# ANNUAL REPORT



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# **OUR MISSION IS TO**

PROTECT ENDANGERED

# WILDLIFE BY SUPPORTING

CONSERVATIONISTS

**WHO ENSURE WILDLIFE** 

AND PEOPLE COEXIST

AND THRIVE.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

# OUR MISSION IN ACTION



**THIS YEAR MARKED WCN'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY**—in this time, we have expanded to new corners of the world, protected hundreds of wildlife species on land and at sea, and significantly grown our Network of partners and supporters. In 2022, we continued to build upon our two decades of conservation to expand our impact even more. We are proud to share some of these accomplishments with you in our 2022 Annual Report.

No matter the species or location, our Conservation Partners and Wildlife Fund grantees made substantial progress to protect wildlife in 2022. To combat the decline and fragmentation of wild landscapes, conservationists safeguarded and connected critical habitat—protecting elephant migratory routes in Kenya, connecting forest habitat for cotton-top tamarins in Colombia, and investing in safe corridors for pumas and other wildlife in California. In South America, they expanded habitat for okapi and Grevy's zebra. Additionally, conservationists addressed persistent threats to wildlife—relentlessly protecting endangered animals from poaching and trafficking and successfully reducing conflict between people and wildlife. Their efforts not only saved wildlife and wild places, they improved the lives of thousands of people through income-generating activities, education programs, and humanitarian relief in areas stricken by drought or armed conflict.

JEAN-GAËL COLLOMB, PH.D.



It's been an incredibly exciting year for WCN as well. We welcomed five new Partners into our Network who protect grey crowned cranes, great green macaws, mountain gorillas, orangutans, and Malaysian marine mammals, including dolphins and dugongs. Through our Rising Wildlife Leaders programs, we invested in the education and careers of 30 local conservationists, expanding to include scholarships for Indigenous People in the US. Our Wildlife Funds are helping to bring Senegal's lions back from the brink of extinction and are tackling wildlife crime at the highest levels to protect rhinos and pangolins across Africa and Asia. Finally, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we raised a record amount of funding—bringing our total amount raised over 20 years to \$268 million—to save wildlife and their habitats for generations to come.

**CHARLES KNOWLES** 

This year was the culmination of decades of unparalleled dedication from conservationists around the world and the trust and generosity of passionate donors. It is because of this community that, for 20 years, we have operated with unyielding hope, persistently striving to create a world where our remaining wild landscapes are protected, where conservation benefits the lives of all people, and where wildlife populations thrive everywhere. We look forward to all we can do together in the next 20 years.

Jean-Gaël Collomb, Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer

Charles Knowles

President and Co-founder

#### PARTNER NETWORK

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 Partner Network go through a rigorous vetting process, donors can invest in them with confidence.

#### - WILDLIFE FUNDS

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.

#### **RISING WILDLIFE LEADERS**

WCN helps local conservationists grow and thrive so that they have the support they need to protect wildlife. We invest in these exceptional 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.



**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.

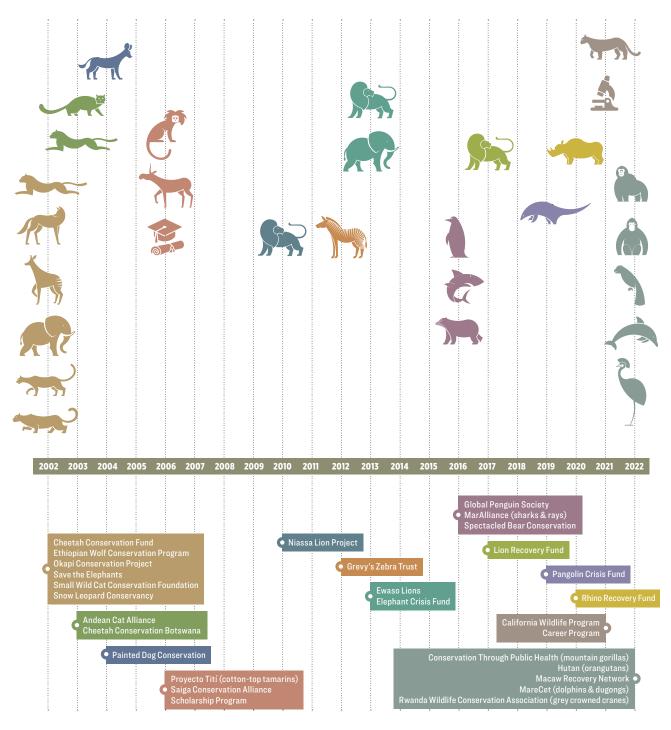
**NO ONE CAN SAVE WILDLIFE ALONE, SO WE EMPHASIZE COLLABORATION.** We've supported hundreds of organizations and through opportunities like our Wildlife Conservation Expos, WCN creates a community of conservationists and supporters working together for wildlife.

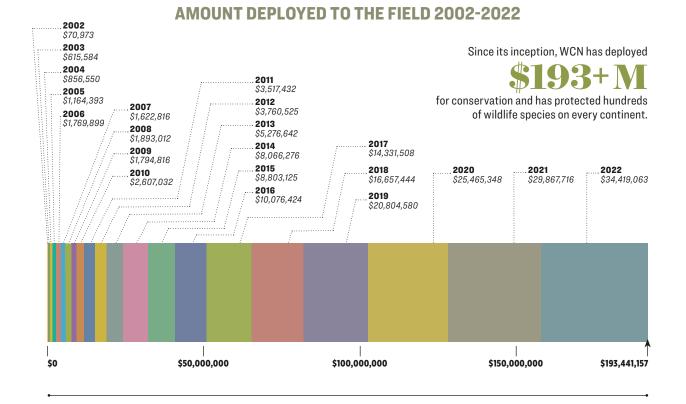
**OUR DONORS DESERVE TO KNOW THE IMPACT OF THEIR INVESTMENT.** Through transparency and efficiency, 100% of our donors' designated contributions goes to the work they care about.



WCN was founded in 2002 by Charles Knowles, Akiko Yamazaki, and John Lukas-combining their conservation experience and business acumen to support independent conservationists with the potential to create lasting impacts for wildlife.

