

NWF Field Report November 2-13, 2015

Grassroots Actions: 137
Grasstops Engaged: 39
Events: 12
Event Attendance: 558
Lobby Visits/Calls: 10
Op-Eds: 2
LTEs: 4
Non-Opinion Media: 32
Ed Board/Reporter
Education: 2

Over the last two weeks, there was an election held in many states across the country considering ballot measures and state legislative elections. The President rejected the Keystone XL Pipeline and congress voted on legislation to undermine the Clean Water Rule. 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.



National Wildlife Federation staff gathered at the White House to thank the President for rejecting the Keystone XL Pipeline. This photo was in the New York Times on Saturday, November 7th. Photo by Stephen Crowley

Highlights

[EPA Clean Water Rule]

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

- **National//VICTORY!** Last week, a bill attacking the Clean Water Rule and threatening the underlying Clean Water Act was beaten back in the Senate with exactly the votes needed to avoid the legislation from moving forward. The very next day, a Congressional Review Act challenged the Clean Water Rule and passed with the simple majority it needed to move forward in the Senate. However, through excellent field work across the country working our targets, we were able to hold onto all of our field targets and get Senator Collins (ME) to vote against the attack as well, giving the White House the backing they need as they prepare to veto this legislation should it pass the House.
- **Pennsylvania//**Sportsmen Organizer Dave Imgrund generated 2 LTEs in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. One was signed by a grasstop sportsmen and the other was signed by Imgrund himself and both were rebutting an editorial published in the paper earlier in the year that opposed the Clean Water Rule.
Associated Media: [The EPA 'Water Rule' clarifies](#); [Flowing agitprop](#)
- **Missouri//**Stream Teams Holly Neill worked with a local TV reporter to generate a series of 5 segments on the importance of the Clean Water Rule including several interviews with Neill herself outlining the importance of the rule moving forward for the state of Missouri on KOLR 10.

Associated Media:

Segment 1 [Proposed Rule to Change 43-Year-Old Water Law;](#)

Segment 2 [Looking Back: What Led To The E.P.A. and The Clean Water Act;](#)

Segment 3 [Water Regulations Flow from the Federal to Local Level](#)

Segment 4 [Clean Water Rule and the Impacts on Agriculture](#)

Segment 5 [Clean Water Rule Halted in Federal Court](#)

- **Pennsylvania**//Sportsmen Organizer Dave Imgrund generated an Op-ed in the York Daily Record following the sportsmen fly-in that Imgrund attended last month in Washington, DC and reflecting on the importance of the Clean Water Rule to the Susquehanna Valley.

Associated Media: [Clean Water Benefits the Susquehanna Valley](#)

[Arctic]

- **Pennsylvania**//Outreach Consultant Ed Perry generated a letter-to-the-editor in the Erie Times signed by grassroots David Sublette urging congressman Thompson to support the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Associated Media: [Thompson rapped over conservation fund](#)

[Businesses for a Healthy Climate]

- **Pennsylvania**//Outreach Consultant Jeff Jubelirer organized two events featuring former Congressman Bob Inglis first speaking with a group of 40 College Republicans on how free enterprise can effectively address climate change. Jubelirer then organized an event at which Inglis addressed a group of 15 business leaders on the same topic. There were 9 grassroots leaders at the business leader event including the Principal of Duncan Government Strategies, the President of Union Core America, the Executive Director of Sustainable Business Network of Philadelphia, and the Policy and Advocacy Manager of the Small Business Network.

- **Virginia**//Outreach Consultant Susan Gaston organized an event called *Show Me the Money: The Economic Realities of Responding to Coastal Changes & Adaptation in Virginia* in at the William and Mary Law School. There were 4 grassroots leaders who attended and spoke at the event including Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam, state Senator Lynwood Lewis and Blue Moon Fund Fellow Joseph Bouchard. Congressman Rob Wittman spoke at the event and acknowledged publicly in his remarks that The Gibson Resolution is a good tool for public policy on the issue of climate change.



Show Me the Money Conference at William and Mary Law School

[EPA Clean Power Plan]

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

[Grasstops]

