

Dear supporters and friends,

We write with project news and to advise you of an upcoming event in Toronto on Thursday, September 29th. Visit our display booth in Brookfield Place, 181 Bay Street, on the concourse level from 9:00am - 4:00pm and meet our founders, Anne Lambert and Tom Welch. Hope to see you soon.

## Project Updates

**Mali Elephant Project:** A decade-long surge in elephant poaching in Africa is easing a bit but needs to be reduced further, according to CITES. Thanks in large part to our project, Mali's elephants are faring better. Nevertheless, a surge in poaching in the first half of 2015 was alarming and spurred action to boost anti-poaching efforts in Mali. Our project personnel played a key role in that. We can now report that coordinated action involving military patrols, anti-poaching rangers and our project brigades is bringing down the level of poaching. Meanwhile, our work with communities to manage and conserve habitat for elephants and humans continues.

**Protection and Restoration of Piping Plover Habitat in the Bahamas:** In May 2016 ICFC field partner Conservian, working with The Bahamas National Trust, began the first program in the Bahamas to implement on-the-ground protection and restoration at key Piping Plover, shorebird, and seabird sites.



Conservian and shorebird volunteers at Peterson Cay National Park, Grand Bahama Island. Photo credit: Conservian/M.Lilla

Project staff and volunteers spent the month of May living aboard the 75ft schooner, the "Dream Catcher" and sailing 255 miles among the dozens of islands in the northern Bahamas. Working with local Bahamians, the crew posted important bird sites and destroyed invasive Australian pine along the way. New nesting site data was collected on endangered Roseate Terns and Wilson's Plovers. This project has made significant progress toward shorebird and coastal habitat conservation in the Bahamas and will continue in 2017.

152,183 km<sup>2</sup>  
land area protected  
where nature needs us most



Cloudforest in Cerro Chucanti. Photo credit: Kristina Hurme

**Land acquisition in Panama:** ICFC is supporting expansion of Cerro Chucantí Nature Reserve in the Darién region of Panamá with project partner Adopt a Panama Rainforest (ADOPTA). Its location in a biological transition zone between two global biodiversity hotspots has allowed its fauna and flora to differentiate considerably over the millennia, and it safeguards many endemic, vulnerable, and endangered species. The biological diversity and natural beauty found in Cerro Chucantí serves as a great backdrop for scientific research and the enjoyment of the public alike. ADOPTA will protect the reserve and will continue its work in public education, sustainable eco-tourism (e.g., bird watching, guided hikes/night hikes, etc.), and research (e.g., herpetological/ornithological surveys, long-term monitoring studies, etc.)

To learn more about ICFC's projects or to donate to our Reserve Fund for Land Securement, visit our website at [www.ICFCanada.org](http://www.ICFCanada.org).



## Welcome Carlos!

ICFC welcomed Carlos Garcia as Program Manager in March of this year. "I am thrilled to join the ICFC team/family, and to have the opportunity to contribute to the meaningful work of the organization. I look forward to drawing upon my many years of professional experience within the non-profit conservation and academic sectors, to help advance the conservation goals of ICFC through our various projects in Latin America, and beyond."

## The World's Largest Single Tract of Rainforest, Brazil

There is an unparalleled opportunity to save the world's largest single tract of rainforest: the officially ratified lands controlled by the Kayapo Indians in the Brazilian Amazon. Spanning almost 110,000 km<sup>2</sup>, Kayapo lands form a contiguous block of intact primary forest the size of Ecuador. Although indigenous territories are protected under Brazilian law, Kayapo lands are embedded in the midst of agriculture frontiers in a high deforestation region where governance is extremely weak. Illegal loggers, gold-miners, fishermen and ranchers are increasing their pressure to enter and take over Kayapo lands, and without law enforcement, it falls to the Kayapo to defend their rights. Although the Kayapo's warrior culture and historical occupation of these landscapes enabled their protection for a time, by the 21st century the intensification of deforestation processes sweeping the region led this tribe to seek alliances with outside NGOs. Today, the NGO alliance with the Kayapo is proving that strategic investment in their communities empowers them to hold the line against invasion and destruction of their forests.

ICFC is a key NGO ally of the Kayapo. We understand the struggle of the Kayapo to defend their lands and way of life is really the struggle to save part of the natural world that ultimately sustains us all. We are pleased to highlight two of several conservation and development advancements over the past year that have strengthened the Kayapo defense of their lands.

**Sport-fishing:** Catch-and-release sport-fishing is proving to be a powerful sustainable development option for communities located on the magnificent Iriri and Xingu wilderness rivers. Our local Kayapo partner organization, Associação Floresta Protegida, gained federal government authorization for the community of Kendjam on the Iriri river to host a sport fly-fishing enterprise with the company Untamed Angling. Untamed Angling bills Kendjam as offering, "...the first multi-variety Amazon fly fishing destination where an angler can target over 10 different species in crystal clear fast waters". The fly-fishing travel site, "the Fly Shop", describes the Kendjam trip as taking place in,



Sport-fisherman with Kayapo guide. Photo credit : Simone Giovine

"...perhaps the most awe-inspiring and untouched Indigenous Territory in the Brazilian Amazon." The success of the Kendjam fly-fishing project has led to plans to expand sport-fishing to communities on the Xingu river in 2017.

**Xingu River Surveillance:** Sport-fishing also contributes to Kayapo surveillance along the several hundred kilometers of the Iriri and Xingu rivers that flow through their land: both rivers are highly threatened by invasions of commercial fishermen, loggers and gold-miners. This summer we were able to ramp up Kayapo patrols on the Xingu river with the result of removing several boatloads of fishermen who were transporting hundreds of kilos of illegally caught fish for sale in local markets. With contributions from the NGO alliance and Untamed Angling, from now on regular Kayapo patrols of the Iriri and Xingu rivers will deter illegal fishermen and lock up these spectacular wilderness areas for sustainable development by Kayapo communities only.

### ICFC's New Project: Cambodia Marine

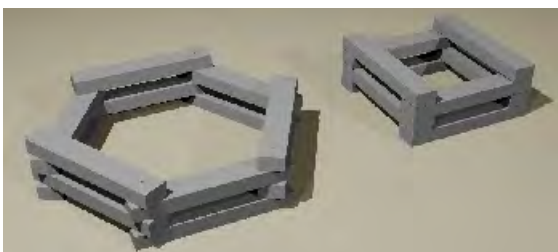
Bottom trawling and electric fishing are destructive to both tropical marine ecosystems and livelihoods. Can anything be done?

Yes!

ICFC is working with Marine Conservation Cambodia (MCC), a small, brave and effective conservation organization that is curtailing illegal fishing by conducting night patrols, working in collaboration with the Cambodian Fisheries Administration in Kep province, Cambodia. MCC created a small marine protected area that demonstrates that with protection, seagrass beds, coral reefs and fish communities can recover, providing benefits to biodiversity and enabling sustainable fishing by small-scale family fishers.

In the works now is a pilot project to deploy devices that provide an artificial substrate for oysters/shellfish and simultaneously deter bottom trawling (nets catch on the devices).

Support for this effort is welcome!



Anti-trawling devices. Photo Credit: MCC



Children and ADOPTA Volunteers from the nearby communities participating in the National Tree Reforestation program, Cerro Chucanti in the background. Photo credit: Guido Berguido

Did you know that 100% of your donation goes directly to our projects?\*

Help protect the earth and make a donation today!

Visit our website: [www.ICFCCanada.org](http://www.ICFCCanada.org)

Contact us at: (844) 781-2129

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\*All administration costs are covered by a core group of donors.