# Oceanites 2019 Year in Review

Oceanites has been hard at work helping to create a better future for our planet! This year, we have once again made strong and real scientific impact and contributions, we continue to be recognized internationally as experts, and we have made exciting strides in our climate change outreach.

As the new year approaches, we are excited to share some highlights from this past year.

#### A Letter from Our Founder

#### To all Oceanites supporters and friends,

This is my annual report to all of you — our faithful supporters — on the progress we've made over the past year and to ask for your help in keeping our seminal work going. Oceanites is now 32 years old, our Antarctic Site Inventory begins its 26<sup>th</sup> year of data collection in December, our Antarctic continent-wide MAPPPD database enters its fourth year of operation, and this past April, we published our third annual *State of Antarctic Penguins* report.

Importantly, we stand with our penguins on the 'front lines' of climate change, fashioning a new narrative, a new movement motivating people in a positive way to deal with THE issue of our time.

The questions all of us biological creatures face, penguins or humans, are: Will we continue to have food to eat? A good home? An environment free of disease? The ability to keep producing kids and grandkids? Or metaphorically: Are we humans going to be like gentoo penguins and successfully adapt? Or not?

And this is where I ask for your ongoing and, hopefully, increased support. We are expanding our outreach and getting more and more people to join the discussion about life's vitals and how to adapt to what will be a changed future. Penguins remind us how awesome it is to be alive — and reinforce the responsibility all of us should feel toward our fragile planet.

We're proud to be your penguin, Antarctic, and climate change 'eyes and ears' and, now, more than ever, your continued, generous support will keep our unique scientific work and penguin-oriented public outreach going.

Many thanks!

As always, onward, upward!

Ron Naveen
President, Oceanites, Inc.



### Real Data, Real Impact: 25 Seasons Strong

This year marked Oceanites' 25th consecutive field season counting penguins and seabirds in the Antarctic Peninsula. In all this time, we are proud to have remained the only NGO with an active science program and the only NGO committed to monitoring penguin and seabird population changes in the vastly warmed Antarctic Peninsula.

As well, Oceanites maintains the only continent-wide database tracking the populations of all of Antarctica's five breeding penguin species. We remain steady and passionate in our mission to distinguish the direct and interactive effects of climate change and other human activities on the Antarctic Peninsula ecosystem.

#### **OUR CONTRIBUTIONS:**



On World Penguin Day, we released our comprehensive, third annual State of Antarctic Penguins report summarizing the state of Antarctica's penguins. While gentoo populations increased, the Adélie and chinstrap populations are continuing to decline in the vastly warmed Antarctic Peninsula.



We remain a trusted advisor to Antarctic krill fishing companies, advising them on the establishment of a voluntary no-fishing buffer zone during the penguin breeding season, in order to leave the natural ecosystem undisturbed.



Oceanites has continued to consult with major Antarctic tour operators, helping them to analyze and determine whether tourism is having a long-term impact on gentoo penguin population changes in the Antarctic Peninsula.

Your support enables us to continue our critical research and publication of scientific work.

# Oceanites Makes a Splash at International CCAMLR Discussion:

In October, in Hobart, Australia, Ron Naveen and Grant Humphries, Oceanites' director of science, had the opportunity to attend the 38th meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), where Oceanites is invited annually as an independent, international expert observer.

#### HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

- Participated in critical discussions with fellow scientists and experts from all over the world;
- Sourced new data for our continentwide database;
- in all proposals regarding penguin conservation and marine-protected areas.

Your support allows us to continue in our efforts to gather crucial data and help push the environmental conversation forward.



## **Making Our Story Heard**

From podcasts to children's e-books, to a TV special, Oceanites has been busy getting the word out!



We presented our State of Antarctic Penguins 2019 Report at both the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Prague and the Antarctic fishing (CCAMLR) meeting in Hobart.

We achieved international visibility via the 4-part PBS series Warnings from Antarctica and a Multipart Podcast Series on PBS.





We were asked by Senator Tom Carper and the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works to brief congressional staff on penguins, Antarctica, and climate change.

We proudly released our online e-book RON COUNTS PENGUINS, which encourages kids to become passionate about the environment, beginning in their own backyards.



Whether through financial contributions or by sharing our media with friends or family, your financial support plays a crucial role in ensuring our message gets heard.



# **Building Upon Our Work**

#### Your support will help us create a better world for our children and grandchildren.

At this crucial time, Oceanites is more determined than ever to expand our outreach on penguins, climate change and our more hopeful message of climate change adaptation. We ask for your continued, generous support to keep our unique scientific work and critical public outreach going strong. This is the most critical issue of our time! With the new year approaching, it's the perfect time to envision a better future for our world. We can all help create it, and we invite you to be a part of our mission.



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