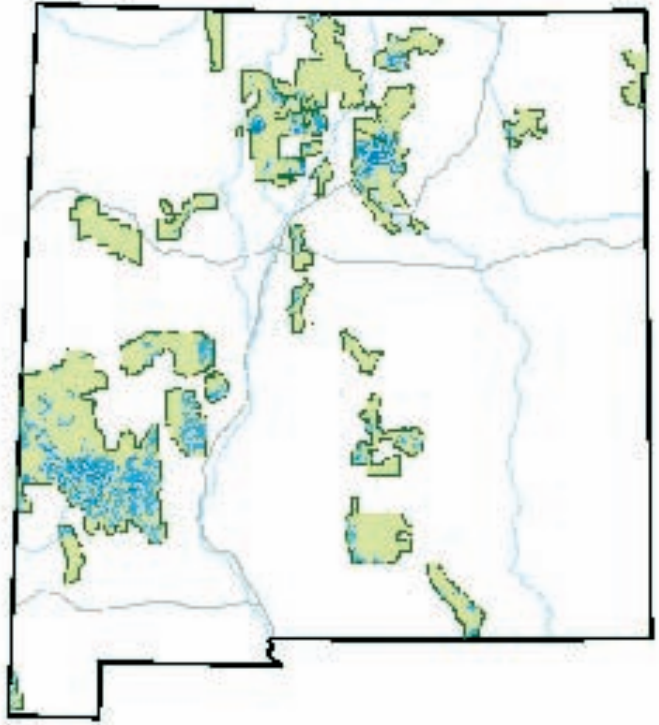
- April 14 Planted hundreds of native trees and grass seed with volunteers at the Santa Fe River
- April 17 Unveiled a program allowing residents to contribute money for water that stays in the Santa Fe River via their monthly water bill
- April 20-21 Planted thousands of trees with volunteers at the Rio Puerco Stream Team
- April 22 Sent hard-hitting comments showing Utah prairie dogs’ protection should be upgraded to “threatened” under the ESA

Nomination to Protect New Mexico's Clean Water in Roadless Forests

In an effort to protect both wild forests and clean waters, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS has drafted nominations of New Mexico's streams for designation under the Clean Water Act. This designation would also prevent damage to the forests in which the waterways are found.

LEGEND

-  Nominated Perennial Waters
-  Nominated Cephemeral Waters
-  Major Rivers
-  Interstates
-  National Forests



ANNIE EDWARD

Wild Forests, Clean Water

In the summer of 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS completed a draft of a statewide nomination for the cleanest waters of New Mexico to be protected under the Clean Water Act. This campaign is our innovative strategy for protecting roadless areas across the West. Since Bush's repeal of the Roadless Rule, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS has been working to designate rivers and streams under the Clean Water Act so that the pristine forests in which these waters are found

are protected by extension. One way or another, we will not let the greed of the federal government irrevocably sacrifice our wild roadless areas. This statewide nomination is just the first step to potentially protect millions of acres and thousands of miles of waterways.

Just Say No to Logging

In November, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS successfully appealed the Jack Smith timber sale on the Coconino National Forest outside of Flagstaff, Arizona. The project would have logged 8,493 acres without limits on the diameter of trees to be cut and would have constructed new roads, causing disrupted habitat and run-off throughout the forest. Our challenge was based on the threats the project posed to imperiled Northern Goshawk habitat. The Forest Service proposed the project under the Bush administration's "Healthy Forest Restoration Act," and touted it as necessary to protect local communities from wildfire, when in fact the large trees to be logged would have made fire conditions far worse.



JESS ALFORD

- April 2 Filed Notice of Intent to Sue the Forest Service if the agency does not consider impacts of cattle grazing to critical fish habitat in the Gila River and its major tributaries
- May 2 Called on federal law enforcement to stop wolf killing in renegade NM county
- May 3 After our petitioning, CO Wildlife Commission passed the first mandatory cougar hunter education program
- May 9 Highlighted ESA decisions in need of revisiting after House Natural Resources Committee examines Interior Department scandals

Wild Rivers

Our Wild Rivers Program fights to give rivers throughout the West rights to their own waters and works to keep our cleanest water clean.