#### PARTNERS AND PROGRAMS ADDED SINCE WCN'S FOUNDING





#### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION EXPO THEN AND NOW

Part of what makes WCN unique is that we directly connect wildlife's most ardent supporters with some of the world's leading conservationists. One way we do this is through our annual Wildlife Conservation Expos. Whether virtually or in-person, at Expo, conservationists take to the stage to present inspiring stories about their work, showing supporters how they can make a difference. Over the years, Expo has gone from a modest local gathering to a global event bringing together thousands of people from around the world to build friendships and celebrate wildlife. Learn more at wcnexpo.org



offering them opportunities to connect directly.

WCN's first Expo in 2002. Expo was created to remove Conservationists from around the world have used the the separation between donors and conservationists. Expo stage to share their inspirational stories.



Over the years, Expo grew to a large event that has brought thousands of people together to celebrate wildlife.



**450** 

Number of attendees at the first-ever Wildlife Conservation Expo in 2002

# 2,268

Number of attendees at the Wildlife Conservation Expo in 2022

# $\mathbf{76}$

Number of countries that virtual Expo attendees tuned in from in 2022



# OUR NETWORK'S GLOBAL REACH

# WCN'S GLOBAL REACH

#### **PARTNERS** AFRICA



CHEETAH CONSERVATION BOTSWANA LED BY REBECCA KLEIN Botswana

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



CONSERVATION THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH LED BY DR. GLADYS KALEMA-ZIKUSOKA Høanda



ETHIOPIAN WOLF CONSERVATION PROGRAM LED BY DR. CLAUDIO SILLERO Fthionia



EWASO LIONS LED BY DR. SHIVANI BHALLA & JENERIA LEKILELEI Kenya

**GREVY'S ZEBRA TRUST** LED BY BELINDA LOW MACKEY & PETER LALAMPAA



NIASSA LION PROJECT



LED BY AGOSTINHO JORGE, DR. COLLEEN BEGG, & KEITH BEGG Mozambique





PAINTED DOG CONSERVATION LED BY DAVID KUVAWOGA & PETER BLINSTON Zimbabwe





**OKAPI CONSERVATION** LED BY JOHN LUKAS &



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



LED BY DR. MARC ANCRENAZ & DR. ISABELLE LACKMAN Malaysia

LED BY DR. LOUISA PONNAMPALAM Malaysia

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

SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVANCY LED BY ASHLEIGH LUTZ-NELSON Bhutan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia

#### **PARTNERS** LATIN AMERICA

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

> MACAW RECOVERY NETWORK LED BY DR. SAM WILLIAMS Costa Rica

**PROYECTO TITÍ** LED BY ROSAMIRA GUILLEN Colombia

LED BY ALEX MORE & ROBYN APPLETON Peru

#### **PARTNERS** WORLDWIDE

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

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

SMALL WILD CAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION 11-15 LED BY DR. JIM SANDERSON

Worldwide

WCN Africa and Asia

#### WILDLIFE FUNDS



WCN



#### **RISING WILDLIFE** LEADERS

As of 2022, WCN has awarded 174 scholarships to promising conservationists from 46 countries.



Established in 2021, WCN's Career Program supports the career growth of conservationists native to the region in which they work.

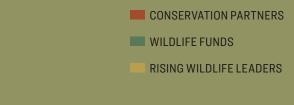












#### PANGOLIN CRISIS FUND + RHINO RECOVERY FUND

# Teaming Up Against Wildlife Crime



#### © Susan McConne

#### THE CRUNCH OF TWIGS AND DRY LEAVES ANNOUNCED ADAMS

**CASSINGA'S ARRIVAL** as he stepped into the forest clearing. It was midday when he joined his team of community rangers, who were gathered near bushels of pangolin scales, rhino horns, and elephant tusks clustered like blemishes. Alongside this gruesome haul sat three men in handcuffs surrounded by police. Wildlife criminals have transformed the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) into a major illegal trafficking ground, and with backing from the Pangolin Crisis Fund (PCF) and the Rhino Recovery Fund (RRF), Adams is focusing his organization, Conserv Congo, on supporting authorities in the fight against this destructive trade.

Conserv Congo specializes in gathering information for law enforcement to counter wildlife criminal networks in the DRC. As a former investigative journalist, Adams knows the value of information when tackling complex issues, so Conserv Congo



WCN manages the Rhino Recovery Fund and manages the Pangolin Crisis Fund, in partnership with Save Pangolins, ensuring that both Funds are investing in the most impactful projects to protect and recover rhinos and pangolins.



The PCF and the RRF believe supporting

conservation organizations run by local nationals,

Wildlife Crime Prevention), is critical to combating

wildlife criminals. These organizations acknowledge

the severity of wildlife crime in their home countries

and make it a prominent issue for their communities,

like Conserv Congo (which is also supported by

which gives conservation the best chance at

succeeding locally.

"Teaming Up Against..." Cont.

has cultivated a network of local investigators to update them on poaching activity and trade routes. This makes Conserv Congo key to helping authorities understand the scope and methods of trafficking networks. The DRC has become a haven for wildlife criminals who poach within the country and traffic illegal wildlife products to Asian markets from as far away as South Africa. Rhinos and pangolins are two particularly targeted species, since their horns and scales are highly sought for traditional Asian medicines. This is why it is strategically important for the PCF and the RRF to invest in preventative measures in this trafficking hotspot.

Seeing an opportunity to make the greatest possible impact against trafficking syndicates, the PCF and the RRF began jointly supporting Conserv Congo's work in 2022. The DRC is home to three pangolin species, a small white rhino population, and contains some of Africa's largest, most biodiverse rainforests—all species that share these habitats benefit from Conserv Congo's anti-trafficking work. By helping authorities intercept traffickers and confiscate illegal wildlife products, Conserv Congo is disrupting the flow of these products abroad and making it more difficult for criminals to use the DRC as a transit hub. PCF and RRF support is also helping Conserv Congo increase their organizational infrastructure, making them more resilient and adaptable to evolving criminal activity.

Information supplied to law enforcement by Conserv Congo and their partners has led to the arrest and prosecution of 65 high-level wildlife criminals in the DRC and Zambia, many of whom trafficked rhino horns. By infiltrating criminal networks and studying their patterns, Adams and his team can give the DRC government a variety of ways to pursue them. These sting operations are highly confidential, as secrecy is required to ensure that traffickers are caught unaware. Since 2013, Conserv Congo has aided in the seizure of nearly 10,000 lbs. of pangolin scales, over 7,000 lbs. of elephant ivory, and many other illegal wildlife products.

