



Friends of the Earth

Annual Report 2019

In 2019 Friends of the Earth Members like you did so much for people and the planet—like fighting to protect the Oregon coast (pictured here) from the Jordan Cove fossil fuel project.





Left: Erich Pica, President

Right: Jayni Chase, Chairman of the Board

Fighting for our Future

Friends,

Fifty years ago, David Brower founded Friends of the Earth as a global force for aggressive policies and politics to protect the planet.

Since then, supported by Members like you, we have:

- Set Supreme Court precedence in Friends of the Earth vs. Laidlaw;
- Shut down nuclear reactors and halted the spread of genetically modified organisms;
- Slashed tens of billions of dollars in environmentally harmful spending from the federal budget;
- Eliminated bee-killing pesticides from garden retail outlets;
- And much more.

Over this time, the changing environmental and political landscape required us to adjust our campaigns, but we stood steadfast in our mission to fight for a more healthy and just world.

With 11 years left to begin the societal transformation needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, our movement's past accomplishments, however noteworthy, are not sufficient for the struggles ahead. We must campaign for the planet differently.

Doing this requires dismantling racism, patriarchy, colonialism and corporate capitalism. These systems of oppression rip our communities apart and reduce people and natural resources to for-profit commodities.

For Friends of the Earth, breaking this cycle of oppression and environmental destruction means:

- Grounding campaigns in frontline communities, which are often the most disenfranchised and most affected by the climate crisis;
- Organizing our 2.5 million Members and activists into a force for change;
- Being uncompromising with both friend and foe alike because our planet, our home, can no longer survive compromises;
- Pushing for deep transformative solutions, not the most politically palatable or expedient stopgaps;
- And resisting the status quo by taking more physical, political, intellectual and reputational risks.

David Brower once wrote, "Our role is to hold fast to what we believe is right, to fight for it, to find allies, and to adduce all possible arguments for our cause. If we cannot find enough vigor in us or our friends to win, then let someone else propose the compromise, which we must then work hard to coax our way. We become a nucleus around which the strongest force can build and function."

Thank you for being a crucial part of Friends of the Earth. By supporting us with your advocacy and donations, you form the nucleus of our fight for a healthy and just planet.

Erich and Jayni



Thank you for showing up for Friends of the Earth and for our planet in 2019!

Your staunch support and fierce advocacy form the bedrock of our efforts to fight for a healthy and just world. Together this past year we have spoken truth to power, won key victories and furthered our uncompromising vision for a greener planet for us all.

You helped us convince food retailers like Costco and Aldi to announce new policies to address pesticide use—including bee and butterfly killers like neonicotinoids and glyphosate—on the food they carry.

You helped us work with state governments to advance efforts to ban bee-killing pesticides, making progress in Vermont, California, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Oregon.

You helped us win key provisions in the Farm Bill, where we prevented language that would have gutted states' ability to pass strong pesticide regulations.

You helped us push for a ban on the discharge of plastic pellets and other pollutants by the petrochemical industry and urge passage of a

congressional bill to cut federal funding to companies that store and process fossil fuels for the plastics industry.

You helped us keep fossil fuels in the ground and out of our air and water by shutting down polluting projects like the Williams Pipeline in New York.

“I can’t express to you how much the work you’re doing for the world is appreciated. In a time of seemingly perpetual peril, Friends of the Earth has the courage to stand up against corporations and our politicians.”

John Calkins, Friends of the Earth Member

Please enjoy this 2019 Annual Report of the progress you’ve helped Friends of the Earth make, the victories you’ve helped us win, and the important work on behalf of people and the planet that your Membership support makes possible.

The work—and victories—you read about in this annual report would not be possible without the support and advocacy of Members like you. Please visit www.foe.org/donate to continue to support our work in 2020 and beyond.



Keeping fossil fuels in the ground for good

As the climate crisis escalates, Friends of the Earth and our Members are fighting tenaciously to preserve our planet.

