

# ANNUAL REPORT

— 2021 —



WCN

Wildlife Conservation Network

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Thank you to Veleta Allen, Seret Dirar, Max Gross, Audrey Knox, and Joyce Wang for their invaluable work as *Chief Financial Officer, Accounting Manager, Human Resources Specialist and Office Manager, Programs Coordinator, and Director of Conservation Partnerships*, respectively, in 2021.

In early 2022, we were pleased to welcome Missy Mastel as *Chief Financial Officer*, Carly Thompson as *Office Manager*, and Rosamira Guillen and Peter Lalampaa as *Board Directors*.

WCN WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

Laura Merkl for her work on the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors.  
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati for ongoing pro-bono legal support.  
Monica DuClaud for her invaluable graphic design expertise.  
Cecilia Hayes for her contribution to the organizational development of our team.  
The photographers who allow WCN to use their stunning photos to advance conservation.  
Our committed volunteers, without whom we could not do what we do.

Pumas are found in nearly all of California’s diverse landscapes. WCN’s California Wildlife Program aims to restore and maintain habitat connectivity for vulnerable puma populations throughout the state.

Cover photo © Billy Currie Photography

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2021

Expanding Our Reach

We started 2021 knowing it would be challenging, but firmly believed that by working together, we would continue to do great things for wildlife. This is because our Partners and supporters never fail to go above and beyond to protect wildlife and provide opportunities to communities around the world. **Because of this strong Network, we faced the adversities of 2021 and had a bigger impact for wildlife than we ever thought possible.**

The strides our Partners made for wildlife this year have been remarkable. Thanks to their efforts, anti-poaching rangers were equipped to safeguard wildlife, countless wire snares that kill painted dogs and many other species were removed from parks, and conflict between people and carnivores, including cheetahs and Andean cats, was drastically reduced. Unfortunately, the pandemic remained an issue for conservationists this year. Many of our Partners continued to provide health services to local people living alongside wildlife, strengthening the bonds between conservation and communities, while also implementing traditional programs. Several of our Partners also protected essential habitats. Through strategic land purchases, they secured 645 acres of cotton-top tamarins’ forest habitat in Colombia and 600 acres of dry forest habitat for Peru’s spectacled bears. **This protects irreplaceable landscapes today and ensures these wild places will remain intact permanently.**

Similarly, WCN expanded our programs to protect vital landscapes in our own backyard. We launched our first North American initiative—the California Wildlife Program, which focuses on restoring and connecting habitat for key species, like pumas. We also broadened our reach in many other ways, continuing to bring our virtual Wildlife Conservation Expos to thousands of people worldwide and investing in more conservation scholarships for local nationals than ever before. Additionally, as travel and funding restrictions persisted, WCN’s Emergency Relief Fund kept critical conservation projects active in 10 countries. Our Wildlife Funds also deployed emergency funding along with grants to safeguard critical strongholds for elephants and lions, and to protect some of our planet’s most vulnerable species, like the extremely rare Palawan pangolin and the last 80 Sumatran rhinos on Earth. Finally, WCN enjoyed our 12th consecutive year of record growth, positioning us to provide more support to effective conservation programs.

In 2021, our Network of supporters and conservationists helped wildlife and people around the world thrive, bringing us into the next year with renewed gratitude and optimism. **2022 will be especially important to us as it marks WCN’s 20th anniversary—we are so proud of the impact our Network has had for wildlife over the past two decades and we are excited to achieve even more in the years to come.**



*JG Collomb*  
Jean-Gaël Collomb, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



*Charles Knowles*  
Charles Knowles  
President and Co-founder





Our mission is to protect  
endangered wildlife by  
supporting conservationists  
who ensure wildlife and  
people coexist and thrive.

# Our Mission In Action

## SUPPORTING A NETWORK OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONISTS

We find the best entrepreneurial organizations and invite them to receive in-depth, ongoing support by joining our Network of **Conservation Partners**. We provide our Partners with the financial resources, tools, and services they need to effectively protect wildlife. As all organizations in our Network go through a rigorous vetting process, donors can invest in them with confidence.

## PROTECTING SPECIES ACROSS THEIR ENTIRE HABITAT

Our **Wildlife Funds** offer flexible grants to projects in order to protect a threatened species across its entire habitat. The Wildlife Funds invest in effective projects from a wide range of organizations, kickstarting new approaches and bolstering tried and true conservation efforts. Each fund amplifies donor support by combining contributions, allowing for the biggest impact possible.

## INVESTING IN LOCAL CONSERVATIONISTS

WCN helps local conservationists grow and thrive so that they have the support they need to protect wildlife. We invest in these brave women and men to strengthen their skills, build their organizations, and advance their careers in conservation. Through **scholarships and grants**, we provide support to the local people who are shaping conservation in their home countries, ensuring we have a greater and more sustainable impact for wildlife.

## WHAT SETS US APART

**Conservation is about helping people as well as helping wildlife.** We support work that invests in the well-being of local communities and includes local people, as the future of conservation is in their hands.

**No one can save wildlife alone, so we emphasize collaboration.** We've supported hundreds of organizations and through opportunities like our Wildlife Conservation Expos, WCN creates a community of conservationists and supporters working together for wildlife.


**Our donors deserve to know the impact of their investment.** Through transparency and efficiency, 100% of our donors' designated contributions goes to the work they care about.

# IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

Support from our donors and the steadfast commitment of our Network allowed us to make tremendous impacts for wildlife conservation this year.


\$44.1M

Amount raised for conservation in 2021.



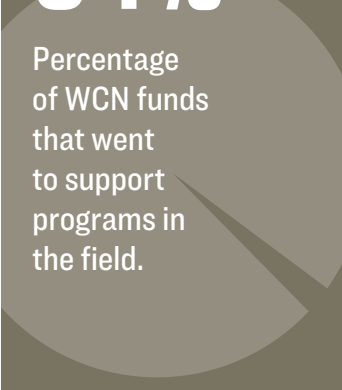
115

Number of wildlife species protected by WCN around the world.




94%

Percentage of WCN funds that went to support programs in the field.



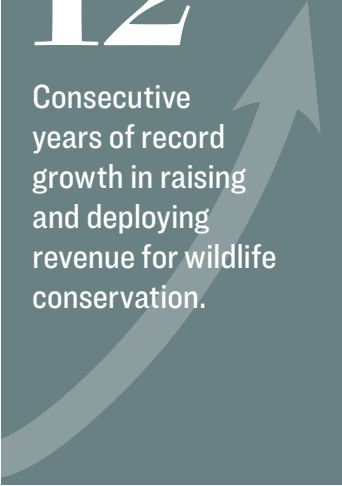
1,450+

Number of staff and members of local communities around the world provided with employment opportunities by WCN's Conservation Partners in 2021.




12

Consecutive years of record growth in raising and deploying revenue for wildlife conservation.




