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Our Last Wild Places, and Why They Need to Stay Wild

Clean Energy Bonds

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[EPA: Don't Sacrifice Navajo Water for Uranium Mining](#)

www.change.org

The Colorado Plateau of New Mexico still bears the unhealed sores of the Uranium Boom of the last century – radioactive waste piles,...

GRANTSTATION

National Funding Opportunities

HIV/AIDS Programs in the Americas Funded

[Elton John AIDS Foundation](#)

The Elton John AIDS Foundation is dedicated to supporting innovative HIV prevention programs, efforts to eliminate stigma associated with HIV/AIDS, and direct services for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Foundation's grantmaking priorities include supporting gay men, black community, and youth mobilization for health; ending injection-related HIV transmission; access to healthcare for ex-offenders; and scale-up of government HIV/AIDS programming in the Southern U.S., Puerto Rico, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Grants of up to \$50,000 are provided. Nonprofit organizations located in the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean, and Central and South America are eligible to apply. Online letters of intent are due May 18, 2012; invited applications must be submitted by July 15, 2012. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the 2012 request for proposals.

Support for Energy Efficiency Policy Initiatives

[Energy Foundation](#)

The Energy Foundation is focused on advancing energy efficiency and renewable energy policy in the United States and China, the largest and fastest growing energy markets in the world. The Foundation's grantmaking programs include support for the following issues: efforts to reduce

carbon emissions from the utility industry; policies to increase the energy efficiency of U.S. homes and businesses; policies that reduce vehicle pollution and oil consumption; policies to put a cap and a price on carbon; and sustainable energy programs in China. The Foundation is unable to support local projects unless they have been designed for further replication or have broad regional or national implications. Applications may be submitted at any time. Visit the Foundation's website for detailed information on each of the grantmaking programs.

Grants Promote Dog Adoptions

[PEDIGREE Foundation](#)

The PEDIGREE Foundation is dedicated to helping dogs in need find loving homes by supporting the good work of nonprofit shelters and dog rescue organizations throughout the United States. Innovation Grants of \$10,000 to \$25,000 are provided to creative programs/projects that increase dog adoptions. Priority is given to proposals that demonstrate proof of organizational stability for the program; improved adoption rate; collaborative partnership within the community that promotes, educates, and/or increases awareness of issues that contribute to dog homelessness; and well-written, clear, and concise plans. The application deadline is June 30, 2012. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the grant guidelines and application process.

Funds to Acquire Children's Books for Libraries

[Lois Lenski Covey Foundation](#)

The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation is dedicated to advancing literacy and fostering a love of reading among underserved and at-risk children and youth. The Foundation provides grants to rural and urban, public and school libraries throughout the country for the purchase of books published for young people preschool through grade 8. The focus of the grant program is on libraries that serve economically or socially at-risk children, have limited book budgets, and demonstrate real need. Public libraries, school libraries, and non-traditional libraries operated by nonprofit organizations that have been in operation at least three years are eligible to apply. The application deadline is June 15, 2012. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the grant program and the application process.

Regional Funding Opportunities

Watershed Protection Initiatives in the Pacific Northwest Supported

[National Forest Foundation: Community Capacity Land Stewardship Program](#)

The National Forest Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization established by Congress to support the U.S. Forest Service in its management of the nation's forests and grasslands. The Foundation's Community Capacity Land Stewardship Program provides support for local collaborative efforts that work toward achieving watershed restoration objectives within the National Forests and Grasslands in [Oregon](#) and [Washington](#), as well as the [Tongass National Forest](#) in Southeast Alaska. The purpose of this grant program is to achieve watershed and landscape scale restoration while also furthering goals that contribute to the economic sustainability of communities. Collaboratives and community-based organizations may apply for grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$24,000. The upcoming application deadline is June 12, 2012. Visit the Foundation's website to download the request for proposals.

