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Since 2007...

- Number of countries ICFC has worked in: **26**
- Total invested in conservation: **\$16,780,744**
- Total projects undertaken: **42**
- Total land acquisitions: **9**



Message from the Executive Director

I can't believe a year has gone by since a small group of us were putting together last year's annual report. Being a small organization, we take a hands-on approach to this (our "communications department" is our program staff). It's an activity we all enjoy because it gives us a chance to look back on the past year, pore over stunning photographs of beautiful places, plants and animals, and get the message out to you, our supporters, about the impact your support has had.

Once again, our annual report updates you on projects old and new, and we give a shout-out to a few of our outstanding field partners. Enjoy!

Molly Bartlett
Executive Director

Photo: Carlos R. Garcia

From the Directors

In our work this past year, we are realizing that the basis of many of our existing and upcoming programs is a big vision in which we're taking key steps to build security for entire ecosystems, species and populations. So far, this ambitious approach is working.

-- Anne Lambert,
Founding Director



I was very pleased that the *Financial Post* ranked ICFC the country's top conservation charity for transparency, accountability and efficiency in 2017.
-- John McWilliams,
Chairman



If viewed as a business, I would say ICFC produces extraordinary returns for the capital invested.
-- Tom Welch, CFO and
Founding Director

Land Conservation



What is the best way to conserve terrestrial ecosystems? Of course, it depends ...

The How – ICFC undertakes strategic land acquisitions to protect sites that are rich in biodiversity and at risk; some of these indirectly protect a larger area. They must have existing or potential connectivity to similar habitat over a wide enough area to be ecologically sustainable long term. These are managed as private reserves by our capable field partners, and ICFC sometimes assists with reserve management and protection. We have means other than land acquisition to protect landscape-scale areas that are of themselves large enough to be self-sustaining. In the Brazilian Amazon, we help the Kayapo indigenous people conserve their territories that span 11 million hectares. We endowed a trust fund to secure the long-term protection of Peru’s first conservation concession, which spans 140,000 hectares and indirectly protects an additional million hectares. Finally, we work to *prevent* deforestation in the Andean Amazon. By widely disseminating “near-real-time” information from remote sensing that pin-points locations and causes of deforestation, we are halting some cases of deforestation and no doubt deterring others.

The Where – The greatest threats to terrestrial ecosystems are in areas where the habitat has been reduced and fragmented by human development, and ICFC acts in these landscapes. But as Tom Lovejoy and John Reid argued cogently in the New York Times (“How Big Forests Solve Global Problems”, April 19, 2018), “intact forest landscapes” of at least 500 square kilometers have exceptional value in preserving biodiversity, storing carbon, and preserving forest-based traditional cultures and languages. Intact forests should be protected from road development (this is do-able with proper planning and political will), and forest peoples’ land rights need to be supported. ICFC is alert for further opportunities to protect the intact forests that are so vital to our future.

From what I have seen, the most successful land conservation initiatives start with and are led by local communities who want to protect their land, water, wildlife, and way of life.

-- Hansjörg Wyss, businessman, philanthropist, conservationist

Atlantic Forest, Brazil
Photo: Kevin Schafer

Brazil: Protecting Kayapó lands

Conservation need

The Kayapó indigenous territories are vast enough to protect healthy populations of all native species. This huge block of forest also plays an important role in generating rainfall and mitigating climate change. Yet without the Kayapó, this forest would be gone. The now 8000+ strong Kayapó have fiercely protected their land for generations but face increased pressure.

What we're doing

We have prevented widespread invasions of Kayapó lands by illegal loggers, goldminers and ranchers by enhancing surveillance and communications capability and enabling the Kayapó to control their almost 2,500-km border. We have helped develop culturally compatible economic activities that reduce the pressure to accept cash for unsustainable activities.

2017 Highlights

Economic development: A sustainable Kayapó Brazil nut enterprise continues to grow, enjoying strong domestic markets. In 2017 over 100 tons of Brazil nuts were harvested generating income of about US\$150,000 for community members. A UK cosmetics retailer continues to buy all the Kayapó's cumaru nut (tonka bean) production, which in

2017 amounted to 700 kg of dried seeds. The Kendjam catch-and-release sportfishing enterprise with Untamed Angling hosted three more groups in 2017 than in 2016. Kendjam's fishing lodge was successfully rebuilt after an unusual flood event in 2016.

Surveillance: The Kayapó living on Xingu river established a guard post where the river exits their land in the north and were able to prevent all unauthorized entry during 2017, bringing to a halt illegal fishing and other unlawful activities. (The Kendjam community hopes to do the same on the Iriri river.) As a result, fish populations have rebounded. The Kayapó continue to struggle to hold the line against intense invasion pressure by illegal loggers and goldminers in the lawless frontier. Relationship building by Kayapó NGOs with government authorities paid off when in October 2017 the ministry of environment sent a team and three helicopters on a mission to destroy illegal goldmining equipment in Kayapó territory.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2007

Cumulative funding to date: \$4,975,900

Size of area: 110,000 km² – larger than South Korea

Field partners: Associação Floresta Protegida, Instituto Kabu, and Instituto Raoni

Photo: Eric Royer Stoner



Peru: From alerts to action in the Andean Amazon

Conservation need

The Peruvian Amazon is one of the world's last few high-biodiversity wilderness areas—a place of astounding species richness and diverse indigenous peoples, including tribes living in voluntary isolation. Over the last three decades the region has faced increasing deforestation from the advancing agricultural frontier and illegal logging and mining. Key to addressing this is the collection of precise information on where and why deforestation is occurring and disseminating this information to allow action to be taken.

What we're doing

This project has developed an innovative monitoring system called MAAP (Monitoring of the

How MAAP works

Automated analysis of remote sensing data compares two 30-meter-resolution Landsat images to detect deforestation. Once detected, MAAP personnel manually analyze high-resolution (1.5-meter) imagery to identify the cause, whether mining, logging, agriculture or roads.

Andean Amazon Program) that analyzes remote sensing data and identifies deforestation hotspots in “near real-time”. MAAP bulletins are widely distributed to government authorities and the public, bringing irrefutable evidence of illegal activities that are causing forest conversion and degradation.

2017 Highlights

In 2017, MAAP solidified itself as an influential source of information in Peru and beyond, with the publication of 24 original high-impact reports documenting the most urgent deforestation cases uncovered by this cutting-edge monitoring technology. An impressive synthesis of these analyses was published in February, showing deforestation trends, patterns and drivers. On the policy action front, MAAP made significant progress with the uptake and use of its reports.

