I BELIEVE WE CAN RISE TO MAKE THE COMING YEARS A TIME OF RENEWED AND PERHAPS UNPARALLELED COMMON CAUSE — YEARS OF COMPASSION, HELP, AND GRACE.

Earthjustice President Abigail Dillen

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The climate crisis is fully upon us, and yet as people around the world struggle with extreme weather, raging wildfires, and a global pandemic, the Trump administration this year stepped up its attacks on our country’s bedrock environmental and public-health laws. But thanks to the extraordinary partnership of supporters like you, Earthjustice fought back, holding the line against this onslaught. Now, with a new administration preparing to take office, we have the opportunity to repair and rebuild — and to work toward a thriving, equitable, and climate-resilient world, leaving no one behind.

In the following pages, you will read about just a few of the many remarkable court wins Earthjustice secured on behalf of our clients this year, from a U.S. Supreme Court ruling preserving Clean Water Act protections to a federal court decision striking down a permit for the Dakota Access pipeline. With our partners, we defended national clean-air protections, blocked oil and gas drilling on sacred Native lands, and protected endangered North Atlantic right whales from seismic airgun blasting. You will also read about our ongoing defense of key environmental laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Protection Act, and our efforts to clean up deadly air pollution while combating climate change. None of these achievements would be possible without the formidable strength and commitment of our clients and partners, many of whom live and work on the frontlines of our battles for a healthy, thriving environment.

We are living in a moment of transformative change. The intertwining crises of climate, public health, rampant inequality, and extinction are laying bare the many ways in which our current systems are broken, and the huge challenges that lie ahead. But as difficult as this moment is, it also holds the promise that we can make common cause to turn the tide and start to create a healthier and more just world for everyone. The election is over, but our collective fight to defend our planet and our most impacted communities is not. We are all part of one interconnected fight, and we need each other now more than ever. Thank you for joining us!
Our attorneys win even when the deck is stacked against us — because our environmental legal expertise is unparalleled.

Our clients and partners are a powerful force to be reckoned with even when the odds are against them — because they’re fighting for what’s just and right.

In November 2019, Earthjustice attorney David Henkin presented arguments in a key Clean Water Act case at the U.S. Supreme Court. Melissa Lyttle for Earthjustice

FIGHTING FOR PEOPLE AND THE PLANET

WE WILL NEVER BACK DOWN … BECAUSE THESE ARE THE FIGHTS WE CAN’T AFFORD TO LOSE

Together, we take on the corrupt and powerful, and we won’t rest until all people and our planet are protected, and all life can thrive.
CLEAN WATER WIN AT THE U.S. SUPREME COURT

“This decision is a huge victory for clean water. The Supreme Court has rejected the Trump administration’s effort to blow a big hole in the Clean Water Act’s protections for rivers, lakes, and oceans.”

Earthjustice attorney David Henkin speaking on an April 2020 ruling by the nation’s highest court that shut down industry efforts to create a major loophole in one of the nation’s most effective environmental laws. The decision was the culmination of over a decade of Earthjustice advocacy on behalf of four organizations based in Maui, Hawaii, challenging the County of Maui’s use of injection wells at a wastewater treatment facility that is injecting polluted water into groundwater that flows into the ocean, devastating a formerly pristine coral reef.

UNPRECEDENTED VICTORY FOR THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE

“After years of commitment to defending our water and earth, we welcome this news of a significant legal win. It’s humbling to see how actions we took four years ago to defend our ancestral homeland continue to inspire national conversations about how our choices affect this planet.”

Chairman Mike Faith of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe responding to a March 2020 federal court ruling that struck down a permit for the Dakota Access pipeline, finding that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers failed to consider the health and environmental impacts to the Tribe in the event of an oil spill. The court ordered the Corps to complete a full environmental review. Earthjustice represents the Tribe in its ongoing fight to stop the pipeline.
YELLOWSTONE GRIZZLY BEAR PROTECTIONS UPHOLDED

In July 2020, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Earthjustice’s momentous 2018 federal court win restoring Endangered Species Act protections to Greater Yellowstone region grizzly bears. Our grizzly bear litigation and advocacy aims to aid the restoration of contiguous and connected bear populations in the Northern Rockies, an essential condition for bears to recover and survive.