Living Rivers

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS helped realize two significant policy changes in 2007 that lay the foundation to restore the Rio Grande. In February, with the City of Albuquerque and other environmental groups, we announced the creation of a fund to lease and acquire water for environmental flows, giving the great river rights to its own water once again. With \$250,000 in seed money, it is our hope that farmers will lease or sell their water to the Rio Grande.

Then in May, with WILDEARTH GUARDIANS as the catalyst, the City of Santa Fe implemented the inaugural Living River Check-Off program. This program allows residents to check a box on their monthly water bill to give \$1 or more to a fund that leases water to stay in the Santa Fe River, a tributary to the Rio Grande. Already the fund has grown to over \$60,000. WILDEARTH GUARDIANS is helping with a similar program that was adopted by the City of Albuquerque for the Rio Grande itself. We intend to implement Living River Check-Off programs in all of the major municipalities along the rivers' path from Colorado to Texas.

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' Living River program not only provides the financial capital necessary to

keep water in the river and keep the river flowing, it also connects urban-dwellers to the river they depend on for survival. When checking the box on their monthly water bill, residents are reminded of where their water comes from and the need to conserve and cherish that water. This connection creates the political will necessary to drive policies that ensure the Rio Grande and its tributaries will be living rivers – not dead ditches – for generations to come.



ADRIEL HERSEY

Resuscitating the Arteries of Life

In 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' river restoration efforts continued to reverse the decimation of the rivers and streams that are the arteries of life in the West. Waterways constitute a small fraction of the landscape yet approximately 75% of species depend on these precious wet areas for survival.

- May 17 Urged White Sands Missile Range to protect and restore northern aplomado falcon habitat
- May 25 Submitted comments showing Pecos Sunflower deserves full habitat protection
- June 11 Submitted a petition arguing that threatened lynx habitat should be protected in northern NM
- June 15 Submitted comments asking for strengthened regulations on oil and gas activities in NM
- June 21 Filed the largest ESA listing petition in thirty years, asking for the protection of 475 imperiled species in the southwestern US

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS expanded our decade-long efforts to restore healthy river ecosystems in 2007. Our vision of restored rivers begins by removing cattle from the area. In 1996, we pioneered a path to help restore state land by becoming the first entity to successfully out-compete ranchers for a grazing lease. In October 2007, we furthered our vision by submitting another bid on a grazing lease of this kind to the Arizona State Land Department. The parcel contains nearly three miles of the Little Colorado River and is an artery of life to a large population of wild-life. Offering to pay at least ten times the current leasing rates for the property, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' lease of the parcel would ensure its protection.

In addition, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS added two river restoration sites to its list in 2007. La Luz Creek in south-central New Mexico, which was being ravished by off-road vehicle use, is no longer being abused by those who used it as a race-course. Locals applauded WILDEARTH GUARDIANS protection and plan to help fence the parcel. The Lost River in southern New Mexico was also acquired as one of our sites. The Lost River contains important habitat for the threatened White Sands pupfish and is infested with non-native, invasive salt cedar. WILDEARTH GUARDIANS plans to clear the salt cedar and allow native trees to thrive again.

Bird's Eye View

In 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS made great strides on our Rio Grande book project. In collaboration with aerial photographer Adriel Heisey and writer Steve McDowell, we are creating a coffee table book that will take readers on a tour through the past and present of the Rio Grande. With funding from Los Alamos National Bank, the book will reach a nationwide audience. Spreading awareness through Heisey's inspirational photographs and McDowell's informative descriptions, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS hopes the book will move readers to become advocates for river protection.



