



IMPACT REPORT

2019/2020

Photo by Paul Hilton in the Leuser Ecosystem

SIERRA DEL DIVISOR

An aerial photograph of a vast Amazon rainforest. In the foreground, a large, conical mountain peak, covered in dense green forest, rises prominently. The forest extends to the horizon under a sky filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The overall scene is a breathtaking view of the Amazon's lowland mountains.

The iconic “El Cono” is a solitary peak that towers 500 dazzling meters above the rainforest. El Cono is part of a unique volcanic mountain range, the only mountain chain in the lowlands of the Amazon forest.

JARDINES DE LA REINA

An underwater photograph showing a large, transparent jellyfish with a distinct four-lobed pattern on its bell, swimming towards the viewer. Several smaller jellyfish are visible in the background and foreground, creating a sense of depth. Sunlight filters through the water from above, creating a shimmering effect on the surface and illuminating the scene.

“Jardines de la Reina” means Gardens of the Queen. This area was named by Christopher Columbus after Queen Isabella I of Spain. This archipelago covers about 684,000 hectares in the Gulf of Ana Maria, Cuba.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters:

Despite the challenges we faced from the global pandemic, we have continued our critical work to protect endangered national parks and wildlife in the face of increases in deforestation and poaching due to loss of tourism revenues.

Global Conservation plays a major role in stopping the climate emergency and reversing biodiversity loss, protecting our last bastions of intact forests and wildlife habitats in developing countries.

Carbon for Forests is now a formidable tool in our arsenal to generate critical funding for park and wildlife protection through carbon offsets by major corporations. Already, Cardamom National Park in Cambodia has secured nearly \$10 million from oil producers and other large carbon emitters, funds that the park management is now using to prevent deforestation and to reforest stolen and degraded lands.

Across Global Conservation's worldwide projects, our supporters, partners, team leaders and staff are stepping up to support each other. We are ensuring that our critical work to deploy Global Park Defense continues to stop illegal activities in our UNESCO World Heritage Sites and national parks in developing countries.

New technologies like TrailGuard AI and Planet satellites are enabling developing countries to deploy the same surveillance and monitoring as the United States, in many cases better and more cost effectively. Global Conservation is on the leading edge of integrating low-cost communications, surveillance, UAVs/drones, park protection systems, and satellite monitoring into our Global Park Defense system, now deployed in 12 national parks covering over 12 million acres of intact forests and rich wildlife habitats.



Jeff Morgan in Borjomi National Park

2019 and 2020 Successes

We've summarized just a handful of our successes from the past two years in the following report. At **Mana Pools National Park**, Zimbabwe, we're celebrating an entire year with no elephants killed after a decades-long struggle against rampant poaching. In **Mirador National Park**, Guatemala, joint patrols between Mexico and Guatemala have resulted in a number of arrests for crimes that have been eating away at the Mirador-Calakmul Ecosystem. Further south, in the newly established **Sierra del Divisor National Park**, Peru, we have been establishing a robust GPD program in collaboration with local communities, and broken ground on the park's first ecolodge.

Meanwhile, the **Leuser Ecosystem** of Sumatra has experienced a 40% reduction in deforestation over the past 4 years and a 67% reduction in poaching over the past 3 years, owing to the hard work of several of our partners. In **Cardamom National Park**, Cambodia, we've achieved 50% GPD coverage of the park and brought snaring below baseline levels through focused patrolling and raids. In **Murchison Falls National Park**, Uganda, we supported the first command center for this Jewel of Africa.

Though we wrapped up our GPD program in **Thap Lan National Park**, Thailand in 2018, we are still reaping the rewards: sightings of Indochinese tiger cubs in the area have confirmed that this has become a critically important breeding area for these endangered big cats.

New GC Projects

Carpathians National Park in Ukraine is one of the last wild places in Europe with major forests and wild animals including bear, lynx and wolf. Global Conservation is deploying Global Park Defense in Ukraine's first national park in partnership with the German Development Agency and the Ukrainian Ministry of Ecology. We expect to see strong returns in terms of the elimination of illegal logging, hunting and land clearing in Carpathian National Park in the coming years.

La Amistad International Park in Costa Rica and Panama is a 401,000ha transboundary peace park. The largest nature reserve in Central America, it harbors 20% of Central America's species diversity. GC is deploying GPD together with the PILA Authority and the Costa Rican National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC) to fight threats like illegal mining, hunting, and deforestation.



Deploying Global Park Defense in Borjomi National Park, Georgia

2021 Priorities

Looking ahead, we are kicking off the new year intensely focused around our main priority: to deploy Global Park Defense in 25 parks by 2025. Renewed funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation based on our successful work in 2018-2019 and a major grant from Apocene Fund enables us grow the number of UNESCO World Heritage Parks where we work. Our goal is to help protect over 20 million acres of the most intact tropical rainforests and biodiverse parks in the world in the coming decade.

