



ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

We must sustain the places that sustain us. Conservation solutions that make economic sense will stand the test of time providing opportunity to future generations. To do this, we:

- Protect oceans and rivers and the livelihoods they support;
- Are open to ideas from farmers, fishermen, businesses and conservationists, ensuring them an active role in solutions that are good for the environment and the economy;
- Work to end overfishing and protect coastal jobs;
- Improve the quality and availability of water in our nation's largest river basins; and
- Restore lost wetlands and the protection they provide to people and communities along the Gulf Coast.

Protecting the Sources of Life and Livelihoods

Sam and Helen Walton instilled in their children and grandchildren a love of the outdoors. The family spent many memorable days canoeing the Buffalo National River, hunting quail and taking summer road trips to Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon. From these and many other experiences comes a belief that our well-being, as individuals and communities, depends on a healthy environment. The work in our Environment Program currently plans four initiatives:

Ocean: We invest in Indonesia and the Americas — the U.S., Mexico, Peru and Chile — to end overfishing, improve ocean health and preserve coastal livelihoods.

Mississippi River: We align policy and market incentives to encourage farmers to adopt practices that improve water quality, build soil health and reduce pollution across the basin, while continuing to meet the growing demand for food.

Colorado River: We work to develop a flexible water management system by increasing market incentives for agricultural and urban water efficiency in the Upper Basin; shaping binational and multistate water agreements in the Lower Basin; and restoring riparian habitat and water flows.

Coastal Gulf of Mexico: Currently our focus is on slowing and reversing the loss of coastal wetlands in Louisiana by using the natural function of the Mississippi River to deposit land-building sediment across the delta. These sediment diversion projects bring the promise of meaningful environmental restoration — both in the short term by creating jobs and in the long term by protecting the region's environment and economy.

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Environment Program Director

Barry Gold



Barry Gold leads the foundation's freshwater and marine initiatives to find lasting solutions that benefit the environment and strengthen local economies. Before joining the foundation, Barry served as director of marine conservation at the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, where he led efforts to keep the world's oceans healthy through approaches that take both environmental and community needs into account. This included work to shift fisheries management to an incentive-based system to help end overfishing, rebuild depleted stocks and sustain fishing communities, as well as efforts to advance comprehensive approaches to ocean planning.

Prior to joining Moore, Barry managed the David and Lucile Packard Foundation's work on ecosystem-based management and linking science to policy. Before Packard, he was chief of the Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center where he led an effort to restore the Colorado River ecosystem throughout the Grand Canyon. Barry has held senior positions with the U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Science, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has served as board president for the Consultative Group on Biological Diversity, the leading affinity group for environmental foundations, and was vice-chair of the California Ocean Science Trust Board. Barry received a B.S. from the University of Miami, an M.S. from the University of Connecticut, an M.A. from George Washington University and a D.Sc. from Washington University in St. Louis.

Recent Publications

- ▶ [Can we stop fighting nature and start working with it?](#)
- ▶ [On Earth Day, Reasons for Optimism](#)
- ▶ [New Reasons to Have Hope for the Salton Sea](#)
- ▶ [Celebrating the Places That Sustain Us – and the People Who Protect Them](#)
- ▶ [United States-Mexico Agreement Increases Water Security in the West](#)
- ▶ [Roots of Conservation](#)
- ▶ [Why Water Infrastructure Investments are Essential to the Colorado River](#)
- ▶ [Water in the West](#)
- ▶ [How 'Impact Investing' Can Increase America's Water Security](#)

Recent News and Announcements

New Alliance Aims to Tackle Illegal Fishing by Improving Seafood Supply Chains

At the 2017 Our Ocean Conference in Malta, the [United States Agency for International Development \(USAID\)](#), [Walton Family Foundation](#), [David and Lucile Packard Foundation](#), [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](#) and [FishWise](#) announced a new alliance to combat illegal fishing and strengthen sustainable fisheries management. The Seafood Alliance for Legality and Traceability (SALT) will bring together the seafood industry, governments and nongovernmental organizations to accelerate learning and collaborate on innovative solutions for legal and sustainable seafood.