Members like you helped stop fossil fuel projects nationwide

We scored our first victory of the year in May 2019 when Rep. Jerry Nadler agreed to oppose the Williams fracked gas pipeline in New York after an on-camera exchange with a Friends of the Earth organizer. Within weeks, as pressure built from front-line communities and activists like you, Governor Andrew Cuomo rejected the project.

After months of pressure by Friends of the Earth and allies in Oregon—including thousands of Member calls and letters—U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio announced his opposition to the Jordan Cove gas export terminal, which would destroy wetlands, decimate traditional hunting and fishing grounds, and fuel the climate crisis. This fight is far from over, but with your support we will keep fighting to ensure this project never sees the light of day.

We are fighting on multiple fronts to stop the Atlantic Coast Pipeline

The proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) is a reckless, 600-mile fracked gas project that would cut through land from West Virginia to North

Carolina. After helping organize state and regional demonstrations against this environmental and human rights nightmare, we turned up the heat on financiers bankrolling the project. We helped develop investor briefings on the financial risks of the project and staged protests at the annual meetings of Wells Fargo Bank and Bank of America.

In North Carolina we filed a petition to the state's Department of Environmental Quality, generating thousands of emails to the governor's office pressuring him to revoke the pipeline's water quality permit. We followed this up with a civil rights complaint to the EPA citing the ACP's impacts on communities of color.

Keeping Big Oil, Coal and Gas out of our public lands and waters

In 2019 we pushed back against the administration's plans to sacrifice our wild places for polluter profit.

Friends of the Earth was one of the first groups to challenge Trump's reversal of the moratorium on new coal leasing on public lands. In April a judge ruled that the reversal was illegal, citing the administration's failure to conduct an adequate environmental analysis.

Members like you joined the fight to protect the Arctic, submitting over 78,000 comments opposing

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oil leasing in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. In a substantial victory, BP announced it would sell its Arctic assets, effectively canceling 2019 lease sales.

We worked to keep Big Oil off our coastlines, helping to gather tens of thousands of petitions to the U.S. Department of the Interior opposing the Trump administration's proposed five-year offshore drilling plan. As Republican governors in coastal states succumbed to public pressure, Interior Secretary David Bernhardt was forced to shelve the plan. And in June, under pressure from Friends of the Earth, Congress passed multiple bipartisan Interior

Appropriations amendments prohibiting funding for drilling off the Atlantic, Pacific and Florida coasts. In September, the House passed two bills banning offshore drilling in U.S. waters.

Your Membership support also helped us stop harmful climate legislation, including sidelining a deeply flawed climate bill. In addition we promoted pro-environment bills, including measures to protect Chaco Canyon and the Grand Canyon from fossil fuel extraction.

We exposed administration corruption and cronyism

We continued to work to hold administration officials accountable for ethical lapses and giveaways to the fossil fuel industry. For example, our analysis of over 1,000 pages of documents related to Interior Secretary Andrew Bernhardt's ethics recusals led to a *New York Times* story. In 2019, the agency opened an ethics investigation on Bernhardt.

The climate crisis poses an existential threat to people and the planet. But thanks to the support of dedicated Members like you, Friends of the Earth is ready to battle the politicians and companies that would sacrifice our environment for profit.





Creating a healthy and sustainable food system

We all deserve safe, healthy and nourishing food. But our food system is failing us and causing great harm to people and the planet. Friends of the Earth's Food and Agriculture team is making important strides to create a food system that is sustainable, healthy and just.

We secured a healthier future for schoolkids

Our Climate-Friendly Food Campaign introduced a first-of-its-kind bill in California to help school districts serve more climate-friendly plant-based meals. Although it didn't pass, our efforts led to a historic \$80 million proposal for school food in the state's 2020-21 budget that will help schools serve healthier, climate-friendly food.

