

**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)

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## Introduction

The World Land Trust is an international conservation charity (Reg. No. 1001291), based in Halesworth, a rural town in Suffolk, UK. Since its foundation in 1989 originally as the World Wide Land Conservation Trust, the World Land Trust has been working to preserve the world's most biologically important and threatened lands, and has helped purchase and protect nearly 400,000 acres of habitats rich in wildlife, in Asia, Central and South America and the UK.

The World Land Trust's 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.

WLT is run by a dedicated team of staff, supplemented as needed by interns, who volunteer their services as part of our internship programme. During their six-month placements the interns make a valuable contribution to the conservation work of WLT, with hands-on involvement in the management of overseas projects and the day-to-day administration of the charity. Training is provided to equip them for this challenging role, and the wealth of experience that they gain is an invaluable aid in furthering their careers in conservation management. Many former WLT interns have gone on to obtain jobs in other conservation organisations and wildlife charities, and have highly valued the experience and skills they have developed during their six-month placements as WLT interns.

## How the World Land Trust works to save threatened habitats

The WLT carries out projects in partnership with local organisations, which manage the project sites and assist in developing sustainable incomes for local people. Purchase of the land is always through our local project partners, and the WLT does not actually own any of the reserves (other than the Kites Hill reserve in the UK). The land is usually bought from private owners, with clear undisputed title, which WLT vests in the local NGO, and works with them to ensure long-term conservation and legal protection of the land as nature reserves. WLT maintains very close links with its project partners and assists with technical expertise, such as marketing, fundraising and publicity when requested, but wherever possible supports the development of local expertise by funding study tours and training.

The World Land Trust depends on public donations to assist with land purchases. Since the WLT was formed in 1989, enough money has been raised to purchase and protect nearly 400,000 acres of threatened habitats in the countries marked on the map below.



*World Land Trust has projects in the countries marked with a red dot. Orange dots denote future project sites*

### World Land Trust Project Partners

#### ARGENTINA

Fundación Patagonia Natural  
Fundación Frontera Verde

#### BELIZE

Programme for Belize

#### BOLIVIA

Armonía

#### BORNEO (Malaysia)

LEAP Conservancy

#### BRAZIL

Reserva Ecologica de Guapi Assu (REGUA)  
Fundacion O Boticario

#### ECUADOR

Fundación Jocotoco  
Fundación EcoMinga  
Fundación Pro Bosque

#### INDIA

Wildlife Trust of India

#### MEXICO

Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda

#### PARAGUAY

Guyra Paraguay

#### PHILIPPINES (Danjungan Island)

Philippine Reef & Rainforest Conservation Foundation

#### UK: KITES HILL RESERVE

#### VENEZUELA

Fundación ProVita

#### Other Partner Organisations

World Land Trust–US  
IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands  
Massachusetts Audubon Society (USA)

## World Land Trust Projects – Past And Present (just a few!)

The following pages give an outline of some of WLT's projects past and present, but the Trust's programme of conservation projects is constantly developing: full details of all our projects can be found on our website at <http://www.worldlandtrust.org/projects/index.htm>



### 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 262,000 acres of forest has been protected, and the WLT continues to support conservation in Belize.

<http://www.pfbelize.org/>



### Rainforest Action Costa Rica

In 1994, the WLT set up the Rainforest Action Costa Rica campaign which provided funds for about 5,000 acres of Rainforest on the Osa Peninsula in Costa Rica, in collaboration with the TUVA Foundation. This was important purchase as it was adjacent to the Corcovado National Park, in one of the world's top biodiversity hotspots.

<http://www.tuva.org/>



### Philippines Reef & Rainforest Project

WLT successfully raised £250,000 in 1999, to save Danjungan Island, in the Philippines, from speculative development. Local fishermen are now 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.

<http://www.prrcf.org/>



### Patagonian Coastal Steppe Project

The 15,000 acre La Esperanza Wildlife Reserve, located near the Valdes Peninsula in Argentine Patagonia, was funded by the WLT through Fundacion Patagonia Natural. The former sheep-ranch protects species such as the Guanaco and Puma. WLT is now involved in efforts to support the sustainability and conservation of the reserve.