601

Number of projects to date supported in 49 countries by WCN's Wildlife Funds.




325,760+

Number of people in local communities around the world provided with education opportunities by WCN's Conservation Partners in 2021.




17

Number of wildlife Conservation Partners.




3,800+

People who attended our Wildlife Conservation Expos in 2021.




154

Scholarships awarded to date to emerging conservationists across 46 countries.




4★

Rating WCN received from Charity Navigator, America's leading independent charity evaluator—a top ranking amongst wildlife conservation nonprofits.



65+

Number of field conservationists who attended virtual WCN workshops.





# WCN'S GLOBAL REACH

## WILDLIFE FUNDS



**CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE PROGRAM**  
WCN  
North America



**ELEPHANT CRISIS FUND**  
WCN & SAVE THE ELEPHANTS  
Africa and Asia



**LION RECOVERY FUND**  
WCN  
Africa



**PANGOLIN CRISIS FUND**  
WCN & SAVE PANGOLINS  
Africa and Asia



**RHINO RECOVERY FUND**  
WCN  
Africa and Asia

## LATIN AMERICA



**ANDEAN CAT ALLIANCE**  
LED BY DR. ROCIO PALACIOS  
Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru



**PROYECTO TITÍ**  
LED BY ROSAMIRA GUILLEN  
Colombia



**SPECTACLED BEAR CONSERVATION**  
LED BY ROBYN APPLETON & DR. RENZO PIANA  
Peru

## MULTI-CONTINENT



**GLOBAL PENGUIN SOCIETY**  
LED BY DR. PABLO BORBOROGLU  
Worldwide (based in Argentina)



**MARALLIANCE**  
LED BY DR. RACHEL GRAHAM  
Worldwide (based in Belize)



**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
As of 2021, WCN has awarded 154 scholarships to promising young conservationists from 46 countries across Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.



**SMALL WILD CAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**  
LED BY DR. JIM SANDERSON  
Worldwide

## ASIA & EASTERN EUROPE



**SAIGA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE**  
LED BY ELENA BYKOVA & DR. E.J. MILNER-GULLAND  
Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russia, Uzbekistan



**SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVANCY**  
LED BY DR. RODNEY JACKSON & ASHLEIGH LUTZ-NELSON  
Bhutan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia

## AFRICA



**CHEETAH CONSERVATION BOTSWANA**  
LED BY REBECCA KLEIN  
Botswana



**CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND**  
LED BY DR. LAURIE MARKER  
Namibia



**ETHIOPIAN WOLF CONSERVATION PROGRAM**  
LED BY DR. CLAUDIO SILLERO  
Ethiopia



**EWASO LIONS**  
LED BY DR. SHIVANI BHALLA, RESSON KANTAI DUFF & JENERIA LEKILELEI  
Kenya



**GREVY'S ZEBRA TRUST**  
LED BY BELINDA LOW MACKEY  
Kenya



**NIASSA LION PROJECT**  
LED BY DR. COLLEEN BEGG & KEITH BEGG  
Mozambique



**OKAPI CONSERVATION PROJECT**  
LED BY JOHN LUKAS & BERCE N'SAFUANSI  
Democratic Republic of Congo



**PAINTED DOG CONSERVATION**  
LED BY PETER BLINSTON & DAVID KUVAWOGA  
Zimbabwe



**SAVE THE ELEPHANTS**  
LED BY DR. IAIN DOUGLAS-HAMILTON & FRANK POPE  
Kenya





© Martin Sapa

**ANDEAN CAT ALLIANCE**

identified five new Andean cats in three different locations—one cat in northwestern Argentina, one in central Chile, and three cats just outside of Chile's capital city, Santiago. These records are vital to filling information gaps about Andean cat distribution and allow conservationists to conduct genetic research on the population health of this rare species.

**CHEETAH CONSERVATION BOTSWANA**

expanded their Livestock Guarding Dog program by running additional training sites on participants' farmlands. This allowed CCB to train and place 42 dogs, more than double the amount in previous years, to reduce livestock predation by 85% and enable coexistence between farmers and cheetahs.



**CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND** continued to combat the illegal cheetah cub trade in Somaliland by raising awareness in communities, holding a training workshop for law enforcement, and improving legislation against traffickers with government agencies. CCF also provided ongoing care to 67 cheetahs confiscated from traffickers and was given nearly 2,000 acres by the government to develop a permanent sanctuary for rescued cheetahs.

**ETHIOPIAN WOLF CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

teams regularly monitored 33 Ethiopian wolf packs containing 184 wolves in seven areas across the country. This population represents roughly half of the global population of this endangered species. Another 67 packs are estimated to occupy other parts of Ethiopia, creating an overall estimate of 450 wolves in total.



© A.L. Harrington



© Ewaso Lions/Vet in Wild

**EWASO LIONS**

helped launch a new mobile veterinary unit for domestic dogs that are injured while protecting livestock from lions and other predators. By treating these dogs, Ewaso Lions is supporting pastoralist communities in Kenya and saving dogs that prevent livestock predation and reduce human-lion conflict.

Our Partners are making a difference for wildlife on every continent on Earth. These are some of their greatest achievements in 2021.

READ MORE  
HIGHLIGHTS







**GLOBAL PENGUIN SOCIETY** completed their 14th census of the Pedral penguin colony in Patagonia, which GPS has protected since 2009 and helped turn into a protected wildlife refuge for Magellanic penguins. There were six penguin breeding pairs in 2009, and as of this year, there are now 3,600 pairs.



**SAVE THE ELEPHANTS** has gathered over 10 million data positions to date from tracking collars deployed on more than 800 wild Asian and African elephants. This data helps define key habitats and corridors, identify potential poaching incidents, and gain insight into elephant behavior.

**PAINTED DOG CONSERVATION**'s Anti-Poaching Units worked with community volunteers to remove nearly 1,900 poaching snares from the border regions of Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park, where some of the most notable painted dog packs reside.



**GREVY'S ZEBRA TRUST**'s field team of Grevy's Zebra Warriors and Ambassadors carried out 1,100 foot patrols, walking 7,277 miles to monitor and protect Grevy's zebras throughout northern Kenya. They had 411 encounters with both individual Grevy's zebras and herds, collecting data on 1,730 sightings.

**SAIGA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE** reported that, thanks to heroic conservation efforts, all five saiga populations found across Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russia, and Uzbekistan have continued to grow this year. Best estimates for the global saiga population now stand at about 860,450 individuals.



**PROYECTO TITÍ** purchased nearly 645 acres adjacent to the Los Titíes de San Juan Reserve in Colombia, and signed an agreement to add another 106 acres soon. This forest reserve expansion ensures that this land will remain protected cotton-top tamarin habitat in perpetuity.

