





HANDS-ON ACTION

The land, oceans, and atmosphere have been transformed by human activities—threatening the health of many species, including our own. While many choose to look away, we choose to face the challenges directly—making a difference, the Earthwatch way.

During this time of accelerating global change, **Earthwatch is more relevant** than ever in our history. Earthwatch is committed to studying global changes in the environment and finding effective ways to address them. We've done it for nearly 45 years by connecting citizens with scientists whose research drives sustainable solutions.

Our volunteers provide the people power to assist leading researchers. They return home with a deeper understanding of what is at stake. Armed with first-hand knowledge, these ambassadors institute change in their own lives, their workplaces, and their communities.

This year's annual report celebrates the three essentials that powerfully propel our mission forward: Citizens for Science, Science for Solutions, and Solutions for Society. Earthwatch will use this momentum to drive the understanding and action necessary to improve our planet.









Earthwatch offers people the opportunity to be part of something much bigger than themselves. Whether you join an expedition or donate to our cause, you are an integral part of a global mission that is making a difference on a daily basis around the world."

— Larry Mason, Earthwatch CEO

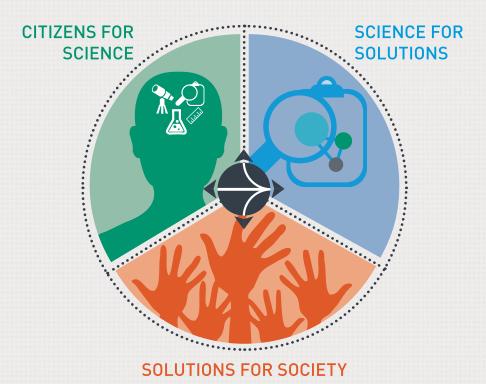
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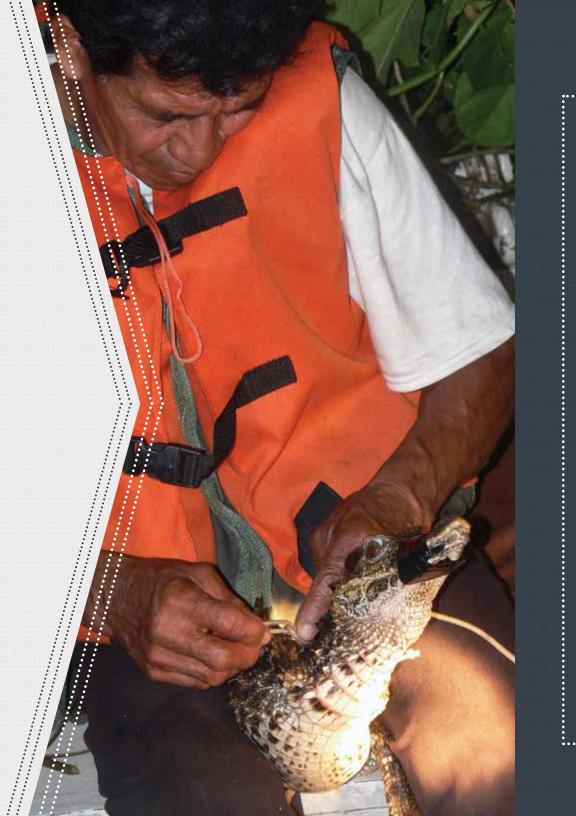
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We designed this year's annual report to showcase the powerful imagery that volunteers have collected from our more than 50 expeditions around the world.

THE EARTHWATCH APPROACH

- ► Citizens who participate in hands-on science
- ► Science that inspires solutions to environmental challenges
- ► Solutions that fuel sustainable communities





LEAPING TO ACTION:

DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS URGENT ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

Even within protected nature reserves in Mongolia, wildlife face threats from poaching, illegal mining, and overgrazing.

Earthwatch data supported
efforts to establish an
ecotourism camp that is
generating funds for Mongolia's
Ikh Nart Nature Reserve,
creating employment for the
community, and protection
for endangered species.

Climate change threatens to disrupt the water and forests that humans and wildlife in the Amazon Basin depend on.

