Resource Guide to Environmental Groups

Preparing this resource guide to environmental groups for the DVD release of “A Fierce Green Fire” proved Paul Hawken’s assertion that there are millions of groups engaged in environmental, social-justice and indigenous issues. Listed are a couple hundred organizations. A good resource for further digging is the database on WiserEarth’s website: http://www.wiser.org.

National & International

Sierra Club
It is the largest and one of the most influential environmental groups, activist-oriented and democratic, with local chapters all over the country, it has national campaigns to move beyond coal and oil, and a long history of protecting wild nature. http://www.sierraclub.org

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
It started as a law firm for the environment and has grown into a pillar of the mainstream, among the most professional and powerful groups, known for its smarts and sway. http://www.nrdc.org

Greenpeace
From radicals to disciplined corps Greenpeace went on the wildest ride – becoming an international juggernaut, split by struggles over leadership and issues – yet remains an important and inspired source of activism. www.greenpeace.org

350.org
Started by six students and a writer fed up with delay, 350.org has become the premier activist force in the battle to halt climate change – known for organizing with imagination and energy, creating alliances and spawning local satellites. http://350.org

Center for Health, Environment and Justice (CHEJ)
Lois Gibbs’ group has been fighting for 35 years against toxic waste and harmful chemicals, working with thousands of grassroots groups and activists. http://chej.org

Friends of the Earth
The first international environmental group, founded by David Brower – radical activists in the 1970s and now more policy-oriented, influential beyond its size. http://www.foe.org

Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
A more moderate organization, known for accommodating business and proposing compromises like cap-and-trade to deal with acid rain. www.edf.org
Audubon Society
The original wildlife group, it remains focused on birds, but works to save species and ecosystems through preserves established by chapters all over the country.
www.audubon.org

National Wildlife Federation
It is a federation of hunting and fishing groups with strong ties to the American heartland, concerned primarily with conservation of nature but pursuing a wide range of alliances and issues. www.nwf.org

Clean Water Action
Inspired by Ralph Nader on the first Earth Day, it has grown into a nationwide network of activists with a million members working on all sorts of campaigns. www.cleanwateraction.org

Waterkeeper Alliance (Riverkeepers, Baykeepers, etc.)
Begun by Robert Kennedy Jr., the original Hudson Riverkeepers has spawned an array of keeper groups around the country monitoring and fighting for rivers, bays and inlets. www.waterkeeper.org

Earthjustice
“Because the earth needs a good lawyer” is the motto of this topnotch group that has advocated effectively for hundreds of causes since the ‘60s. www.earthjustice.org

Rocky Mountain Institute
Amory Lovins’ “think-and-do tank” is dedicated to incubating technology and policy solutions, working with business and military, pursuing “soft-path” visions of the future. www.rmi.org

International Forum on Globalization
Jerry Mander’s group was built to challenge globalization of capitalist institutions like the WTO, to work on systemic change at the nexus of economic and environmental issues. www.ifg.org

Nature Conservancy
Originally established by scientists to save ecologically important land, it has grown into the premier private land-conservation organization – recently racked by controversy over developing and disposing of land. www.nature.org

Conservation International
A breakaway from the Nature Conservancy, CI does state-of-the-art conservation all over the world. www.conservation.org
World Wildlife Fund
Founded by European princes to save charismatic megafauna like the African elephant, WWF pursued not just preserves, but integrated conservation and development, as well as innovative studies like Tom Lovejoy’s Forest Fragments Project in the Amazon
www.worldwildlife.org

Rainforest Action Network (RAN)
The radical force for saving rainforests, RAN took on corporations, fought against beef, pulp and palm-oil threats. Now it has moved on to energy and climate issues.
www.ran.org

Earth First!
Founded by veteran organizers to embody “No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth,” Earth First! was an anti-group with no membership. Only pieces of it remain extant: Earth First! Speakers Bureau http://earthfirstspeakersbureau.wordpress.com and a journal published out of Florida. More impressive and important are all the groups it spawned: the Wildlands Network; Wilderness Watch; Judi Bari, Darryl Cherney and the Headwaters Forest battles in California; Mike Roselle’s many groups, from RAN to the Ruckus Society and Climate Ground Zero; and the Center for Biological Diversity.