“The Northern Cheyenne Tribe applauds the victory for the Grizzly Bear in the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and we stand by our eternal commitment to protect the Earth and the Grizzly from extinction. We remain unified with our allies who have sustained their efforts to advocate for Yellowstone Grizzly Bears and their right to live and flourish in their home ranges.”

William Walks Along, Tribal Administrator for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe

ADVANCING EQUITABLE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Earthjustice is partnering with environmental justice leaders from across the country and with other national environmental groups to advance an ambitious vision of equitable climate solutions that build an inclusive, just, and pollution-free economy and ensure that no community is left behind. In July 2019, the group released the Equitable and Just National Climate Platform, which is shaping our climate work and how we define its success. Since then, we and our partners have advocated for environmental and climate justice by, among other things:

• Providing input to the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis to inform its landmark climate action plan, which centers environmental justice, equity, and reducing toxic industrial pollution

• Advocating for COVID-19 relief and recovery spending that alleviates public health risks in communities particularly vulnerable to the virus, supports programs that protect clean water and help households meet their energy costs, and reduces pollution while creating jobs in communities with high unemployment

• Meeting with key congressional leaders to share the Platform and urge lawmakers to craft national climate policies that advance racial, economic, and environmental justice
RIGHT TO ZERO: FIGHTING FOR THE CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR

Through our flagship Right to Zero campaign in California, we are working in close partnership with environmental-justice groups to clean up some of the dirtiest air in the nation while also reducing climate pollution. We are building out this highly successful campaign in other regions and scaling up our transportation work more broadly at the state and federal levels, with a focus on resilient communities combating deadly diesel pollution. Among many gains over the last year, our Right to Zero team in California helped secure:

- In July 2020, the Centre for Environmental Rights, with assistance from Earthjustice, won a decision in which the South African Water Tribunal invalidated the water use license of the proposed 600 MW Khanyisa coal-fired power plant in Mpumalanga province. At a time when coal and other fossil fuels generate 91% of energy in South Africa, this win sends a clear message to the country’s biggest polluters, builds momentum for a cleaner energy system, and speaks to the growing movement fighting climate change around the world.

- Passage of the nation’s first electric-truck mandate, which means by 2035, the majority of all new trucks sold in California will be zero-emissions.

- Commitment by the city of Los Angeles to electrify its garbage trucks by 2035.

- More than $500 million in new investments in transportation electrification, including the largest single utility investment in U.S. history, with much of the funding targeted in low-income communities.

- A state rule requiring virtually all ships visiting California ports to plug in to shore-side power or capture their emissions, reducing NOx emissions by 1,620 tons per year statewide by 2032.

- Commitment to electrify shuttle fleets at 13 large airports.

- A state rule that will make the next generation of diesel trucks 90% cleaner, reducing emissions of harmful NOx by 8,448 tons per year by 2031.

BLOCKING COAL PLANTS OVERSEAS

In July 2020, the Centre for Environmental Rights, with assistance from Earthjustice, won a decision in which the South African Water Tribunal invalidated the water use license of the proposed 600 MW Khanyisa coal-fired power plant in Mpumalanga province. At a time when coal and other fossil fuels generate 91% of energy in South Africa, this win sends a clear message to the country’s biggest polluters, builds momentum for a cleaner energy system, and speaks to the growing movement fighting climate change around the world.

STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CLEAN-AIR PROTECTIONS

Earthjustice and our partners stalled a massive petrochemical project in the Ohio River Valley proposed by Mountaineer NGL Storage. We brought lawsuits challenging permits to construct an underground storage hub to store toxic and explosive chemicals used for processing into plastics. Rather than face a tough court fight, in September 2020 the company requested that the permits be canceled in order to redo the process from scratch with proper public input. The storage project would feed a much larger operation to generate plastics for single-use products; now that project is also stalled.

