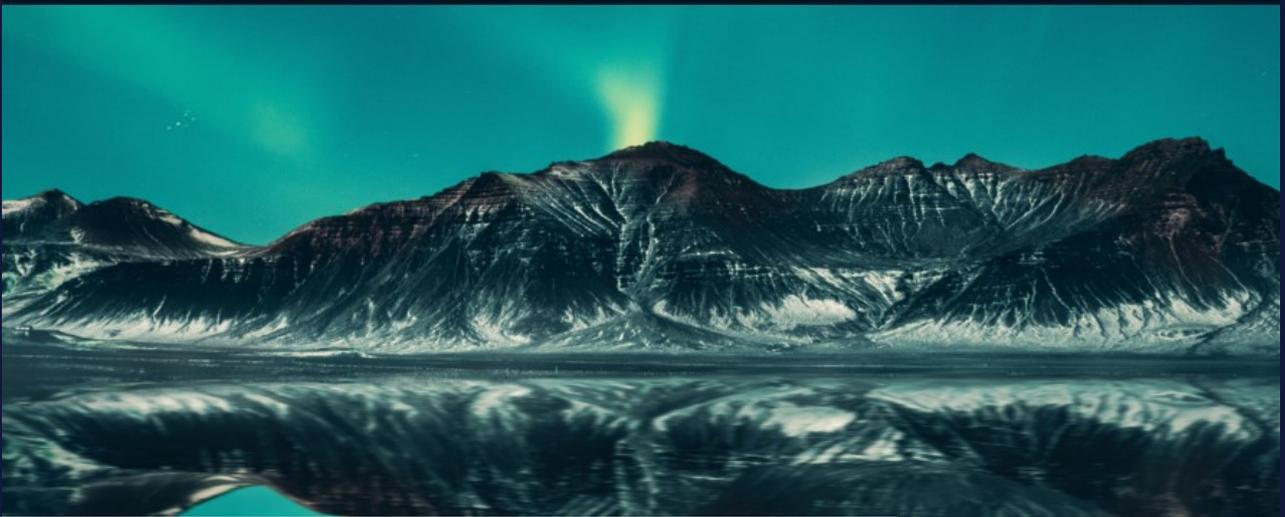




The Call of the Wild

A Wildlife Forever Member Newsletter



Into the Wild

Dear Members and Volunteers,

I hope the new year finds you well and encouraged with optimism. While the “silver lining” sometimes can be hard to spot, opportunity, regardless of circumstance, is always there. Many say perspective is 99% of reality. Whatever your truth, I am inspired by you, our members, volunteers, and staff who believe in the unifying and healing power of conservation.

On December 10th Wildlife Forever celebrated its 33rd anniversary. Over the course of our history, work to improve the quality of our nation’s natural resources has been groundbreaking, transformative, and adaptive. Together we are working to right the wrongs

2021 Winter Special



With any donation of \$35 or more you can receive either:

A limited-edition Fish Art neck warmer and 2021 WF Calendar
or
Special Wildlife Forever

from century-old habits, poor regulations, and overharvest. Today, countless populations of wildlife species are rebounding, and more people than ever before are finding that outdoor activities are not only safe but are critical for our mental and physical health. We need the outdoors and nature needs us. Throughout the year, follow along as we highlight the work you have helped to make possible.

Wildlife Forever continues to respond to the call of the wild. Last month, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service deemed the monarch butterfly worthy of being added to the Endangered Species List. In response, this year you will see an increased focus on pollinators, songbirds, and prairie as they face increasing challenges from invasive species and habitat loss. Working with local, state, and federal resource managers the footprint of Wildlife Forever conservation marches on.

A special thanks to our members and donors who helped Wildlife Forever through a very challenging 2020. As you will see in this newsletter, our future is full of color and light. I hope you find peace and an opportunity to find your truth in the wilds of nature. Perhaps, even a bit of silver.



Yours in Conservation,

Pat Conzemius
President and CEO

Photo Credit: Douglas H. Grann, Rime Ice

Fish Art™ Contest

Alaskan Gray Merino
Wool stocking cap

or bundle it all for ONLY
\$60!

On the Ground Restoration

Wildlife Forever is working with crews from the Minnesota Conservation Corps to restore habitat even in the dead of winter. Restoration efforts restore native prairie habitats, positively impacting wildlife, birds, and pollinators.



Wildlife Forever's Fish Art Contest is proud to announce the new [Richard M Hart Educator of the Year Award](#). By teaching the *Art of Conservation®*, educators connect young people to the outdoors and help inspire the next generation of stewards.

The winning educator shall receive a gift card for \$1,000 to use for classroom supplies and a \$900 stipend to facilitate outdoor learning for their school. Educators can apply for this prestigious award or be nominated by their students, parents, or coworkers.



[Read more](#)

Prairie City USA®

Wildlife Forever is proud to announce a new partnership with Minnesota Native Landscapes, Inc. (MNL). Strategic restoration efforts will enhance public land, reduce barriers for participation, and connect land managers to resources needed to accomplish on-the-ground projects.



