

# ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR

2021



TRUSTEES FOR ALASKA

SUSTAIN | PROTECT | REPRESENT





# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## DEAR SUPPORTERS:

After a year of political and social chaos during a global pandemic, we went into 2021 with eyes wide open to the threats, obstacles, and possibilities.

The Biden administration's immediate commitments to climate action and biodiversity gave us reason to hope, even as the Jan. 6 insurrection deepened divisions and revealed again the disturbing power of misinformation and disinformation to drive groupthink behaviors that endanger people, democracy, and the health of the planet.

Holding the line in court became essential to protecting land, water, and communities from regulatory and industrial proposals that would have devastating impacts on land, water, air, people, and animals. Trustees' litigation on behalf of a diverse array of clients helped stop destructive oil and gas activities in the Arctic, prevent wildlife management practices that would disrupt natural wildlife diversity and health, and keep commercial road corridors from degrading public lands, public health, and the health of wildlife.

The work didn't get easier. We requested a preliminary injunction to try to stop the lame duck administration from holding a lease sale of sacred lands in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but the sale happened on Jan. 6, nonetheless, failing to draw anything but low-ball bids and no interest from a single major oil company.

We also sued the Department of the Interior for unlawfully and prematurely authorizing the ConocoPhillips Willow Master Plan despite its known harms to people and wildlife. We then filed a motion requesting a preliminary injunction. We won in court when the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals granted our motion for an emergency order stopping blasting, gravel mining, and road construction.



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We got good news, too, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers denied a Clean Water Act permit for the proposed Pebble mine, allowing us to turn our attention to securing permanent protections for the Bristol Bay watershed. A court win also upheld the prohibition of brown bear baiting in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

Yet, despite the Biden administration setting clear goals for climate and the health of the environment, it also defended Trump-era decisions in court on the Willow project and a land-swap deal designed to allow a commercial gravel road in Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

A District Court win voided permits on Willow, and the year closed without a decision on Izembek.

These proposals, along with new ones, aren't going away. We must keep working alongside clients and partners in opposing projects that would drive carbon pollution and have health impacts on local communities. We will continue this work whether it means producing hundreds of pages of comments or preparing community leaders for legislative hearings, requesting longer comment periods, and going to court when agency processes and decisions violate the law.

This kind of deep thinking and engagement goes into every issue we take on and every lawsuit we file. After many months of watching and responding to the Biden administration's proposal to allow oil companies to harass Southern Beaufort Sea polar bears, for example—and after submitting comments pointing out how the proposal failed to comply with the Marine Mammal Protection Act—we went to court in September 2021.

These Beaufort Sea polar bears are particularly vulnerable and already threatened by climate change. It's painful to see the very oil and gas industry that has caused the climate crisis that imperils

animals like polar bears be given the go ahead to disturb their feeding, denning, and interaction with other bears. This harassment is likely to kill polar bear cubs and have enduring impacts on the Beaufort Sea population.

So much of what we do has enduring implications for the future. We help hold off industrialization that would diminish or devastate salmon runs, caribou herds, and the ability of Alaskans to access food and sustain their ways of life. We stand with Alaskans fighting for their health, culture, and right to have a say in what happens near their homes. We demand that those with decision-making power stop sacrificing some people and communities for corporate profits and political agendas.

This difficult work goes on no matter the shifts in political influence. It thoughtfully and meaningfully responds and adjusts to a world where climate action and the fight for equity and justice can mean the difference between life and death.

There's so much at stake, and we're humbled by the lasting efforts of clients, partners, and supporters who make our role possible.

All of you—the foundations, donors, and supporters who commit to protecting land, water, and communities in Alaska—bring so much heart and purpose to Trustees. Because of you, we can bring our collective knowledge, passion, expertise, and experience to the legal work we do.

Thank you for being part of our Trustees team. It is an honor and gift to work alongside you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Clark".

Victoria Clark, Executive Director



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## CLEAN WATER & AIR

### *Protecting Bristol Bay salmon and ways of life*

Early in 2021, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers denied a Clean Water Act permit for the proposed Pebble mine. This key win demonstrated the power of collective efforts by local communities, Alaskans, and a coalition of organizations committed to protecting clean water and healthy salmon. Trustees helped obtain this result by submitting comments on the Corps' draft environmental impact statement for the project, supported by scientific analysis from a number of experts hired to evaluate the environmental impact statement. We followed up on this win by sending EPA a detailed analysis of the project and a summation of the science supporting EPA in prohibiting large-scale industrial mining at the headwaters of Bristol Bay.

Bristol Bay nourishes one of the last salmon strongholds, with over half the world's sockeye salmon returning every year, along with healthy populations of all Pacific salmon species. Salmon have been the main food source for people in Bristol Bay for millennia. The region's salmon nourish traditional Yup'ik, Dena'ina, and Alutiiq ways of life, tens of thousands of jobs, and a \$2.2 billion commercial fishing industry. Its thriving salmon runs provide a primary food to dozens of Alaska villages while also feeding the world.

