

# ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

# OSPREY

# WATCH

NEWS FROM  
THE OSPREY SOCIETY  
FALL 2009

## JIM MARSTON: BRINGING ALL SIDES TOGETHER

Jim Marston's father was an oil man who worked at BP for 40 years. Perhaps because of this, Marston understands that two seeming opposites can work towards a common goal. "The economic health of BP is important," says Marston, EDF's state climate initiatives director and head of our Austin regional office, but "it's also very important that BP and other oil companies don't pollute my daughter's air along the way."

Marston is helping to create that reality with his work on The American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Senate climate bill which will soon be up for a vote. He is helping the Obama administration publicize the huge opportunities for new clean tech industries, which in the end will benefit both the environment and local economies. Marston's biggest priority in the bill is getting a cap-and-trade system in place. "Once we actually have cap-and-trade and the sky doesn't fall, some of these scare tactics will be easier to laugh off," he says of arguments being used by the bill's opponents.

### Creating Change in His Own Backyard

Marston has experience building political bridges for the environment. Most notably, he led the 2007 charge against energy giant TXU Corporation, which was planning to build 11 coal-fired power plants. Marston hammered out a deal in which private equity firms KKR and Texas TPG bought out TXU and closed down eight of the eleven planned plants. "Few people thought it would be possible to actually stop very many of these plants," says Marston of this David vs. Goliath feat. "Investors who would have jumped at funding power plants a couple of years ago are thinking twice about it now."



Jim Marston  
EDF State Climate Initiatives Director

### From Local to National

Because of a lack of action at the federal level over the course of the past decade, Marston has focused on an alternative tactic: pass climate initiatives state by state, helping people in each region take matters into their own hands. In 2006, Marston was at the fore of the landmark Regional

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# AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY: MAKING A LASTING DIFFERENCE

At Environmental Defense Fund, we get results. Forty-two years ago a group of scientists joined together to establish EDF. Their efforts led to a U.S. ban on the pesticide DDT, making possible the resurgence of iconic species such as the osprey and bald eagle.

## MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

Since our founding, EDF's mission has been clear: develop innovative solutions for the most pressing environmental problems. Whatever the challenge EDF has been there winning results.

**1970:** EDF's efforts bring hunted whales onto the endangered species list

**1985:** We help convince regulators to phase lead out of gasoline

**1987:** EDF plays a key role in the phasing out of ozone damaging CFCs

**1990:** The new Clean Air Act incorporates our incentive based program to cut acid rain and air pollution

**1997:** Our cap-and-trade design is the basis of the U.S. climate proposal adopted in Kyoto



**2001:** EDF helps to create the 1,200 mile-long Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral reef Ecosystem Reserve, the largest U.S. conservation area

**2004:** The first hybrid electric trucks hit the road as a result of our partnership with FedEx and Eaton Corporation

**2007:** We help launch USCAP, a coalition of non-profit groups and 26 major companies from Alcoa to Xerox calling on Congress to cap global warming pollution



**TODAY:** Decades of work on the most critical challenge of all, global warming, has come to a head. We are working tirelessly to pass The American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Senate climate bill, which will cap greenhouse gas emissions and promote clean energy.

But none of our achievements would have been possible without the support of generous donors like you – both with gifts during your lifetime and gifts through estate plans. When you name EDF in your estate plan, you can be certain your legacy will make a lasting difference. Legacy gifts provide the essential support we will need to address the most serious environmental challenges in the future.

## WAYS TO LEAVE A LEGACY

The two most popular ways to leave a legacy to EDF are naming us as a beneficiary in your will or living trust. It is also easy to make EDF a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or your qualified retirement plan, such as an IRA or 401(k).

For more information, please contact Nick Pitaro, Director of Planned Giving. Call, toll-free, at **1-877-OSPREYS (1-877-677-7397)** or email at **ospreys@edf.org**. You may also complete and return the enclosed reply card.

No one can know for certain the specific problems the earth will face in coming decades. But you can be sure EDF will be there creating innovative solutions to guarantee that future generations enjoy a clean and safe planet. ■

# BETSY LATIES: LIVING A LIFE OF SCIENCE AND ACTIVISM

If you ask Betsy Laties what childhood experience best encapsulates her feelings for the environment, she will instantly recall her mother, Elsie Morrell Henderson. Betsy, a scientist, community activist and nature lobbyist, is passionate about protecting the earth, and she credits her mother's strength of spirit for her own unflinching commitment to nature. Roughly a century ago, Mrs. Henderson and a group of fellow suffragettes chained themselves to a railing on Wall Street, demanding the right to vote.

Betsy and her mother spent significant time exploring the Sierra Nevada Mountains, their dog Spotty alongside them. Betsy recalls her mother pointing out the surrounding beauty to her when she was nine, and saying: "You must always remember you are preserving the mountains for us all."