**SPECTACLED BEAR CONSERVATION** purchased their first parcel of private land, 600 acres that will be permanently protected as critical spectacled bear habitat in the low-elevation dry forest of northern Peru. They also began adding a waterhole and restoring the natural food supply to improve this land's quality as bear habitat and increase the bears' chance for survival.



**NIASSA LION PROJECT** collared and monitored 29 lions from 15 prides across Mozambique's Niassa Special Reserve. Combined, these prides contain 71 lions, so monitoring the collared members helps NLP track the movements and gauge the health of the entire population. NLP recorded nearly 5,000 sightings of lions and other large carnivores within the reserve.

**MARALLIANCE** researchers recorded valuable data from a juvenile largetooth sawfish found in Panama. This is the first sawfish captured by any research team in Central America in over 20 years. This was possible due to the strong bonds MarAlliance has made with local fishers, and these communities have pledged to help MarAlliance study more sawfish, track their distribution, and safely release them.



**SMALL WILD CAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION** helped create three new small cat conservation working groups, now totalling 12, all led by local conservationists with over 80 partners. Each of these groups runs multiple community-based projects that reduce threats for 21 small wild cat species.



**OKAPI CONSERVATION PROJECT** advanced the training for all of their women's sustainable income groups while reducing their impact on the surrounding okapi habitat. They also built a new Women's Center, providing a secure place for these income projects. The Women's Center also houses the Epulu Radio Station, where OCP has completed over 200 broadcasts to provide news and conservation-focused educational programs across the Okapi Wildlife Reserve.



**SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVANCY**'s Nepal team provided emergency aid to villages reeling from floods and pandemic conditions, strengthening their connection to SLC despite a notable incident of a snow leopard killing livestock in one of the villages. This incident spurred SLC to improve predator-proof corral design and deploy better deterrents. Vocational trainings also enhanced community income while protecting snow leopard habitat, reducing conflict, and allowing SLC to document snow leopards in the region.



An aerial photograph of a savanna landscape. In the foreground, a river flows through a lush green wetland area. Several elephants are wading in the water. Beyond the river, the terrain rises into a grassy hillside covered in tall, golden-brown grass. More elephants are scattered across this hillside, some standing and others grazing. The overall scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

# Safeguarding Wild Habitats

BY PROTECTING VITAL  
LANDSCAPES,  
CONSERVATIONISTS  
ARE SAVING ALL  
WILDLIFE WITHIN THEM.



# Removing Roadblocks for Pumas

WCN'S NEW PROGRAM AIMS TO CONNECT CALIFORNIA HABITAT



Isolated populations lead to inbreeding, which affects the health of populations over time. Protecting puma populations requires ensuring they have a chance to diversify their genetics.

Throughout California, the habitat range of pumas is often fragmented by human development.

Cars whizzed past Neal Sharma’s pickup with the steady repetition of a ticking clock. He was parked on the shoulder of a stretch of Highway 101 known for being windy and heavily wooded. Bordering each side of the road is a vibrant yet vulnerable ecosystem containing pumas, badgers, and other impressive wildlife that many Californians don’t even know exist here. But the road bisects this habitat and animals attempting to cross it are often hit by cars. As he has done for much of his career, Neal stood roadside assessing possible locations for establishing structures, like culverts or underpasses, that wildlife could use to safely cross. These would not only protect individual animals from vehicular collisions, they are part of a larger plan to connect fragmented patches of habitat to save entire wildlife populations and whole ecosystems. This focus on connectivity is at the heart of WCN’s new California Wildlife Program (CWP).

Highways are as Californian as surfboards and earthquakes. The state’s history of building highways, done on a larger scale than nearly anywhere else in the U.S., helped spark its development and population growth. But these roads, combined with the urban sprawl they join together and other human development, have divided the landscape and isolated wildlife populations. As wide-ranging carnivores, pumas in particular require enough continuous habitat to sustain a healthy gene pool—they need opportunities to find mates outside of their own population. Since so much of this habitat is fragmented, to avoid inbreeding, pumas need protected pathways to move across vast landscapes. They need connectivity.

Launched in 2021 and led by Neal Sharma, CWP is WCN’s first North American initiative; it has an initial focus of restoring and maintaining habitat connectivity

for wildlife, including vulnerable puma populations, in California. Through its first grant, CWP helped the Trust for Public Land purchase the Nyland Property, a 540-acre historic cattle ranch that boasts grasslands, wetlands, and pockets of oak woodlands. Located just an hour south of Silicon Valley, the Nyland Property supports habitat for a variety of species, including black bears, bobcats, tricolored blackbirds, and of course, pumas. The property is a key part of a network of habitats in the Santa Cruz Mountains and Gabilan Range which have become

**WCN IMPACT**  
THROUGH A HIGHLY COLLABORATIVE PROCESS LED BY THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND, CWP HAS INVESTED IN KEEPING THE CRITICAL NYLAND PROPERTY PROTECTED FOREVER.

CWP is focused on getting enough of these pieces together to unite disparate puma populations and sustain the remarkable diversity of California’s wildlife. This will take many forms, including supporting additional land purchases and implementing wildlife crossings at highways. Through these efforts, it may one day be possible for the pumas prowling the woods near Neal’s parked pickup along the 101 to connect with pumas passing through the permanently protected Nyland Property. ■



Above: The Nyland property supports a wide array of wild animals, including endangered species. Left: A puma and her cub near the Nyland property.

\* Ownership of the Nyland Property will be transferred to the San Benito Agricultural Land Trust with a conservation easement held by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and a cultural easement held by the Amah Mutsun Land Trust.



“Without financial help from WCN, I would not have been able to fully concentrate on my primate studies with all of the hardships occurring in recent years. WCN’s support allowed me to finish my master’s thesis, and it’s incredible how my vision as a conservationist has changed because of it. The fruits of the WCN Scholarship accompany me every day.”

FRANCY FORERO SÁNCHEZ  
WCN SCHOLAR



# Securing Habitats for Wildlife

LAND PURCHASES HELP PERMANENTLY PROTECT SOUTH AMERICA'S FORESTS



Establishing interconnected forests requires patience—a day's worth of felled forest takes 20 years to grow back to its former height. To date, PT has helped restore and protect over 13,000 acres of forest, turning sparse land and abandoned pastures into future havens for cotton-tops.

© Suzi Eszterhas

South America's forests are an ark for some of the rarest species on Earth. The lush, green canopies of northern Colombia are the only place where you can find cotton-top tamarins, critically endangered monkeys with distinctive white headdresses. The sun-drenched dry forest of northern Peru offers similar sanctuary to spectacled bears, South America's only bear species. But this ship has been riddled with leaks as increased land development erases more forests and fragments wildlife populations. It's a threat that Spectacled Bear Conservation (SBC) and Proyecto Tití (PT) have spent years fighting, and their long-term strategies to secure forests have recently gained new ground.

