



FOC has been actively involved in community conservation for many years. Our operations include:

- Wildlife and habitat monitoring
- Human / wildlife conflict management
- Anti-poaching campaigns
- Environmental programmes providing education, health and other benefits to local communities
- Fuel efficiency and reforestation
- Carbon-reduction projects
- Promoting sustainable tourism

Today, more than ever, there are many challenges to be overcome and we are extremely grateful for the tremendous support we receive from all our Individual Members and Supporters, our Travel & Tourism partners as well as Trusts and Foundations. Your help is vital to our success and that of the project teams that we work with.

2010 has been designated the 'International Year of Biodiversity'. With your support, we look forward to continuing our mission to work with communities to encourage the sustainable use of natural resources; helping to protect endangered wildlife and their habitats.

For more information about any of our projects, please contact us by email at focinfo@aol.com or call 020 7603 5024. And if you'd like to make a donation, please visit <http://www.foc-uk.com> or send a cheque to Friends of Conservation, Kensington Charity Centre, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH.

Look out for more project news and event updates in our next edition of 'Conservation Review'.

About FOC's Board of Trustees & Offices:

FOC's Patron is HRH The Prince of Wales. Jorie Butler Kent is FOC's Founder and International Chairman. The UK Board of Trustees comprises Geoffrey Kent - Chair; Primrose Stobbs- Deputy Chair, Timothy Holderness-Roddam and Cissy Walker. In addition, FOC benefits from access to a number of Environmental & Scientific Specialists. FOC has offices in London, Chicago and Nairobi.

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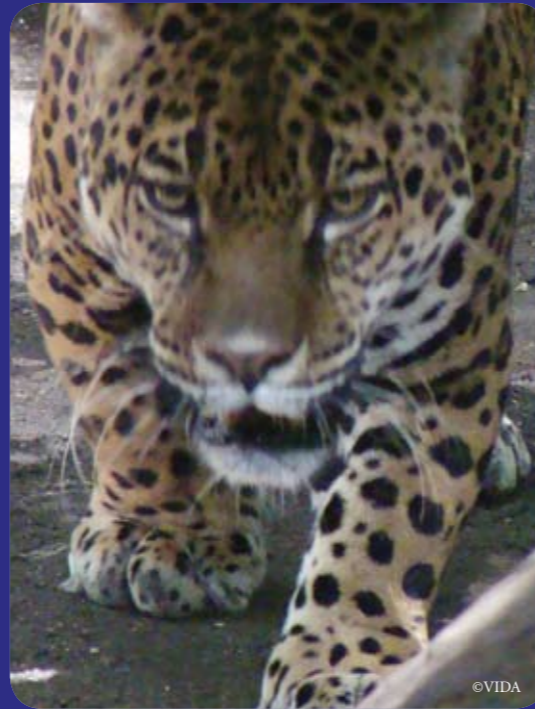
This Project Update was especially designed and produced by A&K and FOC are very grateful for all their support. It's printed on '9 Lives Offset', manufactured from FSC certified 100% recycled fibre



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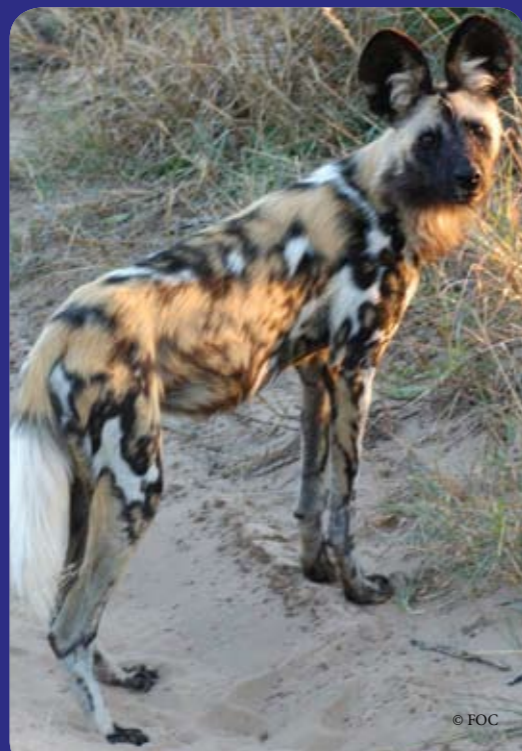
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FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION

HAS HAD A PRESENCE IN KENYA'S RENOWNED MASAI MARA REGION FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS; WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES TO PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES AND THREATENED HABITATS. WE ALSO SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS WITH SIMILAR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES - HERE'S AN OVERVIEW OF SOME CURRENT PROJECTS:



Friends of Conservation
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4th Floor, Charles House,
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Costa Rica Organisation: VIDA

Five thousand feet above sea level, the Monteverde Cloud Forest is an area of lush vegetation containing an amazing variety of flora and fauna. Our NGO partners VIDA, run community based conservation programmes in Santa Elena Reserve, one of the first community managed reserves in Costa Rica. Monies received from visitors are reinvested in the Reserve or the local high school, funding courses such as biology, environmental studies, eco-tourism and agriculture.

Funding support through FOC helps with ongoing activities, many of which are carried out by volunteers and include forestry management and the construction and maintenance of visitors' amenities. As part of a commitment to conserve wildlife habitat, VIDA hopes to acquire additional land around the Reserve to protect endangered species, such as the Resplendent Quetzal bird, American Puma, Tapir and Jaguar.

