



WORLD
LAND
TRUST

news

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editorial

The power of the Armchair Activist



Above: The Tapichalaca Reserve, Ecuador
Deforestation and forest degradation are estimated to account for about 20% of annual total greenhouse gas emissions. Tapichalaca Reserve, owned and managed by WLT's project partners, Fundación Jocotoco was purchased with assistance of World Land Trust supporters.

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"Will we see you in Copenhagen?" We lost count of the number of times we were asked this question in the run up to COP15 (Copenhagen, 7-18 December). The United Nations Climate Change Conference was, of course, a momentous occasion with the potential to reach an agreement to safeguard climate change from 2012 when the first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol expires. It was a near impossible goal and unsurprisingly many felt that the outcome was a spectacular failure. But amid the failure, the area where progress was made was to integrate reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD) into the existing climate change regime.

In its own way WLT has been addressing climate change for over 20 years, well before the Kyoto Protocol came into force in 2005. The Trust's mission of saving tropical forests and other critically threatened habitats for their biodiversity works for the health of the planet too, and the fact that this was a key discussion at Copenhagen certainly was a step in the right direction.

We believe that it was no coincidence that the WLT website experienced a 121% surge in individual donations post Copenhagen. This groundswell of support seems to indicate that consumers are increasingly realising that the responsibility for saving the environment cannot be left in the hands of the politicians alone. A new form of environmentalism is emerging, with people getting impatient with governments who are unprepared to take real action and are asking *"what can I do myself?"* This, combined with the growing access to PCs and the internet, has seen the rise of 'armchair activism' which encompasses both individuals and the corporate sector. The messages that

accompanied the donations to WLT are clear and read something like: *"It's up to us to take a stand", "I want to show I care", and, "I really believe that we can make a difference."*

While governments did take a step forward at Copenhagen by signing the agreement to reduce greenhouse gases through reducing deforestation it is not going to make any immediate difference and meanwhile it is the 'armchair activists' who remain in the driving seat.

To get back to the question: No, WLT was not at Copenhagen. We believed that we could achieve much more by staying at home, keeping our noses to the grindstone and supporting our overseas project partners in their vital work to protect their threatened environments.

Calling all 'armchair activists': your support does make all the difference in the world. By donating to the WLT you are playing a key role in helping us save some of the best things on earth and that could, ultimately, mean humans too.

Vivien G Burton
Editor, WLT News

International Year of Biodiversity



As well as climate change, the crisis of biodiversity loss is getting attention from the United Nations who have declared 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity.

WLT's projects focus on habitats which are vital for preventing immediate species extinctions and save a wealth of biodiversity.

A message from Sir David Attenborough:

"I have been immensely lucky in that my professional work has taken me to all corners of the world where I have been able to see first hand some of the rarest and most spectacular wildlife on earth. But the fate of the creatures which share our planet lies entirely at the hands of mankind - it is within our power to protect them or watch them become extinct. Let us choose the first route."

Patron, WLT

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The true cost of saving Real Acres in Real Places

The past year has seen land prices in the less developed parts of the world increase dramatically

John Burton reports



Left: Trucks of logged trees leave the rainforest adjacent to the Fundación Jocotoco's Yanacocha Reserve in Ecuador.

World Land Trust does not simply use 'Buy an Acre' as a gimmicky way of raising funds. Nor are we exaggerating the amount of land we have helped buy. We aim to be as clear and transparent as possible about everything we do and when we say your donations 'Buy an Acre' then they do. This isn't sponsorship of anything hypothetical, this is purely and simply buying land to save it for conservation in perpetuity.

Three years ago we had to bite the bullet and let our supporters know that £25 no longer enabled us to purchase an acre on their behalf. In line with the cost of land in less developed countries we needed to urgently review the cost and increase the price of a One Acre donation by a hundred per cent. One or two of our supporters, and literally one or two, questioned this hundred per cent rise but others clearly grasped the fact that it was unrealistic to expect to buy land at £25 an acre anywhere on earth, and to know that you could still save One Acre for £50 was indeed a bargain.

But I fear that the collapse in the world banking last year meant that investors looked to find more secure ways of investing their cash and land was one such way. As Will Rogers (not Mark Twain as is often claimed) said: "Buy land, son, they ain't making any more of the stuff." That, compounded with speculators hoping that forests might start having a value for carbon sequestration, has totally changed the economics of land acquisition.

So what are the real costs of land acquisition? Realistically there are very few

places in the world where important land for conservation can be bought for less than about £100 an acre¹, and then only if really large areas are bought, in relatively inaccessible locations. So taking all this into account, the World Land Trust believes that a realistic figure in mid 2010, for important land for biodiversity is around £100 an acre. Our partners are in the process of buying land in Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay and Argentina where we can buy land for £50 an acre because the purchase has already been negotiated but for new land purchase later in the year we will need to

increase our donation benchmark to £25 for a Quarter of an Acre and a full acre at £100, or £250 a hectare. Of course, when someone is making a donation they are not looking to get the cheapest deal possible. But naturally our supporters want to save the maximum amount of land. The WLT can, hand on heart say that its land acquisition programmes have directly purchased nearly 500,000 acres. WLT can also honestly say that it has leveraged long term protection of at least 3 million acres more.

Since we launched the **Buy an Acre** Programme for Belize over 20 years ago, numerous other organisations have copied our model. This is excellent: the more land saved the better. But always read the small print and make sure that your donation really is going to where you intend.

We feel sure that our supporters will continue to donate to the WLT, safe in the knowledge that when we say Real Acres in Real Places, we **really** mean it. They can be found on maps, there are websites dedicated to information on the reserves and they can be visited. We will not be increasing our 'Buy an Acre' price until 1 July so 'buy now while the price is cheap'.

