

Endangered earth

WINTER 2012



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YEAR IN
REVIEW

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C E N T E R *f o r* B I O L O G I C A L D I V E R S I T Y

2011 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR IN REVIEW

OCEANS

- Secured an endangered listing for the **North Pacific loggerhead sea turtle**.
- Achieved a federal settlement to cut the number of **loggerheads** hooked by Hawaii's swordfish longlines.
- Continued to garner public support for our Bluefin Boycott campaign, with pledges from consumers and restaurant owners not to eat or serve this imperiled **tuna**.



Bluefin tuna

- Landed a promise from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — following our notice of intent to sue — to clean up toxic lead paint on Midway Atoll that kills up to 10,000 Laysan albatross chicks every year and threatens endangered **Laysan ducks**.

SAVING SPECIES: *The 757 Agreement*

- Secured largest agreement in history to push 757 of the nation's most imperiled but least protected species toward protection under the Endangered Species Act, including the **American wolverine**, **Pacific walrus** and **Rio Grande cutthroat trout**.

- By year's end 493 species were pushed along the path to protection under that agreement, including: 374 Southeast freshwater species, 35 species of **springsnails**, the **Miami blue butterfly**, 23 species native to Oahu, the **Ozark hellbender**, 26 **Pacific Northwest mollusks**, eight **freshwater mussels** in the Southeast and the **Casey's June beetle**.



Miami blue butterfly

- Of those, **15** have made it across the finish line and are protected as endangered species.

OVERPOPULATION

- Launched a new nationwide campaign, 7 Billion and Counting, marking the arrival of the 7 billionth person on the planet and publicizing the connection between human overpopulation and species extinction.
- Distributed 100,000 Endangered Species Condoms, handed out in all 50 states by 1,000 volunteers.
- Produced a new, groundbreaking report highlighting the top 10 species threatened by overpopulation in the United States.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ADVOCACY

- Took emergency legal action to stop two **Oregon wolves** from being killed at the hands of the state wildlife agency; petitioned for federal protection of Alaska's **Alexander Archipelago wolves**.
- Won reinstatement of Endangered Species Act protection for the **West Virginia northern flying squirrel** and **Preble's meadow jumping mouse** in Wyoming.
- Helped defeat an "extinction rider" in Congress that would have cut funding for new species listings and habitat protection.
- Successfully fought off Alaska's court challenge to Endangered Species Act protection for **Cook Inlet beluga whales**.
- Won proposed protection for the newly rediscovered **Franciscan manzanita**, of which *just one wild specimen remains*; **Oregon's red tree vole**; and a just-found **tree frog** in Puerto Rico.
- Won federal protection for six foreign birds: **the Cantabrian capercaillie**, **Marquesan imperial pigeon**, **Eiao Marquesas reed warbler**, **greater adjutant**, **Jerdon's courser** and **slender-billed curlew**.



Alexander Archipelago wolf

WILDLIFE HABITAT



Beluga whales

Won protected critical habitat for

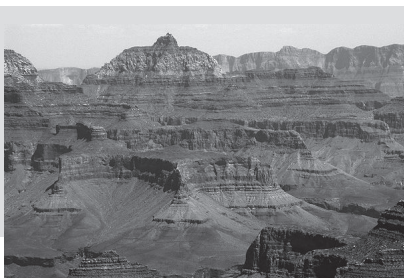
- **Cook Inlet beluga whale:** 2 million acres in Alaska
- **Arroyo toad:** 98,366 acres in Southern California
- **Black abalone:** 89,600 acres along the California shore
- **California tiger salamander:** 47,383 acres in California
- **San Bernardino kangaroo rat:** 33,000 acres (up from 8,000) in California
- **Thread-leaved brodiaea:** 2,947 acres in Southern California
- **Southwestern willow flycatcher:** 2,090 stream miles in the Southwest
- Endangered **golden sedge:** 202 acres in North Carolina
- **Roswell springsnail, Koster's springsnail** and **Pecos assiminea**, all snails, and **Noel's amphipod**, a crustacean: 137 acres in New Mexico, Texas