In Washington, D.C., we advanced the Good Food Purchasing Program and legislation to require climate-friendly vegetarian school meals in D.C. public schools. Building on this victory we led a campaign to secure \$3.2 million, funded by an increase in the soda tax, to expand healthy school breakfasts and invest in the capability of schools to cook from scratch instead of using pre-cooked meals. We fended off the powerful

soda lobby by mobilizing our Members, local and national groups and parents to sign petitions and call and meet with councilmembers. In recognition of our leadership we received the D.C. Food Justice Award in March 2019.

In California, New York and Maryland, we educated school districts and school food stakeholders on the environmental and health benefits of serving climate-friendly, plant-based foods. Our advocacy convinced more than 30 districts to commit to offering more planet-friendly menus.

Saying "no" to unregulated and unethical genetic engineering

Our Genetic Engineering Team persuaded the National Organic Standards Board to exclude 6 to 8 different genetic engineering and synthetic biology techniques from certified USDA Organic food.

Working with international allies, we also won critical guidelines in the UN Convention on Biodiversity requiring community control over dangerous and unregulated genetic technologies such as gene drives.

Your Membership support was key to these accomplishments. Together we will continue to push locally, nationally and internationally for safer, healthier food for all people and our planet.



Empowering people to save our planet

Friends of the Earth's Organizing Team is empowering people to fight for their communities and for a cleaner, greener planet. Here's what the support and advocacy of generous Members like you helped us achieve in 2019.

Pushing for a truly Green New Deal

In January we helped organize more than 600 groups to push the new Democratic congressional majority to adopt a Green New Deal that would phase out fossil fuels and build a green economy.

When the Green New Deal stalled Friends of the Earth turned up the heat, calling for climate leadership and food and agriculture reforms. We delivered 70,000 signed petitions demanding progress on the deal and trained more than 4,500 people in on-the-ground campaigning.

Climate strikers say "No" to business as usual

In September we participated in climate strikes nationwide, including the largest youth-led climate mobilization in U.S. history. We played an integral role in actions that made national headlines, including:

- Holding a rally in Commerce City, Colorado, calling for the Suncor refinery to be shut down and for a just transition for the workers and impacted communities.
- Taking over San Francisco's Financial District, including blockades at Chase and Wells Fargo, and painting two massive street murals calling for an end to funding fossil fuel projects.
- Joining a week of marches and demonstrations in North Carolina calling for stronger protections from pollution, hog waste and climate-fueled super storms.
- Participating in a protest outside a dinner for fossil fuel CEOs in New York on the eve of the United Nations Summit on Climate Action.
- Storming the streets of Washington, D.C. to demand immediate action on climate change.

As we march toward one of the most consequential elections of our lifetime, Friends of the Earth is committed to reaching more volunteers, inspiring more voters, and engaging millions more people in the fight to protect our environment and our democracy.



People and pollinators vs Big Ag

As we face insect losses that some scientists are calling an “ecological Armageddon,” Friends of the Earth has been working hard to make our planet safer for bees, butterflies and other insect pollinators.

Winning big for bees in state houses and boardrooms

We helped persuade Vermont to pass a bill restricting the use of bee-killing neonicotinoids (neonics). After a year-long effort by Friends of the Earth and allies, New York joined California in banning chlorpyrifos. We also helped advance bills to ban chlorpyrifos or restrict neonics in Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Oregon.

We convinced grocery stores to take important first steps to help bees. Members like you swarmed their grocers, helping us secure new pollinator health policies encouraging suppliers to reduce the use of pollinator-toxic pesticides from some of the largest food retailers in the United States: Costco, Kroger, Aldi and Rite Aid. The companies have also committed to keep increasing their bee-friendly organic offerings.

Organic for all

On the federal level, we gained key wins in the Farm Bill, preventing language that would have gutted states’ ability to pass strong pesticide regulations, and leading the fight to secure more funding for organic agriculture.

Friends of the Earth rallied more than 300 organizations to demand that Congress incorporate sustainable food and agriculture as a central part of climate solutions in the Green New Deal.

