

Enthusiastic about wildlife & want  
to further your career in  
Conservation Management?

# **The World Land Trust Internship Programme**

Giving you the experience you need to get one step ahead in the  
world of wildlife conservation.



**World Land Trust**  
(Registered Charity No. 1001291)

A copy of this booklet may be downloaded at: [www.worldlandtrust.org/supporting/index.htm](http://www.worldlandtrust.org/supporting/index.htm)

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## What is the World Land Trust?

The World Land Trust (WLT) is a UK-based international charity (No. 1001291) working to protect biologically important and endangered habitats worldwide. Its mission is:

To protect and sustainably manage natural ecosystems of the world, to conserve their biodiversity, with emphasis on threatened habitats and endangered species;

To develop partnerships with local individuals, communities and organisations to engage support and commitment among the people who live in project areas;

To raise awareness, in the UK and elsewhere, of the need for conservation, improve understanding and generate support through education, information and fundraising.

The WLT carries out projects in partnership with local organisations, who manage the project sites and assist in developing sustainable incomes for local people. Since the WLT started in 1989, enough money to purchase and protect over 300,000 acres of threatened habitats in Belize, Costa Rica, Brazil, the Philippines, Argentina, India, Ecuador, Paraguay and Gloucestershire, in the UK.

Along with its nature conservation projects, the WLT also manages a number of other programmes, including the WLT Internship Programme, which aims to train "tomorrow's conservationists".

### WLT's Record of Success



#### **Programme for Belize**

The WLT was originally set up in 1989 to raise funds for the Programme for Belize, and has been responsible for raising over \$2,000,000 for land purchase and sustainable use of the forest resources. So far 250,000 acres of forest has been protected, and the WLT continues to support conservation in Belize with its volunteer programme.



#### **Rainforest Action Costa Rica**

In 1994, the WLT set up the Rainforest Action Costa Rica campaign which has provided funds for about 5,000 acres of Rainforest on the Osa Peninsula in Costa Rica, with the collaboration of the TUVAF Foundation. This is an important purchase in one of the world's top biodiversity hotspots.



#### **Philippines Reef & Rainforest Project**

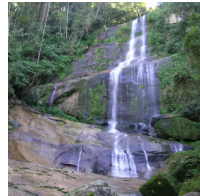
WLT raised £250,000 in 1999, to save Danjungan Island in the Philippines, from speculative development. Local fishermen are involved in sustainable fishing programmes and other activities such as a mangrove seedling nursery. This has proved to be a highly important acquisition, and has recently been declared a statutory Nature Reserve.

## Current WLT Projects



### **The Sid Templer Reserve, Paraguay**

Creating a unique nature reserve on the frontiers of the Chaco-Pantanal, seasonally flooding grasslands and home to the three “giants”: Giant Anteater, Giant Otter and Giant Armadillo. It is also one of the best places in the world to see Jaguars.



### **Reserva Ecologica de Guapi Assu (REGUA)**

Enhancing a vital fragment of the critically threatened Atlantic Rainforests in SE Brazil, of which only 7% remains, through active protection, tree planting, species re-introduction and local education.



### **Wild Lands Indian Elephant Corridor**

This project in India addresses the problem of habitat fragmentation - a serious threat to the Indian Elephant - by creating forest corridors to link existing nature reserves. The project also focuses on the welfare of local communities, helping them develop alternative livelihoods to the current ‘slash-and burn’ agriculture.



### **Reef and Mangrove Appeal**

In response to the devastation caused by the Asian Tsunami, WLT has set up an appeal to raise funds for mangrove reforestation and coral reef protection. This appeal will support projects in Sri Lanka, India and the Philippines.



### **Patagonian Steppe Project**

The 15,000 acre La Esperanza Wildlife Reserve, located near the Valdes Peninsula in Argentine Patagonia, was funded and established by the WLT. The former sheep-ranch protects species such as the guanaco and puma, and shows how farming and conservation can co-exist. An eco-tourism lodge is planned to fund the reserve in the future.



### **Fundación Jocotoco - Ecuador**

Originally established to protect the Jocotoco Antpitta, the project was started in 1998 to purchase critically endangered bird habitat in Ecuador, and managed them as private reserves. Eight reserves (totalling over 22,000 acres) have been bought so far.

The WLT is responsible for a number of programmes to support conservation efforts worldwide.

- The ‘**Carbon Balanced**’ programme regenerates natural forest habitat on land that has been biologically degraded through clearance for other land use.
- The WLT ‘**Books for Conservation**’ Programme supplies scientific textbooks and field guides to deserving NGO’s in developing countries.
- The WLT has produced the DFID-funded ‘**Focus on Forests**’ website and school pack, which are designed to supplement the National Curriculum, and are available free to schools and homes in the UK, and internationally.
- The ‘**Wild Spaces**’ programme was developed for zoos and aquariums who can provide both financial and technical support.