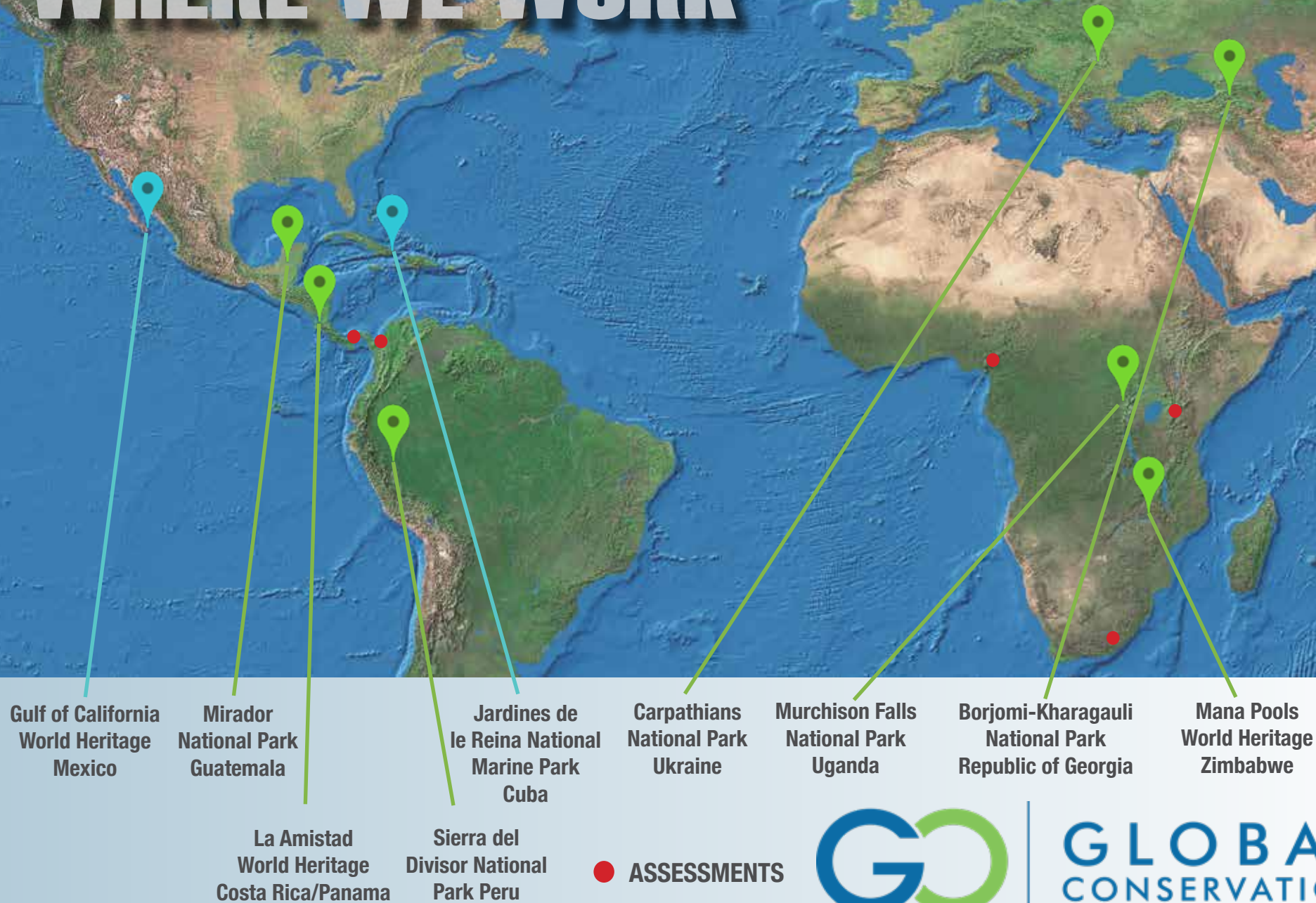
Without you – our supporters – none of this would be possible.

Thank you for your support and friendship, and I look forward to traveling with you again next year to GC Projects in Asia, Africa and the Americas.

