Marchers attend the 2017 Peoples Climate March in Washington, D.C. When government agencies fail to protect our fundamental environmental rights, people take the fight to the streets, and Earthjustice takes the fight to the courts. Photo by Bora Chung, Survival Media Agency.
A Letter from Our President and Board Chair

Over the period covered in this annual report, our nation underwent profound changes that you will see reflected in these pages. Early in the year, we won some outstanding victories for the environment that you helped us achieve, including protection of large swaths of the Arctic and Atlantic oceans from oil and gas drilling. Recently, we’ve engaged in fierce fights on multiple fronts to preserve our gains and much more. Our community partners are holding the line against powerful polluters, and others are taking the lead in forging our nation’s clean energy transformation.

In the last election, no one voted against clean air and clean water; no one voted to take away our rights or devastate communities. Yet the Trump administration and industry allies in Congress have taken the election as a mandate to unleash a relentless barrage of attacks on critical environmental and health protections and even on our bedrock environmental laws.

Across the country, people like you are joining forces to fight back and make their voices heard—and you are a mighty force. The passionate commitment of Earthjustice’s allies, partners, and supporters is having an impact in fights ranging from saving national monuments to battling toxic pesticides. We bring to these efforts our unparalleled legal expertise. The law is the single most effective weapon to fend off the administration’s attacks—and for more than 45 years, Earthjustice has been wielding the law to fight for a more just and flourishing world. Today we are stronger than ever, with more than a hundred attorneys in 13 offices across the country.

Most important, you are by our side. Thanks to your tremendous generosity, we have greatly expanded our capacity to respond to these challenges and the many that lie ahead. Thank you for being such a dedicated partner.

Trip Van Noppen
President

George Martin
Chair of the Board of Trustees
“Sometimes there’s virtue in having no choice but to fight like hell, and that’s this moment.”

Abbie Dillen, Earthjustice’s vice president of litigation for climate and energy

The power of the law has never been so important. In times like these, when wealthy corporations have too much sway over our political process, the courts can level the playing field. In court, facts matter.

Earthjustice was created to wield the power of the law to fight those who would harm our communities, our climate, and the natural world, and to enforce our laws when government will not. It won’t be an easy fight, but our resolve—and our passion for justice—has never been stronger.

Across the country, people and organizations are joining forces to defend our basic rights and to fight for the common good. As attorneys representing thousands of groups large and small, partnership is critical to Earthjustice’s success in the courtroom, in Congress, and in our states and local communities.

Equally critical is our partnership with hundreds of thousands of passionate supporters and activists. Their voices—and those of millions more—are key to this fight, and they’re being heard through an outpouring of letters and comments to government agencies, petitions, phone calls, and town hall meetings in communities in every state.

Together, the power of the law and the power of people can bring about true and lasting change.
THE WILD

Defending Public Lands and Wildlife

The Trump administration is moving full speed ahead to open up our nation’s public lands to oil and gas drilling, mining, and logging—and Earthjustice is fighting back. In March, we challenged the administration for reopening tens of thousands of acres of public land to coal industry leasing at bargain-basement prices. We’re representing a coalition of conservationists, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, and tribal activists who are concerned about the harmful impacts of coal mining on the health of their communities and the planet.

In May 2017, we won a significant victory for imperiled wildlife when a federal court overturned government approvals for the proposed Montanore Mine, which would tunnel beneath Montana’s spectacular Cabinet Mountains Wilderness. The massive mine threatened the very survival of one of the last five grizzly bear populations in the lower 48 and would have destroyed some of the region’s last, best habitat for threatened bull trout.

Fighting Drilling in Fragile Ocean Waters

Litigation and advocacy by Earthjustice and its partners secured a historic victory for the climate and some of Earth’s most precious and fragile waters when President Obama issued a permanent ban on new oil and gas drilling in nearly all of the Arctic Ocean and key parts of the Atlantic shortly before leaving office. But in April, President Trump signed an executive order attempting to undo the ban. On behalf of conservation and Alaska Native groups, we filed a lawsuit in May challenging the president’s order.

“Politicians should be heeding the warning from scientists that we are in a new mass wave of extinction by shoring up species protections, not gutting one of the most important and successful wildlife conservation laws ever enacted.”

Marjorie Mulhall, Earthjustice’s legislative director for lands, wildlife, and oceans, is battling some of the most serious threats ever posed to the Endangered Species Act.

