

GREEN LEGACY

Fall 2013

Keeping the Oceans Healthy

by John Hocevar

It is, quite simply, the most pristine and untouched marine ecosystem left on Earth.

That's the reason I've been working to save the Antarctic Ross Sea and protect its incredible biodiversity by establishing a marine reserve. But as critical as the Ross Sea is, it's only one part of a much bigger challenge you and I are facing.

Over the last century, humans have devised damaging practices which have thrown entire marine food webs out of balance. At the same time, global warming, pollution and oil spills are affecting these critical ecosystems and creating a crisis situation. Yet the world has been painfully slow to act.

With the oceans so vast, the problems so great and solutions so complex, it's hard to imagine any organization that would make the creation of marine reserves a major part of its mission. Any organization, that is, except Greenpeace.

For 15 years, Greenpeace has been leading the effort to create marine reserves around the world.

In the Bering Sea, we're working to protect undersea canyons larger than the Grand Canyon.

I'm thrilled to report that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council recently agreed to identify key coral areas in the Bering Sea Canyons and consider measures to protect them. While it's just a beginning to a longer process, it is a clear victory for Greenpeace!

But our efforts to establish marine reserves in the Ross Sea and the Bering Sea are part of a much larger and more far-reaching campaign: Our commitment to establish marine reserves covering fully 40 percent of the world's oceans—what we've designated a "Roadmap to Recovery."

The choice is ours. The world needs healthy oceans! If we allow still-thriving ecosystems to be decimated by industrial fishing practices, we will not only push species to extinction, but threaten the future of a food supply that sustains millions of lives around the world.

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Credit: © Greenpeace/Marcus Donner

Greenpeace Oceans Campaign
Director John Hocevar

Inside:

- Advantages of Giving Securities
- Year-End Planning Checklist
- Meet Irene Mostek

Advantages of Giving Securities

As you consider your charitable gifts this fall, keep in mind that stocks, mutual funds and certain other assets owned for more than one year that are worth more than you paid for them are generally deductible at their full current value. In other words, you are allowed to deduct not only what you paid for the property but also any “paper profit” or gain in the investment.

As a result, in addition to regular tax savings, you may avoid capital gains tax that would otherwise be due on a sale of the donated assets.

Tax-Free Gifts from Your IRA

If you are over 70½ and have a traditional or Roth IRA, you may wish to consider a special provision that allows completely tax-free charitable distributions of IRA funds directly to qualified charitable recipients through December 31, 2013.

Such gifts will count toward mandatory withdrawal amounts. Gifts can be made in this way in amounts up to \$100,000 per person. The provision is scheduled to expire at the end of the year. Check with us or your plan administrator for more details.

EASY TO DO

Check with us or your advisors for more information about tax-favored gifts of securities and other assets. In most cases, a gift of securities is very easy to complete. Simply instruct your financial advisor to transfer the stock to our account.

Example of \$10,000 gift

	Sell Securities and Give Cash		Give Securities	
Asset Value	\$10,000		\$10,000	
Cost	\$4,000		\$4,000	
Taxable Gain	\$6,000		\$0	
Capital Gains Rate	20%		0%	
Capital Gains Tax	\$1,200	Net Tax Savings \$2,760	\$0	Net Tax Savings \$3,960, 31% Greater
Amount of Gift	\$10,000		\$10,000	
Income Tax Rate	39.6%		39.6%	
Income Tax Savings	\$3,960		\$3,960	
Net Tax Savings	\$2,760		\$3,960	
Number of Transactions	2		1	

Please Remember Greenpeace in Your Will

If you are ready to name Greenpeace in your will or other plans, here are a few simple facts to note. Our full legal name is:

Greenpeace Fund, Inc.

and our federal tax ID number is:

95-3313195.



A seal sunbathing on shore at Ross Island. Antarctica.

