

ISSUE No. 68 WINTER 2020

**Saving habitats
Saving species
since 1989**

worldlandtrust.org



Inside this issue:

- Saving Ecuador's Chocó Forest - £500,000 raised!
- WLT supporters help secure corridor for Gorillas
- New nature reserve status in Vietnam
- Donor impact - Acres saved in 2020

Saving Ecuador's Chocó Forests

Major success for 2020 Big Match Fortnight unlocks door for protection of forests

Thanks to the tremendous response to this appeal, launched in October, we raised the target of £500,000 in just two weeks. This is wonderful news for Jaguar, Brown-headed Spider Monkey, Harpy Eagle and Horned Marsupial Frog, to name but a few examples of the wildlife that depend on Ecuador's Chocó forests for their survival.

TARGET: £500,000
RAISED: £604,000
SAVED: 1,668 ACRES
675 HECTARES

Generous donations helped us reach and surpass our target, enabling our partner Fundación Jocotoco (FJ) to expand their Canandé Reserve.

This reserve is a biodiversity hotspot in the Chocó rainforest, which has been devastated by logging to such an extent that only 2 per cent of its rainforest remains. Thanks to our supporters we have saved a vital habitat.

Thank you to everyone who supported this project



Jaguar photographed in Fundación Jocotoco's Canandé Reserve. Some scientists consider the coastal jaguar to be a subspecies: *Panthera onca centralis*

While the Jaguar is listed as Near Threatened on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, it is likely that its status will be upgraded to Vulnerable at the next review. However, IUCN has declared

the coastal jaguar population as being Critically Endangered and Canandé Reserve is helping ensure their survival. The orange square on the map indicates the location of the reserve area.

Keepers of the Wild are always on call to protect the land – and they need your continued support

If you have generously donated to the Chocó appeal, we hope you will want to continue your support. The land that has been saved now depends on protection to stay safe.

WLT-funded Keepers of the Wild are always on call, patrolling reserves against poaching and logging as well as assessing the potential threat of wildfires and dealing with them if they occur.

A one-off donation of £5,000 will sponsor a reserve ranger for one year, and every donation helps protect the rare and incredible habitats that you are saving with us.

worldlandtrust.org/keepers-of-the-wild



Fundación Jocotoco's **Keepers of the Wild**, based at the Canandé Reserve, sent a big THANK YOU to all WLT supporters.

<https://www.worldlandtrust.org/news/2020/10/savethechoco-fundacion-jocotocos-gracias>