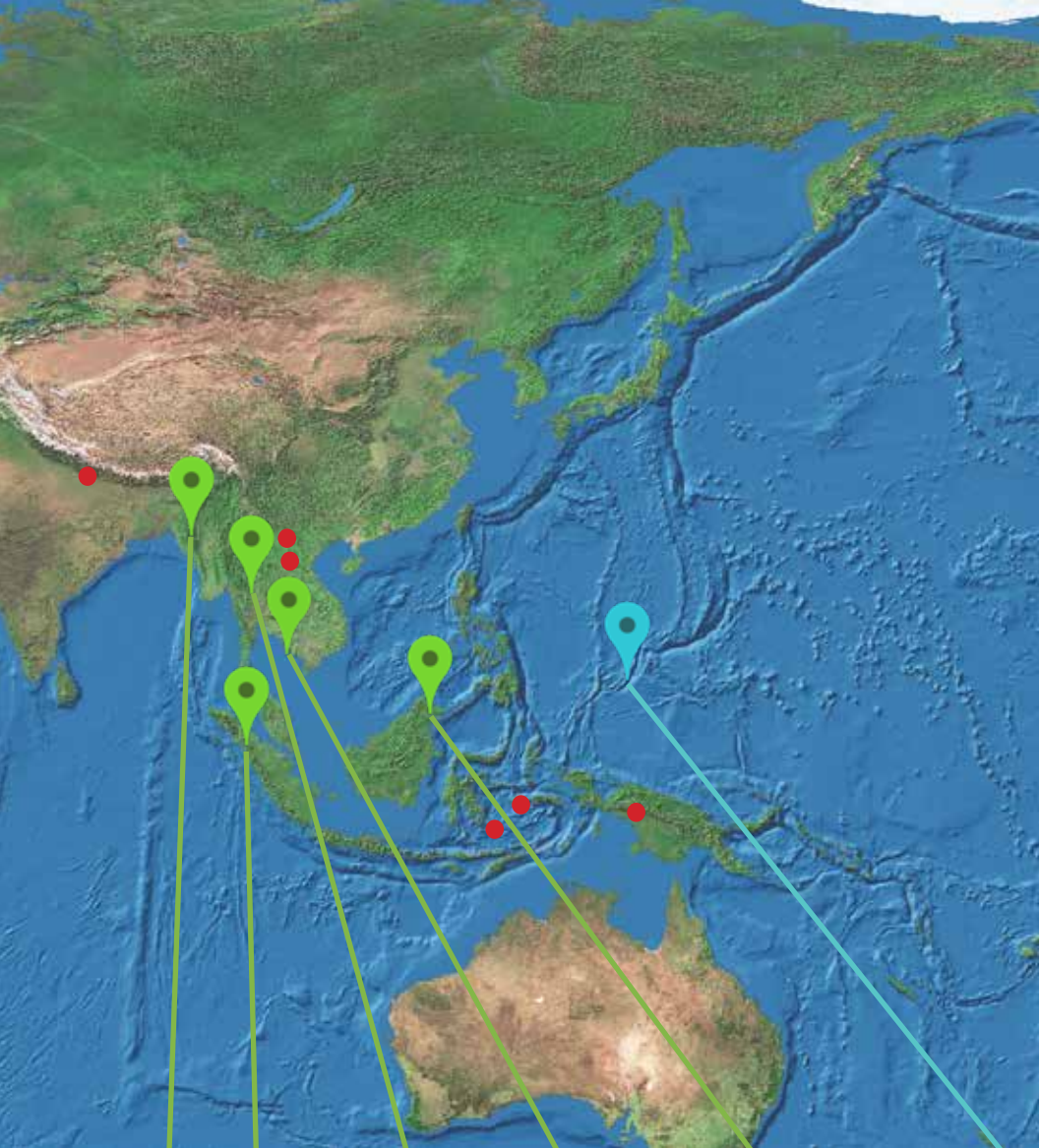
Sincerely,

Jeff Morgan
Executive Director

WHERE WE WORK



GLOBAL
CONSERVATION



**Leuser Ecosystem
Sumatra
Indonesia**

**Cardamom
National Park
Cambodia**

**DaMal World
Heritage - Sabah
Borneo - Malaysia**

**Palau
Northern Reefs**

**Alaungdaw Kathapa
National Park
Myanmar**

**Thung Yai-Huai Kha
Khaeng UNESCO
World Heritage Site**



Land Parks



Marine Parks

**We Protect Endangered UNESCO World
Heritage Parks in Developing Countries**

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

Michael Finley Global Conservation Board of Directors

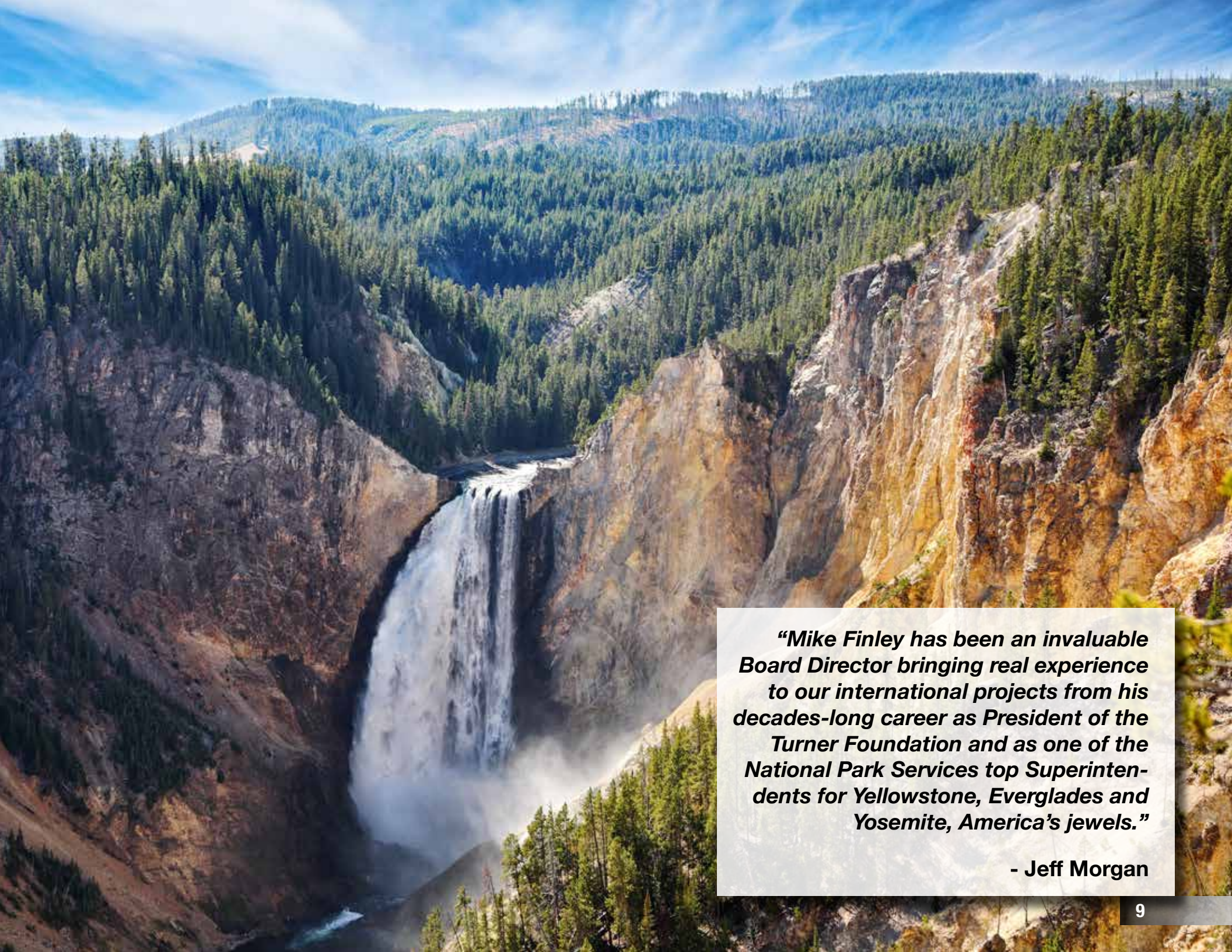
Born and raised in Medford Oregon, Mike Finley thought he wanted to be a dentist. But during college, he worked as a firefighter in Yellowstone National Park, spending a lot of time in the backcountry. He fell in love with the wilderness and decided that he wanted to work for the National Park Service.

After years working in park service law enforcement and management, Finley went on to superintendent positions in Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Everglades National Parks. He authored the Everglades Restoration and Expansion Act of 1989, which significantly expanded the park right up to the edge of the urban-agricultural interface. He also convinced the federal government to sue Florida for failing to assure the quality of water flowing into the Everglades, leading to immediate protection of the park's water. In Yellowstone, he oversaw the re-introduction of wolves to the ecosystem and personally helped carry the first re-introduced gray wolf into the park. He also founded the Yellowstone Park Foundation, which has raised 100 million dollars to date.

His service resulted in two awards from the Department of the Interior, and he retired from the Park Service in 2001. He then worked for eight years for the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, half of which he spent as commission chair. Finley served as the president of the Turner Foundation until 2016, distributing more than \$334 million in grants. Under his leadership, the foundation became recognized as one of the most accessible funders in the conservation field.



Michael Finley created the Yellowstone Park Foundation, which has generated over \$100 million to date.



“Mike Finley has been an invaluable Board Director bringing real experience to our international projects from his decades-long career as President of the Turner Foundation and as one of the National Park Services top Superintendents for Yellowstone, Everglades and Yosemite, America’s jewels.”

- Jeff Morgan

THUNG YAI-HUAI KHA KHAENG

THAILAND

Saving tigers and other megafauna with WCS

One of Global Conservation's newest projects is a multi-year Global Park Defense deployment in the Umphang and Thung Yai East Wildlife Sanctuaries (UP-TYE) in the Thung Yai-Huai Kha Khaeng UNESCO World Heritage Site (HKK-TY), Thailand. GC is partnering with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Thailand to protect a critical wildlife habitat area of over 120,000 ha for recovery of endangered tigers and large mammals.

