Dear friend of the Amazon:

In March 2016, Amazon Watch celebrated twenty years of advocacy for the Amazon rainforest ecosystem and solidarity with its indigenous stewards. Throughout this journey, we have built incredible partnerships with indigenous communities deep in the rainforest, global networks of indigenous and NGO allies, heavy-hitters of Hollywood, and an ever-growing network of volunteers, online supporters and generous philanthropists. Together, we have faced an army of profit-driven extractive corporations, corrupt and ineffective governments, and a global populace in need of education on the role of the Amazon rainforest and indigenous peoples in ensuring our climate future. Despite these hurdles, the progress and accomplishments we have forged are truly impressive. I’m honored to stand in solidarity with those who have so courageously faced repression, racism, and indifference when defending their forest and river homes in order to forge meaningful progress toward a sustainable and just world.

With this in mind, I’m also honored to share a short report on Amazon Watch’s recent core activities and accomplishments. You can learn more about the high points of our work in our Fall 2016 Amazon In Focus.

Advancing indigenous rights in the Amazon isn’t just a moral imperative; it is also proven to be the most effective thing society can do to protect the rainforest. In recognition of this, Amazon Watch continues to serve as a bridge for the Amazon’s indigenous voices and movements, amplifying their impact by providing communications, advocacy, logistical, and financial support. Amazon Watch’s expertise in the field and twenty-year history as a principled indigenous ally uniquely position the organization to compellingly shape the global narrative on why, and how, we must defend the Amazon.

Recent political power shifts bode poorly for environmental protection and human rights in the coming years, but I hope that you, like I, take inspiration from the accomplishments detailed within this annual report and from the growing unity amongst indigenous peoples and allies in the movement. As we enter this definitive struggle to shift our global paradigm from domination and exploitation to stewardship and cooperation, we must fortify ourselves with the knowledge that our work is important, just, and effective. Thank you for traveling this path to justice with us.

For the Amazon,

Leila Salazar-López, Executive Director
Amazon Watch continued to work in close partnership with indigenous Amazonian communities to defeat threats to Amazonian ecosystems and advance their rights to legally manage their ancestral territories in keeping with traditional practices. The analysis we conducted in 2015 as part of our strategic planning process affirmed that this is not only the most effective means of protecting the Amazon and our climate future, it is also what these frontline indigenous communities want us to do. Thus, Amazon Watch’s 2016-2020 Strategic Plan prioritized the continuance of our media, advocacy, and capacity-building work in support of indigenous-driven conservation.

Last year, we made the decision to shift accounting cycles to better fit our planning and budgeting needs, so this annual report is a little different from recent years in that it includes programmatic and financial reports from not only 2015 but also the first half of 2016. Highlights during this reporting period include:

**Advancing Protection of the Sacred Headwaters of the Amazon**

Amazon Watch continues to advance protection of more than 20 million acres of biologically and culturally diverse tropical rainforests in the Ecuadorian Sacred Headwaters region by exposing and challenging a new round of leases, and supporting indigenous-led initiatives to secure land title and advance sustainable “life plans.” Highlights include:

- In a major victory for indigenous rights and international corporate accountability, Peru’s Achuar indigenous people of the Corrientes River basin announced in March 2015 that U.S. oil giant Occidental Petroleum had **agreed to compensate** them for oil pollution on their territory. The announcement follows a decade of legal proceedings and campaigning by the Achuar, Amazon Watch, and allies including EarthRights International.

- After years of grassroots mobilization supported by Amazon Watch to successfully keep international oil companies out of their territory, the Achuar of Peru’s Pastaza River basin **filed a groundbreaking case** for the titling of more than 750,000 hectares (1.9 million acres) of their collective territory and for the cancellation of the oil blocks that overlap their lands. This legal process, which could take years, is a key step in protecting a vast region of biologically and culturally diverse rainforest and will open the door for dozens of other collective indigenous territorial claims.