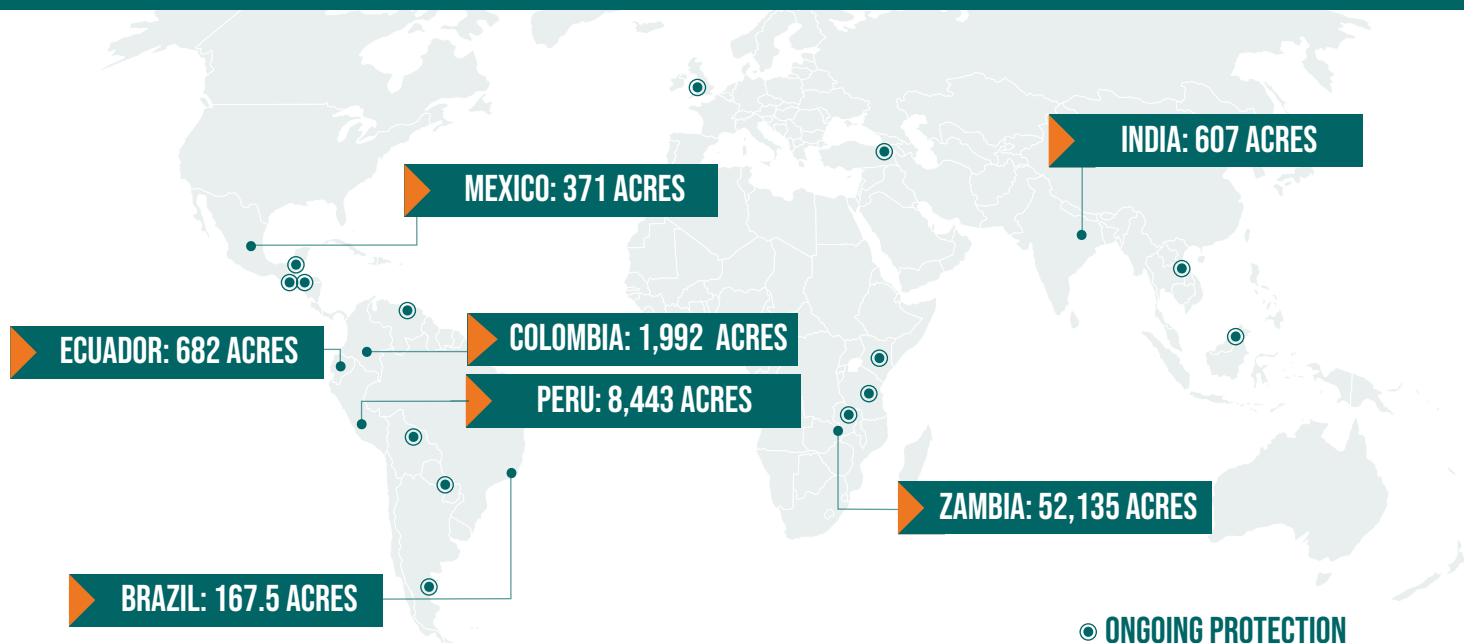


Message from Dr Martin Schaefer, CEO of Fundación Jocotoco

“ Being on the frontlines of conservation like we are means fighting large-scale challenges and it can feel lonely, so to me and all others in the team, to see such support in a year like this has been so moving. We're a long-time WLT partner so some donors may have heard of us before but some haven't, and I am so grateful for the faith they have placed in us. ”

Acres saved in 2020: Your impact is priceless

64,826 more acres (26,234 hectares)
protected with our partners



Extinguish not extinction: Fighting fire for conservation

What can we do to help fight wildfires?

We all want to help, but don't always know how. However when it comes to protecting the environment and communities from wildfire, money is one of the most potent tools we have.

It can employ rangers, and fund their education and training. It can provide our conservation partners with the right equipment so that they can create fire breaks or encourage community engagement and further training so that there are more hands available to tackle fire outbreaks. It can fund intervention and management measures so that areas can be protected by building fire breaks and ensure monitoring so that at the first hint of flames, the fire can be stopped from spreading. Money really can be the difference between a scorched landscape and a saved wildlife haven.

Fires are already hitting WLT-backed reserves. Their coming is inevitable, but their impacts are not. Your donations to our £250,000 Wildfire Appeal will help our partners keep wildlife safe from the flames. Thank you.

worldlandtrust.org/appeals/wildfire-appeal/



The flames have already reached the reserves protected by our partner Guyra Paraguay several times this year, coinciding with one of the worst droughts the country has seen in decades.

Blazes so far in 2020 include a fire (see picture above) in early August that engulfed nearly 10,000 acres of the Guyra-managed Pantanal conservation area, razing the home of Giant Anteater, Giant Armadillo, Giant Otter, Jaguar, Hyacinth Macaw, Crowned Eagle and many others.

In late November, Guyra reported an "out of control" blaze had broken out at the WLT-backed San Rafael Park Reserve. Fuelled by record-high temperatures, extreme drought and high winds, this fire will likely not be the last Guyra will face on a heating planet – and they will need your support to the Wildfire Appeal to keep wildlife safe.

Inset: **Keeper of the Wild** Pedro Duarte, is one of the WLT-funded rangers based at Guyra's Three Giants Station at the Pantanal.

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OUR A FUTURE FOR GORILLAS APPEAL HAS NOW HIT ITS TARGET!

THANK YOU FOR SAVING
AFRICA'S GREAT APES WITH
OUR PARTNER ERUDEF AND US

#FUTUREFORGORILLAS



© Jeff W. Jarrett

Thank you for supporting our 'Future for Gorillas' appeal

The generosity of WLT supporters has delivered the best possible news for the endangered great apes of Cameroon. Thanks to you, the completion of our **Future For Gorillas** appeal allows WLT partner ERUDEF to begin a three-year project to protect a forest corridor alongside local communities, giving a safer tomorrow to Deng-Deng's gorillas, chimpanzees, elephants, leopards, pangolins, buffalo and many others.