Putting science at the forefront of policy

We released a groundbreaking, peer-reviewed study advancing the science on the insect apocalypse by showing that U.S. agriculture is 48 times more toxic to insects than it was before the introduction of neonics two decades ago. We also released a study showing that organic works: levels of pesticides in the bodies of four American families dropped by as much as 95% after just one week on an organic diet.

With the help of our Members, we will continue to make progress in 2020, including ramping up the pressure on Kroger, the country’s largest grocery retailer, to do more to eliminate bee-killing pesticides from the foods they sell.



Protecting oceans and marine life

Friends of the Earth won key victories for our oceans in 2019.

We're making Puget Sound safer for orcas

In 2019, we helped pass four bills in Washington State to preserve the health of the Salish Sea, home to critically endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales.

We also helped convene regular meetings between U.S. and Canadian shipping regulators to increase coordination on shipping safety measures. We initiated a workshop for local stakeholders to create a new noise-reducing program for the Salish Sea, to reduce noise impacts on orcas. And we convinced the Pacific Fisheries Management Council to continue analyzing how fisheries impact food for orcas.

We're holding the cruise industry accountable

After a Carnival Corporation cruise ship illegally dumped thousands of gallons of polluted wastewater into Alaska's Glacier Bay National Park, over 33,000 Members like you joined us to demand suspension of its permit to operate in the park.

We're fighting industrial fish farming

Friends of the Earth successfully shut down the federal government's plans to operate an industrial ocean fish farm for non-native steelhead trout off the coast of New Hampshire.

We also stalled an environmentally irresponsible federal bill promoting aquaculture, and coordinated introduction of a bill limiting aquaculture facilities without congressional approval.

We're fighting for Indigenous representation in the Arctic

Following our work with Arctic Indigenous leaders, environmental NGOs and Native organizations to establish Indigenous representation in the Arctic, in 2019 the Inuit Circumpolar Council agreed to apply for an independent seat at the International Maritime Organization.

We're standing up for Alaska's pristine Bristol Bay

Bristol Bay is home to the world's largest and last sockeye salmon run, and the location of the dangerous proposed Pebble Mine. Friends of the Earth and over 40,000 Members like you helped extend the public comment and environmental review period for the Pebble Mine's permit application process—and in the fall, Congress passed a budget resolution acknowledging Bristol Bay's ecological importance and greenlighted the EPA to veto the flawed project.

With you at our side, we will continue to fight for our oceans, the abundant life that depends on them, and the people who live near their shores.



Fighting for a green financial system

Friends of the Earth won several victories in our work to make financial and economic systems more environmentally sustainable and socially just.

We're advancing fossil fuel reforms

We scored a hard-won victory when BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, announced it would put climate change and sustainability at the center of its business, pledging to divest from thermal coal.

In an important precedent, we convinced Congress to introduce and vote on legislation that would restrict fossil fuel financing by the Export-Import Bank. We also worked with congressional allies to introduce a bill that would ban most U.S. overseas support for fossil fuels.

We're calling on Chinese banks to adopt stronger environmental policies and practices

Chinese banks represent the world's largest sources of development finance. In calling on them to develop stronger environmental and sustainability standards, we are supporting local communities to protect some of the most biodiverse and last remaining wild places in the world, from Indonesia, Ghana and Kenya among others.

We pushed investors to stop palm oil deforestation

For a year we pressured investment firm Northern Trust to hold companies accountable for driving deforestation—and in July 2019, the company announced a new deforestation risk policy. Meanwhile, our 18 months of campaigning convinced BlackRock, the world's largest investor, to publish its first ever stewardship guidelines on agribusiness.

After our 2018 report exposing the role of investors in the Liberian palm oil firm Golden Veroleum, the company published a "sustainability roadmap" to improve community relations and restore damaged ecosystems in the Upper Guinea forest. And pressure on investors helped force South Korean giant POSCO to stop expanding plantations in Indonesia and commit to restoring damaged ecosystems.

We're supporting the creation of public banks

Friends of the Earth is a key environmental leader in the movement to establish public banks—a critical solution helping cities to divest from Wall Street banks that finance fossil fuels. In October, the California legislature approved AB 857, the Public Banks Act, a landmark bill that allows up to 10 public banks to be created across the state.