Opening these waters to drilling is just one piece of President Trump’s “America First Offshore Energy Executive Order,” which aims to boost energy exploration and production in public offshore waters nationwide and threatens protections for 11 marine sanctuaries and monuments. This order reverses climate progress and imperils coastal communities and irreplacedable wildlife. Earthjustice is using the full power of the law and the strength of partnership to defend our nation’s oceans.
Defending National Monuments and World Heritage Sites

in April 2017, in an attempt to shrink or eliminate federal protections for some of our most cherished public lands and waters and open them up to commercial activities such as drilling, mining, and logging, President Trump ordered a review of national monuments designated in the last 21 years. As we go to press, details of the administration’s plans remain under wraps, but some monuments are clearly headed for the chopping block. At the top of the list is Utah’s Bears Ears, 1.3 million acres of stunning red-rock lands that are sacred to Native Americans and rich in archaeological sites. Others likely to come under the president’s axe include Oregon’s Cascade-Siskiyou and Utah’s Grand Staircase-Escalante, and several marine monuments may also be threatened.

The American public responded with an outpouring of support for these national treasures, and Earthjustice is standing with them. We’re already defending two of the threatened monuments against legal attacks by the logging and commercial fishing industries, and our team of monument defense litigators will challenge unlawful rollbacks by the administration in court. Our International Program is going to bat for threatened World Heritage Sites.

2.7 MILLION PEOPLE submitted comments in response to the Department of Interior’s monuments review

165,000 Earthjustice activists were among the millions

98% favored leaving the monuments intact

After years of advocacy by Earthjustice and our partners, the first national marine monument in the Atlantic Ocean, off the coast of Massachusetts, was established in September 2016. The Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument protects a deep-sea ecosystem that is home to centuries-old cold-water corals and nurseries sharks, sperm whales, and the North Atlantic right whale. We’re defending the monument from a challenge brought by commercial fishing organizations that want to reopen it to extractive activities. Northeast Canyons and Seamounts is one of the national monuments targeted by President Trump’s executive order.
The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe won a historic victory for the rights of indigenous people in December 2016, when the federal government halted the Dakota Access Pipeline, promising to consider alternatives to the route that threatens the Tribe’s water and sacred sites. Although the Trump administration reversed course and allowed the oil pipeline to be completed, in June 2017 a federal judge ruled that the administration had not adequately considered critical oil spill risks and impacts, and ordered additional review. The Tribe and its allies are disappointed that for now oil continues to flow through the pipeline, but whatever the ultimate outcome of this fight, the people of Standing Rock and their allies have forever changed the way the world understands issues of tribal rights and environmental justice. Earthjustice is honored to provide legal representation to the Tribe, and will continue to fight for their rights in court and through the review process.

“The Standing Rock movement marks a turning point in history not only for tribes, but for every American, because the heart of our movement is now the heart of the resistance.… No community should have their interests, public safety, or well-being tossed aside because of the interests of corporations or the politically connected…. We are all in this together.”

Former Standing Rock Sioux Chairman Dave Archambault II

Left to right: Water protectors at the South Sakowin camp near the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation; Earthjustice attorney Jan Hasselman, who represents the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in its lawsuit challenging the Dakota Access Pipeline; talk to reporters; Former Standing Rock Sioux Chairman Dave Archambault II; Phillip Faraone / Stringer

The Trump administration is trying everything to boost the fossil fuel industry and derail climate progress, pushing policy changes that would reopen public lands to coal mine leasing, expedite oil and gas development and infrastructure, and expand offshore drilling—threatening even our marine sanctuaries, which safeguard crucial ocean ecosystems. Earthjustice and our partners are fighting these and other attempts to harm our communities, our natural world, and our climate.

Recently, we won key victories in Congress and the courts against efforts to stall or repeal federal rules preventing oil and gas operations from wasting methane, an extremely potent climate pollutant. Partnering with conservation coalitions, tribes, and community groups, we are challenging new fossil fuel infrastructure that will harm communities and our climate, from California and the Pacific Northwest to New York, from the Great Plains to the Gulf. Our legal expertise supports a growing climate movement across the country.