CLIMATE CRISIS

- In our ongoing **polar bear** protection work, secured a court decision upholding the bear's "threatened" listing, dismissing challenges by state of Alaska and others.
- Along with allies, successfully pushed to stop Shell drilling for oil in **polar bear** critical habitat in the Beaufort Sea in summer 2011.
- After an appeal with our allies, stopped plans for White Pine Energy Station, which would've been one of the largest, most-polluting coal plants in the West.
- Launched our Clean Air Cities campaign in the fall to encourage cities around the country to sign a resolution in support of clean air and a healthy climate.
- With allies, sued to halt illegal construction of the controversial the Keystone XL Pipeline in a 100-mile corridor of Nebraska.

WILD LANDS

- Helped secure an Interior Department proposal to ban new uranium mining over 1 million acres around the Grand Canyon for 20 years.
- Signed a pact with the U.S. Forest Service and other organizations to restore 2.4 million acres on four national forests in northern Arizona.
- Achieved an order from a federal judge to increase protections for 40-plus threatened and endangered species on four national forests in Southern California.
- Won an appeal challenging the 11,000-acre Bonito logging project near Ruidoso, N.M.



Grand Canyon

supporters against mountaintop-removal coal mining, causing the EPA to halt a massive mine planned for Appalachia.

- Won a victory stopping uranium mining on 42 square miles in Colorado.

- Won a court order requiring the Bureau of Land Management to redo plans for ORV use on millions of acres of public lands in California's West Mojave desert.

- Generated 30,000 comments from Center

TOXICS

- Filed the most comprehensive legal action ever brought under the Endangered Species Act to protect more than 200 endangered and threatened species from pesticides.

- Submitted more than 43,000 comments from Center activists to support a petition asking the Environmental Protection Agency to ban atrazine, a chemical that deforms frogs and harms human health.

- Sued the federal government over its failure to protect the **California red-legged frog** from more than 60 pesticides.

- Opposed measures in Congress to weaken rules to protect rivers and streams from pesticides.



California red-legged frog

PHOTO CREDITS: ALEXANDER ARCHIPELAGO WOLF BY ROBIN SILVER; BELUGA WHALE BY MIKE JOHNSTON; MIAMI BLUE BUTTERFLY BY JARET C DANIELS, MCGUIRE CENTER FOR LEPIDOPTERA AND BIODIVERSITY; BLUEFIN TUNA COURTESY NOAA

2011 THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

- 1.3 million:** Number of online actions taken by Center supporters to save wildlife and wild places in 2011
- 757:** Number of species covered under a 2011 Center settlement to speed up decisions on Endangered Species Act protection
- 26:** Number of birds
- 31:** Number of mammals
- 67:** Number of fish
- 13:** Number of reptiles
- 42:** Number of amphibians
- 197:** Number of plants
- 381:** Number of invertebrates
- 493:** Number of species already moved on the path toward protection by press time
- 99:** Percent of its range from which the Miami blue butterfly has been eliminated
- 27:** Years the Miami blue spent as a “candidate” for protection before getting emergency protection under the Center’s 757 species agreement

**1
million**

Number of Grand Canyon
acres protected for
20 years from new
uranium mining



- More than 1,000:** Number of imperiled plants and animals featured on the Center’s new “Species Finder” app for Android mobile phones
- 470,000:** Number of times the Center’s endangered species ringtones have been downloaded
- 150:** Number of countries where the ringtones have been downloaded

- 100:** Number of miles of Nebraska prairie that was mowed to make way for the Keystone XL pipeline even though it hadn’t been approved
- 1:** Number of lawsuits the Center and allies filed to stop it
- 12,000:** Total number of people who encircled the White House to oppose Keystone XL
- 227,000:** Number of people added to the world population each day

