

WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE 2022 Impact Report

Thousands of local actions in
support of one global goal.

300+

Waterkeeper groups in 46 countries patrol and protect 2.6 million square miles of watersheds on six continents.

Movement-wide,
we have more than

1,000

staff, 1 million volunteers
and supporters.

Waterkeeper Alliance is a
top-ranked 501(c)(3) charity,
with Top-Rated status from
Charity Watch,



from Charity Navigator, and
Platinum Transparency from Candid,
formerly known as GuideStar.

Thousands of local actions in
support of one global goal.





CEO LETTER

Waterkeeper Movement,

I am proud to present the Waterkeeper Alliance 2022 Impact Report.

It's a new fiscal year, but our commitment to solutions with impact and purpose remains unchanged. Like those who came before us, we don't back down from a challenge, but continue to find new, innovative ways to confront existing and emerging threats to our water environment.

At Waterkeeper Alliance, we have always believed that change begins at the local level. Looking back at the last year, I am inspired by all the great work we have accomplished in communities around the world. Thousands of local actions may seem as small as drops of water; but when taken together, they become a wave of support for one global goal: protecting the right to clean water for all.

This last year, we challenged governments at almost every level, took polluters to court, encouraged our supporters to rally for better regulatory protections, and acted as fierce advocates for countless watersheds.

We also grew our movement with the addition of new Waterkeeper groups in the United States and abroad. We welcomed new staff at Waterkeeper Alliance, including new hires to our Communications, Development, Operations, Training, and Organizing departments. We also made some changes to our governance structure to better represent our diverse global constituency while keeping operations streamlined, transparent, and expedient.

In the United States, we kicked off the countdown to the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act by sharing our ACT50 Priorities, promoting ACT50 events around the country, and highlighting major Waterkeeper victories — all while keeping constant pressure on the federal government to fulfill the landmark legislation's potential. Globally, we worked with our international Waterkeepers to develop a tool to compare the Clean Water Act with other countries' water quality laws. We intend to keep our mission of drinkable, fishable, swimmable water for all going strong, and in every part of the world, for the next fifty years and beyond through groundbreaking water quality monitoring efforts, advocacy, policy, enforcement, and oversight.

We also held our first global conference in four years. Waterkeepers from all over the world gathered in Washington, D.C. for five days of brainstorming, learning, and much-missed camaraderie. The past few years have taught us that there is no substitute for the invaluable opportunity to share stories, solutions, and strategies with one another. Operating as a united front is the only way to stand up to what may be the greatest environmental crisis of our generation and those to come.

As we review highlights from our last fiscal year and embark on a new one, we want to thank you for your determination to protect our waterways and increase the impact of our global water movement. We are grateful for your support as we continue to advance our shared mission of protecting everyone's right to clean water. This work is more important than ever, and we could not do it without you.

To clean water,

Marc Yaggi
Chief Executive Officer

COURTING OUTCOMES

Staying true to our roots, whether in the court of law or the court of public opinion, we used every legal remedy to keep polluters at bay and advocate for clean water for all.



TAKING ON FACTORY FARMS

We continued to sound the alarm on concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) by using aerial photography, water monitoring, and other tools at our disposal to show the destructive impacts these factory farms have on water quality and the surrounding communities. When the state of North Carolina proposed adopting new general permit requirements for CAFOs to install biogas digesters, we mobilized supporters statewide to attend hearings and provide comments against this reckless scheme. In the *Raleigh News and Observer*, president Gloria Reuben wrote an op-ed on the urgent need for more transparency surrounding these poorly regulated facilities. Working with Duke Law, we also created an ArcGIS StoryMap for the general public that breaks down CAFO pollution issues by combining infographics, photos, and videos with powerful data visualization tools. We also filed a legal brief supporting constitutional claims raised by Mayan children who oppose approval and operation of a massive industrial hog farm on ecologically sensitive and culturally important lands in the Yucatán Peninsula.

GAINING GROUND IN GLASGOW

We had Waterkeeper boots on the ground at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change conference (UNFCCC COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland. We marched in the streets, delivered a Rivers for Climate Declaration to the UNFCCC, and secured a follow up meeting with the International Energy Agency. We provided travel stipends to allow three Indigenous youth leaders to participate in the COP and earned permanent status as an Official Observer Organization to allow for improved participation in future UNFCCC COPs and other UN events.



BANNING OIL DRILLING IN THE BAHAMAS

Working with the Our Islands Our Future coalition, we successfully advocated for The Bahamas to deny an offshore drilling lease renewal after meeting with local stakeholders and appearing on several media broadcasts to raise awareness on the issue. We researched Bahamian law, international agreements, recent policy announcements, as well as global policy trends to propose a pathway forward for establishing a permanent ban on oil drilling in The Bahamas. We are proud to have worked with the country's leaders as they weigh this historic opportunity to become a global leader in the transition away from fossil fuels to a clean energy economy. We look forward to working with them on a more permanent ban that would signal to any would-be oil prospectors that The Bahamas is not open for this dirty business.