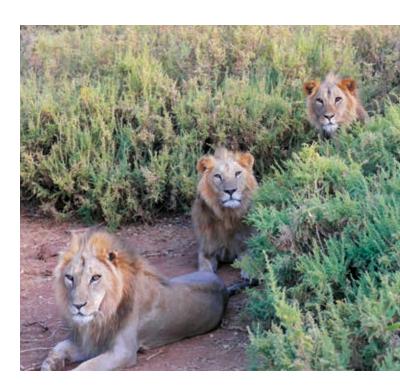
As the police escorted the poachers away, Adams helped gather their contraband to be locked up or destroyed, hoping that today's arrest made the DRC's forests a little safer for wildlife. With PCF and RRF support, Conserv Congo will expand their capacity to protect endangered species from global networks of criminals who would reduce them to commodities.



Opposite page: Rhino horn and products confiscated by authorities in Hong Kong. Bushels of pangolin scales seized from traffickers. Above: Adams Cassinga, Founder of Conserv Congo.

#### EWASO LIONS

Lions Taking Bolder Steps



WITH THE DRIED-UP EWASO NY'IRO RIVER at their backs, the three males walked out of the brush, shaking their manes to repel the grasping branches. This trio had never set foot in Samburu National Reserve before, which the Ewaso Lions monitoring team took as a hopeful sign. Despite the severe drought plaguing Kenya this year, carnivores throughout Samburu were still thriving. In their 15th year of operation, Ewaso Lions monitored the highest number of lions ever recorded in Samburu.

Local prides showed their resilience during the drought, with seven new cubs born this year. After years promoting coexistence between lions and the people who live alongside them, Ewaso Lions is seeing the lion population steadily increase, as is the tolerance for lions from local communities. Resident lions are traveling more confidently throughout Samburu, and the unprecedented movement of the three new males from other conservancies demonstrates that Ewaso Lions' work to maintain critical wildlife corridors has been successful. It also shows that the area is recognized by neighboring lions as safe habitat free from human conflict. With luck, this promising trend of population growth will continue as Samburu's lions, and other wildlife, reap the rewards of Ewaso Lions' labors.

## **AFRICA** PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

# 1,060

grey crowned cranes were recorded during the sixth annual census held by **RWANDA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION** (RWCA). This census involved extensive aerial and ground surveys across all of Rwanda. Census results showed an increase in crane numbers—the first time the population has risen above 1,000 and more than double the amount of cranes present in Rwanda since RWCA first began their work.



#### **CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND**

(CCF) reintroduced cheetahs to India after a near 70-year absence from the country. The cheetahs—three males and five females—were donated by the Namibian government and relocated by CCF, who developed the reintroduction protocols, to Kuno National Park in India. This successful cheetah reintroduction is the culmination of a 12-year process between CCF and the Indian government.



#### CONSERVATION THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH (CTPH) contin-

ued its mountain gorilla health monitoring program through routine, non-invasive fecal sample collection from gorillas, people, and livestock. This allowed CTPH to create an early warning system for parasites, pathogens, and other zoonotic diseases within human communities and gorilla populations. Over 1,720 gorilla fecal samples were analyzed; of these, 880 samples were preserved and sent to the Uganda Virus Research Institute to be tested for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. To date, CTPH's diligence has helped maintain zero known COVID-19 infections among the wild mountain gorillas of Bwindi National Park.

# 5,000

people from eight villages across Mozambique's Niassa Special Reserve participated in NIASSA LION PROJECT'S (NLP) community camera trap program. Every photo of wildlife they collected was converted into income awarded to the villagers by NLP. This program helps NLP assess wildlife distribution across the Reserve and offers local communities a tangible incentive to participate in wildlife conservation. So far, over \$25,000 has been earned by these communities for the collection of wildlife images.

# 500

Grevv's zebras received supplemental feed for 130 days from **GREVY'S ZEBRA TRUST** (GZT) during northern Kenya's drought crisis. GZT deployed nearly 18,700 bales of hay across over 11,200 miles. This intervention allowed the zebras to maintain their average body condition until the rains returned. GZT also supported 530 vulnerable families in Samburu with one month's supply of relief food—including rice, sugar, maize meal, and tea-during this year's drought and employed five new water monitors to ensure water availability for nursing Grevy's zebras and their foals.

44

new painted dog pups were recorded this year by **PAINTED DOG CONSERVATION** (PDC) during their monitoring of 10 packs in Zimbabwe—the largest number of packs they have ever tracked at once. PDC also studied the Mpindothela pack, which is composed of painted dogs previously cared for in PDC's rehabilitation facility. Their continued survival emphasizes the importance of PDC's integrated approach and direct intervention through rehabilitation.



#### ETHIOPIAN WOLF CONSERVATION PROGRAM

launched disease awareness campaigns throughout 44 local communities in and around the Bale Mountains. Over 3,500 dogs—94% of those found in these communities—and over 550 Ethiopian wolves from 17 packs were vaccinated against rabies. The team collectively also spent more than 28,000 hours monitoring 92 Ethiopian wolf packs across 28 sites this year, culminating in over 2,000 wolf sightings.



#### **OKAPI CONSERVATION PROJECT'S** (OCP) agroforestry program reopened an extension in the town of Mungberebecoming OCP's sixth active agroforestry site around Okapi Wildlife Reserve-which will support local farmers with a nursery and guidance on sustainable agricultural practices. This site will also bolster the northeastern forest buffer surrounding the Reserve, adding more protections for okapi and contributing toward OCP's goal of distributing 100,000 tree seedlings next year.

# 114

local farmers were trained in livestock and human-cheetah conflict management techniques by **CHEETAH CONSERVATION BOTSWANA** through direct visits, workshops, and networking activities. This training will help reduce human-cheetah conflict in Botswana.



**SAVE THE ELEPHANTS** collaborated with the Wyss Academy for Nature to safeguard livestock and wildlife movement corridors in northern Kenya. This is crucial to protecting elephant migratory routes under threat of being blocked by increasing unplanned infrastructure development and human population growth.

"Over 30 years ago, I started working with Ethiopian wolves, a very endangered species found only in the highlands of Ethiopia. It's thanks to WCN that I've been able to connect with donors and secure unrestricted funding for the last 20 years to maintain important work protecting these rare wolves." —Dr. Claudio Sillero, Founder and Executive Director, Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Program

Photo credits, left to right: © Susan McConnell; © Andrey Gudkov; CDS; OCP; Ryan Wilkie.