Earthjustice won a series of federal appeals court rulings in 2019 to protect people from ozone pollution. Collectively these victories should improve air quality for millions, save hundreds of lives, and prevent hundreds of thousands of asthma attacks every year. Now we’re defending the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards, rules that have dramatically reduced emissions of mercury, soot, and other harmful pollutants from power plants. We are also part of a coalition challenging the administration’s weakening of vehicle emissions and fuel-economy standards that have been instrumental in slashing climate pollution, reducing oil dependence, and saving drivers billions of dollars.

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

2035

Commitment by the city of Los Angeles to electrify its garbage trucks by 2035

$500M

More than $500 million in new investments in transportation electrification, including the largest single utility investment in U.S. history, with much of the funding targeted in low-income communities.

1,620 TONS

A state rule requiring virtually all ships visiting California ports to plug in to shore-side power or capture their emissions, reducing NOx emissions by 1,620 tons per year statewide by 2032.

13 AIRPORTS

Commitment to electrify shuttle fleets at 13 large airports

90% CLEANER

A state rule that will make the next generation of diesel trucks 90% cleaner, reducing emissions of harmful NOx by 8,448 tons per year by 2031.
In June 2020, a federal appeals court upheld the cancellation of the last remaining federal oil and gas lease in Montana’s Badger–Two Medicine region adjacent to Glacier National Park — a historic decision that protects lands and waters sacred to the Blackfeet people and critical for wildlife habitat. Earthjustice represented tribal and conservation groups opposing efforts by the leaseholder to conduct exploratory drilling on the lease. (See p. 24 for more on one of our partners in the long-term fight to save this extraordinary place.)

Defending Communities Threatened by “Forever Chemicals”

Representing environmental and community groups, Earthjustice filed suit against the Department of Defense (DOD) in February 2020 for entering into contracts with waste-management companies to incinerate stockpiles of toxic PFAS-based firefighting foam without any environmental review. The DOD is the nation’s largest user of firefighting foam containing PFAS, a class of highly persistent and toxic chemicals that are known to cause cancer, liver disease, infertility, and other serious health effects. Our clients include communities threatened by the release of PFAS and other toxic chemicals from this incineration.

Blocking drilling on public lands

In May 2020, we won two rulings protecting a vast swath of public lands in the interior West from oil and gas drilling when a federal court struck down a Bureau of Land Management policy attempting to circumvent sage-grouse protections on millions of acres, and separately struck down numerous leases in Montana due to inadequate environmental assessment. Together, the two decisions set aside 440 oil and gas leases covering about 336,000 acres in Montana and Wyoming.

Blockining seismic blasting in the Atlantic

In October 2020, Earthjustice cemented a victory in our long-running battle to protect imperiled North Atlantic right whales and other marine wildlife from seismic blasting in the Atlantic Ocean. After two years of litigation over permits for the seismic airgun surveys, the oil and gas industry revealed that it will shelve plans to employ seismic airgun blasting to search the Atlantic Ocean for offshore petroleum deposits this year, and for the immediate future — sparing the remaining 400 or so North Atlantic right whales from this devastating practice.

Defending Communities Threatened by “Forever Chemicals”

In June 2020, Earthjustice won a final judgement in our challenge to a massive logging project on Prince of Wales Island in Alaska’s Tongass National Forest — a vital carbon sink, wildlife habitat, and important subsistence resource for local residents. A federal judge ruled that the U.S. Forest Service violated environmental laws when it approved the sale, the agency must now conduct a new environmental review.
When the federal government wants to allow a toxic-waste incinerator in your neighborhood or an oil pipeline near your drinking water supply, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) provides a crucial avenue for communities to make their voices heard. NEPA also requires federal agencies to consider alternatives and the full impacts of their decisions on people, public health, and the natural world. The Trump administration gutted NEPA regulations to benefit corporate polluters, but Earthjustice and our partners won’t let that stand. Representing environmental justice, conservation, and outdoor recreation groups, we challenged the administration’s assault on NEPA and are pursuing an aggressive legislative and communications campaign to defend this bedrock law.

