

The mission of the Institute for Journalism & Natural Resources is to promote public dialogue about natural resource issues through programs that inform, inspire and support better journalism.

Dear 2020:

You [Expletive deleted] [Expletive deleted].

As a year, you were a doozy. But you didn't break us. In fact, in some ways you made us stronger, especially in the ways we conduct our programs and in the richness of our leadership. And in that way, when it's all said and done, and life bends back toward normalcy, and we can safely gather again, IJNR might even be better for all that.

Take, for example, the death of George Floyd that recast our national conversation around race. It forced many of us in an overwhelmingly white field to reconsider how we go about telling environment stories. And to think about who tells them. And about important voices that aren't always the loudest.

We know that journalism's most basic tenet is to seek truth, and we also know that truth doesn't always come in a white package. And of course we knew that so many environmental problems are laid at the feet of Black, Brown and Native people.

So, 2020, we will give you this: You forced us to stop nibbling around the edges. Talking the talk. Intending but not acting. You forced us to be the change we wish to see and confront our own institutional lack of diversity. And we are happy to report entering 2021, six of our 13 Board members are people of color.

Our newer board members have energized discussions around every aspect of IJNR, from how we recruit and conduct programs to the ways we invest our modest endowment. They help us challenge long-held assumptions. They share perspectives we've never heard internally. And they add critically important context to our mission:



to promote public dialogue about natural resource issues through programs that inform, empower and inspire better journalism. We have changed our organizational focus in ways that make all our programs better, and I'm proud of how far we've come in a relatively short time. But that's no victory lap: This is long-term work and it's only beginning.

There's no denying that programmatically, 2020 was bizarre. "Get Out There" became "No! Don't! Stay In!" Like everyone else, we shifted to virtual programs and owe a hearty thanks to the journalists who leaned into our offerings with the curiosity and good humor that make our jobs so easy to love. And I can't possibly overstate our appreciation to the foundations who stuck with us even when we couldn't do what we'd initially promised: the Joyce, Walton, McKnight, Moore and Wilburforce foundations endorsed IJNR's survival above all. We are forever grateful.

The close of 2020 also marked the end of another chapter at IJNR: After 25-plus years as a founder, president, near-sighted visionary, mentor and friend, Frank Allen has officially hung up his IJNR spurs. Frank retired from IJNR's day-to-day operations at the end of 2012, but remained on the board – including several years as chair – for eight more years. His departure was planned, and now Frank has time to work on his book and, along with Maggie, keep up with a growing passel of grandkids. We'll miss having Frank around, but we never forget that he made this thing what it is – nor that our beloved profession is better for his efforts.

Frank used to sign off his IJNR-related emails with one thought: "Onward." That little word encapsulates so much of what IJNR is about: Looking closer, never standing still, always seeking greater understanding. It's also a plain reminder that our work is never finished. So here's hoping 2021 is much better than [expletive deleted] 2020 was.

Onward,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave".

Dave

Dave Spratt, Chief Executive Officer

For more than 20 years, Dave was a fixture at daily newspapers in Colorado and Michigan, writing and editing sports, features and news, nurturing young writers and staring longingly out the window where the real action was. Dave left inky fingers behind in 2009, when he took a buyout from the Detroit News to freelance and carry coolers for IJNR until being named CEO in January 2013. Dave is



a lifelong lover of the outdoors and frequent end user of clean air, clear water and healthy habitat — human and otherwise. Easily distracted by wildlife, Dave lives just outside Ann Arbor, Michigan, with his wife Sarah and two marginally compliant terriers, who all eagerly await the next visit home from their adult daughters Emma and Natalie. Dave has a B.A. in Journalism from Michigan State University and earned a graduate certificate in Nonprofit Management from Eastern Michigan University.

Adam Hinterthuer, Director of Programs

Adam is largely responsible for IJNR’s programs, which means he spends several months carefully researching topics, scouting locations and lining up speakers, and then several days herding journalists, finding coffee and putting out (mostly) figurative fires during our Institutes and workshops. Adam also serves as the outreach and communications specialist for the University of Wisconsin’s Center for Limnology



(the study of lakes, more or less). Adam lives in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife, Carrie, their daughters, Brynn and Maggie, and a neurotic dog, ancient cat and ever-growing assemblage of aquatic snails. Adam received his master’s degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin School of Journalism and has a bachelor’s degree from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. While he undoubtedly peaked in his writing career before he had kids, he hasn’t completely given up and sometimes succumbs to lapses in judgement, taking freelancing gigs for various science and environmental publications.

Carrie Hinterthuer, Director of Operations

In addition to keeping the books for the organization, Carrie is tasked with helping with the myriad things that keep the ship sailing smoothly. Carrie has her master’s degree in public health from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and earned her undergraduate degree from Carleton College (where she met a certain IJNR director of programs). Carrie lives with Adam and their two daughters in Madison.



Melissa Mylchreest, Director of Communications

Melissa wears a lot of hats at IJNR: She’s in charge of communications and often works on development, but sometimes she puts together programs too. Melissa lives in Missoula, Montana, and in addition to working for IJNR she’s a freelance writer covering art, architecture, science, and the environment. She received a B.A. in creative writing from Connecticut College, and an M.S. in environmental studies as well as an M.F.A. in creative writing, both from the University of Montana. But writing all the time can get boring, so she’s done some other things too, including working as a professor, cook, DNRC lackey, and barn-dismantler, among others. When she’s not working she’s in the pottery studio, and when her hands aren’t covered in clay, she can be found gardening, cooking, and spending as much time as possible outside with her husband, daughter, and three dogs.