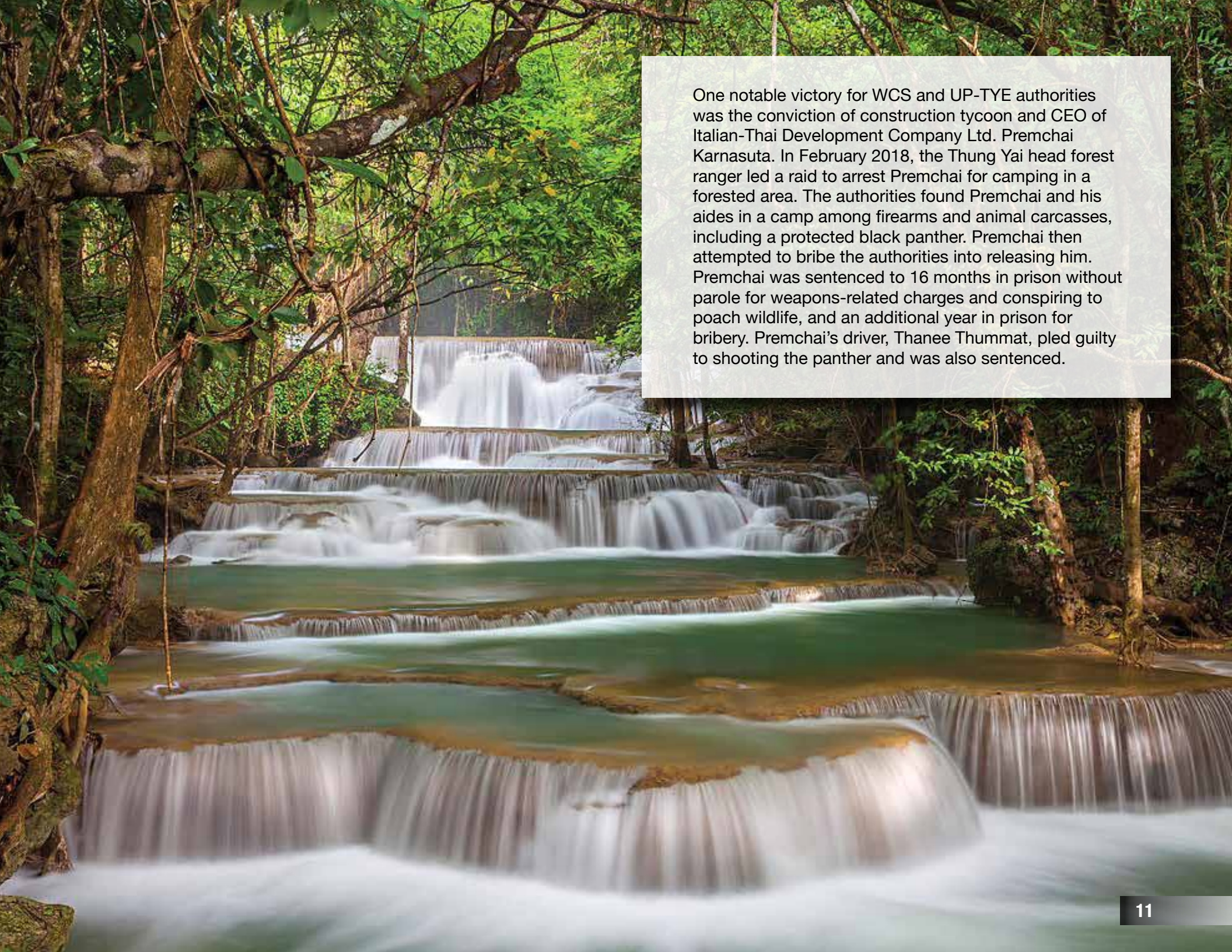
HKK-TY as a whole encompasses an area of 640,000 hectares and is the core area of Thailand's Western Forest Complex (WEFCOM), one of the largest forest landscapes in Southeast Asia. Notably, WEFCOM is one of only two places in Thailand where tigers persist. The other is Thap Lan, where GC and WCS Thailand also collaborate to preserve wildlife.

UP-TYE is now protected by 10 ranger stations and about 60 park rangers, who defend endangered large mammals like tigers, leopards, and Asian elephants from threats like development, illegal logging, and poaching.

In their work in Thailand, WCS has conducted intelligence gathering with the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation and other stakeholders by focusing on:

- Improving the intelligence system by working closely with local sectors which are supported by WCS.
- Achieving the mission efficiently and successfully by coordinating among local sectors.
- Systematically generating an intelligence database that will lead to the successful arrest of offenders.
- Supporting people who cooperate with our team to help monitor the offenders.





One notable victory for WCS and UP-TYE authorities was the conviction of construction tycoon and CEO of Italian-Thai Development Company Ltd. Premchai Karnasuta. In February 2018, the Thung Yai head forest ranger led a raid to arrest Premchai for camping in a forested area. The authorities found Premchai and his aides in a camp among firearms and animal carcasses, including a protected black panther. Premchai then attempted to bribe the authorities into releasing him. Premchai was sentenced to 16 months in prison without parole for weapons-related charges and conspiring to poach wildlife, and an additional year in prison for bribery. Premchai's driver, Thanee Thummat, pled guilty to shooting the panther and was also sentenced.

Another major milestone was detecting 17 individual adult tigers and four cubs during a camera trap survey this year, which is the largest number of tigers ever recorded in this area.

GC and WCS's ongoing goal is to work closely with the Government of Thailand's Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation to save tigers and endangered wildlife species and habitat through capacity building and law enforcement.

Key Objectives for 2019 and 2020:

1. Strengthen the SMART patrol system in zones critically important for tiger and large mammal recovery.
2. Strengthen and install cellular camera traps in areas at high risk of poaching.
3. Implement a tiger population monitoring system using camera trapping.

Sustained Success: Thap Lan National Park, Thailand

Thap Lan is Thailand's second largest park and one of the last intact habitats for a suite of threatened and endangered species: elephants, Asiatic bears, clouded leopards, banteng, Malayan sun bears, hornbills, and over 800 other vertebrate species. Thap Lan is at the heart of the Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex, a cluster of five contiguous national parks and a globally important biodiversity hotspot.

