

Nearly \$15.5 Million in Worldwide Conservation Grants Awarded by Fish and Wildlife Service

February 14, 2012

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is awarding \$15,484,700 in international conservation grants through its *Wildlife Without Borders* program to partners in 60 countries in six regions around the globe. “These grants provide crucial assistance in the effort to prevent extinction by reducing threats to species survival and increasing the capacity of communities to value, conserve, and manage their wildlife,” said Director Dan Ashe. “The Service’s *Wildlife Without Borders* program funding is vital to saving some of our fastest disappearing and most treasured species, empowering people to help conserve key habitats, and form innovative conservation partnerships worldwide.”

The nearly \$15.5 million in grant funding will leverage more than \$22 million in matching funds through partnerships with more than 170 non-profit organizations, government agencies, universities, and community groups. Of the \$15.5 million total, \$12.5 million will conserve tigers, elephants, rhinos, apes, marine turtles, amphibians and other critically endangered species through *Wildlife Without Borders-Species* grants. *Wildlife Without Borders-Regional* grants will provide \$2.9 million in support for capacity building and technical assistance in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico, and Russia and East Asia. The *Wildlife Without Borders-Global* program will also provide \$100,000 for migratory species conservation through the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative.

Funding will support a full range of priority conservation activities including anti-poaching, law enforcement, capacity building, community outreach, habitat restoration, disease research, and mitigation of human-wildlife conflict. For example, in South Africa, CapeNature will control invasive pine trees to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in rough moss frog habitat. In Indonesia, the Wildlife Conservation Society will conduct wildlife crime investigations and assist in the prosecution of poachers to protect Sumatran orangutans. And in Colombia, Fundación Proyecto Titi will aid rural communities with sustainable development projects, to reduce deforestation in cotton-top tamarin habitat.

For more information on the Fish and Wildlife Service’s *Wildlife Without Borders* Species, Regional, and Global programs and to access detailed grant project summaries, visit http://www.fws.gov/international/dic/dic_home.html.

Follow the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife Without Borders program on the web at <http://www.fws.gov/international>, on Twitter @USFWSInternatl and on Facebook, USFWS_InternationalAffairs.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is to work with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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