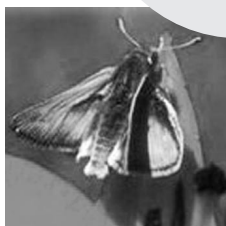
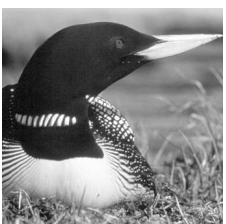
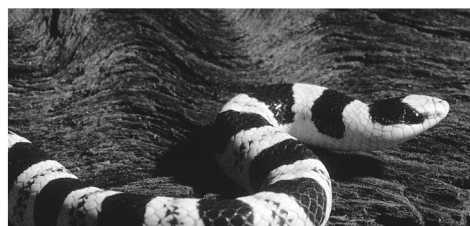
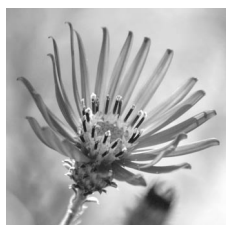
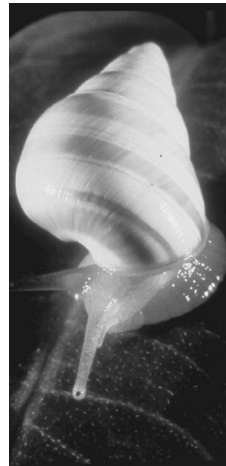
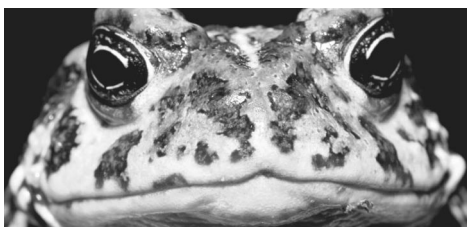


Endangered earth



SAVING
AMERICA'S **1,000**

— MOST —
ENDANGERED
SPECIES



2010

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
BIODIVERSITY

2009

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR IN REVIEW

SAVING SPECIES

- Stopped Great Lakes gray wolf killings, restoring them to the federal endangered species list, and defeated “three strikes” rule behind wolf killings in the Southwest.
- Forced the government to start protecting the American jaguar by designating critical habitat and developing a recovery plan.
- Secured a ban on commercial harvest of Florida’s freshwater turtles.
- Won a settlement to protect 31 species of international birds under the Endangered Species Act.



- Petitioned to gain Endangered Species Act protection for 83 coral species and 42 Great Basin spring snail species—key indicators of ocean and freshwater ecosystem health.

PROTECTING HABITAT



- Established more than 40 million acres of “critical habitat” preserves for endangered species—including the Canada lynx, Alaskan sea otter, Atlantic salmon, and green sturgeon.
- Won proposals to protect 128 million acres for polar bears, 45 million acres for Pacific leatherback sea turtles, and almost 2 million acres for Alaska’s beluga whales.
- Brought to 42 the number of plants and animals for which we’ve won cases in our sweeping legal campaign to reverse corrupt decisions by the Bush administration that robbed endangered species of millions of acres of protected habitat.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

- Overturned Bush-era policy opening millions of acres of California desert and sensitive wildlife habitat to off-road vehicles.
- Successfully challenged plans that laid bare most of Kaibab National Forest, adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park, to off-road vehicle damage.
- Rallied opposition that helped keep Vermont state lands—350,000 acres—off limits to ATVs.



FORESTS

- Blocked clearcutting in the Sierra Nevada and Tongass National Forest.
- Won a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision reaffirming protections for almost 50,000 acres of roadless forest, reversing the Bush administration’s Roadless Rule repeal.
- Overturned plans to open 974,000 roadless acres in four Southern California national forests to road building and development.
- Restored protections for more than 100 plants and animals imperiled by old-growth logging on a million acres in the Pacific Northwest.



PESTICIDES

Halted herbicide spraying on 1.5 million acres of New Mexico’s public lands, and stopped spraying of 74 pesticides in San Francisco Bay-area endangered species habitat.

OCEANS

- Successfully petitioned to expand protected habitat for critically endangered Hawaiian monk seals.



