Our Wild.
Our Climate.
Our Future.
Together, we resisted the threats to our wild. 
Together, we countered attacks on our climate. 
Together, we inspired a movement for our future.
In 2017, the Trump administration and anti-conservationists in Congress launched the largest assault on public lands in our nation’s history. They threatened to undo the progress The Wilderness Society and the American people worked so hard to achieve: the progress you made possible.

There’s a long road ahead of us, and while we are seeing some real setbacks, we are confident that ultimately we can and will protect the wild places that mean so much to our nation, our climate and our future.

Because in 2017, we also saw millions of Americans stepping forward to fight for our public lands and defend them in the face of these unprecedented threats.

From the tens of thousands who participated in the People’s Climate March in more than 300 cities last April, to the calls, protests and grassroots-funded lawsuits that greeted the Administration’s repeated actions to sell out our public lands, to the tribal councils and private sector allies who raised their voices with us, Americans everywhere took action—and you led the way. Your activism made a real difference, helping stop anti-conservation actions in this unfriendly Congress and setting a firm foundation for the long-term fights we intend to win.

Since President Lincoln set aside Yosemite 150 years ago, the work to protect our public lands has never been easy or linear, but it has always been essential. These lands are the heritage we share and the legacy we build together.

Thank you for supporting our work—and for all of the work you do. Together, we won’t just turn back the Trump administration’s agenda. We will continue to build an even stronger movement to protect our wild places and our climate for our future.

Letter from the President and Governing Council Chair

Jamie Williams
President

David Churchill
Chair, Governing Council

2017 saw millions of Americans stepping forward to fight for our public lands and defend them in the face of unprecedented threats.
When we stand together for our wild, we win.

In 2017, Congress placed our wildlands and our climate at risk. But you pushed back with your voice and your support—and achieved some major wins despite long odds.

Stopping the Sell-Off

In late January, amidst the chaotic transition to a new administration, Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced a bill to sell off 3.3 million acres of public lands. You refused to let it pass unnoticed. With your support, we rallied Americans to defend our public lands—a unifying idea in a divided nation—and Congressional offices were overwhelmed with calls. Rep. Chaffetz withdrew his bill just one week later.

Protecting the Methane Rule

During the first few months of the Trump administration, Congress revoked a bevy of Obama-era regulations and set their sights on repealing the Bureau of Land Management’s Methane and Waste Prevention Rule: a critical safeguard that reduces greenhouse gas pollution from oil and gas drilling on public lands. But for the first time under this administration, the majority in Congress failed. This come-from-behind victory last May wouldn’t have happened without your tireless activism and determined outreach to elected officials.
Your actions made the difference.

Every time you attended a rally, submitted a comment to the Department of the Interior or contacted your representatives, you applied pressure when and where it was most needed, laying the groundwork for the fight to come.

Activism depends on persistence and demands courage and optimism, even when facing unprecedented threats or seemingly insurmountable challenges. You are the advocates our wildlands need—the activists our future depends on—and last year, you went above and beyond.

The Wilderness Society, along with partners, organized 170 public land rallies and educational events. You submitted 3,134,000 public comments through the advocacy of The Wilderness Society and our partners. You made more than 45,000 phone calls to members of Congress and the Trump administration through our phone banking and online calling tools. You helped us collect more than 111,000 petition signatures.

You helped us collect more than 111,000 petition signatures.
We’re rising to today’s challenges—and ready for tomorrow’s fights.

In April, President Trump signed an executive order to review 27 national monuments that had been protected since 1996—an unprecedented attack on some of our most cherished landscapes that was met with an unprecedented response.

You joined with countless Wilderness Society members in making your voice heard in the largest public comment period in the Department of the Interior’s history.

Despite the public outcry, the administration moved forward, effectively eliminating the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments in Utah—the largest reduction of public lands protection in U.S. history, opening up more than two million acres to mining and drilling. Plans to reduce protections for monuments in New England, Oregon, New Mexico, and the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans are also on the horizon.