PROTECTING PUBLIC LANDS

We filed a lawsuit against the Department of the Interior and U.S. Bureau of Land Management's approval of oil and gas lease sales on public lands. Fossil fuels pollute our waterways and climate throughout their life cycle. Nearly a quarter of all U.S. greenhouse gases emissions come from fossil fuel extraction on public lands and waters. It's not feasible to meet the aggressive emission targets needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change if we continue to extract fossil fuels, especially on public lands. We will continue to oppose any projects or policies that delay our necessary transition to clean and renewable energy.

KEEPING RIVERS RUNNING FREE

In Nepal, we continued to assist Karnali River Waterkeeper and Nepal Rivers Conservation Trust in the Save the Karnali Campaign with a petition and an international law partnership to defeat dam proposals on Nepal's last-remaining free flowing river.



PHASING OUT PLASTIC POLLUTION

We took a multipronged approach to confronting the plastic pollution crisis. We shined a light on and urged support for urgently needed legislation, including the Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act, as well as the Reducing Waste in National Parks Act. These efforts resulted in thousands of letters to Congress and petition signatures. On Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., we helped lead a congressional briefing to speak out on the dangers of plastic pollution, which resulted in a subsequent hearing before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means. After months of dedicated advocacy work with our partners at the Break Free From Plastic movement, the Department of Interior announced plans to phase out single-use plastics at all National Parks properties.



FIGHTING OFFSHORE DRILLING IN SENEGAL

We continued to oppose offshore drilling in Senegal with campaign planning assistance, advocacy support, and grants to Bargny Coast Waterkeeper and Hann Baykeeper. This project would disrupt the local fishing economy, displace homes, increase pollution, and potentially lead to catastrophic spills. We will continue to oppose this dangerous plan at every turn.

RIGHTING REGULATORY WRONGS

At every opportunity, we have sought to repair the damage done by previous administrations' attempts to weaken clean water regulations. Whether it is Clean Water Act Section 401, the Endangered Species Act, or 'Waters of the United States' (WOTUS), this type of regulatory reversal work allows our environmental laws to operate as intended and ensures our waterways have the strongest possible legal protections.

INFORMING ACTIVISM

Through our *Dive Into Democracy* blog and email series, we informed and engaged our U.S. audience about the most pressing clean water issues of the day and rallied more than **33,000** of our followers to take nearly **60,000** actions.

We sounded the alarm on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), a group of emerging contaminants linked to several harmful public health impacts that contaminate waterways. We urged our supporters to tell the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set commonsense discharge limits and stop contamination of these forever chemicals at the source.

We petitioned the White House Council on Environmental Quality to restore the National Environmental Policy Act, a crucial cornerstone of environmental law intended to assess significant environmental impacts a federal action may have before it can begin.

We rallied support for the Environmental Justice Legacy Pollution Cleanup Act, long overdue legislation geared toward rectifying the injustice endured by our most vulnerable communities through real investments designed to right the wrongs of racial injustice.

We once again urged support for the Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act, desperately needed legislation aimed at combating the plastic crisis that is overwhelming countless waterways.

We helped ensure all Americans have safe drinking water by pressuring EPA to expand its contaminant candidate list under the Safe Drinking Water Act to include existing and emerging threats.



We highlighted the dangers of methane on the heels of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report and directed our supporters to leave comments with EPA demanding the strongest possible regulations.

We advocated support for a historic piece of legislation, the Farm System Reform Act, that would combat the monopolistic practices of the agricultural industry and finally rein in the scourge of CAFOs.

We shined a light on nonpoint source pollution, the largest unaddressed source of water pollution in the U.S., and encouraged our followers to leave comments with EPA suggesting the agency direct newly available infrastructure funds to assist communities with mitigation and remediation.

We urged our supporters to leave a comment with EPA to redefine the definition of WOTUS in order to fully restore Clean Water Act protections for the nation's waters and ensure that everyone can enjoy their right to clean water.

We directed our supporters to leave comments with EPA to reaffirm the Mercury and Air Toxic Standards rule and fully regulate coal- and oil-fired power plants' emissions of highly toxic mercury into the ecosystems and our waterways.

CELEBRATING ACT50

The year 2022 is special for the Waterkeeper movement as we prepare to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act, a historical cornerstone law for our U.S. advocacy.

Before the Clean Water Act was passed into law on October 18, 1972, waters across the United States were choked by pollution. Though there have been many successes, and it has historically been a cornerstone of our U.S. advocacy work, the Act has not reached its full potential over the past five decades. The objective of this law was to ensure water quality in all American waterways is fully restored and maintained by eliminating all pollution discharges.

THAT’S WHY WE’RE CALLING ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE CLEAN WATER ACT AND EMPOWER THE LAW TO SUCCEED FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS AND BEYOND.