Exposure by MAAP halted deforestation from oil palm, illegal goldmining and cacao.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2013

Cumulative funding to date: \$402,598

Field partners: Amazon Conservation Association and Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica



MAAP spurred action to halt this illegal goldmining invasion at the Amarakaeri Communal Reserve in the Madre de Dios region of Peru. Photo: DigitalGlobe

Peru: Los Amigos Conservation Concession

Conservation need

Bordering world famous Manu National Park, the Los Amigos watershed forms part of a 20-million-acre block of protected wilderness in southeastern Peru. The landscape is a mosaic of habitats, including palm swamps, bamboo thickets, oxbow lakes and primary forest. Wildlife is abundant, including 12 globally threatened species, giant otters, harpy eagles, spider monkeys and jaguars and 13 species of primates. To counter threats from illegal goldmining, logging, poaching and clearing for agriculture, the Los Amigos Conservation Concession (LACC) was created in 2001. Beyond its 146,000 hectares, LACC protects a vast remote area that includes a reserve for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation, safeguarding this vulnerable group from invaders.

What we're doing

In 2011 ICFC established a trust fund to endow positions for LACC concession guards who carry out patrols to keep out illegal goldminers and loggers, do biological monitoring and provide support for researchers and field courses.



2017 Highlights

With just a small field staff, the LACC team was able to conduct 129 patrols in 2017. The patrols detected one incident of illegal logging and one incident of illegal mining within the LACC boundaries. An official complaint was filed with Peru's Environmental Public Prosecutor's office (FEMA), with whom ACCA works closely. Patrols and signage provide an effective deterrent: since its inception in 2001 LACC has completely escaped the large-scale deforestation and gold-mining besetting the surrounding region.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2011

Cumulative disbursements to date: \$405,783

Trust fund value: \$1,538,020, year-end 2017

Size of area: 146,000 hectares (1,460 km²)

Field partners: Amazon Conservation Association and Asociación para la Conservación Amazónica (ACCA)



LACC protects a vast remote area that includes a reserve for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation.

Top: Scarlet macaw

Left: Aerial view of Los Amigos Biological Station
Photos: ACCA

Ecuador: Fundación Jocotoco reserves

Conservation need:

Ecuador is one of just 17 "megadiverse" countries identified by Conservation International as harbouring the majority of the Earth's species. Fundación Jocotoco is protecting the country's rich biodiversity in twelve reserves that it owns and manages with assistance from international partners including ICFC.

2017 land acquisition for Río Canandé reserve

Río Canandé reserve lies within the Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena biodiversity hotspot, and the Chocó was identified by BirdLife International as an Endemic Bird Area due to its high number (62) of range-restricted species. More than 100 species of mammals have been recorded in Río Canandé reserve, including iconic species such as the jaguar and probably the most important population of the Critically Endangered brown-headed spider monkey. As for herpetofauna: as many as 212 species of amphibians and reptiles are known to occur in the Ecuadorian Chocó; and 134 species occur specifically in the Río Canandé reserve and neighbouring areas, including at least 27 globally threatened amphibians.

What we're doing

ICFC works with Fundación Jocotoco in support of reserve creation, enlargement and management.

2017 Highlights

ICFC and colleague Rainforest Trust funded the purchase of three properties totaling 170 hectares



Bothriechis schlegelii
Photo: Tropical Herping



The brown-headed spider monkey is one of the 25 most endangered primates in the world.

Photo: Michael Moens

to expand the Río Canandé Reserve. Strategic purchases like these, while small in area, block the expansion of logging in the Choco and connect reserves of intact forest. Fundación Jocotoco's reforestation work has served as a model in Ecuador and influenced the government of El Oro province to plant 26,000 native trees in 2016 to restore heavily deforested landscapes. With ICFC's support, in 2017 Fundación Jocotoco planted 212,000 native trees on their Buenaventura, Río Canandé, and Jorupe reserves.

Timeframe: Started in 2012

Cumulative funding to date: \$182,685

Field partner: Fundación Jocotoco

Deforestation in this region is so rapid that I am convinced that all species restricted to the Chocó are more threatened than acknowledged by the IUCN. With the help of ICFC we will save the Río Canandé watershed and establish a buffer area for the last large tract of Chocó rainforest.

-- Martin Schaefer, Executive Director of Fundación Jocotoco

NEW – Costa Rica: Sea turtle conservation and community education in the Osa Peninsula

Conservation need

The Osa Peninsula, renowned for its biodiverse intact ecosystems, contains the largest remaining mesic rainforest and the largest expanse of mangrove wetlands on the Central American Pacific slope. The Osa is estimated to house 2.5% of the world’s biodiversity while covering less than 0.001% of its total surface area. Osa Peninsula is considered critical for the biological continuity provided by the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor. However, despite the existence of two national parks and various private conservation areas, the region is still under threat.

What we’re doing

ICFC supports environmental education and sea turtle conservation.

2017 Highlights

Fundación Corcovado conducted environmental education seminars in 6 schools near Corcovado National Park and 137 teachers were trained in sustainable practices. The sea turtle program recruited 44 volunteers and yielded positive results. Of 108 nests laid on the sandy beaches of Rincón and San Josecito from August to December 2017, only 10 were lost -- to poaching by humans or to predators such as dogs and coatis. In total,

3,850 hatchlings were released into the ocean thanks to the diligent round-the-clock beach patrols by the sea turtle team.

Timeframe: Began 2017

Cumulative funding to date: \$93,571 for 16 months, thanks to support from a generous donor

Field partner: Fundación Corcovado

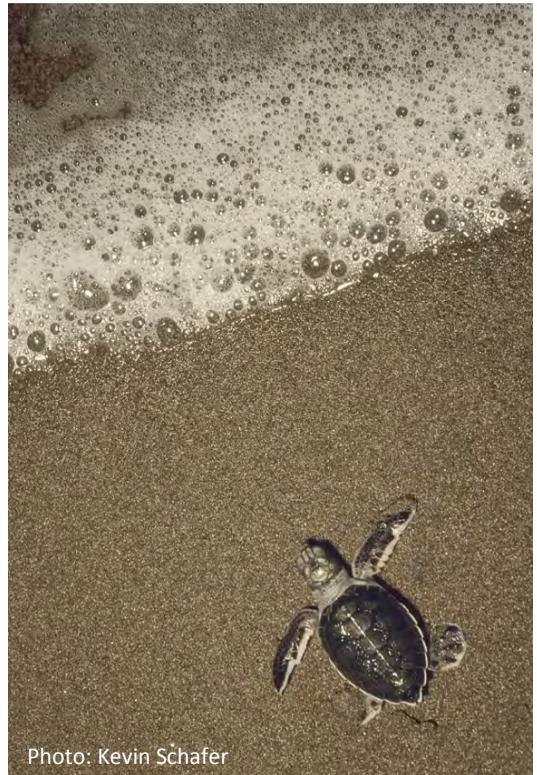


Photo: Kevin Schafer



The Osa Peninsula has the largest mesic rainforest and expanse of mangrove remaining on the Pacific slope of Central America.