¹Note that in England, for example, land prices are around £4,000-£5,000 an acre around the location of the World Land Trust – and there is no primary forest at all.

On Biodiversity by Simon Barnes

Dusk on a frosty night, far from the city light. No moon. Raise your eyes. The sky doesn't blacken. It whitens. More and more and more of them, stars and spirals and nebulae and galaxies: not more than you can imagine, more than you are capable of imagining. You don't need to travel there to seek alien beings. Just look at the living things on the earth. No one knows how many: no one even knows what order of magnitude to work on. More than we are capable of imagining: weirder than we are capable of imagining.

One species: one rivet. One planet: one experiment.

Perhaps you don't know what a nematode worm is, but there are 12,000 different kinds. They have discovered 350,000 species of beetles: they reckon there are five million still to go. Biodiversity is more than a Fascinating Fact: it is the basic mechanism of the earth. Lots and lots of different kinds of living things: that's the planet's strategy for sustaining itself. An aeroplane is held together with rivets. It can pop one rivet and keep flying. It can pop two, three, a dozen, more. But if it keeps popping rivets, eventually it will fall out of the sky.

A donation to all WLT projects saves biodiversity and habitats. Please give generously to save them. Thank you.

Wildlife Corridors - the sensible way to avoid human/elephant conflict



The preface to the book produced by WLT Partners, Wildlife Trust of India, in conjunction with the Asian Elephant Research and Conservation Centre, called *Right of Passage*, begins:

"The Asian Elephant once possessed a vast kingdom that ranged across southern Asia, from the Tigris-Euphrates basin in the west across the Indian sub-continent into Indo-China, various islands in the southeast, and northwards up to the Yangtze River and even beyond. If you look at a map depicting the distribution of the elephants today you will see a shattered kingdom, a vastly reduced range broken into fragments, a few drops of colour splashed accidentally on a worn out piece of Asian fabric."

WLT is committed to helping save Asian Elephants and is working with WTI to protect their critically threatened forest habitats. A total of 88 corridors used by elephants have been identified: 12 of these are in NW India, 20 in central India, 14 in northern West Bengal, 22 in NE India and 20 in southern India. WLT has already helped in the protection of Elephant Corridors in Meghalaya and Kerala.



The context

WLT has already helped save elephant corridors in NE India, in Meghalaya state, and also in Kerala where the final section is currently being negotiated. In 2010 WLT will be turning its attention to NW India and Uttarakhand, - the location of Corbett and Rajaji National Parks where corridors are urgently needed.

Above: There is increased human-elephant conflict in areas where traditional migration routes have been criss-crossed by roads and railway lines.

When encountered on roads people will usually beat a hasty retreat, but if elephants wander onto railway lines the consequences can be more dangerous. But WTI is taking measures to reduce incidents of this kind and have successfully implemented measures in Rajaji National Park, in Uttarakhand, close to Corbett NP. There have been no deaths for several years.

Saving elephants from extinction: The next corridors for funding

Jim Corbett National Park, established in 1936, was the first wildlife reserve of India. It is a primal jungle as Rudyard Kipling put it, when writing *The Jungle Book*, and, despite extensive tourism, the park has managed to retain its primeval spirit, where man walks timorously, in awe and with a strong sense of his own insignificance. It is located in Uttarakhand, in what was formerly part of Uttar Pradesh.

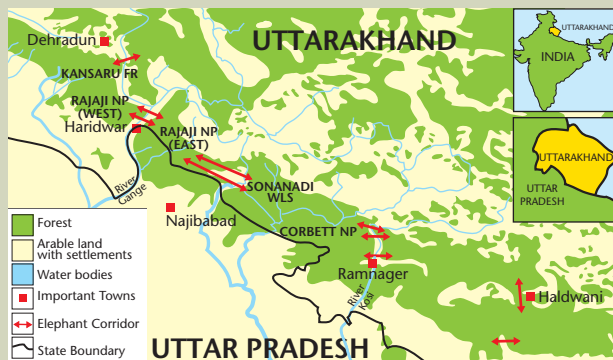
Jim Corbett National Park is famous for its wild population of Tigers, Leopards and Elephants but 'people pressure' is a problem and elephants are finding it increasingly difficult to move between protected forests in their search for food and water.

Wildlife Trust of India have identified 7 potential corridors which would link the Corbett National Park with the Rajaji National Park, thereby protecting a huge area for wildlife to move safely. The individual corridors vary in size from 0.7 x 1.5 km for a corridor over the Kosi River, to a

corridor of 45 km x 6 km that passes through currently settled areas. The designation of these areas as a wildlife sanctuary/forest reserve is critical in order to prevent further fragmentation of this continuous forest habitat.

This is the area the WLT will be focusing on for future fundraising. The cost of the first corridor will be in the region of £250,000 and as funds are raised more corridors can be saved and protected.

Below: Several corridors have been highlighted as vital for elephants by WTI. The map above shows the 10 corridors identified in Uttarakhand, NW India.



Funds are urgently needed for the purchase and protection of elephant corridors adjacent to Corbett National Park in north-west India. Please help us save this corridor for Elephants, Tigers and Leopards. See Donation Form or website. Thank you.

Elephants parade in London

The **Elephant Parade 2010** is set to be the biggest public art exhibition to ever come to London. Organised by **elephant family**, the UK's top artists, celebrities and designers are decorating 250, 1.4 m high fibreglass elephants, which will be displayed across the capital from May to July. The grand finale of the parade will take place at a Sotheby's auction when funds will be raised for the conservation of critically endangered Asian elephants and for other participating charities.