To rally the nation's support of this goal and to inspire worldwide action for clean water, we developed and rolled out our ACT50 initiative on World Water Day 2022 in March. Kicking off the countdown to the October anniversary, the launch included a dynamic ACT50 webpage — waterkeeper.org/ACT50 — that aims to educate, engage, and empower everyone to help advance four key advocacy priorities:

PRIORITY #1	WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES (WOTUS) We are urging EPA to fully restore the broad regulatory definition of WOTUS and provide Clean Water Act protections for American waterbodies and wetlands as the law originally intended.
PRIORITY #2	INDUSTRIAL CONCENTRATED ANIMAL MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTION We are rallying support for a transition away from food systems that rely on multinational corporations and CAFOs through legislation—like the Farm System Reform Act— strengthening and enforcing regulations and permits to control pollution, and ensuring transparency and opportunities for public participation in permitting decisions that dramatically impact health and welfare.
PRIORITY #3	NONPOINT SOURCE AND STORMWATER POLLUTION We are urging the government to prioritize newly available infrastructure funding to assist communities in managing nonpoint source pollution, the largest unaddressed source of water pollution in the country, and to fully enforce Clean Water Act requirements for stormwater permits and combined sewer overflows.
PRIORITY #4	EMERGING CONTAMINANTS, PFAS, AND PLASTIC We asked EPA to use their existing authority and new infrastructure funding to work with other federal agencies, states, and Tribes to monitor, clean up, and place limits on the discharge of PFAS, emerging contaminants, and plastics. We are also supporting the Clean Water Standards for PFAS Act and the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act to further control this pollution.

SPOTLIGHT ON ACT50 ACTIONS

- We highlighted **50** Clean Water Act victories in a dynamic and interactive ArcGIS map on the ACT50 webpage.
- We promoted **160+** Clean Water Act events that U.S. Waterkeeper groups held throughout the country.
- We filed an amicus brief with the Supreme Court of the United States to defend the Clean Water Act from efforts to substantially narrow the definition of WOTUS.
- We worked to connect all U.S. Waterkeeper groups with their Regional EPA Administrators and advocated for EPA to make water quality a key priority.
- We launched an unprecedented nationwide initiative with more than **130** Waterkeeper groups testing American surface waters for PFAS contamination. A report of the findings will be rolled out in the Fall of 2022.
- We took **7** regulatory actions on WOTUS, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, Pollution Limits, and Nutrient Pollution.
- We participated in **4** hearings and sent **18** letters to regulators.
- We engaged in **4** legal cases.
- We created a Clean Water Act Comparison Tool for non-U.S. Waterkeepers.



Lights, Camera, Advocacy

A film crew from American University's Center for Environmental Filmmaking dropped by our Global Conference in June 2022 to capture interviews for their documentary, “Upstream, Down River.” Featuring Patuxent Riverkeeper Fred Tutman, the film tells the story of the Clean Water Act, its value to the nation, and the water equity challenges ahead. Marc Yaggi and twenty Waterkeepers from several U.S. states, Bangladesh, the Bahamas, Mexico, and Nepal were also interviewed about the unique challenges facing their watersheds and the importance of law enforcement, advocacy, and community engagement. Developed in partnership with the Center For Environmental Policy, American Rivers, Clean Water For All consortium, River Network, Chesapeake Waterkeepers, and others, the film will debut in September 2022 at the Clean Water Act symposium in Washington, D.C.

EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE

Waterkeepers must adapt and nimbly respond to a barrage of evolving and emerging water quality challenges. We work to ensure that Waterkeepers can learn from experts and each other to better anticipate, address, and stand against a myriad of threats to clean water and their communities.

A resource library with nearly 1,400 items, used by over 600 users, representing nearly 75% of all Waterkeeper groups.

38
CONFERENCE
SESSIONS

25
WEBINARS

13
SUMMIT
SESSIONS

13
ON-DEMAND
TRAININGS

SUBJECTS MATTER

We led conversations on the rights of nature, plastic pollution, working with Tribes, as well as justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, among many other timely subjects. We were also extremely proud to lead a three-part series on safety and security for our Waterkeepers in Latin America. These sessions, which were held in Spanish, covered Risk Assessment and Crisis Management, Virtual Security, and an introduction to Physical and Personal Security.

TAKING IT TO THE SKIES

Upper Potomac Riverkeeper and certified drone pilot, Brent Walls, worked with our Training department to finalize and launch a five-part series that prepared Waterkeepers to pass the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 107 exam required to commercially fly a drone. Mostly conducted

online, the final installment of the series was held as part of our 2022 Global Conference with an in-person training in Poolesville, Maryland.

Waterkeepers from Maine, Oklahoma, Montana, South Carolina, and Washington state have all successfully completed the training and passed the FAA exam. With online training available at no charge, all Waterkeeper groups can use this technology for compelling visual storytelling to better track and monitor the health of their waterways, and to gain unobstructed access for evidence gathering.

Casco Baykeeper in Maine will use aerial photos and videos to track eelgrass beds as data for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits; document stormwater plumes and algal blooms; increase oil spill preparedness; and build public affinity for the Bay.

Grand Riverkeeper in Oklahoma will increase the effectiveness of their monitoring program through improved assessment of runoff patterns from tailings piles at the Tar Creek Superfund site; the observation of upswells of acid mine water that are not safely accessible by foot; the recording of operating conditions of agriculture facilities; and documenting toxic water flows during flood events.

North Sound Baykeeper in Washington will patrol agricultural and industrial lands, a likely source of bacteria contributing to the decline of tribal shellfish beds; monitor illegal shoreline armoring; share footage with donors and supporters to provide a different perspective of the watershed; and support community science projects.