A dream come true: Deng-Deng Conservation Corridor

Created in 2009, Deng-Deng National Park supports the northernmost population of the Critically Endangered Western Lowland Gorilla. Luckily these gorillas were isolated from potential Ebola epidemics that have affected other great ape populations in Central Africa; It is estimated that approximately 300 individuals survive.

Breaking news . . .

WLT supporters help unlock safer future for Cameroon's great apes

A corridor for Gorillas

Funds raised will permanently protect a corridor of forest between Deng-Deng National Park and Belabo Council Forest by establishing Community Forest Reserves.

WLT partner ERUDEF will be supporting both the local communities of the corridor area and the Divisional Delegation of Forestry and Wildlife for Lom to create two Community Forest Reserves totalling 23,692 acres (9,588 hectares).

In a video for WLT, ERUDEF staff including founder and CEO Louis Nkembi and Project Manager Gwendoline Angwa, thanked donors for their generous response.

<https://www.worldlandtrust.org/news/2020/11/futureforgorillas-wlt-appeal-completion>

WLT CEO Jonathan Barnard reflected on Sir David Attenborough's gorilla encounter for his 1979 'Life on Earth' documentary; a meeting that inspired generations to care about great apes. "Thanks to you, this vision will now live on in Cameroon," Jonathan said. "Time and time again we hear that preventing extinctions is too big a task and yet time and time again WLT supporters show otherwise, delivering conservation wins all across the world."

ZAMBIA: A NEW FRONTIER

WLT-backed bridge opens up conservation future for Kasanka National Park



New pontoon expands reach of conservation rangers

The Luwombwa River that flows through Kasanka National Park provides water and habitat for many of its inhabitants, but also an obstacle for Kasanka Trust – a barrier restricting the ability of its conservation rangers to manage the area west of Luwombwa.

The good news is that, with funding from WLT, the construction of a new pontoon is now complete, giving easy access across the river for the Kasanka team and Zambia's Department of National Parks and Wildlife, who co-manage the park.



With improved access the rangers can now patrol an additional 25,205 acres (10,200 hectares), hitherto unreachable. This is fantastic news for the astounding biodiversity of Kasanka. Latest monitoring on the National Park recorded 114 mammal species and 480 bird species.

SAVED IN 2020 52,135 ACRES (21,099 HECTARES)

Three new Community Forest Management Areas (CFMAs) were officially declared in October, an important conservation success made possible by supporters of WLT's Action Fund.

The Njelele, Mpelembe and Reuben CFMAs add 52,135 acres (21,000 hectares) of protected land all around the Kasanka National Park, one of Zambia's most diverse ecosystems. The management of this land will be carried out by local communities with support from Kasanka Trust.

Bolivia

Battling a pandemic and the fire season - our partners are on 24-hour call

△CTION FUND ▶



Although Giant Anteaters are disappearing from many of their former habitats they have a stronghold in Armonía's Barba Azul Nature Reserve in the Beni Savanna.

Congratulations to Armonía's Conservation Director Tjalle Boorsma, who, this year, won an award from The Future For Nature.

This prestigious international award celebrates tangible achievements in safeguarding endangered wildlife. Tjalle plans to use his €50,000 prize to further protect the habitat of the Blue-throated Macaw and foster sustainable ranching practices in the region.



WLT's partner Armonía created the Barba Azul reserve in 2008 to protect the Critically Endangered Blue-throated Macaw, but the reserve's forests, marshlands and savanna harbour a rich variety of other species as well. Giant Anteater, Jaguar, Puma, Maned Wolf and Black Howler Monkey are all found here, as are some 300 species of bird, with the tall grasses protecting rare savanna species like the Cock-tailed Tyrant and Black-masked Finch.

