

the leaf

No. 9

Newsletter of the
International Wilderness Leadership (WILD) Foundation

Annual Report
November 1995

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- 6th World Wilderness Congress—India!
- Wilderness Research Center
- International Journal of Wilderness
- New WILD books

New WILD Headquarters

While sitting at my desk last week I watched a bobcat slip by the office as it headed up the canyon..... the coyotes have been in full voice the past few nights.....we found fresh cougar tracks across the back of the property and saw bear sign everywhere.....the young red tailed hawks have fledged, but the few remaining bits of downy feathers make them look a bit foolish. . .

These recent extracts from my notes can only hint at the special quality of our new headquarters. In late 1994, the WILD Foundation moved to the beautiful Ojai (O'-hi) Valley in Southern California. In a pioneering, cooperative agreement, WILD is one of the three founding partners of the **International Center for Earth Concerns**, in collaboration with the Conservation Endowment Fund and The Humane Society of the United States. The new headquarters is located on 276 acres at the head of a rural canyon, covered in groves of California live oak, lovely meadows and a superb botanical garden of South African and Australian plants. The canyon is surrounded by the 2M acre Los Padres National Forest, which contains 800,000 acres of designated wilderness—all of this just 80 miles north of the Los Angeles airport!



The ICEC will support specific, existing WILD projects such as the 6th World Wilderness Congress and the Cheetah Conservation Fund. While developing new international projects, it is also creating a unique, on-site environmental educational program in its gardens, canyons and the adjacent wilderness. Please contact us for more information on the Center.

As you can see in this issue of the Leaf, the last year has been busy. The next few pages summarize the high points of our program last year such as establishing the Touch the Earth Foundation, strengthening the Wilderness Discovery Program, helping purchase a ranch in Namibia as headquarters for the Cheetah Conservation Fund, plus keeping abreast of critical, international wilderness issues.

This year promises even more of the same, with the secretariat for the 6th World Wilderness Congress being established in India, the release of several new books and publications (including the *International Journal of Wilderness*), a new and exciting program by the Wilderness Leadership School in South Africa, expanding the Wilderness Discovery Program, and more.

So, why move our office halfway across the continent when all this is happening? While the shortest possible answer is that it improves WILD's ability to carry out its mission of *working with wilderness and people*, here are three specific reasons:

- We have good partners, and wanted to demonstrate to the public that wildlife and environmental organizations can co-operate, and not just compete, with each other;

- By sharing resources with our partners we have reduced our overhead costs by 50%, therefore your donations are much more effective!

- Finally... the garden and the wilderness, the sea and the mountains... what a beautiful place! We look forward to your visit.



Vance G. Martin
Vance G. Martin

The Wilderness Experience

Touch the Earth

Begun in 1991, Touch the Earth has now tested and refined its model program on the Fort Belknap reservation, in the high, rolling plains of north central Montana. WILD's cooperative eco-cultural tourism program with Native Americans had a successful program in 1994, and now has a new organizational structure to facilitate future growth.

The TTE model is an integrated approach wherein training and community development are combined with strengthening traditional culture and ecological values. Also, prior to the TTE program being established, there were few ongoing and structured programs where non-Indians could stay on Native American reservations, learn traditional values and just live with the community. A portion of the guest fees plus other grants and donations provide training for local TTE staff and experiential programs for local youth.

Gary Fourstar completed his second year as program director at Fort Belknap. He and his team ran programs for several off-site groups, as well as conducted youth camps for residents. One of the most memorable and unusual of these was a group of ten inner city kids from the Chicago Youth Camp who joined 15 of their peers from the reservation for a week of sharing and working together. For most of the Chicago youth it was the first time they had been out of the urban area. For the Indian youth, it was their first experience



Chicago youth join their Indian peers on the reservation.

of urban, street-smart African Americans. The transformation was incredible. By week's end they were a community, exploring nature, doing traditional songs and dances (with a little bit of "rap" thrown in!), and sharing their personal stories with each other.