Photo: © VIDA



Peru Organisation: Tambopata Reserve Society (TRReS)

With over 590 species of birds and 1230 species of butterfly found in one 55km area, the Tambopata National Reserve has amazing biodiversity. The area is however vulnerable to many threats including illegal logging and unsustainable farming practices. TRReS work to prevent further rainforest destruction through the support of land rights, environmental education and encouraging sustainable income from community-based tourism and agro-forestry.

In Baltimore on the Tambopata river, for example, several families are setting up their own tourism infrastructure; constructing attractive guesthouses made of local materials where visitors can stay overnight. Each family maintains an outdoor 'green house' to propagate seedlings, enabling a wide variety of fruit trees to be grown. Integrated planting improves the diversity and the quality of the land and provides additional income through sales to nearby lodges.

Photo: © J. Forrest, TRReS



Kenya Organisation: FOC Kenya

FOC supports communities living on the borders of the Masai Mara National Reserve (MMNR) – an area of outstanding natural beauty, and one of the most important areas on the planet in terms of biodiversity and ecology.

We have set up Conservation Clubs in 50 local schools which help raise environmental awareness. Several students have gone on to become Community Scouts. Scouts record wildlife sightings, looking out for signs of illegal activity, such as poaching and unauthorised logging. Recently a Scout on patrol located a large stockpile of sandalwood which had been harvested illegally and alerted the appropriate authorities.

And as part of our on-going strategy to find alternatives to fossil fuels, FOC is setting up biogas units, to lessen the dependency on wood; helping to prevent deforestation and reduce levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide.

Photo: © FOC



Namibia Organisation: The Cheetah Conservation Fund

The Cheetah is arguably, one of the most charismatic cats. With an estimated population of around 12,000, it is also one of the most endangered. FOC supports the Cheetah Conservation Fund's (CCF) ongoing efforts to prevent the cheetah from extinction. CCF's initiatives include providing guarding dogs, education programmes on livestock management, and conducting pioneering genetic research.

The five cheetahs released into the NamibRand Nature Reserve are doing well and a litter of cubs has been spotted recently. And another four black rhino have come to CCF HQ, making a total of six. Indications are that the new arrivals are settling in well and although it's not yet confirmed, it looks as if a couple of females in the group may be pregnant.

You can find out more about the Cheetah Conservation Fund, at: www.cheetah.org

Photo: © Rob Thomson/CCF



South Africa Organisation: TICOS (Tourism Carbon Offsetting Service)

This renewable energy project, managed by TICOS' local partners, aims to provide subsidised solar and fuel-efficient stoves to rural communities living at Acornhoek, located on the boundary of Kruger National Park – renowned for its wildlife.

Using solar power allows families to move away from cooking on open fires, and avoids issues which can arise when communities enter the Park in their search for wood – for example, the risk of human-animal conflict and encounters with officials. Cooking on smokeless stoves reduces the need for kerosene or paraffin – which are known to contribute greatly to lung and eye disease. In addition, reducing demand on forest lowers CO2 emissions; protects species and habitats and helps reduce other environmental impacts, including soil erosion and the associated silting of rivers.

Photo: © TICOS



Tanzania Organisation: The Selous Rhino Trust

Designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Selous Game Reserve (SGR) in Tanzania is the largest protected area in Africa and is home to what are thought to be some of the largest populations of elephant, buffalo, crocodile and wild dog.

FOC supports the Selous Rhino Trust in their efforts to conserve the highly endangered black rhino population – which had been virtually wiped out by poaching. The project is run jointly by the SRT and the Tanzania Wildlife Division (TWD). TWD rangers conduct regular foot patrols, monitoring any signs of rhino, such as dung and footprints. They record and follow up on signs of illegal activities such as poaching camps, tracks and snares. Aerial surveillance deters poachers and is invaluable in helping the team photograph and identify individual rhino without disturbance.

Photo: © Fraser and Kes Smith, Selous Rhino Trust



India Organisation: The Prakratik Society

The Prakratik Society supports communities living on the borders of Ranthambhore National Park, home of the endangered Bengal Tiger, by proving health, education and other programmes. Generous support from ICAP plc has provided medical staff and equipment and the local school, which places a strong emphasis on environmental awareness, already benefits from a new bus and computers and plans to build a Science Block. Alternative fuel (biogas) plants help to reduce the demand for firewood, lessens smoke inhalation and avoids forest destruction.

Through their support, the Society hopes that the community will be encouraged to recognise the value of tigers. For although the tiger population is recovering and a relocation programme is in place, the risk of poaching remains a constant threat.

Photo: © Prakratik Society



Thailand Organisation: The Elephant Conservation Network (ECN)

The aim of the Elephant Conservation Network (ECN), is to try to prevent instances of human-elephant conflict. Project Director, Belinda Stewart-Cox and her team have conducted surveys to assess the impacts resulting from the loss of elephant habitat, such as an increase in crop-raiding, which greatly affects the livelihood of local farmers. The team's suggestion that a wildlife 'migration corridor' could help resolve the issue was approved by the Thai Ministry of the Environment, with the result that elephants will be afforded greater protection and the community left undisturbed.

In partnership with the community, agencies and other NGOs, ECN are now working to improve forest protection and to set up conservation and tourism initiatives which demonstrate the benefits of creating other protected areas.

Photo: © ECN