In 2020 we will keep working to transform policies to make polluters pay for the costs of their pollution, and to transition to a cleaner, low-carbon economy.



Gains for democracy and clean power in the South

Friends of the Earth is a powerful advocate in the Southeastern U.S., where we are fighting for the environment and healthy, just communities.

Fighting for democracy reform

In North Carolina, we are building a campaign to fight gerrymandering by empowering residents — many in communities affected by pollution from fossil fuels, hog waste and chemical production — to draw their own political maps. In April 2019 we were proud to support the introduction of the North Carolina Citizens Redistricting Commission Act, which proposes a non-partisan 15-member citizen commission to work with the public to draw political maps.

We also rallied Members to back democracy reform nationwide. Last March, Congress passed the sweeping For the People Act, which among other things requires states to adopt independent redistricting.

Working for cleaner power

In Tennessee, we advocated for an aggressive energy efficiency program in Memphis. We also commissioned reports showing that the city could get cleaner, cheaper energy by breaking

away from the Tennessee Valley Authority. In 2019 the city launched an integrated resources planning process that could enable the city to do just that.

Combating corruption

We won two unprecedented victories checking the power and political influence of Duke Energy, the nation's largest investor-owned utility and a major greenhouse gas polluter. We helped defeat a Duke Energy-sponsored bill in North Carolina to remove public oversight and give Duke five years of guaranteed rate hikes. We also successfully petitioned the North Carolina Utilities Commission to create rules limiting Duke Energy's ability to charge ratepayers for "influence spending" such as political contributions and lobbying expenses.

Resisting dangerous nuclear power

We sought to block Florida Power and Light from obtaining a second license to operate its Turkey Point nuclear reactors. The company seeks to continue operating this aging plant into the 2050s despite risks from hurricanes, storm surges and extreme heat, all exacerbated by climate change.

Thank you for your support. Your Membership enables us to work on the ground in the Southeast, fighting for people and the planet.

Photo: Blue Ridge Mountains, North Carolina



Fighting (and winning) in the courts to protect our planet

Friends of the Earth’s legal team spent 2019 fighting hard for our planet in the courts. With help from Members like you we won key environmental battles.

Stopping dirty dangerous petrochemicals

When the Tesoro Anacortes Refining and Marketing Company (Marathon) tried to expand its refinery to produce and export mixed xylene, a dirty new petrochemical product, in Anacortes, Washington, our legal team and allies acted swiftly to file litigation over permit approvals. We forced a favorable out-of-court settlement, stopping this dangerous proposal in its tracks.

Suing to stop the reckless Keystone XL pipeline

As backers continue pushing for the dirty, dangerous Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, Friends of the Earth is fighting back. Together with allies, we filed a federal lawsuit challenging the Trump administration’s illegal approval of the pipeline, citing the Army Corps of Engineers’ failure to adequately analyze the project’s impacts on waterways, lands, wildlife and communities along its 1,200 mile route.

Pressuring the EPA to do its job

More than 350 community and environmental groups from across the country, including Friends of the Earth, submitted a petition demanding that the EPA stop approving dirty petrochemical projects that produce millions of tons of greenhouse gases and plastic. If the agency ignores our hand-delivered petition, we will ask the courts to force the EPA to comply.

Protecting progress for renewable energy

We defeated an attempt by the Tennessee Valley Authority to toss out our lawsuit over its electricity rate change that discourages investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency. We will continue to fight this giveaway to the dirty fossil fuel industry in court every step of the way.

Your Membership support is crucial as we mount effective, multi-year legal challenges to reckless assaults on people and the planet. With your help, we will continue to hold industry and policy-makers accountable.

A free gift for you and your future

We’re excited to offer you a free gift to help you prepare for the future and ensure that your values live on indefinitely. We’ve partnered with FreeWill to give you an easy way to write your legally valid will today.