By measuring the effects of climate change on wildlife in the Peruvian Amazon, Earthwatch data were used to convince the government to develop an Amazon Climate Change Strategy.

In 2013, African penguins were added to the list of endangered species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Nearly 15 years of Earthwatch research helped to secure government support to temporarily close penguin foraging grounds to fishing in order to monitor its effect on the survival and breeding success of African penguins.

WHAT ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES WILL OUR CITIZEN SCIENTISTS HELP SOLVE NEXT?

PAY IT FORWARD

The far-reaching impacts of Earthwatch expeditions often occur years, or even decades, after the initial experience. Here's just one example:

Thirty years ago, Jeff Jakubiak, then a junior at Rufus King High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. was awarded a scholarship to join an Earthwatch expedition in Colorado's Rocky Mountains, sponsored by a local businessman. Jeff, who grew up in a blue-collar, middle class family in Milwaukee, had only had limited exposure to the world outside of his neighborhood community. The Earthwatch expedition opened his eyes to a world beyond his hometown, connecting him to a diverse group of people with a passion for science.

GIFTING THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

Years later, while working in New York City, Jeff recalled his experience in Colorado and the generosity of the "Our kids got so much out of it. I always felt that if we were able, I'd like to sponsor our own scholarships."

—Peggy Leonhardt

businessman who made it possible for him to participate. He reached out to Earthwatch and offered to co-sponsor students from Rufus King. For years, Jeff has been supporting high school students to join Earthwatch expeditions around the world. These students and their families have been touched by his

generosity—perhaps none more than Peggy Leonhardt.

Peggy has two children—both of whom received funding from Jeff to travel to the Caribbean to join Earthwatch expeditions. Peggy's daughter in particular was transformed by her experience on an archaeological dig. It helped her to focus her career choice and, according to Peggy, was truly a life-changing experience.

PAYING IT FORWARD

A couple of years ago,
Peggy learned that one of her
investments did quite well, and
she knew what she wanted
to do. She sold it and used the
money to start an endowment
fund for charitable donations.
Part of that fund now sponsors
a Rufus King student to join
an Earthwatch expedition
each year.



SNAPSHOTS

DISRUPTIVE INNOVATION

Volunteers often go above and beyond their duties in the field.

In Nicaragua, volunteer Cliff Gill, a caving enthusiast, had been experimenting with a new tool that creates 3-D renderings of interior spaces using digital photos. He realized that the tool could be used to provide 3-D tours

of the extinct lava tubes that Earthwatch research teams were studying to create detailed maps of the space. According to Earthwatch researcher Guillermo Caravantes, this innovative idea could help to improve predictions of the behavior of lava flows on slopes, which would enable researchers to alert communities in advance of incoming lava flows. "It could change everything," he said.

A RETIREMENT PAYS DIVIDENDS IN DREAMS FULFILLED

Ty

Twenty years ago, middle school
science teacher Kathie Kelly
participated on her first
Earthwatch expedition. Her
experience was so powerful that
she promised herself she would
sign up for at least one expedition
a year when she retired. Kathie retired

in 2013 and has more than fulfilled

her promise, signing up for four expeditions this past year alone. During one expedition in the Peruvian Amazon, Kathie connected to the fact that she was doing more than having an adventure of a lifetime. She was part of a critically important mission – particularly in the face of accelerating environmental change – and her contribution really IS making a difference. Kathie now serves as an ambassador for Earthwatch, helping Earthwatch staff to spread the word about the importance of supporting environmental research.

CITIZENS

FOR

SCIENC

CONSERVATION COWBOYS IN MONGOLIA

Earthwatch researchers have harnessed the skills of "conservation cowboys" to help teams capture, tag, and release threatened wild game in the Mongolian Steppe.

AND THEY'RE OFF...

From the camp, skilled Mongolian horsemen break out single file and begin a long sweep over the rocky terrain to search for argali sheep—the largest wild sheep in the world. Soon they spot a small herd, surround them from behind, and coax them forward.

Meanwhile, Earthwatch volunteers position themselves behind nets set up to capture the sheep. They are far away from the horsemen, so they clutch their radios, waiting for word that the sheep are on the move.