**Students examine a camera trap.
Photo: Corcovado Foundation**

NEW – Kenya: Laikipia Nature Conservancy

Conservation need

OI Ari Nyiro is Kenya’s largest private reserve and its diverse topography supports diverse flora and fauna including the Critically Endangered wild dog, cheetah, reticulated giraffe, greater kudu, African elephant, a large population of lions, 14 amphibian

species (including a new species of frog), 55 reptiles, 477 birds, more than 800 vascular plants and 755 macro-invertebrates.

With ongoing demand for ivory, the need to rebuild and secure the Conservancy is urgent.

Unfortunately, Laikipia County has been under threat in recent years from cattle herders from

a neighboring county who invade local villages to steal cattle and then invade conservancies for grazing and to poach wildlife. In the lead-up to Kenya’s 2017 elections, politicians helped stoke tensions in the region, with the result that several buildings, including ranger stations, equipment and vehicles on the Conservancy were destroyed.

What we're doing

ICFC intends to support a program of Pokot wildlife guardians – youths who in the past might have been tempted to become poachers and cattle raiders. These future rangers are trained as an acrobatic troupe to bring the anti-poaching message to their home communities as well as patrolling the conservancy borders and ensuring safe passage for animals, particularly elephants, to neighboring conservancies. Over time, promising candidates will be trained as fully-fledged rangers. Longer term, ICFC hopes to work with the Gallmanns and the Laikipia Wildlife Forum to develop a protected wildlife corridor between OI Ari Nyiro and its closest neighboring conservancy. But the first step is to restore security to the Conservancy and rebuild what was lost.

2017 Highlights

There was an urgent need in 2017 to replace equipment (a tractor and a vehicle) and rebuild some damaged infrastructure, including four ranger stations. With your help, ICFC supported some of these – and more is still needed. These items are critical to restoring security at the Conservancy and protecting wildlife.

Timeframe: Started in 2017

Cumulative funding to date: \$69,113

Size of area: 36,500 hectares

Field partner: Gallmann Memorial Foundation



Left: A view of Mukutan Gorge. Below: Pokot acrobats. Photos: Laikipia Nature Conservancy



NEW – Kenya: Conserving Kijabe Forest

Conservation need

Part of the eastern Afromontane biodiversity hotspot, this dry upland forest straddles the eastern wall of the Great Rift Valley and is home to a wide array of flora and fauna in a transition zone between mesic upland forests and the drier savannah ecosystems of eastern Africa. The forest provides hydrological services to an estimated 200,000 people in the catchment area, as well as carbon cycling, soil stabilization, and forest products such as fuelwood, seeds, and honey.

Kijabe Forest was historically connected to the Kikuyu Escarpment Forest Reserve but has become geographically isolated due to encroachment. Because of this, although the forest comes under management of the Kenya Wildlife Service, it has largely been unmanaged for the past three decades. Deforestation has caused erosion and severe mudslides on the steep slopes.

What we're doing

We are working on four fronts: curbing illegal logging and charcoal making by expanding patrols of Kijabe Forest using local community members trained as rangers; restoring degraded forest areas by planting indigenous seedlings; training community members regarding potential income from non-timber forest products; and putting in place payments for ecosystem services agreements with institutional beneficiaries of Kijabe Forest, including a hospital and a private school.

2017 Highlights

A total of 12 rangers comprising two teams of 6 were hired and equipped, with each team having a GPS and camera phone with the WILD app that enables them to record observations and patrol routes. Over 2300 km were patrolled by foot, illegal cedar post harvests were seized, and 7 arrests made by the authorities. Over 1000 indigenous seedlings were planted in severely degraded areas. Camera trap recordings and foot patrol sightings in 2017 reveal a substantial prey base and Kijabe forest's value as a corridor between other larger forest tracts.

Timeframe: Started in 2017

Cumulative funding to date: \$21,534

Size of area: 5,000 hectares

Field partner: Kijabe Forest Trust



Rangers (above) conduct regular patrols of Kijabe Forest (left). Photos: Kijabe Forest Trust

Threatened Species



Much of conservation, including our work, is focused on threats to ecosystems such as illegal logging and conversion of forests or grasslands for agriculture. But sometimes the key problem is a threat such as rampant egg harvesting, illegal hunting, or invasive species that imperil particular species.

ICFC has several projects in which a threatened species or population is the primary focus. These are all cases in which we are confident that we're not fighting a losing battle: we know what the problems are and have solutions. In each case, the needed actions are not unduly costly, and the outcomes, so far, have been good. These projects bring benefits to other species and, conversely, our work across all program areas benefits threatened species and populations.

Don't forget populations...

While much focus is on species extinctions, a very important aspect of biodiversity loss involves the shrinking ranges and declining populations of many species. A recent study found that more than 40% of 177 mammal species had experienced severe population declines with >80% range shrinkage (PNAS July 10, 2017). Because populations are locally adapted, this represents a serious loss of genetic diversity.

Bolivia: Blue-throated macaw

Conservation need

The Beni Savanna was classed as a critical/endangered ecoregion by WWF in their Global 200 list. Yet it is almost entirely ranched and much of its grassland habitat is burnt every year for cattle. In the heart of the Beni, Barba Azul reserve is an oasis for wildlife. The seasonally inundated savanna and palm forested islands of Barba Azul provide a safe haven for the Critically Endangered blue-throated macaw (global population fewer than 300), as well as jaguars, pumas, maned wolves, ocelots, giant anteaters, black howler monkeys, and 311 species of birds.

What we're doing

ICFC supported land acquisition for Barba Azul reserve in 2013 and has since helped support the reserve's management: financing a tractor for firebreak creation and a new dining facility for researchers and a budding eco-tourism enterprise that will help support the reserve.

2017 Highlights

A record count of 155 blue-throated macaws was made in September at the main roost in the



Photo: Darío Podestá

reserve. On-the-ground efforts included the expansion of the reserve's firebreaks to protect macaw foraging areas, reforestation of the palm species favored by the macaws, experimental fencing using live trees as posts to protect island habitats from cattle, and site preparation for the new dining facility.