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HUTAN

# Shepherding the Forests of Malaysian Borneo



An orangutan and her baby in a palm tree on a plantation.



WCN IMPACT

WCN has been a fiscal sponsor of Hutan since 2007. In 2022, Hutan became a WCN Conservation Partner. Funds raised by WCN help make Hutan's programs, like the reforestation program, possible and capable of expansion. **AS HINTS OF SUNLIGHT BLOOMED OVER THE HORIZON,** Norinah Braim and Mariana Singgong assembled their teams and climbed into the boats. With buckets of tree saplings strapped to their backs, they began their journey from Sukau Village up the Kinabatangan River to the planting site, where the calls of monkeys heralded their arrival. As the team leaders of Hutan's reforestation program, these women were pleased to see wildlife reappearing in these once barren lands. Most importantly, there was evidence that orangutans, the world's largest tree-dwelling mammals, were traversing these forests as well.

The forests around Malaysian Borneo's Kinabatangan River are some of the most biodiverse areas on Earth. Since the 1950s, these forests have been reduced to make way for highly lucrative palm oil plantations, causing major habitat loss for orangutans and other wildlife. For over a decade, Hutan's reforestation teams have planted new trees to reconnect fragmented habitat and rebuild forests once devastated by

CONSERVATION PARTNERS
WILDLIFE FUNDS
RISING WILDLIFE LEADERS

For two years, Hutan's reforestation teams ceased field activities due to COVID-19 lockdown, which caused the deaths of nearly a third of the young trees they had planted. Able to venture back to the forests in 2022, they are making up for lost time.

#### "Shepherding the Forests..." Cont.

industry. They are collaborating with palm oil companies to plant trees in designated parts of the plantations to create wildlife corridors, reconnecting orangutan populations and allowing them to safely travel through agricultural landscapes. But reforesting the land is no quick process.

It takes four years for the trees to bear fruit, and six years to grow tall enough for orangutans to nest in them. Every day, Norinah and Mariana lead their teams to these planting sites, where they work tirelessly from dawn to dusk conducting surveys, clearing grasses and bushes, and planting tree seedlings. It takes at least three years of regular maintenance to ensure these trees grow successfully. Without daily care, newly planted trees will likely die in this dense environment. Rebuilding forests is a source of pride and opportunity for the 25 team members from Sukau Village, nearly all of whom are former housewives who are now earning vital income for their families.

The immense dedication of these women has led to substantial results, with more than 200,000 trees planted and over

Norinah and her team heading to a planting site by boat.

60 acres-the equivalent of five football fields-restored since the program began. This year, Hutan has observed at least ten orangutans using their corridors for food, shelter, and travel, and also see clouded leopards, elephants, hornbills, and proboscis monkeys frequenting their planting sites. Small birds and mammals also fill these new forests, bringing with them new seeds that are distributed throughout Hutan's plots. The teams have already recorded 50 new tree species growing in their corridors that they didn't plant themselves, showing how nature rebuilds itself once the scars of deforestation have healed.

As the day drew to a close, Norinah and Mariana led their teams back to the boats, planning to return again tomorrow with fresh saplings in tow. They smiled, taking stock of how their labors are paving the way for orangutans and other wildlife to reclaim their habitats. With many landscapes in Malaysian Borneo still in need of restoration, the women of Hutan's reforestation program are eager to continue their daily work.



#### MARECET

# **Keeping Dolphins Out of Nets**



Above: An Irrawaddy dolphin in Malaysia. Inset below: An acoustic pinger attached to a fishing net.

#### AS HIS BOAT LURCHED BETWEEN THE WAVES off Peninsular

Malaysia, the fisher took care to attach acoustic pingers to his gillnets before lowering them. While this was a new practice for him, it was essential because his nets could accidentally ensnare other animals besides fish. Bycatch—the unintended capture of marine wildlife in commercial fishing gear—is a major threat to marine mammals since their habitat often overlaps popular fishing grounds. This year, MareCet launched a new project working with local fishers to test these acoustic pingers in an effort to reduce bycatch of endangered dolphins and other cetaceans.



for marine mammals in Malaysia, attach the pingers to their nets during fishing expeditions. These pingers emit high-pitched sounds that are meant to ward the dolphins away from the nets, preventing them from becoming entangled. By involving fishers in the trial of simple, low-cost techniques that won't negatively impact their target

catch, MareCet is making it easy for fishers to adopt these bycatch mitigation interventions. Feedback from fishers will help MareCet fine-tune the deployment of bycatch reduction devices and they will gauge the project's effectiveness through on-site monitoring and periodic checks of the fishers' catches. If successful, MareCet hopes to expand this innovative solution throughout Malaysia and share techniques with neighboring Southeast Asian countries to benefit fishers and keep marine mammals out of their nets.

#### **ASIA** PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS



SAIGA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE collected and analyzed survey data from the Resurrection Island region of Central Asia's former Aral Sea, where Critically Endangered saiga antelope are found. This data helped turn this region into a new protected area, Aral-Kum National Park, whose borders and management plan are currently being defined with local governments.



#### **SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION**

(SLC) began fieldwork for their One Health initiative in Nepal, after being delayed several years by the COVID-19 pandemic. SLC and its partners met with communities living alongside snow leopards in the Annapurna Conservation Area to provide herders with livestock welfare training and tips on reducing conflict with snow leopards.

"I am in awe of WCN. Bringing these amazing conservationists together in a network will do so much—and already has done so much—for wildlife everywhere." —Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE

INNI

MACAW RECOVERY NETWORK

# **New Heights for Great Green Macaws**

THE FLOCK SOARED BENEATH THE TROPICAL SUN,

emerald and azure feathers flashing like brushstrokes. These vibrant birds, Critically Endangered great green macaws, are a treasured sight in Costa Rica, where Macaw Recovery Network (MRN) works to protect them. Deforestation and slow reproductive rates have caused these parrots to decline, but MRN has spent years diligently defending and restoring their forest habitat, monitoring wild macaw population health, and conducting scientific research to give them the best chance at survival.