Earthjustice is fighting multiple attempts by the administration to undermine the Clean Water Act (CWA). In addition to our U.S. Supreme Court victory blocking an attempt to open a huge loophole in the act (see p. 8), we are fighting an administration rule that would remove CWA protections from nearly one in every five streams, more than half of all wetlands, and many other waters. We are also challenging a rule change by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that severely undermines the ability of states and tribes to block construction of projects, such as gas pipelines, that harm waters within their borders.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is powerful and effective, and is urgently needed to help counter the extinction crisis. Yet in the last two years, politicians backed by extractive industries have brought to life some of the most serious threats to this landmark conservation law. Earthjustice and our partners have beaten back multiple legislative attempts to undermine the law and are in court challenging the administration’s 2019 regulatory changes that dramatically weaken the ESA. We are gearing up to oppose additional rule changes that would make it harder to protect habitat that imperiled species need to survive.
AS ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING HUNDREDS OF GROUPS LARGE AND SMALL, PARTNERSHIP IS CRITICAL TO EARTHJUSTICE'S MISSION.

Our clients and allies are the guiding force for both the strategy and spirit of our advocacy. On the following pages you will find profiles of four groups we represent, followed by a list of all of our current clients. The work these groups do is critically important, and we encourage you to investigate them more fully. Together we wield the power of the law and the strength of partnership to fight for justice and a healthy environment for all.
Laura Cortez and Taylor Thomas are co-directors of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, a community-based group that organizes in East Los Angeles, Southeast Los Angeles, and Long Beach communities that are directly impacted by pollution from multiple industrial and transportation sources. Earthjustice works with East Yard on a range of issues, from electrifying transportation infrastructure at the LA and Long Beach ports to advocating at the statewide level for policies that strengthen clean-air protections. Among our many achievements together, in 2018 we helped secure the California Public Utilities Commission’s approval of a $738 million investment in electric-vehicle charging infrastructure. In Southern California, much of the funding will go into trucks and port equipment that are major culprits in the region’s air quality crisis.

East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, formed in 2001, organizes neighborhoods where residents live with significant health impacts caused by industrial pollution from, among other sources, the railyards that serve as a hub for trains and trucks that move goods to and from the LA and Long Beach ports. At first, says Laura Cortez, “It was community members just coming together and sharing knowledge, and starting to not only raise awareness but ask what we can do about it, what policies can we pass.”

Now, in addition to advocacy work at the local level, East Yard also works at the regional and state levels on policies and legislation that impact all their cities. Developing leadership capacity within the communities is a major focus as well, to enable people to advocate for themselves. “The goal of our organization is really to empower ourselves to engage in these different spaces where decisions are being made for us,” says Taylor Thomas.
"I think there’s a perception that our communities don’t care about the environment, that they aren’t invested in politics and civic engagement, and that they aren’t invested in policy," Thomas says. "Folks know, they care, they are invested, and they do engage when they know what’s going on and there are avenues and pathways for them to get involved." But the system puts up a lot of barriers to community involvement, whether it be language issues, meeting times that are impossible for people to make, lack of childcare, or poor public transportation. "The way our society is structured makes it very hard, and so folks aren’t really seen as being visible and active in their own communities, and we know that that’s not the case."

Like many of East Yard’s core team, Cortez and Thomas grew up in the area and joined the organization as members, learning about the issues and how to be effective advocates before becoming staff. "It’s because we were able to grow as members of the organization that we completely understand the issues, how they’re intersectional, interregional, interracial, and all of these complexities," says Cortez.

"I started at East Yard for the community," says Cortez. "What keeps me at East Yard is understanding that this isn’t just about taking care of the environment—which is really important—this is about addressing the systems that are actively working to kill us. There are systems out there that are straight up saying, this community is expendable, the people here can die, and that is OK. And I think that is infuriating, and I want other people to be just as mad, but I also want other people to feel just as held and loved in this community, that yes we are valued. I think East Yard gives both of those things: The anger of knowing people don’t value you, and conceptualizing that, but understanding that we value each other."
John Murray is tribal historic preservation officer for the Blackfeet Nation and leads the Pikuni Traditionalist Association, a group of people who are keepers of Blackfeet sacred medicine bundles and who seek to block oil and gas development in the Badger–Two Medicine region of Montana. Earthjustice represents the Pikuni Traditionalist Association and other groups who successfully fought for the cancellation of the last remaining federal oil and gas lease within the Badger–Two Medicine region of Montana. Earthjustice represents the Pikuni Traditionalist Association and other groups who successfully fought for the cancellation of the last remaining federal oil and gas lease within the Badger–Two Medicine region of Montana. Earthjustice represents the Pikuni Traditionalist Association and other groups who successfully fought for the cancellation of the last remaining federal oil and gas lease within the Badger–Two Medicine region of Montana.