As the program progressed in TTE's traditional camp at Fort Belknap during the year, The WILD Foundation and our TTE partners also completed the new organization which will carry TTE forward. Touch the Earth Foundation, Inc. is a new, national not-for-profit organization charged with further refining the TTE model and coordinating its implementation throughout Indian country. Executive Director Brenda Martin has an agenda: "My main priority is to enhance training opportunities for the TTE staff. If we continue to strengthen

our corps of dedicated people, the program will persevere and thrive at the grass roots level on each reservation."

In order to assure continuity and smooth transition of responsibilities, several WILD Foundation officers and directors still advise or serve on the TTEF board of directors. Others on the board include Native Americans from numerous reservations and organizations. For three years, WILD incubated and implemented this new program in cooperation with many Native American friends, associates and advisors. It has not always been easy, but things worth doing seldom are. We are proud of what has been accomplished through the commitment and hard work of the local staff at Fort Belknap (members of the Earth People's Foundation), and through the help of many supporters such as: Magalen O. Bryant, Elaine Broadhead, Dielle Fleischmann, the Little River Foundation, the Ohrstrom Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Needmor Fund, Greenstone Foundation, Benjamin Rosenthal Foundation; Brown and Root, Inc.; the Noetics Institute; and others.

The International Wilderness Leadership (WILD) Foundation has worked since 1974 to **protect** wilderness worldwide; **promote** the appropriate use of wildlands; and **provide** environmental experience, education and training.

Board of Directors: Robert C. Baron (Chairman), Cherri Briggs, Magalen O. Bryant, Dr. Robert Cleaves, Dr. John Hendee, Vance G. Martin (President), Frank McMillan III, Dr. Ian Player (Founder), M.A. Partha Sarathy, I. Michael Sweatman (Vice Chairman) and John E. Taft.

Advisors: Susan Erpf Van de Bovenkamp, Robin Buzza, Harold Eidsvik, Carl and Cathryn Hilker, Verne McLaren, Andrew Muir, Philip Osborne, Dr. Robert Staffanson and Gerrit Van de Bovenkamp.

"The Leaf" is an occasional newsletter & annual report, published to inform readers of progress on WILD projects & how they can support and be involved. Editor is Vance G. Martin, production by Tina L. Reed & L. Merical. For further information contact:

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The Wilderness Experience Continues. . .

Wilderness Discovery Expands

Immediately following its successful 1993 feasibility phase, Wilderness Discovery (WD) has been funded by the U.S. Government for a two-year pilot program and study. This initiative to fine tune the WD program is a cooperative venture between WILD, the University

Wilderness Discovery regards the wilderness as a powerhouse of natural processes, mental images and emotional impressions.

of Idaho's Wilderness Research Center (WRC), the U.S. Forest Service, and the federal Job Corps program. The goal of WD is to develop a distinct wilderness experience program for youth-at-risk that focuses on enhancing self-esteem and empowering youth through transition from poverty to working class, and adolescence to adulthood.

The basic WD model consists of a week-long wilderness backpacking trip for ten Job Corps students. These youth are primarily from poverty level backgrounds and are housed in residential education programs where they receive job training with a goal towards finding positive roles for themselves in society. The pilot program and study involved 38 WD trips in 1994-1995 at three Job Corps centers in the Pacific Northwest, and one in Atlanta, Georgia.

The results have been dynamic. According to WD leader (and WILD Foundation director), Dr. John Hendee, "The wilderness has an incredible affect on these young people. Our program leaders use soft skills-sharing, cooperation, journals, and discussion—instead of a hard-skill, competitive approach; the transformation in the participants is profound. The young people participating in Wilderness Discovery will never forget their experience and will draw

strength, direction and inspiration from it throughout their lives."

Launched by the Wilderness Research Center, WD builds upon and expands the wilderness experience model begun by WILD Foundation founder, Dr. Ian Player, and our sister organization in South Africa, the Wilderness Leadership School. The WD tenet is to regard the wilderness as a powerhouse of natural processes, mental images and emotional impressions. As demonstrated by the positive results of Wilderness Discovery, wilderness is a critically important asset to maintaining a healthy and sane modern society.