Contracted Program Assistants

Sarah Mock

Sarah was a Fellow on Lower Mississippi 2019. She grew up on a farm in Wyoming, studied technology and international affairs at Georgetown University, and is an amateur vacuum cleaner repair enthusiast. She currently calls the banks of the Potomac (Washington, D.C.) home.

Iyana Esters

Iyana was a Fellow on Water Quality 2019. She received a B.S. in community health sciences from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a M.P.H. from Indiana University. Based in Reno, Nev., Iyana spent much of 2020 in the Twin Cities.

**Pam Rockland, Chair
(Columbia, Maryland)**

Pam is a nonprofit professional with more than three decades of successful management and fund-raising experience. She served as the first development director for IJNR from 1995-2003. Born and raised in New Jersey, Pam spent 35 years in the D.C./Maryland area before recently relocating to Connecticut to serve as Director of Advancement Operations for Silver Hill Hospital, and to be near family, especially her two favorite (and only) grand babies. When not in NYC every chance she gets, Pam can be found gardening, at the gym, practicing yoga, cooking her favorite seafood dishes or glued to the news.



**Peter Annin, Vice-Chair
(Ashland, Wisconsin)**

Peter Annin is Director of the Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation at Northland College, which is dedicated to understanding and solving issues related to fresh water. Prior to joining Northland in 2015, Peter served as managing director of the Environmental Change Initiative at the University of Notre Dame for five years, and before that spent a decade as Associate Director here at IJNR. A veteran conflict and environmental journalist, Peter spent more than 10 years reporting for Newsweek. He is author of "The Great Lakes Water Wars."



**Chris Siegler, Treasurer
(Missoula, Montana)**

Chris was in management positions in health care and telecommunications before becoming a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch, a position from which he recently retired. Chris and his wife Jeannie have two sons — one a former IJNR Fellow of Energy Country — and two grandchildren. He graduated from Notre Dame and has a master's degree in public administration from the University of Montana.



**Frank Edward Allen, Trustee
(Missoula, Montana)**

Frank spent 14 years at The Wall Street Journal as a writer and columnist, a features editor, a bureau chief and the paper's first environment editor. Earlier he also reported and shaped news coverage about the economy and the environment for the Eugene Register-Guard, The Associated Press, the Tucson Daily Citizen, The Minneapolis Star and Reuters News Service. In 1994, he became a full-time professor and dean of the University of Montana's School of Journalism, where he created expedition-style learning programs for journalists that evolved into IJNR.



**Steve Dolberg, Trustee
(Ajijic, Jalisco, Mexico)**

From 1995 through 2012, Steve was the sole owner and chief executive officer of Majestic Homes, Inc., from which he retired in 2013. Prior to that he was a corporate lawyer in New York, the District of Columbia and Los Angeles. He earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard and his law degree from



Stanford. Since retiring, Steve has spent much of his time in charitable and other volunteer activities and traveling to wild places where he has engaged in his passion for wildlife photography.

**Savi Horne, Trustee
(Durham, North Carolina)**

Savi is the Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers' Land Loss Prevention Project, which was created to provide legal expertise, community education, and advocacy skills to help farmers and rural landowners facing legal, economic, and environmental challenges. Savi received her B.A. in Urban Legal Studies from City College, City University of New York, and her J.D. from Rutgers.



**Danielle K. Brown, Trustee
(Minneapolis)**

Dr. Danielle Kilgo is the Cowles Professor of Journalism, Diversity & Equality at the Hubbard School at the University of Minnesota. Danielle also consults with newsrooms around the U.S. about equitable media practices, and reporting on Black communities and civil rights protests. She received her B.A. and M.A. in journalism from Baylor University and her Ph.D. in journalism from The University of Texas-Austin. A gymnastics and soccer mom, she spends her spare moments coordinating practice schedules and drop off times, and listening to audiobooks.



**Kendra Pierre-Louis, Trustee
(Hampton, New Hampshire)**

Kendra is a senior climate reporter with the Gimlet/Spotify podcast "How to Save a Planet." Previously she was a climate reporter with The New York Times and a staff writer for Popular Science. Kendra has an S.M. (M.S) in Science Writing from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an M.A. in Sustainable Development with a focus on Policy Analysis and Advocacy from the SIT Graduate Institute, and a B.A. in Economics from Cornell University. Kendra occasionally hangs out with astronauts and seriously loves the Arctic.



**Karen Scanlon, Trustee
(Chicago)**

Karen is senior vice president of sustainability initiatives for the Illinois-based Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, which is a unit of Dairy Management Inc. In that role, she is chiefly responsible for cultivating and strengthening partnerships for dairy sustainability. She earned her journalism degree at the University of Florida and her master's degree in natural resources management at The Ohio State University.



**Dave Spratt, Trustee
(Ann Arbor, Michigan)**

Dave is IJNR's current CEO. Please see his bio on the Staff page.

**Mark Trahan, Trustee
(Phoenix)**

Mark is the editor of Indian Country Today. He has enjoyed a distinguished career as a journalist, and as a co-author of a series on federal-Indian policy. Mark was a finalist for the 1989 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting. Mark has served as president of the Native American Journalists Association and in 2018 he was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Mark is an enrolled member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Idaho.