Grants Equip Computer Centers for Youth in Inner-City Locations

[GTECH After School Advantage Program](#)

The GTECH After School Advantage Program equips nonprofit community organizations and

public schools with state-of-the-art, Internet-ready computer centers. These computer centers are designed to provide inner-city at risk children aged 5 to 15 with a meaningful, fun, learning experience during the critical after school hours in a safe environment. GTECH will donate up to \$15,000 in computers, online technology, computer software, and volunteer hours to each after school program in inner-city communities where the company's offices are located, including cities in Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. Requests may be submitted at any time. Visit the GTECH website to review the proposal guidelines.

Community Programs in the Upper Midwest Funded

[Otto Bremer Foundation](#)

The Otto Bremer Foundation is dedicated to building healthy, vibrant communities where basic needs are met, mutual regard is prized, and opportunities for economic, civic, and social participation are within everyone's reach. Support is provided to nonprofit organizations in [communities served by Bremer Banks](#) in Minnesota, North Dakota, and northwestern Wisconsin. The Foundation funds a variety of work important to a community's future, with highest priority given to those opportunities with the potential to move a community forward in meaningful, powerful, and broad-based ways. (There is a separate grant program for organizations in the Twin Cities area that focuses on basic needs and alleviating poverty.) Applications may be submitted at any time and are reviewed four times per year. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the grantmaking priorities.

Support for Economic Development Programs in Louisiana

[Foundation for Louisiana](#)

The Foundation for Louisiana supports nonprofit organizations that benefit vulnerable communities throughout Louisiana. The Foundation provides grants in the following two program areas: The Economic Opportunity program area supports the creation of affordable housing, investment in small businesses and local economies, and wealth building opportunities for Louisiana citizens. The Public Policy and Advocacy program area supports advocates working to increase access to affordable housing, build community wealth, expand economic opportunity, and empower underserved communities to influence policy at the local, state, and federal levels. Letters of interest may be submitted at any time. Invited proposals are reviewed quarterly. Visit the Foundation's website to review the program area descriptions and application guidelines.

Federal Grant and Loan Programs

Funds to Improve Access to Local Foods in Schools

[Department of Agriculture](#)

The Farm to School Grant Program provides support for efforts that connect schools with local or regional farmers, food processors, and manufacturers in order to serve local or regionally procured foods in school cafeterias. The following types of support are provided: planning grants for school districts or schools just starting to incorporate farm to school program elements into their operations, and implementation grants to help scale or further develop existing farm to school initiatives. The majority of awards will be provided for implementation activities. The letter of intent deadline (optional) is May 18, 2012. Applications are due June 15, 2012.

Community-Based Public Safety Initiatives Funded

[Department of Justice](#)

The Community Policing Development Program provides support for the development of

community oriented policing strategies that significantly advance the field of community policing, and demonstrate an understanding of community policing as it pertains to the following topic areas: community policing enhancement, ethics and integrity, policing in a new economy, child and youth safety, police operations, officer safety and wellness, veterans support, and an open topic area focused on community policing-related topics. Proposed activities that represent partnerships between law enforcement agencies and university and nonprofit institutions are encouraged. The application deadline is May 21, 2012.

Workforce Education and Training Grants Available

[Department of Labor](#)

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants Program provides support for education and career training programs designed to be completed in two years or less and for workers who are eligible for training under the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers Program (TAA-eligible workers), as well as other adults. The primary intent of support is to meet the educational or career training needs of workers who have lost their jobs or are threatened with job loss as a result of foreign trade. Proposed programs will assist TAA-eligible workers and other adults in acquiring the skills, degrees, and credentials needed for high-wage, high-skill employment while also meeting the needs of employers for skilled workers. The application deadline is May 24, 2012.

Counseling Services at Elementary/Secondary Schools Supported

[Department of Education](#)

The Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Programs provide support for efforts that establish or expand counseling programs in elementary schools and/or secondary schools, and enable more data-based decision-making. Special consideration may be given to projects serving students residing on Indian lands, turning around the persistently lowest-achieving schools, or supporting military families. The application deadline is May 25, 2012.