For more information, contact: Dr. John C. Hendee at the Wilderness Research Center, University of Idaho, CFWR, Moscow, Idaho 83844-1144.



Dr. John C. Hendee

Wilderness Research Center

A leader in wilderness-related research and experiential programs, Dr. John Hendee, is getting wilder. After nine years as dean of University of Idaho's College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, Dr. Hendee is now director of the University's expanded Wilderness Research Center.

A long-time board member of the WILD Foundation, John has exhibited his usual enthusiasm and drive for achievement in his new position. The Center has six funded graduate students addressing various aspects of wilderness use and management as part of their degree requirements. The Wilderness Discovery Program (see adjacent article) is expanding in several directions. In addition, the Center sponsors studies of ecosystem processes in wilderness at the Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station in the heart of Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness, and houses the editorial office for the *International Journal of Wilderness* (see article in this issue).

"The focus of work performed in the Wilderness Research Center is embodied in Aldo Leopold's 1941 article, *Wilderness as Land Laboratory*, and Ian Player's writings on *Wilderness as Teacher and Classroom for Human Inspiration*," said Hendee.

*International
Journal
of
Wilderness*

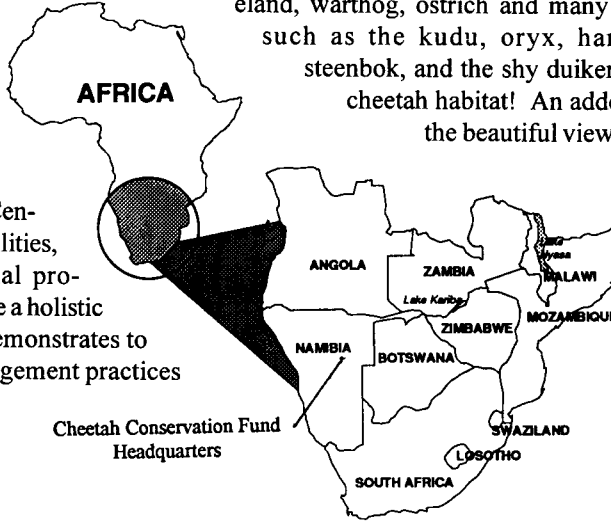
see page 6

Southern Africa

“Cheetah Headquarters” In Namibia

The Cheetah Conservation Fund and the WILD Foundation have recently made a major step forward in their efforts to save the wild cheetah. After a long search for a permanent home, CCF found the perfect location to establish a long-held dream —the International Cheetah Research and Education Center.

When fully developed, the Center will provide research facilities, and support an educational program. It will also incorporate a holistic management regime that demonstrates to African ranchers new management practices which can reduce or prevent conflicts between humans and predators such as the cheetah.



The farm *Elandsvreugde* (Eland's Joy) is an 18,000 acre (7,000 hectare) property, 25 miles east of Otjiwarango, about two and a half hours north of the capital city of Windhoek. Abundant wildlife roams the farm, including eland, warthog, ostrich and many antelope such as the kudu, oryx, hartebeest, steenbok, and the shy duiker...perfect cheetah habitat! An added plus is the beautiful view from the

farmhouse towards the Waterburg plateau, a natural 1,000 foot high plateau that stretches across the horizon.

With the acquisition of the new headquarters, consolidation of its role in a 500,000 acre cheetah conservancy, expansion of CCF into Botswana, and the myriad other educational and research activities, the days pass too quickly. Your role in supporting and encouraging the CCF's work in Africa has never been more important. Please help us meet the remaining payments on the new International Cheetah Research and Education Center, support our ongoing operations by adopting a cheetah, or give a general contribution. The CCF is the only successful, ongoing program to save the cheetah in its wild habitat. Please join us!