<http://www.patagonianatural.org/>



### Pantanal, Atlantic Rainforest and Dry Chaco projects in Paraguay

WLT became involved in land purchase in the Paraguayan Pantanal in 2006 when a legacy enabled the purchase of the first reserve area. Since then WLT has funded several other areas of land adjacent to the initial area, working with Guyra Paraguay. Funds were also raised for the construction of the Three Giants Biological Station, within the reserve area, on the Paraguay River. WLT is also supporting land purchase in the Atlantic Rainforest of Paraguay (San Rafael) and Dry Chaco (Campo Iris).

[www.guyra.org.py](http://www.guyra.org.py)



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

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. Working with Reserva Ecologica de Guapi Assu, WLT is funding ongoing land purchase and supporting the education and outreach programme. [www.regua.co.uk](http://www.regua.co.uk)



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

Working with Wildlife Trust of India, which has identified 88 corridors throughout the country, vital for the survival of wild elephants, WLT has already funded one corridor in the northern state of Meghalaya, and is now raising funds for a second corridor in Kerala. These corridors aim to link forest reserves to enable safe passage between the two where elephants follow established migratory routes. The project works closely with local communities to avoid elephant-human conflict and assist those affected by helping develop alternative livelihoods outside the corridor areas.

[www.wildlifetrustofindia.org](http://www.wildlifetrustofindia.org)



### **Fundación Jocotoco, Ecuador**

Fundación Jocotoco was established to protect the only known habitat of the newly discovered Jocotoco Antpitta, resulting in the Tapichalaca Reserve. Since then 7 further reserves have been purchased, with the help of funds provided by WLT. Land purchase continues, as funds are raised, and WLT is also supporting replanting and regeneration work in areas that had already been cleared through its Carbon Balanced programme.

[www.fjocotoco.org](http://www.fjocotoco.org)



### **Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve, Mexico**

Grupo Ecologica Sierra Gorda (GESG) was formed in 1987 by a group of concerned local residents. The relationship between GESG and WLT involves land purchase, reforestation and assisted natural regeneration of degraded agricultural land. [www.sierragorda.net](http://www.sierragorda.net)

## World Land Trust Programmes.



The WLT is responsible for a number of programmes to support conservation efforts worldwide. The **Carbon Balanced Programme** was set up by the World Land Trust to meet the challenge of climate change through projects that both offset carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and conserve biodiversity. Funds raised by carbon offsets have helped to secure and protect key tropical habitats (rainforest, drier tropical forest and other critical habitats), regenerating natural forest habitat on land that has been biologically degraded through clearance for grazing or agriculture, or due to logging, thereby sustaining endangered species and rural economies.

The **Wild Spaces Programme** was developed with the aim of working with zoos and aquariums to support WLT projects, by providing both funding for land acquisition and related activities. The main project of the Wild Spaces Programme is the BIAZA Members Reserve, an initiative raising funds towards the purchase of a reserve in the Atlantic rainforest of Brazil.

The WLT also supports conservation efforts through its **Books for Conservation Programme**, which supplies scientific textbooks and field guides to conservation-focussed NGO's across the world. Using books donated from the Natural History Book Service and IUCN, this programme is an efficient and cost-effective way of disseminating valuable knowledge to those engaged in front-line conservation work. Non-government organisations and community groups from all over the world can apply to receive these books free of charge. WLT also sends books to its partner organisations to help them develop libraries, thus providing valuable reference material for their staff. Project Development Interns may be asked to assist with the running of this programme, including tasks such as applying to various sources for funding to cover book transportation costs and helping to organise the storage, shipment and paperwork for these books.'

