

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2011



**Alaska
Conservation
Foundation**

LETTER FROM BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends of Alaska,

We're pleased to share with you this annual report highlighting some of the environmental challenges facing Alaska and the essential work that with your help, Alaska Conservation Foundation has been able to support.

Each year, pressure increases from global interests in oil and gas exporting Alaska's nonrenewable resources. The Bay Semnopus salmon resources—and the communities generationally attached to the land and water soft at region, Ekwive, continue to grow. More salmon streams and tributaries are being polluted and degraded. ACF continues to play a major role in the coordination and strategic leadership of campaigns aimed at preventing these highly destructive activities.

ACF's leadership roles, however, are much more than opposing projects incompatible with environmental protection and healthy communities. ACF plays a critical role in connecting groups and individuals to foster collaboration and build an influential conservation movement within Alaska. Our

Alaska Conservation Foundation builds strategic leadership and support for Alaskan efforts to take care of wildlands, waters, and wildlife, which sustain diverse cultures, healthy communities, and prosperous economies.

"Theory of change" or blueprint for guiding our grantmaking and other work solutions-based and involve building diverse partnerships and engaging Alaskans in civic action.

This year, ACF awarded more than \$3.5 million in grants supporting state-wide conservation work. As the number grows, we expect to see more change—the kind that has Alaskans standing up to exploitation and protecting their land and waters upon which they rely.

On the fundraising side, ACF continues to connect philanthropists with Alaska's conservation organizations on the frontlines. This past year, our designated contribution from public support surpassed \$500,000. This is a remarkable accomplishment in a challenging economy; still, there are always greater challenges.

We thank you all for supporting ACF's your commitment to Alaska and your generosity that make our work possible.

Sincerely,
Nancy Lord
Chair, Board of Trustees

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OUR IMPACT: PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

As a funder, ACF is constantly accessing the landscape to make the best investments possible. Last year, we developed a "theory of change" or blueprint to guide our funding decisions. In 2011, we put it into action!

Multinational companies continue to aggressively pursue the extraction of Alaska's gold, copper, oil and gas and coal. With your support, we awarded more than \$3.5 million in grants to support conservation work aimed at heading off these threats and creating the necessary change to keep Alaska healthy for the long-term. Our work began this year with building the capacity of four local organizations and forging new partnerships with Alaska Natives, community leaders and other key constituencies. As these networks continue to bring people together and provide voices being heard on issues like preventing Pebble Mine and Arctic coal development.

Highlights of this year's accomplishments follow. For a complete listing of organizational and individual achievements grant this year, visit the ACF website at: www.alaskaconservation.org.

\$240,000 granted for capacity building conservation movement

ACF's organizational capacity-building program shifted its focus this year to

organization that are strengthening Alaska's conservation movement by investing in people and organizational structure needed to create enduring change.

This year, six organizations were awarded new two-year organizational capacity grants. These grants were used for staff and board development, volunteer engagement, sound business practice implementation and the development of sustainable funding models. Additionally, ACF provided support for professional training opportunities and a summer intern at each organization.

\$21,280 awarded for rapid response ACF's rapid response program—the only fund of its kind in Alaska—is a means to respond to urgent threats and opportunities. Through an expedited process, these grants are awarded swiftly. This year, ACF provided rapid response funding to Alaska Marine Conservation Council, Denali Citizens Council, Kachemak Bay Conservation Society and Friends for Alaska.

\$83,903 awarded to connect 22 intern to 16 conservation organizations

ACF's conservation internship program connects the next generation of conservationists with Alaska. In 2011, twenty-two college and graduate students from the US, Mexico and Canada participated in summer internships

In FY 11, ACF awarded more than \$3.5 million to support state-wide conservation efforts!

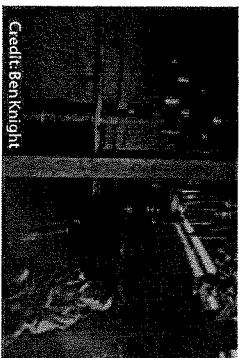
At sixteen organizations across the state, hands-on experience in Alaska prepared these future leaders to enter the job market in environmental work. Interns, our organizations relied on the summer interns to assist their staff in strengthening their organizations. Now, that's capacity—building in action.