WLT is exhibiting one elephant decorated by Sarah Ho, creative director of Sho Fine Jewellery in conjunction with Swarovski, and a second with **elephant family** being painted by Sabine Roemer, in conjunction with Gemfields. Funds raised will go to a joint EF/WLT elephant corridor project.



For more information
www.elephantparadelondon.org
www.worldlandtrust.org/news/events

Ecuador's threatened habitats

The threat is real and the need urgent...



Dr Robert Ridgely, Deputy Director of World Land Trust-US was a founder of Fundación Jocotoco and is now its President. A celebrated ornithologist and author of **Birds of Ecuador** he happened to be on a site visit to the Tapichalaca Reserve last year when he literally came face to face with these earth-moving machines on the boundary of the reserve, in the Ventanilla Area.

It was a race against time as Bob and colleagues from Fundación Jocotoco rescued as many orchids as they could from the destruction left behind.

"I was nearly crying, in fact I was crying", said Bob, "it was heartbreaking and just brings it home to you how fragile these habitats are. One minute they are there and the next they are gone."



Tapichalaca is Fundación Jocotoco's flagship reserve, where the Jocotoco Antpitta was discovered. It protects 14,000 acres (6,000 ha) of habitat on the east slope of the Andes and is important for tanagers and hummingbirds as well as a hundred Red Data Book plant species, Spectacled Bear and Mountain Tapir; also a dozen globally endangered frogs.

Please help us save as much forest as we can while there is still time.

Above right: *It was possible to relocate some of the orchids smashed from the trees. In the photograph right orchid expert Dr Lou Jost, from Fundación EcoMinga, is being interviewed by the local media about the incident.*



Above: *This Mountain Tapir was photographed by Juan Pablo Reyes, Fundación EcoMinga's Reserve Manager, on the slopes of Volcan Tungurahua, near EcoMinga's reserves. The Mountain Tapir, sometimes known as the Woolly Tapir because of its dense coat, is the smallest of the four tapir species. It has a white lower lip and prehensile snout.*

World Tapir Day

World Tapir Day, every year on 27 April, aims to raise awareness of the four species of tapir that exist in Central and South America and in S E Asia.



Populations of all four species are in decline. The Mountain Tapir, found only in Colombia and Ecuador, is threatened with extinction but the good news is that Fundación EcoMinga and Fundación Jocotoco both protect areas where Mountain Tapir occur. Bairds Tapir, the largest mammal in the Americas and Belize's national animal, is protected on Programme for Belize lands.

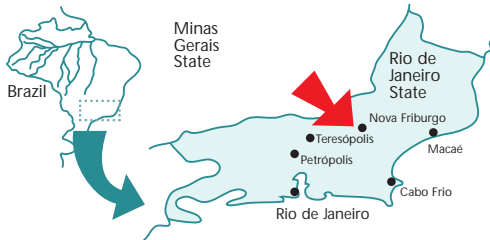
This year funds being raised through World Tapir Day are being donated to WLT to save ever decreasing habitats. Please donate to save tapirs.

www.tapirday.org

You can make a donation to help save tapirs: www.justgiving.com/worldtapirday
www.fjocotoco.org www.ecominga.net



Commitment to saving In Brazil, Paraguay and



The red arrow indicates the location of the REGUA Reserve

The Atlantic Rainforest of South America, with its high concentration of endemic species at severe risk from habitat destruction, is one of the most threatened rainforests in the world and a top global conservation priority. Once stretching continuously from the Atlantic Ocean of Brazil north of Rio, southwards through Uruguay, inland over the Misiones Province of Argentina and into Paraguay it originally covered over 1-million km². But over the past fifty years loss of habitat has accelerated dramatically and the original forests have been reduced to less than 7% of their original extent and only 2% remains in pristine condition. To help reverse this trend WLT has made a commitment to save habitats in all four countries.

Working with Project Partners to save the Atlantic Rainforest

REGUA: WLT has been working with Reserva Ecológica de Guapi Assu (REGUA) for several years to protect a range of unique habitats which include lowland humid evergreen forest and montane elfin forest, as well as its restored wetland.

Fundación Frontera Verde: in Misiones Province, Argentina, WLT is making this a priority for 2010. (See page 7)

Guyra Paraguay: San Rafael in Paraguay is one of the largest areas of Atlantic Rainforest in Paraguay, protecting 15,000 acres (6,200 ha). This humid tropical forest is a 'biodiversity hotspot' and WLT is working with Guyra Paraguay to protect standing forest and reforest areas which have previously been cleared.

Uruguay: WLT has recently signed an agreement with Aves Uruguay in the hope that it will be possible to save habitats here also.

Wetland project completed: wildlife moves in

The original wetlands on the REGUA reserve were drained in the 1980s for agriculture, but in 2005 REGUA began the process of restoring them back to their original state. The project has now been completed and over 37 acres of wetland habitat is now flooded.

The final phase of the wetland restoration enables REGUA to raise and lower the water table making them attractive to wading birds. A range of wetland habitats have been created including small lakes, *Typha* reed beds, wet grassland, and a replanted area with trees native to the Atlantic Forest.

It is astonishing how quickly newly restored habitats are recolonised by wildlife - already Paca, Caiman, Capybara and Margay have been sighted.



Above: The wetland was drained for cattle grazing and agriculture in the 1980s. Below: The wetland is now restored to its former glory; wildlife moves in.

Report from REGUA: New Bird Species in 2009

Five new birds were added to the REGUA list in 2009, bringing the total number of bird species recorded to an amazing 440.