Foundation Commits to America's Great Rivers

The Walton Family Foundation (WFF) announced investments totaling \$35 million to support the restoration and long-term health of the Colorado River Basin and the Mississippi River Delta. These investments are part of a larger five-year strategy to preserve healthy, flowing rivers and sustain the farmers, fishermen, businesses, families and wildlife that depend on them. Grants included in the investments announced today will support coalitions that include National Wildlife Federation, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation and Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana in the Mississippi River delta; American Rivers, Western Resource Advocates, Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy and Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership in the Colorado River basin; and Environmental Defense Fund and National Audubon Society in both regions.



Walton Family Foundation Outlines Seafood Markets Strategy

During the 2017 SeaWeb's Seafood Summit, the Walton Family Foundation (WFF) outlined its five-year strategy for building sustainable seafood markets, building upon 20 years of success across the sustainable seafood movement. The seafood markets initiative is part of the foundation's 2016-2020 ocean strategy that takes a systems approach—working on both the supply and demand side—to promote sustainability in five core countries: Indonesia, Peru, Chile, Mexico and the United States.

Walton Family Foundation donates \$400K to help the South Platte River

The Walton Family Foundation provided \$400,000 in support of The Greenway Foundation and Denver Water pledge drive for the environmental pool at Chatfield Reservoir. If the pledge drive is successful, the foundation's funding will purchase 45 acre-feet of storage in the reservoir. The [pledge drive](#), announced August 2016, will add 500 acre-feet of environmental storage at Chatfield Reservoir through a community coalition.

New Partnership to Protect Fisheries in Indonesia

In February 2017, representatives from the United States Agency for International Development and Walton Family Foundation signed a memorandum of understanding today at the Economist World Ocean Summit to improve Indonesia's marine biodiversity conservation and fisheries management. A [World Bank analysis](#) estimated that global overfishing results in more than \$80 billion in lost revenue for fishermen and the fishing industry.



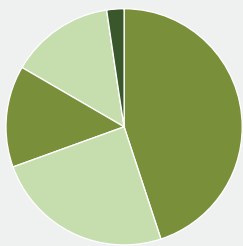
2017 Environment Program Grantmaking

At the Walton Family Foundation, we are working on finding solutions that sustain a healthy environment and healthy communities. We believe the key to systemic change comes through collaboration. In 2017, we witnessed what is possible when people, communities, businesses and governments work together.

The foundation's environment work grew out of the Walton family's strong connection to the outdoors. We focus on protecting oceans and rivers and the livelihoods they support, for the benefit of people and the environment.

We believe that we should use the natural resources of the planet responsibly, so the benefits of healthy ecosystems are available for current and future generations. The progress we're making toward a more sustainable future is exciting – and it's being made possible through collaboration among diverse coalitions.

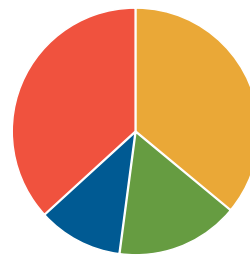
A full list of 2017 grants is available [here](#).



2017 Environment Program Grants

Environment: \$86 million

- Oceans (\$38.5 million)
- Colorado River (\$21.5 million)
- Mississippi River (\$12 million)
- Coastal Conservation (\$12 million)
- Innovation & Research (\$2 million)



2017 Grants

\$535.5 million in grants awarded in 2017

- K-12 Education (\$192.7 million)
- Environment (\$86 million)
- Home Region (\$59.9 million)
- Special Projects (\$196.9 million)

The foundation tackles tough social and environmental problems with urgency and a long-term approach. The children and grandchildren of our founders, Sam and Helen Walton, share stories about the foundation's origins and their commitment to the vision and values that guide its work.

No one ever solved big problems by thinking small. Creating lasting change in society requires leaders driven by a spirit of innovation, a curiosity to explore what is possible and an urgent willingness to be bold where others are cautious. It's how we seed success – it's how opportunity takes root.