- With Amazon Watch’s support, Ecuadorian indigenous groups came together to keep Ecuador’s southern Amazon free from oil. In Spring 2015, the Shuar, Achuar, Shiwiar, Sápara and Kichwa of Sarayaku – the groups that have successfully fought for the last 30 years to keep Ecuador’s southern Amazon free from oil – came together to reject the government’s attempts to enter their communities to “consult” them about oil operations. As the in-depth report entitled **Consulta Previa En La Décimo Primera Ronda Petrolera** (Prior Consultation In The Eleventh Oil Round) and the short documentary **La Consulta Inconsulta** (The Non-Consultation Consultation) show, the government’s consultations have not
respected free prior and informed consultation, much less free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

- For the third year in a row, Amazon Watch and our indigenous allies successfully deterred international investment in new oil production in the Ecuadorian Amazon, despite the government’s attempt to auction 10 million acres for oil development. Amazon Watch and Ecuadorian indigenous leaders continue to hold the line after a key victory against Ecuador’s XI Round of oil leases in the Amazon. The XI Round initially consisted of 21 blocks covering more than 10 million acres in a region that is home to Ecuador’s last remaining tract of virgin rainforest and to seven indigenous nationalities: the Achuar, Shuar, Kichwa, Sápara, Waorani, Shiwiar and Andoa.

- Chevron faced escalating international pressure to comply with its legal obligations to fund the cleanup of devastating oil pollution in the Ecuadorian Amazon. Despite Chevron’s audacious and tone-deaf assertion that it will fight the verdict against it until ‘hell freezes over,’ that day is drawing nearer. Whistleblower videos sent anonymously to Amazon Watch, exposing Chevron’s corrupt attempt to conceal its legacy of oil pollution in Ecuador, received millions of views. And in May 2015 and April 2016, Ecuador was in the spotlight at the Chevron shareholder meetings as Amazon Watch coordinated inside and outside the boardroom strategies to pressure the company to stop avoiding justice and address its toxic legacy in the Amazon. In September 2015, the Canadian Supreme Court unanimously ruled against Chevron and in favor of Ecuadorians, clearing the way for Ecuador to pursue asset collection to enforce the $9.5 billion verdict against Chevron for its legacy of pollution. And in October, it was revealed that Chevron’s key witness in its ongoing RICO litigation against Ecuadorians and their lawyers recanted his testimony about receiving a bribe to ghostwrite the verdict against the company. He also revealed he has been paid handsomely by the company to lie about illegal activities that never occurred.

- Amazon Watch supported delegations of indigenous leaders - particularly women - to advocate for their rights before international decision-makers and courts. In Fall 2015, Amazon Watch accompanied several delegations of Ecuadorian indigenous leaders to connect with allies and decision-makers before the U.N., the Organization of American States’ Inter-American Commission of Human Rights, the US State Department, and high-level Vatican officials.

Keeping Fossil Fuels in the Ground in the Amazon

Scientists and policy experts agree that in order to avoid catastrophic climate change impacts we need to keep eighty percent of all remaining fossil fuels in the ground. Stopping the expansion of the fossil fuel frontier, particularly in high-carbon sequestering forests and indigenous territories, is an obvious and critical starting place.

- In an historic victory, the Magallanes gas platform, which had been constructed by Ecopetrol on the ancestral territory of the U’wa indigenous people of Colombia without their consent, was dismantled. Amazon Watch provided key international support to the U’wa as they challenged the gas project. The U’wa Association of Traditional Authorities and
Indigenous peoples’ challenge to China’s plans to drill for oil in the Amazon receives international support. After Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang failed to respond to indigenous leaders’ call to cancel plans for Chinese state oil company Andes Petroleum to drill for oil in their territory and in Yasuní National Park, we engaged our global network of supporters. Our China - Don’t Drill the Amazon action, which we released on World Environment Day (June 5, 2015), inspired more than 13,000 emails and petition signatures, reached 39,000 on Facebook, and generated more than 170,000 Twitter impressions within two weeks. Unfortunately, despite massive opposition, Ecuador began drilling for oil underneath Yasuní National Park in 2016.

Climate equity strategy session expands movement to keep fossil fuels in the ground: In response to the need to keep at least 3/4 of proven fossil fuel reserves in the ground to avoid catastrophic climate change in April 2015 Amazon Watch and the Sierra Club co-hosted an Americas-wide climate equity strategy session on Keeping Fossil Fuels in the Ground, which involved more than 50 indigenous representatives and NGOs. Strategy session participants drafted a joint NGO-indigenous declaration and policy recommendations which were presented at COP21.

Launched joint climate alliance mapping initiative with university researchers. Amazon Watch collaborated with Professor Tracey Osborne PhD at the University of Arizona on a multi-media mapping project that shows the interconnection (and resulting threats) of Amazonian oil reserves, indigenous communities and biodiversity hotspots.

Councils (Asou’wa) issued a statement calling Ecopetrol’s withdrawal an “act of respect” for U’wa rights and an “important achievement” in the defence of their territories, and acknowledged the importance of support from organizations and individuals working on human rights and environmental issues, particularly Amazon Watch.

