



THE TRACKS YOU LEAVE BEHIND

FINANCIAL PLANNING NEWS AND
INSPIRATION FOR FRIENDS OF DEFENDERS

Small Victories Add Up

Progress in conservation is often the sum of small victories. Here are just a few recent examples of successes at the state and local level that supporters like YOU make possible:

- Collaborated with Fort Lewis College on a timely assessment of available wolf habitat and potential conflict with livestock in Colorado. As the study proceeded last summer, a radio-collared wolf from the Yellowstone area was documented in the state. In early January,

state officials confirmed the presence of a wolf pack, the first in Colorado in more than 70 years.

- Helped defeat a bill in the Montana legislature that would have reimbursed individuals for costs incurred while trapping wolves. Defenders testified and lobbied hard against the bill and issued multiple alerts to our members in the state. Together we stopped what essentially amounted to a bounty on wolves.
- Established student-led “Defenders of Wildlife Campus Clubs” at eight colleges and universities in Arizona, Colorado, Maine and Pennsylvania. The clubs organize behind campaigns to protect wildlife and habitat, bringing new energy to

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SEA OTTERS © GREG TUCKER



BLACK-FOOTED FERRET BY USFWS/J. MICHAEL LOCKHART



MANATEES BY USFWS/TRACY COLSON



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**FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
CONTACT OUR PLANNED
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Visit our website:
www.defenders.org/tracks

How are you doing?

We hope you're staying safe during this challenging time. We produced this issue of *Tracks* from our homes, which is where we've been since Defenders made the decision in mid-March to work remotely for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our unwavering efforts to defend wildlife and wild places continue! Look for regular updates to keep us all feeling as connected as possible as we practice social distancing.

How Will you be Remembered?

Estate plans determine how your assets will eventually be distributed. If you don't have a will or living trust, the state you live in will decide where these assets go.

That's why we've partnered with FreeWill, an intuitive online tool that helps you write a will that reflects your values and creates a meaningful legacy for your loved ones and the causes you care about. It's free and takes less than 25 minutes.

If you treasure all species and habitats and believe it's our duty to conserve and restore them, consider including Defenders of Wildlife as a beneficiary in your will. Designating a beneficiary costs you nothing now and bequests of any size contribute to our cause and don't incur any taxes.

Make protecting wolves, panthers, grizzlies, ocelots and other imperiled species your legacy. **Create your estate plan today at FreeWill.com/Defenders.** 🐾



USFWS (CAPTIVE RED WOLF)

"Defenders stands for what I stand for regarding our wildlife and preservation. I believe that what you are doing is vitally important and I want it to continue long after I am no longer here to enjoy the benefits of the wild!"

—**Monique M.**
Springfield, Missouri

"We need to protect endangered species and their environments for future generations. Defenders does this in all phases: in court, in the field, and with educational programs."

—**Shauna & Tom S.**
Wichita, Kansas

Small Victories Add Up

efforts like saving climate-change-imperiled polar bears and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge where they den on the coastal plain.

- Partnered with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to

develop the Tribal Youth Wolf Conservation Program. This grant-funded special project provides six paid internships for high-school and college-age tribal members to work alongside Mexican wolf



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managers and gain hands-on experience in wolf management, including measures to reduce conflicts with livestock.

- Continued to improve the tool our "smart from the start" renewable energy and wildlife team developed to help companies with substantial energy purchasing power—like Amazon, Facebook, Google, Mars and Wal-Mart—source their energy responsibly. This tool makes it easier for these companies to meet their sustainability goals by using renewable energy from projects that minimize impacts to wildlife.

Thank you for your support! 🐾

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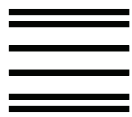
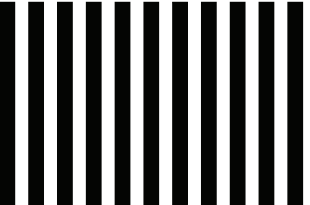
How to Give Wildlife a Voice for Years to Come

- Include a bequest in your will to designate 15% of your residual assets to Defenders of Wildlife.
- Name Defenders as a beneficiary of your retirement assets.
- Title or retitle a bank account as "payable on death" (POD) to Defenders, or a brokerage account as "transfer on death" (TOD) to Defenders.

Interested in learning more? Tear along the perforations, check the subject(s) of interest to you on the reverse side, fold in half, tape shut (to keep your address information private) and drop in the mail.



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Partners in Conservation: Ocelot Conservation Festival

Texas is the only state in the U. S. with a breeding population of ocelots. To celebrate these awesome Texans, Defenders of Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Friends of Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge co-sponsored the Ocelot Conservation Festival in early March. The annual weeklong festival features talks and special events to educate the public about ocelots, the challenges these endangered cats face and what individuals can do to help protect them. Fewer than 60 ocelots remain in a small area of Texas's Lower Rio Grande Valley, a region where agriculture, urbanization, industrialization—including the development of liquid natural gas facilities along the Gulf Coast—and border wall construction threaten vital habitat and movement corridors. 🐾

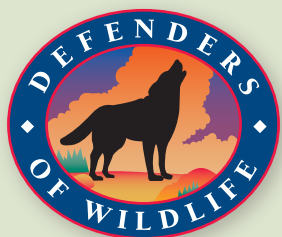


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- ☐ I am interested in bequests.
- ☐ I am interested in gift annuities.
- ☐ I am interested in giving through retirement assets.
- ☐ I am interested in will-planning basics.
- ☐ Defenders is already included in my plans.






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Inside this issue:

-  *Small wins add up*
-  *Celebrating ocelots in Texas*
-  *Leave a legacy that reflects your values*