

Jonathan Asher  
Director of Government Relations, Conservation Funding  
Short-Bio

Jonathan Asher is The Wilderness Society's Director of Government Relations for Conservation Funding where he provides expertise on conservation funding and the federal appropriations process and serves as the Co-Chair of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition. Most recently, Jonathan served as an Obama administration appointee in the Environmental Protection Agency, in the Administrator's legislative affairs office. There he served as Senior Advisor working to advance agency and administration priorities during a time of heavy congressional scrutiny and high-profile crises. Prior to his time in the administration, Jonathan spent over six years on Capitol Hill as a legislative staffer and Senior Legislative Assistant on energy and environmental issues for members serving on the Rules, Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources committees. Jonathan left the hill in 2012 serving as Director of Government Affairs for the Western Energy Project where he focused on developing and implementing innovative advocacy, media and campaign strategies to promote conservation and responsible federal energy policy.

Jonathan is originally from Evergreen, Colorado and is a graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder and Evans Scholarship recipient. Prior to his time in D.C. he spent his days as a whitewater raft guide on the Colorado River and an adaptive ski and snowboard instructor for individuals with disabilities. He endeavors to maintain sanity in D.C. by continuing to enjoy time on the river kayaking, and generally outdoors, biking, backpacking and climbing.