## Who are the WLT Staff?

### **Chief Executive: John A Burton**

Has 30 years of experience in international conservation, including working with Friends of the Earth, 12 years as Chief Executive of Fauna & Flora International, and setting up the first TRAFFIC offices for IUCN. He is also an author & broadcaster.

### **Administrator: Vivien G Burton**

Formerly office manager for Fauna & Flora International for 7 years and conservation assistant to Sir Peter Scott, has been with WLT since its inception in 1989.

### **Donations Manager: Anne Clifford**

An archaeology graduate, joined the team in September 2003. When not in the WLT office, Anne works on an organic farm.

### **Finance Officer: Debbie Hall**

Joined the Trust at the beginning of 2002, and looks after the day-to-day finances.

### **Web Manager: Helena Åkerlund**

A recent Ecology graduate with previous web design experience. Joined the WLT in September 2003 to enhance the Trust's visibility on the web.

### **Programme Manager: Kirsty Burgess**

Joined the WLT team in November 2000, originally on a six-month internship. Is now working full-time in Project Development, acts as assistant to John Burton, and manages the WLT Internship Programme.

### **Development Officer: Gerald Watts**

A former teacher and management consultant, Gerald moved to the not-for-profit sector in 2003. Following a WLT internship, he is now Development Officer with specific responsibility for fundraising.

### **Carbon Officer: Oliver Blakeman**

Having successfully completed a WLT internship focussing on Carbon Sequestration as well as leading a research expedition to Ecuador, Ollie joined the staff in June 2005 and now manages the Carbon Programme.

*Within the office are also a number of part-time, seasonal staff & consultants, as well as various interns and local volunteers, who assist with the overall running of the trust.*

## ... and Trustees?

### **Dr G A Bertrand (Hon. President)**

Former Executive President of Massachusetts Audubon Society and current Chairman of Birdlife International.

### **Prof. Renton Righelato (Chairman)**

Former head of Research and Development for Tate & Lyle plc and former Director of Brewing Research International.

### **Albertino Abela**

International businessman, working mostly in airline catering. Helped fund the purchase of the Estancia la Esperanza.

**Nigel Simpson** A chemist by profession with a lifelong interest in natural history. Co-founder and board member of Fundación Jocotoco.

### **Simon Lyster**

Trained in law in both UK and America, has worked for World Wildlife Fund, was Director of the UK Wildlife Trusts, and is now Director of LEAD International.

### **Bruce Pearson**

One of Britain's best known wildlife artists, has been President of the Society of Wildlife Artists for 10 years.

### **Gil Child**

Formerly with the Wildlife Division of UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, Rome.

**Jane Krish** Former Chief Executive of Wildscreen, and creator of ARKive, cataloguing images of endangered and extinct species.

## Tell me more about the WLT Internships

For many years, the World Land Trust has offered opportunities for volunteers to get actively involved at our Halesworth office in Suffolk. We have a volunteer programme that allows people with a range of skills to gain valuable work experience and training in conservation management.

The **World Land Trust Internship Programme** has been developed for suitable candidates interested in furthering their careers in the conservation field. Through this internship programme, a wealth of experience in conservation management can be gained. In addition, this programme not only benefits the candidate needing relevant experience in conservation management, but is also of great assistance to the WLT, which as a small charity, benefits greatly from the added support given by the work of the intern.

### What does the Internship involve?

The internship will involve working at the World Land Trust office in Halesworth, Suffolk, for a 6-month period. As an intern, you will be regarded as a full-time member of staff, being trained in project management by working on day-to-day tasks arising from any of the WLT's international projects. You will be acting as an assistant to the relevant member of staff, and you will also contribute to the general running of the office. Part of the internship will also involve shadowing the CEO, as he attends meetings to negotiate funding, purchasing and administration of the overseas projects. Please note that this is not guaranteed, and will depend on a number of factors, including current activities.

As well as working within the office, you will receive an individually tailored training programme to suit your needs and accentuate your natural skills. Informal training will be provided in-house, and you will be able to select from a variety of formal training courses available outside the office. There may also be an opportunity to carry out some short-term (usually between 2-4 weeks) work at one of our overseas projects, should this be relevant.

During the internship, you can therefore expect to gain hands-on experience of the administration and development of international conservation projects. You will also receive personnel and network support in seeking paid employment towards the end of the internship.

### What positions are currently available?

There will be various positions available, that can be found on the WLT website as and when they arise. However, if you think you have a skill that would be useful in the world of conservation, i.e. a background in design or advertising, let us know, and we may be able to design an internship just for you!

### What will be expected of me?

As a suitable candidate, you will ideally have a degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field, as well as some intention to have a full-time career in wildlife conservation. Applicants should be numerate, literate and good communicators. Any interest, knowledge or experience of wildlife and conservation is a distinct advantage.