This year, MRN led an international great green macaw census across Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, and Panama-five of the six countries where the species is found—with over 100 participants from 42 organizations taking part, the largest census of its kind. This sort of collaboration amongst conservationists is critical to protecting the macaws across their entire range. While results are still being analyzed, they confidently recorded at least 600 great green macaws across all five countries. In Costa Rica, where MRN operates, the population grew from 330 to 550 individuals—a 67% increase since 2021—the largest number ever recorded in the country. This demonstrates the effectiveness of MRN's interventions in the heart of the macaws' range. By continuing their work in Costa Rica and expanding their collaborations with groups abroad, MRN will help great green macaws continue painting the skies with their beauty. 🔳

**RISING WILDLIFE LEADERS** 

© Corey Raffel

#### SPECTACLED BEAR CONSERVATION

# Ancient Bears of Machu Picchu



This year, SBC worked with multiple NGOs to install camera traps every square kilometer throughout the land surrounding Machu Picchu. In 2023, they plan to install additional cameras in strategic locations and will start collaring bears.



Since 2016, WCN has helped SBC greatly increase access to funding which has enabled SBC to expand its projects to new parts of Peru, including Machu Picchu. THE TEAM BUSHWHACKED THEIR WAY THROUGH THE FOREST, navigating

well-worn Inca trails until broad stone walls materialized out of the fog. The trail guided them to archeological ruins tiered into the Andes mountains, not far from the world-famous Machu Picchu. Feeling more like explorers than conservationists, the group from Spectacled Bear Conservation (SBC), accompanied by park guards, canvassed the area for signs of bears. Pushing through the mist, they found trees scarred with claw marks and cradling matted piles of bromeliad leaves—a bear's sleeping nest. Given the area's size and variety of food sources, SBC thinks this could be one of Peru's core bear habitats, home to one of the densest spectacled bear populations. SBC is learning everything possible about these bears to protect them and the unique habitat they share with ancient landmarks.

Machu Picchu is a World Heritage Site visited by thousands of people each day. It is the crown jewel of architectural relics left by the Inca Empire, the largest civilization in the pre-Colombian Americas. Nestled high in the Andes and surrounded by a cloud forest,

Machu Picchu is not only a cultural site, it's also rich in biodiversity. This forested national park is contiguous with the Amazon and boasts four different ecosystems along its steep mountain gradient. It is ideal habitat for spectacled bears, but little is known about the bears living there.

This year, SBC began working with the Peruvian government to determine the status of Machu Picchu's bears and the health of these ecosystems by gathering baseline data through camera traps and by collaring bears. These are the first steps in SBC's long-term research which



will determine the population size and health of the bears, how they use and move through the forest, their major threats, the impacts of tourists, and how much habitat they need. Over time, SBC's work will expand into community programs and their field monitoring will inform conservation actions, creating a huge impact for bears. In the next two years alone, SBC will have sufficient data to mitigate natural threats and help Peru's government minimize the tourist impact on the park.

Habitat loss poses a serious risk to this area. The land near Machu Picchu is so valuable that people are selling it to developers for hotels and other tourist services. Studies show that at the current rate of loss, 90% of the wild space surrounding Machu Picchu could be stripped bare in less than a decade. To prevent this, SBC wants this area to be declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve—protecting a million acres of land—and they're in the beginning phases of this plan with the Peruvian government. SBC is also using its data to work with the Indigenous community to create a protected area adjacent to Machu Picchu.

Bears roamed these peaks alongside the Incas and all the people who came afterward, and SBC wants to ensure their future stretches as far as their past. Their research will form the basis of a conservation plan for Machu Picchu that will protect these bears and the entire cloud forest for centuries.

### THE AMERICAS PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS



ANDEAN CAT ALLIANCE collaborated with Argentina's National Parks Administration, the National Ministry of Defense, and local NGO Natura International to confirm the presence of Andean cats in a reserve near the town of Uspallata. This discovery will provide significant leverage to support efforts to declare this area as a national park.



**PROYECTO TITÍ** (PT) continued to expand Los Titíes de San Juan Forest Reserve by planting 20,000 new saplings and purchasing three adjacent properties. These additions bring the total area of the Reserve up to approximately 1,100 acres of protected habitat for Colombia's cotton-top tamarins. PT also signed an agreement to purchase another 100 acres in 2023.



#### MARALLIANCE

# Guiding the Recovery of Belize's Marine Life



Thanks to the participation of fishers like Ivan (above and center, in blue), MarAlliance has the headcount and resources to conduct far-reaching surveys. MarAlliance trains fishers in scientific field methods, and many become so proficient that they go on to train these techniques to other fishers and biologists. This creates a larger cohort of stakeholders working to recover marine wildlife.

#### **AFTER TAKING MEASUREMENTS, IVAN TORRES**

released the Caribbean reef shark's dorsal fin and watched it glide away from the starboard side of his boat. While these sharks were familiar to traditional fishers like Ivan, they had become a rarer sight in Belize until recently. Overfishing has broadly and negatively impacted marine species and the condition of Belize's reefs and atolls is declining. By enlisting the help of fishers in their annual censuses, MarAlliance gathers crucial data that drives Belize's conservation strategies to boost wildlife recovery. This year's data revealed a surprising rise in certain shark populations, compelling evidence that MarAlliance's support of local efforts to relax fishing pressures and improve protected area management is working.

Monitoring marine wildlife is the backbone of MarAlliance's conservation efforts. For nearly a decade, they have

generated influential data, including population estimates, for sharks and rays throughout the Americas to encourage additional protections and legislation. To cast the widest net possible for their research, and to democratize marine science, MarAlliance partners with fishers to monitor wildlife every year. Ivan is a long-time collaborator involved in all aspects of their fieldwork, including censuses.

In 2022, MarAlliance and their fisher network conducted a national marine wildlife census in Belize. This massive endeavor involved three boats, with up to 20 people per site surveying key habitats in and around 11 of Belize's 14 marine protected areas. To calculate the most accurate estimates of focal species, MarAlliance utilizes three main census techniques—snorkeling surveys, underwater video recordings, and the catch, tag, and release of endangered species.

#### **GLOBAL PENGUIN SOCIETY**

# **Shoring Up Protections for Patagonia's Penguins**



Above: Dr. Pablo Borboroglu, Founder of Global Penguin Society, with the Magellanic penguins at El Pedral. Right: Clarita in 2008 with a plastic bottle in her nest.

**CLARITA EMERGED FROM THE SURF** and shuffled to her nest at El Pedral, a Magellanic penguin colony protected by Global Penguin Society (GPS) for the past 15 years. GPS dubbed Clarita "the mother of Pedral" because she was the colony's first penguin to ever hatch a chick, and every year, she returns to this same Patagonian coast to breed. El Pedral was once covered in garbage and plagued by threats, but GPS cleaned up the beach and worked with the Argentinian government to make it a protected wildlife refuge, growing from six pairs of penguins in 2008 to over 4,000 pairs today.