Though we wrapped up our GPD program in Thap Lan in 2018, we are still reaping the rewards: sightings of Indochinese tiger cubs in the area have confirmed this has become a critically important breeding area for these endangered big cats, a crucial step to recovery for a species that has dwindled to just 220 wild individuals. A couple months later, tiger footage was released from an area of Western Thailand where they had been wiped out decades ago. We're thrilled to support our partners, WCS-Thailand, in securing the recovery of this beautiful and important species.



New Global Conservation Projects

Carpathians National Park was established in 1980 and spans 515.7 km² (51,570 ha), CNNP is Ukraine's first and largest national park, and the largest protected area in the Carpathian region. The park preserves a key piece of the Carpathian Mountains, which extend over 206,000 km² in a 1,500km-long chain across Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine, forming one of Europe's largest mountain ranges. The Carpathians harbor the largest European montane populations of wolves and lynx, as well as the world's largest population of brown bears. However, these forests are threatened by unbridled logging and poaching. We are working with our partners, the CNNP Authority, to implement a Global Park Defense program and to boost ecotourism in the coming years.

La Amistad International Park (Parque Internacional La Amistad, PILA) is a transboundary protected area and World Heritage Site that is shared between Costa Rica and Panama. Covering 401,000ha of the Talamanca mountain range, it is the largest nature reserve in Central America. It is an incredible biodiversity resource for both the region and the world, harboring about 20% of Central America's and about 60% of Costa Rica's species diversity. Though PILA is known to contain a wealth of rare species like jaguars, five other cat species, Baird's tapir, the resplendent quetzal, and the endangered bare-necked umbrellabird, most of the park's steep and difficult terrain remains unexplored. New species are being discovered here on a regular basis. This amazing landscape is being threatened by hunting, illegal extraction of resources, forest fires, land tenure issues, and the propagation and trafficking of illicit drugs. GC is working together with the PILA Authority and the Costa Rican National System of Conservation Areas to begin a Global Park Defense Program.



We were thrilled to release three books last year!

1. **The Leuser Ecosystem**, written and edited by Mike Griffith. This coffee-table book illustrates the natural beauty and biological richness of the Leuser Ecosystem in Indonesia, and describes threats and efforts to conserve the last place on earth where rhino, elephants, orangutans and tigers co-exist in the wild.
2. **Saving the New Wild**, written and edited by Dr. Jen Guyton. This coffee-table book showcases GC's park and wildlife protection programs at fourteen UNESCO World Heritage and national parks as seen through the lenses of top photojournalists. The images show the beauty of these intact forests, ecosystems and wildlife parks, as well as destruction wrought by man-made illegal logging, mining, deforestation and wildlife poaching.
3. **Global Park Defense Handbook**, written and edited by Greg Brown and Dr. Jen Guyton. We created this handbook to help protected area managers roll out their global park defense program. The book is available in print or as a digital PDF, and will soon be featured in a web format that will be constantly updated.



MIRADOR NATIONAL PARK



GUATEMALA

Green Jobs Program hires refugees as rangers

Global Conservation is working to secure permanent protection for Mirador National Park in Petén, Guatemala – the Heart of the Maya Biosphere and the Cradle of Maya Civilization. GC collaborated with FUNDAECO, the Rainforest Trust, and FARES to establish the first Mirador Park Authority, as well as support critical tourism and park infrastructure. 2020 was the fourth year of our five-year GPD program.

Law Enforcement:

More than 27,000km were covered in more than 534 patrols. Between June 2019 and June 2020, more than 62 crimes were identified and arrests were made in 52 cases. Seven Mexican loggers were detained in Northern Mirador in connection with a large illegal logging operation. An international partnership between Mexico and Guatemala to conduct joint patrols in this region has bolstered these efforts.

La Danta is the most voluminous pyramid in the world

Developing Capacity and Infrastructure: Rangers have now been trained in subjects such as SMART patrols, biological monitoring, and visitor security. With GC's support, FUNDAECO constructed a tourist information center and started the Information and Data Center, where SMART reports can be analyzed. Additionally, FUNDAECO and UNHCR are now implementing a revolutionary new program that will help refugees while boosting capacity for conservation. Called "Empleos Verdes", the program will give refugees "green jobs." So far, FUNDAECO has hired 55 refugees, ten of which now work in Mirador, some as park rangers.

Science and Monitoring: Mirador's third jaguar monitoring study began in 2020, in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society. 100 camera traps were installed, making this the largest jaguar study ever conducted in Mesoamerica. In archaeology, our partners at the Foundation for Anthropological Research and Environmental Studies (FARES) and the Mirador Basin Project have been using advanced LiDAR (3D laser) technology to show that Maya cities were much larger than ground-based research had suggested, revealing a sprawling and complex pre-Columbian civilization far more advanced than most archaeologists believed.

US Senators Redouble Support for Mirador: In May 2020, several US Senators reinforced their support for the Mirador-Calakmul Maya Security and Conservation Partnership Act of 2019 (S3131). The bill was introduced on December 19, 2019 to members of the US Congress, and supports national park protection and community-based tourism development of the Mirador-Calakmul Basin.