Urban development, cattle ranching, and unsustainable agriculture cause widespread deforestation throughout South America, often with little regard for wildlife. Cotton-tops spend their entire lives in the treetops, subsisting on fruit and insects without ever touching the ground. Clearcutting deprives them of food and

shelter, dividing their tropical forest into smaller patches that isolate cotton-top groups from one another. In Peru, spectacled bear populations are also broken up into islands by agricultural expansion into the dry forest. Worse still, it devastates the bears' main food source—sapote fruit.

During warmer months, bears scour the rocky terrain for as much sapote as possible to build up their fat stores. This is especially crucial for female bears to reproduce and care for their cubs. There are only a few sites left that contain this fruit, and if the sapote disappears, so too will the bears.

Owning the land is the best way to permanently preserve forest habitats, so PT and SBC are focusing on this strategy. In 2021,

thanks to the generous investment of donors, SBC completed their first private land purchase—over 600 acres with a high density of sapote trees. Their goal is to purchase adjoining land that also has sapote, thus preventing bear starvation, and to reconnect fragmented bear populations to improve genetic diversity. This land will

**WCN IMPACT**  
WCN HAS SUPPORTED PROYECTO TITÍ'S WORK PROTECTING COTTON-TOP TAMARINS SINCE 2006 AND SPECTACLED BEAR CONSERVATION'S WORK PROTECTING BEARS SINCE 2016.

forever remain protected habitat under the management of SBC, who will restore it and collaborate with surrounding communities to bolster bear conservation efforts.

PT has spent years restoring and expanding cotton-top forests in Colombia. To date, they have purchased nearly 645 acres to form their Los Titíes de San Juan Reserve, with plans to purchase another 439 acres soon. They also planted over 26,000 native tree saplings within the reserve and existing forest corridors that connect cotton-top habitat. These saplings were grown from seeds that PT staff gathered and propagated within their reserve's nursery. Conservation agreements made with farmers also allow PT to plant saplings on portions of their land, creating new corridors totaling about 2,000 acres, in exchange for training, equipment, and other support for their livelihoods.

SBC is currently raising money to purchase nearly 5,000 more acres—land with enough sapote to prevent Peru's dry forest bears from going locally extinct—and PT continues expanding protected forests one sapling at a time, with the aim of creating a 20-mile corridor for cotton-tops between two national protected areas. By purchasing land, these organizations are protecting vital habitats in perpetuity for bears, cotton-tops, and all animals living within these ecosystems. ■



"We love being involved with WCN, it's a wonderful organization. WCN's Conservation Partners are impressive, their work is fascinating and vitally important, and WCN's staff have always made us feel included in their efforts to improve the life of the planet and all of its inhabitants: human and wild animals alike."

THE KNOX/MACCREADY FAMILY  
WCN SUPPORTERS SINCE 2013



SBC collaborates with Indigenous communities, who have lived alongside spectacled bears for thousands of years, to formally create community-managed protected reserves across 24,000 acres. By helping these communities receive proper title for these lands, SBC is ensuring that both people and bears do not lose their ancestral home.



# Keeping Hope Flowing

COLLABORATING TO FIGHT THE DROUGHT IN SAMBURU



There are fewer than 2,500 lions left in Kenya. Samburu's lions are unique, living mostly solitary lives rather than in prides. Drought puts severe pressure on these lions and heightens conflict between them and people.

Every day, the midday sun sears the plains of northern Kenya, renowned for hosting some of Africa's most iconic species. In times of healthy rain, it's not uncommon to see lions gliding through the tall grass of Samburu National Reserve, elephants drinking from the Ewaso Ng'iro River, or herds of Grevy's zebras grazing across the river in Buffalo Springs National Reserve. But a year of scant rainfall has left these abundant lands as dry as a bone, creating widespread scarcity of water and vegetation. This prolonged drought has led to cascading threats for all life in the region. But the people of Samburu have a long history of resilience in the face of hardship, and through the combined efforts of the Grevy's Zebra Trust (GZT) and Ewaso Lions (EL), their communities have pulled together to make sure their landscapes, wildlife, and ways of life can withstand this latest crisis.

This is not the first time below-average rainfall has left northern Kenya vulnerable. Severe drought in 2009 led to thousands of animals perishing, including Samburu's

entire buffalo population. In 2017, five lions were lost to conflict as wildlife and people were forced to converge on the few areas containing water. GZT and EL have worked together many times to address the persistent threats caused by water shortages. This year's drought has reached similar severity, with livestock and wild

herbivores competing for the last remaining grasslands. As grazing animals, Grevy's zebras are particularly threatened by the lack of food caused by land degradation and encroachment from pastoralists. And by losing natural prey species to the drought, lions will often target weakened livestock. This leads to conflict with

herders—a conflict that lions sometimes lose.

When climate models predicted another drought, GZT and EL wasted no time preparing. Together, both organizations provided Samburu villages with water for people and their livestock. By providing this care, GZT and EL reinforced their bond with these communities and the commitment that these communities have to protect wildlife. They also collaborated with reserve management

and jointly stocked ranger stations with rations and fuel so they could continue patrolling protected areas.

Similar to 2017, GZT deployed supplementary feeding interventions for Grevy's zebras, placing hay in key locations so the herds had enough forage to survive. Community members also helped GZT monitor these feeding sites and water access areas. The women of Ewaso Lions' Mama Simba program supported GZT's efforts to restore degraded landscapes by reseeding new grass, which will sustain Grevy's zebras and other prey species that lions depend upon. It will also help EL reduce human-lion conflict and reinforce tolerance for lions from herders under pressure, ensuring these landscapes remain an uncontested refuge for wildlife.

Scattered rains returned to Samburu late in the year, but the drought continues to bear down on the region. GZT and EL are maintaining their united response to this water shortage, proving to Samburu communities that they can weather this climate crisis together while continuing to protect the wildlife who also call this land home. ■



Above: EL and GZT staff are part of the communities where they work. They provided water to these communities during the drought.

Left: GZT deployed supplementary hay to help Grevy's zebras get through the drought. The Grevy's zebra is one of Africa's most endangered large mammals. Only 3,000 remain in the wild, and 90% of them reside in northern Kenya, making any significant loss of their numbers to drought caused by climate change devastating.



© Tony Orwa/GZT



“The Pangolin Crisis Fund sponsored a new vehicle for us, taking our organization to the next level of capacity for advancing pangolin conservation in South Africa. This fully fitted, custom vehicle enables us to rescue pangolins confiscated from illegal traffickers. It also allows us to transport rescued pangolins to specialist veterinary facilities for rehabilitation, and eventually to their release sites in the wild. We have already used it to travel over 27,700 miles.”

ALEXIS KRIEL, CO-CHAIR,  
AFRICAN PANGOLIN  
WORKING GROUP

PANGOLIN CRISIS FUND GRANTEE





# Protecting Wildlife in the Field

HANDS-ON ACTION  
FROM CONSERVATIONISTS  
LEADS TO LASTING  
IMPACTS FOR WILDLIFE.