Upper Missouri Waterkeeper in Montana will enhance coordination between their outreach and education programs by coupling sought-after footage with remote water samples to monitor temperature and algal blooms – two of the leading causes of river impairment and top contributors to the decline of their world-class blue ribbon fisheries.

Waccamaw Riverkeeper in South Carolina will conduct site inspections to identify wetlands and floodplain impact in order to evaluate erosion threats and stormwater pond functionality. This will include post-construction sites to confirm illicit pollution discharges; monitoring capacity to scan for source pollution; documenting litter hotspots; conducting investigations after weather events; and capturing footage to amplify their advocacy messaging.



A feature article about the training, “Enviros Train Drone Pilots to Find and Pursue Pollution,” by Associated Press reporters Michael Phillis and Julio Cortez was picked up by the Washington Post and hundreds of top-tier, regional, and digital news outlets across the country for a readership of 204m, our highest-ranked earned media for fiscal year 2022.

“The in-person drone training was a great opportunity to get hands-on experience flying, learn more about how the drone can be used to survey and monitor the waterways in our basin, and connect with fellow Waterkeeper groups using drone technology. I’m excited to implement the drone into our current programs, including collecting water samples in hard-to-access locations and capturing compelling imagery to enhance our outreach efforts.”

Quincey Johnson, Upper Missouri River Waterkeeper

“The drone training was a stellar program. Brent Walls is a top-notch teacher and has a wealth of experience working with drones as a Waterkeeper. Learning the regulations and pilot safety knowledge necessary to pass the FAA exam, and learning to actually operate a drone would have been far more difficult without Brent’s and Waterkeeper Alliance’s support. Now with some flying experience under my belt, I feel prepared to begin pursuing drone projects in Casco Bay (Maine): tracking eutrophication, capturing video footage for clean water communications, and training with the Coast Guard to support oil spill and other disaster response protocols.”

Robby Lewis-Nash, Casco Baykeeper

COMING TOGETHER



We reunited after four years apart at our 2022 Waterkeeper Alliance Global Conference in Washington, D.C. in June. Thanks to the efforts of staff and our local hosts — Anacostia Riverkeeper, Waterkeepers Chesapeake, and Potomac Riverkeeper Network — the Capital Hilton served as a home base to a stream of Waterkeepers arriving from all over the world. Old friends reconnected after a long absence while some met for the very first time.

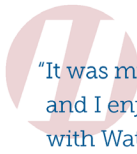
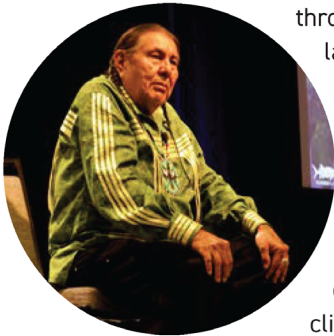
We made the most of our host city location with visits to Capitol Hill to lobby members of Congress about key priorities such as PFAS, WOTUS, CAFOs, plastics, and more. The Action Day, co-organized with American Rivers and River Network, included meetings with the offices of Senators Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, Cory Booker, Michael Bennet, John Hickenlooper, and Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, as well as the offices of Representatives Lee Zeldin and Kat Cammack. Across town, President Gloria Reuben, CEO Marc Yaggi, and key advocacy staff also met with EPA's Office of the Administrator, Office of Water, and Office of Public Engagement.

Back at the hotel, we held nine regional meetings, providing Waterkeeper groups with an in-person platform to discuss specific threats, challenges, and opportunities in their watersheds. These meetings also afforded Waterkeeper groups the opportunity and venue to strategize and elevate ideas and opportunities.

Throughout the week, Waterkeepers selected from a balanced agenda of in-depth learning sessions and panel discussions. Assateague Coastkeeper Gabby Ross discussed the threat of CAFOs. Missouri Confluence Waterkeeper Rachel Bartels highlighted the dangers of microplastics. Rashema Ingraham of Waterkeepers Bahamas discussed how actions can be taken at a local level to protect watersheds and contribute to global climate action. There were also sessions on the Clean Water Act, science communications, working with tribes, and much more.

Waterkeepers were also treated to a number of thought-provoking keynote speakers from Wednesday through Saturday. Highlights included a land acknowledgement by Francis Gray of the D.C.-area Piscataway Conoy Tribe and dinner keynotes from Tom Goldtooth, Executive Director of the Indigenous Environmental Network, and Vivek Maru, founder of Namati, the first global network dedicated to legal empowerment. Both spoke about how our climate predicament is an environmental justice crisis, but were distinct in providing national and global perspectives. Rizwana Hasan, CEO of the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, followed with a final keynote about the importance of recognizing water as a constitutional right. Maru and Hasan respectively hosted lively Q&As with Waterkeepers from Nepal, India, the U.S., and the U.K.

To better connect with the local environment and with respect for Indigenous traditions, Waterkeepers also participated in a Sacred Waters Ceremony led by Rabiah Nur, Ayisah Yusuf, Guillermo Chavez Rosette, and Linda M. Velarde. Nearby Hains Point — where the Potomac River, Anacostia River, and Washington Channel all converge — served as an inspirational setting for a moving event that began with a solemn recognition of Waterkeepers who were lost in body, but who remain in spirit. Water and stones brought by Waterkeepers from their respective watersheds all over the world were combined and blessed, followed by everyone joining in traditional dancing that celebrated water and our cyclical relationship with nature.