Center for Biological Diversity
From scrappy beginnings out of Earth First! CBD developed a leading role using legal challenges to save endangered species and their habitat.
http://www.biologicaldiversity.org

Global Exchange
This organization has 25 years of promoting human rights, justice and sustainability around the world. Known for fair trade and green festivals, now a new generation of organizers are working on community rights and green economy as well as fighting fracking. http://www.globalexchange.org

Food and Water Watch
This group works on sustainable food systems, public control of water and fighting privatization of common resources. It is based in DC with 15 regional offices.
http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org

Avaaz
Barely five years old, Avaaz has exploded to become the world’s largest online activist network. It has 25 million members in 194 countries, campaigning in fifteen languages, taking on an amazing range of issues. http://avaaz.org

Global Call for Climate Action (GCCA)
It is an international alliance of 270 NGO’s, their initial campaign was Tck, Tck, Tck, aimed at a climate deal at COP15 in Copenhagen. http://gc-ca.org
Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families
This is a national effort to protect people from toxic chemicals, organized by a broad alliance of health, labor, environmental, learning and parent organizations. http://saferchemicals.org

World Resources Institute
It is a center for policy research and analysis addressing global resource and environmental issues. http://www.wri.org

Environmental Working Group
This environmental health research and advocacy organization is known for exposing harmful chemicals in food and consumer products. http://www.ewg.org

Worldwatch Institute
This longtime research organization is known for their “State of the World” reports, which are international in scope. http://www.worldwatch.org

Earth Policy Institute
This is a think tank and platform for Lester Brown. http://www.earth-policy.org

WiserEarth
This is a social network for sustainability, which was established by Paul Hawken. http://www.wiser.org

Trust for Public Land
This land-conservation organization is focused on protecting wilderness, water, working lands (such as farming and ranchland) and urban spaces. http://www.tpl.org

Resource Renewal Institute (RRI)

International Rivers Network
This organization fights against big-dam building and the destruction of rivers worldwide. http://www.internationalrivers.org

Oceana
This international organization is focused on ocean conservation. http://oceana.org

Credo
It is the activist arm of Working Assets. http://credoaction.com

Climate Reality Project
Al Gore’s group presents inconvenient truths about the climate crisis. www.climaterealityproject.org
Interfaith Power & Light
This is an alliance of religious groups responding to climate change.
http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org

Tar Sands Action
This group was formed to oppose the Keystone XL Pipeline.
http://www.tarsandsaction.org

Idle No More
One of the largest indigenous mass movements in Canadian history, it opposes tar-sands development and much more. http://www.idlenomore.ca

Code Pink
This women-led grassroots group is active is the peace and social-justice movement.
www.codepink4peace.org

Amazon Watch
This group fights for the Amazon forests and people. http://amazonwatch.org

Pachamama Alliance
This group works with indigenous peoples in the Amazon. http://www.pachamama.org

Earth Island Institute
David Brower established this group, a project incubator and involved in public education. http://www.eaarthisland.org

Wildlands Network
This network involves conservation biologists creating wildlife corridors and connecting ecosystems.
http://www.twp.org

Campaign for American Wilderness
Founded by Doug Scott, it is a campaigner and funder for wilderness conservation.
http://www.pewenvironment.org/campaigns/campaign-for-americas-wilderness/id/62078

Wilderness Society
Aldo Leopold and other pioneers of wilderness preservation founded this storied group.
http://wilderness.org

Izaak Walton League
This early conservation group has 250 chapters. http://www.iwla.org

Defenders of Wildlife
It is a venerable organization of wildlife advocates. http://www.defenders.org
Ecology Action
Jon Jeavons’ organization has focused on teaching Grow Biointensive sustainable mini-farming techniques in 134 countries for 41 years. [www.growbiointensive.org](http://www.growbiointensive.org)

Local land trusts & agricultural land trusts
There are too many to list, almost every community has some group working to save local wetlands, forests, farms or open spaces.
Regional & Local

California

Green Action, Bradley Angel  http://greenaction.org  (415) 284 5600

Communities for a Better Environment  http://www.cbecal.org  Northern CA: (510) 302-0430  Southern CA: (323) 826-9771

West County Toxics Coalition, Richmond CA  http://www.westcountytoxicscoalition.org

Richmond Progressive Alliance  http://www.richmondprogressivealliance.net

EPIC (Environmental Protection Information Center)  http://www.wildcalifornia.org