7 billion: Number of people in the world as of Oct. 31

18.6 billion: Number of domestic chickens

50: Number of Javan rhinos

12,420: Number of condoms handed out in California

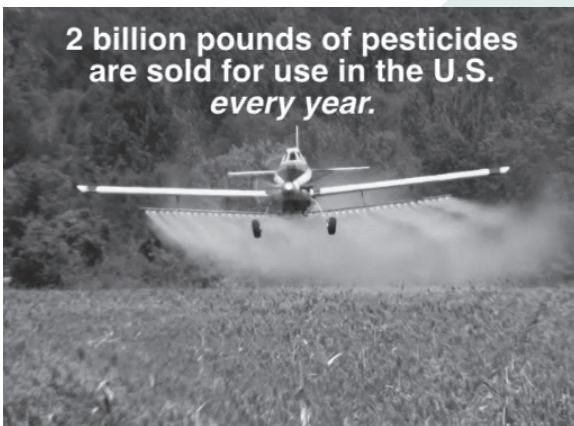
80: Number of condoms handed out in Antarctica

Unknown: Number deployed

**2 billion pounds of pesticides
are sold for use in the U.S.
every year.**

3

Number of public
service ads the Center
ran this summer on a
giant screen in New
York City’s Times
Square highlighting
pesticides and
overpopulation



More than 1 million: Estimate of number of
bats dead from white-nose syndrome

\$3.7 billion to \$53 billion: Estimated value of
bats’ pest-control services in the United States

\$45 million: Estimate of amount needed for
white-nose syndrome response, over five-year
period

\$1.9 million: Amount allocated to white-nose
syndrome in 2011 federal budget

2 billion: Pounds of pesticides sold every year in the United States

214: Number of species that stand to gain from largest-ever suit to protect wildlife from pesticides, filed in January 2011 by the Center and Pesticide Action Network



5,571

Number of Center supporters who signed up to encircle the White House Nov. 6 to protest the Keystone XL pipeline

\$396,000: Price fetched for a single bluefin tuna, for the upscale sushi market, in early 2011

80: Percent by which bluefin tuna has declined because of overfishing since 1970

More than 54,000: Number of signatures on Center's Boycott Bluefin pledge

1: Number of wild specimens left of the Franciscan manzanita, which finally won proposed protections in 2011

5.9 million: Size, in acres, of habitat protected for endangered species by the Center in 2011

2 million: Number of acres protected for Cook Inlet beluga whale

202: Number of acres protected for North Carolina's rare golden sedge

320,000: Number of Center members and online activists in 2011

3: Those in Ireland

1: Those in Tasmania

1,500: Number of cookies baked by a fourth-grade class in Los Angeles for a bake sale benefitting the Center

103: Number of pages in scientific petition seeking protections for Alaska's Alexander Archipelago wolf

50: Mexican gray wolves counted during a January 2011 survey in Arizona and New Mexico

10: Number of years federal agencies have ignored a blue-ribbon panel report recommending immediate changes to Mexican wolf management in the Southwest to improve wolf survival and reproduction

2: Number of Oregon wolves given a temporary reprieve from state shooters following emergency court action by the Center

100,000

Number of Endangered Species Condoms distributed by Center volunteers to mark the world population hitting 7 billion



START YOUR YEAR OFF RIGHT

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Our members' support helped the Center for Biological Diversity win some historic victories for imperiled wildlife and plants in 2011 — from a major agreement pushing 757 species toward Endangered Species Act protection to defeating an “extinction rider” in Congress that would have slashed funding for new species protections to safeguarding a million acres around the Grand Canyon from uranium mining. With your help, we secured more than 2 million acres of protected habitat for Alaska's Cook Inlet beluga whale, stopped Shell from drilling in the Arctic — again — and filed sweeping legal action to protect more than 200 endangered and threatened species from pesticides.

But 2012 brings new and greater challenges. Right-wing members of Congress are gunning for the Endangered Species Act and looking for loopholes in our laws to let more pesticides into our waterways; big industry and other polluters want to open the pristine Arctic to offshore drilling, ram through the disastrous Keystone XL pipeline and put their private profits before the survival of species like wolves, polar bears and sea turtles. We've weathered these kinds of attacks in the past and emerged with an unbeatable track record; we can do it again — with your support. You can ensure our team of scientists, lawyers and activists meets the challenges ahead with another year of victories for wildlife.