The new sighting was a pair of Peach-fronted Parakeets at the wetland (see right) in May, recorded by REGUA guide Adilei Carvalho da Cunha. These parakeets are common in the Cerrado but the Serra do Mar mountains form the southern limit of their range. The second new bird, a Rufous-capped Antshrike, was seen in October, and in November six Black-necked Aracaris flew across the road at the entrance to the reserve. In November a pair of Black-bellied Whistling-ducks appeared on the wetland; they looked instantly at home and have been seen regularly since. We are hoping that the Black-bellied Whistling-duck will become established alongside the resident White-

headed Whistling-ducks. Finally a Scaled Dove was recorded at the wetland on 29 December. This dove is most commonly found in dry habitats such as Cerrado and it is thought that deforestation of the Cerrado is forcing them to move to new areas.

REGUA providing Safe Haven

The reputation of REGUA as a safe place for wildlife is spreading within the local community. When faced with a caiman in a drainage ditch on a building site in the town of Cachoeiras de Macacu, instead of shooting the unfortunate creature, which would have been its fate in the past, the site manager called the Fire Brigade who called the Três Picos Park office, who trapped it and brought it to REGUA for release. The wetlands already have over 30 caiman which have arrived by themselves, but there is always room for a few more.

A few days later a Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth was found beside the main road heading away from the forest towards houses. It was loaded into a sack and driven to the Reserve where we released it in the Lodge garden. It posed for numerous photographs before disappearing into its forest home.

Left: This Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth was rescued and released at REGUA.



In this the International Year of Biodiversity REGUA is pleased to be demonstrating a Safe Haven for the Biodiversity of the Atlantic Rainforest in Brazil

In 2009 WLT supporters assisted REGUA in the purchase and protection of 1,774 acres (740 ha)

the Atlantic Rainforest

Misiones Province, Argentina



Misiones Province in Argentina protects one of the last strongholds of largely undisturbed sub-tropical rainforest, known as Selva Paranaense. It contains an incredible wealth of wildlife including top predators such as the Harpy Eagle, Jaguar, Puma and Ocelot as well as Giant Otter and Giant Anteater, together with a huge diversity of reptiles and amphibians. Bird species number some 548 in the Yaboti area and floral representation is equally important.

WLT is working with Fundación Frontera Verde to purchase strategically important tracts of forest in an urgent bid to save critical habitats, particularly for wide-ranging species such as the Jaguar.

John Burton reports

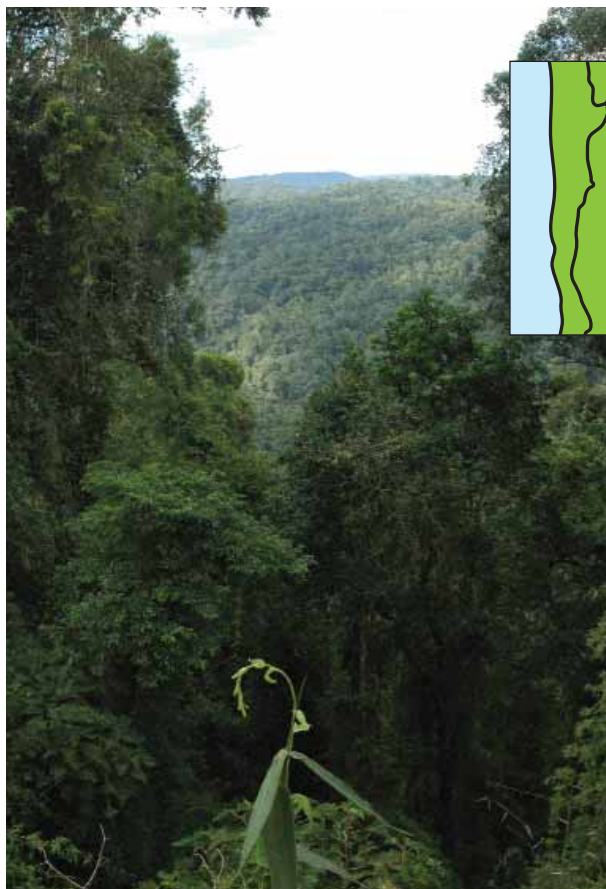
'I have just returned from a week in the Atlantic Rainforests of South America. The reason for the visit was to take Michela Delle Donne, representing WLT corporate sponsors Eurojersey, and also Brazilian wildlife film-maker and webcam expert, Luciano Breves. The reason for Michela's visit was to be able to report back to her company how WLT and its project partners intend to use the funds they are donating to save habitats and their biodiversity.'

Seeing is Believing

At WLT we believe that engaging our major sponsors directly with the projects they fund is an essential part of our work. Once they have seen for themselves how the Trust and its partners work on the ground, they are better equipped to understand what their support really achieves and pass on those messages to their colleagues and clients.

*Eurojersey is the manufacturer of synthetic fabrics, but fabrics with a difference, in that they are manufactured to the highest possible environmental standards. I know, because before we accepted support from them, the owner of the company insisted I went and check out their factory for myself. They are pledging to save **One Metre of Rainforest for One Metre of Fabric sold.***

The project was started by a \$US500,000 donation from a single private donor. This has already leveraged sponsorship from Stella Artois for their Christmas campaign at the end of 2009, followed by Eurojersey's commitment for the next five years.



Left: Misiones Province in Argentina protects one of the last strongholds of Atlantic Rainforest left in the world.

This project is a new challenge for WLT and aims to be a prime example of where the NGO sector can play a vital role. By funding the purchase of a critical corridor, connecting a huge National Park in Argentina with a more modest park in Brazil, and working with an enthusiastic and supportive local land owner, the leverage effect of the WLT project could be enormous.