"It was my first experience with one of these and I enjoyed the opportunity to network with Waterkeepers from all over the world, be inspired by their work, and the workshops that covered quite a bit of ground."

John Zaktansky, Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper

"After four years it was a bit surreal at first, but the more relaxed atmosphere saw that evaporate. It was good to have more time to speak with people. It felt like there was a more reflective style to the conference."

Theo Thomas, London Waterkeeper

"All of the speakers were incredibly humbling and inspiring. The most valuable part was probably the networking that happened during meals, happy hours, and after the sessions wrapped up for the day. I met so many incredible people from around the country and around the world."

Zack Kelleher, Sassafras Riverkeeper, ShoreRivers

"Hearing about the work that is being done all over the world is priceless information to bring back to my own organization's staff. Water is our common thread, sharing our own experiences and gaining knowledge of global issues is humbling and necessary to continue the important work of Waterkeepers."

Alice Volpitta, Baltimore Harbor Waterkeeper

TERRY BACKER AWARDS

The conference concluded with the popular Terry Backer Awards Banquet that celebrates the amazing accomplishments of our fellow Waterkeepers. This award acknowledges the legacy of the late Terry Backer, the original Long Island Soundkeeper, by honoring individuals who exemplify his grit, tenacity, and effectiveness.



Kathy Phillips, Assateague Coastkeeper was recognized for her tireless commitment as a water defender and mentor. As an outspoken advocate against CAFOs, Kathy was often called upon by those same farmers in their time of need. Now retired, Kathy has passed her legacy to the next generation of Waterkeepers, but will always remain an integral part of the movement.



Rodrigo De La O, Maule Itata Coastkeeper was recognized for being a leader and community builder who works against the odds to defend his local waterways, including helping to stop a power plant and industrial salmon farming projects in Chile, as well as standing strong against large real estate companies that would have destroyed a pristine area in Los Arcos de Calan.



John Wathen, Hurricane Creekkeeper, who dubbed himself one of the "gray beards," accepted his award via video where he encouraged younger Waterkeepers to benefit from the knowledge of those who have come before them, so that together, we can carry on this important work for generations to come.

DEFENDING WORLDWIDE

Waterkeepers bridge the divides of geography, government structures, laws, policies, and more to advance a universal commitment to clean water. With boots on the ground, boats in the water, and drones in the air, Waterkeepers live and work in their communities toward one common goal: to patrol and protect watersheds around the world.

Tennessee Riverkeeper reached a major settlement in their ongoing legal action against industrial conglomerate 3M over contamination of the Tennessee River with PFAS. As part of the settlement, 3M will pay \$98.4 million to address their pollution.

NY/NJ Baykeeper rallied their community to donate old hockey sticks to create local oyster habitats. The program was so successful in Raritan Bay that it has since expanded into nearby waters.

A **Werribee Riverkeeper** volunteer in Australia was awarded the 2021 Lalor Hero Award for their regular clean-up work protecting the Werribee River from litter.

Qiantang River Waterkeeper of Zhejiang, China carried out an investigation of possible industrial pollution and informed their local Environment Bureau, which prompted an official investigation.

London Waterkeeper joined a coalition of environmental groups appealing a United Kingdom high court decision that granted a water company almost total immunity from private suits related to sewage pollution.

Gan River Waterkeeper of Jiangxi, China utilized the recently passed Yangtze River Protection Act to bring a lawsuit against a heavily polluting phosphorus plant.

Niwat Roykaew, of **Waterkeeper Affiliate Chiang Khong Conservation Group** in ChiangKhong, Thailand was selected as a 2022 winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize.

Hackensack Riverkeeper filed a lawsuit under the Clean Water Act against county-based companies for discharging polluted stormwater runoff from a New Jersey scrap metal processing plant and recycling facility.

Hudson Riverkeeper sued to halt the LaGuardia AirTrain, alleging the politically favored project would cause damage to New York's nearby Flushing Bay and was selected without a required assessment of transit alternatives.

A lawsuit brought by **Snake River Waterkeeper** resulted in Idaho Power agreeing to pay a penalty over \$1 million to the Department of Environmental Quality.

Suncoast Waterkeeper converted a \$25,000 donation into a revolving litigation fund that has reached millions of dollars in settlements to mitigate and remediate sewage spills and industrial stormwater enforcement with multi-million dollar water infrastructure improvements and upgrades in the cities of Bradenton, Gulfport, Largo, Sarasota, St. Petersburg, and Tampa Bay.

The Alabama Supreme Court ruled unanimously in favor of **Cahaba Riverkeeper** in their efforts to permanently protect the land that safeguards a major source of Birmingham's drinking water.

Charleston Waterkeeper Andrew Wunderley testified before the South Carolina's State Senate before they passed a "nurdle bill" that will close a loophole allowing companies to dodge responsibility for plastic pellet pollution and bring the pollution under state regulation.