Preserving Cultural Heritage

JOHN MURRAY

John Murray is tribal historic preservation officer for the Blackfeet Nation and leads the Pikuni Traditionalist Association, a group of people who are keepers of Blackfeet sacred medicine bundles and who seek to block oil and gas development in the Badger–Two Medicine region of Montana. Earthjustice represents the Pikuni Traditionalist Association and other groups who successfully fought for the cancellation of the last remaining federal oil and gas lease within the Badger–Two Medicine region of Montana.

“"The Badger–Two Medicine is a living landscapes," says John Murray. "It is used and has been used over a long period of time. The Blackfeet people, the Pikuni, didn’t just go out and announce that they were using it. But scientifically we know that we’ve been there at least 13,000 years. So how do you take something like that and put it into a little question like why is it important to us? I don’t know. The area is important to us; it has been for a long time, and it continues to be important to us; to the future."
Murray has been fighting for many years to protect the Badger–Two Medicine region from oil and gas development. He is also a scholar who has done extensive ethnographic research into the Blackfeet people’s long history in the region. His wife, Carol, a college administrator, started the Blackfeet Studies Department at Blackfeet Community College in the 1990s, and he taught there for 10 years.

“The Blackfoot knowledge system in which we interact with nature and the universe itself is still intact,” Murray says. “It’s a critical state, it nearly died out, but it’s on its way back, there are more people getting involved in it. At the time the Piikii Traditionalist Association was put together, there were only three medicine bundles in the United States. Right now there are more than 50 medicine bundles.”

Part of the Blackfeet people’s ancestral homelands, the Badger–Two Medicine region is home to many of their traditional foods and medicines, and central to many of their ceremonies and creation stories. The Blackfeet ceded the Badger–Two Medicine area and lands that would become part of Glacier National Park to the federal government in a controversial 1895 agreement in which they retained treaty rights to hunt and gather. But Murray and others believe the original signers thought they were leasing the lands to the government for 99 years and that they never intended to permanently give up the lands.

All of the parties involved in fighting oil and gas development in Badger–Two Medicine want to see the land protected permanently, but they may not always agree on the best way to do that: Environmentalists and recreationists have their own interests that sometimes conflict with Blackfeet uses and values, such as wanting to build new trails and intrude into areas where Blackfeet activities take place.

“We know that the sacred mountains of Glacier Park have become unresponsive since the park has been there. In the name of conservation, there are something like 3 million visitors a year. And so we want to protect the Badger–Two Medicine from that potential sterilization of our ways in the mountains there.

“There was an agreement that was made between two sovereign nations about the Badger–Two Medicine,” Murray says. “And there’s this presupposition that we gave up certain things, so in a reciprocal sense, maybe they can give something up this time, and right the wrong that was done.”

The Blackfoot knowledge system in which we interact with nature and the universe itself is still intact.

John Murray

Sunset over an alpine meadow with views into the Two Medicine Valley and Triple Divide Peak. Ryan McKee/CC BY-ND 2.0
Michele Roberts is national co-coordinator of the Environmental Justice Health Alliance for Chemical Policy Reform, a network of legacy grassroots organizations from communities along the “fenceline” of polluting industrial facilities and the environmental-justice advocates who serve them. EJHA provides the capacity support the local organizations need in order to boost their fights against some of our nation’s most egregious industrial polluters. Earthjustice has partnered with EJHA in multiple legal efforts, including working to reform the Chemical Facility Antiterrorism Standards, strengthen rules for ethylene oxide medical sterilizers and emissions, strengthen protections from polluting refineries, and save and strengthen the National Environmental Protection Act, and we recently filed a legal challenge to the MON Chemical Plants Rule. In a more just and aligned effort to address the climate crisis, EJHA and Earthjustice collaborated with other environmental-justice and national groups to develop the Equitable and Just National Climate Platform released in 2019 (see p. 10).

