

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION
AWARDS CEREMONY



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012
SIDNEY R. YATES AUDITORIUM
STEWART LEE UDALL MAIN INTERIOR BUILDING

Message from the Secretary

Welcome to the Department of the Interior's Partners in Conservation Awards Ceremony. It is my great pleasure to recognize the achievements of more than 700 diverse organizations and individuals who partner with others to conserve and restore America's rivers, landscapes, historical, and cultural resources; engage and employ youth in America's great outdoors; help native species thrive; address water issues; and forge solutions to complex natural resource challenges.



These awards represent the dedicated and tireless efforts of people from all walks of life from across our Nation. They share a deep commitment to conservation and community.

Today, we celebrate their accomplishments and ask them to continue to work with us to achieve our common goals.

Please join me in congratulating our Partners in Conservation Award winners. Their achievements exemplify excellence in conservation through partnerships and cooperation with others. They are an inspiration to us all, and we are grateful for their efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Ken" and "Salazar" being capitalized and prominent.

KEN SALAZAR

Secretary of the Interior

Program

INTRODUCTIONS & NARRATOR

Michael Gale

Office of Youth, Partnerships and Service

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Ken Salazar

Secretary of the Interior

PRESENTATION OF THE PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION AWARDS

CLOSING REMARKS

Paul Batlan

Office of Youth, Partnerships and Service

Department of the Interior Partners in Conservation Award

The Partners in Conservation Award is a Department of the Interior Honor Award established to recognize conservation achievements that include collaborative activity among a diverse range of entities that may include Federal, state, local and tribal governments, private for-profit and nonprofit institutions, other nongovernmental entities, and individuals. This award enables the Secretary to acknowledge in one award the contributions of both Interior and non-Interior personnel. Overall, this award recognizes outstanding conservation results that have been produced primarily because of the engagement and contributions of many partners.

Award Recipients

Global Explorers - Natural Sounds and Night Skies Partnership

The Global Explorers – Natural Sounds and Night Skies Partnership creates opportunities for youth stewardship and engagement through its academy program and expeditions. The partnership introduces young people, including youth from underserved communities or with physical challenges, who may never have visited national parks to travel and experience these natural treasures not just as visitors but as scientists and explorers. While hiking the rim of the Grand Canyon, experiencing Canyon de Chelly or rafting down the Colorado River, young people from diverse backgrounds collaborate on field research, service projects, resource conservation, and cultural awareness learning. Through Global Explorers, youth learn about the importance of natural sounds and night skies, instilling in them a lifelong passion for environmental sustainability and stewardship.

Nominated by the National Park Service

Global Explorers

David Shurna
Julie Dubin
Shannon Smiley Gagnon
Jane Jennings
Laura Portalupi
Megan Thomas
Michael Guillot
Katie Watkins
Steven Watkins
Jordy Oleson
Aracely Rojas
Santiago Lobeira

Stan Rullman
Kristen Leonard
Grand Canyon Youth
Grand Canyon Association
Hear the World Foundation
Bill Barkeley
Lauren McCabe
Brian Miller
Ryan Kost
Jennifer O'Connell
Sean Hoppes
Stephanie Jackson
Katie Crosley

Alexa Stickel
Shannon Hatmaker Moore
Dorothy Lagana
Elizabeth Vineyard
Geoff Goins
David Samuels

Grand Canyon National Park

Dave Uberuaga
Maureen Oltrogge
Linda Jalbert

Canyon de Chelly National Monument

Tom Clark
Ravis M. Henry
Nora J. McKerry

Rocky Mountain National Park

Vaughn Baker

Point Reyes National Seashore

Cicely Muldoon

**National Park Service Natural Sounds
and Night Skies Division**

Lelaina Marin
Chad Moore
Cecilia Leumas
Karen Trevino
Kurt Fristrup
Katy Warner
Emma Lynch
Misty Nelson
Scott McFarland

National Park Service/ WASO

Bob Dobson

Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

This public private partnership uses innovative approaches to protect the Everglades ecosystem from the impacts of exotic, invasive plant and animal species. The partnership is educating the public through informational materials, traveling displays, and multimedia kiosks at visitor centers to identify and mitigate invasive species threatening native mangrove communities and coastal ecosystems. The Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area also hosts the “Don’t Let It Loose” state-wide billboard campaign, non-native fishing tournaments and community “Pet Amnesty Days.” The partnership sponsors annual workshops and summits to coordinate invasive species eradication and management efforts. Through web-based reporting, 24-hour telephone reporting, and smart phone applications, this partnership has increased public awareness of the threat of invasive species to the Everglades.

