



VICTORY REPORT

THIS GRIZZLY IS ALIVE BECAUSE OF YOU.

With your support, our legal team went to court to defend Yellowstone's grizzly bears which were prematurely stripped of Endangered Species Act protection. We went to court—and we won. We proved Yellowstone's grizzly bears need federal protection and now they are again on the endangered species list. We saved families of bears from being shot just to be mounted on walls or turned into rugs. Our victory immediately halted a planned grizzly trophy hunting season in Idaho and Wyoming. These bears belong in the wild and when the Trump administration attempted to defy science and the law, we held it accountable.

Protecting Yellowstone's grizzlies has an impact on all grizzlies in the contiguous 48 states. Yellowstone's grizzlies provide the necessary genetic diversity for recovery and connect to other grizzly populations. Our victory for the Yellowstone bears is important for the recovery and survival of grizzly bears all across the American West.

This victory highlights the importance and value of our country's bedrock environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act. It also affirms the necessity of knowing the law and applying it effectively to ensure government agencies are transparent and accountable to the American people. Our attorneys are experts in this field and we have what it takes to safeguard the wildlife, public lands, and communities of the American West. We have what it takes to win.

Dear Friends,

Our impact this year is simply remarkable. We protected a wide range of wildlife, we saved millions of acres from fracking, and we're keeping our communities safe by reducing toxic pollution in our environment. Our legal team is fierce, determined, and stronger than ever before. We have a unified, strategic approach to hold the Trump administration and big industry accountable to the law. Together with you and our more than 180 partners and clients, we are achieving victories, making a lasting difference in our world.

Our success in the courtroom has a direct impact on the people and places of the American West and it's all made possible by your support—*thank you*.



For the West,

Erik Schlenker-Goodrich
Executive Director



10 BILLION TONS OF COAL KEPT IN THE GROUND

We protected 15.4 million acres from oil and gas drilling and coal mining in Montana and Wyoming's Powder River Basin. Our victory keeps 10.2 billion tons of coal in the ground and stops 18,000 new oil and gas wells from being drilled. Our victory had a cascading effect preventing other pollution in the region. This represents another big courtroom success in our plan to defend the West from harmful fossil fuel exploitation.



SAFEGUARDING NATIVE WILDLIFE

In response to our legal action, Wildlife Services, the rogue federal wildlife-killing program, agreed to stop killing beavers, river otter, muskrat, and mink in Oregon as it studies those wildlife killing impacts on endangered salmon and steelhead trout. Prior to our action, hundreds of beavers were killed each year with no regard to the related impact on endangered fish.

This case is part of our broader campaign to hold Wildlife Services accountable to the law. We have other pending cases against this agency in Oregon and Colorado, aimed at protecting wolves, black bears, and mountain lions.

We are continuing to monitor Wildlife Services to ensure they follow through with their legal obligations, transparency, and commitments.

DEFENDING OUR PUBLIC LANDS

We believe our public lands are worth fighting for. Our legal team stopped a plan to construct 137 miles of new off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails in central Oregon's Ochoco National Forest.

The U.S. Forest Service's new OHV trail proposal was slated to go through old-growth ponderosa pine forests, would have created 79 harmful stream crossings, and would have scarred important wildflower meadows.

Adding to this damage, the Ochoco National Forest already has 700 miles of illegal OHV trails. The proposed trail plan did not offer any additional law enforcement.

OHV use also disrupts wildlife that inhabit and migrate in the area including gray wolves, elk, mule deer, and redband trout.

Now these public lands are protected, thanks to your support.

ENDING RECKLESS FRACKING

We protected 19,788 acres from fracking by halting an oil and gas lease sale in New Mexico's Santa Fe National Forest. Fracking shatters the ground using hundreds of thousands of gallons of highly pressurized water and toxic chemicals harmful to human health—even known carcinogens. These leases would have been on our public lands, expanding oil and gas drilling and fracking into previously undeveloped areas of this national forest. We used the law to prove the BLM failed to properly analyze the full impacts the fracking would have on the air, water, climate, and people in the surrounding area.



TOXICS OUT OF OUR WATER

In a victory for clean water, healthy communities, and wildlife, we prevented toxic chemicals from being sprayed on 500 acres in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor along the Pacific coast of Washington. Oyster growers had applied for a permit to use a neurotoxic pesticide called imidacloprid to kill shrimp, but science showed the neurotoxin would have contaminated the water and harmed fish, birds, bees, Dungeness crabs, and other wildlife. This neurotoxin had never been sprayed here before and our legal action prevented the toxic chemicals from entering these waters.



RESTORING WOLVES IN THE WILD

We've used the power of the law for over 20 years to reestablish Mexican gray wolves to their historic range in Arizona and New Mexico. Our actions led to Mexican gray wolf reintroduction in the wild in 1998 and we are dedicated to see their recovery through.

