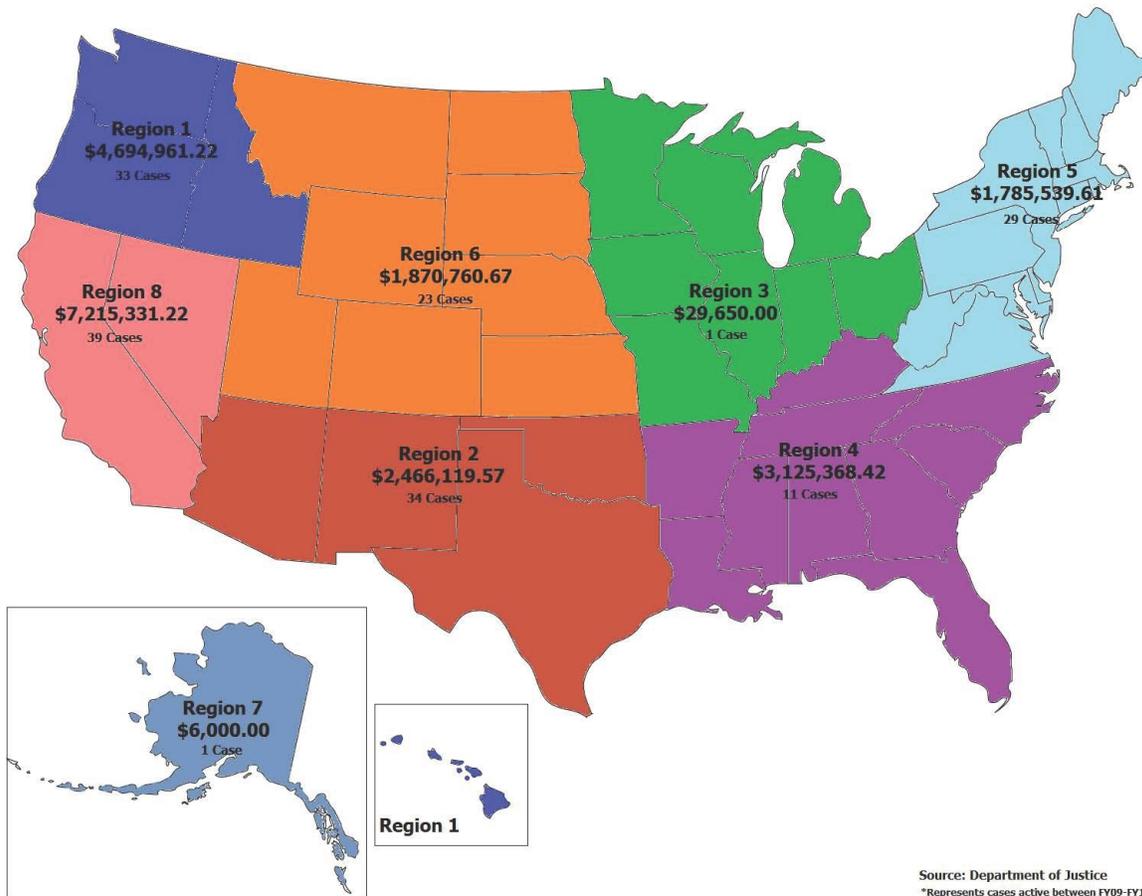


June 19, 2012
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Millions of Taxpayer Dollars Spent on ESA Litigation and Attorney Fees