Showcased Indigenous Solutions at the UN Climate summit - Amazon Watch facilitated the travel and participation of ten indigenous leaders from the Kichwa community of Sarayaku to the COP21 climate summit in December. The high-profile group articulated key messaging in dozens of fora and media articles about the central nature of indigenous rights in addressing the climate crisis. A central cultural symbol they contributed was the Canoe of Life, which was constructed in their community, launched in the waters of Paris, and ultimately displayed at the indigenous pavilion within Le Bourget.

Expanded our global call with indigenous peoples to keep fossil fuels in the ground in the Amazon and in the Americas. Our Keep the Oil in the Ground video featuring indigenous leader Nina Gualinga continues to gain momentum...
and has inspired more than 2 million views and more than 35,000 petition signatures, which will be delivered to global leaders this year. A key outcome of the Americas-wide strategy session on Keeping Fossil Fuels in the Ground, which we co-hosted with the Sierra Club, was the formation of indigenous-NGO Working Groups to coordinate policy and communications initiatives.

- Engaged the faith community in calling for protecting the Amazon and indigenous rights. In his first papal visit to South America, Pope Francis issued a resounding call for Amazon rainforest protection and indigenous rights. Through behind-the-scenes channels, Amazon Watch played an influential role in encouraging this groundbreaking shift in such a globally influential moral voice.

**Stopping Mega-dams in the Brazilian Amazon and Promoting Clean Energy**

Amazon Watch continues to play an important role in the Brazilian Amazon, where widespread government corruption, a myopic focus on mega-dams, and the advance of other extractive industries threaten biodiversity and indigenous peoples. We partnered with local communities in the Tapajós river basin to mobilize in defense of their rivers, rainforests and rights supporting multiple indigenous mobilizations, strategy meetings, workshops and media outreach.

- Stopping Future Dams in the Amazon: We publicized the devastation caused by the construction of the Belo Monte dam and Brazil’s associated corruption scandals; successfully nominated the Munduruku Ipereg Ayu Movement for the prestigious UN Equator Prize in recognition of their efforts to stop the Tapajos dams and accompanied them to COP21; organized a hearing on dams and indigenous rights at the 29th UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, resulting in prominent coverage in The Guardian; coordinated with Greenpeace and the Munduruku on an intervention at General Electric’s annual shareholders meeting in Florida, asking them to refrain from involvement in the Tapajos via their turbine subsidiary Alstrom; and channeled financial support to partners.

- Clean Energy for the Amazon Campaign: We engaged with international corporate, financial, and policy decision-makers to dispel myths that large Amazon dams are “clean energy” and partnered with International Rivers and the Inter-American Environmental Defense Association (AIDA) to produce the “Dams Are Not Clean Energy” video, launched at COP21.

- Renewable Energy and Communications Infrastructure for Indigenous Allies: In 2016, we entered a partnership with Empowered By Light (EBL) to design and install solar power systems with indigenous communities on the frontlines of Amazonian resources and rights struggles. EBL installed a pilot project system in Munduruku territory in July 2016. Additional projects were approved for the U’wa (Colombia) and Sápara (Ecuador) and implementation is underway.

**Partner Re-grants and Capacity Building**

Amazon Watch continued to award small grants and support capacity building projects with our indigenous partners.

- Provided $99,404 in partner regrants in 2015 and $27,817 in the first half of 2016.
- Worked with indigenous communities to seek and secure direct funding, including grants from Cultures of Resistance, Lush NA, Living Forest Project, Global Green Grants, Rainforest Action Network, 350.org, and individual donors.
AMAZON WATCH
Summary Financial Report 2015
January 1 to December 31 2015

INCOME
Foundation Grants 515,849
Funds for Amazonian Groups 15,030
Individual Donors 654,605
Organizations & Businesses 88,228
Delegations & Other Income 49,663
TOTAL INCOME 1,323,375

EXPENSES
Programs and Campaigns 1,139,685
Grants to Amazonian Groups 99,404
Total Program Services 1,239,089
Management 151,531
Fund Development 191,864
TOTAL EXPENSES 1,582,484

Net Income (259,109)
Net Assets on January 1 276,206
Net Assets on December 31 17,097

Net Assets on December 31 Include
Cash Assets 73,465
Prepaid Expenses 0
Short-term investments 0
Grants Receivable 174,551
Net Equipment Assets 1,745
Total Liabilities 232,664
TOTAL NET ASSETS 17,097

Note: This report is based on the 2015 audited financial statements.
AMAZON WATCH

Summary Financial Report
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016
January 1 to June 30 2016