ADRIEL HEISEY



JESS ALFORD

Stream Team

Each spring hundreds of volunteers – or Stream Teamers – gather on WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' river restoration sites to plant trees and restore habitat. Stream Team 2007 was especially exciting as we grew the number of planting sites from two to four, one of which is our first-ever restoration project on private land.

In addition to restoring vital stream corridors by planting thousands of native cottonwood and willow trees that create ecological connectivity, these events also create and restore our connection to imperiled rivers.

In the same way that newly planted trees will germinate and spread seeds to create self-sustaining and healthy ecosystems, participants in our restoration events carry away seeds of political activism so they can make a lasting difference for our precious waterways.

- June 22 Submitted comments on Gunnison's prairie dog plan, urging the AZ Game and Fish staff to strengthen protections for the species
- June 28 Requested emergency ESA protection for the Sacramento Mountains checkerspot butterfly, which faced the threat of insecticide spraying
- July 3 Settled a lawsuit requiring reconsideration of Gunnison's prairie dogs for ESA protection due to government emails showing illegal denial of protection

Climate & Energy

Our Climate & Energy Program works to set the West on a sustainable energy path that will benefit native ecosystems as well as the economy.

Climate Change Changes Everything

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS formed the Climate & Energy Program in 2007 because protecting the West's native plants, animals and landscapes is different these days.

The program focuses on the dual threats facing special places and species. Not only is the West's wild threatened by specific projects that would sacrifice public lands for the fossil fuel industry, but the more amorphous effects of climate change are taking a toll on Western habitats. Decades of dependence on dirty fossil fuels and wasteful practices are causing drought, insect infestations, reduced stream flows, and other conditions to which wildlife cannot adapt.

Therefore, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS is advocating for no new coal-fired power plants. Partnering with a diverse coalition, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS fought plans by Sithe Global to build a massive new plant on Navajo Nation lands in north-western New Mexico. This is the first step in our overarching vision to make the path of dirty and dangerous fossil fuel less viable, paving the way toward increased use of renewables and energy efficiency.

Confronting the Addiction

In 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS found that 79 percent of new wells proposed by the oil and gas industry are approved by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In other words, the agency rubberstamped industry requests for access to public land. Knowing that we will



JESS ALFORD

- July 3 Filed protest of Bureau of Land Management's oil and gas leasing on more than 57,000 acres of endangered species and other natural habitats in NM and OK
- July 20 Supported Fish and Wildlife Service's decision to reconsider ten endangered species decisions suffering from political interference and asked for more species to be considered given widespread corruption
- July 24 Filed the second mass listing petition, seeking ESA protection for 206 species in the Rocky Mountains and the Great Plains



SKYTRUTH

never drill our way to energy independence, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS challenged the BLM’s quarterly lease sales to oil and gas companies throughout 2007 as well as proposed wells in Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

In December, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS released a report showing that the BLM waived wildlife habitat protections nearly 1,000 times in New Mexico between 2000 and 2007. At the request of industry, the BLM waived seasonal closures and timing restrictions that were intended to safeguard mule deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, and lesser prairie-chickens. Upon release of the report, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS called for New Mexico Governor Richardson, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the New Mexico State Game Commission to challenge the BLM’s renegeing on promises to protect wildlife.

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS was also an outspoken opponent of plans to drill in Santa Fe’s backyard in December. Late that month we sent a letter to Tecton Energy, a Houston based oil company, to ask for the withdrawal of their permits to drill in Santa Fe County’s Galisteo Basin. When Tecton refused, we publicly criticised the company for defying the will of local residents. We will continue to fight against this plan despite the persistence of the industry.

Because the site-specific threats of our nation’s addiction to fossil fuels are especially present in the West, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS will not relent. The Bush administration is rushing to exploit what seems like every last acre of public land for oil and gas, leaving less and less wildlife habitat intact, but we are mounting a legal campaign and organizing communities to fight back.