Battle Creek Alliance, Montgomery Creek  http://www.thebattlecreekalliance.org

Conservation Congress  http://conservationcongress-ca.org

Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch  http://www.ebbettpassforestwatch.org

Klamath Forest Alliance  http://klamathforestalliance.org

Siskiyou Land Conservancy  http://siskiyouland.wordpress.com

Butte Environmental Council  http://www.becnet.org

Friends of the Swainson’s Hawk  http://www.swainsonshawk.org

Wild Equity Institute  http://wildequity.org

Sequoia ForestKeeper  http://www.sequoiarestkeeper.org

Los Padres ForestWatch  http://lpfw.org


ECOS (Environmental Council of Sacramento)  http://www.ecosacramento.net  (916) 444-0022

Central California Environmental Justice Network  http://ccejn.wordpress.com

Central Valley Air Quality Coalition, Fresno  http://www.calcleanair.org  (559) 442-4771
Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment  http://www.crpe-ej.org  Delano: (661) 720-9140  San Francisco: (415) 346-4179

El Pueblo Para Aire y Agua Limpio/People for Clean Air and Water of Kettleman City, Maricela Mares-Alatorre (559) 816-9298

Dolores Huerta Foundation, Bakersfield  http://www.doloreshuerta.org  (661) 322-3033

El Quinto Sol de America, Lindsay (Tulare Co.)  http://www.elquintosoldeamerica.org  559-756-1153

Heal the Bay, Santa Monica  http://healthbay.org  (310) 451-1500

Tree People, Los Angeles  http://www.treepeople.org  (818) 753-4600

Friends of the Los Angeles River  http://folar.org  (323) 223-0585

East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, City of Commerce  Angelo Logan  http://eycej.org  (323) 263-2113

Pacoima Beautiful, Los Angeles  http://www.pacoimabeautiful.org  (818) 899-2454

SCOPE (Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education), Los Angeles  http://www.scopela.org  (323) 789-7920

Black Women for Wellness, Los Angeles  http://www.bwwla.com

Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, Riverside and the Inland Empire, Penny Newman  http://www.ccaej.org  (951) 360-8451

Environmental Health Coalition, San Diego  http://www.environmentalhealth.org  (619) 474-0220

Just Transition Alliance, San Diego  http://www.jtalliance.org  (619) 573-4934

San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper  www.epicenteronline.org

Northwest

Cascadia Wildlands, Eugene, OR  http://www.cascwild.org  (541) 434-1463

Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Ashland, OR  www.kswild.org  (541) 488-5789

Oregon Natural Desert Association, Bend, OR  www.onda.org  (541) 330-2638
Neighbors for Clean Air, Portland, OR  www.whatsinourair.org
Center for Environmental Equity, Portland, OR  http://www.nevermined.org
Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, OR http://bluemtnsbiodiversity.wordpress.com
Northwest Ecosystem Survey Team, OR http://nestcascadia.wordpress.com
Oregonians for Farm and Food Rights: http://farmandfoodrights.org/
BARK- Defending and Restoring Mt Hood Forest : http://www.bark-out.org/
Columbia River Keepers: http://columbiariverkeeper.org/
Friends of Living Oregon Waters: http://oregonwaters.org/
Oregon Citizens Against Pipelines: http://oregonfirst.net/OCAP/
1,000 Friends of Oregon: http://www.friends.org/
Water Watch of Oregon: http://waterwatch.org/
Oregon Environmental Council: http://www.oeconline.org/
Environment Oregon: http://www.environmentoregon.org/
Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides: http://www.pesticides.org/
Oregon Tilth: http://tilth.org/
Friends of Family Farmers: http://www.friendsoffamilyfarmers.org/
Oregon League of Conservation Voters: http://www.olcv.org/
Mountaineers, Seattle, WA http://www.mountaineers.org (206) 521-6000
Bainbridge Graduate Institute, Seattle, WA http://www.bgi.edu (206) 855-9559
Sustainable Seattle http://www.sustainableseattle.org (206) 622-3522
Conservation Northwest, Bellingham, WA http://www.conservationnw.org (360) 671-9950
Washington Environmental Council, Seattle, WA  http://wecprotects.org  (206) 631-2600
Association for the Protection of Hammersley, Eld & Totten Inlets, WA  http://www.apheti.org
Western Lands Project, Seattle, WA  http://www.westernlands.org
ACAT (Alaska Community Action on Toxics) http://www.akaction.org  (907) 222-7714
Cook Inletkeeper, Anchorage, AK  http://inletkeeper.org
Alaska Wilderness League  http://www.alaskawild.org