Nominated by the National Park Service

Broward County

Linda Briggs
Patricia Howell

**Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services**

Andrew Derksen

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Jennifer Possley

Florida Power & Light Company

Gregory Polidora

**Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission**

Dennis Giardina
Don Schmitz
Jennifer Eckles
Kelly Gestring
Liz Barraco

Johnson Engineering, Inc.

Sarah Webber

Miami-Dade County

Dallas Hazelton
Gwen Burzycki

Jane Dozier
Sonya Thompson
Tiffany Melvin

Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

Rory Feeney
Gintautas Zavedzkas

National Park Service

Big Cypress National Preserve

Jim Burch

National Park Service

Everglades National Park

Hillary Cooley

Jeff Kline

Larry Perez

Skip Snow

**National Park Service - Southeast Region
Office**

Tony Pernas

Seminole Tribe of Florida

Elizabeth Letts

South Florida Water Management District

Ellen Donlan

Leroy Rodgers

The Nature Conservancy

Cheryl Millet

Kris Serbesoff-King

Auburn University

Christina Romagosa

University of Florida

Frank Mazzotti

Jim Cuda

Rebecca Harvey

Steve Johnson

University of Georgia

Chuck Bargeron

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Jon Lane

Jon Morton

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Wildlife Services**

Anthony Duffiney

John Humphrey

Michael Avery

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Art Roybal

Bill Thomas

Christen Mason

John Galvez

Lisa Jameson

U.S. Geological Survey

Bob Reed

Ed Metzger

Jim Duquesnel

Miami-Dade Zoological Park and Gardens

Dustin Smith

Frank Ridgely

Stuart Krantz

Southern Nevada Agency Partnership: Interagency Law Enforcement Team

Since 2004, the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership Interagency Law Enforcement Team has interacted with the community and other public organizations to advance recreational opportunities, promote land management careers, public education, and protection of nearly 8 million acres of public lands in Clark County, Nevada. The partnership combines coordinated law enforcement activities with education initiatives to mitigate impacts of rapid urban growth on public lands including commercial dumping, litter, illegal off-highway vehicle damage, environmental crimes, archeological theft, vandalism and drug harvesting. Through educational forums in classroom and outdoor settings, local youth from urban environments become acquainted with public land management organizations both for enjoyment of their natural resources and as potential career paths.

Nominated by the National Park Service

**Bureau of Land Management
Las Vegas District Office**

Erika Schumacher
Antonio Boone
Meagan Martin
Marty Martinez
Robert Mitsuyasu
Shane Nalen
Jesse Navarro
Ryan Parr
Shane Presley
David Stols
Deborah Sullivan
Jerry Vanderpool
Jarrod Vigness
Victoria Worfolk
Christopher Allen

**National Park Service
Lake Mead National Recreation Area**

Mary Hinson
John Tesar
Gordon Gilbert
Brian Lake
Joel Hyzer
Greg Morse
Todd Austin
Brian Wollenburg
Adam Kelsey
Christopher Raynolds
Dirk Murphy
William F. Tynan
Michael P. Carpenter

**U.S. Forest Service
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest**

Don V. Davis
Dave Leveille
Jarvis Alexander
Wes Houk
Jason Parker

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex**

Robert Peloquin
Lionel Castillo
James Perkins
Clayton McDermott

**United States Attorney's Office
District of Nevada**

Nadia Ahmed

Interagency Communications Center

Lori Tuttle
Renee Brodeen
David Nehrbass
Laurie Teagarden
Shanna Cruz Diaz
Tracey Wilson
Ty Halfpenny
Ashley Vince
Bryce Archibald
Laura Steele
Christina Votipka

The Glacier National Park Ice Patch Archeology and Paleoecology Project

Melting ice poses a risk to previously preserved cultural and natural resources. The Glacier National Park Ice Patch Archeology and Paleoecology Project is a first-ever cultural resources partnership for the park with tribal and university partners conducting cutting-edge, culturally informed fieldwork to survey, map, and sample stable ice patches in the park in 2010 and 2011. The research will be used to establish a National Park Service-wide protocol for the collection, documentation, analysis and curation of artifacts recovered from melting ice patches. This project has directly engaged Native Americans in NPS cultural and natural resource stewardship in an era of climate change and has reached a wide audience, including tribal schools, with educational and interpretive materials.