It’s 100% free and most people finish in 20 minutes or less.

Creating a will is one of the most impactful ways to support the people and causes you love.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Anna Babcock

☎ 202-222-0716

✉ ababcock@foe.org

Have you already made a gift through your will? If so, please let us know so we can thank you and welcome you to the Shared Earth Society.

Tax ID# 23-7420660

Visit www.foe.org/freewill to get started today!



Financials

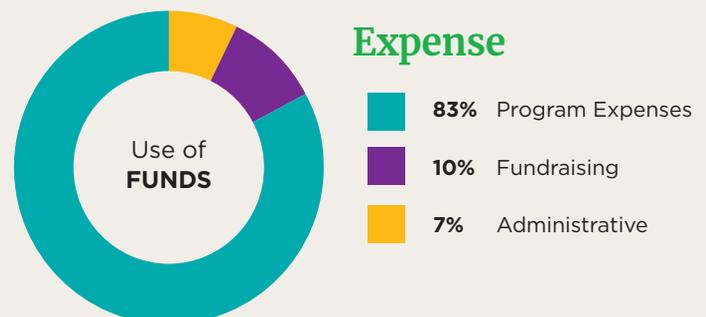
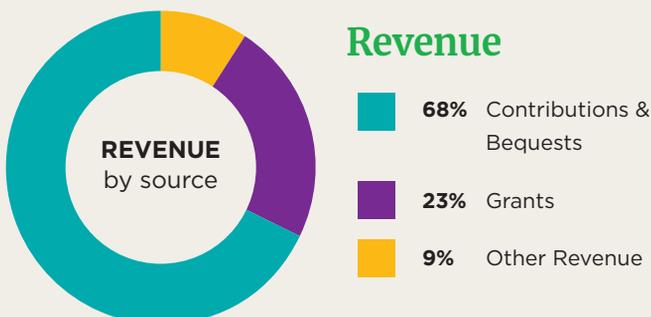
Statement of Activities

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019

REVENUE			
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Grants, Bequests & Contributions	\$7,637,618	\$2,487,507	\$10,125,125
Other Income	\$936,066	\$23,956	\$960,022
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$4,097,998	\$(4,097,998)	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$12,671,682	\$(1,586,535)	\$11,085,147

EXPENSES			
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Economic Policy	\$1,118,038	\$ -	\$1,118,038
Oceans & Vessels	\$836,022	\$ -	\$836,022
Climate & Energy	\$1,056,026	\$ -	\$1,056,026
Food & Agriculture	\$1,401,461	\$ -	\$1,401,461
Organizing	\$453,705	\$ -	\$453,705
Outreach, Communications, DEIJ & NC Restricted	\$4,655,244	\$ -	\$4,655,244
Membership	\$743,409	\$ -	\$743,409
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$10,263,905	\$ -	\$10,263,905
SUPPORTING EXPENSES			
Management & General	\$826,857	\$ -	\$826,857
Fundraising	\$1,275,109	\$ -	\$1,275,109
TOTAL SUPPORTING EXPENSES	\$2,101,966	\$ -	\$2,101,966
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,365,871	\$ -	\$12,365,871

NET ASSETS			
Net Assets — Beginning of Year	\$8,561,598	\$3,928,060	\$12,489,658
Change in Net Assets	\$305,811	\$(1,586,535)	\$(1,280,724)
NET ASSETS — END OF YEAR	\$8,867,409	\$2,341,525	\$11,208,934



Statement of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2019

ASSETS	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$5,077,894
Grants Receivable	\$643,094
Accounts Receivable	\$493,898
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	\$403,745
Fixed Assets, Net of Depreciation	\$1,220,434
Investments	\$5,882,633
TOTAL ASSETS	\$13,721,698

LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$797,803
Grants Payable	\$ -
Lease-related Liabilities	\$1,696,395
Charitable Gift Annuities Liability	\$18,566
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$2,512,764

NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$8,867,409
Restricted	\$2,341,525
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$11,208,934

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$13,721,698
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