To renew your support for 2012, please call our membership team at (866) 357-3349 or renew online at renew.biologicaldiversity.org/winter. Or to contribute regularly to the Center as a Monthly Sustaining Member, sign up online at sustain.biologicaldiversity.org/winter.



Defend the Arctic and species like the **Pacific walrus** from offshore oil and gas drilling by stopping Shell's plans to drill in the Chukchi Sea and opposing President Obama's plans to open up vast areas to new drilling. We'll keep pushing for reforms on offshore drilling in places like the Gulf of Mexico, which has yet to recover from BP's massive 2010 spill.



Fight to curb the global climate crisis that's plaguing people and wildlife, like **pikas** and **penguins**.



We'll make sure the best laws available, especially the Clean Air Act, are fully harnessed to make big reductions in greenhouse gas pollution from factories, cars, power plants and other sources. That will mean defending the Clean Air Act from enemies in Congress and getting cities in all 50 states to join our Clean Air Cities campaign. We'll also work to secure federal protection for species acutely affected by climate change.

Build on our recent victories for **polar bears** by making sure the Obama administration gives them the full protection they need and does not renew Bush-era policies that blocked efforts to address the direst threat they face: global warming. We'll also continue to defend the polar bears' 187 million acres of protected habitat (secured by the Center in 2010) from attacks by the state of Alaska and Big Oil and Gas.

Protect public land and wildlife habitat from disastrous energy projects, including uranium mining near the Grand Canyon, mountaintop removal in Appalachia and the 1,700-mile Keystone XL pipeline stretching from Canada to Texas that threatens **whooping cranes**, **interior least tern** and **pallid sturgeon**.



Expand our groundbreaking work to highlight the disastrous effects of human overpopulation on plants and species around the globe, including **loggerhead sea turtles** and the **San Joaquin kit fox**. We'll give away thousands more of our Endangered Species Condoms, expand our role as a national leader on this issue among environmental groups, and mobilize armies of volunteers to call on world leaders to begin addressing the global population explosion.

Protect the country's most imperiled wolves, including **Mexican wolves** in the Southwest — threatened by hostile politicians and trapping — and Alaska's **Alexander Archipelago wolves**, whose habitat in the Tongass National Forest is being destroyed by logging.



Mount a vigorous new campaign to address ocean acidification and its disastrous effects on coral reefs and hundreds of other ocean creatures. We'll pursue Endangered Species Act protection for 80 **corals** suffering from acidification and push the EPA to finally develop a national plan to address the ocean crisis.



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2012 ACTION PLAN

Keep Congress from destroying the Endangered Species

Act. Anti-environment politicians have put the

Act in their sights and continue to plot ways to undercut the nation's most important law for saving species from extinction. We'll fight all gambits to weaken the Act and strip it of funding; we'll dramatically ramp up our grassroots organizing work, mobilizing thousands of people in defense of the Act and wildlife, from the **California red-legged frog** to the **piping plover**.



Fend off attacks on our historic agreement that pushing 757 imperiled species closer to Endangered Species Act protection. The deal, the most important of its kind in the Act's history, affects species in all 50 states, including the **American wolverine**, **Pacific walrus**, **Rio Grande cutthroat trout**, **scarlet honeycreeper** and **New England cottontail rabbit**.



Move forward with our landmark lawsuit against the EPA to protect more than 200 imperiled species (and public health) from hundreds of pesticides. The case, the most comprehensive legal action ever brought on pesticides under the Endangered Species Act, challenges the use of hundreds

of pesticides that hurt animals like the **Florida panther**, **California condor** and **black-footed ferret**. We'll also petition to save hundreds of frogs, turtles and other



herpetofauna threatened by factors including toxics, pesticides (such as atrazine) and habitat loss.