**Ron Wakimoto, Trustee
(Missoula, Montana)**

Dr. Ronald H. Wakimoto is an Emeritus Professor of Forestry at The University of Montana, and one of the nation's premier wildfire scientists. He received his B.S. in Forestry and M.S. and Ph.D. in Wildland Resource Science from the University of California at Berkeley. He began his faculty career at Cal-Berkeley in 1976 and has been at The University of Montana since 1982 teaching and conducting research in wildland fire management.



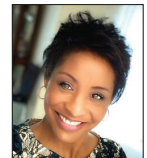
**Wayne Watkinson, Trustee
(Washington D.C.)**

Wayne Watkinson is a partner at Watkinson Miller PLLC, where he devotes the majority of his practice to corporations and associations involved in agriculture and agribusiness. He has particular expertise in commodity promotion and marketing issues. For almost two decades, he has worked with the dairy and beef industries to develop and implement their successful commodity promotion and research programs.



**Julia Yarbough, Trustee
(Chico, California)**

A multiple award-winning broadcast and print journalist, Julia currently serves as the morning anchor for KHSL/KNVN Action News Now in Chico, Calif. Her career has taken her to newsrooms in Miami, Los Angeles, Louisville (Ky.) and Pensacola (Fla.). Julia is a 2009 IJNR Fellow, a native of Fairfield, Calif., and a graduate of The University of California, Santa Barbara. When she's not chasing news, Julia can be found exploring the many hiking trails in Northern California and reminding herself to watch out for rattlesnakes.



Posthumous

**Mary G. Hager, Trustee
(Falls Church, Virginia)**

Mary was a versatile freelance writer who retired from Newsweek magazine in 2000 after a long, productive career as a Washington-based correspondent and contributing editor. Mary reported extensively on issues of science, space medicine and the environment. Mary was the very first Trustee elected to IJNR's board when the organization became a free-standing public charity in 1998, and she served IJNR in that role until her death in August 2020.



The Apple Fire burned in Riverside County California in 2020.
Photo by Rego Quintero

Fire on the Land

May 14-15

Twenty-five attendees heard from experts regarding the sociological, economic, social, and public-health impacts of wildfire.

Participants:

- Spoke with incident commanders about how the fire-fighting community is planning to adapt to Covid-19
- Heard from stakeholders and land managers about Montana's 2017 Lolo Peak Fire, and how forest treatments shaped the impact of the fire.
- Watched video tours of a variety of forest management approaches
- Talked with climate scientists about predictions and scenarios — are longer fire seasons and hotter summers the new normal?
- Spoke with public health experts about smoke exposure in rural and urban communities, how duration and density contribute to public health crises, what we're just beginning to understand about the long-term impacts of exposure, and what can be done to mitigate them.
- Heard from community advocates and agency employees who are educating the public about proactive steps they can take — from landscape maintenance to fire-savvy building techniques.
- Heard from fire scientists about the latest research and modeling — and how new breakthroughs are shaping our understanding of how fire behaves and how communities can manage risk.
- Discussed what we as journalists can do better in our coverage of wildfire.

Participating journalists

Mara Abbott <i>Buffalo Bulletin</i>	Elizabeth Miller Freelance writer
Tracy Barbutes Freelance photojournalist	Kylie Mohr Freelance writer
Clare Boerigter Writer/Author	Erik Neumann Jefferson Public Radio
Erika Bolstad Freelance journalist	Emma Newburger CNBC, New York
Alejandra Borunda <i>National Geographic</i>	Anthony Pavkovich Filmmaker/graduate student, U. Montana
Olivia Box Freelance writer	Cassandra Profita Oregon Public Broadcasting
Raquel Maria Dillon KQED News	Joseph Serna <i>Los Angeles Times</i>
Helena Dore <i>Bozeman Daily Chronicle</i>	Ed Struzik Freelance
Sarah Gibbens <i>National Geographic</i>	Lee van der Voo Independent journalist/author
Debra Krol Freelance/Pulliam Fellow, <i>Arizona Republic</i>	Vaughn Wallace Freelance photographer
Rebecca Leber <i>Mother Jones</i>	Elizabeth Weber <i>Durango Herald</i>
Morgan Levey Freelance audio producer/writer	Kateri Wozny Freelance writer
Brian Maffly <i>The Salt Lake Tribune</i>	Laura Lundquist IJNR program assistant

Speakers

Ron Wakimoto, University of Montana	Jen Hensiek, USFS
Sarah Coefield, Missoula County Health Department	David Atkins, Forest Ecologist and Forester
Erin Landguth, University of Montana	Greg Poncin, Montana DNRC
Erin Semmens, University of Montana	Jim Whittington, Whittington & Associates
Mark Finney, Missoula Fire Lab	Matt Arno, Montana DNRC
Greg Dillon, Missoula Fire Lab	Bob Yokelson, University of Montana
Kristin Sleeper, Montana DNRC	Phil Higuera, University of Montana
Matt Hall, Montana DNRC	Max Smith, USFS
Max Rebholz, Missoula County	Ryan Sabalow, <i>The Sacramento Bee</i>

2020 Workshops

Great Lakes Water Levels

June 4-5

Less than a decade ago, the story in the Great Lakes Basin was one of dramatically low water levels. But by the summer of 2019, the lakes had risen so high that they now threaten solid ground at levels not seen since the 1980s. Homes have fallen into lakes Michigan and Huron, roads are under water, vast swaths of near-shore farmland are flooded, and Great Lakes cities are grappling with a water-logged future. Some climate models indicate the potential for a sustained pattern of moisture from the Gulf of Mexico that could keep lake levels high for the foreseeable future, but not so long ago such models predicted the lakes would continue to fall.