Upper St. Lawrence Riverkeeper helped acquire undeveloped waterfront in Blind Bay that had been targeted for construction of a U.S. Custom and Border Protection Facility.

San Francisco Baykeeper reached a massive settlement in long standing litigation against Levin-Richmond Terminal Corporation over coal dust pollution that requires Levin Terminal to mitigate their current coal dust pollution.

Advocacy by **Congaree Riverkeeper** has resulted in plans by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Dominion Energy to remove 40,000 pounds of toxic tar from South Carolina's Congaree River.

An investigation and lawsuit by **Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper** in Pennsylvania led EPA to take action against Hanover Foods Corporation for illegal pollutant discharges from a wastewater treatment facility.

Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper completed a \$2 million Buffalo Blueway public access project to connect New York residents with nature and increase opportunities for recreation.

Winyah Rivers Alliance, home of Lumber Riverkeeper and Waccamaw Riverkeeper, legally notified Active Energy Renewable Power of the intent to sue unless the company ceases illegal dumping of toxic PFAS into South Carolina's Lumber River.

Thanks to **Miami Waterkeeper**, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced it will require an updated environmental review of Florida's Turkey Point and other aging U.S. nuclear reactors.

Puget Soundkeeper used funds from a Clean Water Act settlement with Boeing to undertake salmon habitat restoration along the Green River in Washington state.

Choptank Riverkeeper worked to rein in pollution from a Valley Proteins poultry rendering plant which resulted in the Maryland Department of the Environment drafting a new permit to limit nitrate and phosphate discharge from the plant.

San Antonio Estuarine Bay Waterkeeper filed a lawsuit in Texas against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over its proposal to dredge the Matagorda Bay shipping channel.

Waterkeepers Bangladesh, Khowai River Waterkeeper, and Surma River Waterkeeper organized a protest to protect the Sundarbans, a delta of mangroves in Bangladesh.

Missouri Confluence Waterkeeper was awarded a substantial, multi-year grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health to fund a clean water initiative in St. Louis, which will cover drinking and source water testing, as well as grassroots efforts to inform clean water policy.

Columbia Riverkeeper reached a \$600,000 settlement agreement with timber company Weyerhaeuser over stormwater discharge exceedances into Oregon's Columbia River.

Baltimore Harbor Waterkeeper filed a lawsuit against Baltimore City demanding repairs to two sewage treatment plants that have contaminated the Chesapeake Bay for over a year.

After **Altamaha Riverkeeper** determined the existence of toxic metal pollution in the river, U.S. Senator Raphael Warnock called on EPA to investigate TAV Holdings, an Atlanta, Georgia metal processing facility.

In Alabama, **Black Warrior Riverkeeper** began taking legal action against coal mining company Drummond over illegal discharge of polluted mine water. Following the threat of litigation, Drummond ceased pumping and discharge of the water.

Bohdan Ferens of **Dnipro River Guardians** in Kyiv, Ukraine celebrated the birth of his daughter in the midst of the war in Ukraine. As Bohdan said, "We do not choose the time we live in, but we have to believe in the victory of light over darkness."



SHARING INSIGHTS

We sought opportunities to make our case, champion our causes, and lead the conversation.

		REACH
July 2021	Profile of CEO Marc Yaggi in China's <i>World Environment</i> magazine.	100k
August 2021	Marc Yaggi wrote an op-ed in <i>The Hill</i> about the false promises of hydropower as a clean energy solution.	42m
September 2021	Marc Yaggi talked about ways manufacturers can reduce water waste and pollution in production during the "Fashion Alternatives to End Ocean Pollution" discussion panel at <i>Fashinnovation's Digital Worldwide Talks</i> .	125k
October 2021	Marc Yaggi wrote an op-ed in <i>The Hill</i> about the urgent need for the U.S. government to fully enforce the Clean Water Act ahead of its 50th anniversary.	42m
	Rick Dove, Senior Advisor, wrote an op-ed in the <i>Raleigh News and Observer</i> about the additional risks that hurricane season poses to the already very dangerous CAFO and lagoon system.	3.5m
January 2022	Larry Baldwin, Campaign Coordinator, Pure Farms, Pure Waters North Carolina, was featured in an article and accompanying video from <i>Vox</i> on hog farming's 'massive poop problem' in North Carolina.	130m 600k views
March 2022	President Gloria Reuben wrote an op-ed in <i>Green Money Journal</i> , about how we cannot afford polluted water and that investment in environmental protections advances a global circular economy.	30k
April 2022	Marc Yaggi delivered a keynote for employees of NTT Data, a global technology and business solutions partner. He spoke about the importance of engagement in clean water protections at all levels.	160 participants
	Gloria Reuben, along with Neuse Riverkeeper Samantha Krop, wrote an op-ed for the <i>Raleigh News and Observer</i> about the need for transparency in North Carolina's agricultural industry.	3.5m
	Marc Yaggi and Gloria Reuben delivered virtual remarks at the Earth Day Initiative and March for Science NYC 2022 Earth Day Festival while Waterkeeper Alliance and Hudson Riverkeeper staff manned an in-person booth in Union Square.	2m viewers 150k attendees
	Marc Yaggi spoke about the importance of supporting clean water upstream to advance sustainable business practices downstream at the <i>SweetWater Brewery 420 Fest</i> in Atlanta, Georgia. We have partnered with SweetWater Brewing Company for the past 10 years on their Save our Water campaign. During that time, SweetWater has donated well over \$1 million to clean water programs across the United States.	30k
June 2022	Marc Yaggi and Gloria Reuben delivered keynote remarks at the 2022 Waterkeeper Alliance Global Conference in Washington, D.C. They also joined staff, Waterkeeper Groups, and other partners to lobby members of Congress and EPA's Office of the Administrator, Office of Water, and Office of Public Engagement about key priorities such as PFAS, WOTUS, CAFOs, plastics, and more.	300+