Nominated by the National Park Service

Glacier National Park

Lon Johnson
Deirdre Shaw

University of Wyoming

Robert L. Kelly

University of Colorado, Boulder

Craig Lee

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Francis Auld
Kevin Askan
Mike Durglo
Ira Matt
Pete Gillam
Martin Zobel
Dave Schwab
Don Sam

Marcia Pablo

Frank Tyro

Blackfeet Nation

John Murray

Joe Rivera

University of Arizona

Maria Nieves Zedeno

National Park Service Climate Change Response Program

Melanie Wood

National Park Service-Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Pei-Lin Yu

Alaska Environmental Literacy Plan Working Group

The Alaska Environmental Literacy Plan Working Group is helping ensure Alaska's youth understand and appreciate our natural world. The partnership produced a draft Alaska Environmental Literacy Plan to guide PreK-12 public schools in integrating environmental education, including active outdoor learning, as part of the school curriculum. The plan ensures all Alaskan students have opportunities to connect with the natural world and to develop the knowledge and skills required to maintain Alaska's intact ecosystems, its economy, and the health of its citizens. Group members have done exceptional work in developing a plan that will prepare Alaska's students to be environmentally literate citizens, ready to manage Alaska's rich natural resources wisely for today and future generations.

Nominated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Juneau School District

Susan Baxter

Alaska Natural Resources & Outdoor Education Association

Adia Cotter

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Laurel Devaney

Cathy Rezabeck

Center for Ocean Sciences

Excellence Education

Robin Dublin

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Brenda Duty

Meghan Nedwick

Kristen Romanoff

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

Karol Fink

U.S. Forest Service

Chugach National Forest

Annette Heckart

Discovery Southeast Board of Directors

Stephanie Hoag

U.S. Forest Service

Alaska Region

Kristi Kantola

BLM Campbell Creek Science Center

Brian Lax

Jim Sumner

UAF Alaska Sea Grant

Marilyn Sigman

Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District

Melissa Sikes

Alaska Native Knowledge Network

Sean Topkok

Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies

Beth Trowbridge

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Bjørn Wolter

St. Mary's School District

Woody Woodgate

Anchorage School District

Soren Wuerth

Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge Partnership

The Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge Partnership is a grassroots conservation effort involving citizens partnering with nonprofit organizations and federal, state and local governments to establish the Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge within reach of the Chicago, Illinois, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, metropolitan areas. The Friends take a partner-driven approach to conservation that is science- and education-based. Through engagement and stewardship, the partnership is working to create a long-term vision of people and nature coexisting in rapidly urbanizing areas. The partnership's efforts have resulted in unprecedented outreach at the local and national level in support of the Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge and the mission and goals of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Nominated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

McHenry County Conservation District

Ed Collins
Elizabeth S. Kessler

Sierra Club

Cindy Skrukud

Wisconsin Citizens

Sarah Schuster
Penny Roehrer
Margaret Lass-Gardiner
Elizabeth Lyons
Audrey Deneke

Illinois Citizens

Tom von Geldern
Dan Deters
Bill Clow
Rommy Lopat
Dale Shriver
Denise Collins
Sherry Pickrum

Openlands

Lenore Beyer-Clow

Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and Study Team

Steven Byers

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Nancy Williamson
John Rogner

National Park Service

Diane E. Banta

Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Donald M. Reed

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Frank Trcka

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Louise Clemency
Steve Lenz
Matt Sprenger
Gary Muehlenhardt
Thomas Larson

Central Umpqua-Mid Klamath Oak Habitat Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative

Oak habitat is important for terrestrial neo-tropical migratory birds in the Pacific Northwest, and this partnership is restoring more than 2,000 acres of Oregon white oak habitat by removing encroaching conifers, reseeding native grasses, and applying prescribed fire. The exclusion of fire had reduced oak habitat to a highly fragmented and degraded state. In addition to restoring habitat, this partnership exemplifies innovation by providing local tribal employment in up to 90% of the on-the-ground work. With strong public-private financial and in-kind service support, the partnership has made outstanding contributions to restore, conserve, and monitor this important migratory bird habitat at the landscape scale.