Wilderness Leadership School—Serving the New South Africa

WILD's sister organization in South Africa, the Wilderness Leadership School, has geared up to provide a valuable training and experiential education program to serve the new South Africa—both the many underprivileged youth in the country, as well as the increasing number of tourists who want to experience the South African wilderness. Dr. Ian Player, founder of the WLS and the WILD Foundation, has named Andrew Muir the new national director of the School. Andrew leads a program that operates in the wilderness areas of Kwazulu-Natal, the Cape, and near Kruger Park. A key part of the success of the WLS over 25 years is being carried on by Muir—identifying current and potential leaders within all races, especially the underserved, and giving them a wilderness experience which will help shape their lives and also strengthen nature conservation in their country.

According to Player, “The Wilderness Leadership School has no need to change direction because the government has changed. Our program has the same multi-racial and environmental emphasis now as it had 25 years ago, the only difference being that the urgency is greater due to increasing population and less available funding for the environment.”

Andrew Muir leading young boy into African river. (M. Morrison)



The new South Africa has brought some new opportunities, however, and the WLS has recently concluded an agreement sponsored by the EU European Union). In a pioneering program, the WLS will take 200 members of the national parliament into the South African wilderness, in groups of no more than five at a time, over the next two years. According to Muir, who conceived of and negotiated this program, “South Africa's rising rural populations and the need for rapid economic growth puts heavy demands on environmental quality. We know of no better way to help shape attitudes, awareness and policy for the future than to get the policy makers walking in the wilderness and sharing with each other around the campfire.”

For information on a southern Africa wilderness experience, contact the WILD Foundation, 2162 Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA 93023, USA.

6TH World Wilderness Congress

Bangalore, South India—1997

For the first time, the World Wilderness Congress (WWC) will convene in Asia, where India has agreed to host the 6th WWC in 1997. Following the effective model established by the WWC, this 6th Congress will convene a wide-range of professionals and the public including policy makers, industrialists, scientists, resource managers, activists, artists, educators, indigenous people, concerned citizens and others.

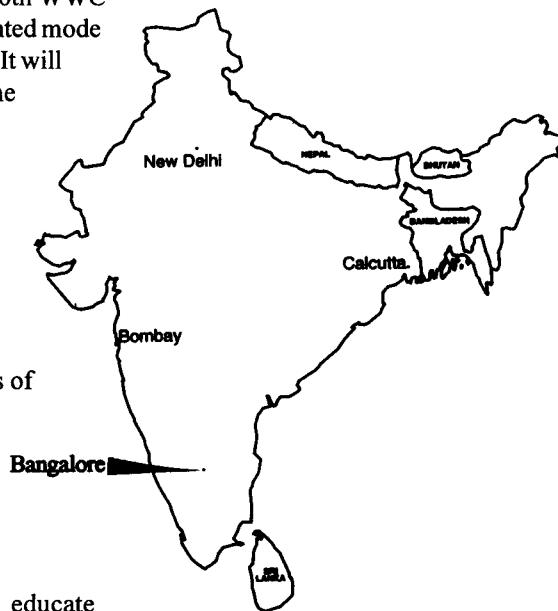
This Congress represents an outstanding opportunity for Asian wilderness. At the center of most Asian cultures and religious writings lies an appreciation of wild nature, or *aranyakam* as it is called in the Upanishads, one of India's ancient treatises. However, challenges are mounting, such as increasing commercial poaching of wildlife, and rising impacts of an expanding population. In addition, no legislation currently exists throughout Asia which specifically addresses the protection and appropriate use of wilderness. Asian professionals, policy makers and activists are keenly interested in addressing this situation.

Therefore, under the able chairmanship of M.A. Partha Sarathy, the 6th WWC will continue the action-oriented mode of the previous Congresses. It will focus on the interface of the time-tested philosophy of the East and the scientific and management principles of the West in order to: conserve and manage wildland and wilderness areas; define the role of wildlands in the rapidly emerging economies of Asia; meet natural resource needs of rural communities; protect wildlife; assess the impacts of rapidly rising population and natural resource consumption; and educate and involve youth in resolving these critical issues. Specific objectives will soon be established by the executive committee in India, in consultation with their Asian and international colleagues. Agreement to participate on the executive and advisory committees has been received from most of the

major organizations, government agencies and key individuals in India.