FORGING CONNECTIONS

We worked with partners and stakeholders outside of our movement to forge new connections, broaden our perspectives, and deepen our influence.

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYERS
We continued our partnership with the American College of Environmental Lawyers (ACOEEL) in support of non-U.S. advocacy, such as opposing dam projects on the Mekong and on the Karnali River in Nepal, as well as other training opportunities for international and domestic Waterkeeper groups.

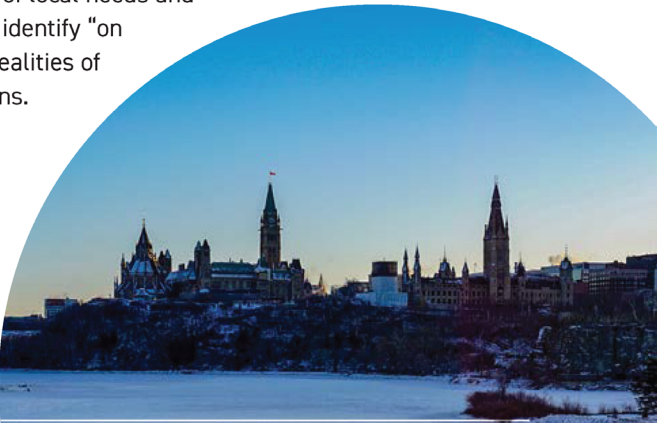
BLUE & YELLOW
We partnered with Blue & Yellow, a sustainable apparel brand from Northern California, to create a limited edition line of t-shirts bearing our iconic sturgeon logo. Created with recycled and upcycled materials, and printed with locally sourced algae ink, it is quite possibly the most sustainable t-shirt ever made. With every purchase, Blue & Yellow makes a \$15 donation to Waterkeeper Alliance and gives a portion to 1% for the Planet, an international non-profit whose members donate at least one percent of their annual sales to environmental causes.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NETWORK
We signed on with the Environmental Protection Network (EPN), a bipartisan organization whose membership includes more than 550 former EPA officials who volunteer their time and expertise to protect the integrity of EPA, human health, and the environment. EPN provides pro bono capacity-building technical assistance to communities experiencing environmental injustices as well as partners, like Waterkeeper Alliance and Waterkeepers groups across the United States, who support them.

ESRI
We announced a new partnership with Esri to provide all Waterkeeper groups with an ArcGIS subscription, including increased storage capacity to host large data sets. This offering will provide Waterkeeper groups with a wide array of new opportunities in analysis, visualization, and storytelling.

HSBC
We joined Hudson Riverkeeper, Randall's Island Park Alliance, and volunteers from HSBC for an invasive species cleanup on New York's Randall's Island. Situated between the boroughs of Manhattan, Queens, and The Bronx, Randall's Island is a beloved local recreation area for New Yorkers and a critical stopover for migratory birds passing through New York City on the Atlantic Flyway.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
We received accreditation from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the coordinating body for the United Nations' regional and international environmental activities. UNEP status gives Waterkeeper Alliance the opportunity to participate in UNEP Assembly meetings and sessions as well as to comment on unedited documents that will ultimately go to the UN Environment Assembly. This access increases Waterkeepers' ability to share their grassroots expertise and scientific knowledge, inform governments of local needs and opinions, and identify "on the ground" realities of policy decisions.



BROADENING REACH

Change begins at the local level. We're proud to broaden our reach by growing our movement into new communities and watersheds around the world.

BAHIA DE BANDERAS WATERKEEPER

Bahia de Banderas in Mexico has historically been known as a water paradise. However, due to rampant development by those attracted to its natural beauty, the bay is suffering from severe pollution. **Bahia de Banderas Waterkeeper** is mobilizing the local community and visitors to the region to contribute to solutions through awareness, education, and supporting advocacy for improved waste and water management as well as enforcement of environmental regulations. The new Waterkeeper is prioritizing stopping sewage from spilling into the ocean by advocating for much-needed upgrades to septic systems and water treatment facilities, improvements to stormwater outfalls, and improving watershed protections for all Waterkeeper groups throughout Mexico.

"Waterkeeper has provided a framework to impact our water rights and have a credible voice to the world. I believe it is essential to protecting local communities. Joining Waterkeeper means we are able to make the impact needed to save our ocean and planet. Bringing like-minded people, connections, and expertise. It enables change!!"