- Forced the emergency closure of the Gulf of Mexico bottom longline fishery, to save loggerhead sea turtles from illegal capture and killing—and filed suit to halt new plans for the fishery to capture and kill up to seven times as many turtles as before.
- Launched legal action to reduce endangered blue whale fatalities due to ship strikes off the California coast.
- Compelled the Environmental Protection Agency to invoke the Clean Water Act to address ocean acidification from carbon dioxide pollution.

OVERPOPULATION

Launched a path-breaking campaign connecting unsustainable human population growth to the global extinction crisis, and advocating for solutions through empowerment of women, education of all people, and family planning.

CLIMATE

- Defeated a last-minute Bush administration policy that exempted the government from considering impacts from global warming in its decisions to protect endangered species and habitat.
- Filed the first-known lawsuits challenging forest clearcutting projects on the basis of their contribution to global warming.
- Helped compel the Environmental Protection Agency to declare greenhouse gas pollution a threat to public health and welfare under the Clean Air Act, and petitioned the agency to use the power of the Act to limit atmospheric carbon dioxide to 350 parts per million—the level necessary to prevent catastrophic runaway global warming.
- Organized hundreds of groups and tens of thousands of individuals in support of strong, science-based climate legislation that builds upon the successful foundation of the Clean Air Act, our strongest existing law for reducing greenhouse pollution.



MINING, COAL, AND DRILLING

- Stopped uranium mining on 1 million acres surrounding the Grand Canyon.
- Successfully challenged permits for the Black Mesa coal mine in northern Arizona and for coal-fired power plants in New Mexico and Kentucky.
- Blocked a land exchange that would have allowed harmful expansion of copper mining into pristine areas of the Arizona desert, home to desert tortoises and bighorn sheep.
- Halted the auction of oil and gas drilling leases in sensitive wildlife habitat on public lands in California’s Monterey County and Virginia’s Monangahela National Forest.



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2010

ACTION PLAN

In the year ahead, we're poised to save more than 1,000 species and more than 175 million acres of habitat, and to launch a host of national campaigns to stop the poisoning of our lands, water, and wildlife.

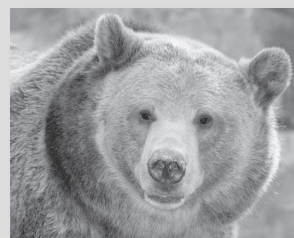


To protect Alaska's beleaguered beluga whales from the triple threat of pollution, oil drilling, and global warming, we'll ensure the administration protects nearly 2 million acres of their habitat.



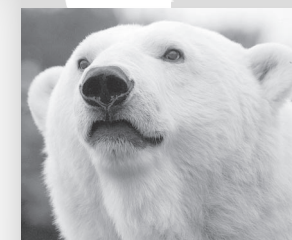
As the beaches they depend upon in the northwestern Hawaiian islands disappear to global warming-caused sea-level rise, we'll ensure the Obama administration gives critically endangered monk seals the vastly expanded habitat protections they need to adapt and survive.

Overturning politically tainted decisions by the Bush administration, we'll restore key protections for spotted owls and their old-growth forest habitat in the Pacific Northwest.



We'll ensure federal protections are returned to Yellowstone's grizzly bears, sparing them from shooting under lax hunting restrictions and addressing the impact of global warming on whitebark pine nuts, the bears' primary food source.

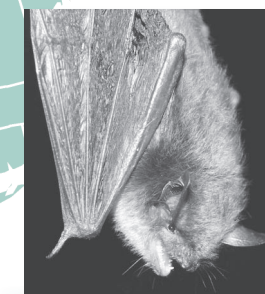
In one of the decade's most important environmental cases, we'll seek to strike down the Obama administration's decision not to protect polar bears from the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming. We'll also work to stop pesticide spraying that has made the polar bear one of the most poisoned mammals on the planet, and ensure preservation of 128 million acres of Alaska habitat for the bear.



To stop the needless, painful poisoning of endangered raptors and other animals—as well as the poisoning of our lands and water—we'll take legal action and launch a political campaign to ban lead bullets nationwide.



We'll build on victories restoring Endangered Species Act protection to Great Lakes wolves and defeating a government killing policy for southwestern wolves, by seeking protection for wolves in Alaska and the Northeast, restoring protection to northern Rockies wolves, and pushing the administration to develop a national wolf recovery strategy.



