

REVIEW OF 2018



AND A LOOK AT UPCOMING
WORK IN THE YEAR AHEAD



BUILDING A WILD AND RESILIENT FARM MOVEMENT

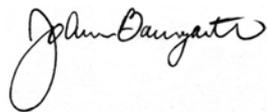
WFA works to promote a healthy, viable agriculture that protects and restores wild nature.

The biodiversity crisis is real. We are in the midst of the 6th mass extinction – the worst loss of species since the dinosaurs disappeared. Right now, over 50 native pollinators are at risk of extinction, more than 300 U.S. bird species are expected to lose much of their range by 2080, and over 100,000 predators are killed yearly.

We cannot wait to tackle the issue of biodiversity loss; too much is at stake. Without biodiversity, farms would not survive and our plates would be empty. The time for meaningful action is now.

WFA has spent the last 18 years addressing the current biodiversity crisis by helping farmers incorporate habitat to support wildlife and take advantage of the myriad of benefits nature can provide. We are excited to have you join us in the work to continue to build this powerful movement.

Read on about our work over the last year and please consider making a contribution to help us continue this important work!



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Executive Director



Shelly Connor
Assistant Director



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A WIN FOR NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

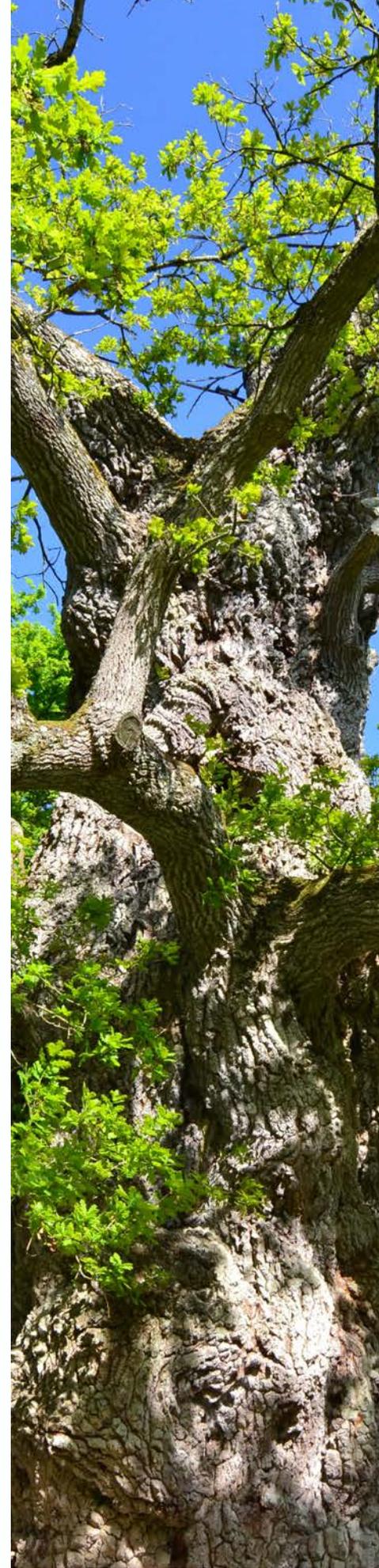
When you bite into an organic apple, you expect that your dollars are contributing to agriculture that is protecting the wild. After all, organic means more than just chemical free, right?

Together we have worked for more than a decade to ensure Native Ecosystems were protected from conversion to organic production. And in the spring of this year our campaign reached a huge milestone! The National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) voted to recommend a new rule to the USDA National Organic Program that will ultimately protect Native Ecosystems. This new regulation, when adopted by the USDA, will end the conversion of Native Ecosystems like prairies to organic production for overnight certification.

Leading up to the April meeting, we published two Issue Briefs describing our concerns, arguments and actions needed to move this issue forward. Then we and our partners generated more than 500 public comments and submitted our own written comments with 33 endorsing organizations. At the meeting, we gave oral comments to the Board, while building support and finalizing strategies in the hallways with those that attend the NOSB meetings.

You and millions of other consumers believe that organic agriculture is built on the philosophy of caring for the Earth. You expect organic food is meeting a standard that is grown in a way that protects wildlife and critical habitat - this new regulation does just that.

We are now preparing for the next steps, working with NOSB members and other organic experts to draft a Guidance to help outline how this Rule should be enforced on the ground. We believe with this new rule and a strong Guidance backing it, the integrity of the organic label will be protected.



