

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

IF
FORESTS
COULD
TALK...



AMERICAN FORESTS

A photograph of a dense forest of tall redwood trees. The trees are very tall and slender, with thick, reddish-brown bark. The forest floor is covered in a thick layer of green moss and ferns. A person is standing in the distance, providing a sense of scale to the massive trees. The text "...THEY WOULD SAY THANK YOU." is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

...THEY WOULD SAY THANK YOU.



The Power of One

Thank you! Your support of American Forests has made air and water cleaner. This year you've helped restore thousands of acres of wildlife habitat for dozens of threatened and endangered species. And your support has helped expand greenspace in cities across the country. By contributing to American Forests, YOU are making the world a better place for us all!

We All Need Forests

No matter where you live, forests make a difference to quality of life for your family, your community and for all living things. Grounded in that belief, American Forests works to inspire and advance the conservation of forests one tree at a time, one acre at a time, one forest a time.

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A special thank you to our Lead Corporate Partners for the gifts they made in 2016.



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Helping us achieve some of our greatest accomplishments, we celebrate with and are grateful to American Forests' Sequoia Circle members who generously supported our work this year through gifts of at least \$1,000.

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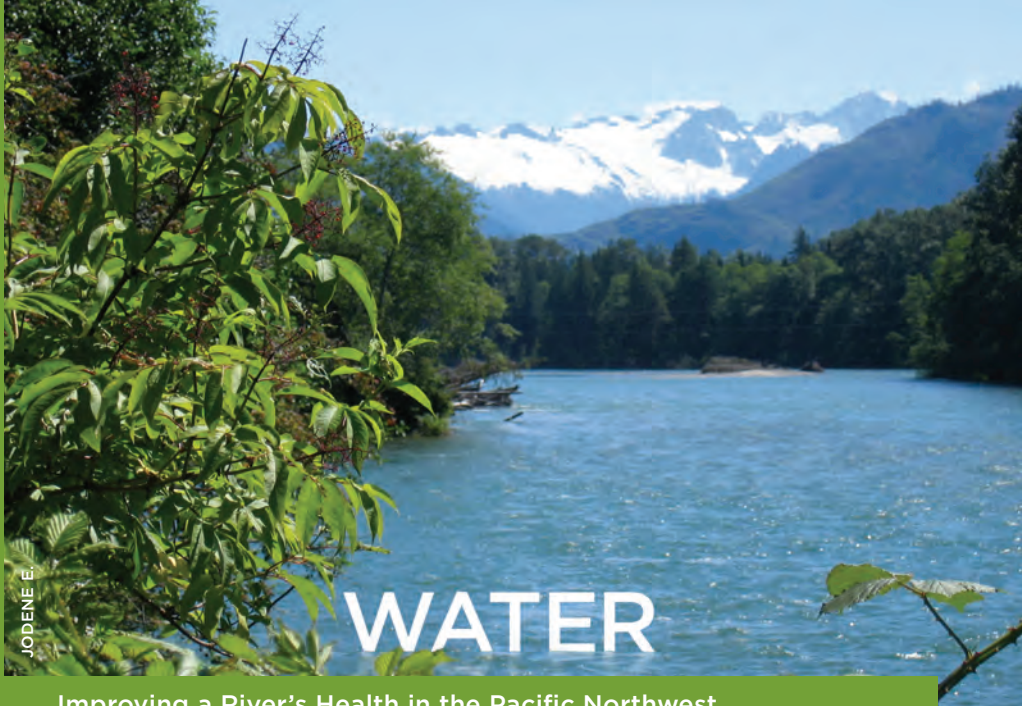
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Helping us protect and restore forests across the nation and worldwide,
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WATER

Improving a River's Health in the Pacific Northwest

The Skagit Wild and Scenic River winds through dense hemlock, massive spruce and stately red cedar forests to the Puget Sound. Pacific salmon spawn in its waters. Elk, bears, mountain goats and cougars traverse this wilderness, which is also home to over-wintering bald eagles.

Unsustainable agriculture and forestry, and damming the river have greatly impacted habitat and watershed health. Salmon are dwindling, and fewer than two dozen grizzlies now roam this landscape.

To improve the river's health, American Forests has been working in the area since 1996 and has planted more than 145,000 trees across 265 acres. In 2016 with your support, we planted 13,000 saplings from locally collected seeds of western red cedar, Douglas-fir, Sitka spruce and cottonwood—all native species.



TIM GOHRKE



JOEL TRICK/USFWS

WILDLIFE

Rebuilding the Habitat of One of America's Rarest Birds

Kirtland's warbler is the rarest warbler in North America, nesting in the dense branches of young jack pine trees in the upper Midwest. The bright yellow and bluish-gray songbird has been listed as an endangered species since 1967 due to nest predation and habitat loss.

With your help, American Forests has invested in restoring Kirtland's warbler habitat since 1990. Including 700,000 jack pine this year, our total is nearly 2.5 million trees planted across more than 2,100 acres. These efforts have resulted in 2,365 males counted last fall, a 14-fold increase from the species' lowest point in 1987. While the Kirtland's warbler is still endangered, our continuing work together gives one of America's rarest birds a real chance for survival.



RECREATION

Enhancing Recreational Areas Through Forest Restoration

Activities like hiking, camping and fishing give us a deeper appreciation for the natural world and make us healthier and less stressed. Getting people outside to enjoy our nation's forests is one of our priorities and many projects incorporate recreation as an objective.

This year, access to recreation was key to our wildfire restoration project with Mountain Communities, a partner with whom American Forests has planted more than 400,000 trees. Through your support, this project, located in the San Bernardino Mountains, planted nearly 20,000 ponderosa and Jeffrey pines to benefit wildlife, water and air, while also helping enhance a 150-acre educational facility and campground.



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CLIMATE

Restoring Sugar Pine to Combat Drought and Wildfire Risk in the Sierra Nevada Mountains

2016 was record-breaking *hot*, and nowhere are trees feeling the heat more than in California. Stress from drought, pests and diseases—combined with wildfires more intense and extensive—destroyed the trees, soil and seeds essential for these forests to regenerate naturally.

American Forests has been working in the Sierra Nevada since 1991, planting more than 2.4 million trees. With your support in 2016, we helped restore more than 1,500 acres of wildfire-damaged, mixed-pine forests by reforesting with disease-resistant sugar pine trees and implementing projects to improve watershed health, wildlife habitat and recreation benefits.



CITIES

Planting the Seed of Hope in Detroit

Few cities have suffered as dramatic a transformation as Detroit, with its economic collapse taking a toll on trees, greenspace and the communities that benefit from them.

As part of a broader effort to implement a citywide reforestation plan, American Forests worked with Bank of America and local partners to create the city's first outdoor education center for use by students from nearby schools. The space also serves as a new town square, embraced by the Osborn neighborhood as central to other revitalization efforts in the community. Multiple abandoned homes were removed and replaced with tree canopy, butterfly habitat, paths, benches and a playground for residents to enjoy time spent outdoors.



AMERICAN FORESTS

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