INCOME
Foundation Grants 148,570
Funds for Amazonian Groups 5,000
Individual Donors 729,654
Organizations & Businesses 37,409
Delegations & Other Income 35,643
TOTAL INCOME 956,277

EXPENSES
Programs and Campaigns 490,566
Grants to Amazonian Groups 27,817
Total Program Services 518,383
Management 78,038
Fund Development 94,213
TOTAL EXPENSES 690,634

Net Income 256,643
Net Assets on January 1 17,097
Net Assets on June 30 282,740

Net Assets on June 30 Include
Cash Assets 274,043
Prepaid Expenses 25,761
Short-term investments 351,588
Grants Receivable 1,405
Net Equipment Assets 370,055
Total Liabilities
TOTAL NET ASSETS 282,742

Note: This report is based on the FYE 2016 audited financial statements.
THANK YOU!

Board of Directors
Branden Barber
Andrew Beath
(Treasurer)
Adeline Cassin
(Secretary)
Peter Coyote
(Honorary Board Member)
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Lily LaTorre
Jeff Leifer
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Richard Wegman
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Daryl Hannah
Bianca Jagger
Q’orianka Kilcher
John Quigley
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Joseph Kolb
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Christian Poirier
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Sarah Weaver
Stephanie Willett
Jessica Yuraszek
Michael Zap
Adam Zucker

2015-2016 Partners in the Amazon
APIB
Acción Ecológica
AIDA
AIDESEP
Asou’wa
Bioselva
Brasil Pelas Florestas
CDES
The Chaikuni Institute
Consejo Educativo
Multietnico
CIMI
Clearwater
COIAB
Comité Metropolitano
pelos Florestas
CONFENIAE
CONAIE
Earthrights
International
Empowered By Light
FASE
FENAP
FICS
Frente de una Nova
Política Energética
Frente de Defensa de
la Amazonia
Greenpeace Brazil
and International
IIDS - International
Institute for Law and
Society
Instituto Centro de
Vida
Instituto Raoní
Instituto
Socioambiental
International Rivers
Ipereg Ayu
Justícia Global
Kichwa Community of
Sarayaku
Kichwa Community of
Rucuñakta
Kichwa Community of
Sani Isla
Movimento Xingu
Vivo para Sempre
Mujer U’wa
Nacionalidad Achuar
del Ecuador
Nacionalidad Shuar
de Ecuador
Nacionalidad Shiwiar
del Ecuador
OilWatch
ONIC
Pairiri
Rainforest Action
Network
Rede-Brazil
Rede-FAOR
Sociedade Paraense
de Defesa dos
Direitos Humanos
Tapajós Vivo
Terra Mater
Uma Gota No
Oceano
Union de Afectados
por Texaco (UDAPT)
Volontariato
Internazionale per lo
Sviluppo
Yasunidos

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THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

*Indicates multi-year grants or donations

$100,000 and up
Anonymous *
Neda Nobari Foundation *

$50,000 to $99,999
Anonymous
C. Diane Christensen & Jean M. Pierrre
Hillary Institute
Full Circle Fund of RSF
Social Finance
Living Forest Project *
John & Catherine T.
MacArthur Foundation
Overbrook Foundation
Switzer Leadership Grant
Waterloo Foundation

$25,000 to $49,999
Timothy & Michele
Barakett Foundation
Conservation, Food and
Health Foundation
Greater Kansas City
Community Foundation
Max and Anna Levinson
Foundation
Wallace Genetic
Foundation

$10,000 to $24,999
Avatar Alliance
Timothy & Michele
Barakett Foundation
Bill & Laurie Benenson
Conservation Food and
Health Foundation
Pat Davis
EarthWays Foundation *
Sophia Ehrenrooth
Flora Family Foundation
Global Greengrants Fund
Francis & Christine Martin
Foundation
Mental Insight Foundation
Nelson Family Foundation
Susan Prince *
Rainforest Action
Network *
Richard W. Rupp
Foundation *
The Schaffner Family
Foundation *
Schwab Charitable Fund *
The Steiner Family
Foundation
Tom Steyer & Kat Taylor

SWF Immersion
Foundation
Threshold Foundation
Tikva Foundation

$5,000 to $9,999
Mark Buntzman
Adeline Cassin
Cultures of Resistance
Network Foundation
Candra Dorchert
Jane Fajans
J. Cogan & Beth Goldberg
Greenpeace USA *
Kenneth Greenstein
Jonas Minton & Julie
Carrasco-Minton *
Milan & Tish Momirov
National Philanthropic
Trust *
Linda Nicholes *
The Pachamama Alliance
Nick Polizzi
David Rosenstein
Tom & Barbara Sargent
Sierra Club
Cheryl Snell
Jody Snyder & Noel
Littlejohns
Katherine Thompson
Sarah Vaill
Village by Village *
Carl von Siemens
Nancy Zamierowski