The 6th WWC will convene in Bangalore, in the center of southern India. Called the "Garden City," Bangalore has a favorable climate as a result of its 3,000 foot elevation. Near Bangalore lies Mysore, the city of palaces and pageantry, and the tiger and elephant reserve of Bandipur (the reserve where Project Tiger was first initiated), and Belur-Halebid, with exquisite stone-carved ancient temples. Pre and post-conference tours are planned to these nearby areas, as well as to other exotic cultural, historic and natural areas across India.

"Mother India" has more beauty, surprises, and varied culture than virtually any other country in the world. Participate in the 6th WWC to help change the course of environmental conservation in Asia, and also experience India!



For registration information contact the WILD Foundation at: 2162 Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA, 93023, USA, fax (805)649-1757, or the 6th WWC secretariat at "Hamsini" 12th Cross, Rajmahal, Bangalore India, Fax (91-80)334-1674.

The Man At The Center

The WILD Foundation is very pleased to announce that Mr. M.A. Partha Sarathy has agreed to be chairman of the 6th World Wilderness Congress. Partha has been involved in nature conservation, environmental awareness and education for over 25 years, throughout the world. A recipient of the Global 500 Award by the United Nations Environment Programme, he was also the chairman of IUCN's Commission on Education and Communication for nine years. He is also past chairman of the Asian Elephant Specialist Group (IUCN), and currently of WWF-India (Karnataka), and of the Urban Art Commission of Bangalore. He is current president of the World Environmental Education Union in Switzerland.

Partha Sarathy is no stranger to business, either, being chairman and managing director of several Indian companies. In addition, he is committed to culture and the arts as a major part of the environmental solution. He has made numerous feature and documentary films, worked joyfully and assiduously to involve youth in nature conservation, and has produced over 100 radio, TV and film programs on wildlife, ecology, and the environment. He is obviously up to the task, as he recently commented:

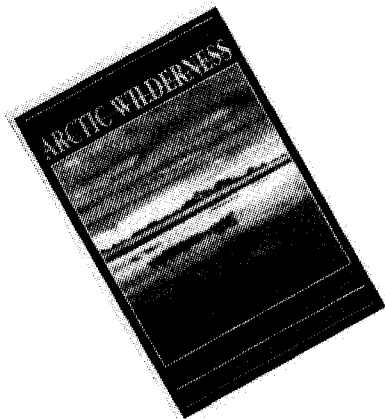
"The 6th WWC meets at a pivotal time for nature conservation in Asia. Rising population, increasing consumption of natural resources and a rising environmental awareness creates a unique opportunity for an effective congress. We also intend for it to be as enjoyable as it will be effective!"



Partha Sarathy at 6WWC office.

New WILD Publications

(in cooperation with Fulcrum, Inc., & North American Press)



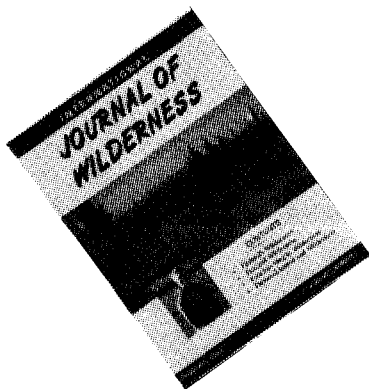
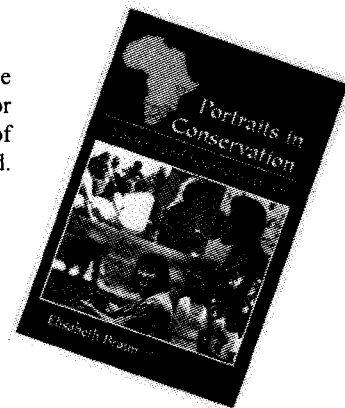
Arctic Wilderness - The 5th World Wilderness Congress

edited by Vance G. Martin and Nicholas Tyler

The aim of the 5th WWC was to enhance awareness of the natural beauty, natural resources, and the aesthetic and scientific importance of the Arctic and Antarctica. This book provides examples of discoveries and developments in both basic and applied science, of exploitation of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources, and of new information—and clear warnings—about the consequences of human activity at high latitudes. An excellent and inspiring reference for wilderness management professionals, environmentalists, scholars, students, and anyone interested in wilderness preservation.