Pebble would devastate thousands of acres of wetlands and hundreds of miles of headwater streams. It would churn out millions of tons of sulfide waste rock, releasing toxic acid drainage and discharge heavy metals like copper into waterways. Even at low concentrations, copper deteriorates salmon's ability to return to spawn and would lead to salmon death and the collapse of salmon runs.

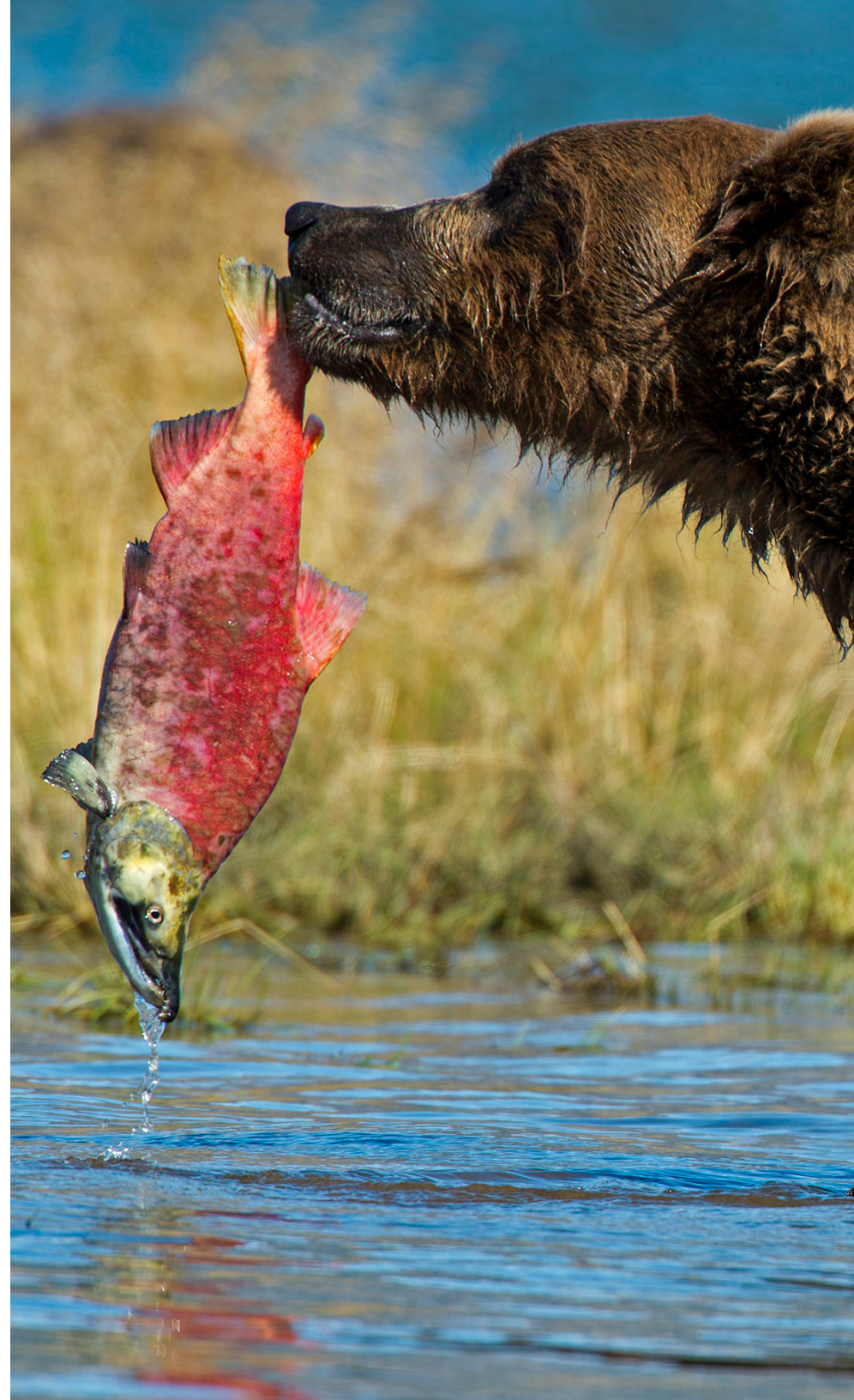


## **CLEAN WATER & AIR (cont'd)**

Our work in 2021 centered on asserting the scientific grounds for permanent protections for Bristol Bay. The Pebble Partnership, the Alaska subsidiary of a Canadian corporation called Northern Dynasty, has never operated a mine and lost multiple major partners over the last decade. It has promised a “small” mine to Alaskans while touting a massive, centuries-long profit-producer for potential investors.