Find out more at: <http://www.worldlandtrust.org/projects/books-for-conservation.htm>

Education is a high priority for the WLT. We can support learning about threatened habitats at any level of the curriculum. Not only do we have students/teachers as individual supporters, but many take their interest in WLT to school and we have a reliable supporter base that raise funds to save acres from school/classroom/curriculum based activities. We run a Graduate Diploma course in conjunction with the University of East Anglia: *Conservation and Project Administration*. WLT staff also give guest lectures to MSc and BSc students at UEA and generally have a close working relationship with UEA staff. The Internship Programme falls into the remit of education at WLT which is dedicated to training the next generation of conservation professionals.

## How the World Land Trust is run

WLT is a charity (No. 1001291) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 2552942). Its governing body is the **Board of Trustees**, which generally meets quarterly. In addition to the Board of Trustees, the Trust also has a **Council**, which is an advisory body whose members are chosen for their expertise in conservation and charity management. Although ultimate responsibility for the governance of the Trust lies with the Trustees, the management of its activities is delegated to the CEO, who is responsible for all aspects of the Trust's operations. The patrons of the World Land Trust are Sir David Attenborough and David Gower. They are both active patrons and each may support at least one appropriate event each year.



Our offices are in a traditional characterful oak-beamed Suffolk house.

The teams responsible for different areas of the Trust's operations include:

**Communications and Corporate Relations:** All written communications, including publications, leaflets, appeals and press releases. Developing relations with Corporate Supporters. Developing and managing the Trust's programme of events.

**Donor Support:** Administering donations and donor database. Maintaining relations with donors. Work on donor appeals and fundraising issues.

**Projects:** Development and management of land purchase projects. Management of Restoration Ecology programmes

**Education and Outreach:** Production of educational materials, liaising with schools and UEA. Administration of the Intern and Diploma Student programmes. Staff training. Also responsible for managing the Wild Spaces programme.

**Web and IT:** Development and maintenance of the World Land Trust's websites. Production and distribution of e-bulletins etc. Internet fundraising and advertising. In-house IT support.

**Admin and Accounts:** Day-to-day operations of WLT office. Financial management, book-keeping and payroll.

Information about all of the Trust's staff members and their job roles can be found on the website, along with details of the Trustees, Council Members and the Trust's sponsors:

<http://www.worldlandtrust.org/about/index.htm>.

### ***World Land Trust - US***

World Land Trust-US is an independent organisation, originally founded in 1989 as World Parks Endowment. Recognising that the two organisations shared a similar mission and operating philosophy, and were already funding some of the same projects, WLT and WPE entered into a partnership agreement in June 2006. As part of this agreement, it was agreed that WPE would change its name to WLT-US, and would gain use of the WLT logo. While both organisations retain full administrative, fiscal and legal independence, WLT and WLT-US are co-operating with shared facilities, such as publications and websites. The partnership also gives US supporters of WLT an opportunity to make tax-efficient donations. Find out more about WLT-US on <http://www.worldlandtrust-us.org/index.html>.

## Tell me more about the WLT Internship programme

The **World Land Trust Internship Programme** has been developed as part of WLT's commitment to education. Aimed at candidates interested in furthering their careers in the conservation field, the internship programme can provide a wealth of experience in conservation management as well as assisting 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?

If your application is successful you will be offered an unpaid six-month placement at the World Land Trust office in Halesworth, Suffolk, assigned to a specific area of WLT's operation (e.g. Projects, or the Web team), where you will act as a team assistant, but also contribute to the general running of the office; training in project management will consist of working on day-to-day tasks arising from any of the WLT's international projects. Part of the internship will also involve shadowing the CEO and other senior members of staff at various meetings relating to the Trust's overseas projects.

During your internship, you will receive training individually tailored to equip you to fulfil your role at WLT. Informal training will be provided in-house, and you may also have the chance to attend formal training courses available outside the office (this is dependent on your work programme and funding availability). There may also be an opportunity to carry out some short-term work at one of our overseas projects, should this be relevant. Please note that this is not guaranteed, and will depend on a number of factors, including current activities.