Her mother's words have stayed with Betsy throughout her life. In later years she continued to enjoy mountain trails with her husband, George Laties. Betsy and George shared a lifelong interest in science, and plant and animal life. Both were active environmentalists supporting EDF and other groups. When they weren't protecting California's resources, they rescued dogs, raising abandoned Rottweilers in their home.

The couple met at the University of California at Berkeley, and after completing their degrees they both worked in the fields of biochemistry and virology. Betsy remembers this period as important and exciting, a time of groundbreaking advances in the study of DNA: "Science at that moment was changing radically." George's research laid cornerstones in modern plant physiology. Betsy assisted a renowned virologist in

the study of how viruses replicate. In the '50s and '60s she worked as a scientist, so it comes as no surprise that today Betsy is also an avid supporter of women's education, having granted two scholarships for young women to UC Berkeley.

Betsy was appointed to the Los Angeles Environmental Quality Commission in 1974 and served there until 1987, three times as president.

A highlight of her work was helping to implement the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) which requires development projects to report on their potential environmental impact. Today, 14 states have laws modeled after CEQA.

Over the years, Betsy has participated in countless grassroots conservation efforts from fighting a proposal to use the fragile canyons in the Santa Monica Mountains as landfills, to stopping the building of a planned freeway that would bisect those mountains. To honor Betsy's work, a trail leading into the Santa Monica Mountains is named after her. Her fierce determination to protect the environment has not waned.

Betsy states that she has chosen to support EDF in her will because she wants to do something significant for the environment. She cherishes the organization for the same spirit of advocacy and stewardship that she inherited from her mother, and that has guided her for so long: "The name says why I support EDF. They do what very few other organizations do, defend threatened areas." She wants EDF to continue providing strong leadership. "There are always setbacks," she says, "but if we want the Earth to be habitable for future generations, we have to remember we have only one beautiful planet. We must take care of it." ■

**"We have to remember we have only one beautiful planet. We must take care of it."**



## Bringing All Sides Together, Continued from Page 1

Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the nation's first multi-state cap-and-trade program in the Northeast. "The act was a pivotal step in enacting national policy on global warming," he says. Later that year, Marston helped assure the passage of California Assembly Bill 32, the nation's most ambitious global warming pollution plan, requiring a 30 percent cut in carbon emissions by 2020. "These local moves undoubtedly put pressure on folks at the national level," says Marston.

### Climate Change, a Life's Work

Marston, now 56, first set out to affect change, though not as an environmentalist. "If you were a progressive in the South in the 1960s and 70s, a couple things shaped your experience: civil rights and the Vietnam War," says Marston. "I was going to be Thurgood Marshall or [Scopes Trial defense lawyer] Clarence Darrow." But, in law school and after returning to Texas to work at the attorney general's office, he found himself increasingly drawn to environmental cases.

In 1988 he met EDF president Fred Krupp, who was setting up an office in Texas. "I had enough arrogance to think, 'Shoot, I can do that,'" he says. "I thought I'd do it for two or three years. Twenty-one years later, I'm still here. There are many challenges still to be met."

### Global Warming and Our Future

One such challenge is providing Texans with clean electricity. Marston is currently leading an innovative climate initiative in Austin called the Pecan Street Project. EDF was asked to coordinate Phase One of the project in collaboration with the City of Austin, the University of Texas, Austin's Chamber of Commerce and Austin Energy. In addition, 11 innovative corporations like Dell, Oracle, IBM and Microsoft, were brought in as partners to help design a "smart grid," which will include harnessing Texas's abundant wind and solar capabilities. Phase Two of the project, implementing participants' recommendations, will test a unique system in which energy not only flows from the grid to consumers, but from users back to the grid, as many eco-conscious consumers start to create their own energy through sources like home solar panels. Marston envisions it will be a model for utilities across the country and help spur change in national energy policy.

Change won't come easily but this has Marston fighting even harder than ever on behalf of, and as an example for, the future. Says Marston, "The way you live your life tells your kids what's important." ■

## Thank your parents ...



## ...and leave a safer planet for your children

What better way to thank your parents than with a charitable gift annuity with Environmental Defense Fund? When you give your mother, father or both parents a gift of a charitable annuity, they will receive annual income for their lifetime(s) that won't decrease, regardless of interest rate or stock market swings.

Your generous gift will provide your parents with fixed payments and ultimately support the important programs at EDF, leaving your children the legacy of a cleaner, sustainable world. You also stand to receive substantial tax benefits.

Here are sample annual payments for a \$10,000 gift:

| Parent's Age | Rate | Annuity |
|--------------|------|---------|
| 65           | 5.3% | \$530   |
| 78           | 6.7% | \$670   |
| 82           | 7.5% | \$750   |
| 88           | 8.9% | \$890   |

To receive a personal proposal, please contact our Director of Planned Giving, Nick Pitaro, toll-free at 1-877-OSPREYS (1-877-677-7397), or by email at [ospreys@edf.org](mailto:ospreys@edf.org). You can also visit us on the web at [edf.org/plannedgiving](http://edf.org/plannedgiving)

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