THE RACE CONTINUES...

The horsemen and the argali, moving at a slow clip, close in on the nets. The horsemen alert the researchers who immediately shout instructions These novel
methods of animal
capture have
helped to provide
some of the only
rigorous data on
these wildlife
populations.

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into their radios to signal the volunteers. The horsemen push harder—moving the sheep towards the nets.
As the stampede approaches, kicking up dust, the volunteers work hard to ensure that the argali don't skirt the nets. They capture three ewes from the herd, and then the real excitement begins.

To protect the animals' health, the team has just 15 minutes

to collect data. One person measures their ears, hooves, and horns; another applies ear tags and collars; another monitors body temperature to make sure they do not overheat, and cools them down with water. As soon as possible, the sheep are released to re-join the herd.

And so ends a typical field day on Earthwatch's "Wildlife of the Mongolian Steppe" expedition.

THE FINISH LINE...

Argali sheep face a number of threats, including poaching, competition with livestock—even attacks by domestic guard dogs. The data collected on this and other species, including Siberian ibex and Mongolian gazelles, have enabled researchers to implement protective outreach and management plans with the local community.



SNAPSHOTS

ONE LONG SWIM FOR A TURTLE, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR CONSERVATION



Earthwatch is unique in that
volunteers support long-term data
collection. In Costa Rica, volunteers
have been collecting data on
leatherback sea turtles for
nearly 20 years. In 2014, one
of the first turtles to be tagged
returned to the nesting site, to the
surprise and delight of the research

team. What's more, 50% of turtles tagged in 2014 were first-time nesters—a great sign. But the fight, of course, is far from over, and the threats facing the ocean and its inhabitants have grown more complicated. The research team is now focused on identifying the best ways to protect these animals to ensure a sustainable future.

PROTECTING THE PREDATORS: EARTHWATCH AT THE READY



When people think about sharks
in South Africa, they often think
about great whites, or perhaps
other large species such as
hammerheads or bull sharks.
But beneath the surface of
South Africa's waters lives a
diverse array of other, fascinating
shark species, which have been

largely unstudied. With a quarter of the world's shark and ray populations at risk of extinction, it's possible these lesser-known species face similar threats and yet lack the necessary protections. In response to these challenges, Earthwatch mobilized the resources necessary to launch the "Discovering Sharks in South Africa" expedition—a study that is helping to collect the necessary data to conserve these unique species.

BECOMING A CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPION

Inspired by his experience with Earthwatch, Rodrigo George transformed his career from corporate executive to sustainability champion in the federal government, helping to improve our management of natural resources on a national level.

In 2012, after more than ten years working in the corporate sector, Rodrigo decided to change course. For years, he had been thinking back to his experience with Earthwatch. He couldn't shake the feeling that he had been exposed to something truly meaningful—and that supporting efforts to promote sustainability was his true calling as a business professional.

"There I was—one day sitting on my computer in the office and the next day out in the middle of the forest, measuring trees and learning about the impacts of climate change and carbon sequestration," he said. Rodrigo felt his contribution to the research, however small, was incredibly important—it would result in data that scientists could use to improve policies to protect the environment.

"Everyone has a role to play to address climate change... It's non-profits like Earthwatch that hold these efforts together."

Rodrigo is now the
Sustainability Program
Manager at Bonneville Power
Administration in Portland,
Oregon—a federal nonprofit
agency that is part of the
U.S. Department of Energy.
He believes that everyone has
a role to play in addressing
climate change: businesses
have to find a way to mitigate

their impact, and governments are responsible for regulating industry to help them do this. In his role as a federal employee, Rodrigo communicates the value of sustainability—it's about operational efficiency, reducing energy and water and waste, reducing fossil fuel and greenhouse gas emissions, and promoting a culture of change, he said.

But his societal impact doesn't end there. Rodrigo is now an adjunct professor at Portland State University, where he teaches a course on corporate responsibility and sustainability. Because of his experience with Earthwatch, he feels equipped to help these young business professionals to promote the conservation of natural resources.



