



**Defenders of Wildlife**



## **Tell congress to stop Pruitt's destructive plans for wildlife**

Countless wildlife - from polar bears to pikas and everything in between - are threatened by climate change.

And the head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is exacerbating their struggle for survival.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is a disaster for the environment, wildlife and human health. It's time to send him packing!

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Mr. Pruitt has failed to uphold his sworn oath of office as the nation's top environmental enforcement official. Instead, he has pursued a political agenda to eviscerate the agency he leads and everything it stands for, including:

- Rolling back decades of bipartisan environmental protections;
- Slashing funding for clean air, clean water, toxic waste protections and other environmental safeguards;
- Ignoring the agency's own science, data, analysis and recommendations in decision making;
- Discrediting and personally overseeing the removal of climate change information from the EPA's website;
- Removing agency references to renewable energy and promoting more fossil fuel-friendly policies; and
- Tilting the playing field in favor of dirty energy by undermining every emissions reduction standard he can get his hands on, from the Clean Power Plan to automobile fuel economy standards.

In doing so, he has put millions of Americans and countless wildlife species and ecosystems at great risk.

Administrator Pruitt has undermined and silenced scientists and policy experts within the EPA and replaced them with his lobbyist cronies and public relations specialists with deep ties to special interests and polluters.

Help Defenders of Wildlife save endangered and imperiled species and the habitat they need to survive! With your membership, you will receive our annual calendar with stunning wildlife photos, our award-winning magazine, notecards, personalized address labels – and the satisfaction of knowing you are helping to save America's imperiled wildlife for future generations. To make your gift go even further, become a WILDLIFE GUARDIAN for just \$9/MONTH and help save critically endangered animals every day.

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## **Get involved, become a member of Defenders**

Know that your funds are being distributed in a proper manner for becoming a member. We have 96% of the proceeds going to programs and support services. The other 4% goes toward fundraising. Which just goes to show that we mean business when it comes to helping animals continue to survive and thrive.



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## **Do something special, adopt an animal**

Wild animal adoptions are the perfect gift for holidays, birthdays, or any special occasion, for a friend or yourself. Your animal adoption helps Defenders of Wildlife save endangered species.

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Things you get for adopting an animal:

Personalized adoption certificate

Colorful animal fact sheet

Wildlife activities book

Adorable stuffed plush animal

## How we are preparing for climate change

Climate change is the single biggest threat facing our planet today. It affects us all: every person, every plant, every animal and every unique ecosystem.

Climate change is already having devastating effects. Extreme weather events like heat waves, intense storms and prolonged droughts are on the rise, taking scores of lives and causing billions of dollars in damage each year. In addition to the toll on our communities, wildlife and the habitats they depend on are facing new and intensified uncertainty.

Habitats across the world are beginning to shift, shrink, melt and even disappear entirely in the face of warming temperatures, changes to the growing season and periods of prolonged drought followed by intense rainfall and flooding.





Nowhere are the effects of a rapidly warming climate more apparent than in the Arctic. Arctic sea ice has been in a steep decline since 2002, and many global climate models to predict the Arctic will be ice free for at least part of the year by the end of the 21st century. The vanishing Arctic sea ice could have devastating effects for wildlife that depend on it like the polar bear, Pacific walrus, bearded, harp, spotted, ribbon and ringed seals, belugas, and several large cetaceans (bowhead, gray, North Pacific Right and killer whales), and seabirds. Permafrost is also beginning to melt causing challenges to wildlife and humans- for example ancient ice-cellars used to keep food cold are now filling with water. The loss of permafrost is doubly concerning because it serves as a massive carbon sink and as it thaws it is re-releasing large amounts of stored carbon back into the atmosphere.



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