Eurojersey hope that their support will gain momentum and inspire the manufacturers who use their Sensitive^R Brand fabric to get involved too. With videos created from the visit last week, we feel sure we can generate enthusiasm and commitment for saving these wonderful, but critically threatened forests.'

Over 90% of the Atlantic Rainforests have disappeared; we must do everything we can to save them. Because of all the support from business, it really does mean that every donation from the public goes a long way.



Above: Film-maker, Luciano Breves, photographs the Atlantic Rainforest flora; his photographs will help with the interpretation on WLT's exhibit at this year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

"The rainforest of Misiones Province is the largest remaining fragment of the Atlantic Rainforest of South America. It is full of unique plants and important biodiversity, and it is vital to preserve the best sample of this ecosystem."

Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance, former Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Scientific Director of the Eden Project

Sir Ghilleen is WLT's scientific advisor for the 'Saving the Atlantic Rainforest' exhibit at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show this year.

Visit the Atlantic Rainforest yourself at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, May 2010.

WLT's exhibit will be in the Lifelong Learning Section.

See back page for details



Project Roundup

Saving Biodiversity on Margarita Island In Venezuela



Margarita Island is a tropical Caribbean island paradise located off the north eastern coast of Venezuela. Because it is blessed with an average of 320 days of sunshine and beautiful beaches it has become an important tourist destination and there is increasing pressure on its wildlife and their habitats.

Of particular urgency was the need to protect one of the most important breeding grounds of the Yellow-

shouldered Parrot threatened not only by tourism development but also by collecting for the pet trade and sand mining on the island. Through the generosity of the Taylor Family Foundation WLT was able to fund the purchase of nearly 1,700 acres (700 ha) of dry forest on the Macanao Peninsula which is now owned and protected by WLT's Venezuelan project partners, ProVita. It has been named the Chacaracual Community Conservation Area.

As Jon Paul Rodríguez, founder of ProVita, explained, *"The western portion of the island, the Macanao Peninsula, is where most of the wild habitat remains and at least seven endemic birds and mammals are in danger of extinction. As well as protecting the Yellow-shouldered Parrot the island is an important nesting ground for three threatened turtle species, and Ocelot, Skunk and White-tailed deer also occur. We are grateful to WLT for recognising the plight of this fragile environment and for assisting with funds for land purchase."*



Margarita Island was the destination of a research expedition undertaken by the three 2008/2009 students on the WLT/University of East Anglia Graduate Diploma in Conservation and Project Administration. They spent three weeks on the Macanao Peninsula carrying out bird surveys for the proposed nature trail, researched the impact of sand mining on the vegetation and assisted ProVita in their work to help boost numbers of the Yellow-shouldered Parrot on the island (above).

Community Support vital for all Conservation Success



ProVita are working closely with local community of El Horcón, the small fishing village located near the Chacaracual watershed. Over the past 15 years the community led a local movement to prevent destruction caused by sand mining and have a vision of establishing El Horcón as the "green" town of Margarita.

Left: *The Parrot Festival, initiated by ProVita, has become a very popular event and is now held annually.*

Second smallest hummingbird in world photographed on Sierra Gorda reserve in Mexico

The photograph (right) was taken by Roberto Pedraza from WLT's project partners in Mexico: Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda (GESG) in the state of Querétaro in central Mexico. It shows a Bumblebee Hummingbird (*Atthis heloisa*) the world's second smallest bird. Roberto watched it for a long time commenting "I believe 'the wife' was in the nest as she made only two brief appearances, while the male spent a lot of time in the foliage and coming quite close to me." WLT has provided funds to GESG for land purchase and reforestation projects.

The Bumblebee Hummingbird is only slightly larger than the smallest bird in the world, the Bee Hummingbird *Mellisuga helenae*, which is only found in Cuba.



These birds are so small they are often mistaken for an insect. A group of hummingbirds has many collective nouns, including a 'bouquet', 'glittering', 'hover', 'shimmer', and 'tune'.

Saving Grasslands in Kenya



WLT is working with Nature Kenya (formerly The East Africa Natural History Society) which celebrated its 100th Anniversary last year. The joint project aims to protect the Kinangop Highland Grasslands approximately 100 km north west of Nairobi. These grasslands are critically threatened by the spread of agriculture and plantation forests.

With funds provided by WLT and IUCN-Netherlands, Nature Kenya has begun negotiations with landowners for the purchase of two separate areas.

Studies of the birds of the region have confirmed its importance. In particular the endangered Sharpe's Longclaw, and also Pallid Harrier, Aberdare Cisticola, Hunter's Cisticola and Jackson's Widowbird. Fauna and flora have been less studied, but already species new to science have been discovered in these grasslands, including the endemic Kinangop Dainty Frog (*Cacosternum kinangopensis*) described for the first time in 2008. Other endemic species include: *Hyperolius montanus* and *Phrynobatrachus kinangopensis* (frogs) and the Kenya Horned Viper.

Assisting African NGOs on carbon initiatives

Forest restoration work through WLT's Carbon Balanced programme



Knowledge exchange for African NGOs: using carbon as a funding mechanism for conservation

REDD, or Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, is expected to play a key role in the new global climate treaty to take effect from 2012. Funds are becoming increasingly available for REDD carbon projects but Africa is behind in this opportunity, being involved in less than 16% of projects.

WLT, in consultation with IUCN-NL, have developed a training programme aimed at helping our African partner NGOs benefit from carbon funding opportunities and IUCN-NL's Ecosystem Grants Programme post 2010.

WLT's objective is to assist our partners through a series of workshops, on site demonstrations and project development training to give them the tools to access carbon funding, thereby adding to their conservation effectiveness and long term financial sustainability. In doing this we will also be creating a network of stronger African NGOs positioned to benefit from carbon opportunities and spreading the knowledge to mitigate climate change and assist with other environmental benefits.