Nominated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lomakatsi Restoration Project

Marko Bey
Justin Cullumbine
Leah Schrodt
Josh Budziak
Aaron Nauth
Matthew Cocking

Grayback Forestry

Sean Hendrix

Klamath Tribes

Will Hatcher

Klamath Bird Observatory

Jaime Stephens
Felicity Newell

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

David Ross
David Johnson
CalLee Davenport
Cindy Bright

Northern California Resource Center

Larry Alexander

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Erin Kurtz
Peter Winnick
David Chain
Suzy Liebenberg
Jeremy Maestas
Jim Patterson
Charles Diehl

Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District

Walter Barton

Bureau of Land Management

Jake Winn
Terry Fairbanks

The Nature Conservancy

Ed Alverson
Molly Morrison

Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area Partnership

This collaborative public/private partnership is establishing the 150,000- acre Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area in Florida as the 556th unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The refuge will add the necessary conservation pieces to forever protect one of the last great grassland and savanna landscapes of eastern North America and create wildlife corridors, protect rare species, restore wetlands, and provide outdoor recreation while supporting working ranches through conservation easements. This endeavor was advanced in an efficient one-year timeframe and involved significant public involvement and outreach.

Nominated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Dennis David
Chuck Collins
Chris Wynn

National Wildlife Refuge Association

David Houghton
Anne Truslow

The Nature Conservancy

Dr. Shelly Lakly
Richard Hilsenbeck
Ann Birch
Jenny Conner
Jill Austin
Christy Plumer
Tricia Martin
Keith Fountain

Avon Park Air Force Range Department of Defense

Lt. Colonel Charles MacLaughlin
Paul Ebserbach

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Charlie Pelizza
Elizabeth Souheaver
Stacy Shelton
Rose Hopp
Cheri Ehrhardt
Holly Gaboriault

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Carlos Suarez

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Ray Scott

Northern Everglades Alliance

Rick Dantzler

Florida Sportsman Conservation Association

Bishop Wright

Florida Audubon Society

Charles Lee

Adams Ranch Inc./Adams Ranch

Bud Adams

Durando Okeechobee Partners, LLC/ Durando Family Ranches

David Durando

Phoenix District Youth Initiative

The Phoenix District Youth Initiative works with many partners to encourage urban and Native American youth in Arizona to get involved in natural resource career pathways through a variety of hands-on certification and environmental education programs on public lands, natural resource degree offerings and tribal internships. Youth gain valuable work experience monitoring riparian habitats, performing stewardship and conservation projects and participating in field-based science programs. The initiative fosters sustainable youth engagement in the stewardship and conservation of America's natural and cultural heritage.

Nominated by the Bureau of Land Management

BLM Phoenix District Office

Angelita Bullettis
Hannah Wendel
Pamela Mathis
Patrick Putnam

BLM Hassayampa Field Office

Rem Hawes
Codey Carter

BLM Fire - Phoenix District

Dean Fernandez

BLM - Agua Fria National Monument

Amanda James

BLM – National Landscape Conservation System

Steve Cohn

USDA Forest Service Recreation Solutions

Troy Dymock

Prescott National Forest

Jason Williams

Audubon Arizona

Cathy Wise
Steven Prager
Sarah Porter

Phoenix College

Steve Thorpe
Sean Whitcomb

Arizona Call-a-Teen Youth Resources

Adam Soto
Jessica Proehl

Maricopa Workforce Connections

William O' Brien
Cynthia Spell Tweh

Franklin Police and Fire High School

Lorenzo Cabrera

American Conservation Experience

Shane Barrow

The Student Conservation Association – Field School

American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)

Ute Learning Garden

The Ute Learning Garden is an educational program that involves and reconnects Native American youth with traditional cultural practices through ethnobotany and by engaging elders in the recollection of traditional practices and native plant uses. This knowledge is shared with school groups and the public through an urban garden and docent program in Grand Junction, Colorado. The garden also introduces diverse audiences to the Ute Indian Tribe's relationship to the landscape on public lands in Mesa County that were their traditional homeland until 1881.

