

« Greenpeace Rewards Executives at Expense of Rank & File

Environmentalists in the Top 1%

By Rico | Published March 19, 2012

A common assumption in society is that environmentalists don't care about making money or, for that matter, about capitalism in general. The assumption goes that these folks care only about the environment.

Maybe this assumption isn't true.

The following information dispels the thought that environmentalists don't care about the money. In fact it shows that at least several of them care very much about the money and that concern lands them in the "Top 1%."

The table below shows the CEO compensation for seven of the top U.S. environmental organizations (NGOs). This information is gleaned from each organization's U.S. Internal Revenue Service Form 990s, a publicly accessible tax return. The 990s for these seven organizations were obtained via Guidestar.org.

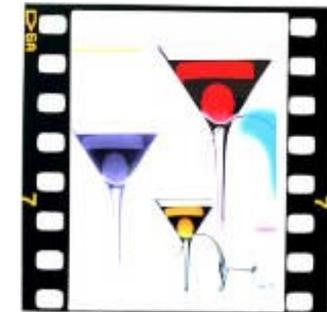
Top Environmental Organization CEO Compensation

For most recent year available

Sierra Club	235,786
National Resources Defense Council	432,742
Nature Conservancy	493,993
World Wildlife Fund	455,147
National Wildlife Federation	349,911



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Environmental Defense Fund	423,359
National Audubon Society	352,450

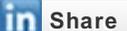
Now let's look at where these folks fall on the scale of U.S. income earners. Here's the 2010 percentage scale of American income earners. This information comes from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, via FinancialSamarai.com.

Top 1%: \$380,354
 Top 5%: \$159,619
 Top 10%: \$113,799
 Top 25%: \$67,280
 Top 50%: >\$33,048

Given the above, fully four of the seven environmental CEOs are comfortably in the Top 1% of American income earners. Using a simple mathematical interpolation formula and the information shown in the table above, we see that the \$352,450 and the \$349,911 are in the Top 1.5% and the \$235,786 is in the Top 3.6% bracket.

Not bad for non-capitalists who "don't care about the money," is it?

Note: For the organizations shown in the table, the compensation information may be seen by clicking on the following links and then turning to the PDF page as indicated: [Sierra Club \(page 29\)](#), [Natural Resources Defense Council \(page 18\)](#), [Nature Conservancy \(page 63\)](#), [World Wildlife Fund \(page 34\)](#), [National Wildlife Federation \(page 34\)](#), [Environmental Defense Fund \(page 34\)](#), [National Audubon Society \(page 46\)](#).

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Best,

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