



# ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE OSPREY WATCH

NEWS FROM  
THE OSPREY SOCIETY  
FALL 2003

## FARMERS WHO AID A RARE BUTTERFLY ALSO HELP THEMSELVES

**In the words of renowned novelist Vladimir Nabokov, the Karner blue butterfly once “fluttered like blue snowflakes” across the Great Lakes states and New England.**

Nabokov, an amateur lepidopterist, first identified the postage-stamp-sized butterfly in the 1940s. Now extinction threatens the Karner blue: It has declined by 99%, disappearing along with its prairie habitat.

Environmental Defense helped initiate a program that can aid the butterfly and give hard-pressed farmers an edge in winning scarce federal Farm Bill conservation funds. We convinced federal officials in Wisconsin, where the butterfly is most numerous, to encourage farmers to plant a seed mix to attract Karner blues. The mix includes wild lupine, which is essential for the butterfly's survival: Its caterpillars will feed on nothing else. Our new Center for Conservation Incentives staff helped ensure that farmers who apply to use the seed mix will gain additional points toward winning federal assistance.

“This program not only creates a lifeline for the Karner blue; it also helps farmers and restores native prairie,” says our Wisconsin ecologist Regina Hirsch.

The Wisconsin work is part of a broader effort to get more environmental benefits out of a \$2 billion annual federal program. The program restores habitat on 39 million acres of farmland but is only partially targeted toward top environmental goals.

To increase the butterfly's chances of survival, we are also helping it return to its native range. With The Nature Conservancy we are developing a Safe Harbor program to expand the butterfly's pine barrens habitat near Albany, New York. The Safe Harbor agreement will help convince landowners near the small existing Karner blue preserves to restore habitat for the endangered butterfly without fear of added restrictions on their land.

“The Karner blue is such a tiny critter that even small landowners can make a difference,” says our ecologist Bruce Hammond. “Individual homeowners in its range can help by planting wild lupine and other native plants in their backyards.”

To learn more about our work with the Karner blue and other endangered animals, visit our Center for Conservation Incentives at [www.environmentaldefense.org/go/conservationincentives](http://www.environmentaldefense.org/go/conservationincentives). To find out about helping local species, visit [www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat/habitatstewards.cfm](http://www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat/habitatstewards.cfm).

### DID YOU KNOW?

Ospreys that nest near houses sometimes come to recognize their human neighbors individually. If an unfamiliar person appears, the adults may fly overhead to inspect, while they pay little attention to the people they see coming and going every day.

# LOOKING FORWARD AT YEAR'S END A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY FOR NATURE

**What better time to plan ahead—for yourself and for the environment—than at the turning of another year? Creating a charitable gift annuity for Environmental Defense can bolster your own financial plans while helping to ensure a healthy environment for future generations.**

Establishing a charitable gift annuity with cash or securities guarantees lifetime payments, or an “annuity,” for yourself and/or a chosen beneficiary. The annuity rate, which determines the set dollar amount that you receive, depends on your age at the time of the gift.

Along with this worry-free income, the charitable gift annuity can bring substantial income tax savings. If the gift is made with appreciated securities held more than one year, it will bring savings on capital gains tax. The gift may also

avoid estate taxes if you and your spouse are the beneficiaries. In addition, deferring your payments until retirement will increase both the immediate income tax deduction and the annuity rate, thereby securing better retirement income.

Anne Doyle, Environmental Defense, Director of Planned Giving, is available at 1-877-677-7397 with more information about this popular giving vehicle, which can benefit you and your loved ones as well as the future of the natural world.

## NEAR THE WATERFRONT



Photograph taken on Spring Field trip courtesy of Marilyn Posnick, Osprey Society Member

**On this year's Spring Field Trip, Osprey Society Members sailed on the Hudson River and heard about Environmental Defense's efforts to revitalize New York's waterfront.**

Andrew Darrell, New York Regional Director and Director of the Living Cities program and Jim Tripp, General Counsel, discussed their projects, including the construction of the Hudson River Park. Our guests had a riverside view of the park—once abandoned land used for

hauling freight—which opened a few days following the cruise and now boasts a playground, field, and esplanade. Thanks to all for braving the weather to join us. Stay tuned for next spring's field trip.