The truth is, the proposed Pebble mine would wipe out streams and salmon runs. It would pollute lands and waterways. It would devastate the Bristol Bay region, along with the social, cultural and financial economies it supports.

Trustees has fought for permanent protections for Bristol Bay for over a decade and will continue to fight for as long as it takes.





## MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

### *Ensuring the health of Cook Inlet and beluga whale habitat*

Trustees remains vigilant about any administrative and industry actions impacting Cook Inlet water quality and beluga whales.

After years of delays, the Department of Environmental Conservation released the draft General Permit for Cook Inlet Oil and Gas Facilities for public comment in 2019, but they continued to delay their release of the final permit—all while continuing to allow facilities to discharge their waste directly into Cook Inlet waters.

The coastal waters of Cook Inlet are the only waters in the United States where oil and gas facilities are allowed to discharge wastes such as drill cuttings and fluids directly into the water. All other coastal oil and gas facilities in the country must operate with zero discharges.





# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## AMERICA'S ARCTIC/CLIMATE CHANGE

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### *Protecting sacred lands in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge*

Many may remember Jan. 6, 2021, as a day of reckoning for the peaceful transfer of power in the United States. The news that day and in the weeks and months afterward centered on the chaos after people broke into the capitol to stop the certification of election results.

That same day, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management held an oil and gas lease sale of lands within the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The sale failed to draw interest from a single major oil and gas company, and no bid exceeded the \$25 an acre minimum, yet it marked the first time the federal government put the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge up for sale. The lease sale failed to even meet a fraction of a percent of the revenues legislators promised when it was slipped into the 2017 Tax Act.

We attempted to stop the sale by filing a motion requesting a preliminary injunction in December 2020 as part of our August 2020 lawsuit challenging the Arctic Refuge leasing and drilling plan, which opened the entire coastal plain for leasing to oil and gas corporations.

We filed the lawsuit and subsequent motion on behalf of the Gwich'in Steering Committee and a dozen allied groups, charging the agencies with breaking multiple laws when finalizing a leasing program founded on a hasty and deficient analysis that curtailed public participation, shortchanged Indigenous input and concerns, and ignored and omitted scientific analysis and empirical facts.



## **AMERICA'S ARCTIC/CLIMATE CHANGE (cont'd)**

The coastal plain protects and nourishes millions of animals, including the Porcupine caribou herd, denning polar bears, and birds that migrate to all continents. The coastal plain is called “Iizhik Gwats’an Gwandaii Goodlit,” or “the sacred place where life begins,” by the Gwich’in Peoples of Alaska and Canada. These lands play a vital role as the birthing and nursing grounds for the Porcupine caribou, a primary food and foundation for the Gwich’in way of life. The Gwich’in Nation has lived in relationship with the sacred coastal plain for millennia.

Our efforts with clients and partners in Alaska and across the country influenced how the Biden administration responded to the leasing and drilling program it inherited. On Inauguration Day 2021, President Biden signed an executive order that temporarily halted activities related to the Arctic Refuge oil and gas leasing program and that directed the incoming Interior Department secretary to review the entire program. In August 2021, Interior announced a new scoping process for a supplemental environmental analysis to address the numerous legal problems with the program. Trustees led a group in submitting extensive comments on behalf of our coalition partners.

Throughout the 2021 fiscal year, we continued our litigation, which was ultimately stayed pending this new environmental analysis. We’ve also kept working with clients and partners to drive administrative actions to keep drilling out of the Arctic Refuge.

At year’s end, no seismic trucks and man camps had degraded the land in search of oil, and no oil companies of any size had bid on tracts. Biden’s Executive Order will continue to keep on-the-ground oil and gas activities out of the coastal plain during the new environmental review.

Protection of sacred lands in the Arctic Refuge has been a core issue for Trustees since 1974. Our efforts include litigating, preparing, and submitting administrative comments, supporting clients and partners in doing administrative hearings and legislator outreach, developing technical documents, and educating legislators and the public about how drilling in the coastal plain would erode human rights, accelerate climate change, and devastate the purposes of the Arctic Refuge.

Our litigation and administrative efforts continue to promote accountability to the public and the communities most impacted by oil and gas extraction and industrialization, while elevating the issue nationally and keeping a fiscally and legally unsound leasing program from doing on-the-ground harm.

From the halls of Congress and Arctic communities to the courtroom, we stand with our clients, partners, and the Gwich’in.



## ***Preventing more fossil fuel projects in the western Arctic***

The western Arctic includes the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, the largest unit of public lands in the nation and a region integrated with Alaska's Arctic landscape. The region is essential to dozens of communities, Indigenous ways of life, and animals like caribou, shorebirds, and an array of other mammals, fish, and birds.

