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In South Pacific waters, a humpback whale calf focuses on photographer Brian Skerry, and vice versa. Skerry has spent years observing the distinctive behaviors and traditions of many cetacean species.

BRIAN SKERRY

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Conservation's Popularity Contest

Wildlife funding and advocacy focus most on charismatic species. Is it time to rethink that approach?

BY CHRISTINE DELL'AMORE



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Bridging Cultures, Causes With Music

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma pairs concerts with activist events on environmental and other issues.

BY CLAUDIA KALB

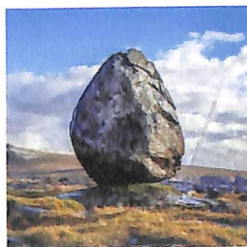
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Wiring Marks a Landscape

Viewing mines from above, a photographer captures the results of extracting coal to fuel electric power plants.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOM HEGEN



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Wandering Rocks
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THROUGH THE LENS

Fleeing the Flood

As waters threatened rare giraffes' habitat, former enemies joined forces to move them via a modern-day ark.

BY ANNIE ROTH

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Secrets of the Whales

Some dolphins and whales have their own cultural traditions and dialects, characteristics once thought to be unique to humans. BY CRAIG WELCH
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SKERRY

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Rescuing Reefs

About 70% of Earth's surface is ocean. This is how it's connected. BY MATTHEW W. CHWASTYK
AND IRENE BERMAN-VAPORIS

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Decades after locating the wreck of the *Titanic*, Robert Ballard still hunts for cultural and scientific treasures. BY RACHEL HARTIGAN

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Images made years apart show how warming oceans harm corals. BY JENNIFER S. HOLLAND

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28 Days Under the Sea

Diving on the floor of the Mediterranean, four explorers found amazing life-forms. BY LAURENT BALLESTA

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