David Itzikman, Bahia de Banderas Waterkeeper

BLACK-SAMPIT RIVERKEEPER

The Black-Sampit Riverkeeper joined Waccamaw Riverkeeper and Lumber Riverkeeper as part of the Winyah Rivers Alliance to protect local rivers as a viable resource for fishing, swimming, and drinking water. Over the past few years, Georgetown County and the Black River in South Carolina have been the focus of a growing interest in watershed protection and land conservation, culminating recently in the Black River Water Trail and State Park Network Initiative. Protecting land along the Black River and their other local rivers to assure clean water for Georgetown County is imperative. As local communities experience an increased number of floods over the past few years, it is important to protect riverine wetlands and floodplains to assure available land for flood protection and clean water protections to deliver safe, clean water to area residents.

"Joining forces with Waterkeeper Alliance has meant being a part of something greater, a worldwide effort that is shifting the needle towards change and conservation. You can feel the synergy and collective positive motion within this group, and it helps drive each of us forward through challenges in our own jurisdictions. As a Waterkeeper, for me, it means I have an opportunity to make at least a small difference in the health and protection of our beautiful forested wetland swamps, black water rivers, marshes, and tidal rivers in coastal South Carolina."

Erin Donmoyer, Black-Sampit Riverkeeper.

10,435
ADDITIONAL SQUARE
MILES PROTECTED,
IMPACTING AN
ADDITIONAL
87,739
PEOPLE.

AMPLIFYING IMPACT

Waterkeepers are on-the-ground advocates who work tirelessly in their watersheds, blending citizen science, grit, and the law to protect everyone's right to clean water. We helped amplify their collective voices and stories with monthly *Who Is Waterkeeper* profiles to spotlight who they are and how their local actions create global impact.

Casco Baykeeper Ivy Frignoca convinced the East End Wastewater Treatment Facility, the biggest wastewater facility in the state of Maine, to reduce its nitrogen output into Casco Bay, which resulted in a 70% reduction.

Upper Missouri Waterkeeper Guy Alsentzer helped stop an indefinite nutrient pollution exemption scheme for polluters and is fighting to protect the blue-ribbon trout fishery on the Gallatin River from the Yellowstone Club's unchecked development.

Lumber Riverkeeper Jeff Currie stood up to multiple threats in North Carolina, including the Atlantic Coast Pipeline; a liquefied natural gas plant; and an experimental wood pellet factory, while also dealing with hog and poultry CAFOs in his watershed.

La Paz Waterkeeper Alberto Guillen collected data to be standardized, analyzed, and ultimately transformed into actionable information that benefits not only the wellbeing of this coastal Mexican watershed, but also the economic wellbeing of the community.

Flint River Waterkeeper Gordon Rogers is not afraid to 'drop the Clean Water Act hammer' on Georgia polluters. He recently settled with one industrial site and is currently in talks with a CAFO to stop their egregious contamination of community waterways.

Brantas River Waterkeeper Daru Setyorini leads a robust monitoring program of 'river detectives' in her home of Indonesia to ensure that one of Asia's most polluted rivers doesn't stay that way for much longer.

Long Island Soundkeeper Bill Lucey lobbied the state of Connecticut for a climate change and adaptation bill featuring stormwater authority-enabling legislation; an aggressive PFAS bill; tax relief for the aquaculture industry; and amended sewage right-to-know legislation.

Hann Baykeeper Mbacke Seck successfully advocated for the Senegalese government to undertake a massive \$130 million cleanup project that includes 17 local towns and cities.

Rio Grande Waterkeeper Jen Pelz challenged a number of water transfer permits, which directly led to more than 800 million gallons of water being redistributed each year into the Rio Grande, the mighty river that runs through three U.S. states as well as four Mexican states.

NY/NJ Baykeeper Greg Remaud has been involved in over three dozen urban land acquisitions that protect more than 1,000 water-adjacent acres, encompassing an area larger than New York's famed Central Park.

Matanzas Riverkeeper Jen Lomberg worked with the city of St. Augustine and a local land trust to stop a massive development project from building on one of the last undeveloped parcels of Florida's northeast coastline.

San Diego Coastkeeper Matt O'Malley has been able to reduce sewage spills by a whopping 90%, and is also pioneering an innovative wastewater recycling program that will meet half of the southern California city's drinking water demands by 2035.

FINANCIALS



REVENUE

■ Individuals & Events	\$11,930,049	78%
■ Corporations	\$952,451	6%
■ Direct Mail	\$878,045	6%
■ Foundations	\$874,248	6%
■ Other	\$744,677	5%
Total Revenue		\$15,379,471



EXPENSES

■ Program	\$14,302,913	85%
■ Fundraising	\$1,523,019	9%
■ Admin	\$1,004,687	6%
Total Expense		\$16,830,619
End of Year Net Assets		\$2,552,223

INCOME	\$15,379,471
PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$14,302,913
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	\$1,523,019
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$1,004,687
END OF THE YEAR NET ASSETS	\$2,552,223

The numbers above represent unaudited financials and are subject to change upon audit completion.
The final audited numbers will be available later in 2022 at waterkeeper.org.

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\$1,000,000+

Anonymous
Foundation for the Carolinas

\$250,000 – \$999,999

Builders Initiative Foundation
National Philanthropic Trust

\$100,000 – \$249,999

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