This online workshop introduced 25 journalists to the new reality – and uncertainty – of Great Lakes water levels, as they explored topics like:

- The latest science on climate and water level models and the challenge of forecasting lake levels in the years ahead.
- What Great Lakes cities are doing to fight flooding and keep the water at bay.
- How high lake levels impact coastal ecosystems.
- What options homeowners have to protect their homes from encroaching lakes - and how the insurance industry is responding.
- What excessive water levels mean for the Great Lakes Compact, a multi-governmental agreement designed to keep water in the Great Lakes.

Speakers

Emily Larson,
Mayor, Duluth, Minn.

Brian Dissette,
City of South Haven (Mich.)

Dylan Jennings,
Great Lakes Indian Fish and
Wildlife Commission

Drew Gronewald,
University of Michigan

Richard Rood,
University of Michigan

Douglas Wilcox,
SUNY-Brockport

Carl Watras,
University of Wisconsin

Deanna Apps,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Adam Schilicht,
Port of Milwaukee

Nicole Trepanier,
FedNav

Richard Norton,
University of Michigan

Guy Meadows,
Michigan Tech

David Fay,
International Joint Commission

Jerrold Sanders,
Michigan EGLE

Pierre Beland,
International Joint Commission

Herassana Richards,
Michigan Municipal League

Mitch Foster,
City of Ludington (Mich.)

Joe Tate,
Michigan State Representative



A flooded walkway on Lake Michigan near Chicago.

Credit: James Andrews

Participating journalists

Brian Allnut
Freelance journalist

Alex Baumhardt
American Public Media

Susan Bence
Milwaukee Public Radio

Carrie Blackmore Smith
Freelance journalist

Natasha Blakely
Detroit Public Television

Jim Bloch
The Voice Newspapers

Genevieve Bookwalter
Chicago Tribune

Meg Dalton
WNYC

Garret Ellison
MLive

John Flesher
Associated Press

Erica Gies
Independent Reporter/Author

Tom Henry
The Blade (Toledo, Ohio)

Kelly House
Bridge Magazine

Nina Ignaczak
Freelance journalist/producer

Kathi Kowalski
Freelance journalist

Tim Lougheed
Freelance journalist

Aaron Martin
Diorama Productions

Sheri McWhirter
Environmental reporter,
Traverse City Record-Eagle

Craig Miller
KQED

Megan Myscofski
Freelance journalist (*Investment
Journal, Dismal Science*)

Hannah Northey
E&E News

Joanna Parkman
Independent writer/editor

Andrew Reeves
Freelance journalist/Author

Jennifer Reut
Landscape Architecture Magazine

Sarah Trent
Freelance journalist

Valerie Vande Panne
Freelance journalist

Brett Walton
News correspondent,
Circle of Blue

Environmental Racism

July 22-23

This workshop looked to Houston as a case study for other American cities as we explored questions of environmental racism, social equity and the problematic lenses through which these stories get told. Journalists participating in our workshop had the opportunity to:

- Learn how historic race-based housing discrimination shaped U.S. cities and led to many of our current environmental injustices.
- Hear from academic scholars and fellow journalists about how to better report on these issues.
- Talk with Sunnyside residents about their vision for the neighborhood and concerns that, like past promises, the new solar farm won't live up to the hype.
- Meet citizen activists who have been working for decades to push for equity and protect public health.
- Discuss the challenges lax environmental regulations and lenient industrial oversight bring to these efforts.
- Hear about new approaches to addressing systemic racism and disenfranchisement, like the nation's first "environmental justice" high school and community ownership of projects such as the Sunnyside solar farm.
- Explore journalism's role in perpetuating stereotypes about and minimizing the voices of communities of color – and how to change that role.



A Baltimore neighborhood in close proximity to heavy industry.

Credit: peeterv

Participating journalists

- | | |
|--|--|
| Nancy Andrews
Independent Journalist | Krista Karlson
<i>Sierra</i> |
| Tripp Baltz
Bloomberg Industry Group | Yanick Rice Lamb
Professor/independent journalist,
Howard University |
| Ambar Castillo
CUNY Newmark School of
Journalism | Judy Myers
Freelance writer |
| Kristi Coale
Freelance Reporter and Producer | Jeanie Riess
Freelance journalist |
| Gwendolyn Craig
<i>Adirondack Explorer</i> | Lauren Rosenthal
Freelance journalist |
| E.A. Crunden
Industry Dive | Monica Samayoa
Oregon Public Broadcasting |
| Jonathan Custodio
Independent Journalist | Molly Samuel
WABE |
| Erin Douglas
<i>Houston Chronicle</i> | Marley Shebala
Independent journalist |
| Breanna Draxler
<i>YES! Magazine</i> | Eric Simons
<i>Bay Nature</i> |
| Stephanie Ebbs
ABC News | Lauren Sommer
NPR |
| Rachel Fritts
Freelance writer | Hiroko Tabuchi
<i>The New York Times</i> |
| Audrey Henderson
Energy News Network | Michaela Vatcheva
Reporter/filmmaker |
| Nushin Huq
Freelance reporter | Patricia Villone
CTV News |
| Lisa Jenkins
Morning Consult | Will Widmer
Freelance photographer |
| Maya Kapoor
<i>High Country News</i> | Ariel Wittenberg
E&E News |