Portraits in Conservation: Eastern and Southern Africa by Elisabeth Braun

Fascinating studies of individual men and women who have dedicated themselves to conservation in Africa. Follow the careers of leading conservationists such as the Krauses, who began the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia, or Michael Werikhe, who has mobilized a grass-roots movement to save the rhino from poachers. The evolution of conservation philosophy becomes clear as village-based projects and the individuals involved in them are described. Students, activists and educators will enjoy and learn from the portraits of these little-known heroes.



International Journal of Wilderness

This new journal links wilderness professionals, scientists, and citizens worldwide, providing a forum for reporting and discussing wilderness research, planning, management, education, and practical experience. IJW contains peer reviewed articles reflecting the latest ideas, research findings, and management strategies, plus inspirational philosophies and international perspectives. Major initiatives, conferences, policies, book reviews, essays, announcements, and editorials are also included.

How WILD Works

Since 1974, WILD has worked internationally for wildlands, wildlife, and the human communities that are part of the complex challenge of wilderness conservation. We work with a network of close associates and numerous cooperating organizations, with the support of small administrative staff and many volunteers, in order to reduce overhead costs and put as much financial support as possible directly into action. Our operating goal is to conserve and protect wild nature—not just to build an institution—and the facts speak for themselves. In 1994, our total revenue and support was \$920,000 of which our annual audit verified 95 percent was spent directly on our projects. Following our operating philosophy, we also managed or cooperatively developed other projects that generated an additional \$300,000, totaling over \$1.25 million in focused action.

WILD program funds come from individual donations, corporate or institutional grants, publishing, and consulting. Your support and involvement is integral to the success of WILD's work. Thank you!

YOU CAN BE WILD!

Many ways exist for you to be involved in WILD's work. All contributors receive a subscription to "The Leaf," and you can give either to the General WILD Fund or to specific programs. Use the attached order form or simply contact us via phone, fax, or mail to make a contribution today. The WILD Foundation's work is your work!

Special Thanks

Armand G. Erpf Fund; Land and Water Conservation Fund; Fulcrum, Inc. and North American Press; the Ohrstrom Foundation; Little River Foundation; The Humane Society of the United States; Conservation Endowment Fund; The Mzuri Wildlife Foundation; South African Airways; U.S. Africa Airways; The Bay Foundation; African Wildlife Foundation; African Society for Animal Protection; The George E. Coleman, Jr. Foundation; International Fund for Land & Wildlife; Bob and Charlotte Baron; Magalen O. Bryant; Susan Van de Bovenkamp; Carl and Cathryn Hilker; Genevieve di San Faustino; Michael and Jean Casey; Michael Wright; Alan Weeden; Phil Osborne; Sid Schultz; Peter Bakker; George and Sally Bell; Linda Munson; Charles Knowles; and all of our dedicated volunteers.

PUBLICATIONS LIST

International Center for Earth Concerns
WILD Foundation, World Wilderness Congress, Cheetah Conservation Fund

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF WILDERNESS

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2. The Leaf - WILD's newsletter - 1 year	\$20.00*	_____	_____
3. Cheetah Conservation Fund newsletter - 1 year	\$20.00*	_____	_____
4. Wilderness Management - the definitive text 546 pp	\$40.00	_____	_____
5. Arctic Wilderness - 5th WWC	\$32.00	_____	_____
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10. Profiles in Conservation (1995) (hardcover) by Elisabeth Braun	\$28.00	_____	_____
11. South African Passage: Diaries of the Wilderness Leadership School (hard cover) by Dr. Ian C. Player	\$13.95	_____	_____
12. The Highest Use of Wilderness: Using Wilderness Experience Programs to Develop Human Potential by Dr. John Hendee	\$ 7.50	_____	_____
13. Cheetahs: A Predator's Role in the Ecosystem Teacher's Resource Guide	\$25.00	_____	_____

(* Seniors & students are \$15)

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