“I am not only the first generation from my family to get into conservation, but also the first generation to have a postgraduate degree in conservation from an international university. This has only been possible by the support of the WCN Scholarship. I am very grateful to the WCN family and their supporters.”

**SONAM TASHI LAMA**  
WCN SCHOLAR

#### WCN IMPACT

WCN and STE successfully co-manage the Elephant Crisis Fund, which granted over \$890,000 in 2021 to support projects aimed at reducing human-elephant conflict.



# A Wounded Giant

HEALING THE RIFT BETWEEN ELEPHANTS AND PEOPLE



**STE's team attends to Sarara's wounds. Although poaching has reduced in Kenya and across Africa, human-elephant conflict is a growing threat to all wild elephants. Sarara was lucky to survive after being speared.**

Sarara is no stranger to the Save the Elephants (STE) staff in Kenya's Samburu National Reserve. Since he was a teenager, this massive 31-year-old bull elephant has been visiting STE's research camp, checking in on the team and inspecting their elephant tracking collars. During his visits, it's common to see him feeding on acacia pods, scratching against trees, and swimming in the river near the camp. His presence demands respect, yet despite his daunting size, he's become a beloved figure within STE and among local communities. Over time, he has grown quite relaxed around people, which may be what led him into danger. One morning in late October, STE's Davido Letitiya noticed something very wrong with Sarara—a spearhead was embedded deep in his side.

Horrified by the sight of this magnificent animal clearly in pain and trying in vain to remove the spearhead with his trunk, Davido immediately summoned the Samburu-based Kenya Wildlife Service veterinary unit. This attack is just one example of a rising problem that has become one of the major threats to elephants today—human-elephant conflict. Across Africa, more and more elephants are injured or killed as they compete with the rapidly growing human population for essential resources and limited space. A large part of STE's work is monitoring elephants with tracking collars to study their behavior and prevent incidents that might spark conflict between them and people. But Sarara does not have a tracking collar and sometimes crosses paths with herders. It's

possible that such an incident may have caused defensive reactions from either Sarara or a herder.

The blade, which was the size of a grown man's forearm, fortunately missed Sarara's vital organs. As the vets were treating his wound, news of Sarara's injury spread throughout Samburu communities and a group of warriors from a nearby village came to help. This concern demonstrates the fondness that local communities have for neighboring wildlife, a seed that STE waters at every opportunity through their education and awareness programs that promote peaceful coexistence between people and elephants. STE's field teams used this event as a catalyst to step up their year-round community engagement, speaking with warriors, herders, and elders about the value of Kenya's elephants and the importance of respecting their space.

Sarara's recovery was slow, but he stayed close to STE's camp, where he felt safe. The research team monitored him closely over the following months to make sure he healed properly. Thanks to quick veterinary intervention, Sarara was lucky and avoided infection. Today, he has fully recovered, but Davido and STE staff will still keep an eye on their massive friend. Sarara's ordeal shows just how widespread human-elephant conflict has become, proving that all wild elephants, even those familiar to local people, are at risk. STE's efforts to promote coexistence are more crucial than ever and are an important part of ensuring that safe places remain for elephants in a rapidly developing world. ■



# Cats in the Sprawl

## TRACKING COLOMBO'S HIDDEN FISHING CATS



The fishing cat defies the adage that cats hate water by being highly specialized anglers, sporting webbed paws and waterproof fur that suits their wetland habitat.

### WCN IMPACT

WITH WCN'S HELP, SMALL WILD CAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION HAS EXPANDED FROM THREE PROJECTS IN 2000 TO MORE THAN 90 PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD TODAY.

Headlights streaked across Anya Ratnayaka as she padded down the sidewalk, the hum of traffic filling her ears. The night was alive in Colombo, Sri Lanka's largest city, but it was the quiet streets that Anya sought. Her GPS data indicated that she wasn't alone prowling these shadowy paths, so she kept alert for any signs of movement. For years, Anya has researched how fishing cats have infiltrated Colombo and found success living among the sprawl. The data gathered from tracking collars and, most recently, the new batch of camera traps placed around the city may prove vital to ensuring these small wild cats and Colombo's surrounding wetlands don't vanish.

Colombo is home to the only known population of urban fishing cats. In 2013, Anya founded the Urban Fishing Cat Conservation Project, a partner of the Small Wild Cat Conservation Foundation. Her team studies fishing cat behavior and ecology, working with the government to protect them. Tracking the cats' movements with GPS collars is a major aspect of their research. This year, the pandemic prevented them from collaring more cats, so Anya's team installed 42 camera traps—the most they've ever deployed at once—to better document fishing cat distribution. She plans to share the resulting data with the government to influence how the city can grow while keeping fishing cat habitat in mind.

Colombo has been a bustling human hub since the 1500s, and because it was built over wetlands, it is intrinsically linked to fishing cat habitat. They have adapted to this highly urbanized environment well, easily finding food and shelter and utilizing the city's old-style architecture—high garden walls, ponds with ample vegetation, and unused attics—to go undetected by residents. Anya's team were the first to discover that fishing cats were readily venturing into the city, finding a niche in Colombo as rapid urbanization expands the city further into their ecosystem. They are tracking 10 collared cats in Colombo, mostly males likely ousted from their natural territories

by rivals. These cats spend more time in the city than the wetlands, frequenting crowded areas at night, hidden by ground foliage. Anya's new camera traps are already documenting these intrepid males.

Despite their urban presence, fishing cats rely on the wetlands to survive, and their shrinking ecosystem threatens the population. Anya uses outreach programs to build awareness with residents who didn't know they had wild cats for neighbors, and stresses domestic animal vaccination so the cats don't catch diseases. But ceaseless urban development is the largest threat, devouring more wetlands and creating highways that lead to deadly traffic incidents for the cats. Only by promoting sustainable development will Colombo's natural beauty be preserved and fishing cats continue to thrive.