Timeframe: 2010-2011 & 2014 onwards

Cumulative funding to date: \$205,096

Size of area: 11,000 hectares

Field partner: Asociación Armonía

Mali Elephant Project

A joint project of ICFC and WILD Foundation

Conservation need

Mali's elephant population faces threats from poaching and habitat loss in one of the most insecure and dangerous places in the world. Economic hardship and lack of trust in the state to deliver protection and justice are core drivers of extremism, threatening elephants and people.

Not a single elephant has been poached over the past year

What we're doing

We have introduced a new approach that places responsibility for collective resource management in the community. We bring together communities led by elders and clan leaders to enact rules, that have the force of law, for management of natural resources in a way that respects elephants and empowers and benefits the community. Patrols of young men (*Brigades de Surveillance*) work alongside government foresters to enforce rules, guard elephant habitat, create firebreaks and deter poaching. Of the hundreds of youth who joined our brigades, none joined the jihadists.

Fostering sustainable economic alternatives: an example

A trial that involved replacing large herds of sheep with a small number fed with fodder gathered from sustainable harvest zones raised the average price per animal by 51% and brought a 465% increase in household cash for 71% of 64 participants.

2017 Highlights

Chengeta Wildlife, whom we selected to train Mali's Anti-Poaching Unit (APU), has performed admirably. Their intelligence-driven approach combines investigative and tracking skills and the nurturing of sympathetic sources in local communities. In the 14 months since the APU began operation in January 2017, *not a single case* of elephant poaching was observed, compared to 51 during the preceding year. The APU and the project itself provides security benefits for people in this highly insecure zone. The project has yielded demonstrably better economic benefits through better resource management.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2010

Cumulative spending to date: \$2,428,973

Size of area: 33,534 km² (size of Belgium)



The Mali Elephant Project was awarded the prestigious Equator Prize by the United Nations Development Programme in 2017. From left, UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner, Aoua Cherif Doumbia and MEP field coordinator Nomba Ganame.



To cope with widely dispersed and variable water and food resources, Mali's "desert elephants" have evolved a unique nomadic strategy that includes a migration spanning over 3 million hectares. Photos, *above and bottom*: Carlton Ward



Anti-poaching patrols are performed on foot and by vehicle. Photo: Nigel Kuhn



Indonesia: Sulawesi's imperiled wildlife

Conservation need

Sulawesi is a renowned global biodiversity hotspot with many species found nowhere else. One of Sulawesi's iconic creatures is the maleo, an endangered megapode. Rampant harvesting of its eggs for sale as luxury items has decimated maleos. Sea turtle egg harvesting is also a problem. Several rare mammals such as fruit bats, tarsiers, anoa, and babirusa are under hunting pressure for the bushmeat trade.

What we're doing

We are securing communal breeding grounds for the maleo and for three threatened species of sea turtles (green, hawksbill, and olive Ridley). We are also protecting key roosting sites for thousands of fruit bats and have launched an outreach program for the anoa and babirusa and for their forest habitat in three regions of Sulawesi where these rare mammals occur.

We have the world's only increasing population of maleos.

Our approach combines direct action to deter poaching with community education and collaboration with government authorities.

Rural residents of Sulawesi are becoming aware of the need to protect the anoa and its forest habitat through our work. Photo: AITo



2017 Highlights

As maleo numbers continue to increase at our main nesting ground, our partner AITo initiated a new field trip program that brings schoolchildren to glimpse (from behind blinds) these remarkable birds first hand. Our outreach program for forests, anoa and babirusa was extremely well received by schoolchildren and adults in dozens of villages across Sulawesi. There are powerful indications of a change in attitudes towards hunting these rare species.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2010

Cumulative funding to date: \$852,616

Size of area: 250,000 hectares (2,500 km²)

Field partner: Alliance for Tompotika Conservation (AITo)



The maleo buries its single egg a meter deep in the sand and relies on solar or geothermal heat for its incubation. After hatching, chicks emerge and fend for themselves. Photos: Kevin Schafer



NEW – Nepal: Protecting red pandas

Conservation need

The red panda was classified as Endangered by the IUCN because its population is estimated at less than 10,000 adults and continues to decline. The Kangchenjunga Singhalila Complex in eastern Nepal provides connectivity between protected areas in India and Nepal, supports approximately 25% of Nepal's red panda population, and is a biodiversity hotspot of global significance. The species is suffering from habitat loss and fragmentation, inbreeding and poaching to satisfy Chinese market for wild meat, medicine and skins.

What we're doing

We're working to conserve red panda populations and their forest habitat by restoring degraded watersheds and promoting red panda stewardship among communities in eastern Nepal. We are also working to establish alternative income generating activities to take the pressure off the panda's forest habitat.

2017 Highlights

Hundreds of local people were reached in education and training in forest monitoring, anti-poaching investigation, forest fire management, water source restoration, and nursery management. Habitat is being restored by establishing nurseries and preventing forest fires.



Four degraded ponds and two drinking water sources were restored. Families were trained and equipped to produce bio briquettes— a micro-enterprise that decreases the need to harvest fuelwood from local forests. Other families were assisted in registering as homestay locations that provide lodging for ecotourists, and some individuals were trained as nature guides.

Timeframe: Began 2017

Cumulative funding to date: \$38,437

Size of area: 174,035 hectares

Field partner: Red Panda Network in Nepal



Above: the red panda is native to the eastern Himalayas and southwestern China. Photo: Michael Owyang

Left: Forest guards engage in red panda monitoring and anti-poaching patrolling to reduce threats to red panda and other wildlife. Photo: Red Panda Network

Argentina: Preventing extinction of the hooded grebe

Conservation need

Discovered by accident in 1974 by the famed Argentine ornithologist Maurice Rumboll, the hooded grebe nests on lakes and lagoons of Patagonia's windswept plateaus. Declared Critically Endangered in 2011, the global population hovers around 700 individuals. Its population decline in recent decades is attributed to the introduction of mink and trout in its breeding range and increased predation by kelp gulls, a native species whose population has increased for anthropogenic reasons.

We have halted the decline of this highly endangered species.

What we're doing

Guardians are assigned to each breeding colony to reduce predation by American mink and kelp gulls. Mink trapping has been highly effective. Winter surveys are conducted in the three primary Atlantic estuaries and threats to grebes identified and addressed. A multi-faceted awareness program has brought the hooded grebe and its conservation needs to widespread public notice.