ISTOCK PHOTO



ISTOCK PHOTO

Lighting the Way with Solar Santa Fe

In 2007, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS launched a campaign to greatly increase renewable energy and energy efficiency to Santa Fe. With hopes to expand the program to other cities, WILDEARTH GUARDIANS began advocating for a program that would allow residents to take out a low interest loan from the city to install solar systems or energy efficiency measures in their homes and businesses. Solar Santa Fe seeks to overcome one of the major hurdles to adopting sustainable, clean energy—the upfront cost.

- July 26 Filed suit in federal court to invalidate a renegade NM county ordinance authorizing county officials to remove wolves from the wild despite their protection under the ESA
- August 1 Publicly expressed concern that final Critical Habitat designation for rare Devils River minnow might be substantially reduced by the Bush administration
- August 2 Filed formal petition seeking ESA protections for black-tailed prairie dogs
- August 8 Submitted comments on the need to list the wolverine as endangered under the ESA



Meet Our Staff



BRYAN BIRD, M.S., Wild Places Program Director, received his Masters in conservation biology from New Mexico State University and holds an undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. With more than a decade of experience in national forest policy and management, he is responsible for monitoring and challenging proposed activities on public lands. He also oversees WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' hands-on ecosystem restoration projects.



ROSIE BRANDENBERGER, Communications Director, has a degree in Liberal Arts from St. John's College. She is responsible for all marketing and public relations materials including the organization's newsletter, website, e-communications, brochures, advertisements, and distribution of press release releases. She also works with the Associate Director and Office Manager on event planning and preparation as well as fundraising appeals.



LORI COLT, Office Manager, holds a degree in European Studies from San Diego State University. She manages the membership database, coordinates public events and manages the organization's volunteer and internship programs. Lori also manages the day-to-day office issues and provides support to all conservation staff.



ROB EDWARD, Carnivore Recovery Director, has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts at Boston, and is a four-year veteran of the US Air Force. He has worked on the restoration and protection of wolves and other carnivores since 1994. Currently, he oversees the scientific, political and public policy aspects of the organization's efforts to restore wolves, grizzly bears, lynx, wolverine and other large carnivores to the American West.



BILLIE GUTGSELL, Outreach Coordinator, holds a B.A. in Anthropology as well as a B.A. in Art History from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She works to build community awareness of and support for bears, cougars and other wildlife. Billie also manages the Boulder, Colorado office and works to support the staff located there.



MELISSA HAILEY, J.D., Staff Attorney, Conservation Biology from the University of Denver and a juris doctorate from Seattle University School of Law. She identifies and pursues legal challenges to reduce public lands grazing and protect endangered species and their habitats. Melissa's work focuses on safeguarding the wildness of the Gila bioregion, including restoring viable populations of the Mexican gray wolf.



JOHN HORNING, Executive Director, graduated from Colorado College with a B.A. in American History. He oversees all conservation, fundraising and administrative programs. In addition, he directs the organization's Wild Rivers program and works on grazing reform issues, specifically voluntary grazing permit retirement.

- August 17 Filed a second set of formal comments to the Forest Service, urging them not to spray insecticide in imperiled Sacramento Mountains checkerspot butterfly habitat
- August 21 Petitioned SD to end aerial gunning of wildlife by federal officials
- September 4 Argued in a lawsuit that trapping for fur is illegal under CO's Constitution
- September 5 Called on the CO Division of Wildlife to not kill a Nederland mountain lion
- September 25 Publicly condemned Wildlife Service's aerial gunning program after second crash in two months



WENDY KEEFOVER-RING, Carnivore Protection Director, holds an M.A. in history from the University of Colorado with a research focus on environmental activism among women in early Colorado. She works to advance progressive state and federal management policies for wild native carnivores such as coyotes, black bears, and mountain lions. A long-standing conservation priority of her work is to reform the federal Wildlife Services agency, which kills approximately two million wild creatures annually.