\$100,000 raised to support Alaska Native ways of life

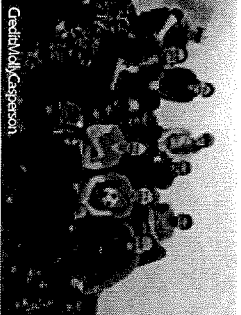
For thousands of years, the Alaska Native people have depended upon Alaska's natural resources to support subsistence ways of life. Through collaboration, we can better understand their powerful connection to the environment and look for solutions to the issues impacting all of us.

In 2011, ACF established the Alaska Native Fund to strengthen financial support for indigenous organizations and individuals dealing with the devastating impact of unsustainable development and climate change in their communities. An Alaska Native Steering Committee developed the framework and guidelines for the fund.

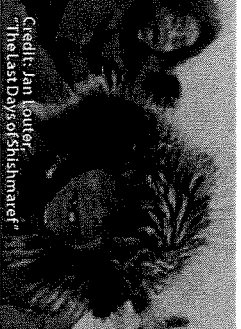
"This fund will provide Tribes and other nonprofit Alaska Native organizations support to make their conservation plans a reality," said Orville Huntington, Steering Committee member from Huslia, and Tahana Chiefs Conference Wildlife and Parks Director.



Credit: Ben Knight



Credit: Kelly Gagnon



Credit: Jan Louter
"The Last Days of Shishmarek"



INTERVIEW WORK
Credit: Catherine

AWARD WINNERS
Credit: Jules Nielson

MATANUSKA SUSTAINABLE
Credit: Steven Whitney

BRISTOL BAY DELICATES
Credit: Harlan Savage

Credit: Jan Louie
"The Last Days of a Fishmare"

Credit: Ben Knight

Letters of inquiry were requested in June 2011, with the goal of awarding \$100,000 in the inaugural round of grants in fiscal year 2012. The fund will also support a 2012 gathering of Alaska Native organizations and funders to build understanding and leverage additional support for Alaska Native projects.

\$4,000 granted in celebration of conservation unsung heroes

Many individuals and organizations work tirelessly to protect Alaska's natural environment. ACF's 25th Conservation Achievement Awards program celebrated those unsung heroes of conservation in a ceremony held at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Each of this year's award winners distinguished themselves by an impressive body of work, but also by the ability to communicate, collaborate, and educate.

Awards went to:

- Chip Thoma of Juneau, Alaska
- Celia Hunter Award for Outstanding Volunteer Contributions
- Sandra Rahnawitch of Anchorage, Alaska
- Lowell Thomas, Jr. Award for Outstanding Civil Service
- Oceana Willis of Homer, Alaska
- Denny Wilcher Award for Young Environmental Activists

Ann Ghicadus of Seward, Alaska
Jenny S. Dixon Award for Excellence in Environmental Education

"The Last Days of a Fishmare" Directed by Jan Louie
Housberg Wilderness Image Award for Excellence in Film or Video

Robert (Bob) Slavicek of Homer, Alaska
Olaus Murie Award for Outstanding Professional Contributions

Joan Kane of Anchorage, AK
Alaska Native Writers Storytellers on the Environment

Protecting salmon's connection to culture & economy

\$1,414,999 awarded to group protecting Bristol Bay salmon

In Bristol Bay, Alaska, a massive open-pit gold and copper mine threatens one of the largest wild salmon runs left on Earth. This year ACF's Bristol Bay Fishery and Watershed Protection Campaign called on Washington D.C. to protect our wild salmon and the economic and cultural support it.

The campaign collaborated with a diverse group of partner trusts, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), local leaders to protect Bristol Bay. Many new voices joined the fight including faith-based organizations, youth groups, commercial and sports fishermen, and Alaska Natives. A first victory was realized in February 2011 when the EPA announced it would undertake scientific assessment of the Bristol Bay watershed later this year to understand the impacts of large-scale mining in the region.

"The Bristol Bay watershed is essential to the health, environment and economy of Alaska," said EPA Regional Administrator Dennis McLerran. "Gathering data and getting public input now, before development occurs, just makes sense. Doing this, we can be assured that our future decisions are grounded in the best science and information and in touch with the needs of these communities."

As part of this effort, ACF's Sportsmen Alliance for Alaska (SAA) enlisted support from over 360 hunting and fishing clubs, sporting good retailers and manufacturers, lodges, guides and outfitters on a letter sent to the EPA asking them to protect Bristol Bay salmon. SAA is the only conservation entity focused on informing and engaging the hunting and angling community in conservation work in the Bristol Bay region and the Tongass National Forest.