If you are attending the **AAM Annual Conference**, there are plenty of chances to meet AASLH Staff and learn about the new and exciting things AASLH is working on for the field of state and local history.

At the AASLH Exhibit Booth - #123

Look for AASLH throughout the Conference at these Sessions and Luncheons:

April 29 at 4:15pm

Benchmarking: From Data to Intelligence to Application

Cherie Cook, Senior Program Manager

Convention Center, Room 101 E

April 30 at 9:00am

What Is Museums Advocacy Day?

Terry Davis, AASLH President & CEO

Convention Center, Room 101 E

April 30 at 9:00am

Your Turn: Answers About MAP, CAP and StEPs National Assessment Programs
Cherie Cook, Senior Program Manager
Convention Center Room, 102 DE

April 30 at 12:15pm

AASLH Luncheon

April 30 at 5:15pm

Idea Lounge: Writing a Museum Ethics Code for the Future
Bob Beatty, Vice President for Programs
Convention Center, Room 203AB

May 1 at 5:30pm

Reception: Developing History Leaders @SHA
Bob Beatty, Vice President for Programs
Hilton Marquette Ballroom III

May 2 at 9:00am

Skills Lab: Professional Development through Developing History Leaders @SHA
Bob Beatty, Vice President for Programs
Convention Center, Room 204AB

May 2 at 10:30am

Skills Lab: Engaged Volunteers, Engaged Communities
Bob Beatty, Vice President for Programs
Convention Center, Room 204AB
Hope to see you there!

Interesting : Serious About a New Language? Begin With Lesson 1

[Annular solar eclipse of 2012 May 20](#) www.eclipse-maps.com

[PowWowsLiveMobile](#) www.livestream.com

Floyd Red Crow Westerman - "Missionary" www.youtube.com

Floyd Red Crow Westerman, the well known Native American, singer, actor and activist teams up with reggae sensation Trevy Felix of the band Boom Shaka to re...

[No Such Thing as Too Much Truth: Saving Ethnic Studies in Arizona](#) truth-out.org

It is the fight to eliminate Arizona legislation banning ethnic studies programs in Arizona which "Precious Knowledge" captures on film. The film, directed by Ari Luis Palos, was released through Dos Vatos Productions, a company that, from its origins, has dedicated itself to the

defense of civil r

In today's excerpt - very early in its national life, the United States had the opportunity to purchase a vast tract of land from Napoleon and France. Some consider it the greatest real estate deal in history. However, the U.S. didn't have the funds-the price was \$15 million and the U.S. still had \$82 million in unpaid war debts-and Napoleon needed cash for his wars, including his war with Britain. In an ironic development that reflected the claustrophobic and incestuous banking industry of the time, it was a British banker, Alexander Baring, who raised the funds for the America to pay Britain's archenemy Napoleon for the land:

"The second budget shock [for the U.S. after the expenditures needed to fight the Barbary pirates] was the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, probably the greatest real estate deal in history. Great for the U.S., that is, which doubled its size for a mere \$15 million, about 4 cents an acre. Overnight, the upstart nation acquired land physically larger than France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Holland, Switzerland, and the British Isles combined. Crowning the vast territory was the magnificent port city of New Orleans, which gave western farmers a much-needed water outlet to world markets. The country could now grow westward without fear that trans-Appalachian states would secede to gain cheap access to the sea.

"Napoleon sold the Louisiana Territory because he was waging war with Britain and was strapped for cash. He wrongly believed the area a wasteland and hence strongly preferred to retain instead the French colony of Saint-Domingue, which occupied the western half of the island of Hispanola (the eastern half being the Spanish colony of Santo Domingo). Saint-Domingue boasted a population of 500,000 and plantations of sugar cane, indigo, coffee, and cocoa rich enough to fill 700 ships a year. The French then promptly lost the colony when, in 1804, a successful revolution by black slaves led to the independence of the new nation of Haiti.