JIM MATISON, Resoration Projects Director, holds a degree from the University of Arizona. He leads efforts to restore ecosystems with hands-on habitat restoration projects on private, public, and state school trust lands. He also directs the organization's restoration projects on national forests, which entail closing roads as a means to restore forest ecosystems.



LAUREN MCCAIN, Ph.D., Desert and Grasslands Species Director, earned her doctorate in political science at the University of Colorado where she received intensive training in policy sciences and analysis. She works on protecting and restoring focal species and public lands. Key projects include conserving biodiversity hotspots in the southern prairie, promoting stricter conservation standards on national grasslands, and advancing Endangered Species Act protection of imperiled grassland and desert wildlife.



CAROL NORTON, Associate Director, graduated from Brown University with a degree in Biology. She is responsible for development opportunities and works with donors, foundations and members. She also oversees all organization events as well as administrative tasks including financial accountability, information technology, and internal systems.



NICOLE ROSMARINO, Ph.D., Wildlife Program Director, received her doctorate from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She works to protect and restore native wildlife and plants throughout the West. Nicole protects species on the brink through legal enforcement of the Endangered Species Act by catalyzing listings, critical habitat designations, and adequate recovery efforts.



MARK SALVO, J.D., Sagebrush Sea Campaign Director, earned a B.A. in history from the University of Oregon Honors College and a doctorate of jurisprudence from the University of Oregon School of Law. He works to protect and restore the vast sagebrush-steppe landscape and wildlife in the Interior West.



REBECCA SOBEL, Conservation Organizer, received a specialized degree in Globalization and Social Justice from Goucher College and a Graduate Certification in International Relations from the International School of Humanities and Social Sciences in the Netherlands. She works to mobilize citizens to participate in priority conservation initiatives in order to create political support at state and federal levels for positive conservation decisions. She also manages the organization's activist network.



JAY TUTCHTON, J.D., General Counsel, graduated from UCLA Law School and helped to start and has overseen the University of Denver's Environmental Law Clinic. He manages WILDEARTH GUARDIANS' legal staff and litigation docket. Either independently or with the assistance of outside counsel, he pursues litigation to advance the organization's mission.