2017 Highlights

In the 2017 breeding season, 764 adults and 100 juveniles were recorded at 15 colonies on Buenos Aires and Strobel plateaus. Results since 2009 indicate that the population has stabilized. We hope in future to restore the grebe's breeding range to more of its former sites in Patagonia. Bad weather hindered winter surveys, which yielded a total count of 415 birds.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2012

Cumulative funding to date: \$369,557

Field partner: Asociación Ambiente Sur

**The hooded grebe nests colonially on lakes in Patagonia's high plateaus.
Photos: Hernan Povedano**



Bangladesh, Myanmar, China: Spoon-billed sandpiper

Conservation need

The spoon-billed sandpiper is the most endangered shorebird in the world, with fewer than 230 pairs estimated in 2016. “Spoonies” breed in Russia and fly 8,000 kilometers to their primary winter grounds in Bangladesh, Myanmar and south China. Protecting the species and other declining shorebirds from hunting is critical, as is working to secure coastal reserves along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

What we're doing

At major wintering areas in Bangladesh, Myanmar and newly discovered sites in south China, we are: employing local guards, building temporary camps and removing illegal mist nets to protect birds from hunting; developing livelihoods in farming and fishing as an alternative to hunting; and establishing no-hunting bylaws among Village Conservation Groups with support from local governments.

2017 Highlights

In order to facilitate site-based protection, temporary camps were built at key foraging and roosting areas at Nan Thar Island, Myanmar and Sonadia Island, Bangladesh, where local guards were employed to protect shorebirds from illegal



Photo: Khalid Sharif

hunting. In 2017, ICFC expanded support to south China for two part-time officers who coordinate local volunteer teams to intercept illegal mist nets and monitor shorebirds at spoon-billed sandpiper sites in Leizhou, Guangdong, and engage in awareness raising. Illegal mist nests were spotted by the volunteer teams and were reported to the Forest Police and all nets were immediately removed.

Timeframe: Began late 2016

Cumulative funding to date: \$41,623

Field partners: Sayam Chowdhury; Bangladesh Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Project; Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association; Hong Kong Bird Watching Society



Painting: Szabolcs Kokav

Shorebird Initiative



Shorebirds and other waterbirds such as the Arctic tern are the ultimate avian globe-trotters. Of the 50 species of shorebirds that breed in Canada and the U.S., 41 migrate to overwinter in countries south of the United States. Two ICFC focal species, the red knot and Hudsonian godwit, make nonstop flights of up to 11,000 km. For “our” shorebirds to survive they must have sites to find adequate food and rest in 48 other countries and dependent territories, just in the Western Hemisphere. Yet there is degradation, loss and disturbance at stopover and wintering sites, causing population declines in many species.

ICFC and its southern country partners are protecting red knots and other shorebirds at two major Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve

Network (WHSRN) sites in southern Argentina, Hudsonian godwits at a WHSRN site in Chile, piping plover winter habitat in the Bahamas, and migrating buff-breasted sandpipers in Bolivia.

For “our” shorebirds to survive they must have sites to find adequate food and rest in 48 other countries and dependent territories.

With more support, we hope to protect additional species, such as the semipalmated sandpiper, as well as other major shorebird wintering sites in Tierra de Fuego and Chiloe Island, Chile.

In 2016 we expanded our shorebird work to the Eastern hemisphere, where the world’s most endangered shorebird, the spoon-billed sandpiper, makes an annual migration from Russia to southeast Asia. This is reported on the preceding page and see also the “featured field partner” profile of Sayam Chowdhury, who coordinates our spoonbill work.



Photo: Scott Hecker

Argentina: protecting Bahía de San Antonio red knots

Conservation need

The expansive Bahía de San Antonio is one of just a few major migratory stopovers for the red knot in Argentina, annually hosting up to 45% of the red knot population wintering at Tierra del Fuego. Although designated as a coastal marine protected area and an international level WHSRN site, shorebirds depending on this site are prone to increasing human disturbance and the threat of inappropriate development. These beaches and mudflats are especially important for the endangered *rufa* subspecies of red knot. The site also supports, plovers, dotterels, hundreds of pairs of nesting oystercatchers, seabirds and is a haul-out area for South American sea lions.

What we're doing

Working closely with the province of Rio Negro, we work to increase the capacity of rangers to protect shorebirds from the impact of beach recreation, particularly that from ATVs, kite-boarding, unleashed pets and feral dogs. We also work hand-in-hand with the municipality and province on overall reserve management and protection.

Rangers intercepted 97% of incidents of people disturbing shorebirds.



2017 Highlights

Our rangers were deputized by the Province with the power to enforce regulations. Rangers achieved a remarkable 97% interception of disturbance incidents to shorebirds in 2017, and 1,695 infractions were stopped in the past two years. The most important aspect of this success was the decrease of off-road vehicles from 127 to 6, particularly in light of increased vehicle use on other beaches. Our rangers gave talks to visitors and at schools, reaching more than 1,500 students and 5,000 members of the public.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2015

Cumulative funding to date: \$246,828

Size of area: 6,500 hectares

Field partner: Fundación Inalafquen



Top: The red knot has undergone a large population decline. Photo: Pablo Petracchi

Below: Rangers stand beside a sign for the Area Protegida de Bahía San Antonio. Photo: Scott Hecker

Argentina: Río Gallegos estuary

Conservation need

Two major rivers converge at Río Gallegos to form an estuary that supports tens of thousands of migratory and resident shorebirds. There are significant numbers of Hudsonian godwit, white-rumped sandpiper, Magellanic plover, Magellanic oystercatcher, and red knot. It is also the most important wintering site for the Critically Endangered hooded grebe. On-the-ground monitoring and regulatory enforcement are needed to address impacts from the growing human population of Río Gallegos.

What we're doing

Working with the municipality and the province of Santa Cruz, we are employing reserve guards to protect shorebirds within the provincial and municipal reserves from feral dogs, free-roaming horses, illegal fishing activity, illegal waste disposal, and encroaching coastal development.

2017 Highlights

Two years in the making, the Provincial Reserve Management Plan was finalized and delivered to authorities. Now with this agreement, it is possible to address those activities that are now regulated within the reserve. The presence of Conservation Agents in both reserves was significantly increased, better enabling the detection and control of illegal activities and impacts to shorebirds. Fishing nets represent one of the main threats, impacting both wintering hooded grebes and shorebirds, and this threat was significantly curtailed due to the presence of the rangers and cooperation of enforcement authorities.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2015

Cumulative funding to date: \$190,577

Size of area: 4,300 hectares

Field partner: Asociación Ambiente Sur



Rio Gallegos Estuary
Photo: Scott Hecker

Chile: Maullín coastal wetlands

Conservation need

The Maullín coastal wetlands attract thousands of Hudsonian godwits and whimbrels and equally impressive numbers of other of migratory and resident waterbirds. The wetlands, which range from freshwater to brackish to marine, are being impacted by advancing coastal development, unregulated recreational activities and livestock trampling.