El Pedral is located in what will soon be the Punta Ninfas Protected Area: 610,000 acres—nearly twice the size of Los Angeles—of protected marine and coastal habitat for penguins and other wildlife. GPS is collaborating with the government to establish this protected area, and once approved, this vital ecosystem will forever be safeguarded from human disturbances like fisheries and plastic pollution. Clarita, nearly 20 years old, shared her nest with a large plastic soda bottle when she first made El Pedral her home, but thanks to the continuous efforts of GPS, she and her fellow penguins won't need to worry about nesting on unsafe shores again.





#### WORLDWIDE PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

#### SMALL WILD CAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION $\operatorname{conducted}$

several highly successful multi-country vaccination and neutering campaigns in Central and South America to mitigate the spread of disease from domestic animals to small wild cats. In one weekend, over 1,200 dogs were vaccinated and 46 were neutered without any cost to rural communities. The campaign was so effective, one state government in Brazil agreed to continue the program at their own expense.

Guiding the Recovery... Cont.

MarAlliance's census results assess the effectiveness of Belize's conservation legislation and inform course corrections when necessary.

Results from their recent census were mixed, demonstrating that many protected areas are not effective at protecting sharks, but also showing that in more remote sites, major wins are possible when legislation and conservation are implemented together. MarAlliance found that the halt of shark fishing during the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with improved protected area enforcement over the past five years, led to a tenfold increase of Caribbean reef sharks at Turneffe Atoll and a 300% increase at Lighthouse Reef Atoll. They also documented Critically Endangered hammerheads for a second year in a row, suggesting that they are slowly repopulating these areas. However, fewer rays and turtles were recorded, even in areas where sharks—their natural predators—weren't abundant, suggesting the illegal poaching of both is ongoing. Additionally, nurse sharks now number fewer than 15,000 in the Belize Barrier Reef. But MarAlliance's monitoring data has contributed to the passing of significant legislation, such as bans on gillnet use countrywide and shark fishing at the atolls, and they believe that in the coming years, such laws will help sharks and rays rebound.

Although much work is needed to repopulate Belize's marine wildlife, MarAlliance's scientific monitoring and censuses, along with better law enforcement and increased fisher participation, will continue to inform the recovery of Belize's marine ecosystems. Fishers like Ivan recognize that their livelihoods are tied to healthy fish populations, and by investing in fisher partners and empowering coastal communities, MarAlliance will continue its efforts to turn the tide on the decline of Belize's marine wildlife.



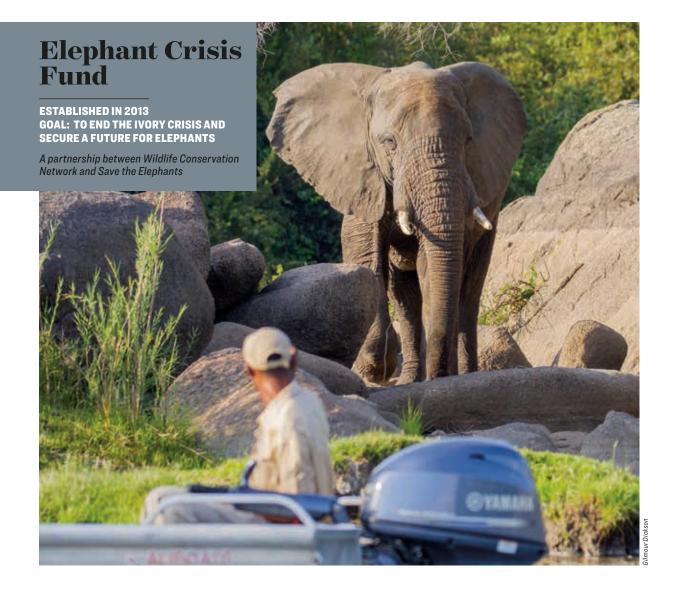
#### WCN IMPACT

WCN has supported MarAlliance's work for seven years, connecting them with generous donors who help fund their conservation efforts, including marine wildlife censuses. ELEPHANT CRISIS FUND | LION RECOVERY FUND | PANGOLIN CRISIS FUND | RHINO RECOVERY FUND | CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE PROGRAM

and some

© Susan McConnell

# WIDLEE



#### **OVERVIEW**

The Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF) was created to support a network of organizations with funding and technical expertise to help them combat the ivory poaching crisis. The ivory trade has reduced in recent years, but ivory continues to move from Africa to illegal markets in Asia. Other threats to African elephants are becoming more acute, including habitat loss and rising human-elephant conflict as they compete with humans for space and resources.

#### **STRATEGY**

Such clear and present dangers to elephants require effective responses. The ECF is a joint initiative of Save the Elephants and WCN that invests in the best interventions to safeguard the future of elephants, supporting projects that:

End the ivory crisis

- Promote human-elephant coexistence
- Protect elephant landscapes

#### ACCOMPLISHMENT

The ECF made significant investments this year to protect critical elephant corridors in Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, and Tanzania. One project in Tanzania will restore the over 7-mile-long Kilombero Elephant Corridor by compensating 260 farmers for giving up small sections of their farmland for the corridor. This will allow elephants to move safely without risk of conflict with farmers.

AS OF YEAR-END **2022 THE ECF HAS SUPPORTED:** 

**416** PROJECTS

 $\mathbf{105}$ GRANTEES

ACROSS

44 COUNTRIES

**AND GRANTED:** ๛ฦฦ

DJZ MILLION



ESTABLISHED IN 2017 **GOAL: TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF** 



#### **OVERVIEW**

Lion populations have declined by half in just a guarter 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 funded Panthera's collaboration with authorities to recover the last population of lions in Senegal's Niokolo-Koba National Park. This grant allowed Panthera and the Senegalese authorities to deploy mobile anti-poaching teams to protect lions and their prey, helping the lion population grow from less than 15 individuals to 30 today. This upward trend is likely to continue.