"Jefferson was not certain, however, that the purchase was Constitutional. Re-call that Jefferson interpreted the Constitution strictly, or at least publicly purported to do so. The Constitution made no specific provision for purchasing new territory, so Jefferson was inclined to believe that a Constitutional amendment might have to be passed before the nation could take title to the territory. Madison and most other cabinet members were inclined to agree. [Secretary of the Treasury Albert] Gallatin, however, took a page from Hamilton and persuaded the president and the cabinet that the Constitution contained certain implied powers, including the inherent right to acquire territory. The movement to begin the lengthy process of amending the Constitution was dropped, and Congress quickly approved the purchase.

"Hamilton cast an even larger shadow over the proceedings because the Republicans were about to start borrowing. To pay the purchase price and acquire good title, Gallatin had to pay Napoleon the full price in cash up front. As a distressed dictator desperate for cash, the little Corsican was not about to 'hold the mortgage.' And Gallatin had on hand only about one quarter of the cash needed to make the purchase.

He therefore floated a bond issue through the Dutch banking house of Hope and Company, which promptly sold it to Baring Brothers, a British investment bank. Alexander Baring worked closely with Gallatin for five months in Washington to finalize the details. Although the two financiers formed a friendship, the price tag of the bond issue bothered Gallatin. He realized, however, that the port of New Orleans would increase federal revenues some \$200,000 a year. Moreover, Gallatin and other Republicans must have savored the irony of British investors lending money to vastly increase the power of their former colonies and to replenish the coffers of Britain's arch enemy, Napoleon Bonaparte."

Financial Founding Fathers: The Men Who Made America Rich
by Robert E. Wright by University Of Chicago Press
Date: Copyright 2006 by Robert E. Wright and David J. Cowen
Pages: 98-99

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ONLINE CLASS ATTRACTS SAVVY SIXTH-GRADERS

Sixth-grader Kelsey Antolick may not know it as she arrives at school an hour early, but she's proof that the Clark County School District's goal of enrolling one in three students in online courses by 2015 is materializing. <http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz13282648>

NV ENERGY'S COAL-BURNING PLANT FIRES UP PAIUTES

The Moapa Band of Paiutes recently walked 50 miles from Moapa to Las Vegas earlier this month to raise awareness of health problems that they blame on NV Energy's Reid Gardner power plant. http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct_uz3688753Biz13282649

[Protect Lake Tahoe: Wild and Scenic for Upper Truckee River](#)

Seeking permanent protection for Lake Tahoe's single largest tributary through Wild and Scenic River Designation. Like us to show public support for this important campaign!

[Our Hope Is in Our Struggle: Reclaiming Land and Life in Honduras](http://truth-out.org) truth-out.org

While the April 17 action in Honduras made international headlines, it was just a snapshot of a much larger national movement for land reform that is rarely reported. Documented or not, it's making waves that can't be ignored.

Hispanic Heritage Month : Library of Congress

<http://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov>

Exhibitions, subject guides, and more from U.S. federal government agencies on the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

[Our Last Wild Places, and Why They Need to Stay Wild](http://www.fieldandstream.com)

by Hal Herring www.fieldandstream.com

I'm lucky to spend a lot of my time with all kinds of people, from ranchers and tactical firearms instructors to conservation leaders, from liberals to libertarians. I like conflict and argument, and I've never been the kind of person who thought that everybody should agree..

EDITORIAL (*Las Vegas Opinion*)

Next pawn in pipeline fight: tiny snails

RGJ Posted: May 1, 2012 | 2:03 a.m.

First it was tiny fish. Now anti-development extremists hope to use snails no bigger than your little fingernail as cat's paws to block the Southern Nevada Water Authority plan to pipe groundwater here from east-central Nevada.