An accumulation of industrialization proposals endangers the region's health and future. One of our major actions this year centered on the massive ConocoPhillips Willow proposal, which we have been engaged on for years.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management approved the proposal in October 2020 despite the lack of a permit application and serious concerns about the agency's effort to rush through the public comment period when Alaskans and Alaska communities were focused on public health concerns during the pandemic. The proposal would yet again exploit oil from the Arctic during a climate crisis, and once again force Arctic communities, already disproportionately impacted by that crisis, to carry more of its burdens.

The Willow project would essentially grow into an industrialization hub for ConocoPhillips, which has stated plans for a new oil and gas processing facility, massive satellite drill pads with up to fifty wells on each pad, a spider web of gravel roads, a new airstrip, pipelines, and two gravel mines within a protected river setback.

We went to court in November 2020 over Willow, charging multiple agencies with unlawfully and prematurely authorizing the project despite the known harm to people and animals. We filed the suit on behalf of Sovereign Iñupiat for a Living Arctic, Alaska Wilderness League, Defenders of Wildlife, Northern Alaska Environmental Center, Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society.



In December 2020, we followed our lawsuit with a motion in U.S. District Court requesting a preliminary injunction and temporary restraining order to stop ConocoPhillips from doing harmful road construction and gravel mining during the winter. The District Court denied our request for an injunction and we immediately appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Ninth Circuit granted our motion for an emergency order to stop winter blasting, gravel mining, and road construction, and to ensure that no harmful oil and gas activities could take place while our litigation waited for its day in court.

Meanwhile, in January, the Biden administration ordered its incoming Interior Department Secretary Deb Haaland to review the department's actions to approve Willow, but nothing seemed to come of this review.

By spring, the Biden administration had revealed its 30x30 plan to protect 30 percent of the U.S. lands and oceans by 2030 to confront the climate emergency and protect people and animals. Though Alaska's Arctic offers a huge opportunity for meeting the administration's climate and biodiversity goals, the Biden administration had by May made it clear that it would defend the legally flawed Trump-era approval of Willow in court.

In August, our lawsuit prevailed when a District Court ruling voided permits for the Willow project. The fight isn't over. ConocoPhillips continues to pressure legislators and Interior to conduct whatever

short-cut processes it can to get an approval. The Bureau of Land Management started a new environmental review process for Willow by September 2021, only a month after the Court rejected the company's prior permits.

Meanwhile, the Interior Department directed the Bureau of Land Management to reevaluate a destructive Trump-era management plan that would open up protected areas of the NPRA and drive up carbon emissions. The September action prohibits the Bureau from offering any tracks of land in an oil and gas lease sale that were newly opened under the 2020 plan.

Litigation helped influence this step back from a short-sighted and destructive management plan. Our August 2020 lawsuit charged Interior and the Bureau of Land Management with violating multiple laws during its environmental review, noting that it was completely at odds with the agency's obligation to provide maximum protection for places like Teshekpuk Lake, as well as other areas essential to the health of people and animals. That litigation continues to make its way through court.

The efforts by industry and political players to exploit more of the Western Arctic for oil and gas continues through multiple projects with huge cumulative impacts on local communities, the Arctic region, and the planet.

Trustees supports Alaska's frontline communities in being heard and protected from pollution, the climate crisis, and industrialization.



## *Stopping a destructive industrial road from devastating a vast Arctic region*

This year we took legal action to prevent a public corporation from squandering public money on a 211-plus-mile gravel commercial transportation corridor known as the road to Ambler. The road would pollute land, water and air, and harm the health of an Arctic region essential to the local communities.

Many local people along the road corridor—who would endure its direct impacts—oppose the proposed road, which would cut through and degrade hunting and fishing lands, diminish access to food, and fragment caribou and other animal habitat. The road would destroy land and wetlands, release asbestos into the water and air, and result in toxic acid rock drainage into waterways. It would cross one of the longest caribou migration paths in the world and cut through Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, altering the integrity of these lands and all the people and animals they support.

This year we moved forward with litigation we brought in August 2020 charging the U.S. Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Army Corps of Engineers, and National Park Service with approving the proposal without knowing or taking a close look at key information, such as the proposal's route, how it will be constructed, where gravel mining will take place, how it would impact land and water, and how mining and related activities would threaten air and water quality, and the health of people and animals like fish and caribou.







## AMERICA'S ARCTIC/CLIMATE CHANGE (cont'd)

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The proposal's applicant, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, a public corporation of the state of Alaska, has dumped money into the project without transparency or accountability. The entity has poured money into this proposal without legislative oversight and held emergency meetings with little public notice in addition to having executive sessions that preclude public transparency.

AIDEA's proposal calls for using millions of public dollars for the proposed Ambler road, which would be used solely by private mining corporations while polluting water, air, and land across the Southern Brooks Range and Gates of the Arctic National Park. The Trump administration approved the project in July 2020.

The road to Ambler would create an unjustified economic burden to Alaska citizens while forcing local communities and animals to pay the consequences. We consider stopping the Ambler road critical to our work in fighting for the health of people and animals in the Arctic.