Speakers

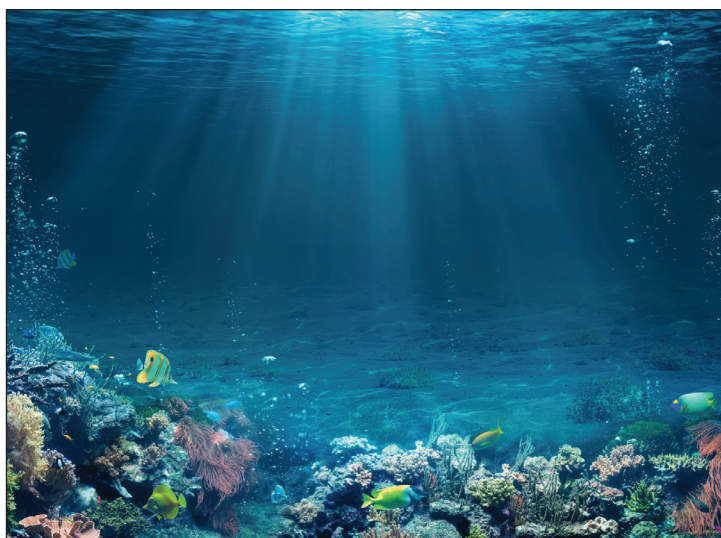
- | | |
|---|---|
| Robert Bullard,
Texas Southern University | Eleca Dunham,
Global Health Security Consul-
tant |
| Susan Rogers,
University of Houston | Bakeyah Nelson,
Air Alliance Houston |
| Efrem Jernigan,
South Union Community
Development Corp. | Danielle Kilgo,
University of Minnesota |
| Dori Wolfe,
Wolfe Energy | Summer Harlow,
University of Houston |
| Sandra Massie Hines,
Sunnyside | Emilia Askari,
Michigan State University |
| Jeremy Peaches,
Fresh Life Organic Farm | Neeta Satam,
Freelance photographer |
| Tracy Stevens,
Sunnyside Civic Club | Darryl Fears,
<i>Washington Post</i> |
| Bryan Parras,
Sierra Club/T.E.J.A.S. | |

Ocean + Climate

August 19-20

Climate change is dramatically impacting the earth's ocean, threatening both the organisms living within it as well as the livelihoods of the humans along its shores. But the depths of the ocean aren't simply troubled waters – they are also an arena for solutions, collaboration and discovery.

Through a two-day online workshop, IJNR gathered a host of experts from across the United States to discuss the complicated relationship between climate and ocean, current impacts and future possibilities.



The ocean is both an indicator of and a potential solution to climate change.
Credit: Romolo Tavani

Topics discussed during the workshop include:

- Climate change isn't just causing sea temperature or levels to rise, it's fundamentally shifting the chemical makeup of ocean water.
- The trope "the solution to pollution is dilution" has fueled a millennia-long willingness to dispose of waste by passing it on to the ocean. We talked with experts about its animal, human, community and ecosystem impacts.
- What exactly is Blue Carbon, and how is it working to suck greenhouse gases out of the atmosphere to build some of the world's most diverse habitats?
- As sea levels rise, disadvantaged communities are often hit first and hardest.
- Tourism, shipping industries, aquaculture and some emerging energy technologies all utilize ocean resources – and contribute to many of its chief issues.
- A global movement dubbed "30x30" in hopes to create the kind of international collaboration that could have a meaningful impact on ocean protection.

Participating journalists

Daniel Ackerman, Freelance	Amy Mayer, Iowa Public Radio
Amal Ahmed, <i>The Texas Observer</i>	Rebecca McCarthy, Freelance writer
Kimberly Cauvel, <i>Skagit Valley Herald</i>	Hope McKenney, KUCB
Daisy Chung, Freelance visual communicator	Sydney Pereira, Gothamist
Warren Cornwall, Correspondent/freelancer	Karen Pinchin, PBS Frontline
Tripp Crouse, KNBA	Emily Pontecorvo, <i>Grist</i>
Cassie Dickman, <i>The Record</i> (Stockton)	Austin Price, Independent journalist
Enrique Gili, Freelance	Parimal Rohit, <i>The Log</i>
Sabrina Imbler, <i>Atlas Obscura</i>	Mythili Sampathkumar, Freelance journalist
Chris Lett, Freelance reporter/photographer	Randy Showstack, Independent journalist
Andrew Lewis, Freelance	Susan Valot, Freelance radio journalist
Jennifer Lu, <i>L.A. Times</i>	Rosanna Xia, <i>L.A. Times</i>

Speakers

Liv Williamson, University of Miami	Steve Crooks, Silvestrum Climate Associates
Ko Barrett, NOAA, IPCC	Sandy Nguyen, Coastal Communities Consulting
Scott Doney, University of Virginia	Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Azul
Captain Charles Moore, Algalita	Miriam Goldstein, Center for American Progress
Imari Walker Karega, Duke University	Janis Searles Jones, Ocean Conservancy
Rachael Coccia, Surfrider Foundation	Jason Anderson, Climateworks Foundation
Jennie Romer, Surfrider Foundation	Minna Epps, International Union for the Conservation of Nature
Hilary Stevens, Restore America's Estuaries	Ayana Johnson, Ocean Collectiv & Urban Ocean Institute

2020 Reporting Award Recipients

Environmental Justice Reporting Awards

Carrie Arnold - Freelance Writer, Williamsburg, Va. Project: "Kepone's Never-Ending Toxic Legacy"
Sheri McWhirter - Environment Reporter, Traverse City Record-Eagle; Traverse City, Mich. Project: "PFAS Testing of Groundwater Used for Drinking in Northern Michigan Indigenous Homes"
Alessandra Bergamin - Freelance Journalist; Los Angeles Project: "When the Aftermath of a Natural Disaster Spells Violence for Women"
Laura Tillman - Freelance Journalist; Mexico City
Antonia Cerejido - Producer/Host, NPR's Latino USA; New York Project: "Invisible Threat: Pesticides and Childhood Development in a California Farming Town"

(Continued on page 9)

Changes at the EPA

October 7-9

During his campaign for president in 2016, Donald Trump promised to abolish the Environmental Protection Agency “in almost every form” and, indeed, his time in office saw an unprecedented number of proposed rollbacks of environmental regulations and an equally unprecedented relaxation of enforcement during a global pandemic.