AS OF YEAR-END **2022 THE LRF HAS SUPPORTED:** 

 $\mathbf{\hat{n}}$ PROJECTS

GRANTEES

ACROSS



**AND GRANTED:** 

\$29.8 MILLION



## Pangolin Crisis Fund

ESTABLISHED IN 2019 GOAL: TO SAVE PANGOLINS FROM EXTINCTION

A partnership between Wildlife Conservation Network and Save Pangolins

#### **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.
- **REDUCE THE DEMAND** for pangolin scales and bushmeat in Asia and Africa by working with communities and raising awareness.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENT

The PCF supported critical initiatives from the Environmental Investigation Agency and Africa Nature Investors in collaboration with the Nigerian government to tackle illegal wildlife crime at the highest levels. This includes drafting comprehensive revisions to criminal justice legislation in Nigeria, the single largest exit point for illegal wildlife, like pangolins, being trafficked from Africa to Asia. AS OF YEAR-END 2022 THE PCF HAS SUPPORTED:



MILLION



The Pangolin Crisis Fund (PCF) is the world's largest funding mechanism solely dedicated to saving pangolins. By supporting the best pangolin conservation initiatives from its growing network of grantees, the PCF is protecting pangolins and other endangered species that share their habitats.



### Rhino **Recovery Fund**

ESTABLISHED IN 2020 GOAL: TO PROTECT RHINOS FROM WILDLIFE CRIME AND RESTORE THEIR LANDSCAPES Managed by Wildlife Conservation Network

#### **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 of 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 Care for Wild's rehabilitation of orphaned white rhino calves in South Africa. The calves, whose mothers were killed by poachers, are eventually returned to the wild, where they can successfully live and breed. Currently, Care for Wild is looking after four calves and is planning to release 18 adult white rhinos into a large reserve that is jointly owned by private, state, and community entities.

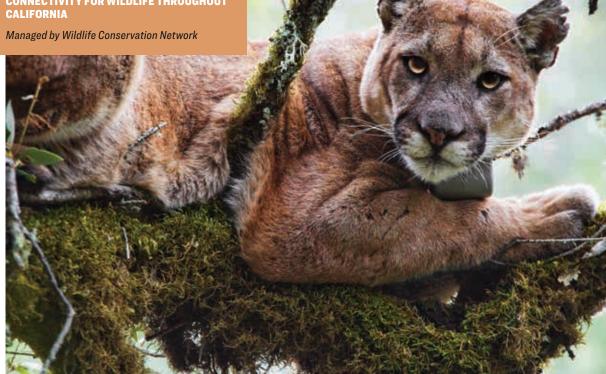
**AS OF YEAR-END 2022 THE RRF** HAS SUPPORTED:





### California Wildlife Program

**ESTABLISHED IN 2021 GOAL: TO PROTECT & RESTORE HABITAT** CONNECTIVITY FOR WILDLIFE THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA



#### **OVERVIEW**

California is the most biodiverse state in the US and home to the iconic puma. But sprawling urban areas, highways, and certain types of agriculture have isolated puma populations, reducing genetic diversity and threatening their viability. The California Wildlife Program (CWP) was created to protect and restore connectivity for wildlife by influencing housing development, transportation infrastructure, and land stewardship with conservation in mind.

#### **STRATEGY**

The CWP invests in the most impactful projects that:

- **PREVENT HABITAT LOSS, DEGRADATION, AND FRAGMENTATION** by collaborating across sectors to address California's housing needs while protecting ecosystems.
- **ESTABLISH SAFE WILDLIFE CROSSING AREAS** along California highways in key locations.
- EFFECTIVELY CREATE AND MANAGE PROTECTED AREAS for wildlife conservation and promote coexistence between people and wildlife.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENT

The CWP invested in conservation measures led by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency and The Conservation Fund, which focus on habitat connectivity in the Pacheco Pass of the Diablo Mountain Range, particularly around the Highway 152 corridor. This is a high priority connectivity area for pumas and other wildlife, and CWP support helps protect key habitat and improve passage for wildlife across the highway.

**AS OF YEAR-END 2022 THE CWP HAS SUPPORTED:** 

#### 25 PROJECTS

18 GRANTEES

**AND GRANTED:** 



# Rising Wildlife Leaders

#### WCN PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE EDUCATION

and training of promising local conservationists. We invest in these leaders through grants and scholarships that strengthen their skills, build their organizations, and advance their careers. By investing in local leadership, we are making the conservation field more equitable and can have a greater and more sustainable impact for wildlife.



Without support from the WCN Career Program, I would not have had a chance to receive quality training, mentorship, and personal and professional growth. The program also enabled me to give field conservation training to new graduates for the first time, a passion project of mine."

> Bridget Mayani CAREER PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

#### **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, including a new cohort of Indigenous scholars in the US. 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:

# 174

**BUDDING CONSERVATIONISTS PROTECTING OVER** 

80 THREATENED SPECIES

ACROSS **46** 

COUNTRIES

#### 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.

Since it was established in 2021, the WCN Career Program has supported:

6 CONSERVATIONISTS

**PROTECTING OVER** 

8 WILDLIFE SPECIES

ACROSS

6 COUNTRIES



# **Our Donors'** Impact

#### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SIMPLY DOES NOT HAPPEN

without the generous contributions of our supporters. All of the impact we have had—every animal saved, every landscape protected for the future, every person whose life is improved by conservation-is owed to the hardworking conservationists in the field, the communities they work with, and the passionate donors who fund their efforts.

The following are a few of the impacts our supporters have made possible this year:

\$45.8M Amount raised for conservation in 2022

#### 22 **Number of current Conservation**

Partners

## \$268N

Amount raised for conservation by WCN in its first 20 years

## 92%

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

# 14

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

## 136

Number of focal wildlife species protected by WCN around the world

## 755

Number of projects to date supported in 77 countries by WCN's Wildlife Funds

# 226.800+

Number of people in local communities around the world provided with education opportunities by WCN's **Conservation Partners in 2022** 

## 174

Scholarships awarded to date to emerging conservationists across 46 countries

## 815+

Number of staff and members of local communities around the world provided with employment opportunities by WCN's Conservation Partners in 2022

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

# **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

There are so many ways in which you can continue to make a difference. No matter who you are or how much you give, your support is what makes conservation possible.

#### WHERE NEEDED MOST

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.

#### **PLANNED GIVING**

Bequests and other planned gifts can significantly advance WCN's mission and offer you the chance to leave a legacy, helping wildlife and people coexist and thrive for generations.

#### **OTHER WAYS TO GIVE**

Whether through stocks, monthly online donations, or by creating your own fundraiser, there are so many opportunities to invest in wildlife conservation and have the biggest impact possible.