This year Armonía have had to battle blazes and deal with the logistical challenges

posed by the coronavirus pandemic. Strict lockdown regulations and travel restrictions have hampered Armonía's ability to manage their reserves, while ranger César Flores was forced out of action following a COVID-19 diagnosis. Fortunately, César recovered well and was soon back in the field, a testament to his love for Bolivia's biodiversity. Together with his son César Jr, he was involved in crucial fire management work during a run of extremely dry months. Thanks to their efforts, the habitat of the Critically Endangered Blue-throated Macaw has been saved for another season.



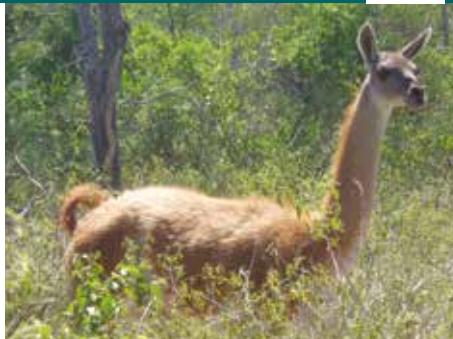
Summer rainfall blends with meltwater from the Andes to produce Barba Azul's distinctive network of floodplains and forested islands, providing a perfect environment for the flocks of Buff-breasted Sandpipers that make a stop-off here on their migration. The research done by Armonía is crucial to their continued survival. This year, the monitoring team spent September recording data, following strict biosecurity protocols.

Saving Bolivia's species from wildfires Rangers' plea for help with Dry Chaco blazes



Another WLT partner in Bolivia struggling with the threat of wildfires is Natura Bolivia. They are urgently seeking funds from WLT to keep on top of forest fires, which have caused catastrophic damage in the Dry Chaco forest in the past.

In 2018, WLT helped to fund the creation of Héroes del Chaco Historical and Wildlife Municipal Reserve, safeguarding 664,484 acres (268,907 hectares) of Dry Chaco forest in southern Bolivia. The reserve protects the crucial habitat of animals such as the Guanaco, tapir, Jaguar, Giant Armadillo, and anteaters. Despite its desert climate, more than 4,000 plant and animal species can be found here. But, as its name suggests, it is dry and a veritable tinderbox.



Héroes del Chaco protects the Guanaco, of which fewer than 200 exist in Bolivia.

Wildfires have been tearing through many parts of South America this year, leaving devastation in their wake as they reached Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, and Paraguay.

Please donate to the WILDFIRE APPEAL today

As climate change warms the planet wildfires become much more severe than in the past. To help our partners WLT is calling on all its supporters to help us put out before extinction. Thank you.

To keep fire at bay, our partners are in desperate need of funds to urgently equip and train more fire-fighting teams. You can donate on the enclosed donation form, by telephone (01986 874422, during working hours) or on our website:

worldlandtrust.org/appeals/wildfire-appeal/

Corporate Supporters:

The focus is on sustainability

Win for Vietnam's wildlife

The Quang Binh Provincial People's Committee has now upgraded the Watershed Protection Forest (WPF) of Dong Chau – Khe Nuoc Trong to a Nature Reserve bearing the same name, recognised as a major victory by WLT's partner Viet Nature Conservation Centre (Viet Nature).

As part of our Carbon Balanced programme WLT has been working with Viet Nature since the early 2010s to protect the Khe Nuoc Trong forests, one of the best and last few such ecosystems still standing in Vietnam and the home of more than 40 threatened animal species.

Khe Nuoc Trong's 54,700 acre (22,132 hectare) tract of Annamite lowland evergreen forests will majorly benefit from the new Nature Reserve status. According to Viet Nature President and Co-founder Pham Tuan Anh:

"Whilst the existing watershed protection status protected the trees from logging, it didn't have any mandates for wildlife conservation. The new status puts biodiversity protection as a key objective – the level that its outstanding biodiversity deserves. It is an inspiring achievement after more than a decade of hard work. We will now be able to access a higher level of funds for conservation from local as well as national governments."

The hope is that the new nature reserve status will pave the way for forests to regenerate in the long run – a lifeline for the astounding array of wildlife in the reserve.