What we're doing

We are doing the groundwork needed to create a 13,000-hectare, combined municipal and national protected area that includes five sites providing feeding and resting habitat for Neotropical migrant shorebirds and other resident species. This involves developing site-specific management plans with local communities, addressing threats, creating public awareness and fostering the growing birding tourism industry.

2017 Highlights

Seasonal monitoring of migratory shorebirds continued, and a collaboration agreement was reached with the municipality of Maullín to plan the expansion of the Reserve Network and its

Hudsonian godwits.

Photo: Claudio Delgado



buffer area to be designated as a national Natural Sanctuary. Two new large public blinds for bird observation were constructed and 100 students from 7 schools formed a Network for the Conservation of the Natural Heritage of Maullín.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2015

Cumulative funding to date: \$145,806

Size of area: 918 hectares

Field partner: Conservación Marina

We are grateful for matching funds for this project from the US Fish & Wildlife Service Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act program.



Photo: Claudia Delgado

Bahamas: Protection and restoration of habitat for piping plovers and other species

Conservation need

The 700 islands of the Bahamas archipelago provide wintering habitat for a majority of the Atlantic coast breeding population of piping plovers (and for 1/4 of the known global population). Many of these small islands and remote beaches provide nesting habitat for Wilson's plover, roseate tern, least tern, and other Caribbean species. Key threats are the colonization of open beach habitats by Australian (Casuarina) pine, and human disturbance at unprotected points and inlets.

What we're doing

This is the first effort in the Bahamas and the second year of support for Conservian to implement on-the-ground measures to limit human-caused disturbance and control invasive Australian pine at key sites for piping plover and other waterbirds. Our efforts are developing local capacity for coastal stewardship.

2017 Highlights

Field work in 2016 and 2017 focused on Grand Bahama Island, Great Abaco, the Atlantic Abaco Cays, the Berry Islands, and Joulter Cays. With volunteers and local partners including the Bahamas National Trust, we assessed threats and quality of nesting and wintering habitats and posted signs to protect known piping plover, shorebird, and seabird sites. Significant progress was made in eradicating Australian pine at key



locations, including four National Park sites. Twenty-five active breeding shorebird and seabird sites that support more than 600 wintering piping plovers were posted. These sites are known to support more than 40% percent of the Bahamas winter piping plover population.

Timeframe: Began in 2016

Cumulative funding to date: \$130,366

Size of area: 410 km of shoreline on 29 islands and cays

Field partner: Conservian Coastal Bird Conservation



Top: Piping plovers now number 8,100 adults worldwide.

Above: Controlling invasive Australian pine.

Left: Joulter Cays is a key wintering site for piping plovers, with up to 325 birds recorded.

Photos: Scott Hecker



Marine Conservation



The oceans are one vast public space. Laws and international treaties are meant to protect the seas, but these are inadequate and fisheries are commonly mismanaged. Marine ecosystems are suffering from the effects of climate change, over-fishing, sedimentation, pollution and coastal development. Marine conservation efforts thus have a large political component, and so in 2017 we helped a Canadian marine scientist travel to India to provide crucial input into India's fisheries management deliberations (see "Small projects"). There are also local actions that can be taken that make a difference. See below for an example that combines local action with savvy politics. Others, described elsewhere in this report, include community education (which we do in Costa Rica), and community-based sea turtle programs, which we undertake in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Indonesia.

Cambodia: Marine conservation

Conservation need:

Kep Bay, known for a wealth of marine biodiversity including coral reefs, seagrass beds and the iconic seahorse, was partially destroyed by illegal electric fishing and large, destructive bottom-trawlers. Many of the offending boats are from outside the local area and from Vietnam. Not only are these practices destroying the marine ecosystem, but small-scale family fishing has been jeopardized.

What we're doing

Our partner Marine Conservation Cambodia (MCC) has been working with both the national and provincial governments to establish marine protected areas in the bay and collaborate on enforcement. This is dangerous work. Nightly patrols chase down illegal fishing boats to make arrests and seize fishing gear. From the safety of our North American breakfast tables, we receive regular updates on this often harrowing and always exhausting work and are grateful to be able to support such courageous field partners.

2017 Highlights

Breaking news: MCC's ambitious vision has paid off! On April 12, 2018, after 4 years of hard work, the 11,354-hectare Kep Marine Fisheries Management Area was nationally proclaimed by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Agriculture. Of course, this proclamation is just the beginning.



At dusk, MCC patrol pursues illegal electrified trawling fleet in Kep Marine Reserve. Photo: MCC

MCC will continue to work closely with the fisheries administration to build the management plan and will deploy anti-trawling structures to delineate the five zones of the protected area and keep illegal fishing boats out.

Timeframe: Began in 2016

Cumulative funding to date: \$151,127

Field Partner: Marine Conservation Cambodia



Concrete anti-trawling devices are cheap to make, effective in deterring destructive bottom trawling, and provide a substrate for marine life.

Smaller Projects: a few thousand to 20,000 dollars a year can accomplish a lot!

Argentina: Reserva Rincón Santa María

This 2500-hectare reserve in the Mesopotamian Savanna ecoregion is important for native and migratory birds, including species breeding in Canada. In 2017, 3,312 seedlings of 34 native tree species were planted and control of invasive pines was carried out. Survival of seedlings planted in 2015 is good, at 50%. The return of a common nighthawk banded in an earlier year was documented!

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2015 *Cumulative funding:* \$36,978

Field partner: Nestor Fariña leads a team of naturalists and volunteers



Argentina: Selva de Pino Paraná

About 90% of the Atlantic Forest has been cleared or degraded. There, twenty species of globally threatened birds live alongside small-holder farmers in San Pedro province, Argentina. This project engages farmers and local youth to restore bird habitat and protect tree species needed by specialist cavity-nesting birds.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2013 *Cumulative funding:* \$34,783

Field partner: Proyecto Selva de Pino Paraná



Costa Rica: Parataxonomists at Area de Conservación Guanacaste

(This is included on these pages because we are growing our Parataxonomist Trust Fund and not yet making disbursements.)