"The communities we work with span across the U.S., from Mossville, Louisiana, to folks in St. Lawrence Island, Alaska; Houston, Texas; Richmond, California; Wilmington, Delaware, and Louisville, Kentucky; people concerned about chemical safety in Appalachia and West Virginia, folks out in California and New Mexico —
these are what they call beloved communities,” Roberts says. “I have found that all of these folks are fighting for their communities because they absolutely love the places they call home, irrespective of their beginnings. For us, conservation and stewardship means honoring the place we call home.

“What we hope is to reform the regime of chemical management systems to the point of placing health as the bedrock and cornerstone of protection. Industrial and economic development systems should be driven by a public-health narrative that places equity and justice at its core, thereby making no one a sacrifice and/or leaving no one behind. No one should be living in a sacrifice zone — that should not be something we say.”

Many of the communities EJHA serves are considered “legacy.” Historically, they lived disparately and have been subjected to racial and economic injustice as well as long-standing pollution from multiple sources. And now, Roberts says, “these are the communities in the crosshairs of the climate crisis, the COVID-19 crisis, a racial pandemic that we’ve never really solved crisis, and all of this.” They have fought back against these multiple injustices, and together with Earthjustice, during the Obama administration made some modest gains, but these have been either cut, rolled back, or suspended by the Trump administration — and a whole new layer of challenges has been added in the face of the pandemics.

But Roberts sees progress in the fact that environmental-justice and national environmental group advocates worked together to create the Equitable and Just National Climate Platform, a bold national climate-policy agenda that advances the goals of economic, racial, climate, and environmental justice. The Climate Platform, Roberts says, “gives our folks hope because they were part of the creation of that platform. Their stories are the stones within that platform that we stand upon. We need a win people see themselves in.”

After the Platform was released, the groups worked together on Capitol Hill, advocating for the inclusion of environmental-justice issues in the climate action plan published by the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. “The entire piece is built on the foundation of systemic racism where finally it is a mandate that environmental-justice must be threaded throughout any and all responses to this climate crisis,” Roberts says. “Meaning we have finally gotten to a point where we’re making sure that we are including environmental-justice language into climate and energy policy, which for us is huge. Even in this dark political time, look at the works we’ve been able to do together to unify at least Congress in putting together a report that reflects the needs of the people. That, along with the Environmental Justice for All Act, we have no other choice but to WIN! We the EJHA are proud to work together toward a more just planet and world. We have hope and we hope that together we CAN win!”
Myrna Conty is president of Amigos del Río Guaynabo, an environmental and community organization that defends the Guaynabo River watershed and protects other natural resources in Puerto Rico, particularly water resources. She is also coordinator of the Coalición de Organizaciones Anti-Incineración, a coalition of citizens and more than 35 organizations concerned about waste incinerators in Puerto Rico. Earthjustice has partnered with both organizations to fight a proposed incinerator in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and to advocate for a shift to clean, renewable energy across the island. Most recently, in August our advocacy helped influence the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau to approve a long-term energy plan for the island’s electric utility that rejected most of the utility’s planned gas plants and ports, and instead directed it to large amounts of solar and energy storage.

In more than 30 years as an environmental activist, Myrna Conty has fought to protect Puerto Rico’s natural resources and stop pollution from harming the health and quality of life for communities around the island. Working with local organizations across the island, she helped stop an urban sprawl development that threatened the watershed of the Guaynabo River, near her home, and helped block a waste incinerator proposed for the north coast municipality of Arecibo, among other achievements.

Now she’s working with a coalition of organizations that believes in clean energy and a healthy future for Puerto Rico. She says, “I want to be a great example for my kids. I want to let them know that you can fight for what you believe in, and you can fight for what is right, for everyone, not just for yourself.”