\$162,000 awarded to manage salmon & timber in the Tongass National Forest

Wild salmon are also a vital asset to the Tongass National Forest, yet 17 years past many in the region's resource base has not been a priority for local resource managers. Additionally, years of clear-cut logging compromised more than half of this ancient rain forest.

This year ACF joined several organizations in a ten-year campaign named Fish, People, Place to build a durable framework for protecting the Tongass.

Drawing on lessons learned, the campaign will develop partnerships with local communities, Alaska Natives, and management agencies in the Tongass National Forest to develop new models for managing resources—from salmon to timber. This new campaign is set to watch in the future!

Collaborating to keep Alaska's cool in the ground and not polluting our air

\$1,371,000 awarded to keep Alaska's coal in the ground

With over 5.5 trillion tons of untapped coal deposits in Alaska, ACF recognizes that preventing development of Alaska's coal reserves is a vital step in mitigating global climate change. ACF's Alaska for Energy Freedom (AEF) campaign brings together 30 conservation organizations, Alaska Natives, and consumer groups working to keep Alaska's coal in the ground.

In 2011, the campaign focused on 3 regions—the Northwest Arctic, the Matanuska Valley and Chitna River watershed. In each of these regions, multinational companies extract coal and transport it to burgeoning Asian markets. The campaign worked with local communities to challenge the prospecting permits being considered by the state. ACF also reached out to national partners to begin considering national approaches to address coal exportation.

To shift Alaska's focus to energy efficiency and renewable energy, campaign partners also worked to endorse candidates for utility board elections in four public elections who prioritized these strategies over coal use. Their efforts paid off when several of the endorsed candidates won seasonal number of Alaska's power utility association boards.

Donor advised Funds & Endowments

To ensure Alaska's healthy future, ACF creates and manages endowment funds and donates funds to donors who have specific intentions for their gifts. Here are two examples:

- \$10,700 was awarded by The Studebaker Family Environmental Education Fund to the following organizations for environmental education:
 - Alaska Bird Observatory
 - Alaska Center for the Environment
 - Alaska Youth for Environmental Action
 - Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, Inc.
 - Discovery Southeast
 - Wangell Institute for Science and Environment
 - Northern Alaska Environmental Center

\$4,000 was awarded by the Jeanne S. Williams Alaska NADP Mammal Fish Protection Endowment Fund to the following organizations:

- The Ocean Foundation
- Alaska Interfaith Power and Light
- Alaska Wilderness League

Visit ACF's website for more information about our impact sites www.alaskaconservation.org



Credit: Steven Whitney

ACFS FINANCIAL HEALTH

Statement of Financial Position July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011



Assets

Cash and cash equivalents
Grants and public support receivable
Other receivables

3,209,200
5,912,491
114,277

Liabilities

Accounts payable
Accrued payroll & related liabilities
Grants and awards payable
Capital lease obligation
Gift annuity liability

11,081,236
111,054
58,103
756,848
890

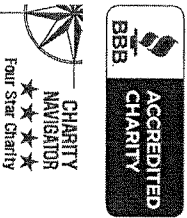
Total liabilities

119,859
1,046,754
Undesignated

607,176
882,423
1,489,599
3,670,947
4,873,936
10,034,482
\$11,081,236

2011 Ratings
For over 31 years, ACF has been a charity you can count on!

Charity Navigator: ACF received 4-stars
Better Business Bureau - ACF met the 20 standards for charitable accountability
EarthShare - 2011 partner, combined federal campaign #12062



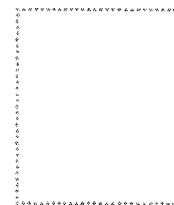
YOUR IMPACT
Contributions to ACF fuel efforts to keep Alaska healthy for the long-term. Our work simply wouldn't be possible without support from individuals, businesses and our foundation partners. Every gift ACF receives makes a difference.