Credit: © Greenpeace/Martin Lueders

The purpose of this publication is to provide general gift, estate, and financial planning information. It is not intended as legal, accounting or other professional advice. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other implications, the services of appropriate advisors should be obtained. Consult an attorney for advice if your plans require revision of a will or other legal document. Tax deductions vary based on applicable federal discount rates, which can change on a monthly basis. Some opportunities may not be available in all states. ©MMXIII RFSCO, Inc. All Rights Reserved. YND-13

A Quick Guide to Giving

TO GIVE ...	DO THIS ...	AND SAVE ...
CASH	Give by check or other means of giving cash.	By deducting gifts up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI) in any one year; carry over any excess into as many as five tax years.
SECURITIES	Send unendorsed stock certificate in one envelope and a signed stock power form in another envelope. The gift is complete on the postmarked date of the later envelope. If you do not have the stock certificate or if you are giving mutual funds, contact your investment advisor to arrange the gift.	By deducting the full current value of the stock and bypassing any capital gains tax which might be due on a sale. Deduct such gifts up to 30 percent of your AGI in any one year; carry over any excess into as many as five tax years.
IRA ASSETS IN 2013	<p>Over age 59½</p> <p>If you are beyond the age at which a penalty is imposed for withdrawals, notify your plan administrator that you would like to withdraw amounts sufficient to fund charitable gifts you plan to make this year.</p> <p>Over age 70½</p> <p>You can arrange for tax-free charitable gifts directly from a traditional or Roth IRA up to a total of \$100,000 in 2013.</p>	<p>Over age 59½</p> <p>While you will report the amount of the withdrawal as income this year, you may be entitled to an offsetting federal income tax deduction for the amount of your charitable gifts, thereby basically avoiding tax on the amount of the withdrawal.</p> <p>Over age 70½</p> <p>Regardless of whether you itemize your deductions or experience other limitations on credits or deductions, amounts distributed directly to charity are excluded from your taxable income.</p>

Year-End Planning Checklist

- Complete all gifts by December 31 to qualify for tax savings on your 2013 return.
- Keep all receipts, bank statements, payroll deduction records and acknowledgment letters, especially for gifts of \$250 or more.
- Consider using appreciated securities to make gifts. This type of gift can yield greater tax benefits than a gift of cash.
- If you are age 70½ or older, consider making a tax-free gift from your IRA.
- If donating property valued at over \$5,000, you must complete form 8283 and obtain a qualified appraisal for the property donated.

Please check with us or your advisors if you need assistance.



Making the Most of Today

Irene Mostek’s belief in humanity and her view on what our world could be like is profound.

Her philosophy is, “Yesterday is gone—don’t worry about it. Tomorrow isn’t here. Today is the only thing that matters, so make the most of it.” To Irene, “making the most of it” means doing everything she can to help others and make a better world for tomorrow.

She shared this philosophy with her late husband, Raymond. Together, they enjoyed a lifetime of excitement and activism. The two met while on a bus trip heading to Indiana Dunes State Park. Later, they were victorious in their quest to have surrounding parklands incorporated into Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Not only did they help preserve the Lakeshore, but they constantly pinched pennies just so that they could have money to spend on helping others.

Irene and Raymond were married before Raymond was shipped off to the Philippine Islands to serve

in WWII. While serving as a nurse in the war, Irene successfully persuaded authorities to let her care for soldiers rather than serve in the women and children’s ward, where she was originally assigned. Irene says that she told the officers, “I signed up to help soldiers, so let me serve.”

Irene has actively supported Greenpeace for more than 15 years. She was able to take a personal tour of the original Rainbow Warrior while traveling in the Caribbean. When asked why she included Greenpeace in her estate plans, she answered, “Why wouldn’t I? [Greenpeace] goes out there and does something—they don’t just collect petitions. They subject themselves to danger and they are effective. What other groups would be doing things like that?”

Irene hopes that her story encourages others to think twice about whether they want to buy a material item, or use their money to help make the world a better place.



Irene Mostek at Borrego Springs State Park, California

For More Information...

For more information on how your plans can balance your own personal and financial goals with a desire to help Greenpeace in a substantial way, please contact, without obligation:



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Gift Planning Director
800-328-0678

GREENPEACE FUND

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*Greenpeace Fund is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization set up to continue the vital work of Greenpeace by increasing public awareness and understanding of environmental issues through research, the media, and other educational programs. Greenpeace Fund also provides grants to support Greenpeace’s work around the world for activities that are consistent with its mission.



Recognized by Charity Navigator as having demonstrated excellent financial efficiency.

Awarded “Best in America Seal” by Independent Charities of America. Of the one million charities operating in the USA, less than two thousand have been awarded this prestigious seal.



Proud to meet all of the Better Business Bureau’s “Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability.”

Top-rated environmental charity by the American Institute of Philanthropy. Grade A-.