# LOIS REAM WALDREF

## *An Urgent Call to Act Now for the Environment*

Few in the environmental field speak with more urgency than Lois Ream Waldref about the need to preserve the natural world.

A California native who has lived in Santa Barbara for 42 years, Ms. Waldref has watched the bounty of the place where she grew up disappear before her eyes. "California had a pristine beauty that it doesn't have anymore," she says. "It was a beautiful place. It isn't the only state that's been damaged, but I was born and raised here and so have seen the changes."

To help sustain the work of Environmental Defense, Lois Waldref has created two charitable gift annuities and named the organization in her estate plans. "I gave to Environmental Defense in the hope that they can be influential in any way in saving the natural world," she says. "For the sake of future generations, we have to stop some of the recklessness that's going on and preserve what we have left."

Ms. Waldref also underwrote the printing of *Arctic Refuge, a Circle of Testimony*, a book compiled by a group of citizens concerned about the impacts of

proposed oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. "The book was put on the desks of all U.S. senators and representatives, and helped to turn the tide on the first major vote. But the fight goes on," she says.



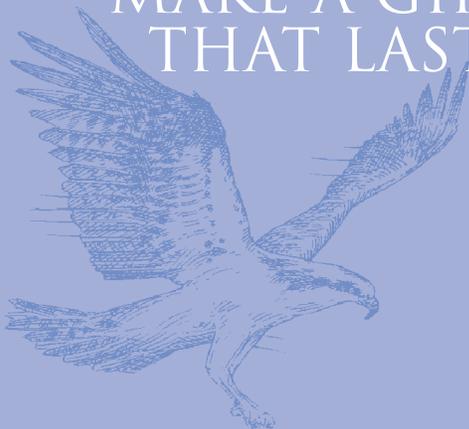
Lois Ream Waldref

Now 75, Lois Waldref remains a dedicated eco-traveler—she's been to all seven continents—an avid gardener, birdwatcher and planter of trees, as well as a passionate voice encouraging young people to "pick up the mantle" and undo the environmental damage of previous generations.

While she has been supportive of many organizations and active on issues ranging from animal rights to diesel pollution, Lois Waldref feels that she can't possibly do enough. "It's so all-encompassing," she says. "Maybe a dab here and a dab there

isn't the best way to do it, but I do what little I can. I want environmental groups to know that there are people out there who care about what they're doing. When you've seen as much change as I've seen, it makes it all much more pressing."

## MAKE A GIFT THAT LASTS



By participating in the Environmental Defense Gift Annuity Program you can receive generous annual income payments while helping to ensure a healthy planet for generations to come. And if you donate cash or certain securities, nearly one half of each payment to you during your lifetime may be tax free. To receive a confidential no-obligation proposal, just fill out and return the reply form in this newsletter or call us, toll free, at 1-877-677-7397. Invest in a secure future for yourself and for all living creatures.

# ROBERT W. WILSON

## *Establishes Matching Grant for Bequests*

The goals of Environmental Defense—to maintain biodiversity, a stable climate, healthy oceans, and neighborhoods safe from toxic chemicals—require long-term investment and skillful, dedicated action well into the future. One excellent way of ensuring the future of environmental advocacy is to include Environmental Defense in your Will.

A generous matching grant established by Robert W. Wilson offers a wonderful opportunity to leverage additional support through a bequest to Environmental Defense. The grant, created to help complete our \$200 million campaign, provides the following:

- a matching gift of \$100 for every new bequest notification of an unspecified amount;
- a gift of \$5,000 for bequest notifications of \$50,000 or more; and
- a match of \$10,000 for bequest notifications of \$100,000 or more.

If you are a current Osprey Society member, you can qualify for the match simply by notifying Environmental Defense of the specific or estimated amount of your bequest. Such gifts are fully deductible and may significantly reduce estate taxes. There is no limit to the amount that can be deducted from an estate for charitable purposes.

By helping to create a permanent financial base for Environmental Defense, bequests reduce our reliance on fluctuating annual support and enable long-term planning and action on the complex issues facing the environment. There is no better way of investing in a clean and healthy natural world for future generations. Please contact Anne Doyle, Director of Planned Giving, toll-free at 1-877-677-7397 to learn more about bequests and the Robert Wilson Challenge Grant, which runs through December 31, 2003.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE**

finding the ways that work

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