



Washington Environmental Council
Year In Review 2007



Message from the President and Exec

2007 was a year of significant gains for Washington's environment. As the president and executive director of the Washington Environmental Council, we are proud of what WEC and our partners accomplished and excited to see how these wins will lead to better protections for Washington in the future.

WEC's strength lies in its ability to work with an ever-changing mix of partners on both long-term engagements and strategic, short-term endeavors to protect Washington's land, air, and water. What we accomplished this year is evidence that our partnerships are



succeeding in ways hard to imagine just a few years ago.

This year, WEC helped lead the *Priorities for a Healthy Washington* coalition to an unprecedented passage of all four pieces of *Priority* legislation. The *Priorities* process is a coordinated effort of more than 20 organizations. Over the last six years, it has grown in effectiveness and impact, and is being recognized around the nation as a model for change.

WEC's campaigns also made good progress, with a mix of substantial accomplishments and measured steps toward longer-term goals. We began a new climate change campaign (read more on the back cover), in which we celebrated the passage of the *Clean Air – Clean Fuels Priority*, and continued our work on implementation of laws already on the books. Additionally, Rod served as one of two environmental community representatives on Governor Gregoire's Climate Advisory Team.

In our *Water for Washington* campaign, WEC celebrated a significant milestone in its long-standing partnership with local farmers to restore Manastash Creek in the Yakima basin. We continued our efforts to improve how water is managed in the state by participating in the implementation of the 2006 Columbia River legislation and generally advocating

2007 Successes

Strong Partnerships Lead to Big Wins

WEC celebrated wins in a number of different arenas in 2007. We had significant success in the state legislature, as well as gains in our work to protect Washington's state forests, rivers, and streams. Below is a brief snapshot of some of the progress WEC and our partners were able to achieve.

Legislative Success on *Priorities* and More

For the first time, all four of the *Priorities for a Healthy Washington* passed the legislature in Olympia. This means we'll see a healthier Puget Sound, more money for Washington Wildlife and Recreation Programs, better air quality because of cleaner fuels, and a ban on toxic fire retardants – the first of its kind in the nation. Passing each *Priority* was a huge victory and passing all four shows the results of the smart planning, organizing, and strategizing the environmental community puts into the *Priorities* each year.

The 2007 session also moved the state forward to address some of

the real concerns raised during the No on Initiative 933 campaign. WEC supported legislation to address legitimate concerns about land use laws and property rights, while at the same time providing protection for working farms and forest lands. WEC also supported legislation to take up the question of agriculture and critical areas protection at the William D. Ruckelshaus Center, which will engage environmental groups, farmers, Tribes, and local and state governments.

Ongoing Advocacy for Forests

WEC celebrated two significant advances in sustainable state forestry. Following five years of advocacy by WEC, the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced it would seek Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification for 141,000 acres of our state forests. While WEC would like to see improved management for all 2.1 million acres of state forests, we support this important first step. We also reached an agreement with the state to curb an increase in clear-cutting on western Washington state forestlands and direct resources to more sustainable forestry techniques.

utive Director

stronger protections for our water supply.

We took some noteworthy steps forward on sustainable forestry in our state forests, an issue that has been a cornerstone of our work for many years. There's still a long road ahead, but our continued engagement on this issue has made a difference in negotiating with the state Department of Natural Resources. We also began a targeted, one-year campaign: *Local Farms – Healthy Kids*, to make it easier for schools to buy locally-grown food, which will help keep working lands working and improve the nutrition value of the food available to our children.

At the end of the year, two exciting things happened to build on our partnership with Washington Conservation Voters (WCV). We moved to a great new office that we share with WCV, and the innovative WCV Voter Education Fund merged into WEC. We will spend much of our time in 2008 building on these alliances to increase our political strength.

As we enter our fortieth year, we look forward to partnering with all of you to build on our success and continue working to protect Washington's unique environment.



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WEC Board Member John Arum talks with farmers who worked with him to craft the Manastash Creek agreement, which will lead to a restoration of the creek, while providing the water needed by local farms.

Progress on Water Rights

Following six years of often tense negotiations, a wide range of interests including farmers, environmentalists, tribal staff, and state agencies signed an agreement that will lead to the restoration of Manastash Creek near Ellensburg, as well as provide the water needed by local farmers. WEC board member John Arum, an instrumental part of the long negotiation, said, "We hope it [the agreement] can serve as a model for successful resolution of water conflict throughout the state."