Not all of those changes will stick, however, as legal challenges pile up and environmental groups, states and even industry push back against the dismantling of rules like methane emission regulations and fuel efficiency standards.

Over the course of this three-day workshop, journalists heard from current and former EPA officials, state agencies, industry representatives, environmental historians and NGOs as we discussed what those changes look like in several communities, what a second term of the Trump Administration might mean for the agency and how a potential Biden Administration would change its direction.



Participating journalists

Mohamed Al Elew Center for Investigative Reporting	Jason Plautz Freelance
Natasha Blakely Great Lakes Now	Dinah Pulver <i>USA Today</i>
Max Blau <i>Georgia Health News/Publica</i>	Rachel Ramirez Freelance
Kelsey Brugger E&E News	Jacob Resneck CoastAlaska Public Media
Beth Burger <i>USA Today</i>	Ry Rivard <i>Adirondack Explorer</i>
Saurabh Datar WBUR	John Ryan KUOW
Sophia Fox-Sowell CBS Interactive	Lakshmi Sarah KQED
Tara Gatewood Native America Calling	Sara Sneath Freelance
Virginia Gewin Freelance	Nicholas St. Fleur Freelance/Knight Wallace Reporting Fellow Coram
Emily Holden <i>The Guardian</i>	Joe Wertz Center for Public Integrity
Jillian Melero Freelance	Tegan Wendland WWNO
Amy Mostafa Freelance	Loretta Williams Freelance
Shannon Osaka <i>Grist</i>	

2020 Reporting Award Recipients

Indigenous Reporting Awards *(Continued)*

Tripp Crouse - News Director, KNBA; Anchorage, Ak.
Project: “Climate Impacts Affect Reliance on Subsistence Harvesting of Bird Eggs and Nesting Cycles”

Bellamy Pailthorp - Environment Reporter, KNKX; Seattle
McKenna Hunt - Independent producer; Seattle
Project: “Reviving the Whale Hunt”

Ari Snider - Fellow in Community Journalism, KCAW; Sitka, Ak.
Project: “Restoring Keex’ Kwaan: Indigenous Land Management for the 21st Century”

Miranda Weiss - Freelance Writer; Homer, A.
Project: “In Alaska’s Bering Sea Villages, Toxic Algae Threaten Marine Food Webs and a Way of Life”

Guerry Beam Memorial Award

Celia Talbot Tobin - Freelance Photojournalist; Mexico City
Project: “How Women Are Working to Bring Back a Fishery in One of the World’s Most Important Marine Ecosystems”

Andrew Weegar Memorial Award

Jennifer Oldham - Freelance Journalist; Aurora, Colo.
Project: “Oil drilling on sensitive New Mexico public lands puts drinking water, rare caves at risk”
Yereth Rosen - Freelance Journalist; Anchorage, Ak.
Project: “Bering Sea Defenders”

Frank Allen Field Reporting Awards

Ashley Ahearn - Freelance Radio Reporter/Producer; Winthrop, Wash.
Project: “Grouse: The Story of a Cityslicker Journalist Who Moves to Sagebrush Country in Search of the Troubled Bird that’s Dividing the American West.”

Eric Wagner - Freelance Writer and Author; Seattle
Project: “The View from Destruction: One Island, Twelve Thousand Birds, and the Future of the North Pacific”

Emma Jacobs - Freelance Journalist; Montreal
Project: Undark Podcast Episode 46: A Debate on the Dregs of Asbestos Mining

Speakers

Richard “Pete” Andrews, U. of North Carolina	Regina Strong, Michigan EGLE
Gerald Torres, Yale U.	Elena Saxonhouse, Sierra Club
Stan Meiburg, former EPA/Wake Forest U.	Michelle Martinez, Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition
Elizabeth “Betsy” Southerland, former EPA	Mazeika Sullivan, Ohio State University
Oday Salim, National Wildlife Federation	Cynthia Campbell, City of Phoenix
Mary Nichols, California Air Resources	Leif Fredrickson, EDGI/U. of Montana
Gina McCarthy, former EPA/NRDC	Megan Raisle, EDGI
Mustafa Santiago Ali, former EPA/NWF	Casey Greenleaf, Environmental Enforcement Watch
Abdul El-Sayed, author/physician	Cole Alder, EEW

2020 Workshops

The Gulf of Mexico

December 2-4

Year after year, catastrophes such as Hurricane Katrina (2005), the Deepwater Horizon (2010) and historic Mississippi River flooding (2019) grab headlines in the Gulf, highlighting the complex natural resource issues that impact people, ecosystems and economies along the coast every day. In this workshop, 25 journalists explored how this vibrant, often unappreciated, ecosystem supports and is shaped by human activity.