Nominated by the Bureau of Land Management

BLM Colorado State Office

Marcia DeChadenedes
Dan Haas

BLM Grand Junction Field Office

Aline LaForge
Alissa Leavitt-Reynolds

Ute Tribe Education Department

Ute Indian Tribe – Education Department

Antonio Arce

Ute Indian Tribe, Cultural Rights and Protection

Betsy Chapoose
Clifford Duncan
Kessley LaRose

USFS GMUG, Grand Valley Ranger District

Sally Crum

USFS Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre Gunnison National Forests

Corey Wong
Leigh Ann Hunt

Colorado Master Gardener- Three Sisters Gardener

Laurie Reiser

Three Sisters Gardener

Kevin Betts
Caitlin Reiser

Colorado State University Extension Native Plant Master, Ethnobotanist

Lynne Albers

Colorado State University Extension Tri River Area

Dr. Curtis Swift
Susan Rose
Rhonda Follman

Colorado State University Extension Eagle County

Laurel Potts

Dominquez Archaeological Research Group

Curtis Martin
Carl Conner

National Park Service Colorado National Monument

Michelle Wheatley

A Creative Studio

Danielle Foushee

Mesa County Regional Services

Tom Fisher

Mesa County Administrator

Jon Peacock

Mesa State College

Dr. Kristy Duran

Chelsea Nursery

Stacy Stecher
Tony Urschitz

Colorado State University Master Gardener- Ute Learning Garden Docent

Michael Spangler
Mike Calabro
Paula Bockman
Deborah Krug
Susanna Clarke
Douglas Grodt
Ardith Blessinger
Sheryl Williams
Carolyn Anderson
Gregg King
Lynn Lockwood
Connie Moffatt
Helen Haas

Carol Butler
Kay Wheeler
Carl Hochmuth
Jerry Brin
Judy Herr
Mary Beth Scheevel
Kate Fischer
Joyce Helm
Trulie Oliver
Louis Palmer

Lincoln Orchard Mesa Elementary School

Jeff Ventling

Ute Learning Garden

Wayne Hopper

Sorter Construction

Bill Ogle

Museum of the West

Ronna Lee Sharpe

Mike Perry

Ewing Irrigation

Grand Junction Pipe and Steel

Iditarod National Historic Trail Centennial Partnership

The Iditarod National Historic Trail Centennial Partnership, led by the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, developed and implemented a five-year (2008-2012), public-private commemoration of the 2,400-mile trail's centennial. The partnership established new public easements on 1,600 miles of the trail, developed six new public safety cabins and stabilized two historic safety cabins, upgraded 275 miles of the trail, and established a trail-based continuing education program for 40 Alaskan K-12 teachers reaching over 2,000 students. The partnership effectively leveraged its resources to engage and involve all ages from youth to senior citizens, small rural Alaskan communities to state and federal agencies.

Nominated by the Bureau of Land Management

Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance

Judy Bittner
Greg Bill
Richard Burnham
Lori Henry
Julian Mead
Dale Meyers
Jim Palin
Lee Poleske
Leo Rasmussen
Dan Seavey
Jonathan Sewall
Richard Strick, Sr.
Mike Tierney

BLM Anchorage Field Office

Jim Fincher
Kevin Keeler
Jorjena Daly
Jeff Kowalczyk
Betty Lockard
Teresa McPherson
Luise Woelflein

BLM Alaska State Office

Gary Reimer
Alan Lorimer

BLM Glennallen Field Office

Leif Sorlie

**BLM Alaska Fire Service
Southern Zone Dispatch**

USDA-USFS Chugach National Forest

Jaime Schmidt
Annette Heckart

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Lesli Schick

The Office of Surface Mining/Volunteers in Service to America Teams

The OSM/VISTA Teams encourage partnerships that bring resources to rural communities engaged in conservation and development. In the last year, the Teams placed 144 youth in environmental stewardship and engagement opportunities across the nation: 86 year-long full-time OSM/VISTA Volunteers and 58 Summer AmeriCorps Members at 64 sponsor sites. These Volunteers empower citizens to work together to address environmental, cultural, historic preservation and conservation concerns, and create a network of support among isolated, rural communities. OSM/VISTA Volunteers helped organize 330 projects that incorporated rural community revitalization and/or the celebration and preservation of local history, culture, and art; engaged 896 community volunteers in monitoring 1,212 sites for water quality including 404 sites with acid mine drainage concerns; and engaged over 8,650 youth in stewardship and service.