Mountain West

Peaceful Uprising, Salt Lake City, UT  http://www.peacefuluprising.org  (801) 747-9871
Utah Environmental Congress, Salt Lake City, UT  http://www.uec-utah.org
Living Rivers, Moab, UT  http://livingrivers.org
Glen Canyon Institute, Salt Lake City, UT  http://www.glencanyon.org
Red Rock Forests, Moab, UT  http://www.redrockforests.org/
Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Reno, NV  www.nevadawilderness.org  (775) 324-7667
Save the Scenic Santa Ritas, Tucson, AZ  http://www.scenicsantaritas.org
Arizona Wilderness Coalition, Tucson, AZ  http://www.azwild.org
Sky Island Alliance, Tucson, AZ  http://www.skyislandalliance.org
Sonoran Institute, Tucson, AZ  http://www.sonoraninstitute.org
Don’t Waste Arizona, Phoenix, AZ  http://dontwastearizona.org
New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, Albuquerque, NM  www.nmwild.org  (505) 843-8696
New Mexico Environmental Law Center, Santa Fe, NM  www.nmelc.org
Southwest Research and Information Center, Albuquerque, NM  www.sric.org

Colorado Environmental Coalition, Denver, CO http://conservationco.org  (303) 534-7066

Sheep Mountain Alliance, Telluride, CO http://www.sheepmountainalliance.org

Wilderness Workshop, Carbondale, CO http://www.wildernessworkshop.org

Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative, CO (303) 447-9409

Southern Plains Land Trust, Centennial, CO http://www.southernplains.org

San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, Alamosa, CO http://www.slvec.org

Wild Connections, Colorado Springs, CO http://www.wildconnections.org

Quiet Use Coalition, Salida, CO http://www.quietuse.org

Prairie Preservation Alliance, Broomfield, CO

Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, Laramie, WY http://www.voiceforthewild.org

Cottonwood Law Center, WY http://cottonwoodlaw.org

Greater Yellowstone Coalition, in MT, WY & ID www.greateryellowstone.org  (406) 586-1593

Montana Environmental Information Center, Helena, MT http://www.meic.org  (406) 443-2520

Northern Plains Resource Council, Bozeman, MT www.northernplains.org (406) 248-1154

Wilderness Watch, Missoula, MT http://www.wildernesswatch.org  (406) 542.2048

Montana Wilderness Association, Helena, MT http://wildmontana.org (406) 443-7350

Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument, MT http://www.missouribreaks.org

Swan View Coalition, Kalispell, MT http://www.swanview.org

WildWest Institute, Missoula, MT http://www.wildwestinstitute.org

Yaak Valley Forest Council, Troy, MT http://yaakvalley.org
Idaho Conservation League  http://www.idahoconservation.org  (208) 345-6933
Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Sand Point, ID  www.scotchmanpeaks.org

Great Plains & Midwest

Democracy In Action, Rapid City, SD  http://www.sddia.org
Dakota Rural Action, Brookings, SD  http://dakotarural.org  (605) 697-5204
The Norbeck Society, Rapid City, SD  http://www.norbecksociety.com
Indigenous Environmental Network, Bemidji, MN  http://ieneearth.org  (218) 751-4967
Environmental Justice Advocates of Minnesota  http://www.ejammn.org
Voyageurs National Park Association, Minneapolis, MN  http://voyageurs.org
MLAWD (Michigan Land Air Water Defense)  http://mlawd.org
Voices for Earth Justice  Southfield, MI  http://www.voices4earth.org  248-351-9001
an interfaith network
Midwest Pesticide Action Center, Chicago, IL  http://www.midwestpesticideaction.org  
(773) 878-7378
Heartwood, Bloomington IN  https://www.heartwood.org
a regional alliance protecting forests
Buckeye Forest Council, OH  http://buckeyeforestcouncil.org
Newton County Wildlife Assn, Jasper, AR  http://www.grassrootsozark.net
Kentucky Resources Council  Frankfort, KY  (502) 875 2428  http://www.kyrc.org
Kentucky Heartwood, Berea, KY  http://www.kyheartwood.org(859) 334-0602
REACT – Rubbertown Emergency Action, Louisville, KY  
http://dis.ijs.si/mitjal/genre/online/data/file0397.htm