In a major victory this year, the court ordered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to rewrite the wolves' management rule to ensure their recovery in the wild. The court also rejected the agency's efforts to increase wolf killings, set a population cap, and limit the wolves' habitat.

Mexican gray wolves are one of the smallest, rarest, and most genetically distinct subspecies of gray wolves. As of 2016, only 113 Mexican gray wolves were in the wild.

Together with your support we are giving these imperiled wolves a fighting chance at recovery.



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We are a nonprofit, public interest environmental law firm.
We use the power of the law to safeguard the public lands,
wildlife, and communities of the American West in the face
of a changing climate.

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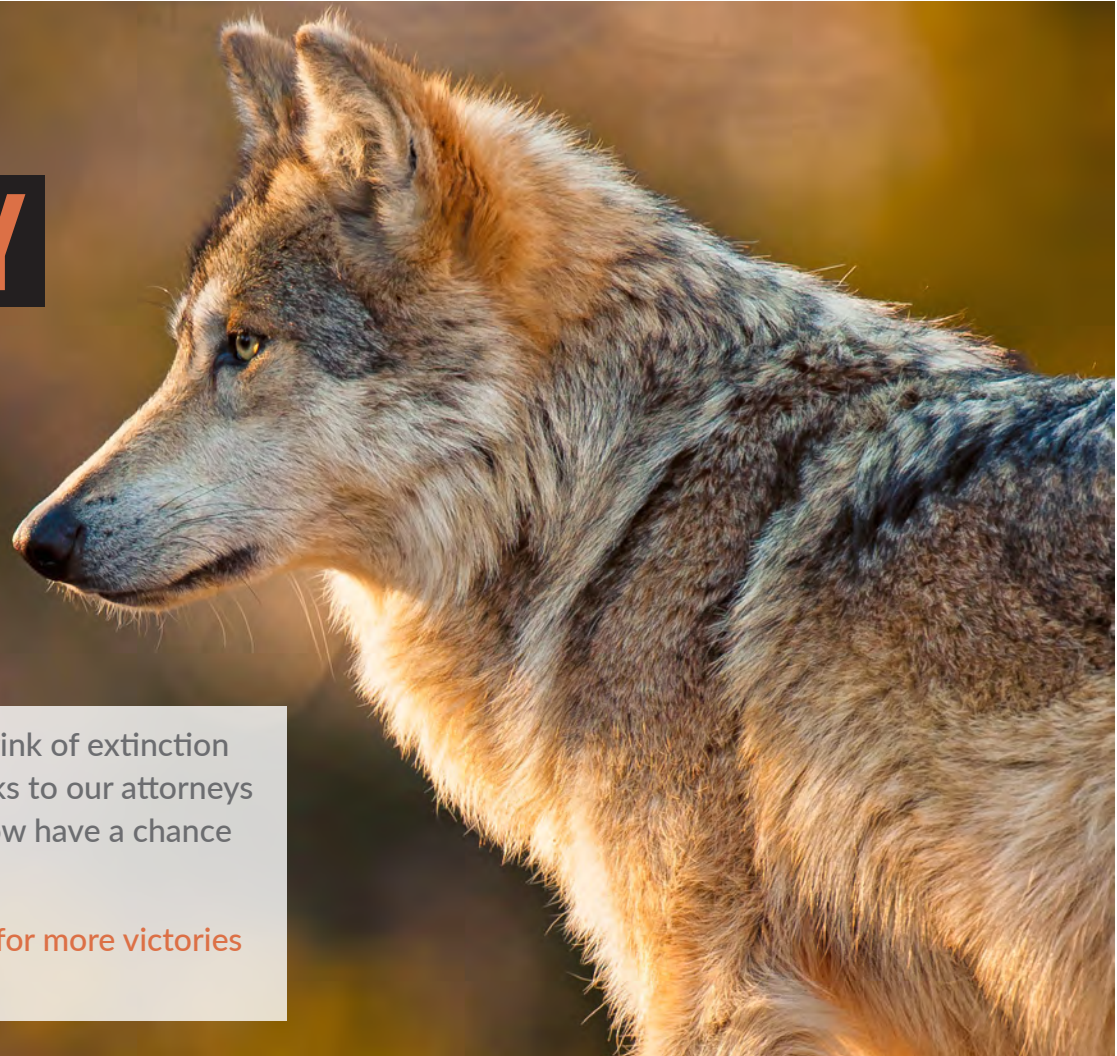
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2018 VICTORY REPORT



Mexican gray wolves are on the brink of extinction
in Arizona and New Mexico. Thanks to our attorneys
and your support, these wolves now have a chance
at real recovery in the wild.

Open and read this special report for more victories
you made possible—*thank you!*