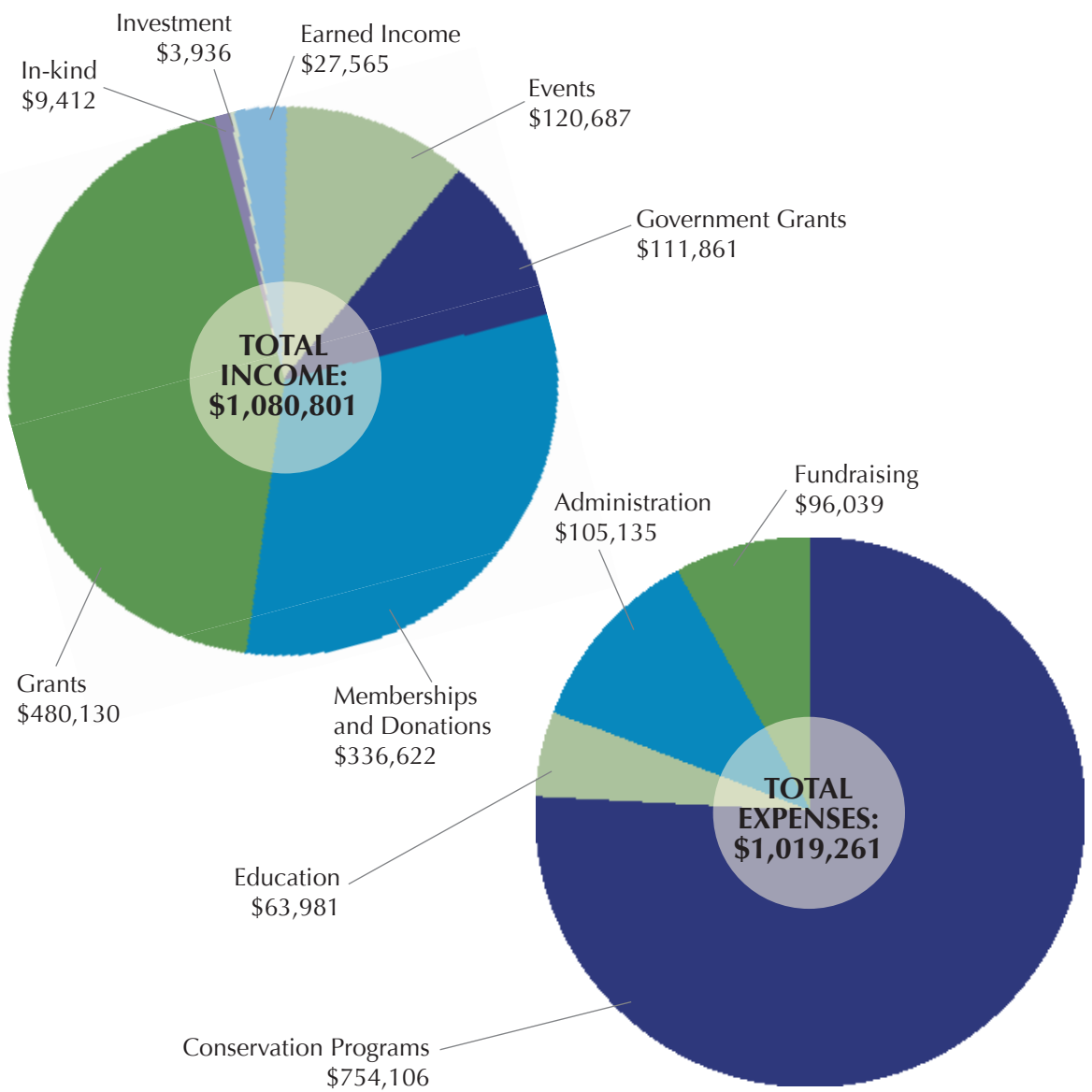


ROBERT UKEILEY, J.D., Climate & Energy Program Director and Staff Attorney graduated from George Washington University Law School. He works on advocacy campaigns and litigation aimed at lessening the impacts from the use and extraction of fossil fuels as well as encouraging the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

- September 28 Filed Notice of Intent to Sue the Fish & Wildlife Service regarding the agency's failure to develop a recovery plan for gray wolves in the Southern Rockies
- October 1 Submitted formal comments to the US Fish and Wildlife Service requesting designation of all suitable habitat as Critical Habitat for the Devils River minnow
- October 2 Published *Born of Fire* report that reveals the Forest Service spent an average of \$84 million per year to suppress wildland fires, which are ecologically rejuvenating, over the six years