## ***Keeping polar bears alive***

We went to court to protect polar bears in September 2021 after many months of monitoring and responding to a Biden administration's proposal to authorize the harassment of Southern Beaufort Sea polar bears by oil and gas operators. We submitted extensive comments on the proposal earlier that summer.

This population of polar bears is unique, already threatened by climate change, and reliant on the North Slope and Beaufort Sea regions of Alaska for food, denning, and survival. The proposed rule would allow oil and gas operators to use noise, equipment, and vehicles to disturb polar bears, forcing animals to delay or stop feeding, hunting, tending to young, and interacting with other bears.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's own science concluded that there would be a 95 percent chance of polar bear deaths from North Slope oil and gas activities over a five-year period, with cubs at the highest risk.

Yet the agency ignored its own conclusions and renewed a five-year authorization of these activities. Our lawsuit filed on behalf of seven groups charges the agency with violating the National Environmental Policy Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

We represent the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, Alaska Wilderness League, Defenders of Wildlife, Environment America, and the Sierra Club, which also represents itself. Trustees is co-counseling with the Center for Biological Diversity, which represents itself and Friends of the Earth.

The climate crisis has posed an existential threat to polar bears across the Arctic. Polar bears hold the Arctic food web in balance, and this web is threatened by the climate crisis. We consider protecting polar bears essential to our work in the Arctic and in addressing the impacts of climate change affecting all Arctic animals and people.





# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## WILD LANDS AND WILDLIFE

### *Stopping a proposed road on the narrow Izembek Isthmus in a wildlife refuge in Alaska*

Trustees previously won twice in U.S. District Court when protecting Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. Those lawsuits sought to stop illegal land exchanges that traded away lands in Izembek to make way for a proposed commercial road on a narrow isthmus within wetlands laden with eelgrass important to birds and the entire region.

This fiscal year, we submitted a brief in January 2021 and then argued in court in August, this time to defend our second District Court win before the U.S. Ninth Circuit of appeals.

In oral argument, we reiterated that the Secretary of the Interior can't override Congress when it comes to putting a road through an area that Congress itself designated as protected wilderness. We further argued that the Secretary can't give away lands in a wildlife refuge when it violates the very reason that refuges were created – to protect important lands, waters, and animals, and to conserve these places for future generations.





## **WILD LANDS AND WILDLIFE (cont'd)**

We again pointed out that the Trump administrations' about-face on this issue after decades of Interior refusing a road was an improper reversal in policy.

We first filed a lawsuit in January 2018 in U.S. District Court, arguing that a land exchange between King Cove Corporation and the Department of the Interior to build a road in Izembek Refuge violated multiple federal laws, including the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

We won in court in March 2019. The court voided the land exchange, finding that Interior did not justify its reversal after decades of policies and decisions refusing to allow for a road through Izembek.

Weeks later, the Interior Secretary negotiated a second nearly identical deal behind closed doors, so we took them to court again—and we won. The court agreed that a land exchange does not meet the purposes of ANILCA. Interior, the state of Alaska, and King Cove Corporation appealed this decision to the Ninth Circuit Court in August 2020.

The argument that the road is necessary for emergency medical access for King Cove ignores studies that show that there are cheaper, safer, and more reliable ways of getting people from King Cove to Cold Bay. Moreover, weather conditions would make driving on any proposed road dangerous and even impossible.

Illegally exchanging land out of the Izembek Refuge—an area designated as Wilderness—would set a dangerous precedent for federal lands in Alaska.

Our efforts to stop this commercial road through congressionally protected lands is vital to preventing degradation of these important and ecologically valuable places and is critical to upholding the purposes and intentions of the National Wildlife Refuge System.





## ***Keeping predator control out of refuges and preserves in Alaska***

The Trump administration targeted wolves, bears, coyotes, and other predators in national preserves in Alaska and in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. In fiscal year 2021, we continued fighting to protect natural biodiversity by upholding policies and rules that prohibit practices like brown bear baiting.

In February 2021 we argued in the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to defend a 2016 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decision to protect brown bears and wolves in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge from the state of Alaska's aggressive predator hunting liberalizations.

This 2016 rule had formalized a long-standing prohibition on brown bear baiting in the Kenai Refuge and codified the long-standing management of Skilak Wildlife Recreation Area for education and wildlife viewing purposes. Kenai brown bears are genetically distinct and now struggling because of habitat loss on the Kenai Peninsula.

The state of Alaska and Safari Club filed two lawsuits in 2016 to challenge the Fish and Wildlife rule and a related U.S. National Park Service rule. In the Fish and Wildlife challenge, we intervened on behalf of 15 clients in 2017. A federal court upheld the 2016 Fish and Wildlife rule in November 2020, and the Safari Club and state appealed, leading to oral argument in the Ninth Circuit Court.