"I WANT TO BE A GREAT EXAMPLE FOR MY KIDS. I WANT TO LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU CAN FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN, AND YOU CAN FIGHT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT, FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST FOR YOURSELF."

Myrna Conty
fighting for a clean-energy future for Puerto Rico. Their main goal is the adoption of Queremos Sol, their proposal for the transformation of Puerto Rico’s energy system to renewables, with an emphasis on rooftop solar panels with storage, energy efficiency, and energy conservation.

“We’re all in this together; we all know that the right way to go is with renewable energy, not more burning of fossil fuels, because of the impacts it has on the environment and public health. We want them to close the coal [coal-fired power] plant in Guayama, which is contaminating and getting many people sick in the southern part of the island. Natural gas is also bad, not only because the emissions will be toxic, but how do you get natural gas? It’s by fracking. Even if I’m getting electricity easily, I can’t live in good conscience if I know they’re hurting people in any other part of the world because of fracking.”

Climate change is another reason the coalition doesn’t want fossil fuels. When she was young, Conty says, big hurricanes were rare in Puerto Rico; over the years they’ve become more and more frequent. “In 2017 we had Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria back to back, practically — two weeks apart — and that was terrible. We know that burning fossil-fuels impacts the environment and increases climate change. We don’t want that.”

Over the years, Conty has learned a lot about what makes organizations successful. “First, the community has to be organized, and then you have to educate yourselves about all of the issues affecting your community. Then you have to participate in the process — for example, participating in public hearings. For me, public participation is fundamental. And even though the processes are long, never give up. Just always keep on fighting, because you have a right to defend your community and your environment. Everything you do helps in the long run.

“It’s important for people to struggle for the protection of your rights and environmental issues that impact your health and way of life for present and future generations. We cannot just sit and not do anything.”

“What gives you such big fulfillment of life is that you’re not in this alone, we’re in this together, people who really care, people who don’t put money first, they put the person next to you, or other communities, first.”

Myrna Conty
Our Clients

Amigos Bravos
American Rivers
American Medical Women's Association
American Lung Association
American Heart Association
American Canoe Association
American Bird Conservancy
American Beekeeping Federation
American Academy of Pediatrics
Healthy Environments
Alliance for Affordable Energy
Alianza Nacional de Campesinas
Alianza Comunitaria Ambiental del Sureste
Alaska Wilderness League
Alaska Rainforest Defenders
Alaska Community Action on Toxics
Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise
Air Alliance Houston
Advocates for a Cleaner Tacoma
ADA Air Alliance Houston
Catalyst Native Community
Alaska Center for Rural Enterprise
Alaska Community Action on Toxics
Alaska BasinDefenders
Alaska Wilderness League
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Amosweg Briggs
Amigos del Rio Guayabo, Inc.

A Community Voice
Acoma Pueblo
A Community Voice
AMP Creeks Council
Amosweg Briggs
Amigos del Rio Guayabo, Inc.

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Acoma Pueblo
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Amosweg Briggs
Amigos del Rio Guayabo, Inc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hui Ho<code>omalu I Ka </code>Aina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hui Aokanaka</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoosier Environmental Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Federation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Country Conservation Advocates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Gulf</td>
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<td>Healthy Homes Collaborative</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlander I Coastal California</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The table contains a list of clients, but the names are not provided in a structured format. The data extends beyond the visible portion of the image.
Orcutt-Chislett
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Public Lands Lawyer and Conservationist
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Bellevue, WA

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President, Bay Area Station
Bellevue, WA

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Earthjustice
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Bellevue, WA

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TV Writer and Producer
Los Angeles, CA

Connie Harvey
Aspen, CO

Mike Thayer
Bellevue, WA

.setdefault()
The steadfast partnership, generosity, and commitment of supporters like you has been a desperately needed bulwark against our uncertain times. Under the cover of COVID-19, the relentless attacks on the environment have continued and the work of Earthjustice remains as critical as ever. Your financial support — before and during COVID — has sustained us through unprecedented economic uncertainty, allowed us to retain our entire staff, and allotted us time to carefully plan for whatever lies ahead.