SNAPSHOTS

A COMMUNITY RESOLVING CONFLICT IN SOUTH AFRICA



Mountains support one of the highest leopard densities in Africa. But in the foothills of these mountains, farmers, who are seeking to protect their crops and their livestock, are coming into conflict with these animals. To respond to these

concerns, in 2014, Earthwatch teams hosted educational events for the community about living sustainably with predators that play a critical role in maintaining the balance of the ecosystem. They also helped community members to invest in the construction of "bomas"—structures that serve to better protect the livestock from the threat of predation.

A TEACHER PLANTS THE EARTHWATCH SEED



Juliet Crupi, a high school teacher
in New York City, was awarded
a fellowship with Earthwatch
to participate in a songbird
population study in the Grand
Tetons. During the expedition,
she connected with nature in a
way she hadn't felt able to do in her
home city. She was inspired to bring

that connection back to her students. She taught her students to identify tree species, and eventually developed an urban farming class. She and her students transformed the empty space behind the school into a flourishing garden with onions, tomatoes, peppers, and pollinating plants. "It's almost like a miniature Earthwatch where they get to be scientists in the classroom just like I was a scientist in the Grand Tetons." The power of Earthwatch often extends far beyond the field experience.

EARTHWATCH SUMMIT 2014

In November, Earthwatch convened a Summit in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The event brought together hundreds of scientists, volunteers, staff, and members of the public to celebrate the power of citizen science in advancing scientific field research at a time when the planet needs our help more than ever.

CONNECTING CITIZENS TO SCIENTISTS

The event was a rallying call—an opportunity to share the latest news stemming from our conservation science expeditions, empower citizen scientists to create change, and inspire our global community to continue to support the Earthwatch mission.

The Summit included presentations by Earthwatch scientists on conserving whales and dolphins in California, monitoring environmental changes in the Arctic, understanding human-wildlife conflict in South Africa, and more. The day offered an unparalleled opportunity to share stories and reaffirm our call to action. One of the most exciting aspects of the event was the interactive poster session, which provided an opportunity for Earthwatch scientists to engage with the public about their work. Repeatedly, they emphasized that their research results, which are being used to inform policy and management decisions, would not be possible without the help of Earthwatch volunteers.



To watch videos of each of the Summit presentations, including an introductory address by Earthwatch's Chief Scientist Dr. William Moomaw, please visit: earthwatch.org/events/earthwatch-summit-2014.















COUNTRIES



SCIENTIST RICHARD BODMER



WARREN STORTROEN



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PEOPLE POWER

"Earthwatch provides opportunities for people to live their dreams, help the environment, and share the experiences and knowledge that they acquire."

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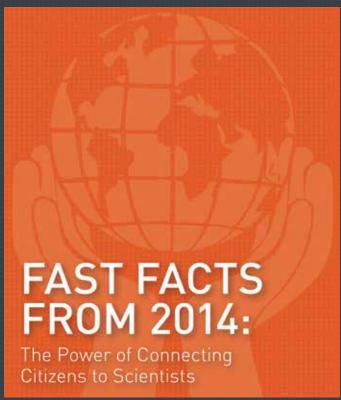
—Earthwatch Volunteer

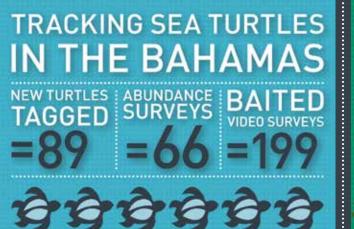
Passion and people fuel the Earthwatch mission, and remain our most cherished assets. We'd like to thank our volunteers for their commitment to helping us drive forward the research we need to develop sustainable solutions for our shared planet.

Earthwatch volunteers once again proved their commitment to hands-on research to help us protect threatened wildlife and ecosystems, promote ocean health, and support a sustainable planet.

Our volunteers—from teens to grandparents—represent all sectors of society, and they bring a wide range of expertise and special interests to the research tasks at hand. Check out just a few examples of what we can achieve when citizens and science connect (see right).