© Yanik Tissera



© Eshan Witana

As she turned the corner, Anya spied the hint of a tail disappearing into some bushes. Just knowing that these cats share the same streets as people gives Anya hope that coexistence can be maintained with sustainable urbanization. Her team will continue installing cameras and collaring fishing cats in the new year, gathering more data that ensures Colombo considers its feline citizens as it grows. ■

**Top: Anya was the first researcher in the world to track fishing cats with GPS collars and has amassed a wealth of data about the species. Bottom: Camera trap evidence of a fishing cat exploring a Colombo residence at night.**



© Daniel Rosengren, LRF

**“The Lion Recovery Fund (LRF) boosted its support of our de-snaring program in Tanzania’s Serengeti National Park, which enlists park rangers and ex-poachers to remove wire snares that target ungulates, yet also victimize lions. With tourism income dwindling in recent years due to the COVID crisis, LRF funding critically allowed us to keep three teams in the field in 2021.”**

**RIAN LABUSCHAGNE,  
SERENGETI CONSERVATION  
PROGRAMME MANAGER,  
FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

LION RECOVERY FUND GRANTEE



# Mozambique's New Conservation

SUPPORTING NOVEL APPROACHES TO PROTECT RHINOS AND LIONS



© Karingani Game Reserve

Aiming an immobilizing dart at a rapidly moving animal while leaning out of an airborne helicopter seems like an absurd undertaking, but this is how wildlife veterinarians are able to sedate a charging rhino. It's hair-raising work, but can save the rhino's life. Once the rhino lies down, the helicopter lands and a team of experts from Mozambique Wildlife Alliance (MWA) race towards the immobilized animal. They gently cover its eyes with a cloth, keeping it calm. The loud whirring of the propellers is drowned out by the roar of an electric chainsaw that the team uses to carefully cut off the rhino's horn above the growth point, where it is painless. By removing the rhino's horn, they're removing a target on its back. This is a stopgap solution to disincentivize poaching, and it's saving Mozambique's rhinos.

MWA is a new nonprofit created to support Mozambique's National

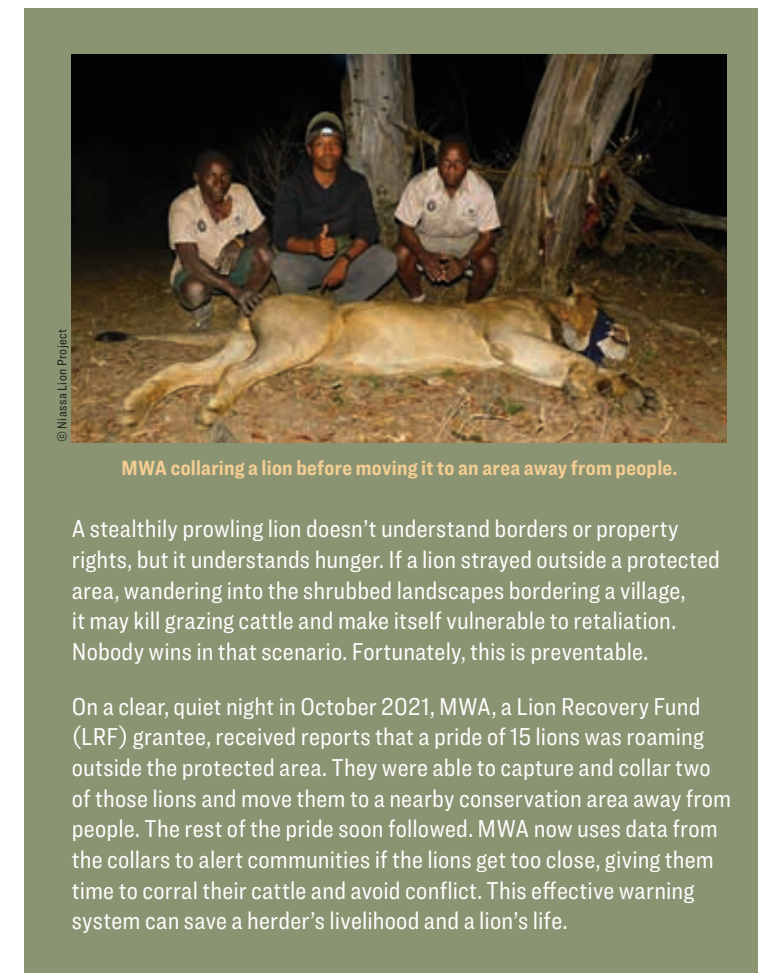
**Above: MWA team dehorning a rhino. Right: MWA's efforts helped make 2021 the first year in which Mozambique had recorded rhino births and a growing population of white and black rhinos living permanently in the country.**



Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC). MWA operates on behalf of ANAC in a variety of ways, including conducting veterinary interventions and supporting activities that disrupt illegal wildlife trafficking. Funding from the Rhino Recovery Fund (RRF) and the Lion Recovery Fund (LRF) has enabled MWA to operate and hire veterinarians and other staff to protect Mozambique's wildlife. Thanks to the efforts of MWA and their partners, rhinos are now recovering in a place where they had gone extinct.

Mozambique's entire rhino population originated in neighboring Kruger National Park in South Africa—where extensive poaching has caused rhinos to decline over the last 15 years—before wandering into southwest Mozambique. Though it holds no medicinal benefits, rhino horn is prized in some Asian medicines and sells for thousands on the black market. Removing a rhino's horn makes it no longer valuable to poachers. While awkward at first, rhinos quickly adapt and alter how they use their horn to accommodate for the change. With RRF support, MWA dehornes all rhinos that wander into Mozambique. Consequently, 2021 became the first recorded year where no rhinos were poached in Mozambique.

In addition to this temporary response to acute poaching, the RRF and MWA are focused on long-term solutions to eliminate demand for rhino horn and secure ample safe habitat. That is what's truly needed for rhinos to have a future where they can roam through wild landscapes unharmed, horns and all. ■



© Niassa Lion Project

**MWA collaring a lion before moving it to an area away from people.**

A stealthily prowling lion doesn't understand borders or property rights, but it understands hunger. If a lion strayed outside a protected area, wandering into the shrubbed landscapes bordering a village, it may kill grazing cattle and make itself vulnerable to retaliation. Nobody wins in that scenario. Fortunately, this is preventable.

On a clear, quiet night in October 2021, MWA, a Lion Recovery Fund (LRF) grantee, received reports that a pride of 15 lions was roaming outside the protected area. They were able to capture and collar two of those lions and move them to a nearby conservation area away from people. The rest of the pride soon followed. MWA now uses data from the collars to alert communities if the lions get too close, giving them time to corral their cattle and avoid conflict. This effective warning system can save a herder's livelihood and a lion's life.



**“As a fairly new donor to WCN, I was immediately struck by the effectiveness of the Wildlife Funds. It would be very challenging for our foundation to manage granting to so many partners in so many countries that collectively address the diversity of threats to declining species and the habitats that support them. WCN and their Funds are constantly adapting to an ever-changing conservation landscape while providing excellent communications and opportunities for donors to engage.”**

**IVAN SAMUELS**  
MARCH CONSERVATION FUND  
WCN SUPPORTER SINCE 2019





© Ewan Brennan

### ELEPHANT CRISIS FUND

Elephant Crisis Fund continued to deploy the unique scientific skills and experience of Save the Elephants to focus its attention on the growing threat of human-elephant conflict across Africa. Since launching this coexistence pillar of its long-term strategy in 2020, the ECF has invested over \$1 million into 28 conflict reduction projects within 13 African elephant range states, granting over \$890,000 of these funds in 2021.