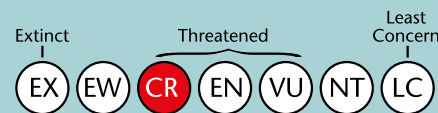
Supporting Khe Nuoc Trong through Carbon Balanced

By supporting Carbon Balanced you are helping protect the Khe Nuoc Trong rainforests, benefitting humans and wildlife alike. The reserve is a veritable climate powerhouse, with estimates that it will sequester on its own some 50,000 CO₂ tonnes per year over the next 30 years.



The reserve's biodiversity value is illustrated by its cast of key animal species, including captivating primates such as the 'singing' Southern White-cheeked Gibbon (above) and the Red-shanked Douc Langur.

The Southern White-cheeked Gibbon (*Nomascus siki*)



Listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, declining populations are due to the significant threats of hunting, live capture and forest loss in the two countries where they occur: Vietnam and Lao PDR. But they now have a safer future in the forests of Khe Nuoc Trong, thanks to its new Nature Reserve status.

Gibbons are primarily monogamous and form long-lasting pair-bonds, which is a characteristic rarely found in other ape species with the exception of humans. They are known for their singing and prolonged vocal calls. Gibbon 'couples' sing duets with each other throughout the day; their songs being sex-specific and individually recognisable. Young gibbons imitate parts of their parents' song. It is suggested that the purpose of gibbon song bouts is to strengthen pair-bonds and communication between groups, which includes territory defense or defense of mates from neighbouring groups.

New Carbon Balanced project in Mexico

Emission offsetting payments by WLT supporters will allow our partner GESG to fund the protection of Sierra Madre forests threatened by logging and farming, regenerating the ecosystem and sequestering 13,800 t CO₂e of emissions every year.



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carbonbalancedpaper.com

You can download the brochure as a pdf.

Corporate partnerships:

How we can work together



Organic baby-food company becomes Carbon Balanced



Ella's Kitchen was founded in 2006 by Paul Lindley, who named the business for his daughter Ella. Now operating in sixteen countries, the company is committed to providing healthy food options suitable for babies aged from 4 months to 3+ years. Their products contain no added sugar, salt, water, additives, E numbers or GM ingredients.

In line with their ethical stance, Ella's Kitchen chose to Carbon Balance with WLT in 2020. Their funds are being used to offset emissions in Nangaritza Valley in southern Ecuador, where WLT is working with partner Naturaleza y Cultura Ecuador (NCEcuador).

Offsetting 2,500 tonnes of carbon emissions resulting from their manufacturing process, Ella's Kitchen are protecting 380 acres (164 hectares) containing more than 15,000 trees 40 metres tall. These trees are helping sequester nearly 28,000 tonnes of carbon, keeping it stored safely underground and preventing it from being released into the atmosphere. This is the equivalent of taking 6,000 diesel cars off the road for a year!

The Nangaritza valley is one of the most species-diverse places on Earth and is the last remaining extensive band of forest connecting the cloud forests of the Andes mountains with the Amazon rainforest in Perú. Increasing Nangaritza's unique network of protected areas provides the best possible mitigation against climate change-induced extinctions as it connects and spans an altitudinal gradient from the Amazon basin, at 800 metres below sea level, to the tops of the Andes at nearly 3,800 metres above sea level, enabling species to shift to higher elevations as climate change advances.

"What started as a promise between a dad and his daughter continues to be our driving force; it's why we're in business and doing the best we can for the environment."

Paul Lindley, Founder, Ella's Kitchen



WLT has been working with NCEcuador since 2012 to fund the protection of land within the Nangaritza valley, a complex mosaic of ecosystems that include Amazonian lowlands and Andean foothills. The location of Nangaritza Reserve is marked by the orange box above.

The science behind the project

Nangaritza's forests provide a significant carbon reservoir, with studies estimating 170 tonnes of sequestered carbon per hectare which may increase in mature forests and more developed soils.

It is vital to maintain these forests; otherwise this reservoir of stored carbon would be released into the atmosphere. Where areas of forest are already degraded, protection allows the forest to recover naturally or through the planting of native tree species, which as they grow, absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere and incorporate it into this reservoir.