Topics included:

- The legacy of the BP oil spill and current oil and gas activity in the Gulf
- The impact of Mississippi River flooding on sensitive saltwater ecosystems and economies that depend upon them.
- Efforts to prevent flooding, prepare for hurricanes and protect homes and infrastructure.

- Environmental injustices where the Gulf's global economy intersects with local communities.
- Climate migration and gentrification in coastline communities.
- Participants had the opportunity to speak with local residents, fishermen, municipal officials, state agencies, industry representatives, environmental historians, activists and more.

Gulf Coast, The Institute That Wasn't

When 2020 began, IJNR had a full slate of in-person Institutes and workshops planned. Then, only four days before the scheduled launch of the Gulf Coast Institute, we had to make a hard decision. The bus was gassed up, hotel deposits were paid and we had speakers at the ready, but COVID wasn't going away and our in-person programming is perfectly designed to spread a respiratory illness! In the fallout, we salvaged what we could, pulling together a number of speakers and Fellows for a handful of Zoom sessions on the Gulf. It was our first foray into all-virtual programming and it was far from perfect. But it did launch our "safer at home" content, and we were thankfully able to revisit the Gulf more thoroughly during a two-day virtual workshop in December.

Speakers

Jack Davis
Professor of history/Pulitzer-prize winning author, University of Florida/The Gulf: The Making of An American Sea

Kelly Burks-Copes
Project Manager, USACE - Galveston District

Tony Williams
Deputy Director, Coastal Field Operations - Texas General Land Office

Brian Harper
Chief, Planning Branch, USACE, Regional Planning and Environmental Center

Bob Stokes
Executive Director - Galveston Bay Foundation

Jordan Macha
Waterkeeper and Executive Director - Bayou City Waterkeeper

Moby Solangi
President, Executive Director - Institute for Marine Mammal Studies

Gerald Blessey
General Manager - Mississippi Sound Coalition

Ryan Bradley
Mississippi Commercial Fisheries United

Participating journalists

Sarah Amandolare
Freelance (*The River, Science*)

Carly Berlin
Freelance (Southerly)

Ashli Blow
Freelance (Medium)

Ko Bragg
Reporter, The 19th

Hannah Brown
Co-founder/Editor, The Marjorie

Neel Dhanesha
Editorial Fellow, *Audubon Magazine*

Erin Douglas
Environment Reporter, *The Texas Tribune*

Emily Foxhall
Environment Reporter, *Houston Chronicle*

Megan Gannon
Freelance (*Popular Science, National Geographic*)

Henry Gass
Reporter, *The Christian Science Monitor*

Sarah Gibbens
Environment Reporter, *National Geographic*

Colleen Hagerty
Freelance (BBC News, Vox)

Antonia Juhasz
Freelance (*Rolling Stone, Newsweek*)

Philip Kiefer
Freelance (*The Lens, Outside*)

Joe Womack
President, Africatown- C.H.E.S.S.

Monique Harden
Assistant Director/Program Manager Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

Rev. Gregory Manning
Activist, Justice & Beyond Coalition

Logan Burke
Activist, Alliance for Affordable Energy

Sandra Brooke
Deep-Sea Biologist - Florida State University Coastal and Marine Lab

Sandy Nguyen
Founder, CEO - Coastal Communities Consulting, Inc.

Anita Lee
Environment Reporter, *Sun Herald*

Kari Lydersen
Freelance (*Midwest Energy News, Ensia*)

Janet McConnaughey
Environment Reporter, The Associated Press

Sara Millhouse
Freelance (Big River, Eastern Iowa Farmer)

Priska Neely
Managing Editor, Gulf States Newsroom (NPR, WWNO, etc.)

Hannah Northey
Water Reporter, E&E News

Halle Parker
Environmental Reporter, *The Times-Picayune/The Advocate*

Mark Schleifstein
Environment Reporter, *The Times-Picayune/The Advocate*

Hannah Seo
Intern, *Environmental Health News*

Isabelle Taft
Reporter, *Sun Herald*

Valerie Vande Panne
Environmental Reporter, WGCU

William Widmer
Freelance Photographer (*The New York Times, TIME*)

Ian MacDonald
Biological Oceanographer, Florida State University

Faye Matthews
Legal Policy Advisor and Senior Partnership Manager, National Wildlife Federation

Donald Dardar
Shrimper/Elder, Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee
Attorney, Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe

Mark Schleifstein
Environment Reporter, *The New Orleans Advocate/The Times-Picayune*



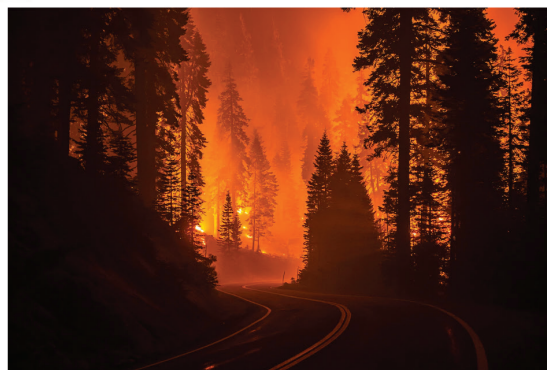
Why Sprawl Could Be The Next Big Climate Change Battle

August 6, 2020 · 9:00 AM ET

LAUREN SOMMER



Lawmakers in California say the state's pattern of single-family zoning is boosting carbon emissions.
 ulstetn bitriva/Getty Images



The Creek Fire, in the Sierra National Forest in California, has burned hundreds of thousands of acres. Its spread was fueled by the presence of many dead, super dry trees; climate change contributed to both their death and their dryness.