Fighting for Climate + Energy

Battling the Administration’s Fossil Fuel Agenda

While the Trump administration is working tirelessly to boost the fossil fuel industry and derail climate progress, our teams are fighting back on every front. We have won key victories in Congress and the courts against efforts to stall or repeal federal rules preventing oil and gas operations from wasting methane, an extremely potent climate pollutant. Partnering with conservation coalitions, tribes, and community groups, we are challenging new fossil fuel infrastructure that will harm communities and our climate, from California and the Pacific Northwest to New York, from the Great Plains to the Gulf. Our legal expertise supports a growing climate movement across the country.

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Former Standing Rock Sioux Chairman Dave Archambault II
Championing Clean Energy in the States

States and communities across the country are stepping up to fill the leadership gap left when the United States pulled out of the Paris Agreement on climate change, and are now pioneering the transformation of our energy system. Earthjustice is playing a critical role on the ground to help innovators like California lead the way—as the Golden State is doing with a $7 billion plan to electrify its ports, warehouses, and vehicles and power them with clean energy. And in states after state, we’re defeating attacks on clean energy policies by utilities and fossil fuel interests.

Over the past year, we took part in proceedings in 19 states to advance clean energy. For example, we advocated successfully for a Colorado plan that should result in significant new solar and wind generation. We also won court and regulatory victories that revived the solar industry in Nevada, the second largest solar market in the U.S., after a disastrous decision nearly destroyed it. We’re making progress state by state, despite opposition from powerful interests, because we have the facts on our side as clean energy becomes cheaper than fossil fuels.

Thanks to the power of partnership, we’re making headway for clean energy even in states where politicians and industry are fighting it. In fall 2016, Earthjustice and our allies rallied the public to vote down a utility-sponsored ballot measure that would have stunted the growth of customer-based rooftop solar in Florida. And in spring 2017, we reached a favorable settlement over a rate restructuring proposal by a Florida utility that would not only have increased customer bills, but also would have discouraged energy conservation and investment in renewables, setting a terrible precedent for the rest of the state and nation. While we brought our legal expertise to bear, our clients, including the League of Women Voters of Florida, rallied their members to forcefully voice their opposition to the proposal.

On the global stage, Earthjustice’s International Program is working closely with our partners to stop coal mines and coal-fired power plants in countries where we can make the biggest difference, from Australia to South Asia to South Africa and beyond. Our International team is also supporting global clean energy champions such as the South Pacific island state of Palau. We’re providing legal analysis and drafting assistance to help Palau update its laws to help attract investment in renewable energy, from rooftop solar to commercial wind and solar facilities.

In Kenya, we’re working with government officials to help reduce emissions of methane, an extremely potent but short-lived climate pollutant, from vast unmanaged municipal landfills across the country. We’re helping Kenya’s national environmental agency to draft the necessary legal and regulatory reforms, test implementation strategies, and facilitate the installation of landfill gas-capture technologies and other emissions reduction measures.

Earthjustice collaborates with AIDA—the InterAmerican Association for Environmental Defense—in enforcing environmental law in Latin America.

Championing Clean Energy in the States

Earthjustice supports Australian conservationists and indigenous peoples opposing massive coal mines in the Galilee Basin that would destroy the health of the Great Barrier Reef and the traditional lands of the Wangan and Jagalingou Aboriginal people.

Earthjustice is supporting South African partners working to halt the expansion of a massive coal-fired power plant that would destroy a protected marine site and harm hundreds of endangered Cape vultures and rare dolphins.

Earthjustice’s vice president of litigation for climate and energy, Abbie Dillen, leads Earthjustice’s legal team working to achieve the essential shift from fossil fuels to 100% clean energy.
A proposal to site a massive municipal solid-waste incinerator in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, is fiercely opposed by local residents and communities across the island, who have, to date, managed to keep the project from going forward. The incinerator would emit tons of hazardous pollutants in an area already suffering from unsafe levels of lead and other toxic emissions. The proposed project would lock Puerto Rico—already grappling with a severe debt crisis and the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Maria—into an extremely costly and dirty means of handling its trash. Earthjustice is providing legal support to local citizens’ groups in their efforts to protect their community from this disastrous project.

The all-out assault on critical health and environmental protections that we now face hits hardest those communities that already bear a disproportionate burden of pollution—communities of color and low-income communities. But the people who live, work, and play in neighborhoods heavily impacted by pollution have been fighting this injustice for years, and now they are stepping up the fight.