Massachusetts & New England

Massachusetts League of Environmental Voters  http://mlev.org
Trustees of Reservations, MA  http://www.thetrustees.org
e-inc., Boston, MA  http://e-action.us

Mass Audubon  http://www.massaudubon.org

RESTORE The North Woods, Hallowell, ME  http://www.restore.org  (207) 626-5635

Friends of Merrymeeting Bay, ME  http://www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org  207-666-3372

Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice

Cape Cool, Cape Cod, MA  http://www.capecool.org

Mid-Atlantic

WE ACT (West Harlem Environmental Action)  New York, NY  http://www.weact.org  (212) 961-1000 Peggy Shepard

United Against Fracking  www.unitedforaction.org www.nyagainstfracking.org  (917) 514-0700 David Braun

For a Better Bronx  http://www.forabetterbronx.org

Love Canal Medical Fund, Niagara Falls, NY  http://www.lcmf.org  (716) 773 - 6578

Protecting Our Waters, Philadelphia, PA  www.protectingourwaters.com  (215) 840-6489 Iris Marie Bloom

Allegheny Defense Project, PA  http://www.alleghenynodefense.org

Casselman River Watershed Association, PA  http://www.casselmanriver.org

Climate Ground Zero, WV  http://climategroundzero.net  304-854-7372
opposition to mountaintop removal coal mining

Coal River Mountain Watch, WV  http://crmw.net

Friends of Blackwater, Charleston, WV  http://www.saveblackwater.org

West Virginia Environmental Council, Charleston, WV  http://www.wvecouncil.org

West Virginia Highlands Conservancy  http://www.wvhighlands.org
Southeast

Wild Virginia, Charlottesville, VA http://www.wildvirginia.org

Virginia Forest Watch, Ashland VA http://www.virginiaforestwatch.org

Wild South, Asheville, NC (828) 258-2667 & Moulton, AL (256) 974-6166 http://woldsouth.org

Dogwood Alliance, Asheville, NC http://www.dogwoodalliance.org alliance of forest groups

Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, Glendale Springs, NC http://www.bredl.org (336) 982-2691

Appalachian Voices, Boone, NC http://appvoices.org

Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition, Asheville, NC http://www.safc.org

Stop Titan Action Network, Wilmington, NC http://stoptitan.org fighting against cement plant

Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, Franklin, NC http://www.ltlt.org 828-524-2711

South Carolina Environmental Law Project http://www.scelp.org

Environmental Community Action (ECO-Action) GA http://eco-act.org (404) 584-6499

Environment Georgia Research and Policy Center, Decatur, GA http://www.environmentgeorgiacenter.org

Ogeechee Riverkeeper, Statesboro, GA http://www.ogeecheeriverkeeper.org

Palm Beach County Environmental Coalition, FL http://pbcec.blogspot.com

South Florida Wildlands Association, Fort Lauderdale https://www.facebook.com/southfloridawild

BURNT (Bring Urban Recycling to Nashville Today), TN http://burnttn.wordpress.com

Cherokee Forest Voices, Johnson City, TN http://www.cherokeeforestvoices.org

LEAN (Louisiana Environmental Action Network) Baton Rouge http://leanweb.org (225) 928-1315
Advocates for Environmental Human Rights  http://www.ehumanrights.org
Monique Harden, New Orleans, LA  504.799.3060  Michele Roberts, Washington DC  202-775-0055

Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, New Orleans, LA
http://www.dscej.org

Air Alliance Houston  http://airalliancehouston.org

Southwest Workers Union  San Antonio, TX  http://swunion.org  210.299.2666

TEJAS (Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services)
http://www.tejasbarrios.org

Galveston Baykeeper  (281)639-3503  http://galvestonbaykeeper.org

Canada

Council of Canadians  http://www.canadians.org
National office (613) 233-2773  inquiries@canadians.org
British Columbia and Yukon (604) 688-8846  bc-yukon@canadians.org
Prairies-NWT (780) 429-4500  prairies@canadians.org
Ontario, Quebec and Nunavut (416) 979-5554  ontario-quebec@canadians.org
Atlantic (902) 422-7811  atlantic@canadians.org

Burns Bog Conservation Society,  Delta, BC  https://www.burnsbog.org

Save The Cedar League,  Robson Valley, BC  http://www.savethecedarleague.org