Strengthening Partnerships

WEC and Washington Conservation Voters took their successful legislative partnership to the next level with the merger of WEC and the WCV Voter Education Fund. The Voter Education Fund is now a distinct program within WEC known as the Voter Education Program (VEP), which will continue its work to engage the environmental majority in civic action through innovation, research, and education. The merger was facilitated by WEC and WCV's co-location in a newly renovated (to environmentally responsible standards) office. Special thanks to the Brainerd Foundation and the Bullitt Foundation for supporting these efforts.

2007 Heroes Event Celebrates the Power

On Friday, November 9th, over 500 people gathered in downtown Seattle to celebrate the *Power of Partnership* at our annual *Heroes in Our Own Backyard* event. With their generous help, we raised a record-breaking \$140,000 net for WEC.

During the evening, we honored environmental legend Bill Ruckelshaus for his leadership on Puget Sound recovery work. He has helped position our region to respond and step up on Puget Sound as never before. We also honored young heroes Nausheen Kasmani and Molly Ayre-Svingen. As co-founders of Students for Renewable Energy, they were responsible for Western Washington University becoming the first public university in the nation to purchase 100% renewable energy.

The enthusiasm of the guests, donors, and sponsors for WEC's work was inspiring – and abundant - helping WEC to break all our previous fundraising records. This event capped off an incredibly successful year and set the stage for 2008.

2007 Heroes



Bill Ruckelshaus



Nausheen Kasmani and Molly Ayre-Svingen

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Euro Institute of Skin Care
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Flying Apron Bakery
Friends of Skagit County

r of Partnership

Thank You to Our Legal Supporters

We would also like to thank the committed attorneys who volunteered their time and expertise in 2007 – together they donated legal services valued at more than \$125,000 to Washington Environmental Council

John Arum, *Ziontz, Chestnut, Varnell, Berley & Slonim*

Dave Bahr, *Western Environmental Law Center*

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Ashley Peck, *Gendler & Mann*

Todd True, *Earthjustice*

Matching Gifts Programs

The Bullitt Foundation

The Brainerd Foundation

Microsoft Matching Gifts Program

The Russell Family Foundation

RealNetworks Foundation

Washington Mutual Foundation

Workplace giving

We also thank the hundreds of people who contribute through workplace giving campaigns. We received contributions through Earth Share of Washington from donors at federal, state and local governments, as well as numerous private companies.

Tribute Gifts

WEC received gifts celebrating the following people:

In Honor of Craig & Kim Bauer

In Memory of Albert Crooks

In Memory of Stephen Gates

In Honor of Debra Guenther

In Honor of Del & Diane Morton



Earth Share
OF WASHINGTON

Thanks

Friends of the Columbia Gorge

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Fuzzy Buddy's Dog Daycare

Genevieve Barile

The Glass Eye Studio

Great Harvest Bread Company

The Green Car Company

Henry Art Gallery

The Herbfarm

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Northwest Chamber Chorus

Northwest Flower and Garden Show

Northwest Outdoor Center

Northwest Wilderness Programs

NW Trek Wildlife Park

Olympic Music Festival

On The Boards

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Please Consider
Remembering WEC in
your will or living trust

Leaving a gift to Washington Environmental Council in your will is a simple step to make sure your support of Washington's environment continues in a lasting way. For more information on including WEC in your will or estate plans, please contact David Gorton at 206.631.2608 or david@wecprotects.org.

Sustainability Circle

We are grateful to the generous members of the Sustainability Circle, WEC's monthly donor program. The steady support by these supporters conserves resources, while allowing WEC to be strong and strategic in our work to protect the land, air, and water in the state.

Charles D. Anderson
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Thank You to Our 2007 Supporters

Thank you to all our members and supporters whose generous contributions make our work possible. Below we recognize those individuals who contributed \$250 or more in 2007.