Nominated by the Office of Surface Mining

Western Hardrock Watershed Team
Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance
NFRIA-WSERC Conservation Center
Coalition for the Upper South Platte
Mosquito Range Heritage Initiative
Coal Creek Watershed Coalition
Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership
Colorado Watershed Assembly
Colorado River Watch
Grand County Water Information Network
Lake Fork Valley Conservancy
Gila Resources Information Project
Coal Creek Watershed Coalition
Slate River Group
Southwest Conservation Corps
Appalachian Coal Country Team
Upper Tennessee River Roundtable
West Virginia Food and Farm Coalition
Appalachian Sustainable Development
Harpeth River Watershed Association
McDowell County
Appalachian Aging Initiative
Appalachian Life Quality Initiative
Boys and Girls Club:
Growing Appalachia Enrichment

Town of Grundy
Friends of the Cheat
Brownfields Revitalization
Grow Local Go Local
Williamson Sustainable Development
Union County Community Gardens
Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia
Corporation for National and Community Service - Colorado Office
Corporation for National and Community Service – New Mexico Office
Corporation for National and Community Service – West Virginia Office
Cliffs Action Revitalization Team/San Isabel Land Protection Trust
Downtown Colorado, Inc.
Jefferson Conservation District
Harvest Mountain Community Gardens
EcoAction Partners
Land Trust of the Upper Arkansas
Kerber Creek Restoration Project
Colorado Trout Unlimited
City of Victor
Greater Arkansas River Nature Association
Railyard Stewards

Rio Puerco Alliance
San Juan Watershed Group
Mountain Studies Institute
Coal River Group
Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky
Coalfields Development Corporation
Brownsville Area Revitalization Corporation: Reclaim Brownsville
Friends of Deckers Creek Lower Watershed
Moundsville: Restore, Reinvest, Reinvent
Sustainable Williamson
Headwaters Inc: Letcher County Revitalization
Campbell County Farmers Market Small Business Incubator
Woodland Community Land Trust
Clay County Leadership Development

Campbell County Adventure Tourism Development
Pathfinders of Perry County
Morris Creek Watershed Association
Jessie F. Richardson Foundation
Friends of Blackwater North Fork Project
Schuylkill Headwaters Association
Crooked Creek Watershed Association Evergreen Conservancy
Friends of the Lower Muskingum
Clearfield County Conservation District
Appalachian RC&D
April Trent
Alex Brooks
Office of Surface Mining
 T. Allan Comp
 Al Whitehouse

Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative

The restoration of the American chestnut in eastern forests is just one of the partnership efforts employed by the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative to plant more high-value hardwood trees on reclaimed coal mines, to increase the survival and growth rates of the planted trees, and to expedite the establishment of forest habitat through natural succession. The initiative has had direct, positive and measurable impacts on the environment of Appalachia. More than 1,000 individuals representing 207 diverse organizations are supporting the initiative and surface mining stakeholders have planted approximately 78 million trees on nearly 115,000 acres of mined land throughout Appalachia.

Nominated by the Office of Surface Mining

Office of Surface Mining

Joe Pizarchik
 Jim Taitt
 Dr. Patrick Angel
 Scott Eggerud
 Tom Shope
 Mike Bower
 Tim Brehm
 Chet Edwards
 Linda Keene
 Mike Hiscar

Dave Hamilton
 Chris Miller
 Brad Edwards
 Will DeBord

Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Richard Davis
 Lawrence Tankersley
 Ken Coomer

University of Kentucky/Green Forest Works

Dr. Chris Barton

West Virginia University

Dr. Jeff Skousen

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Dr. Jim Burger

Dr. Carl Zipper

Kentucky Department of Natural Resources

Paul Rothman

U.S. Forest Service

Dr. Mary Beth Adams

U.S. Geological Survey

Dr. Petra Woods

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

John Kehn

University of Tennessee

Dr. Jennifer Franklin

Maryland Department of Environment

Mark Carney

The American Chestnut Foundation

Michael French

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Chris Yeakle

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Kevin Quick

Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINE)