## WILD LANDS AND WILDLIFE (cont'd)

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The state of Alaska generally manages sport hunting on federal lands in Alaska, but that management must stay within the bounds of federal mandates. State rules target predators like wolves and bears on the unsubstantiated theory that reducing the populations of predators increases game like moose and caribou sought by sport hunters and the sport hunting industry.

So, though Fish and Wildlife Service generally does allow state sport hunting regulations to apply, the agency only does so when consistent with federal mandates to protect the natural diversity of wildlife. Our argument in the Ninth Circuit Court centered on Fish and Wildlife's obligation to manage the Kenai Refuge for biological health as mandated by Congress. We continue to wait for that ruling.

While this case moved through court, we also worked alongside clients and partners to oppose a 2020 Fish and Wildlife Service rule introduced by the Trump administration that would allow the killing of Kenai brown bears over bait and trapping without a permit in the Kenai Refuge—and essentially undermine the 2016 rule disallowing these aggressive predator hunting practices in the Kenai Refuge. The Trump administration failed to finalize its 2020 rule before the end of its term.

Trustees' work this fiscal year on hunting practices also focused on national preserves and the effort by the state of Alaska to allow activities like bear baiting on those lands, too.

As background, in June 2020, the U.S. National Park Service reversed its longstanding position that the state of Alaska may not implement sport hunting rules on national preserves targeting predators like wolves and bears. This rule mooted the 2016 legal challenge against the Park Service.

We sued the Park Service that August, charging the agency with failing its legal obligation to protect wildlife diversity on national preserves, and with violating the National Park Service's Organic Act, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

The Park Service's about-face gave the state the go ahead to allow an array of destructive hunting practices designed to manipulate wildlife populations within national preserves, which violates federal mandates.

Our work this fiscal year included carrying our Park Service litigation forward and working alongside clients and partners to advocate for a new rule protecting predator-prey dynamics in national preserves in Alaska.

Trustees continues to go to court and engage with agency processes to protect wildlife diversity and uphold mandates for management of national parks, preserves, and refuges in Alaska.



# POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

Trustees for Alaska has a Legal Fellowship program that allows lawyers eager to expand their knowledge and skills to work alongside the Trustees legal team for two years. The experience allows them to dive deep into all aspects of working in environmental law, from coalition work and client representation to litigation, equity and justice work, and communications.

Their perspectives and contributions are invaluable to Trustees, and we're grateful that they chose to start or shift their careers with us. Here are some thoughts from our 2021 fellows.



## JOANNA CAHOON

Working as a legal fellow for Trustees for Alaska has been a privilege and unparalleled learning opportunity. Since starting with the Arctic team in August 2020, I have been lucky enough to perform research, draft motions, and contribute to briefing cases impacting some of Alaska's most iconic landscapes. It's work I am proud to be a part of, and it's exciting to be learning from such an experienced team.

One of the most impressive aspects of my experience thus far has been the passion, determination, and expertise of Trustees' staff. My fellowship began in the middle of a pandemic and in the run-up to the most consequential election in a lifetime. Through such unprecedented times, and despite their unprecedented workloads, Trustees' attorneys provided me with exceptional mentorship and support. Their work over the last year has been nothing short of inspiring and being a part of the team has propelled my professional growth.



## FELLOWSHIP (cont'd)

### LAUREN SHERMAN

After attending law school with the goal of using my legal education to protect ecosystems and wildlife, I feel incredibly fortunate to have had the opportunity to work on addressing major threats to public lands and wildlife with Trustees for Alaska's incredible staff and clients.

I began my fellowship in September 2020, developing my professional skills by working on issues ranging from permanently protecting Bristol Bay from the threat of the proposed Pebble mine to fighting predator reduction efforts on national preserves. It's been an honor to work on behalf of local communities and organizations on these important issues.

In support of Trustees' crucial work, I've prepared research memoranda, conducted legislative history research, collaborated with clients on standing declarations, submitted FOIA requests, reviewed administrative records, and drafted letters, motions, and legal briefs. Taking on so many diverse tasks as a legal fellow with the supervision and support of experienced attorneys has been an unparalleled learning experience.

Despite the challenges of navigating the pandemic and a busy litigation docket, I am in awe of the mentorship and training I received from Trustees' team. I will forever be grateful to have worked alongside such knowledgeable, passionate, and dedicated colleagues as a legal fellow.





# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

WARREN KEOGH



*Thanks to Warren's support, Trustees for Alaska can provide the legal expertise to protect and defend Alaska's lands, water, animals and communities. Thank you Warren for your commitment to Trustees for Alaska!*

Warren Keogh is passionate about water and air quality, and his community. Now retired, Warren and his wife Sally live in Chickaloon, Alaska, where they've lived for over 40 years. Warren's connection to Alaska relates to his relationship with land, his home, and the places he's been around the state.