The first workshop was held in Akosombo, Ghana, between 15th-18th February and was hosted by the Nature Conservation Research Centre (NCRC). 22 organisations participated from all over Africa and Roger Wilson, from the WLT, was among the trainers. Other WLT staff members included Rebecca Absalom acted as rapporteur, and Kristina Turner who is co-ordinating the programme. The workshop was a great success with participants discussing many exciting potential projects for the future.

The second workshop will be held in early May taking place in both Tanzania and Uganda. A smaller group of NGOs will be selected from the first workshop who are best placed to go on and benefit most from this more detailed and practical training. The Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) will host the first stage and we will be using WCST/WLT's reforestation project currently underway in the Uluguru Mountains as one of the demonstration sites (*see opposite*). The second stage takes place in Uganda and will be hosted by the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

Tree planting on Cerro Blanco Reserve, Ecuador

The Cerro Blanco Reserve, managed by WLT project partners Fundación Pro-Bosque, contains one of the best remaining examples of Ecuadorian deciduous dry forest, but parts of the reserve have previously been cleared to make way for cattle pastures and other agricultural activities. The good news is that with funds raised through WLT's Carbon Balanced programme, significant reforestation projects are now underway.

With the help of more than 60 volunteers Pro-Bosque organised a 'Day of Tree-planting' early in the New Year. They travelled up the mountain to the planting site in the Predio Cuenca area, 200-250 m above sea level. More than 2,000 trees were planted, making a significant contribution to their goal of

planting 90,000 trees over 90 ha by the end of the year. Pro-Bosque estimate that they have planted around 180,000 trees in total. WLT has been involved since 2007 and is helping strengthen the reforestation programme which will lead to more cleared habitats being purchased and restored.

One of Pro-Bosque's primary aims is to manage the forest for the critically endangered Great Green Macaw. As well as being the organisation's flagship species it is also the symbol of the nearest city, Guayaquil. All tree species planted are native to the reserve area, and important for the Great Green Macaw for nesting and as a food source. There are early signs of success: in October a Great Green Macaw nest was discovered near the reserve from which two chicks successfully fledged. It is estimated that the population of Great Green Macaws in the Chongón Colonche mountain range does not exceed 20 individuals so protecting their nesting sites is vital. Pro-Bosque is also involved in the National Strategy for the Conservation of the Great Green Macaw, involving preparation of legislation and the need for local education.



Above: Volunteers assisting on the 'Day of Tree-planting.'

Left: The Great Green Macaw.

Restoring the Bunduki Gap



The Bunduki Gap in Tanzania is a corridor covering about 262 acres (106 ha). It separates Uluguru North and Uluguru South Forest Reserves in the Uluguru Mountains 200 miles inland from the Indian Ocean.

This region is one of the 25 important global biodiversity 'hotspots' but systematic deforestation has left wildlife vulnerable. In an attempt to

'close the gap' and restore continuity of forest between the two reserves WLT is working with Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania, using funds from its Restoration Ecology programme. WCST report good progress, and are on track to plant their target 20,000 seedlings of native trees species by April 2010. The funds raised are as a result of support from Scottish and Southern Energy who establish trees on behalf of their customers.

WCST aim to plant around 70,000 trees in the 262 acre plot being funded by WLT, over the next three years.

Saving tropical forests with WLT will lock up valuable carbon and help offset the damage caused by modern day living. It is also an effective tool for saving biodiversity.

To find out more visit: www.carbonbalanced.org or telephone the WLT office: 01986 874 422

Over the past 20 years, World Land Trust-US has saved over 1.7 million acres of critical lands for biodiversity conservation through land purchase or protection. Our continuing success attests to both the expertise of our partners and the generosity of our donors.

Formal Protection for Vast Forest Reserve in Peru

WLT-US has been assisting our project partner **Peruvian Association for Conservation of Nature (APECO)** for many years in their efforts to protect a vast and biologically rich area in north-western Peru. The **Cordillera de Colán National Sanctuary** and the neighbouring **Chayu Nain Communal Reserve**, originally set aside in 2003, have now been officially defined as a protected area by the Peruvian government.

Rising to over 10,000 ft (3,048 m) high, with habitats ranging from lush Amazon rainforest to high Andes stunted cloud forests, these reserves protect 158,426 acres (64,113 ha) of incredibly diverse forest. They safeguard an astounding array of wildlife, including many rare species such as the Yellow-tailed Woolly Monkey, Peruvian Night Monkey, Melissa's Yellow-eared Bat, Long-whiskered Owllet (a bizarre, dwarf owl) and the endangered Colán Water Frog.

Success for Chocó Reserve in Colombia

Straddling the Equator and rising from the shores of the Pacific Ocean to the high Andean peaks, the Chocó region of north western South America shelters one of the wettest tropical areas on earth: the **Pangan Rainforest**. More than 26 ft (8 m) of rainfall a year sustains one of the single greatest concentrations of unique biodiversity on the planet. But in recent decades, road-building has resulted in urban expansion which is threatening the region.

Our partner **Fundación ProAves** has spent the past decade buying strategic properties along the major highway in an urgent bid to create a buffer against colonization. Today, the Pangan Nature Reserve protects 13,136 acres of vital Chocó habitat, home to no less than 48 bird species restricted to this region.

We now urgently need to raise funds for the purchase and protection of a further 2,280 acres of this amazing tropical rainforest which are at imminent risk. You can save this land for US\$100 an acre, so please give generously while there is still time.