In the coming years, we aim to:

- Establish permanent legal protection for Mirador.
- Assist the Guatemalan government in securing UNESCO World Heritage designation.
- Negotiate trade-offs with stakeholders that will determine which lands will be integrated into the new, larger national park.
- Achieve an economically sustainable protected area, with tourism revenues exceeding park operating costs.



LEUSER ECOSYSTEM

INDONESIA

40% reduction in deforestation and 67% reduction in poaching



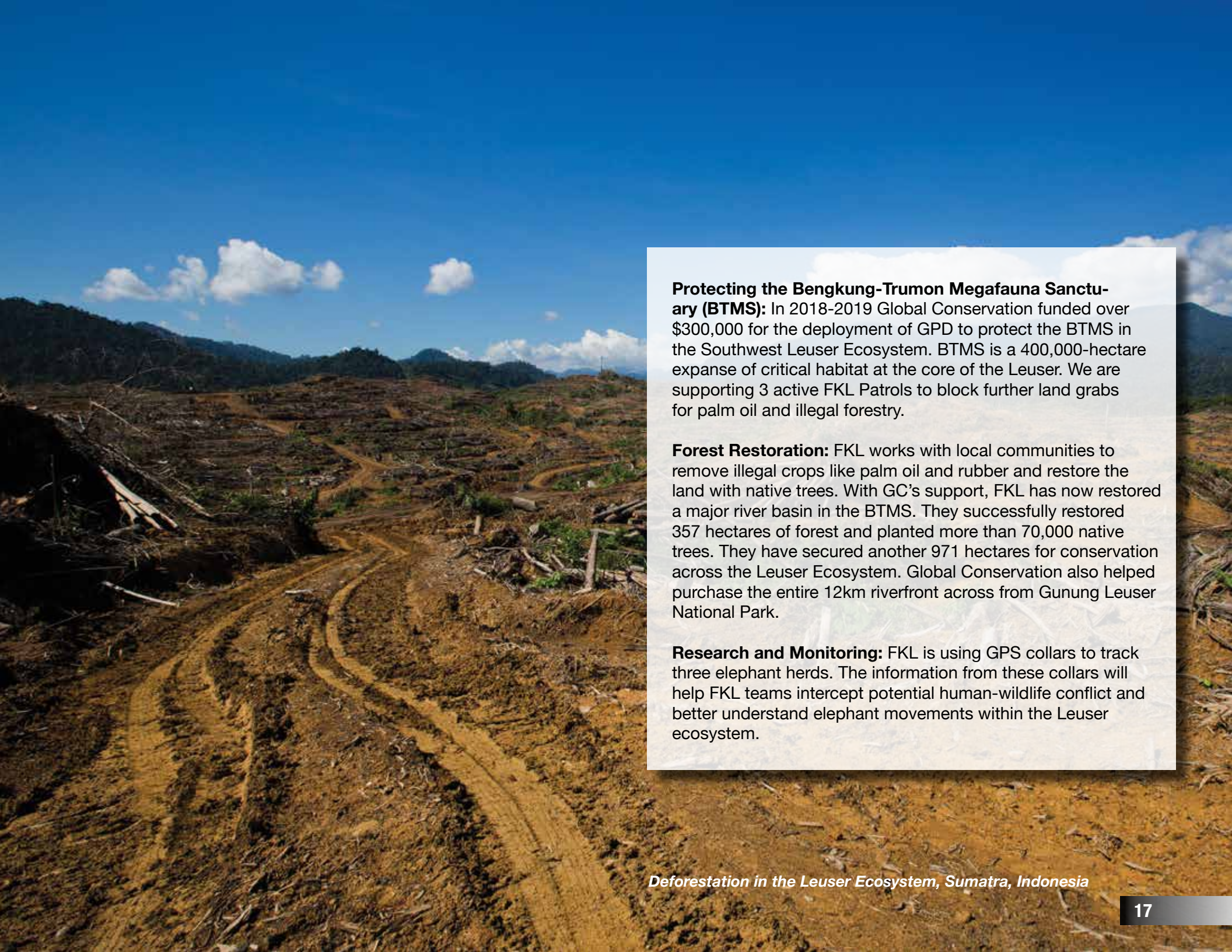
Global Conservation is working with Forum Konservasi Leuser (FKL) and HAKA (Forest, Nature and Environment of Aceh) to protect the Leuser Ecosystem on the Indonesian island of Sumatra. Leuser is the last place on earth where wild tigers, orangutans, elephants and rhinos coexist, and its 2.6 million hectares comprise one of the last remaining intact rainforests in all of Indonesia. Unfortunately, deforestation for illegal palm oil expansion is decimating the Leuser Ecosystem. GC and our partners are slowing deforestation, stopping poachers, and restoring damaged forests.

Reducing Deforestation and Poaching:

We supported our partners, FKL and HAKA, in collaborating with other organizations to achieve a 40% reduction in deforestation in the Leuser Ecosystem since 2016 and a 67% reduction in poaching since 2017.

In 2019, FKL:

- Completed 303 patrol missions totalling 20,000km.
- Found 275 poaching cases, escorted 18 poachers out of the forest, destroyed 120 poacher camps and dismantled 288 snares/traps.
- Conducted 55 collaborative law enforcement operations. 19 cases went to court.