Earthjustice is honored to support a broad range of communities across the country in their fights against industrial pollution, from oil drill sites and refineries to waste incinerators and freeways clogged with freight trucks. We’re building partnerships in new regions and alliances with organizations that work on a wide range of issues. We’re a core member of the Clean Water for All campaign and the Campaign for Lead-Free Water, which focus on protecting communities’ drinking water supplies, and the Moving Forward Network, which seeks to advance clean freight policies. We’re part of a coalition working to electrify the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, and another that successfully pressed LA Metro to make the nation’s largest investment in clean electric buses—a victory for clean air, a healthy climate, and good jobs in Los Angeles.

In Los Angeles, we love to drive, but powering our cars cannot come at the expense of fellow Angelenos and South Los Angeles cannot be treated as a sacrifice zone. The city can and should do far more to protect this community—and we will keep fighting until they do.”

Earthjustice attorney Angela Johnson Hassanzadeh, who is working with community partners to force the city to crack down on the harms caused by an oil drilling site in densely populated South L.A.
Opposing Toxic Chemicals in Products

An updated chemical safety law, passed after nearly a decade of advocacy by a coalition that includes Earthjustice, gives the EPA more authority to regulate chemicals in the U.S. marketplace. But its effectiveness depends largely on how reform measures are implemented. With former chemical industry advocates now holding key positions within the EPA, Earthjustice and our partners are working overtime to ensure the agency adequately protects children and other vulnerable populations from harmful chemicals. We continue to ramp up efforts on multiple fronts to reduce exposures to lead, which can have irreversible consequences for children, including decreased IQ, behavioral and learning problems, and damage to the brain and nervous system. We challenged the EPA in court for failing to update its standards for lead in dust and paint; we are vigorously urging the agency to strengthen protections against lead in drinking water; and we are petitioning government agencies to ban lead in a variety of products, including hair dyes.

New York State will soon require manufacturers of cleaning products to disclose the chemical ingredients in their products and any health risks they pose, thanks to litigation and years of advocacy by Earthjustice and our partners. In April 2017, the state released draft guidance requiring manufacturers to report the information on their websites—an approach that will have nationwide impact. What we need now is a comprehensive database that will facilitate easy comparisons among all the products.

Safeguarding Communities from Harmful Pesticides

Earthjustice is back in court in our decade-long fight to compel the EPA to do its job and ban the use of the neurotoxic pesticide chlorpyrifos on food crops. After years of foot-dragging and under a court-ordered deadline to make a decision, the agency was finally poised to ban this dangerous pesticide, which can damage children’s developing brains and poison agricultural workers and people near the fields when the spray drifts. But in March 2017, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt reversed course and refused to ban chlorpyrifos, despite the agency’s own scientific assessment that there are no safe uses for the pesticide.

We’re challenging that decision, representing a broad coalition of health and civil rights groups and farmworker activists. We’ve also supporting legislation to ban chlorpyrifos, and we organized with partners to fly physicians, farmworkers, labor leaders, and teachers of students with learning disabilities to Washington, D.C., to share their personal stories about the negative impacts of chlorpyrifos.

“It is shameful that EPA, an agency that is mandated to protect people and communities, refuses to ban chlorpyrifos despite the harmful health impacts it has on children and farmworkers. Without a chlorpyrifos ban, we certainly know that more and more farmworkers and their children will be poisoned.”

Hector E. Sanchez, executive director, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement

Opposite page: Claudia Angulo, a former worker at a food-processing plant and now an activist, stands with her son Isaac, who suffers from serious learning disabilities. During her pregnancy, Claudia was exposed to chlorpyrifos while sorting pesticide-covered produce at the plant. Craig Kohlruss
The critical work described in this report would not have been possible without your amazing generosity and commitment. Your outstanding financial support was perhaps the loudest mandate for Earthjustice as an organization that we have heard in our entire history. Here are some of the highlights of this past fiscal year:

• Earthjustice closed this fiscal year on June 30, 2017, with approximately $43 million in funds raised over our original budget.
• Our overall donor base increased by 35,000 donors across the country, which is a 44 percent increase over 2016.
• For the ninth year in a row, Earthjustice received Charity Navigator’s highest rating of 4 stars—an accomplishment achieved by only 2 percent of all charities that Charity Navigator analyzes.

Earthjustice has heard your call to action and is responding in kind. To make sure we are not just meeting environmental fights head on but also getting ahead of them, we have made the bold decision to increase our annual budget by 30 percent this year. We have added attorneys, our first-ever staff scientist, and key staff for our advocacy and communications team and our policy and legislation team. Altogether, these increases represent approximately 50 new full-time employees.