"I support Wild Farm Alliance because WFA helps farmers and consumers balance our existence with the natural world."

--Helen Atthowe, Oregon

SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

WFA's unique approach focuses on the education, promotion, and advocacy for sustainable practices that support both the farmer and wild nature. Our strategic approach is to empower farmers, agricultural professionals, and consumers to partner in supporting biodiversity on farms - the accomplishments we achieved are leading to more biodiverse farms.



7,000

WFA'S BIODIVERSITY GUIDES & CONTINUUM CHARTS & ONLINE RESOURCES DISTRIBUTED.



165

CERTIFIERS & INSPECTORS REACHED THROUGH WEBINAR TRAININGS ON BIODIVERSITY.



25

CERTIFIERS, WHO INSPECT 20,000 ORGANIC FARMS, ASSISTED WITH UPDATING THEIR ORGANIC SYSTEM PLANS (OSP).



8

CERTIFIERS & INSPECTORS TRAINED ON HOW TO ASSESS BIODIVERSITY AT A MULTI-DAY ON-FARM TRAINING IN OHIO.



630

RESEARCH ARTICLES REVIEWED FOR UPCOMING PUBLICATION ON BENEFICIAL BIRDS IN AGRICULTURE.



500

PEOPLE TOOK ACTION TO PROTECT NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS.



120

FARMERS LEARNED ABOUT HOW BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION CAN HELP BUILD CLIMATE RESILIENCE.



5,200

PEOPLE TOOK PART IN ADVANCING A WILD AND RESILIENT FARM MOVEMENT.

"I support Wild Farm Alliance because farming isn't just growing crops, it's learning to coexist and balance the destructive practices of production with the promotion and protection of all the creatures on our land. WFA is a wonderful resource for all of us."

--David Stern, New York

A LESSON FROM THE FIELD

I stood in a farm field in Ohio with about a dozen other people, helping participants learn how to assess and build biodiversity on organic farms. This dairy operation has been in the farmer's family for generations and will be handed down to the next owner, the farmer's son, who is also passionate about the land.

As we all stood there listening to the farmer talk about his operation, I noticed the pasture edges framed by native trees and shrubs, heard the chorus of bird songs, and saw the cows in the pastures rich in healthy grasses and forbs. While this scene alone embodied the spirit of wild farming, it was the words of the farmer that struck a deep chord.

He stood in front of the crowd and talked about how he will always leave ten percent of his land wild, uncultivated, just as his grandfather did. Not because he wanted to save it for future cropland or pasture, but because it was the right thing to do for the land and for his farm.

This farm is the vision and the future.

Farms are among the first to experience the devastating effects of climate change – drought, flooding, erratic weather patterns, early frosts, and more. But farmers like the one in Ohio have an advantage in this changing world – they are protecting habitat and biodiversity which in turn will protect the livelihood of the land.

Through our projects, we are working to amplify these stories so other farmers can follow their footsteps.



*"I support Wild Farm Alliance because wild farms = the future of farming!"
--Dan Kent, Oregon*



LOOKING AHEAD

In the coming year we aim to help farms incorporate more practices that ultimately build climate resilience.

We are starting with a new publication, released in January, that outlines research on beneficial birds for insect and rodent control. This free publication will showcase the beneficial birds, practices to attract these birds to the farm, and how to co-exist with pest birds.

We will then host several field days throughout the year on farms that demonstrate innovative practices farmers use to attract birds and the benefits they experience.

Through our work about birds we will also launch a new online platform that tells the stories of these farms with videos and photos that will inspire others to follow their lead.

Addressing climate change, WFA will release a new resource that will help farmers assess biodiversity for support of climate adaptation and mitigation. The resource will highlight a set of resilience indicators we developed that farmers can use to employ practices and ensure longevity of their farm and the land.

Finally, in concert with a national coalition, we will continue to advocate for strong federal and state policies that prioritize and fund conservation and the National Organic Program.

Thank you for investing in this important work!

To make a donation to join the Alliance and support our vision, visit www.WildFarmAlliance.org.

"I support Wild Farm Alliance because if we don't support biodiversity on farms, then where will we?"

--Tony Fleming, Indiana

ALLIANCE SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the following supporters who gave in 2017 and 2018.

INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

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California Department of Pesticide Regulation	Organic Valley FAFO	Foundation of Sonoma County
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Join the Alliance at www.WildFarmAlliance.org