## What else do I need to know about becoming an Intern?

### How will I survive financially?

The internships are entirely voluntary, and although unpaid, all your expenses connected with the work, such as travel to meetings, and training courses are paid for. As a suitable candidate, you will therefore have to be self-supporting, but may be eligible for housing and/or other state benefits. Rented accommodation is readily available in the area, and we will help you find a suitable flat/house. Part-time evening and weekend work may also be available in the area, to assist you in your financial requirements.

### What about life outside the office?

The World Land Trust office is located in Halesworth, Suffolk, approx. 45 minutes North of Ipswich.

Halesworth is a small rural market town with a limited nightlife, but has an active 'green' community, should you wish to get involved. The heritage coast is nearby as well as a number of nature reserves.

Halesworth is linked to Ipswich and London, by a good train line, although local public transport is 'rural', i.e. infrequent and unreliable! However, provisions for cyclists are good and links are encouraged on the trains to and from Halesworth.



Accommodation is not hard to find, and small cottages or flats can be found to rent for around £300 pcm. A room in shared accommodation is usually cheaper, but is harder to come by. Previous interns have also found lodgings with local families, which tend to be the most economic form of accommodation.

All interns are treated as members of staff, and will be entitled to statutory holidays.

**So, as you can see, the World Land Trust Internship Programme is a great opportunity if you want a career in conservation.**

**But don't just take our word for it, see what our previous interns have said about it ...**

## What do other interns have to say about their experiences?

*"I now have a far greater understanding of how an international conservation charity operates and I believe I have gained many skills through my internship. The training I have received has enabled me to develop and work on my own projects for the Trust, as well as my day-to-day responsibilities. The relationship between different conservation organisations and their position within the 'whole picture' of both national and international conservation has become a lot clearer to me. The small size of the charity has meant I have seen every aspect of how it is run and I felt involved in the organisation right from the beginning of my internship."*

**Matthew Edwards** - Previous Intern (May 2001 - November 2001)

*"I really would recommend this Intern Programme to any graduate wanting a career involved with conservation, the environment and wildlife. It breaks the 'vicious circle' of not being able to get a job without any experience. The internship programme is one that the World Land Trust should be credited for. They have provided me with a unique opportunity to be involved with such exciting projects and work with such a welcoming team."*

**Caroline Wymer** - Previous Intern (February 2002 - August 2002)

*"I believe the experiences I have had with WLT, have been very enlightening. I had originally planned to do a master's course straight after my post with the WLT. However, since completing the internship I no longer believe it is necessary as I have gained sufficient knowledge to apply my new found and developed skills with other similar organisations, as it has become the norm for employers to demand work experience rather than further degrees."*

**Molly St. George** - Previous Intern (February 2003 - August 2003)

*"The World Land Trust Internship has been a thoroughly worthwhile and enjoyable experience. I have gained invaluable project management experience that would otherwise have been almost impossible to gain at this stage of my career. I have also been given the good oversight of all aspects of running an international conservation charity. By taking an active role in all aspects of the business, I feel I have learnt a lot about what goes into the running of an office and learnt where my own strengths lie."*

**Rachel Beesley** - Previous Intern (July 2003 - December 2004)

*"I believe my experience with the World Land Trust to have been a thoroughly worthwhile and valuable one. I feel that I have now had a very good insight into the way an international conservation charity functions and have a much better understanding of carbon offsetting projects and their importance to charities such as the WLT. I am particularly keen to emphasise the freedom with which interns are able to work. Although my internship has been structured I have had the opportunity to dabble into many areas of interest along the way such as web design. The internship programme has been perfected to allow interns to have exactly the right balance between a lack of ultimate responsibility and having meaningful work to do. Furthermore, the WLT office has a vibrant and youthful atmosphere with open discussions and a comfortable, friendly working environment. Everybody's opinion is valid and contributions to discussions are welcomed."*

**Katie McGregor** - Previous Intern (November 2005 - April 2006)

## It all sounds interesting, how do I apply?

When internship opportunities become available at the WLT, they will be advertised at: <http://www.worldlandtrust.org/supporting/internships.htm>

On this page, an outline of the internship positions is given, including how to apply and what information is needed from you.

## How can I get in touch with you?

By Post: **World Land Trust  
Blyth House  
Bridge Street  
Halesworth  
Suffolk IP19 8AB  
United Kingdom**

By Telephone: (01986) 874 422 or  
(0845) 054 4422 (local rate – UK only)

By Fax: (01986) 874 425

By Email: [info@worldlandtrust.org](mailto:info@worldlandtrust.org)

.... And read more about the World Land Trust at [www.worldlandtrust.org](http://www.worldlandtrust.org)