WCN proudly guarantees that **100%** of all designated donations go directly to helping wildlife in the field.



**SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE OR VISIT** WILDNET.ORG/DONATE

My husband David and I were early supporters of WCN and took great pleasure and inspiration from the Expos each year. What we especially admired was the optimism of the conservationists, even against daunting challenges and frequent setbacks. After David passed away, and as I worked through my grief in the years that followed, I was determined to find meaning. My support and dedication to saving wildlife through WCN's conservation projects around the world have helped me find the meaning I was searching for. Watching cheetahs run, lions hunt, wild dogs socialize, rhinos vocalize, and following pangolins in the moonlight have all helped me heal. Thank you WCN!"

> Michael Hackett-Hale (left) WCN DONOR SINCE 2005



Over the past 20 years, WCN has demonstrated its dedication to forming partnerships between conservationists and philanthropists. Hearing directly from experts in the field creates a deeper appreciation for their efforts to support wildlife, communities, and the regions they both share. My late father, Mike Piuze, was a wildlife lover, philanthropist, and supporter of WCN and its well-vetted network for 15 years. Now the M. Piuze Foundation continues that partnership, joining our family with the WCN family of boots-on-the-ground conservationists spanning the globe. It is a privilege to participate in the expansion of this network going forward into the next 20 years."

**Nicole Piuze** (center, in solid navy blue) WCN DONOR SINCE 2005

Working with WCN has been a huge positive for me. The organization provides an opportunity for supporters to make a substantial difference for animals and this just feels good. The conservationists are very open to developing relationships with their supporters, giving everything a more personal feel, and I like that my involvement can be whatever I want it to be. I also admire WCN for promoting the professional development of local people and insisting that they be involved in conservation leadership, creating the next generation of local conservationists. WCN demonstrates that we have grounds for optimism in the fight to protect the animals. I am proud to be a part of that effort."

> **Kathryn Vizas** WCN DONOR SINCE 2019



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

#### STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES calendar year 2022

#### REVENUE

Contributions – Donor Designated Contributions – Undesignated Income from Activities (Net)	\$ 38,932,391 7,069,855 9,131 (700,500)
Income from Investments (Net) Total Revenue	(786,583) <b>\$ 45,224,794</b>
EXPENSES	
Program Grants and Services	\$ 38,055,528
Management and General	2,796,587
Fundraising	313,586
Total Expenses	\$ 41,165,701
Change In Net Assets	\$ 4,059,093

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022

#### ASSETS

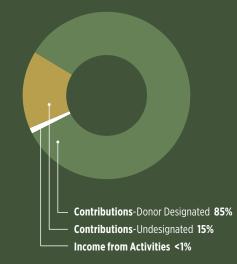
	\$ 40,042,00
Total Assets	\$ 49,942,33
Property & Equipment	64
Restricted - Scholarship	1,670,68
Restricted - Conservation Programs	11,360,01
Restricted - Wildlife Funds	29,207,84
Grants and Pledges Receivable	658,10
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 7,045,04

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

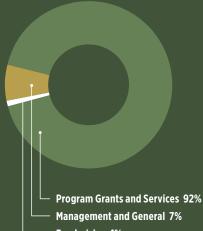
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 49,942,339
Change in Net Assets	4,059,093
Beginning Net Assets	34,897,960
Grants Payable	10,482,208
Accounts Payable	\$ 503,078

Complete financial reports are available on our website - **wildnet.org** Wildlife Conservation Network is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)3 organization – #30-0108469

#### 2022 TOTAL REVENUE



#### **2022 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.



#### STAFF

Stephanie Carnow - Senior Director of Marketing and Communications Julie Carrasco - Staff Accountant Jean-Gaël "JG" Collomb, Ph.D. - Chief Executive Officer Sophie Croen - Senior Community Engagement Manager Kellyn Dong - Donor Engagement Specialist Brooke Edell - Conservation Funds Manager Melissa Fenton - Head of Corporate Partnerships Rachel Fowler - Donor Services Manager Amy Frankel - Salesforce System Administrator Mariya Gist - Senior Accountant Laura Gruber - Senior Programs Manager Cecilia Hayes - Head of Talent Development, Executive Coach Markus Hofmeyr, D.V.M. - Director, Rhino Recovery Fund Alice Jones - Chief Financial Officer Bwalya Kampamba - Career Program Manager Charles Knowles - President, Co-founder Peter Lindsey, Ph.D. - Director, Lion Recovery Fund <u>Shuya Lou</u> - Human Resources Generalist Nichapa "Pat" Manakitivipart - Revenue Accountant Stephanie McCord - Staff Accountant Zoliswa "Zoe" Nhleko, Ph.D. - Senior Programs Manager Janel Padaoan - Marketing Coordinator Rebecca Patton - Vice President and Board Director Jessica Rincon - Office Administrator Pauline Russell - Gift and Legacy Manager Araluen "Azza" Schunmann - Director, Pangolin Crisis Fund Neal Sharma - Senior Manager, California Wildlife Program Tommy Sheridan - Conservation Network Manager Becca Stievater - Senior Grants Manager Carly Thompson - Programs Manager, Pangolin Crisis Fund Paul Thomson - Senior Director of Conservation Programs Kaitlin Tillett - Senior Digital Marketing Manager Meagan Travlos - Events Coordinator David Vasquez - Communications Specialist Emma Vogan - Social Media Specialist Kelly Wilson - Vice President of Conservation Engagement

In early 2023, WCN was happy to welcome Anne Trela as Chief Growth Officer and Erik Ndayishimiye as a Programs Coordinator.

Thank you to Fatima Barajas, Isabelle Carman, Madison Pruett, Kylie Swall, and Yvonne Yip for their invaluable work as Human Resources and Office Administrator, Interim Director of Finance, Social Media Specialist, Accounts Payable and Compliance Analyst, and Interim Accounting Manager, respectively, in 2022.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

David Berger Rosamira Guillen Christine Hemrick Charles Knowles Peter Lalampaa John Lukas Margaret McCarthy Rebecca Patton Bill Unger Akiko Yamazaki, *Emeritus* 

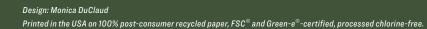


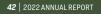
Cover photo: Bornean orangutan female cradling her 8-9 month old baby. © Fiona Rogers/NPL/Minden Pictures

Back cover photo: Orangutan in jungle. © Jocelyn Stokes/Alamy Stock Photo

#### 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. 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.







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