But our battle is not lost, and we remain optimistic that we can reverse these illegal actions. With your support, we were able to establish a new litigation fund and challenge the administration’s public lands rollback in court, where the facts are on our side. Whatever challenges lie ahead, Americans like you are ready to keep fighting back—and so are we.

You built a public lands legacy that is more than this administration can undo. And together, we will not only defend that legacy, but push forward with a movement that’s louder and stronger than ever before.

“President Trump is trashing our sacred land. He has no respect for us as natives; he does not care about our opinion, our beliefs.”

— Patricia Yeamon, Navajo accountant and resident of Tooele, Utah
The Trump administration’s efforts to review and reduce national monument designations is unprecedented.

In December, the administration slashed two monuments by more than two million acres—the largest reduction of public lands protections in U.S. history.

A record 2.8 million public comments were submitted to the Department of the Interior, with 99.2 percent opposing rollbacks to our national monuments.

Thanks to your support, The Wilderness Society is challenging these attacks in court.

Anticipating enormous threats to America’s public lands at the start of the Trump administration, Cathy Douglas Stone—a member of our Governing Council—and her husband Jim established the Stone Fund for Litigation and Defense with a generous gift of $1 million in February 2017. Their investment in the organization’s legal work came at a critical time. “I realized that if we could dig deeper and make a more significant contribution than in the past, this was the moment,” Cathy says. “The Wilderness Society knows more about the legal constraints around the creation and operation of public lands than anyone, and that makes us uniquely able to be the leading voice in public land protection.”

Among the current high-priority fights, Cathy believes that the challenges to the Antiquities Act and to the integrity of our national monuments are impermissible and must be litigated. “This statute has been part of our national life since its inception and used by nearly every president of both parties. It’s part of the history of our culture and an expression of our values, and all of that is under attack,” she affirms. Despite the uphill battle, Cathy’s optimism shines through. “Protection requires diligence—we’re going to soldier on and achieve great victories.”

“Protection requires diligence—we’re going to soldier on and achieve great victories.”
— Cathy Stone
Described as a natural leader with a rare ability to articulate and execute on a vision that protects our lands and waters from harmful energy development, Jenny Kordick is pioneering new ways to strengthen our fight as Advocacy Director for The Wilderness Society’s Energy and Climate Program.

Growing up on her family’s small farm in Iowa, Jenny formed an early connection with the land, but her lightbulb moment occurred while she was studying environmental politics in the Galapagos Islands as a student at Wartburg College. “It was the first time I realized you can solve environmental problems by building public support for policies grounded in sound science,” she says. With a B.A. in Biology and the BP oil spill in the news, Jenny dove headfirst into environmental advocacy. In 2013, she landed at The Wilderness Society. “I was drawn by the organization’s holistic approach,” she says. “Here, all the important environmental issues converge on land conservation, wildlife conservation and climate change mitigation.”

With infectious enthusiasm, Jenny spends her days engaging people in protecting special places from irresponsible drilling and reducing the climate impact of energy extraction from our public lands, where fossil fuel development alone results in more greenhouse gas emissions than all but four countries in the world. She has a knack for creating synergy between the climate community and public lands experts, identifying common goals and maintaining focus on how policy decisions impact people from all walks of life. “We’ve always had great science and policy staff, but Jenny takes us to a new level in inspiring activism and collaboration,” says Chase Huntley, Director of the Energy and Climate Program.

Though her work isn’t easy, Jenny’s passion keeps her going. “I love our work because we fight every day to protect the places that we care about while helping address the greatest environmental challenge of our generation—climate change.”
We’ll stand up for what matters—no matter what.

Our fight to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge has lasted more than 80 years—and it’s far from over.

In December, Congress passed a tax reform bill with a provision opening the Arctic Refuge to oil and gas drilling—an underhanded move for a provision that would never have passed on its own.

This was a dramatic setback, but one which only serves to strengthen our resolve and to sustain a powerful resistance.

In the run-up to the tax reform vote, we turned to you to help us mobilize tens of thousands of people to contact their congressional representatives and urge them to advocate for the Arctic Refuge’s permanent protection. Together, we sent a clear message to our champions in Congress and our foes alike: Americans want to see the Arctic Refuge left untouched.