Area de Conservación Guanacaste (ACG) is considered a world model for restoration and management of a large protected area. ICFC is growing its trust fund that will endow positions for Parataxonomists, who are hired from the local community to protect the park and conduct scientific research.

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2011 *Cumulative funding:* \$2,253,692

Field partner: Guanacaste Dry Forest Conservation Fund



Costa Rica: ACG Marine conservation education

ICFC supports an after-school program in a fishing village bordering ACG. Knowledge from this largely field-based program permeates from the children to their parents and community and we are seeing a steady decline in human impact on ACG's marine sector. In 2017 we had children go beyond identifying sea creatures to engage in biomonitoring. See more on our Featured Field Partners pages!

Timeframe: Ongoing since 2012 *Cumulative funding:* \$76,902

Field partner: Guanacaste Forest Dry Conservation Fund



Photos, *top to bottom:* Nestor Damián Fariña; Proyecto Pino Parana Sharon Blanco (student), Maria Marta Chavarria
Photos, *opposite page (top to bottom):* Amanda Vincent/Project Seahorse, Amber Bolton, Candra Schank, Miguel Siu
(image of *Pristimantis cruentus*, one of the rare species found at Cerro Chucanti), International Crane Foundation

NEW – India: Countering India’s “annihilation fisheries”

Indiscriminate bottom trawling threatens fisheries, biodiversity and food security in India. ICFC enabled Dr. Amanda Vincent and Tanvi Vaidyanathan to meet with policy-makers to recommend solutions for implementing India’s National Policy on Marine Fisheries.

Timeframe: July-Oct. 2017 *Cumulative funding:* \$14,733

Field partner: Project Seahorse



Madagascar: Conservation through education

In 2017, we resumed efforts to encourage conservation of lemurs and their habitats. This involved town hall meetings, education, producing a Red Book of student stories, poems and drawings, and assessing attitudes toward forests and lemurs and addressing misinformation.

Timeframe: 2012 and 2017 *Cumulative funding:* \$4,535

Field partner: Amber Bolton



Nicaragua: Conservation of sea turtles

In 2017, the turtle hatchery run by the remote community of El Rosario hatched 10,585 turtle hatchlings (an 86% hatching rate) and returned them to the sea. Local school children created signage to discourage littering and illegal harvesting of wildlife.

Timeframe: Began in 2016 *Cumulative funding:* \$26,287

Field partner: Mario Hipólito López Calderón & Ana Cristina López Lara



Panama: Cerro Chucanti

In 2017, ICFC secured a Canada Fund for Local Initiatives grant from the Embassy of Canada to Panamá to develop a conservation role for the Wounaan indigenous people in the areas adjacent to ICFC’s 2016 land acquisition at Cerri Chucanti.

Timeframe: 2016-2018 *Cumulative funding:* \$163,667

Field partner: Asociación Adopta el Bosque Panamá



Vietnam & Cambodia: Sarus crane and Mekong Delta wetlands

We are protecting two important wetlands by engaging local communities who rely on a wetland grass to market high quality handicrafts. 2017 results included a new management plan, invasive species control, and tourism management.

Timeframe: began in 2016 *Cumulative funding:* \$16,240

Field partner: International Crane Foundation



Featured field partners: Three *extraordinary* people



María Marta Chavarría Díaz – Most of us have had the good fortune of having a teacher whose passion for their subject and depth of knowledge inspired us. The children of the small fishing village of Cuajiniquil are lucky to have that in María Marta Chavarría. Cuajiniquil lies close to the Área de Conservación Guanacaste (ACG), where María Marta works as the assistant director for biodiversity. An insect and plant taxonomist, María’s knowledge spans the natural sciences. In her spare time, she runs the *biosensibilización marina* after-school program in which children learn about the marine ecosystem in a hands-on way. From *La Casita*, a small building steps away from the sea, children collect marine specimens to study before returning them to the sea. María leads them on snorkeling expeditions, camping

expeditions and even, occasionally, a whale watching one. María is loved by her students. Someone we know drove into Cuajiniquil in a white car similar to María’s and experienced children running out of their houses and shouting “María!”. And she has fostered a love of learning about the natural world. Children in the program organized their own birding group – *Los Trogones*. Some have become skilled photographers. Parents in the village hear from their children, bubbling with enthusiasm, about what they have learned and they ask María, what about *us adults*? She is *working* on it! Field

trips for people of all ages in the broader area bordering ACG are being considered. Significantly, the growth in understanding of the marine ecosystem in the community of Cuajiniquil has been accompanied by amelioration of the problems of overfishing and illegal fishing in ACG’s marine sector. Bravo, María!

“I wanted to know why my kids prefer being with you to TV”

-- Mother of one the children in the after-school program run by María Marta, after Maria took her and other mothers up a remote high hill called Cerro Ingles on ACG’s Santa Elena Peninsula.

“To make a real difference when trying to save a species you need people with ideas as well as those with passion and commitment. Sayam has all of these in abundance.”

-- Dr. Nigel Clark, Scientific adviser to the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force

Sayam U. Chowdhury – When it comes to learning more about the Critically Endangered spoon-billed sandpiper, Sayam Chowdhury would be the first to leap from the boat and knowingly land in knee-deep mud. From the minute we contacted Sayam to inquire about how ICFC might help protect this diminutive yet iconic shorebird, we were infected with his enthusiasm to rescue this species from the brink of extinction. Sayam is Assistant Coordinator of the International Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force, and has toiled in behavioral ecology, research and conservation of globally threatened species in Bangladesh and beyond for the last 12 years. Other species he has worked to protect include the masked finfoot and Baer’s pochard.

Most rewarding, he says, has been his work with the “spoonie”, which has blossomed into a year-round occupation

for him. Before the ice and snow has fully receded from the remote northeast shore of Russia, Sayam was there to assist the “head start” incubation program, where the first clutches of eggs are collected and incubated to hatching. The chicks are then quickly transitioned to life in the wild. Happily, many of these released spoonies have returned to breed in subsequent years. Sayam and other colleagues rush to greet them again on their next major stop in China’s Yellow Sea, where a few spoonies may be fitted with the world’s smallest satellite transmitters. For most of the non-breeding season Sayam is based in his home country of Bangladesh where his efforts focus on the key problem of illegal hunting. His work with local village conservation groups to develop alternative livelihoods has helped to all but eliminate hunting at key shorebird sites in Bangladesh and Myanmar. So successful has he been that Birdlife International has declared him and his field partners with BSCP and BANCA the Birdlife Species Guardians for spoon-billed sandpiper.