Above: The Andes-Amazon Reserve: Cordillera de Colán National Sanctuary and the Chayu Nain Communal Reserve, protects exceptionally diverse forest. This reserve is also important to 11 neighboring Awajún indigenous tribes who will be responsible for managing a portion of the protected area.



Right: In Colombia the Yellow-eared Parrot Conservation Corridor protects 14 miles for 5 species of endangered parrot. This land is threatened primarily by cattle ranching.



New Parrot Conservation Corridor created in Colombia

In 2009 WLT-US launched an urgent appeal to raise funds for the protection of another highly threatened area in Colombia, home to five endangered parrot species at imminent risk of extinction, including two of the rarest parrots in the Americas: the Indigo-winged Parrot and the Yellow-eared Parrot.

Recognizing the importance of this appeal, WLT-US donor Frank Friedrich Kling committed to funding half the cost of acquisition as a matching gift initiative. As a result of this generous support many WLT-US donors came forward enabling

us to work with ProAves, to save 10,062 acres on the eastern slope of the Central Andes of Colombia, connecting to a further 6,653 acres of cloud forest already under ProAves protection. Spanning both slopes of the Central Andes and protecting an extraordinary diversity of threatened and endemic flora and fauna, we have now been able to establish the Yellow-eared Parrot Conservation Corridor. This 16,715 acre, 14 mile long corridor will not only protect the flight path of the parrots but will also provide a refuge for other threatened wildlife.

For information on WLT-US projects go to:

www.worldlandtrust-us.org

For address details see inside cover

Supporters in the USA can make tax deductible donations through:

www.worldlandtrust-us.org/donate

WLT Corporate Supporters Saving Wildlife

It isn't just individuals who are coming to the Trust to make donations and demonstrate their commitment to doing something positive themselves. WLT is seeing a surge of interest from the corporate sector too. While there is a lot of talk about 'company greenwash' in the press, this is not what we are experiencing at all. The companies who come to WLT offering support want to tell us what they are doing to help the environment. They are keen to learn how they can be more environmentally-friendly and the ones that WLT works with are all demonstrating 'best practice', otherwise we wouldn't be forming a partnership with them.

Examples of companies taking direct action with WLT recently include **Stella Artois**, **PricewaterhouseCoopers** and European textile company, **Eurojersey**. All are working proactively on their own individual initiatives with WLT.

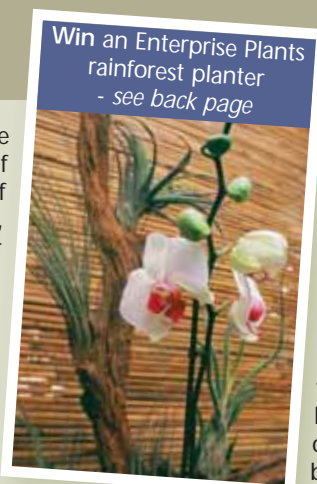
Stella Artois worked with the Trust over the Christmas period to save 1-million trees through their e-card promotion. WLT is also delighted to welcome **Eurojersey**, as a new corporate

supporter, pledging to save at least one metre of rainforest for every metre of fabric sold, with the claim, "One Metre of Fabric for One Metre of Forest". They produce patented warp knit **Sensitive® fabric** to the highest environmental standards and are aiming to engage the brands that they sell to in the promotion as well.

PricewaterhouseCoopers have supported WLT since 2008 and have protected over 2,000 acres of forest in Ecuador through an innovative employee reward scheme which incentivises the reduced use of air travel related to work. PwC are also sponsoring WLT's exhibit at this year's Chelsea Flower Show.

... and special thanks to Enterprise Plants

With over 25 years in the horticulture business, Enterprise Plants, has grown considerably over the years and now offers



clients a first-class service that covers everything from plant displays and grounds maintenance through to gritting, food waste collections and composting. For 19 of those 25 years Enterprise Plants has been supporting WLT. This is a fantastic track record which began with small donations to our Costa Rica project and has blossomed into a flourishing relationship whereby the company now sponsors **WLT News**, makes additional monthly donations and is a key sponsor of our stand at the Chelsea Flower Show this year. On top of all that they are offering the prize for this issue's competition: a beautiful Rainforest Planter, as seen above. (See back page)

WLT would like to thank all our corporate sponsors who are helping our work enormously. Some of them can be seen on our website:

www.worldlandtrust.org/sponsors/index.htm



Book Review

by John Burton

Handbook of The Mammals of the World Volume 1: Carnivores

Published by Lynx Edicions in association with Conservation International and IUCN Chief Editors: Don E. Wilson & Russell A Mittermeier. RRP: £149.99

This is a magnificent and visionary undertaking: the first comprehensive account of all the known mammals of the world. And if the first volume is anything to go by, it will be a lavishly illustrated, series full of comprehensive data.

The first volume in this series is Carnivores, and there is no doubt that they lend themselves extremely well to the encyclopaedic treatment, with every species illustrated, but I do wonder if this will be possible for rodents, bats and insectivores - the overwhelming number of species of mammals, which are not so easy to illustrate.

There is no question that this book is expensive but its 727 pages, wonderful photographs and comprehensive text is a work of great merit.

See WLT website for full book review.

Graduate Diploma in Conservation and Project Administration has led job satisfaction for students

Martyn Griffiths, (2007-2008) is now General Manager for Frontiers, a charity that specialises in 'adventures in learning' for young people. Martyn said: "I can see how well the processes and management techniques worked at the WLT and am able to apply that knowledge in my current job role... the practical element of the Diploma course taught me so much. I do not feel I would be where I am today without it."