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Our Partners



Joe Schaffer, Founder of Minnesota Native Landscapes, Inc. remarked, "Minnesota Native Landscapes is always looking for good partners to help us accomplish our goal of positively impacting 10 million acres by 2030. Wildlife Forever's mission aligns with ours quite well, and we are excited to see what we can accomplish together."

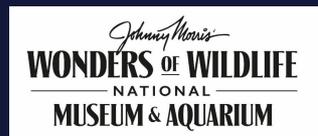
[Read More](#)

Clean Drain Dry Initiative™

In Monroe, Louisiana, Wildlife Forever and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working to better equip and integrate invasive species prevention tools at priority access points in Black Bayou National Wildlife Refuge. This project will result in a Refuge Access Guide Manual to assist Refuge Managers with selecting the most appropriate tools and resources to stop invasive species.



Non-Indigenous Aquatic Species (NAS) are slowly making their way across the U.S. Wildlife Forever, in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Geological Survey, have ranked and mapped the top 20 worst, most damaging, most threatening, NAS in the Western United States. We believe that this

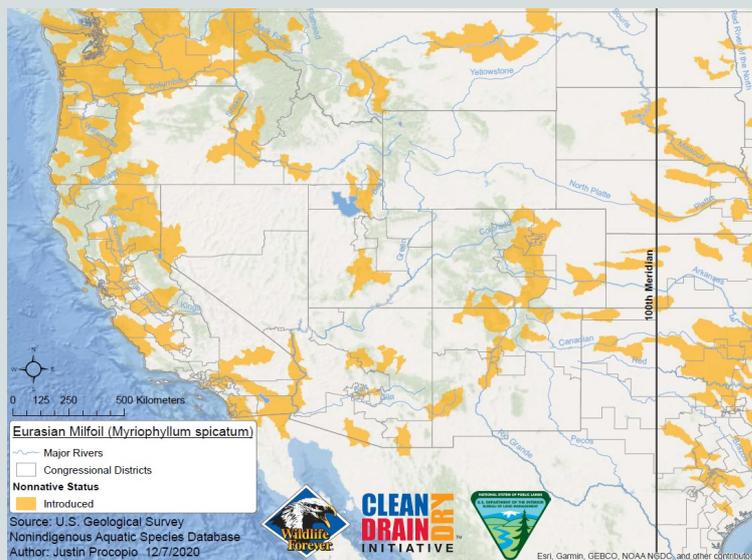


Green Lights Recycling



Green Lights Recycling and Wildlife Forever are working together to help promote responsible recycling practices. Ever wondered what you should do with items such as spent light bulbs, batteries, and electronic scrap? Through **Green Lights**

information will add to the public's awareness of NAS and enhance the public's desire to combat their harmful impacts.



This map outlines the current prevalence of invasive Eurasian Milfoil (yellow) across the West.

Conservation News

Outdoor Recreation & Youth Participation Hit New Record During Pandemic

2020 saw a surge in hunting that coincided with increased interest in many outdoor activities. Kayaks and bicycles flew off the shelves. Record numbers of hikers trekked through state parks. States saw increases in hunting license sales of up to 67% compared to 2019. [Read more.](#)

Songbirds Are in Global Decline

A 2018 study by Bird Life International concluded that birds around the world are in trouble. There are about 11,000 species of birds worldwide. Four in every 10 bird species are in decline, the study found. That's true for all kinds of birds living in all types of habitats. [Read more.](#)

Recycling **Recycle & Restore** program, you can purchase prepaid mail-back containers to responsibly recycle materials from your home or business.

Buster Wrench



The Clean Drain Dry Initiative [Product Catalog](#) has a new product offering, the Buster Wrench. Designed after years of struggling to remove his drain plug, Buster designed the Buster Wrench to quickly and easily remove all styles of boat drain plugs. The unique design will not rust, scratch, or damage your boat or drain plug. [Order yours today!](#)

To address the decline in bird populations, Wildlife Forever has created the new **Art of**



Conservation® Songbird Art Contest™. Launching May 1st, 2021, the Songbird Art Contest is focused on sharing the wonder and species diversity of North American songbirds. Open to youth and adults, this competition will raise awareness and educate the public on how to help recover North America's songbird population. Dedicated support is still needed to run this important program. Contact JLuger@WildlifeForever.org to learn more.

Pollinators & Insects Are Disappearing -Habitat Can Save Them-

Every year, the number of insects flying over, crawling on, or burrowing on the planet drops by 1 to 2 percent. That means areas of severe decline could lose as much as much as one-third of all insects in two decades.



Robust insect populations are vital for a variety of

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Header Photo:
Pexels

reasons, ranging from pollinating the world's food supply, recycling nutrients into the soil, and serving as an important food source for wildlife. [Read more.](#)

Wildlife Forever's ***Prairie City USA***® supports healthy insect populations by restoring habitat critical to their survival. One acre of native prairie landscape can support as many as 10 million insects. Prairie landscapes also build healthy soils, slow erosion, and provide food and shelter for wildlife.

Wildlife Forever
5350 HWY 61 N, STE 7
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
Tel: (763)-253-0222
Email: info@wildlifeforever.org