In the months and years to come, we’ll keep fighting to get that message before Congress. We’ll stand with the Gwich’in people to protect the land that sustains them. We’ll challenge any attempt to move forward with seismic testing and oil and gas leasing. We’ll seek every opportunity to mobilize the 41 Senators currently co-sponsoring legislation to permanently protect the Refuge. With your support, we won’t rest until people all across the country understand the ecological value and cultural significance of this sacred place and stand up to protect it.

This is so much more than a fight for the Arctic Refuge: It encompasses every aspect of the work we do and embodies everything The Wilderness Society stands for. And it’s your generosity and activism that will sustain this important work.

Stand with us as we stand for the Arctic Refuge.

“I hope that the United States of America is not so rich that she can afford to let these wildernesses pass by. Or so poor that she cannot afford to keep them.”

— Margaret “Mardy” Murie: recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, leader of the conservation movement, lifelong activist for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
On an early summer morning in 2002 on the banks of the Kongakut River in Alaska’s Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Ted Roosevelt IV was awakened by an “unworldly symphony” of clicks, grunts and mews. Emerging from his tent, he found himself in the middle of a herd of caribou on their journey to the rich feeding grounds of the coastal plain. “It was very moving to witness these magnificent creatures making the same migration they’ve traveled for millennia. Ever since, I have been committed to fighting for the protection of this iconic place—the crown jewel of our public lands.”

A member of our Governing Council, Ted has been an active voice in the campaign to defend the Arctic Refuge and decries the 2017 legislation as a tragic retreat from the more than 100 years of conservation progress begun by President Theodore Roosevelt.

“What The Wilderness Society brings to the table is a passion and a deep understanding of why this place is worth saving. Public lands belong to all of us, and that means that we have a responsibility to roll up our sleeves, engage in the political process and ensure that future generations will benefit from the same heritage we have enjoyed,” says Ted.

A member of our Governing Council, Ted has been an active voice in the campaign to defend the Arctic Refuge and decries the 2017 legislation as a tragic retreat from the more than 100 years of conservation progress begun by President Theodore Roosevelt. “What The Wilderness Society brings to the table is a passion and a deep understanding of why this place is worth saving Public lands belong to all of us, and that means that we have a responsibility to roll up our sleeves, engage in the political process and ensure that future generations will benefit from the same heritage we have enjoyed.”

Achieving permanent protection for the Arctic Refuge is a necessity, and he has faith in The Wilderness Society’s ability to guide us to that ultimate goal.

“I am committed to fighting for the protection of this iconic place—the crown jewel of our public lands.”

— Ted Roosevelt IV

———

Progress Toward Permanence: 80+ Years of Activism for the Arctic

1935: Inspired in part by his journeys to the Arctic, Robert Marshall co-founded The Wilderness Society.

1953: Republican President Dwight Eisenhower establishes the Arctic National Wildlife Range.

1960: Wilderness Society President Olaus Murie and others begin working to permanently protect the northeastern corner of Alaska.

1980: President Jimmy Carter signs the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, increasing the size of the protected area to 19.3 million acres and redesignating it as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

1995: President Bill Clinton vetoes a measure that would have allowed drilling in the Arctic Refuge.

1996: A member of our Governing Council, Ted has been an active voice in the campaign to defend the Arctic Refuge and decries the 2017 legislation as a tragic retreat from the more than 100 years of conservation progress begun by President Theodore Roosevelt. “What The Wilderness Society brings to the table is a passion and a deep understanding of why this place is worth saving. Public lands belong to all of us, and that means that we have a responsibility to roll up our sleeves, engage in the political process and ensure that future generations will benefit from the same heritage we have enjoyed.”

2005: Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA) leads a successful filibuster in the Senate to reject an Arctic Refuge drilling rider on an unrelated piece of legislation.

2006: President Bush vetoes a measure that would have allowed drilling in the Arctic Refuge.

2007: President George W. Bush vetoes a measure that would have allowed oil and gas development in the Arctic Refuge.

2008: Senators Maria Cantwell and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) lead a successful filibuster in the Senate to reject an Arctic Refuge drilling rider on an unrelated piece of legislation.