As we map out the Center's top priorities for 2012, we're counting on the commitment of our 320,000 supporters and activists to extend our reach and multiply our victories. The new year ushers in the challenges of a decidedly anti-environment Congress and mounting threats to species' survival, but our expert, fast-acting staff is ready to do what's needed to keep winning protections for rare and imperiled plants, animals and places.

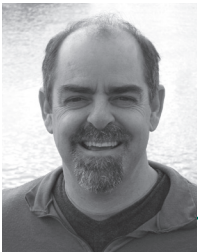
Together we'll defend the Endangered Species Act against renewed attacks, shielding gray wolves, sea turtles and jaguars from attempts to undercut their hard-won safeguards and pressing to bring crucial new protections to some of the nation's most imperiled species. We'll keep fighting to keep offshore oil drilling out of pristine Arctic ecosystems, where a single spill could have devastating consequences for seals, walruses and whales. We'll defeat dangerous energy projects, defend our historic agreement pushing 757 species toward federal protections, work to halt the spread of white-nose syndrome that's killing bats and ramp up our fight to protect people and wildlife from harmful toxics and pesticides.

And to ensure the survival of every species — including us — we'll tackle the gravest threats on Earth: climate change, human overpopulation and overconsumption, and the species extinction crisis. We'll expand our innovative overpopulation campaign, distribute more Endangered Species Condoms and continue to expose the link between explosive population growth and species extinction. Working through our Climate Law Institute to save wildlife from global warming, we'll defend the Clean Air Act (the most important existing law to curb carbon emissions) and continue to rally cities and citizens to speak out for swift, concrete action to address this worldwide crisis.



CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
P.O. Box 710 • Tucson, AZ 85702-0710

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A Watershed Year

From the Director

Kierán Suckling

2011 WAS A BLOCKBUSTER YEAR FOR THE CENTER:

Big victories, big headlines, plenty of big challenges on the horizon.

Without a doubt, the massive agreement we reached in July with the Obama administration is one of the most important developments in the Center's history. The deal, reached after gut-wrenching negotiations over several months, pushes 757 imperiled species around the country closer to protection under the Endangered Species Act. It sets an ambitious, legally binding schedule for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to make decisions on protections for species in all 50 states, including the wolverine, walrus, New England cottontail rabbit and Hawaii's scarlet honeycreeper.

The deal capped a decade-long Center campaign to protect hundreds of the nation's most at-risk species. Although the deal is now only six months old, we've seen huge results, including positive decisions for 374 fish and other freshwater species in the Southeast, 35 Great Basin springsnails, 23 native Hawaiian species, the Ozark hellbender and emergency protections for the Miami blue butterfly.

Amazingly, though, this was only part of what we achieved in 2011.

One of the biggest developments was securing a 20-year ban on new uranium mining on 1 million acres around the Grand Canyon — as well as a separate decision to stop uranium mining on 42 square miles in Colorado — that will save scores of imperiled species and their habitat from toxic mining pollution.

We also won 5.9 million acres of protected critical habitat for species like the Cook Inlet beluga whale, Southern California's arroyo toad, southwestern willow flycatcher, black abalone, San Bernardino kangaroo rat and the rare golden sedge in North Carolina.

We also won an emergency reprieve for two of Oregon's wolves under a death threat from the state wildlife agency, stopped Shell from drilling in the Arctic last summer, defeated the budget-slashing "extinction rider" in Congress, beat back a challenge to Endangered Species Act protections for the polar bear, and reduced the number of imperiled sea turtles killed by fisheries in Hawaii and the Gulf of Mexico.

We launched more creative media projects, including our "Species Finder" app for Android phones; gave away 100,000 Endangered Species Condoms as part of our energetic and innovative new campaign on overpopulation (which notched high-profile praise in *The New York Times*); launched a groundbreaking suit to protect wildlife and people from pesticides; and marshaled hundreds of thousands of supporters to take action on behalf of wildlife, wild places, clean air and a healthy climate.

None of this could happen without you and your support. Thank you.

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Endangered earth

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CONTRIBUTORS

Lydia Millet, Anna Mirocha, Mike Stark

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