**LION RECOVERY FUND** has issued over \$1.1 million to date to African Parks to strengthen their management of more than 21,000 sq. miles of Central African Republic wilderness. This allows them to protect lions and their prey from overhunting, with early data indicating that ungulates are recovering and lion populations have increased by 50% since 2017.



© Mathieu Courdeses/African Parks



© Gregg Yan

### PANGOLIN CRISIS FUND

issued a grant to the Katala Foundation to protect the Critically Endangered Palawan pangolin, also known as the Philippine pangolin. This is the PCF's first time supporting a project in the Philippines, and this rare pangolin species is only found in one province in this entire archipelagic country. The Katala Foundation will work closely with local communities to protect these pangolins and monitor their populations.

**RHINO RECOVERY FUND** made large investments in the recovery of Africa's black and white rhino populations, including the successful reintroduction of 29 black rhinos to Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou National Park, where they had been absent for nearly 30 years. This operation was executed by Gonarezhou Conservation Trust (GCT), a RRF grantee, and RRF Director Markus Hofmeyr assisted with the veterinary aspects of the project. GCT will receive additional RRF support next year for a potential white rhino reintroduction.



# Saving Species Across Their Habitats

HOW WCN'S WILDLIFE FUNDS ARE INVESTING IN EFFECTIVE PROJECTS TO PROTECT WILDLIFE.



# Elephant Crisis Fund

ESTABLISHED IN 2013

**GOAL** ▶ TO END THE IVORY CRISIS AND SECURE A FUTURE FOR ELEPHANTS

As of year-end 2021 the ECF has supported:

**367**  
projects

**100**  
grantees

**42**  
countries

The ECF has disbursed:

**\$27.8**  
million to support on-the-ground conservation efforts.

## OVERVIEW

The Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF) was created to end the ivory crisis and secure a future for elephants in Africa. While there are signs of hope with poaching in decline, the ivory trade continues and the ECF remains committed to ending it. As other threats to elephants' survival are coming to the fore, the ECF has expanded to include projects promoting human-elephant coexistence and protecting elephant landscapes, giving elephants the space to survive and recover.

## STRATEGY

The ECF is a joint initiative of Save the Elephants and WCN. The ECF funds the best ideas and most urgent actions to safeguard the future of elephants, working with a coalition of individuals, scientists, conservation organizations, and governments to:

- ▶ **End the ivory crisis**
- ▶ **Promote human-elephant coexistence**
- ▶ **Protect elephant landscapes**

## ACCOMPLISHMENT

The ECF continued its multi-year investment in public-private partnerships between governments and NGOs to manage key elephant strongholds, providing critical protection to Africa's elephants and bringing important populations back from the brink. This year, the ECF began investing in Zambia's Kafue National Park and Nigeria's Okomu National Park.

**A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN  
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION NETWORK  
AND SAVE THE ELEPHANTS**

© Frankaf Petersens

# Lion Recovery Fund

ESTABLISHED IN 2017

**GOAL** ▶ TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF AFRICAN LIONS BY 2050

As of year-end 2021 the LRF has supported:

**183**  
projects

**67**  
grantees

**23**  
countries

The LRF has disbursed:

**\$17.8**  
million to support on-the-ground conservation efforts.

## OVERVIEW

Lion populations have declined by half in just a quarter century. But, lions can return. The Lion Recovery Fund (LRF) was created by WCN to give conservationists the support they need to address the biggest threats to lions.

## STRATEGY

The LRF invests in projects designed to:

- ▶ **Protect lions** from poaching, incidental capture in snares, retaliatory and ritual killings, and other threats.
- ▶ **Protect habitats** from destruction by unsustainable development practices such as farming, mining, logging, and charcoal production.
- ▶ **Protect prey** from poaching for bushmeat, excessive competition with domestic livestock, destruction of migratory pathways, and other threats.

## ACCOMPLISHMENT

The LRF supported the Frankfurt Zoological Society so their teams could continue fighting bushmeat poaching and illegal livestock grazing in Tanzania's Serengeti National Park. This park is home to the world's largest lion population—between 2,000 and 3,000 individuals—making this support vital to keeping these lions and their habitat safe.

**MANAGED BY  
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION NETWORK**

© African Parks



# Pangolin Crisis Fund

ESTABLISHED IN 2019

GOAL ► TO SAVE PANGOLINS FROM EXTINCTION

As of year-end 2021 the PCF has supported:

24

projects

21

grantees

23

countries

The PCF has disbursed:

\$1.8

million to support on-the-ground conservation efforts.

## OVERVIEW

Pangolins are the most illegally trafficked wild mammals on Earth. They are hunted to supply a rampant and illegal global trade of their scales, meat, and body parts. Because of demand—mostly in Asia, but also growing across Africa—all eight species of pangolins are threatened with extinction.

## STRATEGY

The Pangolin Crisis Fund (PCF) was created by Save Pangolins and WCN to invest in the best initiatives to:

- **Protect pangolins and their habitats** so that all eight species have a chance to recover.
- **Disrupt illegal wildlife trade networks** through intelligence-led investigations with local law enforcement and legislative reform.
- **Eliminate the demand** for pangolin scales and bushmeat in Asia and Africa by working with communities and raising awareness.

## ACCOMPLISHMENT

PCF support to the EAGLE Network in Central and West Africa contributed to multiple seizures of pangolin scales from traffickers, totalling over 1,400 pounds. More than 70 wildlife traffickers were arrested for possession of pangolin scales, ivory, predator pelts, and live African grey parrots. The EAGLE Network plays a crucial role in disrupting wildlife crime and fighting against corruption to ensure traffickers are prosecuted.

**A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION NETWORK AND SAVE PANGOLINS**

© Anita Mishra

# Rhino Recovery Fund

ESTABLISHED IN 2020

GOAL ► TO PROTECT RHINOS FROM WILDLIFE CRIME AND RESTORE THEIR LANDSCAPES

As of year-end 2021 the RRF has supported:

27

projects

24

grantees

11

countries

The RRF has disbursed:

\$2.1

million to support on-the-ground conservation efforts.

## OVERVIEW

Thousands of African rhinos have been killed for their horns, which are prized for false medicinal purposes and as status symbols, and Asian rhinos have dwindled to near extinction. Additionally, rhinos are losing their habitat to unsustainable development and three of the five rhino species are now Critically Endangered.

But there is still hope for rhinos. The Rhino Recovery Fund (RRF) believes with the right support, most rhino species can recover their populations.

## STRATEGY

The Rhino Recovery Fund has two primary investment strategies:

- **Rhino Guardians** – We invest in projects designed to stop rhino poaching and disrupt the trafficking and demand for rhino horn.
- **Rhino Landscapes** – We invest in projects that restore functioning habitat and provide strong protected area management to support wild rhinos and make them relevant to society.