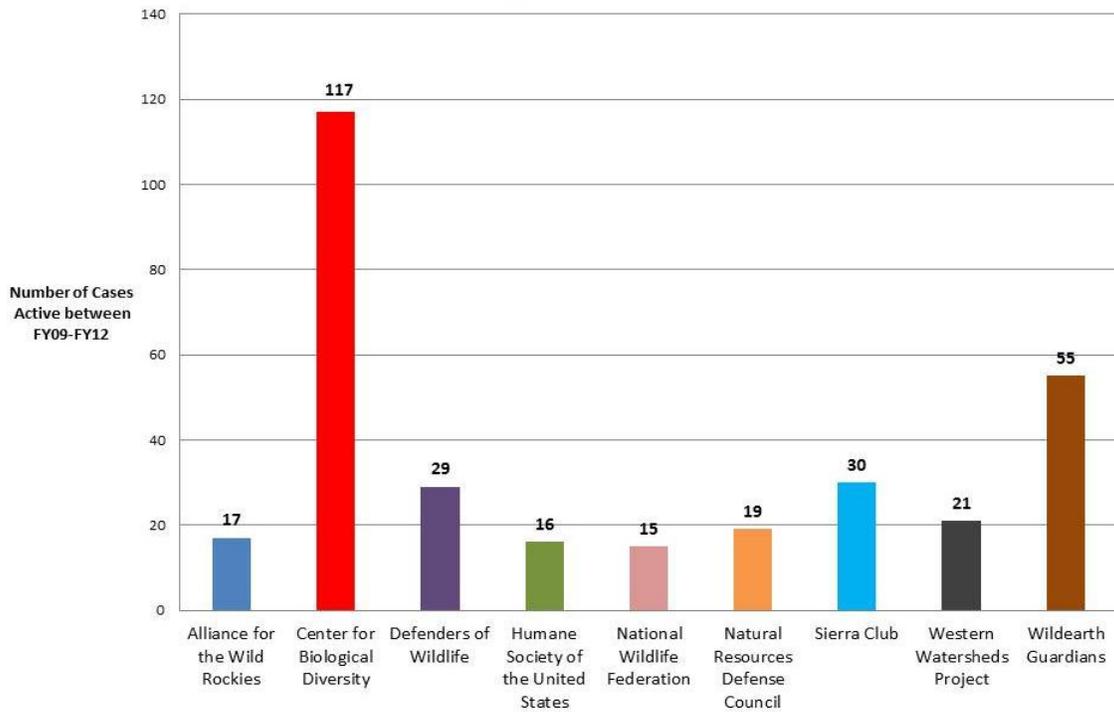
According to data recently obtained from the Department of Justice (DOJ) in response to [document requests](#), the federal government has defended more than 570 Endangered Species Act (ESA)-related lawsuits costing U.S. taxpayers **more than \$15 million** in attorney fees – in just the past four years. This data provides further evidence that the ESA has become litigation driven, where money and resources are spent addressing endless, frivolous lawsuits instead of species recovery.

ESA Expenditures – Attorney Fees by Region



Environmental groups are filing the vast majority of litigation, with the Center for Biological Diversity and the WildEarth Guardians leading the charge.

ESA – Most Litigious Organizations

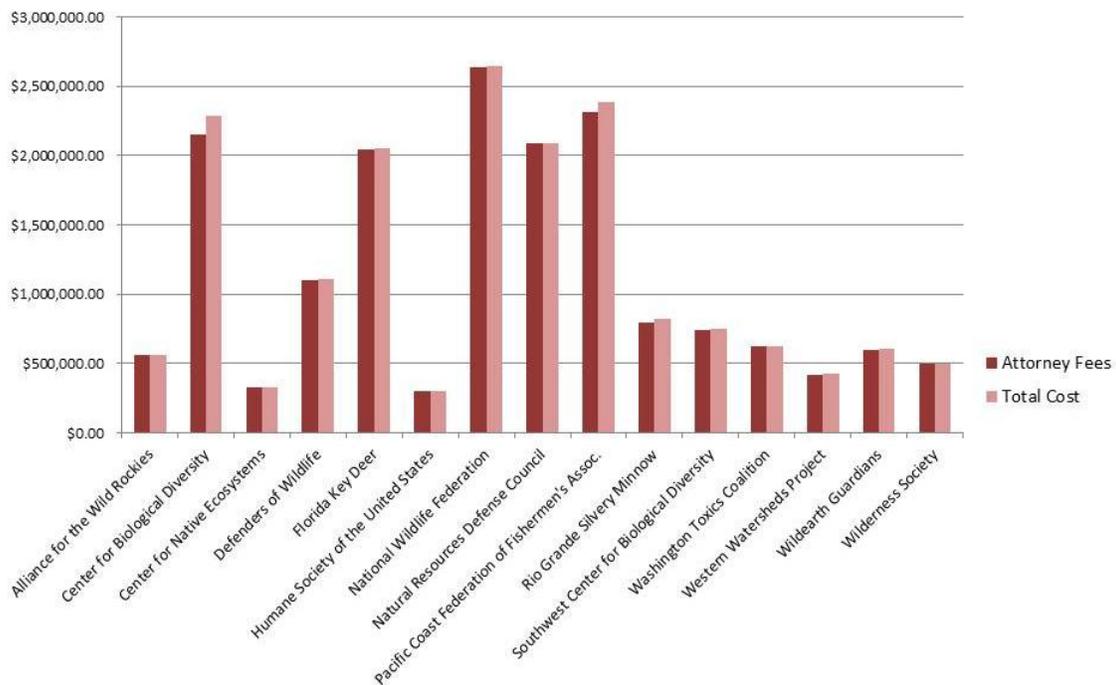


Source: Department of Justice

These groups, and their lawyers, are making millions of taxpayer dollars in profit by suing the federal government. According to DOJ, some attorneys are reimbursed up to \$500 an hour and two lawyers have each received over \$2 million in attorney fees from ESA cases.

ESA Litigation Expenditures by Organization

Cases Active FY09-FY12



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