"I support Trustees for Alaska because they advocate for the health of land, water, and communities. Wildlife, wild places, pristine waters, good people, plenty of space, and an all-around healthy environment are essential to building a healthy and sustainable future for Alaska. I am very much aware of the critical challenges that Alaska faces and am truly concerned about the ongoing and extraordinary influence of Big Oil in Alaska politics. Trustees brings skill and expertise to overcome the prioritization of the immediate extraction of oil, gas and minerals. Their lawyers are committed to using the law and strategic thinking to fight for long-standing protections, and they

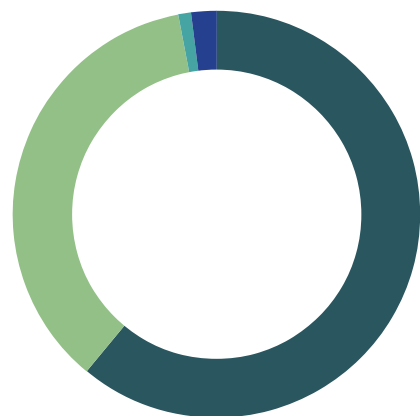
have a proven track record. They are rational and offer forward thinking conservation measures that will keep Alaska beautiful and still a bit wild with clean streams, diverse forests, and variety of wildlife and plenty of good neighbors.

***To achieve this, we must follow Trustees for Alaska's leadership so that our state will thrive now and for all future generations."***

WARREN KEOGH, TRUSTEES FOR ALASKA  
DONOR FOR 16 YEARS

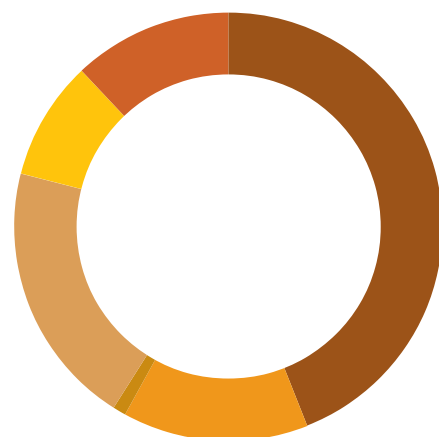
# 2021 FINANCIALS

## REVENUE



Grants 61.6%	920,000
Contributions 36.8%	548,855
Other 1.2%	17,240
In-kind revenue .4%	6,700
Interest 0%	0
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,492,795</b>

## EXPENSES



Arctic & Climate Change 44%	685,180
Clean Air & Water 14%	222,676
Marine Ecosystems 1%	10,374
Wild Lands & Wildlife 20%	313,449
Administration 9%	148,564
Fundraising 12%	194,863
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,575,106</b>

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

September 30	2021	2020
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 896,227	\$ 884,659
Receivables:		
Foundation grants	-	90,000
Other receivables	6,818	12,765
Prepaid expenses	19,501	23,090
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>922,546</b>	<b>1,010,514</b>
Property and equipment	89,736	77,136
Less accumulated depreciation	(62,324)	(54,959)
Property and Equipment, Net	27,412	22,177
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 949,958</b>	<b>\$ 1,032,691</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,624	\$ 9,049
Accrued payroll liabilities and leave	69,343	73,749
Current portion, loan payable	-	123,156
Current portion, capital lease payable	3,238	3,142
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>75,205</b>	<b>209,096</b>
Long Term Liabilities		
Loan Payable	-	78,372
Capital lease payable	9,720	12,958
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>84,925</b>	<b>300,426</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted:		
Designated by the board for operations	150,000	150,000
Undesignated	581,099	333,351
With donor restrictions	133,934	248,914
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>865,033</b>	<b>732,265</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 949,958</b>	<b>\$ 1,032,691</b>



# IN GRATITUDE

## THANK YOU

*Thank you to the many generous individuals and foundations who make our work to protect the health of Alaska's land, water, people and wildlife possible. We are incredibly grateful.*

### FY21 FOUNDATIONS

444S Foundation  
Alaska Conservation Foundation  
Baker Brook Foundation Trust  
Brainerd Foundation  
Campion Foundation  
Eaglemere Foundation  
George H. and Jane A. Mifflin Memorial Fund  
Glickenhau Foundation  
Harder Foundation  
Leighty Foundation  
New-Land Foundation  
NorthLight Foundation  
Patagonia, Inc.  
Tortuga Foundation  
True North Foundation  
Volgenau Foundation  
WestWind Foundation  
Wilburforce Foundation  
William C. Bannerman Foundation

### INDIVIDUAL GIVING

We are honored and thankful to all the people who contributed through direct contributions, legacy gifts, monthly giving, Alaska's Pick.Click.Give., and workplace giving programs. Though we do not list the names of donors to protect their privacy, we recognize our ongoing supporters as essential to our work.



