

NWF Field Report November 16-20, 2015

Grassroots Actions: 105 Grasstops Engaged: 37

Events: 5

Event Attendance: 75 Lobby Visits/Calls: 51

Op-Eds: 3 LTEs: 4

Non-Opinion Media: 12

Last week, the Environmental Protection Agency held hearings on the Federal Implementation Plan under the Clean Power Plan in Denver, Washington, DC and Atlanta; the Senate voted to disapprove of the Clean Power Plan; and the House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing in opposition to the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Meanwhile, the National Wildlife Federation Outreach Team continued efforts to support the EPA's Clean Water Rule, Clean Power Plan and to protect public lands.



Taran Catania does a photo petition at EPA outside of the Clean Power Plan hearings.

Highlights

[EPA Clean Water Rule]

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued a final rule clarifying Clean Water Act protections for wetlands and streams.

 Pennsylvania//Sportsmen Organizer Dave Imgrund generated a letter-to-theeditor thanking Senator Casey for his vote in support of the Clean Water Rule last week in the Carlisle Sentinel. Imgrund shared this with Senator Casey's office and reiterated thanks for the Senators vote to protect clean water.
 Associated Media: Applauds Casey's effort

[Businesses for a Healthy Climate]

• **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Jan Pendlebury generated 6 new grasstops business signers to the statement of support for the Businesses for a Healthy Climate campaign.

[Land and Water Conservation Fund]

- West Virginia//West Virginia Rivers Coalition generated 7 calls to Representative Alex Mooney's office urging support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund surrounding the hearing this week undermining the fund in the House Natural Resources Committee.
- **Pennsylvania**//Outreach Consultant Ed Perry generated 2 op-eds in the Centre Daily Times and the Lock Haven Express expressing support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and urging Congressman Thompson to step up efforts to reauthorize this vital and successful conservation tool.

Associated Media: Natural landscapes need to be preserved; It's time for Congress to reauthorize Land and Water Conservation Fund

 West Virginia//West Virginia Rivers Coalition Executive Director Angie Rosser met with Senator Manchin's Chief of Staff in Washington, DC along with a representative from The West Virginia Wilderness Coalition to discuss LWCF, national monument designation and other issues.

[Public Lands]

 Colorado//Kate Zimmerman, public lands policy director was quoted in a story about a new draft environmental impact statement issued for Colorado's Roan Plateau. The Bureau of Land Management wrote a new plan after the National Wildlife Federation and other conservation organizations sued to block a plan that could have opened the Roan Plateau, an important fish and wildlife area, to thousands of new oil and gas wells.

Associated Press: BLM releases plan to limit drilling on Roan Plateau

[EPA Clean Power Plan]

The Environmental Protection Agency has finalized limits on carbon pollution from power plants called the Clean Power Plan.

[Grasstops/Events]

- Washington, DC//The National Wildlife
 Federation staff testified in Washington, DC at the
 Federal Implementation Plan hearings to support the
 EPA's efforts to issue a strong proposed plan to help
 states meet the standards under the Clean Power Plan.
 All told, there were 74 testimonies in support of the
 Clean Power Plan with just 1 in direct opposition at the
 2-day hearings including 4 testimonies from the
 National Wildlife Federation team.
- Georgia//National Ecoleader Coordinator Eriqah Vincent worked with partners in the state to generate grasstops testimony at the Federal Implementation Plan hearings held in Atlanta to support the Clean Power Plan. The event was an overwhelming success with favorable testimony vastly outweighing opposition testimony.



Emily Becker testifies at EPA on the Clean Power Plan as she prepares to leave for Paris climate talks.

Colorado//Regional Outreach Campaigns Manager David Ellenberger worked with partners in the state to generate grasstops testimony at the Federal Implementation Plan hearings held in Denver to support the Clean Power Plan. The event was an overwhelming success with favorable testimony vastly outweighing opposition testimony and featuring several National Wildlife Federation voices including organizer Pete Kolbenschlag, a



Meg Morris (right) testifies at Denver EPA hearing in defense of the Clean Power Plan.

representative from Snowriders International, and Sportsmen Online organizer Meg Morris to name a few.

- Maine//Natural Resources Council of Maine hosted a presentation about solar power in Maine and discussed the Clean Power Plan. There were 75 attendees at the event, 57 of whom took action by signing a postcard to Senator Collins asking for her support of the Clean Power Plan.
- **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Eric Orff held a report release for the *Game Changers* report at the Suds N' Soda Sport Shop in Greenland, NH featuring speaking from the shop's owner, Jason McKenzie as well as Orff.
- **Colorado**//Outreach Consultant Pete Kolbenschlag generated 2 new grasstops signers to the letter in support of the Clean Power Plan for Senator Bennet including from a Farmer at Plowed Table Farm and a Brewer from The Fermentory.