Barbara Zimmerman – Okay, Barbara is on ICFC’s staff, but she is also a bona fide boots-on-the-ground conservation hero. A tropical ecologist, Barb did field research for her Master’s and PhD degrees on amphibian and reptile communities in the Brazilian Amazon. In becoming acquainted with the Kayapo Indigenous people, she saw a great opportunity. She realized that the Kayapo’s determination to protect their land – the largest tract of tropical forest under some form of protection in the world – was key to the survival of this biodiverse ecosystem. She saw that because of increasing pressures of deforestation and colonization, they would need outside help, and she was instrumental in developing the needed

institutional and financial support. Barbara was hired by Conservation International to establish and lead the Kayapo conservation project. One of her first steps was to establish a biological research station in collaboration with the Kayapo community of A’Ukre. Crucially, the respect she earned with the Kayapo enabled Barb to lead the creation and development of three

Kayapo NGOs, which work with international partners. In 2009 Barb joined ICFC and she continues to lead the Kayapo project, spending months of the year in the Amazon. For Barb, who sometimes says she is “married to the Kayapo”, the cultural survival of

“The Kayapo conservation success story is a result of Barb’s vision, courage and doggedness.”

– Anne Lambert, colleague

the Kayapo, who live in remote villages and retain their traditional skills, has been as important as the biodiversity benefits. She has dedicated her life to this one place and people, and the world is the better for it.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Complete audited financial statements are available on our website.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	2017	2016
REVENUE	3,301,905	2,474,751
EXPENSES (see breakdown opposite page)	3,283,867	2,349,272
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	18,038	125,479
Fund Balances, beginning	4,473,872	4,348,393
Fund balances, ending	4,491,911	4,473,872

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	195,764	12,145
Designated donations	42,972	101,353
Investments (securities)	150,095	337,263
Project advances	241,241	343,774
Accounts receivable	878	1,105
Prepaid expenses	—	(81)
Loans receivable	158,067	73,838
	<u>789,017</u>	<u>869,397</u>
Capital Assets		
Interest in land ⁱ	93,152	93,152
Office equipment, net	5,257	4,910
	<u>98,409</u>	<u>98,062</u>
Restricted Assets		
Los Amigos Cons. Conc. Trust Fund	1,538,020	1,487,078
Parataxonomist Trust Fund	2,228,426	2,039,296
	<u>3,766,446</u>	<u>3,526,374</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	4,653,872	4,493,833
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	161,961	19,962
	<u>161,961</u>	<u>19,962</u>
Fund balances		
Unrestricted	682,493	846,144
Internally restricted	42,972	101,353
Restricted	3,766,446	3,526,374
	<u>4,491,911</u>	<u>4,473,871</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	4,653,872	4,493,833

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES	2017	2016
Argentina: hooded grebe	125,306	76,566
Argentina: Rincon Santa Maria	6,489	14,273
Argentina: Shorebirds, Rio Gallegos	74,757	87,781
Argentina: Shorebirds, San Antonio	78,625	104,281
Argentina: Selva de Pino Paraná	9,464	5,268
Bahamas: Piping plover	81,207	49,159
Bangladesh & Myanmar: Spoon-billed sandpiper	41,366	257
Bolivia: Blue-throated macaw	74,144	20,251
Brazil: Kayapó	932,568	595,507
Cambodia: Marine conservation	100,894	50,233
Chile: Maullin coastal wetlands	44,655	101,107
Costa Rica: ACG marine education	14,034	19,100
Costa Rica: ACG Parataxonomists	12,152	10,267
Costa Rica: Osa Peninsula	93,571	—
Ecuador: Fundación Jocotoco reserves	16,797	29,423
Ecuador: Rio Canande reserve land purchase	55,719	—
Guatemala: San Isidro (Yal Unin Yul Witz)	—	128
India: Annihilation fisheries	14,733	—
Indonesia: Sulawesi threatened species	211,615	137,063
Kenya: Kijabe forest	21,534	—
Kenya: Laikipia Nature Conservancy	69,113	—
Reserve fund for land securement	—	160
Madagascar: Conservation education	3,000	—
Mali Elephant Project	287,217	340,645
Nepal: Red panda	38,437	—
Nicaragua: sea turtles	15,005	11,282
Panama: land acquisition for Cerro Chucanti	71,917	91,750
Peru: Andean Amazon	185,280	68,995
Peru: Los Amigos Conservation Concession	79,977	67,694
Vietnam & Cambodia: Sarus crane	8,912	7,328
Shorebird Program Coordinator	77,081	52,682
Western Hemispheric Shorebird Group	2,574	—
Rainforest Trust programs	81,760	—
TOTAL Program Expenses	2,929,903	1,941,200
Administration and Fundraising ⁱⁱ	353,964	408,072
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,283,867	2,349,272

ⁱ Represents conservation easements in Guatemala and mortgages in Ecuador & Bolivia with conservation covenants.

ⁱⁱ 100% of Administration and Fundraising were covered by ICFC's core group of committed long-term donors.

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Tom Welch



ICFC staff, Board and friends, *left to right*: Scott Hecker, David Agro, Tom Welch, Rob Stoner, Laurie Havinga, Roy Smith, Molly Bartlett, Carlos R. Garcia, Anne Lambert, John McWilliams, Carmen Lishman, Sarah Jackson. Absent were: Board member Claude Gascon and staff member Barbara Zimmerman.

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Or bought a gorgeous piece of tropical forest. One new donor supported an entire project in 2017. You also help by telling people about us. And your input and encouragement are always welcome.

Want to make something big happen? Get in touch with us! We'd be happy to discuss how we can apply your support.

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What makes ICFC distinct?

Our programs are varied, but all exemplify our distinct *modus operandi*:

- We engage in direct conservation action to protect ecosystems, species and wilderness, basing our work on existing science.
- Because a core group of donors covers administrative costs long term, 100% of your donation is applied to programs.
- We partner with capable in-country conservation organizations, who best understand both the sociopolitical and biological environment.
- We work to identify opportunities that represent conservation priorities, with good value in relation to cost and risk.
- We involve local communities in conservation efforts, building local support for conservation.



Above: Red howler monkey, Photo: Glenn Bartley

Top right: Keel-billed toucan, Photo: Christian Sanchez

Back cover photo credit: Glenn Bartley

Inside back cover: Simone Giovine

Program area header photos, pages 5, 13, 20, 25: Christian Sanchez, Abel Batista, Scott Hecker, Paul Ferber



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