# CLIENTS & CONSERVATION PARTNERS

*Represented by Trustees in court or in formal/informal adjudicative proceedings*

## FY21 CLIENTS

Alaska Community Action on Toxics  
Alaska Marine Conservation Council  
Alaska Wilderness League  
Alaska Wildlife Alliance  
Alaskans for Wildlife  
Audubon Alaska  
Canadian Parks & Wilderness  
Society–Yukon Chapter  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Coalition to Protect America's  
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Sovereign Iñupiat for a Living Arctic  
The Wilderness Society  
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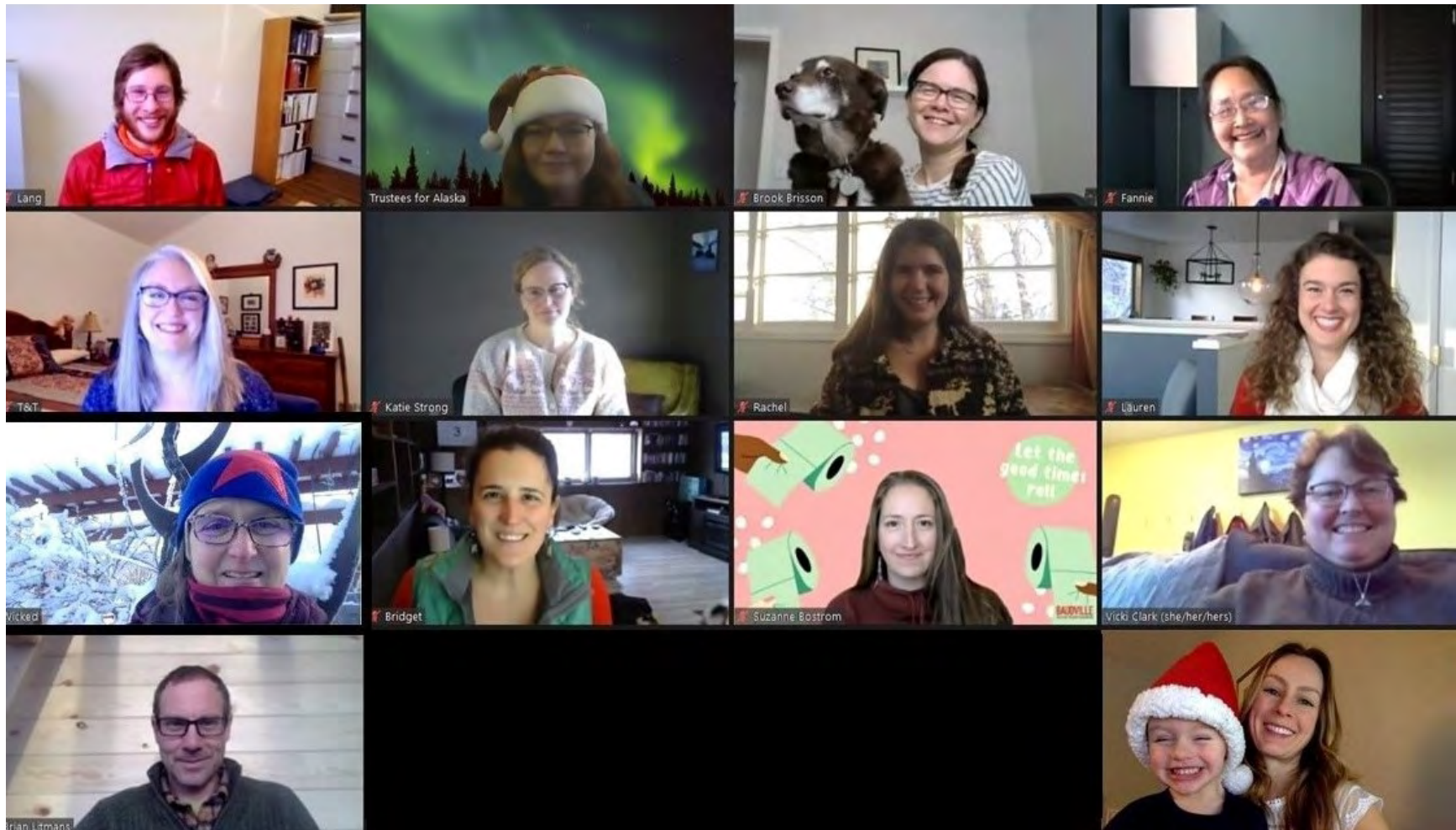
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Second row, from left: Tracy Lohman, Katie Strong, Rachel Briggs, Lauren Sherman  
Third row, from left: Dawnell Smith, Bridget Psarianos, Suzanne Bostrom, Victoria Clark  
Fourth row, from left: Brian Litmans, Joanna Cahoon and Soren*





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#### TRUSTEES FOR ALASKA

1026 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 201  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
t: 907.276.4244  
f: 907.276.7110  
ecolaw@trustees.org

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