Here are a few highlights of this past fiscal year:

• Earthjustice closed this fiscal year on June 30, 2020, with $139 million in funds raised.
• We have maintained our baseline of 100,000+ donors across the country.
• For the 12th year in a row, Earthjustice has received Charity Navigator’s highest rating of four stars — an accomplishment achieved by only 1% of all charities that Charity Navigator analyzes.

In the past six months, we have slowed our growth overall as an organization and made prudent cuts to expenses. With these cuts, we have been able to continue with some critically important staff hires as our fights grow and the timeline for combating climate change continues to accelerate.

We realize and appreciate that many other nonprofit organizations have suffered a devastating impact on their resources, and we hope for their steady and timely recovery. To that end, Earthjustice has stepped forward in partnership with impacted organizations and coalitions to jointly fundraise to soften their financial losses in these hard times.

All of us at Earthjustice thank you for your unyielding commitment to our mission, and for what you are helping us accomplish. We take your commitment seriously and promise you our best in return.

**FY2020 Financial Report**

**Contributed Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estate Gifts</td>
<td>$117,136,153</td>
<td>$81,903,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$4,187,207</td>
<td>$4,085,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$21,900,242</td>
<td>$13,800,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td>$5,850,038</td>
<td>$3,487,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>$5,569,678</td>
<td>$7,640,076</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Litigation</td>
<td>$52,033,825</td>
<td>$43,938,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated services</td>
<td>$3,119,889</td>
<td>$3,303,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Information</td>
<td>$22,983,130</td>
<td>$17,665,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated public information</td>
<td>$1,067,317</td>
<td>$781,646</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Program Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Program Services</td>
<td>$79,204,161</td>
<td>$65,689,766</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; general</td>
<td>$10,135,940</td>
<td>$8,722,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$10,701,166</td>
<td>$8,935,852</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Supporting Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Supporting Services</td>
<td>$21,837,108</td>
<td>$16,658,453</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$100,839,269</td>
<td>$82,527,219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$154,473,788</td>
<td>$111,116,675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total revenues</td>
<td>$100,839,269</td>
<td>$82,527,219</td>
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</table>

**Total Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$246,573,740</td>
<td>$183,615,035</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Liabilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$22,937,571</td>
<td>$13,613,385</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Net Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$223,636,169</td>
<td>$169,991,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Statement of Financial Position**

**Statement of Activities & Change in Net Assets**

**Contributions & Other Sources of Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$117,136,153</td>
<td>$81,903,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated services</td>
<td>$4,187,207</td>
<td>$4,085,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>$21,900,242</td>
<td>$13,800,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court awards</td>
<td>$5,850,038</td>
<td>$3,487,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>$5,569,678</td>
<td>$7,640,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>($169,530)</td>
<td>$200,259</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash & Investments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; investments</td>
<td>$182,790,435</td>
<td>$139,261,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Split-interest gift agreements</td>
<td>$10,451,813</td>
<td>$10,019,288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accounts Receivable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>$39,936,831</td>
<td>$28,098,873</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Property & Equipment, Net**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; equipment, net</td>
<td>$9,524,120</td>
<td>$3,513,218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>$3,870,541</td>
<td>$2,722,558</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; general</td>
<td>$10,933,940</td>
<td>$8,732,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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**Total Operating Revenue**

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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
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<th>2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Operating Revenue</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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**Total Expenses**

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**Total Net Assets**

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**Statement of Financial Position**

**Assets**

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**Liabilities**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$3,809,087</td>
<td>$2,284,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>$6,671,450</td>
<td>$2,851,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client trust funds</td>
<td>$488,767</td>
<td>$565,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred compensation liability</td>
<td>$825,327</td>
<td>$642,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred lease liabilities</td>
<td>$8,136,913</td>
<td>$2,005,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>$5,652,847</td>
<td>$5,263,802</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Total Liabilities**

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**Total Liabilities & Net Assets**

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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.
I BELIEVE WE CAN RISE TO MAKE THE COMING YEARS A TIME OF RENEWED AND PERHAPS UNPARALLELED COMMON CAUSE — YEARS OF COMPASSION, HELP, AND GRACE.

Earthjustice President Abigail Dillen