2011: Senators Maria Cantwell and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) lead a successful filibuster in the Senate to reject an Arctic Refuge drilling rider on an unrelated piece of legislation.

2017: A provision in the tax reform bill opens the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge to oil and gas development.

2018: Our fight continues.

A member of our Governing Council, Ted has been an active voice in the campaign to defend the Arctic Refuge and decries the 2017 legislation as a tragic retreat from the more than 100 years of conservation progress begun by President Theodore Roosevelt. “What The Wilderness Society brings to the table is a passion and a deep understanding of why this place is worth saving. Public lands belong to all of us, and that means that we have a responsibility to roll up our sleeves, engage in the political process and ensure that future generations will benefit from the same heritage we have enjoyed.”

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— Ted Roosevelt IV

———
"The Wilderness Society is the only organization that can fight on the front lines in Washington, DC for wilderness and other public lands. It gives me such hope to know that you’re there for us, being vigilant, keeping an ear to the ground about what’s going on, and inspiring us all to take action to counteract the most egregious threats. Having three grandchildren intensifies my desire to speak up for public lands, especially as we face an administration that wants to undo so many of the conservation gains we’ve achieved. In fact, I made an additional gift to The Wilderness Society this year because I want to ensure that wild places will always be available for them, for us, for plants and animals—no matter what."

— Marsha McMahan Zelus

A former teacher and a frequent docent at Point Lobos Natural Reserve in Carmel, Calif., Marsha McMahan Zelus has always enjoyed educating others about the wonders of wild places. Attracted by The Wilderness Society’s science-based approach to conservation, she became a member in 1990 and went on to chair the organization’s former California-Nevada Regional Advisory Council. Today, Marsha continues her advocacy as a member of our President’s Circle and our legacy society, the Robert Marshall Council.

Together, we are the movement for our wild, our climate and our future.

PROFILE: MARSHA McMAHAN ZELUS

Great Craggy Mountains, North Carolina
Thank you for being a partner in a rising pro-conservation movement for the Arctic’s sacred lands and remote wilderness of Alaska’s interior. Together we will harness the commitment of our donors to protect wilderness and inspire the places we love, from the north to the south. It has helped preserve and defend our deepest gratitude to all of our supporters!

The Wilderness Society extends thank you to our supporters!

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30, 2017. The donors listed on the following pages generously contributed $1,000 or more in fiscal year 2017 ($1,000 or more in fiscal year 2017).

The Wilderness Society extends our gratitude to all of our supporters. Their generosity has helped preserve and defend the places we love, from the Arctic’s sacred lands and remote wilderness of Alaska’s interior. Together we will harness the commitment of our donors to protect wilderness and inspire the places we love, from the north to the south. It has helped preserve and defend the places we love, from the north to the south.

The commitment of our donors has helped preserve and defend the places we love, from the north to the south. It has helped preserve and defend the places we love, from the north to the south.

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Native people would lose one of the last great wild places in America. For them, protecting the refuge is a matter of human rights. It is important to understand that for thousands of years—and been affected by oil and gas for the past 30 years.

NWE: The Arctic Refuge is an incredible place that has remained virtually unchanged for millennia. It truly is one of the last great wild places in America.

NWE: It is important to understand that for 40,000 years, the Gwich’in people and their forebears have depended upon this pristine ecosystem for their survival and way of life. They call themselves “caribou people” and sustain their culture and communities with the resources of the Arctic Refuge. For them, protecting the refuge is a matter of human rights.

TG: This is how we live. We have to keep this land the way it is for the generations to come.

NWE: The caribou would be devastating for everyone who loves the Arctic Refuge and works to defend it, but we are prepared. We quickly began work to ensure that drill rigs never touch the coastal plain. In many ways, the fight is just starting. This is the very core of our history as an organization, and we are committed as ever to defending the Arctic Refuge.

TG: We know people stand with us to help us protect this land. And that is what we need. A lot of politicians need to hear from us. I still feel the hope in my heart. There is no other place like this place.