The Year in

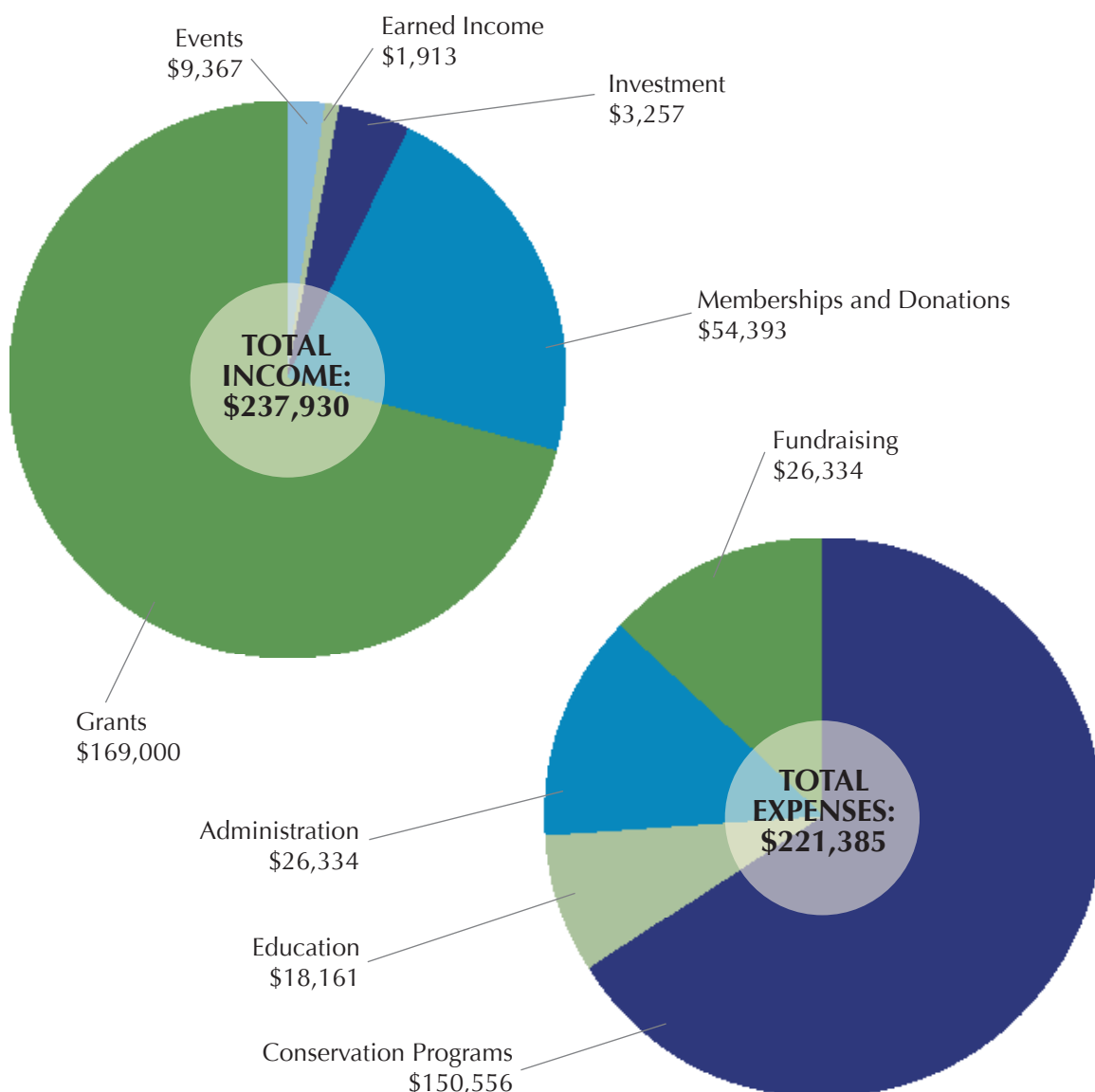
Forest Guardians 2007 Audited Financials



- October 9 Called on the CO Division of Wildlife and CO Department of Agriculture to charge a mountain lion killer with cruelty to animals
- October 12 Filed Notice of Intent to Sue over the failure to grant emergency federal protection to the Sacramento Mountains checkerspot butterfly; as a result insecticide spraying is delayed
- October 15 AZ State Land Department gives us the opportunity to competitively bid for an overgrazed parcel of state land, which would allow us to protect and restore the Little Colorado River

Numbers

Sinapu 2007 Financials



- October 16 Filed Notice of Intent to Sue over Fish & Wildlife Service's failure to grant emergency federal protection to the Sacramento Mountain checkerspot butterfly
- October 17 Filed suit to overturn all decisions in which the Forest Service allowed livestock grazing on the Gila National Forest without public participation or consideration of impacts to endangered species
- October 23 Filed Notice of Intent to Sue to conserve gray wolves in Rocky Mountain National Park
- October 25 Released data revealing a federal agency killed record numbers of carnivores between 2004-06

Thank You

We are deeply grateful to the following donors who helped make our work possible from January 1 - December 31, 2007.