SOUTH AFRICAN

PENGUINS

EARTHWATCH BY THE NUMBERS

NUMBER OF 2,600 NUMBER OF RESEARCH HOURS 115 000

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES VOLUNTEERS COME FROM 50

MONITORED

PENGUIN NESTS MONITORED

THAT HAVE BEEN ENHANCED, MAINTAINED, OR RESTORED

TRACKING COSTA RICA'S



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OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

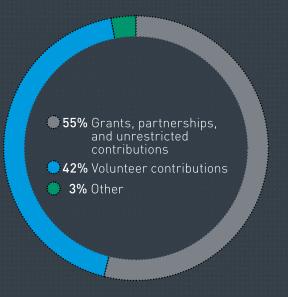
Earthwatch Institute has operations in 38 countries across the globe. This annual report contains the U.S. based financial results of the U.S. 501(c)3 Earthwatch Institute. In addition to the financials outlined here, Earthwatch has licensee operations in the U.K., Japan and Australia, which report their financials according to stringent local requirements. We are proud to also post affiliate annual reports on our website at earthwatch.org/about/annual-report, where you will also find the U.S. Form 990 and U.S. Audited Financial Statements.

| Operating Results for Earthwatch U.S. | FY 2014 (US\$) | FY 2013 (US\$) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| INCOMING RESOURCES | 8,182,199 | 8,529,099 |
| RESOURCES EXPENDED | 8,383,129 | 8,234,761 |
| Program Expenses | 7,059,218 | 6,751,319 |
| Facilities and Administration | 1,060,652 | 1,099,772 |
| Development | 263,259 | 383,670 |
| NET (OUTGOING/INCOMING RESOURCES) | (200,930) | 294,338 |
| END OF YEAR NET ASSETS | 4,973,001 | 5,267,859 |

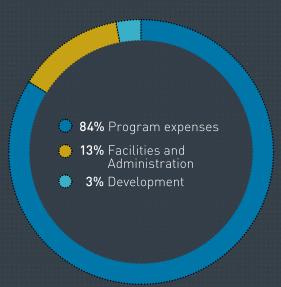
These figures refer to Earthwatch Institute (U.S.), a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

TAX ID# 23-7168440

INCOMING RESOURCES



RESOURCES EXPENDED



EARTHWATCH AROUND THE WORLD



This map depicts Earthwatch's four licensee offices, three satellite offices, and 38 research countries around the world.

LOOKING AHEAD

We'd like to share a glimpse of some new storytelling efforts we've spearheaded at Earthwatch in 2015. We are always on the lookout for ways to advance our mission and build our community. We'd love to hear what you think! Send us an email at communications@earthwatch.org.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Join in the ongoing conversation on social media and keep your finger on the pulse of the planet with Earthwatch.

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/earthwatch

TWITTER: twitter.com/earthwatch_org

INSTAGRAM: instagram.com/earthwatch

YOUTUBE: youtube.com/earthwatch





GROWING OUR COMMUNITY

Earlier this year, we re-launched the Earthwatch blog—a place where Earthwatch volunteers, researchers, fellows, and staff regularly contribute stories from the field. Check it out!

BLOG: earthwatchunlocked.wordpress.com

SHARING NEW STORIES

POWER OF YOU VIDEO



After 44 years, there's one thing we know for sure:

Earthwatch researchers and volunteers make a difference. In the face of major environmental challenges, volunteers have helped leading scientists to collect critical data faster than ever possible—unearthing new understanding that powers real solutions. To celebrate the volunteers and researchers who make Earthwatch so special, we developed this short video. We hope you enjoy it!

THE POWER OF YOU: earthwatch.org/PowerOfYou

MULTIMEDIA



This multimedia story takes a closer look at
Churchill, Manitoba—the edge of the Arctic—
as a canary in the coal mine of the large-scale
challenge of climate change. Filled with
images, videos and vignettes about
Earthwatch volunteers in Churchill, pick
and choose what you want to read—or read
the whole thing through. Follow Earthwatch
scientists as they study climate change in the

region. Hear from Earthwatch Chief Scientist and climate change expert, Bill Moomaw, as well as Mark Stratton, a reporter who covered this expedition for National Geographic. Dive in and discover!

DIVE INTO A MULTIMEDIA STORY HERE: earthwatch.org/TreesinTheTundra





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