Our coastlines are home to dynamic, highly diverse biological communities that are subject to dramatic changes. MARINE, the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network, studies these rocky intertidal communities in order to determine the health of the habitat and provide this information to the public. This long-term monitoring program is the largest of its kind, involving 38 sponsors, contributors and collaborators that biannually monitor rocky intertidal species at over 140 sites on the east and west coasts. The geographically broad and long-term data set enables managers to evaluate large changes such as effects from global climate change as well as effects from an oil spill or pollution event.

Nominated by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Thomas Ahlfeld

Gregory Boland

Ann S. Bull

Lisa Gilbane

Mary Elaine Helix

Maurice Hill

Fred Piltz

Lynnette Vesco

Channel Islands National Park

Dan Richards

Cabrillo National Monument

Benjamin Pister

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Darren Fong

Point Reyes National Seashore

Ben Becker

Redwoods National and State Parks

David Anderson

Olympic National Park

Steven Fradkin

U.S. Geological Survey

Gary Davis

Glenn VanBlaricom

**Bureau of Land Management
California Coastal Monument**

Rick Hanks

NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries

William J. Douros

**NOAA Channel Islands
National Marine Sanctuary**

Julie Bursek

Jessica Altstatt

NOAA Monterey Bay

National Marine Sanctuary

Steve Lonhart

**NOAA Olympic Coast National Marine
Sanctuary**

Liam Antrim

NOAA Office of Response and Restoration

John Tarpley

John Cubit

**NOAA Center for Coastal Monitoring
and Assessment Mussel Watch**

Gunnar Lauenstein

National Marine Fisheries Service

Melissa Neuman

U.S. Navy

Mitchel Perdue

Suzanne Graham

Quinault Indian Nation

**National Center for Ecological Analysis and
Synthesis**

Mark Shildhauer

California Ocean Science Trust

Elizabeth Whiteman

Tess Freidenburg

**California State Water Resources
Control Board**

Dominic Gregorio

**California Department of Fish and Game,
Office of Spill Prevention and Response**

Michael Anderson

Ken Wilson

California Coastal Commission

Susan Hansch

University of California Santa Cruz

Peter Raimondi

Christy Bell

Nate Fletcher

Rani Gaddam

Maya George

David Lohse

Melissa Miner

Melissa Redfield

University of California Los Angeles

Richard Ambrose

Steven Lee

University of California Santa Barbara

John Engle

University of California Berkeley

Kathy Ann Miller

California State University Fullerton

Steven Murray

Jennifer Burnaford

**California State Polytechnic University,
Pomona**

Jayson Smith

California State University, San Diego

Jeremy Long

**USC Sea Grant and Wrigley
Marine Science Center**

Phyllis Grifman

County of Santa Barbara

Douglas Anthony

**Southern California Coastal Water
Research Project**

Steven Weisberg

Kenneth Schiff

**Santa Monica Bay
Restoration Commission**

Shelley Luce

Guang-yu Wang

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Julianne Kalman Passarelli

**Partnership for Interdisciplinary
Studies of Coastal Oceans**

Carol Blanchette

Tatman Foundation

Henri Chomeau

Christopher Bungener

Tenera Environmental

John Steinbeck

Scott Kimura

Western Washington University

Benjamin Miner

Hart Mine Marsh Restoration Project

The Hart Mine Marsh Restoration Project conserves natural heritage and wildlife and represents a highly successful partnership between two agencies with different goals and missions: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Reclamation. The project at Cibola National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona has contributed 255 acres of marsh habitat to Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, nearly half of the program's total marsh habitat goal. Hart Mine Marsh already is being used by an endangered species and is serving as habitat for many other resident and migratory wildlife species. The project's documented success has positive implications for the entire program's future success in protecting endangered species, securing water resources, and enhancing our Nation's natural resources.