Much of the work we embark on today is not only critical to defend against the actions of the current administration, but will continue to be necessary for years to come. Earthjustice needs to remain well-resourced in order to have the expertise and the stamina to stay the course over the long haul and see these fights through to their end—even if they take a decade or more.

We believe this is a pivotal moment in history. Someday, organizations that work within the judicial system will look back with pride on our collective efforts at this moment, when we threw our all into the fight to defend the environment and our very democracy.

You have the sincere gratitude of all of us at Earthjustice for your investment in our work, and for what you are helping us accomplish. We take your commitment seriously and promise you our best in return.
As the world’s premier public-interest environmental law organization, we represent a wide diversity of clients, from small grassroots groups to large national organizations. Thanks to the generous support of individual donors and foundations, we are able to represent our clients free of charge, which allows us to choose cases strategically, rather than based on a client’s ability to pay. In addition to the hundreds of clients listed here that we formally represent, there are scores of others with whom we partner, co-counsel, and ally to achieve our goals.
“Your exquisite sense of strategy and timing is just one part of what puts Earthjustice at the very top of my list of great organizations. It’s truly an honor to witness the brilliance of legal minds driven by passion for the common good.”

Maggie Coons, Chair, Methow Valley Citizens Council
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Kootenai Weavers  
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| Q | Kootenai Weavers  
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Maryland League of Conservation Voters  
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Surfrider Foundation
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Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
Tennessee Clean Water Network
Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services
The Bay Institute
The Bear Company
The Fuel Fund of Maryland
The Moms on a Mission Hui
The Wilderness Society
Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc.
Timucua Preserve Football Club
Timucua Women’s Association
Tir Nisun Ok Aini
Tokoro O’Hoban Nation
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Toxic-Free Future
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Tahiti Tribes
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Union of Concerned Scientists
United Farm Workers of America
United Parents Against Lead National, Inc.
United Steelworkers
United Tribal Transboundary Mining Working Group
Upper Missouri Breaks Audubon Society
Upper Missouri River Waterkeeper
Unak National Park Society
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Unak Mountains Un’ak Tribe
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Voyageurs National Park Association
Wagen & Jagdungs Family Council
Washington Environmental Council
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Washington Tribes
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West Virginia Highlands Conservancy
Western Colorado Congress
Western Grid Group
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Western Resource Advocates
Western Waterkeepers Project, Inc.
Wildlife and Dugongs Conservation
Wildlachs Guardians
Wildlachs Watch
Wildlachs Workshop
Wildlachs CPR
Wildlachs Network
Winnebago Wast Tribe
Winnebago Alliance
Wolves-Chumash Foundation
Wolf Conservation Center
Women’s Voices for the Earth
Workforce, Inc.
World Wildlife Fund
Wrangell Resource Council
WV Solar United Neighborhoods - Community Power Network
Wyoming Outdoor Council
Wyoming Wildlife Advocates
Yakutat Siusi Tribe
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1 Arizona Landowner
1 Coral Reef Advocate
1 Meat Farmer
1 Wolf Recovery Leader
2 East Coast Fishermen
2 Mid-Atlantic Fishermen
3 Local Officials in Shrewsbury, York County, Pennsylvania
3 Hawai’i County Farmers
30 Residents of Pennsylvania
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4 Residents of Hawai’i
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6 Residents of Uniontown, Alabama
8 Residents of the City of Rochelle, Georgia
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<td>William Newson</td>
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### EARTHJUSTICE COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Angel</td>
<td>President, Earthjustice, Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Axelson</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Gimbels</td>
<td>President, Earthjustice, New York, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Barron</td>
<td>Executive Director, Earthjustice, Seattle, WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evan Bennett</td>
<td>President, Earthjustice, Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryan Bennett</td>
<td>Chief Legal Officer, Earthjustice, Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Davis</td>
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<td>Conner Harvey</td>
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<td>Lisa Kim</td>
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<td>Judy Drake</td>
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TOGETHER

WE WIN.
Earthjustice is the premier nonprofit public interest environmental law organization. We wield the power of law and the strength of partnership to protect people’s health; to preserve magnificent places and wildlife; to advance clean energy; and to combat climate change. **We are here because the earth needs a good lawyer.**