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2007 Financial Statement

Expense

Environmental Protection Programs	648,679
Development & Fundraising	123,782
Administration	74,051
	<hr/>
	\$846,512

Revenue

Dues & Contributions	306,570
Grants	497,000
Workplace Campaigns	12,128
Events	141,185
Reimbursements & Miscellaneous	6,296
Investment Gains	54,387
Dividends & Interest	21,324
	<hr/>
	\$1,038,890

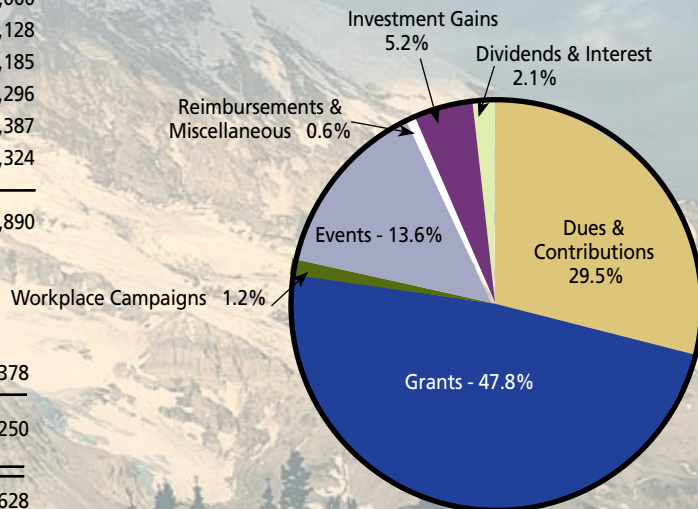
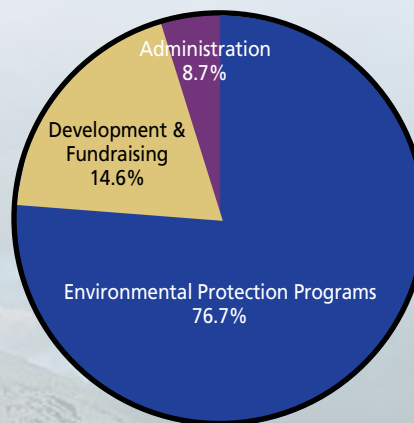
Increase in Net Assets 192,378

Net Assets, beginning 980,250

Net Assets, ending \$1,172,628

Notes to Financial Statements:

- The Washington Environmental Council is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- This financial information is drawn from draft audited statements by the accounting firm of Dave Bembridge, CPA



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Winning When It Matters Most: WEC on Climate Change

In 2007, WEC has championed legislative proposals, weighed in on enforcement issues, and worked to build a strong coalition of partners to make Washington a leader in reducing global warming pollution. Our work on climate change showcases WEC's approach to issues and highlights the flexibility which makes us so effective.

Building Bridges

With our partners at Climate Solutions, WEC has built a diverse coalition, including faith, business, labor, and social justice interests. All of these groups share a similar goal – to have Washington meet its goals for reducing global warming pollution, as well as decreasing fuel imports and creating clean energy jobs. As part of this coalition building, WEC and Climate Solutions launched the 1Sky Washington website (right). We've also helped to lead the environmental community, so that we speak with one strong voice on climate change.

Foundation for Change

WEC has consistently championed legislation which helped put Washington at the forefront of the fight against climate change. Wins that require state buildings to meet green building standards and reduce fossil fuel use by state fleets have signaled that Washington is serious about making changes at the state level. We've ramped up our campaign and laid the groundwork for major climate change legislation in the years to come.

Follow Through

After a law is passed, WEC works to make sure that the law is followed and changes are made to begin reducing climate emissions.



WEC partnered with Climate Solutions to develop the 1Sky Washington site, a campaign for people from diverse backgrounds and interests to come together to advance real solutions to global warming.

In 2005, WEC helped to pass Clean Car legislation to improve vehicle emission standards. However, to date the Environmental Protection Agency has refused to let Washington and other states move forward. Along with many other parties, including the states of California and Washington, WEC has continued to pursue legal action so that our stronger vehicle emissions standards can be put in place.

WEC challenged the plans for a new coal fired power plant in Kalama through another legal action. The proposed plant relied on an entirely inadequate Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan that violated a state climate change law passed in early 2007. The state agreed with our assessment, ruling that proponents had no more than a "plan to prepare a plan" and missed the mark "by a wide margin." The proposal for this polluting power plant has now been halted.