Trimble Gilbert, a Gwich’in leader, said in my heart...There is no other place like this place. Politicians need to hear from us. I still feel the hope in my heart. There is no other place like this place.
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THE ROBERT MARSHALL COUNCIL

Our legacy society is named for Robert ‘Bob’ Marshall, a victory who bequest served as the bequest for The Wilderness Society. His generous gift decades ago paved the way individual to continue serving at the forefront of America’s conservation movement today.

Bob’s gift through his will was the first planned gift to The Wilderness Society, and we gratefully acknowledge today’s victors who are following Bob’s example by including The Wilderness Society in their wills or other estate plans.

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The Robert Marshall Council

Individuals to continue serving at the forefront of America’s conservation movement today.

Society. His generous gift decades ago paved the way for spirited individuals to continue serving at the forefront of America’s conservation movement today.
BEQUESTS

We are deeply honored and grateful to acknowledge gifts received during fiscal year 2017 from the estates of the following individuals:

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Nancy D. Wiker
Charles, Susan, Wilkinson
Tom Wickey
James Williams
Jean Williams
Jason Williams
Richard G. Williams
Stephen Williams
Thomas D. Williams
Michael Owen Wilson
Betty and Dave Winston
Eleanor and Frederick Winston
Susan Wolfmullin
Larry D. and Richard W. Winerup, O.V.M.
Mervin W. Wolff
Marie Woll
Gladys J. Wood
Michael A. Wood
Charles W. Wurster
Debra Zitterkopf
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Watson
Sanford Waxer
Kendrick C. Webb
Bruce Weber
Bette C. and Ronald W. Fenton
Alexei Alexeev
Audrey S. and Robert E. Galwe
Alice G. Ponder
Mary M. Gordon
Sage and Dorothy Garwin Memorial Fund
Betty C. Hannan
Robert Hanson
Margaret B. and Roger J. Hanson
Monica M. Hinks
Green Cooper Hermitage
James N. Herndon
The Chuck Walden Hill Memorial Fund of the Women’s Community Foundation
Quita Kong
Donating to a Lynn’s Hill Fund at the Seattle Foundation
Denise Johnson
Matthew S. Kayhawk III
Josephine W. Konrad
Charles E. Kobedko
Debra Zitterkopf
Virginia V. M. Leavens
Lois J. Lawrence
Leslie M. Lawrence
Mary L. Lewis
Wille R. Libby
Michaela L. Link
William A. Maillet
Donald A. Welker
Mary L. Oliver
Robert T. Olson
Margaret Patch
Charles N. and Sabrina S. Wells
Sally Wells
Gladys J. Westman
Sue Whan
Ruth B. Whipple
Nikki and Arthur White
Vicki M. and Arthur L. Walland
Kris A. Weber
Valerie D. Wetherbee
Michael W. Wilde
C. S. Whiteley
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Bound by their shared commitment to The Wilderness Society, our President's Circle members represent the organization’s most generous philanthropists and ambassadors. Together, they support our mission to protect wilderness and inspire Americans to care for our wild places through substantial annual gifts and engagement.

Anonymous (24)
Gail D. Aurin
Anne and Gregory Ans
Tom and Carole Awan
Richard Aver
Berkshire Foundations
Crandall and Elinor Baskes
Markey and Alan Brown
Barbara J and David A. Crumbl
Shawn Faison-Cohen and Marilyn Cohen
Barbara and Alexander C. Cohn
Judith and Stewart M. Cooke
Barbara Cox
Breindel and Swaps Davis
Margo and George Earley
Christopher Elliman
James Elsworth
Margot and Chris Elwyn
Janine and David Field
Joe and Mike Field
Daniel Flickinger
Michelle and Robert Friend
Nicole Friend and Gary Duke
Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, Inc.
Sara and Ed Groark
Janet and John Haas
Ruth and Ben Hammett
Ann Harvey and Mike Campbell
High Meadows Foundation
Lena and Gerald Hirschler
Brenda S. Davis, Ph.D., Bozeman, MT
Christopher J. Elliman, New York, NY
Carl Ferenbach III, Boston, MA
David J. Field, Gladwyne, PA
Martinique Grigg, Seattle, WA
Reginald “Flip” Hagood, Washington, DC
Michael A. Mantell, Sacramento, CA
Jacqueline Badge Mars
Sandy and Patrick Mars
Dave and Janie Matthews
Carol and Notre Dame
Daniel Flickinger
Kathryn and Art Sargent
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Dave and Janie Matthews
Carol and Notre Dame
Daniel Flickinger
Kathryn and Art Sargent