PHOTOGRAPH BY STUART PALLEY, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

SCIENCE | NEWS

The science connecting wildfires to climate change

A heating-up planet has driven huge increases in wildfire area burned over the past few decades.

BY ALEJANDRA BORUNDA



Historic Black community fights military project on Coast land fouled by arsenic, lead

BY ANITA LEE

FEBRUARY 08, 2021 11:31 AM, UPDATED FEBRUARY 09, 2021 08:15 PM



Coast residents fight project on contaminated land in Black neighborhood. 'There's a history.'

Black residents of North Gulfport are fighting Mississippi state port plans for a Department of Defense storage, staging yard on property where there's lead, arsenic contamination. BY ALYSSA NEWTON



SUNKEN COSTS

A Power Company's Quiet Land-Buying Spree Could Shield It From Coal Ash Cleanup Costs

Georgia Power paid top dollar to buy land from residents living near waste sites at its power plants. Environmentalists fear it's a tactic to forestall the cleanup bill from new regulations for coal ash.

by Max Blau for Georgia Health News, Nov. 24, 2020, 7 a.m. EST



CLIMATE COLLISION

Trump's EPA rewrote the rules on air, water energy. Now voters face a choice on climate change issues

Election Day will be a decision between deregulation or re-regulation. A look at Trump's rollbacks and their long term effects nationwide.

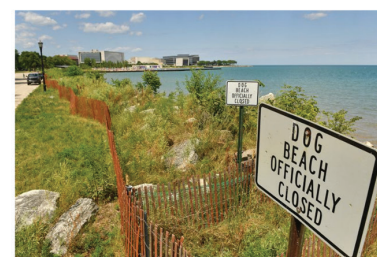
Beth Burger, USA TODAY
Published 3:01 AM EDT Oct. 29, 2020 | Updated 7:24 AM EST Nov. 7, 2020



As Lake Michigan waters rise, erosion poses an existential threat to North Shore towns and homeowners

By KAREN ANN CULLOTTA, GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER and KAREN BERKOWITZ

PIONEER PRESS | JUL 30, 2020



Due to high Lake Michigan water levels and erosion, the Evanston Dog Beach has washed away. (Brian O'Mahoney / Pioneer Press)

2020 Supporting Foundations

Please visit ijnr.org

**TheJoyce
Foundation**



**WALTON FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

**MCKNIGHT
FOUNDATION**



RESOURCES LEGACY FUND



THE LLEWELLYN FOUNDATION

2020 Partners



Participating Federal Agencies

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

2020 by the numbers

Days of Virtual Programs for Journalists:	Number of Virtual Program Participants:	Number of Virtual Program Speakers:
16	167	118

Revenue: \$377,751*

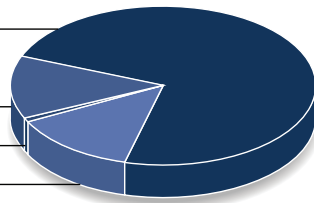
Foundation/Organizational Grants: **72.7%**

Individual Donors: **12.7%**

Investment Income: **0.9%**

Cares Act Funding: **13.1%**

*Includes funding for 2021 programming



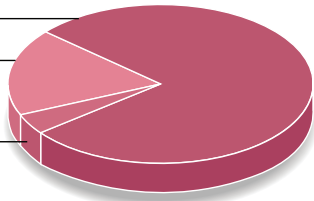
Expenses: \$666,594*

Programming: **78.4%**

Management/Other: **17.6%**

Fundraising and Outreach: **4.1%**

*Includes funding received in 2019 for 2020 programs



2020 Individual Donors

Bill Allen	Ben Goldfarb	Larry Pynn
Frank and Maggie Allen	Barbara Goldoftas	Ry Rivard
Zack Allen	Stanley Greenberg	Pam Rockland
Peter Annin	Kristin Hardy	Paul Rogers
Shanna Baker	Michael Hawthorne	Kevin Rose
Tom Banse	Sara Hiles	Luke Runyon
Tracy Barbutus	Carrie, Adam Hinterthuer	Karen Schaefer
Jeff Barnard	Mary Hoff	Mark Schleifstein
Trudy Bell	Emily Holden	Amelia Schonbek
Lorraine Boissoneault	Kristofor Husted	Mike Scott
Erika Bolstad	Jeremy Jacobs	Ben Shouse
Monte Burke	Ed Jahn	Melissa Shin
Katie Campbell	Jeff Kart	Chris, Jeannie Siegler
Eli Chen	Cheryl Katz	Kirk Siegler
Dave Chong	Danielle Kilgo	Lisa Song
Sena Christian	Rona Kobell	Mike Soraghan
Michael Cohen	Ellen Knight	Sarah, Dave Spratt
Susan Cosier	John Krist	Melanie St-Hilaire
Osha Davidson	Marci Krivonen	Sandra Svoboda
Kelsey Dayton	Kristen Landreville	Mark Trahant
Steve Dolberg	Marilyn Lindell	Ron Wakimoto
Garret Ellison	Tim Lougheed	Wayne Watkinson
Jeff and Liz Fall	Robert McClure	Dylan Whitaker
John Flesher	Sheri McWhirter	Nadia White
Ray Ford	Shannon Mullen	Daniel Willbanks
Pirie Gall	Todd Neff	Kathy Witkowski
Christy George	Gregory Pasztor	Julia Yarbough
Daniel Glick	Kendra Pierre-Louis	