$2,500 to $4,999
Hunter Covington & Stacy
Traub *
Friends of the Earth
Lisa Honig
Nicole Karsin
KeVita
Matt Kirby & Karen
Riffenburgh
Ana & Kobie Mahiri
Thrive Market *
Janet Nancarrow
New Resource Bank
Torkil Olesen *
Rainforest Concern
Rainforest Information
Center
Bruce Robertson
Chris Ruder
Lesley Stansfield *
Tara Stein
Toby Thain *

$500 to $2,499
Diane Ackerman
Celia Alario
Altruvistas *
Lynn Augstein
Allan Badiner
Susan Barney
Richard Bates
Lisa Belcher
Beneficial State Bank *
Beneficial State
Foundation
John Berger
Vanessa Born
Deborah Boyar
Garrett Bressler
Bruyette Family
Foundation
Andre Carothers
Thomas Cavanagh
Center for Environmental
Health
Jennifer Chartoff
boona cheema
Atessa Chehrazi
Ouida Chichester & Jeffrey
Price *
Timothy Childs
Conroy Family Foundation *
Tara Cullis
Russell Davis
Benoit De Bryun
Peter de Fenss
Bernie Dechant
Dharma Merchant
Services
Ginger Dietz
Valerie Dillman
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Eight Armes Cellars *
Elizabeth Ferguson
Susannah Forest
Gregory Frey
Lionel Friedman
Trevor Gleason
Goldman Environmental
Prize
Katherine Gould-Martin
Dot Green
Marvin & Tamara
Greenstein

$10,000 to $24,999
Manitoba Harvest
Melissa Haswell *
Michael Hirschhorn &
Jimena Martinez
Marika Holmgren
Marcia Hoodwin
Michael Horn
Kristin Hull
Tamar Hurwitz *
Morton Jorgensen
William Jung & Hyunky
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Gross Law
Jeffrey Leifer
Lisa & Douglas Goldman
Fund
Eric & Marcie Lister
Lucky Seven Foundation
The Lumpkin Family
Foundation
Christopher Macaluso
Marina Adams DDS
Henry Massie Family
Charitable Trust
Dylan McClintock *
Neil & Amelia McDaniel
Charitable Trust
Patti McDonnell
Jennifer McGuire *
E. Winfried Meier *
Adam & Daniela Meltzer *
Jeff Mendelsohn
Pamela Neuharth
Linda Nicholes & Howard
Stein
Nobel Women’s Initiative
Numi Tea *
Nuita Nourish Foundation
Patrick O’Connor
Off the Mat Into the World
Jennifer Overman
Trevor Owens
Christopher Paine
Perforce Foundation
Sarah-Jane Potts
Dean Preston
Rosemary Pritzker
Amaury Rambaud
RCSI Environmental
Society
Bruce Rich
Jennifer Rook
Heather Rosmarin *
Peter Rosmarin
Adena Rosmarin
Ana Roth
Todd Laby & Amelia
Rudolph
Leila Salazar-Lopez
Steven Sangren
Mathew F. Schmid & Leila
Conners Petersen
Simone Schock
Roseline Scholtes
Scion Staffing
John Seed
Smithfield Trust:
Hitchcock Bowart
Daterra Family
Foundation
Roxyan Soltani
Atossa Soltani
Bonnie Spinazzee
Spikak Family Trust
Sandy Spring Trust
Lorenz Stattegger *
Victoria Sujata
The Sullivan Family Fund
Sum of Us
Teadora Beauty
The American University
TRUE Grasses
University of Technology
Sydney
Marlies Uribe
Natalie van Zelm
David Vasiljevic *
Genevieve Vaughan *
Michael Yo
Renate Walder *
Walking Stick Family Fund
Gillian Waters
United Way
Richard Wegman
Frederick Welsey
Sylvia Wen & Matthew
London
Michael & Christiane
Wenzl *
Steve Wemendorf
Ann Whittemore & Curt
Anderson
Colin Wiel
Stephanie Willett
Ken Wilson
Winky Foundation
Adrian Wirth
Lee & Peggy Zeigler
“We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.”
- Native American Proverb

Amazon Watch works to protect the rainforest and advance the rights of indigenous peoples in the Amazon Basin.

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