Natalie Evans, (2007-2008), is using the skills she gained in her role as Assistant Procurement Officer towards sustainability goals for Gloucestershire County Council. Natalie found that there were opportunities to "develop many useful and transferable skills such as fundraising, project management and report writing ... I had great fun and I learned a great deal."

Tracey Long, (2007-2008) has started her PGCE in Secondary School Science. She says "the support given by all the staff was amazing... which gave us confidence in what we were doing and made our experience all the more valuable."

Fin Duncan, (2008-2009), is now Assistant Projects Officer with BTCV in Norfolk.



Jo Keene, (2008-2009), currently volunteering with **Moors for the Future** in the Peak District, says, "the course enabled me to experience real international conservation at all levels, from planning fundraisers and managing budgets, to organising and carrying out scientific research overseas."

Pedro Mayorga, (2008-2009), went on to lead tourists through the forests of Peru. Educated in the USA, Pedro found elements of the course relating to UK charity law particularly enlightening and enjoyed learning about charity procedures.

Above: Fin Duncan (left) and Jo Keene in 2009. The three students on this course spent two weeks working with **Provita** on their project to save the Yellow-shouldered parrot, (see page 10).

See us at Chelsea: 25-29 May, 2010

"Saving the Atlantic Rainforest" - a biodiversity hotspot

Celebrating 21 years of saving tropical forests
WLT at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show



Above: An artist's impression of the World Land Trust exhibit at RHS Chelsea Flower Show

WLT is celebrating its 21 years of saving and preserving tropical forests with an exhibit in the Lifelong Learning section at the Chelsea Flower Show this year.

The WLT exhibit aims to recreate a tiny section of Atlantic Rainforest, showing its beauty and explaining its importance. The focus will be on the Misiones Rainforest project in Argentina but will also feature WLT's involvement in the other Atlantic Rainforest reserves at REGUA (Brazil) and San Rafael (Paraguay). The rainforest exhibit will feature specimens of plants

found in the Atlantic Rainforest, with orchids and other species representative of the ecosystem. There will also be a Rangers' Hut and a webcam with live streaming from the Atlantic Rainforest in Brazil.

Sir David Attenborough commented: "I applaud the WLT's decision to bring attention to the plight of the Atlantic Rainforest at Chelsea this year. I also fully support the Trust's drive to save as much of the 'real thing' as is humanly possible. Despite man's sophistication we are unable to recreate anything quite so wonderful."

Book tickets - hotline 0844 209 0357
www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/chelsea/index.asp

WLT Competition

First prize: A beautiful ecologically-friendly planter from Enterprise Plants

Spot the 6 famous British naturalists, past and present. Forenames and surnames are listed horizontally and vertically. Circle or highlight your answers and send original (or photocopy) with your name and address to:

WLT Competition, Blyth House,
Bridge Street, Halesworth,
Suffolk IP19 8AB, UK.

Entries to be received by 20 June 2010 (open to UK addresses only).

Prize kindly donated by Enterprise Plants (see page 11).

The winner of the Autumn competition was Olwen Gillespie of Backwell, Bristol who won the Organic Meltdown Chocolate.

P	X	P	P	R	A	C	H	W	I	P	C
A	T	T	E	N	B	O	R	O	U	G	H
C	S	I	T	C	I	D	M	Z	C	U	A
K	L	P	E	D	L	D	R	A	B	I	R
H	V	J	R	S	L	I	M	N	A	F	L
A	A	K	G	F	A	E	V	B	R	D	E
M	L	R	T	Y	Q	W	E	G	Y	S	S
D	A	V	I	D	J	B	L	S	T	A	C
O	I	U	Y	T	G	A	R	C	S	Q	H
Z	D	A	R	W	I	N	E	O	E	W	R
X	V	L	K	J	H	K	W	T	S	A	I
J	O	S	E	P	H	S	Q	T	D	F	S

Cover picture

The images on the cover were all, with the exception of the Leopard, taken on reserves funded by WLT or WLT-US. They represent the huge biodiversity which survives thanks to WLT supporters and WLT's overseas project partners (see page 2).



Saving Life on Earth with World Land Trust

Please consider a legacy for wildlife

A legacy to the World Land Trust is a legacy for future generations, ensuring some of the last remaining strongholds of our earthly paradise will survive for our descendents. You may also like to consider a 'living legacy' by making a donation that will create an entire reserve, which you can go and visit in your lifetime.

If you would like to speak, in confidence, to John Burton (WLT Chief Executive) please telephone: 01986 874 422.



Photo credits: Cover: (top row, 1-r, first & second): Nigel Simpson, (hummingbird) David Brewer; (2nd row): Paul Salaman/WLT-US, Jessica Stewart; (3rd row, first & second): Nigel Simpson, Jessica Stewart; (bottom row): Anup Shah/naturepl.com, Jessica Stewart; Page 2: Nigel Simpson; Page 3: Andrew Smiley; Page 4: (top) Wildlife Trust of India, (below) WLT; Page 5: (top 4) Francisco Sornoza/Fundación Jocotoco, (tapir) Juan Pablo Reyes; Page 6: (all) REGUA; Page 7: (both) WLT; Page 8: (top 2) Provita, (hummingbird) Roberto Pedraza/GESG; Page 9: (both) Fundacion Pro-Bosque; Page 10: (top) WLT-US, (parrot) ProAves; Page 11: (top) Enterprise Plants, (below) WLT, back page: WLT.

Who else offers to buy you a whole acre of irreplaceable habitat
for only £50 ??

WLT pledges to buy an acre on your behalf for £50 (or a Half Acre, or 2,000 sq m, for £25) and you will receive a certificate to record your support and regular updates if you wish.

Donate on the enclosed form, or online: www.worldlandtrust.org