4445 Foundation
Brainerd Foundation
Harder Foundation
Moore Family Foundation
Wanderlodge Foundation
Benefactors Circle
Anonymous (2)
Argosy Foundation
Grenold and Dorothy Collins
Alaska Charitable Trust
Eaglemer Foundation, Inc.
Martin-Fabert Foundation
George Gund Foundation
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Memorial Fund
Turner Foundation, Inc.
Willbur Force Foundation
Woltersohn Family Foundation
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Anonymous (1)

Director's Circle
(\$10,000-24,999)
Anonymous (5)
Norman Anderson
Peter and Michaela Bigford
Don and Pamela G. Lichy
The Pal and Arlene Newnham
Foundation and Visited Fund
of Silicon Valley Community
Foundation)
New Land Foundation, Inc.
David and Janet Robertson
David Rockefeller, Jr.
Susan Cohn Rockefeller
West Wind Foundation
William B. Wiener, Jr.
Guardian Circle
(\$5,000-9,999)
Anonymous (2)
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Rhonda Bennon and Martin
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CGMK Foundation
Coblentz Patch, Duffy & Bass
LLP
A.J. Grant
Judy and Zavela Foundation
Larry and Wendy Rockefeller
Matt and Jessica Sheehan
Memnon Fund
David and Margaret Steward
John and Elizabeth Carson
Taylor
Steward Circle
(\$2,500-4,999)
Anonymous (1)
Bear Gulch Foundation
Robert Bundy
David Bonderman
Bert and Luan Barbara Cohn
Daniel E. Cohn
Clifton Fames
Gryphon Fund
Bill Leighy and Nancy
Waterman
Joseph Kotzin
Scott A. Nathan
Dan J. Purnell
Alan and Jane Ritchie
Michael M. and Lenore L.
Roberts
Elien Webster
Wild Woods Foundation
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(\$1,000-2,499)
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Duane Beckmann
Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden
Allan F. and Marilyn Brown
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Eugene and Emily Grant
Madeleine M. Grant
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McLoughlin
Simon and Jenna Hamn
David and Susan Hadenbergh
Gretchen Hull
Dan and Irene Hunter
Carol A. Jewell
Nathan P. and Elizabeth S.
Johnston
Ronald J. and Elizabeth
Keeshan
Robert Keith Jr. and Margot
Keith
Rick and Susan Koe
Carl W. Kohls
Marcia Lamb
Marta Jo Lawrence
James R. and Dianne D.
Mahaffey
Roslyn Mandel
M. M. Mayer
Larry and Gail Mayo
Greg and Cathy and Wendy
Chase
Richard W. and Barbara F.
Moore
William F. and Mary Sue Morrill
National Audubon Society
Alaska
Gayle E. and Helen D.
Nierthueser
Norcross Wildlife Foundation,
Inc.
Susan Olsen
Edwin Ordway, Jr.
Ingrid Rasch
Kathryn Riddell
Christopher D. Roosevelt
and Rosalind H. Roosevelt
Peter S. and Molly N. Ross
Albrecht Saalfeld
Phillipa Strahm
Jan and Susan L. Suwinski
Jonathan Torop and Barrie
Silverman
Ruth Wood and John
Clare Eddy Thaw
Lowell Thomas, Jr. and Jay
Thomas
William L. Rutherford, M.D.
Edna S. Webster
Great Land Monthly
GIVING CLUB
John and Kris Abshire
Jane C. Blackwell
Stephen and Cammen Blakey
Nathan Borson
Gerald Brookman
Marsha Buck
Stephen Charles
Marta Chase and Kicab
Castaneda-Mendez
Lisa Climo
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George Donart
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Michael and Diane Fisher
Jennifer Foote
Scott and Nadine Goetz
Martha A. Hanns
Scott Hed

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Brendan and Karen Kelly
Maureen Knutsen
R.L. Latterell
Jack W. and Mary R. Lentfer
Brandon Lloyd
M.H. Lobell
Drew A. McCally and Marilyn
V. Green
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McDonagh
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McLaughlin
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Kobayashi
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Tilston
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Workplace & Business
Partners
Alaska Community Share
Alaska Discovery
Alaska Wildlife Adventures
Arctic Treks
Church Media
Darae's Salon & Spa
Dynomighty Design
Elements Salon & Day Spa
Halo Salon
Orvis
Meg Allen Salon & Spa
Rainbow River Lodge
Sockeye Cyle Co.
Wilderness Birding Adventure

Alaska Conservation Foundation
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Anchorage, AK 99501-2340



ACT NOW

**The stakes are high...unsustainable development in
Alaska means...**

- **Toxic contamination**
- **Threatened wildlife**
- **Destroyed wilderness**

**Only YOU stand between relentless development and a
healthy future in Alaska.**

ACT NOW. Make a gift at www.alaskaconservation.org.