New interns will be given a full induction to all areas of the WLT's operations. Interns are supervised by the Education, Training & Outreach Officer, who will be available for mentoring and support as needed, as well as regular opportunities to discuss your role and your progress. During the internship, you can therefore expect to gain hands-on experience of the administration and development of international conservation projects. You will also have the opportunity to build a portfolio relating to work that you carry out here, this will be an invaluable part of your personal profile and CV. WLT staff will also be happy to offer advice and assistance to interns in seeking paid employment on completion of their placement.

## Tell me more about the WLT Internship programme

### What positions are currently available?

The availability of internships is dictated by the needs of our organisation and the availability of our staff to mentor and train an intern in the initial stages. Because we are a dynamic, internationally operating conservation organisation there is no set timetable for when these vacancies become available: it is literally as and when an opportunity arises. Internships will be advertised on our website when they are available.

### What will be expected of me?

You will ideally have a degree (or equivalent) in a relevant field, as well as an ambition to find a career in wildlife conservation or related area. Applicants should be numerate, literate and good communicators. Interest, knowledge or experience of wildlife and conservation is a distinct advantage.

As a WLT intern, you will be regarded as an integral member of the team, and you will be expected to follow the standard working arrangements of our staff. This enables WLT to provide the necessary level of support and mentoring you will need to fulfil your role, and offers a genuine practical experience of a busy working environment. Our normal hours of work are 9am–5pm Mondays to Fridays, with an hour's break for lunch, but because of the nature of our work and because you may sometimes be working out of the office, you should have a flexible approach to your hours. Interns can take up to 10 days leave during the six-month placement, in addition to any Bank Holidays. Interns must observe our Health & Safety, Privacy & Data Protection and Equal Opportunities policies.

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

### How will I survive financially?

Internships are entirely voluntary, although all expenses connected with the work, such as travel to meetings and training courses, are paid for. You may also claim out-of-pocket expenses for subsistence up to a daily limit of £5 for each day that you are working in the office. If you are offered and accept a placement as a WLT intern you will therefore need to be self-supporting, but you may be eligible for housing and/or other state benefits. Further information can be provided by the Education Officer on request. Part-time evening and weekend work may also be available locally if required.

Rented accommodation is available in the area, and we can help to point you in the right direction. Previous interns have also found lodgings with local families, which tend to be the most economic form of accommodation at around £60 a week. Small cottages or flats can be found to rent for around £400 pcm. We may be able to help make contacts for renting temporary accommodation while you look for a longer term base.

### What about life outside the office?

The World Land Trust office is located in Halesworth, Suffolk, roughly midway between Norwich and Ipswich and approx. 45 minutes drive from either. It 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. However, Halesworth is not without a share of culture: the Cuts Art Centre has a full programme of music, art, film and theatre. You can find out more about what is going on in Halesworth and the surrounding area by visiting the Halesworth website: <http://www.halesworth.ws/>

The staff of the World Land Trust are friendly and sociable: you can be sure of a warm welcome, and there will always be someone to help you find your way around.

### How to get to Halesworth

Halesworth is linked to Ipswich and London by a good train line, although local public transport is 'rural', i.e. infrequent and unreliable!

**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?

*"After completing my degree in Ecology and Conservation I worked for 6 months in order to support myself while completing an internship. Originally I applied to be a Project Assistant Intern, but was talked round to accepting a role in the web team, which in those days consisted of just Helena! I really appreciate the support WLT gives to young conservationists just starting out on a career; opportunities to develop ideas, attend meetings and events, support experienced members of staff and develop project administration skills that are really hard to get straight out of uni. The WLT Internship Programme offers a unique opportunity to young conservationists, supporting other staff members gives you a real insight into the workings of an internationally operating charity. Being given such a broad experience really helps focus on the future direction of your career in conservation."*

**Jack Astbury** Previous Intern (January 2006 - July 2006)

*"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)

*"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)

*"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)

## 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?

Contact: **Kelly Jacobs**, Education, Outreach & Training Officer

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

By Telephone: (01986) 874 422 or  
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By Fax: (01986) 874 425

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

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