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY COUNCILS

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Maria Keesek, Secretary, Jackson, WY
David Boersma, At-Large, San Francisco, CA
Caroline G. Witty, At-Large, San Francisco, CA
Hansing Witty, At-Large, San Francisco, CA

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Thomas A. Bacon, Boulder, CO
Richard Blum, San Francisco, CA
Crandall Bowles, Charlotte, NC
Nanom L. Eisenhower, Jr., Ph.D., Durham, NC
William Coleman, San Francisco, CA
End Date 11/30/2017
Brenda S. Davis, Ph.D., Bozeman, MT
Christopher K. Elliman, New York, NY
End Date 11/30/2017
Jaime A. Pinkham, Portland, OR
Rebecca L. Rom, Ely, MN
Theodore Roosevelt IV, New York, NY
Gregg M. Sherrill, Bondurant, WY
Jennifer P. Speers, Salt Lake City, UT
Cathy Douglas Stone, Boston, MA
End Date 11/30/2017

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Bertram J. Cohn, New York, NY
Frances G. Beinecke-Elston, Bronx, NY
William M. Bumpers, Washington, DC
Gilman Ordway, Wilson, WY
Charles Wilkinson, Boulder, CO
1 Deceased
Financials

Thanks to the generosity and commitment of all of our supporters, The Wilderness Society stands in a position of unprecedented financial strength as we face the greatest assault ever on America’s public lands.

A wonderful generosity from our donors allowed us to invest in programs at levels not seen in five years. At the same time, we have held our management and fundraising costs stable, resulting in over 80% of our spending going to programs. Meanwhile, our total assets and unrestricted reserves have reached historic highs, at $63 million and $16 million, respectively, providing us with the financial stability and flexibility to persevere and respond to the continued threats to our mission.

Thank you for enabling us to sustain our fight to protect our wildlands.

If you would like to receive a copy of our audited financial statements, or if you have any questions about this overview or The Wilderness Society, please contact us at:

The Wilderness Society
Attn: Membership Services
1615 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
E-mail: member@tws.org
Visit: www.wilderness.org

Statements of Financial Position

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Statements of Activities

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Changes in Key Balances (in Millions)

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<th>Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents</th>
<th>Change in Accounts and Contributions Receivable</th>
<th>Change in Investments</th>
<th>Change in Planned Giving Investments</th>
<th>Change in Beneficial Interests in Assets Held by Others</th>
<th>Change in Other Assets</th>
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Changes in Key Balances (in Millions)

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Change in Program Services</th>
<th>Change in Support Services</th>
<th>Total Expenses</th>
<th>Change in Net Assets</th>
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Visit: www.wilderness.org

Fiscal Year 2017 Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Wilderness Society lost three irreplaceable members of our family in 2017.

Bert Cohn served on The Wilderness Society’s Governing Council from 1996 to 2015, and he remained involved in the Honorary Council thereafter, continuing to offer wise guidance and support. Generous donors to our intern program, the Land and Water program and our former Wilderness Support Center, the Cohns invested wholeheartedly in building the next generation of conservationists, a commitment his wife Barbara continues to honor.

Megan Dickie, an environmental attorney, worked in our BLM Action Center, where she helped to lead policy work to protect and shape the future of 250 million acres of public lands. She also played an early and critical role in advancing our organizational commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. The Megan Dickie Wilderness Leadership Fund, established by her family, supports engaging new attorneys in our community and in our Denver office.

Bill Turnage, our President from 1978 to 1986, was best known for his outspoken opposition to Interior Secretary James Watt and for helping The Wilderness Society become a credible and effective voice for wilderness and public lands conservation. He brought Ansel Adams into our work and was instrumental in securing the gift of the incredible prints in our Ansel Adams gallery in Washington, DC, which is open to the public.