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- October 29 Submitted a letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service, along with a broad coalition, urging federal protection for the Gunnison's prairie dog as part of a reopened ESA consideration
- October 30 Filed suit over a Fish and Wildlife Service plan that would remove all Utah prairie dogs from one of their largest remaining colonies
- November 5 Criticized the Bureau of Land Management's plan for Lesser prairie-chicken and the Sand Dune lizard as a recipe for extinction

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GUARDIAN GIVER

Murray Gell-Mann
Distinguished Fellow,
Santa Fe Institute
1969 Nobel Prize, Physics

I support WILDEARTH GUARDIANS because I'm a dedicated environmentalist and especially love walking in comparatively wild country. I'm primarily a birdwatcher, but for me, sampling the glories of nature, hearing a new sound, seeing a new plant or animal, or learning how organisms relate to one another fills me with delight. Perhaps the feeling is similar to what some people experience in church.

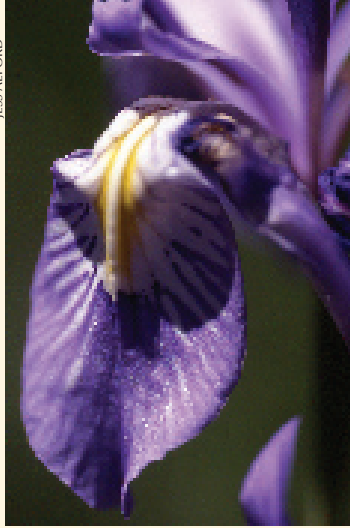
I believe that protecting the wild parts of the earth has to involve using the law. Collective measures are what count the most. Passing legislation and devising regulations can be more effective than relying exclusively on individual people to be better stewards of the land. WILDEARTH GUARDIANS does more than encourage personal virtue; it presses for environmental laws that make protection more likely. WILDEARTH GUARDIANS seeks to preserve the means of preservation; one example is its fight to protect the Endangered Species Act. Preserving preservation for future generations is at least as important as saving particular species and places.

I try to think broadly and so does WILDEARTH GUARDIANS. I'm pleased that the organization aims to protect all threatened plants and animals in the West and implements a variety of strategies to accomplish that bold mission. While I have usually supported organizations that operate worldwide, I think WILDEARTH GUARDIANS strikes a good balance, focusing on regional issues while struggling on behalf of the web of life.

- November 14 Released Wildlife Services circular revealing the wildlife-killing agency will undertake a nationwide safety review in the wake of a rash of accidents, mishaps and security breaches
- November 27 Filed suit against the US Fish & Wildlife Service to obtain ESA protection for the white-tailed prairie dog
- November 29 Submitted letter to Forest Service from more than a dozen scientists recommending scientific review of the agency's fire management plans in NM and AZ

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December 3 Filed formal comments against a plan which would weaken the ESA
 December 4 Sought federal court intervention to stop a renegade NM county trapping wolves
 December 5 Filed suit against Forest Service, demanding the agency open its fire management plans to scientific review and allow more ecologically-rejuvenating wildland fire in national forests
 December 10 Published *Wildlife Exceptions* report, uncovering that the Bureau of Land Management allowed nearly 1,000 waivers of timing limitations intended to protect wildlife from oil and gas drilling

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Debra Colonna-Husser
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IN KIND

10th Mountain Division
Hut Association
Glen Banks & Jeannie Banks
Greg Baron
Bear Mountain Lodge
Bishop's Lodge

*Thank you
to all our
5,000
members!*

- December 11 Criticized Rocky Mountain National Park plan to hire sharpshooters to kill elk rather than reintroduce wolves as a natural, long-term solution to elk overpopulation
- December 19 Filed suit against the Fish & Wildlife Service for refusing to designate and protect Critical Habitat for four endangered species in the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge
- December 24 Sent a letter to oil and gas company demanding their withdraw of applications to drill in NM's Galisteo Basin



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