Nominated by the Bureau of Reclamation

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Cibola National Wildlife Refuge**

Mike Oldham

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Arizona National Wildlife
Refuge Complex**

Bill Seese

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Regional Office, Region 2**

Thomas Harvey

**Bureau of Reclamation/ Lower Colorado
River Multi-Species Conservation Program**

Gregg Garnett

Terry Murphy

John Swett

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Cibola National Wildlife Refuge**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Regional Office (Region 2)**

**The Lower Colorado River
Multi-Species Conservation Program**

Provo Area Office Force Account

Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study

The Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study is a model for future watershed planning across the country. As an unprecedented joint effort between the Bureau of Reclamation and the seven states of the Colorado River Basin (Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming), it is a critical first step to establish a common factual and technical foundation for resolving future water supply and demand imbalances. The Study is the most comprehensive basin-wide analysis ever undertaken by Interior. Conducted in collaboration with stakeholders throughout the Basin, including federally recognized tribes, agricultural users, purveyors of municipal and industrial water, power users, and environmental and recreational groups, the Study will serve as the basis for planning for future growth and climate change in the Colorado River Basin and as an example of watershed collaboration for decades to come.

Nominated by the Assistant Secretary – Water and Science

Carly S. Jerla, Bureau of Reclamation

Black & Veatch

CH2M HILL

RAND Corporation

**Bureau of Reclamation
Lower Colorado Region**

**Bureau of Reclamation
Program Management Office**

**Bureau of Reclamation
Technical Services Center**

**Bureau of Reclamation
Upper Colorado Region**

National Park Service

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Southwest Region**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Mountain-Prairie Region**

Western Area Power Administration

American Whitewater

Environmental Defense Fund

Hydros Consulting

Natural Resources Defense Fund

Nuestro Rio

Pacific Institute

Protect the Flows

The Nature Conservancy

Water Balance Consulting

WaterJamin Legal & Consulting Service

Western Resource Advocates

AMEC Earth & Environmental

Carpe Diem West

**Colorado River Basin
Salinity Control Forum**

**CU – The Center for Advanced
Decision Support for Water
and Environmental Systems**

Upper Colorado River Commission

**Western Water Assessment, Cooperative
Institute for Research in Environmental
Sciences**

Arizona Department of Water Resources

Central Arizona Project

Coachella Valley Water District

Colorado River Board of California

Imperial Irrigation District

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Palo Verde Irrigation District

San Diego County Water Authority

**The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California**

Colorado River Water Conservation District

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Front Range Water Council
Southwestern Water Conservation District
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
Southern Nevada Water Authority
Colorado River Commission of Nevada
Utah Division of Water Resources
Wyoming State Engineer's Office
Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribe
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community
Havasupai Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Hualapai Tribe

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Navajo Nation
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Ten Tribes Partnership
Tohono O'odham Nation
Tonto Apache Tribe
Ute Indian Tribe of the
Uintah and Ouray Reservation
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe

Border Security and Environmental Conservation Partnership

The missions of the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of the Interior are very different, but these partners have overcome mission conflicts and effectively secured our borders while conserving the unique border environment. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection has contributed nearly \$18 million towards conservation of threatened and endangered species to mitigate the impacts of their programs, while the U.S. Border Patrol has established a nationwide liaison program designating lead agents to coordinate their activities with Interior on a day to day basis. A nationwide environmental stewardship training program is now required for all agents. These efforts have dramatically decreased the level of illegal activity along the borders and directly reduced adverse impacts on lands and resources managed by Interior.

*Nominated by the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Safety,
Resource Protection, and Emergency Services*

U.S. Border Patrol

Michael J. Fisher
Jeff Snively
Robert J. Gumtow
Roy Walker
Sean A. Ford
Marc A. Guerrier
Gloria I. Chavez

Stephen S. Martin
Glenn A. Bixler
Elaine M. Koerner
Timothy J. Engman
Gerald B. Martino
David R. Hoffman

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

David V. Aguilar
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Christopher Colacicco
Loretta Whitacre
Joe Zidron
John Petrilla
Steve Hodapp
Frank Reilly
Christopher Oh
Jennifer DeHart Hass
Paul Martin
Don Beckham
Christopher Shaw

U.S. Department of the Interior

Kim Thorsen
Curtis Oman
Howard Huey
Jon Andrew

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Larisa Ford
Mary Anderson
Jean Calhoun

Bureau of Land Management

Edward Guerrero
Kathy Pedrick
Gregory Thomsen



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