You can also support WLT's Plant a Tree programme. *See back page for details.*

"Carbon Balancing with WLT gives us a way of helping put back what we are taking away. I would urge everyone to think deeply about what is important in life and to consider the consequences of daily activities. The money that is given to the WLT, in my estimation, has more effect on the wild world than almost anything I can think of."

Sir David Attenborough, WLT Patron

A haven for wildlife

The Nangaritza Valley is a refuge for mammals such as Spectacled Bear, Mountain Tapir and Ocelot. This region around Podocarpus National Park has an astonishing 600 bird species, including 60 species of hummingbirds, 80 different tanagers, and many endemic species found only in these mountains.

Let us help your company

Protecting existing forests, already sequestering carbon, has the most mitigation against climate change.

You too can take positive action.

- Voluntarily offset your unavoidable emissions through protection and restoration of threatened habitats.
- By protecting habitats that are under imminent threat of destruction, you are preventing the release of the CO₂ stored within them into the atmosphere.
- Where habitats are already degraded, allowing them to recover and regrow means they will absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere, creating an 'offset'.

For more information:

www.worldlandtrust.org/what-we-do/

Saving Ecuador's Chocó Forest

The greatest hummingbird shows on Earth!



Ecuador holds the world record for the highest number of hummingbird species with more than 132; about 40 per cent of the world's total. And of all Ecuador's habitats, the Chocó forests are central to their survival. With wonderful names like Trainbearer, Tourmaline Sunbird and Glowing Puffleg, these dazzling birds epitomise the beauty of the forests.

Cover Image

This photograph shows three Chocó specialities, sharing the same flower of the ginger family. (top to bottom)

Booted Racket-tail (*Ocreatus underwoodii*)

A tiny forest sprite. You can see the male's impressive long tail rackets and prominent white leg puffs.

Green-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania fannyi*). With a deeply forked tail, the male displays stunning brilliant emerald and violet plumage.

Brown Inca (*Coeligena wilsoni*)

Iridescent bronze and green tones dominate the male's plumage, and the white patches on the side of the neck shine like beacons in the dark forest.

Worth their weight in gold

The Endangered

Esmeraldas Woodstar is

one of the world's smallest

hummingbirds. It measures

less than three inches and is only

slightly bigger than a bumblebee. So its

value is far greater than its weight!



Hummingbirds have very high energy needs and in order to keep up with their metabolism, they feed continuously, collecting nectar from as many as 1,000 flowers in a day. Hummingbirds also "pay back" many plants, playing an important role in pollinating thousands of different plants that help stabilise fragile soils after fires and landslides.

A tree today - a forest tomorrow. Plant a tree with WLT

Today, more than ever, a healthier planet is a gift you can offer to your loved ones. Starting at £5, donations to bring new trees to the world on behalf of your family and friends could be the start of a big, global change: the time when we gifted each other a planet that sees forests being restored and wildlife having a new home.

Planting a tree is the perfect Secret Santa present – an affordable option that doesn't cost the Earth but does, in fact, do the opposite. To plant a tree is to sow the seeds of a better planet.

With Plant a Tree you will contribute to global reforestation efforts, restoring lost forests, repairing damaged ecosystems and mitigating climate change. A gift that can last a lifetime.

WLT works with in-country partners to protect crucial areas of land, selecting sites that are rich in species diversity and that support long-term conservation goals to connect and enlarge protected areas.

You can Plant a Tree with us through the enclosed donation form, by telephone (01986 874422, during working hours) or on our website:

worldlandtrust.org/appeals/plant-a-tree



To date ...

World Land Trust has provided the funds to plant 2,178,956 trees

Your support is catching. Commit to conservation by becoming a WLT Friend

Regular charitable gifting is inspirational and often leads to new donors - perhaps your friends and family - getting involved too. At a time when using our voice is of utmost importance, by supporting WLT and our partners you will become part of

a global community, inspiring others to work together to protect the world around us.

worldlandtrust.org/supporting/friends



Find out more . . .

About WLT: Who we Are; How we Work; Getting Involved. Visit the WLT website for latest news, answers to your questions and to see our impact.

Sign up for our eBulletin to get monthly updates direct to your inbox.

worldlandtrust.org