Last month, state regulators granted the authority permission to pump up to 27 billion gallons of groundwater a year from four valleys in Lincoln and White Pine counties.

Water officials eventually want to tap rural groundwater to insulate the community from shortages on the Colorado River, which supplies about 90 percent of the valley's drinking water. No deadline has been set. Rather, the authority is going through the approval process now, long before they expect the project to be needed, anticipating years of rate-payer expense battling frivolous environmental lawsuits.

Happy to oblige, the Center for Biological Diversity announced Thursday it will sue the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service unless the agency acts on a 2009 petition to protect 35 spring snail species under the Endangered Species Act. The anti-development group put the federal agency on notice Thursday that the lawsuit will be filed in 60 days unless the Fish and Wildlife Service does the group's bidding, said Rob Mrowka, the group's Nevada spokesman.

Mr. Mrowka said the tiny snails could be wiped out by the pipeline project. "The snails have a very narrow ecological window," he said. "They're kind of an early warning (system) for other species."

How handy.

Does anyone believe that if the snails in question were to die out naturally, the Center for Biological Diversity wouldn't be back in a week or two, naming some new and previously unnoticed, microscopic weed or bug as equally in need of federal protection?

The game here is to block any development of a natural resource which would be useful to mankind, the only species for which such activists never seem to spare any concern. It's no use suggesting Mr. Mrowka and company stop filing their lawsuits - they'll be filing another one on the day the great meteor hits.

Nor does it do much good to advise the federal courts to throw them out. Judges lacking patience with absurd filings don't last long.

No, the solution lies on Capitol Hill. The Endangered Species Act of 1973 - along with similar acts from the same era -- includes provisions granting an easy presumption of "standing" to groups such as the Center for Biological Diversity to sue federal agencies seeking more rigorous enforcement of the act, without requiring them to show how the death of the specified weed, bug or snail will cause them any direct economic harm.

At the least, Congress needs to re-visit those provisions, setting some limit on how many times a given project can be delayed, or at what cost, or even - dare to think it - restoring sensible requirements for plaintiff standing.

Clean Energy Bonds

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In Order to Lead, We Must Invest

Why Victory Bonds?

During the First and Second World Wars, the US government sold bonds in order to finance the costs of war. These war bonds were dubbed "Victory Bonds" because of the crucial role they played in the war effort. In the spirit of patriotism and national sacrifice, Victory Bonds

generated \$185 billion during World War II (over \$2 trillion in today's dollars). They gave ordinary Americans ownership in the efforts of their military overseas and afforded individual and institutional investors access to a risk-free asset. We can learn from that experience.

From coal to nuclear to oil, no new energy source was ever developed without significant government funding. As the fossil-fuel driven economy falters, the need for an alternative path forward becomes ever more urgent.

Around the world countries are competing to develop and deploy the next generation of clean energy technologies at an astounding pace. China alone is investing up to \$12 billion per month in its clean energy sector. Meanwhile American clean energy capacity languishes for lack of financing and companies are unable to develop cutting edge technologies or create employment for American citizens. Clean Energy Victory Bonds are designed to play a role akin to the Victory Bonds of wartime – to mobilize Americans towards the common goal of a globally competitive U.S. clean technology industry and, ultimately, a greener economy.

Wartime Victory Bonds often yielded interest rates lower than the going market rate, but Americans found them hugely popular as a way of investing in their collective future. Clean Energy Victory Bonds, however, will pay interest equal to or greater than the market interest rate on regular government bonds. Clean Energy Victory Bonds will provide a competitive government-backed investment vehicle that Americans will be excited to purchase, and a chance to invest in our collective future.

For more info: <http://www.cleanenergyvictorybonds.org/about>

What are Clean Energy Victory Bonds (CEVBs)?

Will CEVBs be a safe investment?

What innovative energy technologies are supported?

What are the economic benefits?

Investing in the next Industrial Revolution

Winning the Renewables Race

Web site by [Eager Beaver Media](#)