We'll intensify our campaign to stop the spread of deadly white-nosed syndrome and protect bats already suffering its effects, by petitioning to federally protect the eastern small-footed and northern long-eared bats and to close hibernacula caves to human traffic.



To save California's largest stretch of unprotected wilderness, Tejon Ranch, we'll keep up pressure in the courts to stop sprawling luxury developments from slashing through prime habitat for condors and dozens of other rare and vanishing plants and animals.

While we work for stronger greenhouse gas pollution regulations nationwide, we'll also watchdog the oil and coal industries to fight offshore oil drilling, new mines, and smoke-spewing power plants that would fuel global warming and foul our air and water.



Through petitions, litigation, and negotiation, we'll convince the administration to add more than 1,000 of America's most imperiled plants and animals to the endangered species list. Our campaign will end decades-long delays in protecting hundreds of species on the brink of extinction, and will seek protection for more than 500 species in the American Southeast alone—a globally recognized hotspot of aquatic biodiversity.



We'll convince the Obama administration to establish a 3.4 million-acre panther reserve in Florida before the area is engulfed in a sea of tract homes and golf courses.



We'll hold the administration to its promise to bring the jaguar back to the United States by developing a federal recovery plan and protecting several million acres of jaguar habitat along the U.S.-Mexico border.

We'll take our successful pesticides campaign national, to comprehensively reform regulation of hundreds of pesticides affecting thousands of species like the Florida manatee, as well as threatening human health, across the country.



We'll reform fisheries that take a disastrous toll on ocean life, entangling and killing sea turtles and marine mammals by the thousands.



We'll work to clean up endocrine-disrupting toxins—chemicals like pharmaceuticals and cleaning agents that poison our waterways and affect the growth and reproduction of fish and wildlife, as well as humans. Our campaign begins with a petition to compel the Environmental Protection Agency to establish water-quality criteria for a host of these chemicals under the Clean Water Act, the first step in regulating and eliminating them.

SAVING AMERICA'S 1,000 MOST ENDANGERED SPECIES

It's 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity, and countless animals and plants around the globe are threatened with extinction. In recognition, the Center has counted 1,000 U.S. species that most need our help to survive, and we've embarked on a campaign to protect each of them—winning them spots on the endangered list, safeguarding their habitat, and gaining recovery plans for each under the Obama administration.

There's no better tool for saving these 1,000 species than the Endangered Species Act. Center research has found that the longer species have been listed under the Act, the more likely they are to be recovering; species with designated critical habitat are twice as likely to be recovering as those without; and species with recovery plans are more likely to be recovering than those without.

Unfortunately, hundreds of plants and animals are languishing without ever making it to the list at all, and we're coming to their defense. We're in court to force listing decisions on 249 "candidate" species—animals and plants such as the Pacific fisher, elfin woods warbler, Sierra Nevada mountain yellow-legged frog, and white fringeless orchid—that the government has officially recognized as deserving protection, but has shunted to a waiting list indefinitely. In December, we also filed a notice of intent to sue the Fish and Wildlife Service for long delays in protecting 144 other species, from the plains buffalo to the California golden trout to 32 Pacific Northwest mollusks.

In a third sweeping arm of our campaign, we'll be



© Cameron Rognum

The mountain yellow-legged frog is one of 249 "candidate" species stuck on a waiting list for Endangered Species Act protections. All of them made our list of America's 1,000 most imperiled plants and animals that we'll work to save in 2010.

filing a 2,500-page petition to add more than 550 mussels, crayfish, and fishes of the southeastern United States to the endangered list, calling attention to the severity of species loss in this global hotspot for aquatic biodiversity.

We'll also work to keep protected species on the list as long as they need to recover, as we did in 2009 for Great Lakes gray wolves. This year, we'll work to restore protections to northern Rockies gray wolves, grizzly bears, West Virginia northern flying squirrels, and cactus ferruginous pygmy owls.