[Media]

 Colorado//Outreach Consultant Pete Kolbenschlag generated 2 letters-to-theeditor in the Delta County Independent signed by 2 grassroots activists pushing back on climate change denial and calling for people to demand action on climate in advance of the Paris talks.

Associated Media: The house of cards is beginning to totter; Climate change: There is hope

- Maine//Natural Resources Council of Maine generated an Op-ed in the Bangor Daily News signed by grasstop CEO of Evergreen Home Performance on how the Clean Power Plan can be an economic driver in the state.
 Associated Media: The Clean Power Plan can boost Maine's economy. Our company is an example
- **Pennsylvania//PennFuture's** Rob Altenburg was quoted in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review discussing the Clean Power Plan around the state's plan to meet Pennsylvania targets. Later, Matt Stepp was also quoted in an article from E&E about the political role of coal in Pennsylvania to delay the implementation of the Clean Power Plan in the state.

Associated Media: Pa. DEP ready to write first draft of plan to meet feds' rules; Coal backers in Pa. push to delay Clean Power Plan implementation

- Maine//Natural Resources Council of Maine generated a column from grasstop sportsmen and Outdoor and Travel Writer George Smith on the National Wildlife Federation's Game Changer report and what it says about the impacts of climate change on Main's hunting and fishing heritage.
 Associated Media: Maine's hunting and fishing heritage threatened by climate change
- Pennsylvania//Outreach Consultant Ed Perry generated a letter-to-the-editor in the Scranton Times-Tribune signed by the grasstop Board Member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wyoming County on the moral obligation to act on climate.

Associated Media: Climate courage

• **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Eric Orff generated a Public News Service story expressing thanks to Senator Ayotte for her vote in support of the Clean Power Plan. The story was picked up by 8 media outlets, primarily radio, across the state with a minimum estimated audience of 66,149 people. Associated Media: Ayotte Praised in NH for Support of Clean Power Plan

[Lobby Visits/Calls]

- Ohio//Outreach Consultants Greg Ely and Tracy Sabetta generated 9 grasstops
 calls to Senator Brown in support of the Clean Power Plan in advance of the
 Congressional Review Act attack including from 3 of the Lucas County
 Commissioners, Policy Chair and Executive Director of the Ohio Public Health
 Association, a Nurse from Elyria City Health Department and public health leaders
 from Cuyahoga County and Summit County.
- Virginia//Virginia Conservation Network's Jessica Greene conducted 2 dropby lobby visits to Senators Kaine and Warner in their Richmond offices to share materials on the Congressional Review Act attack to the Clean Power Plan and some clean energy updates with 2 grasstop leaders including the Mid Atlantic Project Manager for APEX Wind and Outreach Director for Richmond Region Energy Alliance.
- Colorado//Regional Outreach Campaigns Manager David Ellenberger generated 3 grasstops calls in advance of the Congressional Review Act attacks to the Clean Power Plan to Senator Bennet urging his support for the plan and 3 calls following the vote to thank the Senator for his support from 3 Eagle County Commissioners.
- Montana//Montana Wildlife Federation Consultant Jill Feldhusen generated 5 grassroots calls to Senator Tester in advance of the Congressional Review Act attack on the Clean Water Rule as well as 6 grasstops calls including from a former professor at the University of Montana, the Founder of "Orion-The Hunters Institute," the Board President of Helena Hunters and Anglers, the Executive Director of the Montana Wildlife Federation, a Wildlife Biologist with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and a field representative with the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.
- Virginia//Virginia Conservation Network's Sportsmen Organizer Mariah Davis conducted a drop-by lobby visit with Governor Terry McAuliffe's office in Richmond along with grasstop organizer from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network to share the 20 petitions that have been gathered in support of Virginia joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).
- **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Eric Orff conducted a drop-by lobby visit to the Manchester office of Senator Ayotte to share The National Wildlife Federation's *Game Changers* report and to share our thanks for the Senator's support of the Clean Power Plan.
- Pennsylvania//PennFuture and Outreach Consultant Ed Perry generated 4
 grasstops calls following the Congressional Review Act vote attacking the Clean
 Power Plan to thank Senator Casey for standing strong in defense of the plan and
 to express our disappointment to Senator Toomey for his vote against the Clean

Power Plan including from the Vice President of the Phoenixville Green Team, and the Project coordinator for the Coalition for the Delaware River.

• **Virginia//Virginia Conservation Network's** Jessica Greene generated 14 grassroots calls to thank Senators Warner and Kaine for their votes in support of the Clean Power Plan.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Nov 21-29: House and Senate Recess
- Nov 26: Thanksgiving
- Nov 30-Dec 11: UN Climate Conference in Paris