



Dear supporters and friends,

Here is a near-year-end update along with our hearty thanks.

News briefs

Earth Rangers is working with ICFC to feature one of our projects and the red knot (profiled on page 2). Earth Rangers is Canada’s “kids’ conservation organization”, educating children and their families about biodiversity and how to adopt sustainable behaviours, and empowering them to become involved in protecting animals and their habitats. With our assistance Earth Rangers is developing a campaign and education materials about the red knot and our project to protect this declining shorebird species at an important migration stopover site in Argentina.

The 22-member **Green Budget Coalition**, which ICFC joined late in 2018, has just released its recommendations for the 2020 federal budget on environmental and conservation issues. ICFC was involved in recommendations related to migratory birds and we took the lead on international climate finance recommendations. Canada and other industrialized countries committed in the Paris Agreement to mobilizing US\$100 billion annually to help developing countries mitigate and adapt to climate change. We recommend an increased financial commitment from Canada and that at least half be applied to nature-based solutions including forest conservation. These provide highly cost-effective emissions benefits (some less than a dollar a tonne of CO₂e) while protecting biodiversity and ecological processes needed for human wellbeing.

Progress is being made in our ambitious plan, led by field partner Fundación Jocotoco, to secure a significant portion of the **Ecuadorian Chocó**.

News coverage of the “burning Amazon” in August brought a **surge in support for conserving the Brazilian Amazon**, bringing ICFC and other conservation organizations thousands of new supporters. ICFC’s Kayapo Project was selected by Earth Alliance to receive support from its newly created Amazon Forest Fund. Earth Alliance was founded by Leonardo DiCaprio (whose own foundation has also supported the Kayapo project through ICFC), Laurene Jobs and Brian Sheth. This support is helping us meet the need for additional guard posts (manned by Kayapo) to protect Kayapo lands – so crucial to holding the line in the southeastern Amazon.

Our **Mali Elephant Project** received an **A+ rating** from the Darwin Initiative (a UK government granting organization) after a detailed review of its performance from April 2016 through March 2019. The review found that targets were exceeded in fostering locally adapted sustainable resource management that protects habitats, elephants and biodiversity and enhances local livelihoods. It further concluded that it was “clear from studying the challenges faced [over the three-year period] ... that the project was very well managed”. Kudos to project director Susan Canney and to Field Coordinator Nomba Ganame!

Our new U.S. based sister organization, the International Conservation Fund, is up and running, and now enables our American friends to make tax-deductible donations in support of our programs.



This young white rhinoceros is among the 93% of the world’s remaining white rhinos that are protected in South Africa.

New projects

Thanks to support from the Elliott Family Foundation, ICFC is partnering with the organization **Stop Rhino Poaching** in South Africa to provide high-risk rhino reserves with strategic and technical advice, enabling them to establish and refine their core anti-poaching and law enforcement capabilities.

Lake Malawi is the world's ninth largest freshwater lake and a biodiversity hotspot with more species of fish – 1000 species, mostly endemic – than any other lake in the world. Following a model that succeeded in neighbouring districts, ICFC is working with Ripple Africa to empower communities to protect Lake Malawi's endangered and economically important fish through Fish Conservation Committees.

To avert the extinction of endangered endemic bird species on three Pacific Islands in **French Polynesia and Fiji**, ICFC is partnering with Birdlife International Pacific and the Société d'Ornithologie de Polynésie to remove invasive species. Big thanks to T-Gear Foundation for funding this project.



Unintended consequences: Donated mosquito nets have been co-opted as fishing nets in Lake Malawi, making fishing highly unsustainable. We are helping to end the practice and make fisheries productive while securing a future for threatened freshwater species.

Remembering Paul Prevett

Biologist Paul Prevett was one of those whose solid foundation of knowledge of the natural world is vital to improving our often-fraught relationship with nature. Paul, who died earlier this year, has for years been one of ICFC’s strongest supporters, along with his wife, artist Candy McManiman. Paul was an engaged donor. He was particularly interested in nailing down protection for tropical ecosystems through land acquisition, and about that and other things he asked excellent, challenging questions.

A keen birder, naturalist and conservationist, Paul was admired and liked by colleagues. Paul did his PhD research on family and other social groups in the Lesser Snow Goose. His career with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources began as District Biologist and Waterfowl Specialist from 1974 to 1982 in Moosonee. He was then Regional Ecologist in the Southwestern Region of OMNR, based in London, and later Ecologist in the Science and Technology Transfer Unit. Paul received the Carolinian Canada Conservation Award in 1999 and was recognized by his peers for his outstanding contribution to the securement and management of natural habitat in the Carolinian zone.

We are honoured that Paul and Candy chose to include ICFC in their estate planning. Paul: we will never cease working to earn your trust.

“Paul was extremely effective in bridging disparate views on the long-term management of Backus Woods, the best remaining old-growth deciduous forest in Canada. Due to his leadership of the Backus Woods Advisory Committee over many years, Backus Woods was never again logged and is now managed as a permanent nature reserve.”

-- Michael Bradstreet, Nature Conservancy of Canada



Paul with a king penguin on Macquarie Island

Red Knots in the news! On April 9, 2019 Patricia González (ICFC’s shorebird coordinator) reported that she resighted a red knot in San Antonio Bay that she had banded 21 years before in the same area. This bird was almost as old as another red knot (B95) known as the ‘Moon Bird’ because, living at least 22 years, it had flown in migration the distance to the moon and part-way back.



- Red Knot Fast Facts** (*Calidris canutus rufa*)
- Listed as Endangered/Threatened in Canada and US
 - Nests around the Arctic Circle in Canada
 - Individuals migrate up 30,000 km in one year
 - Winters as far south as Tierra del Fuego
 - Capable of flying 8,000 km non-stop
 - Must double its weight to make long distance flights
 - Faithful to a limited number of staging areas to build fat reserves, such as Delaware Bay in the U.S. and Bahía de San Antonio, Argentina (where ICFC works to protect shorebirds)

Onward!

As year-end approaches, we reflect on the solid progress we’ve made this year and look forward to building on this in 2020!

We do need your support! Please consider making an end-of-year gift to ICFC online or by postal mail.

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