Finally, we'll see to it that species on the endangered list get the habitat protections and recovery plans that they need to survive. Already in early 2010, after three Center lawsuits, the Fish and Wildlife Service finally agreed to develop a recovery plan and designate critical habitat for jaguars in the United States. In the year ahead, we'll make sure that every one of the 128 million acres of polar bear habitat secured by the Center are included in the final designation, and we'll push for millions of acres of habitat protections for the Florida panther, loggerhead sea turtle, southwestern willow flycatcher, Cape Sable seaside sparrow, and many others. Already we've petitioned for a much-needed recovery plan for the Mexican gray wolf, and we're poised to force an improved recovery plan for the northern spotted owl.

Many huge strides made and many steps to be taken—we're losing no time to make this Year of Biodiversity a seminal one for 1,000 species that need our action to see many more years ahead.

LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR OF 1,000 species A YEAR OF 1,000 sustainers.

One of the most effective ways to support the Center for Biological Diversity is to become a Monthly Sustaining Member. Your recurring gift, automatically charged to your credit card or checking account each month, provides dependable funds we can count on to protect imperiled species and the lands, waters, and climate they need to survive.

We've set ourselves an ambitious goal for 2010: saving 1,000 species. Your steady support will play a key part in the victories ahead—so for 2010, we're also asking you to help us reach 1,000 Sustaining Members.

Please call our membership team at (866) 357-3349 x. 316 to contribute regularly to the Center as a Monthly Sustaining Member, or sign up online at www.sustain.biologicaldiversity.org/winter.

HERE'S TO ALL YOU HELPED US DO IN 2009.

We're proud to know we have some of the most committed supporters around when endangered plants, animals, and wildlands are at stake and we need you to make your voices heard. We couldn't celebrate the year's victories without you—so here are just a few of the ways you made them happen.

You sent more than 140,000 emails, comments, and signatures on behalf of the polar bear in 2009, asking Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to give the bear real, on-the-ground protection from the threats of global warming and drilling, and to preserve its dwindling habitat. Late in the year, the administration proposed a whopping 128 million acres of critical habitat for polar bears.

More than 100,000 letters and emails flooded Bureau of Land Management offices in a resounding call for long-term protection from uranium mining on 1 million acres surrounding the Grand Canyon. More than 21,000 of those came from Center supporters.

You went to bat for beluga whales: 31,000 of you urged the Obama administration to oppose Sarah Palin's Alaska lawsuit to take away the beluga's Endangered Species Act protections, and 39,000 of you helped push the administration to propose setting aside nearly 2 million acres of critical habitat for the whale.

In June (National Oceans Month), you hosted nearly 20 house-party screenings of *A Sea Change*, a documentary about ocean acidification. The events brought unprecedented attention to the issue, with more than 17,000 of you writing letters or going online to ask the Environmental Protection Agency to take action.

You rose to the defense of America's last big cats, starting with more than 27,000 comments asking Interior Secretary Salazar to end the Bush-era policy of refusing to protect jaguars on U.S. soil. Your voices were heard, and early this year, the administration committed to protecting critical habitat for jaguars north of the U.S.-Mexico border, and to developing a plan for their recovery. And in late 2009, more than 11,000 of you backed our efforts to protect the Florida panther's Everglades habitat from oil drilling.

THANK YOU, SUPPORTERS.

YOU CAN GIVE THEM A FUTURE

Leaving a Legacy for Endangered Species Conservation

The Center for Biological Diversity's Legacy Society honors individuals who have expressed their commitment to protecting endangered species for future generations by making a gift to the Center in their estate plans.

There are several ways to provide a gift to the Center for Biological Diversity that will endure beyond your lifetime, and also provide you and your loved ones with significant tax and financial advantages. A commitment made through your will, living trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy will entitle you to membership in the Center's Legacy Society.

To learn more about making a lasting gift, please call us at (866) 357-3349 x. 313 or email us at jshepherd@biologicaldiversity.org.

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START YOUR YEAR OFF RIGHT: **renew** your membership.

January is when our annual membership calendar resets and we start sending membership renewal reminders to our members. If you've recently renewed, thank you! If you're a member but haven't yet received a renewal notice by email or mail, we'll be contacting you shortly.

We cannot do our important work without the support of friends like you—our members are the backbone of the Center. By making your membership renewal contribution, you'll ensure that the Center's team of scientists, lawyers, and activists have the resources we need to save endangered species.

To renew your support for 2010, please call our membership team at (866) 357-3349. Or to renew online, go to renew.biologicaldiversity.org/winter.

Endangered earth

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