- **Colorado//**Outreach Consultant Pete Kolbenschlag held a *Global Warming, Food Security, Farming and the Western Slope* press event at The Hive Paonia. The event was made up of community workshops that brought together food advocates, farmers and residents to discuss enhancing food security on the Western Slope, including adapting to and mitigating climate change; a panel discussion on the impacts of climate change to western Colorado agriculture; and film screenings of *This Changes Everything*. There were 32 grassroots activists in attendance, 12 of whom signed a postcard in support of the Clean Power Plan and generated 2 media hits in High Country News and KVNF Community Radio. *Associated Media:* [Can small communities tackle global food security? ; Panel talks climate change for Western Slope farmers](#)
- **Ohio//**Outreach Consultant Greg Ely attended the University of Toledo football game at the Alumni Pavilion and spoke with UT alumni who came to the pavilion before the home game and generated 72 postcards in support of the Clean Power Plan.
- **Montana//Montana Wildlife Federation's** Jill Feldhusen gave a presentation at a meeting of Helena Hunters and Anglers on climate change and the clean power plan. There were 20 in attendance at the event including 11 who signed postcards in support of the Clean Power Plan and a former professor at the University of Montana who spoke at the event about climate impacts.
- **Pennsylvania//PennFuture** and Outreach Consultant Ed Perry worked together to generate turnout and testimony in support of the Clean Power Plan including from Pennsylvania sportsmen at the Pittsburgh hearing on the Federal Implementation Plan. All told, 96 testified in favor of the Clean Power Plan with 0 testifying in opposition. Following the hearing, Perry spoke with the Allegheny Front Radio station and taped an interview discussing the impacts of climate change to our natural resources. Perry generated a total of 25 media hits including from Bloomberg Business, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Pittsburgh Tribune Review, Allegheny Front Radio and 21 unique media hits from a Public News Service story that Perry conducted. *Associated Media:* [Environmentalists urge feds to enforce rules on power plant emissions cuts; EPA Holds Hearings on Clean Power Plan; Pittsburgh hearing underway on EPA's new carbon emissions rules; Environmentalists urge feds to enforce rules on power plant emissions cuts; EPA Hearings in Pittsburgh Bring Out Climate Activists](#)
- **Maine//Natural Resources Council of Maine** developed a letter for clean energy businesses to sign in support of the Clean Power Plan and generated 6 grasstops signers including the co-founder of ReVision Energy, the owner of Insource Renewables, the owner of The Breathable Home, CEO of Evergreen Home Performance, Founder of Penobscot Home Performance, and the Founder of Upright Frameworks.

- **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Eric Orff gave a lecture on climate change impacts to New Hampshire Fish and Wildlife to 35 educators at the New England Environmental Educators Alliance annual meeting in Waterville Valley and participated in a roundtable discussion of New Hampshire educators with another 20 attendees and a total of 25 people took action by signing a postcard in support of the Clean Power Plan.
- **Maine**//**Natural Resources Council of Maine's** Executive Director Lisa Pohlmann participated in a panel on climate change and Maine's economy put on by the Georges River Land Trust at The Strand in Rockland. There were roughly 150 people in attendance and NRCM collected 17 postcards in support of the Clean Power Plan.

- **Ohio**//Outreach Consultant Tracy Sabetta held a Save the Buckeye event at the Ohio Student Union in Columbus with a backdrop of a 20-foot timeline of predicted future events due to climate change which served as a backdrop for speakers. There were 150 in attendance at the event to highlight the impacts of climate change in Ohio and the United States' role in the upcoming



Ohio Outreach Consultant Tracy Sabetta speaking at a Save the Buckeye event

United Nations Summit on Climate Change set to begin in Paris on November 30th. There were 5 grassroots leaders who spoke at the event including the Associate Professor of Forest Ecosystem Analysis & Management, an OSU Student Leader and a representative from Byrd Polar Research.

[Media]

- **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Eric Orff spoke with a reporter at the Concord Monitor regarding Senator Ayotte's support for the Clean Power Plan and asked them to write an editorial providing "thanks" to the Senator for her actions.
- **Colorado**//Regional Outreach Campaigns Manager David Ellenberger generated an Op-ed in the Colorado Statesman opposing lifting the crude export ban because of the climate crisis.
Associated Media: [Lifting crude export ban would make it harder to solve climate crisis](#)
- **New Hampshire**//Outreach Consultant Eric Orff generated a letter-to-the-editor in the Concord Monitor thanking Senator Ayotte for her support of the Clean Power Plan.
Associated Media: [Thank you Senator Ayotte for your support of the CPP.](#)

- **Ohio//**Regional Outreach Campaign Manager Frank Szollosi conducted editorial board outreach to the Toledo Blade and met with an editor and staff writer in advance of the Congressional Review Act challenge to the Clean Power Plan.

[Lobby Visits/Calls]

- **New Hampshire//**Outreach Consultant Eric Orff generated 5 grasstop calls to Senator Ayotte's office to thank her for supporting the Clean Power Plan from the New Hampshire Council Chair of Trout Unlimited, 2 Chapter Presidents, and a Chapter Member as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ammonoosuc Chapter of Trout Unlimited.
- **Virginia//Virginia Conservation Network** participated in a monthly meeting with the Governor's administration on the Clean Power Plan and other clean energy issues along with 3 grasstop leaders.
- **Pennsylvania//**Outreach Consultant Ed Perry generated grasstops calls to Senator Casey's office before the Congressional Review Act challenge to the Clean Power Plan is voted on next week from 3 grasstops sportsmen.
- **Maine//Natural Resources Council of Maine** generated calls to Senator Collins from the President of Maine Coast Sea Vegetables, Inc. to encourage the senator to support the Clean Power Plan as it faces attacks this fall.

[Other]

- **National//VICTORY!!** After years of field work and incredible organizing across the country, President Obama and Secretary Kerry denied the Keystone XL Pipeline permit!!

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **Nov. 16-17:** Denver Hearing on FIP for CPP
- **Nov 16:** NWF Report: *Game Changers*
- **Nov. 17:** Clean Power Plan Congressional Review Act Vote
- **Nov. 17:** NWF Releases Report, *Losing Ground: Energy Development's Impacts on the Wildlife, Landscapes, and Hunting Traditions of the American West*
- **Nov. 18-19:** Washington, DC Hearing on FIP for CPP
- **Nov. 19-20:** Atlanta Hearing on FIP for CPP
- **Nov 21-29:** House and Senate Recess
- **Nov 26:** Thanksgiving
- **Nov 30-Dec 11:** UN Climate Conference in Paris