## ACCOMPLISHMENT

The RRF supported the Leuser Conservation Forum in Indonesia's Leuser Ecosystem, the last remaining wild habitat for Sumatran rhinos. With fewer than 80 Sumatran rhinos left, the security of the Leuser Ecosystem is critical to the species' survival. RRF Director Markus Hofmeyr also advised Indonesian wildlife veterinarians on moving stray Sumatran rhinos into protected areas and including them in breeding programs.

**MANAGED BY WILDLIFE CONSERVATION NETWORK**

© Paul Funston



# Investing in Local Conservationists

WCN proudly supports the education and training of promising local conservationists at all stages of their careers. We invest in these emerging leaders through grants and scholarships that bolster the ranks of conservationists in key areas while also making the conservation field more equitable. By investing in local leadership, we believe we can have greater and more sustainable conservation impact.



“The WCN Scholarship was a vote of confidence in the journey I had chosen, one that I have now been on for over a decade. It guaranteed a chance to reach for an unthinkable opportunity—for me, that meant applying to Oxford and covering my fees for my master’s. That year changed my life and exposed me to things I still think about every day. It is rare to have an open scholarship opportunity that does not direct you to one destination, and I will always be grateful for that.”

**RESSON KANTAI DUFF**  
2011 WCN SCHOLAR,  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EWASO LIONS



## TODAY’S STUDENTS, TOMORROW’S LEADERS

WCN’s Scholarship Program is empowering a new generation of local conservationists to take charge of wildlife protection in their home countries. Offering both conservation and veterinary scholarships, WCN is safeguarding a more diverse range of wildlife while supporting those who are shaping conservation’s future.

Since 2006, the WCN Scholarship Program has supported:

**154** budding conservationists  
protecting over **80** threatened species  
across **46** countries

From Belize to Indonesia to Madagascar and beyond, WCN Scholars are reimagining how conservation can benefit both wildlife and people.



## MORE REPRESENTATIVE CONSERVATION


WCN’s Career Program enables conservationists who are saving wildlife in their home countries to thrive in their careers. Focused primarily on those who are early or mid-career, we offer multi-year financial support, tailored access to training opportunities, facilitated peer learning, and mentorship to give talented conservationists the tools to succeed.

In its inaugural year, the WCN Career Program has invested in:

**6** conservationists  
protecting over **8** wildlife species  
across **6** countries

The Career Program ensures that conservationists rooted in their local communities will have a longer lasting impact on wildlife and thrive alongside the species they protect.



A large school of hammerhead sharks swimming in clear blue water. The sharks are seen from various angles, some swimming towards the camera and others away. The water is a deep blue, and the sharks' silhouettes are clearly visible against the lighter background.

“I will argue that every scrap of  
biological diversity is priceless, to be  
learned and cherished, and never to  
be surrendered without a struggle.”

— E.O. Wilson

OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO  
ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS.  
IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU  
THAT CONSERVATION IS  
POSSIBLE.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## Statement of Revenue & Expenses

CALENDAR YEAR ENDING 2021

### REVENUE

Contributions – Donor Designated	\$ 39,175,913
Contributions – Undesignated	\$ 4,934,670
Income from Activities (Net)	\$ 84,899
Income from Investments	\$ 599,649
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 44,795,131</b>

### EXPENSES

Program Grants and Services	\$ 32,447,024
Management and General	\$ 1,699,625
Fundraising	\$ 250,175
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 34,396,824</b>
<b>Change In Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,398,307</b>

## Statement of Financial Position

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

### ASSETS

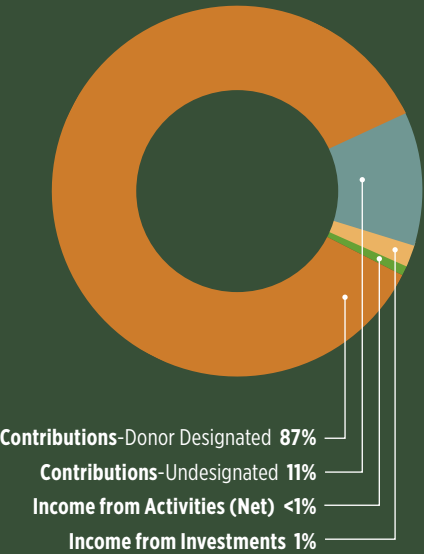
Unrestricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,644,254
Restricted Cash-Wildlife Funds	\$ 9,758,342
Restricted Cash-Conservation Programs	\$ 25,397,475
Grants and Pledges Receivable	\$ 65,533
Scholarship Investment Fund	\$ 2,252,953
Property and Equipment	\$ 26,550
Other Assets	\$ 150,710
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 43,295,817</b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

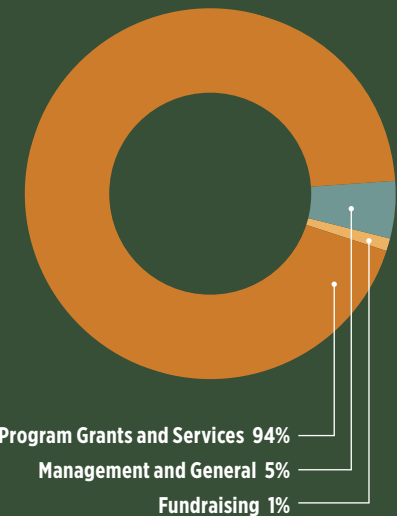
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 8,378,245
Beginning Assets	\$ 24,519,265
Change in Net Assets	\$ 10,398,307
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 43,295,817</b>

Complete financial reports are available upon request. Wildlife Conservation Network is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)3 organization – #30-0108469

### 2021 TOTAL REVENUE



### 2021 TOTAL EXPENSES



WCN maintains Charity Navigator's highest possible 4-star rating. Charity Navigator is America's leading independent charity evaluator, and rates over 8,000 charities on their Financial Health and Accountability & Transparency.

## Where Your Donations Go

With WCN's "100% model" every penny donated for a specific organization, program, or Fund is used for that purpose, with zero overhead taken out. Additionally, when you give to WCN's "Where Needed Most" option, you are providing critical unrestricted funding that WCN can allocate to a variety of conservation efforts that are most in need. We get funding to the field efficiently and ensure our donors know how their contributions are saving endangered wildlife and wild landscapes around the world.

## Looking Ahead

2022 marks WCN's 20th anniversary. Over these two decades, our Network has tackled some of the biggest threats to wildlife and improved the well-being of wildlife and people on every continent on Earth.

Standing on the foundation built by our community of donors and conservationists, we are creating a WCN that has an even broader reach and bigger impact. In the years to come, we will be focused on incorporating more threatened species into our Network, strengthening the talents of brilliant local conservationists, ensuring the future of conservation rests in the hands of local people, helping supporters decide how their contributions will make the most difference, and connecting a community passionate about saving wildlife.

We are so excited to take these next steps together towards a world where wildlife and people can coexist and thrive. ■



©Anup Shah/Minden Pictures





WCN

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