Protecting the Bengkung-Trumon Megafauna Sanctuary (BTMS): In 2018-2019 Global Conservation funded over \$300,000 for the deployment of GPD to protect the BTMS in the Southwest Leuser Ecosystem. BTMS is a 400,000-hectare expanse of critical habitat at the core of the Leuser. We are supporting 3 active FKL Patrols to block further land grabs for palm oil and illegal forestry.

Forest Restoration: FKL works with local communities to remove illegal crops like palm oil and rubber and restore the land with native trees. With GC's support, FKL has now restored a major river basin in the BTMS. They successfully restored 357 hectares of forest and planted more than 70,000 native trees. They have secured another 971 hectares for conservation across the Leuser Ecosystem. Global Conservation also helped purchase the entire 12km riverfront across from Gunung Leuser National Park.

Research and Monitoring: FKL is using GPS collars to track three elephant herds. The information from these collars will help FKL teams intercept potential human-wildlife conflict and better understand elephant movements within the Leuser ecosystem.

MANA POOLS WORLD HERITAGE

The 220,000-hectare Mana Pools National Park lies in the Lower Zambezi Valley of Zimbabwe, part of a vast wilderness of over a million hectares. Mana Pools has the country's biggest concentration of hippos and crocodiles, and is also home to other threatened species including lion, cheetah, and wild dog. Poaching is a major threat here, so we have been working with our partners, the Bushlife Conservancy and the International Anti-Poaching Foundation (IAPF), since 2019 to implement a Global Park Defense Program. Global Conservation is also providing funding, training and equipment to the Zambezi Society for prosecution support and aerial surveillance.

Elephant Poaching: In a major conservation victory, our partner, the Bushlife Conservancy, recently announced that Mana Pools National Park has been free of any elephant poaching incidents for twelve months. Over the past ten years, 12,000 elephants have been poached in the Zambezi Valley. Sadly, by 2014, elephant numbers in this area had decreased 40%. With Global Conservation's support, Bushlife Conservancy stepped in to fund more rangers, better communications, and regular patrolling. Thanks to these improvements, elephant poaching declined steadily from more than 70 cases in 2016 to just 7 in 2019, and now to zero over the past year.

Anti-Poaching: Regular patrolling and presence of rangers has been a big deterrent to poachers. There have been at least four cases where early warning by informants has kept poachers out of the Lower Zambezi Valley. Over 200 arrests have been made since 2017, contributing to the steep decline in elephant poaching.

ZIMBABWE

No elephants poached in the last year!



GC also supports the Akashinga Rangers. This team of women rangers has a community-driven interpersonal focus, designed to work with the local population. Between 2019 and 2020, Akashinga had an average increase of 78% in the monthly arrest rate per year, and an overall monthly conviction rate of 44.6% on all arrests, which has been increasing each year.

River Patrols: With a dedicated patrol boat from Zambezi Society and three other vessels provided by Bushlife and Global Conservation, river patrols began in December 2019. The patrols confiscated over 15,500 meters of illegal nets, 25 water beaters, unlicensed fishing lines, and fishing baskets. Two poachers were handed to the police.

Ranger Training: Due to ZimParks' lack of funding, extensive ranger training had not occurred in many years until this year. In 2019, Global Conservation granted \$20,000 to IAPF to provide training to lead rangers in four areas of wildlife protection:

1. Resilience: Survival & Trauma Care
2. Law Enforcement: Patrolling, Tactics, Procedures
3. Biodiversity & Conservation
4. Investigations



SIERRA DEL DIVISOR

PERU


First joint patrols with local communities and the park's first ecologue

Global Conservation began funding conservation in Sierra del Divisor National Park, Peru in 2019. Sierra del Divisor is a newly-established 1.3-million-hectare national park along the Peru-Brazil border, protecting the Andes-Amazon Corridor's final link and completing one of the largest contiguous blocks of protected areas in the Amazon. Its unexplored jungle is one of the greatest refuges for biodiversity on earth, brimming with primary forests that store at least 500 million tons of carbon. It is threatened by logging, mining, and clearing for coca production. Global Conservation is coordinating with national police and marines while working with our partners in conservation—Rainforest Foundation Peru and SERNANP National Parks Peru—to develop a Global Park Defense program. We hope to secure legal protection for an additional 300,000 hectares in the near future.

Fighting Illegal Activity: GC has provided a fully-functional Satellite Communications Network. In a historic first, we began the first joint patrol operations in Peru to fight illegal coca plantations and logging. These patrols involve stakeholders from the national park, the marines, nearby communities, and the police, and utilize UAV drones, satellite communications and SMART patrols. We donated equipment and provided drone training for pilots. The drones have been instrumental in raids of coca plantations, illegal logging operations, and illegal mines, which have resulted in arrests and the destruction of large areas of coca and illegal camps.

Community-Based Protection and Development: Global Conservation works closely with two indigenous communities in Sierra del Divisor National Park. GC is supporting community-based patrolling to enable surrounding villages to protect their own lands and the park from illegal logging and land clearing by coca producers.

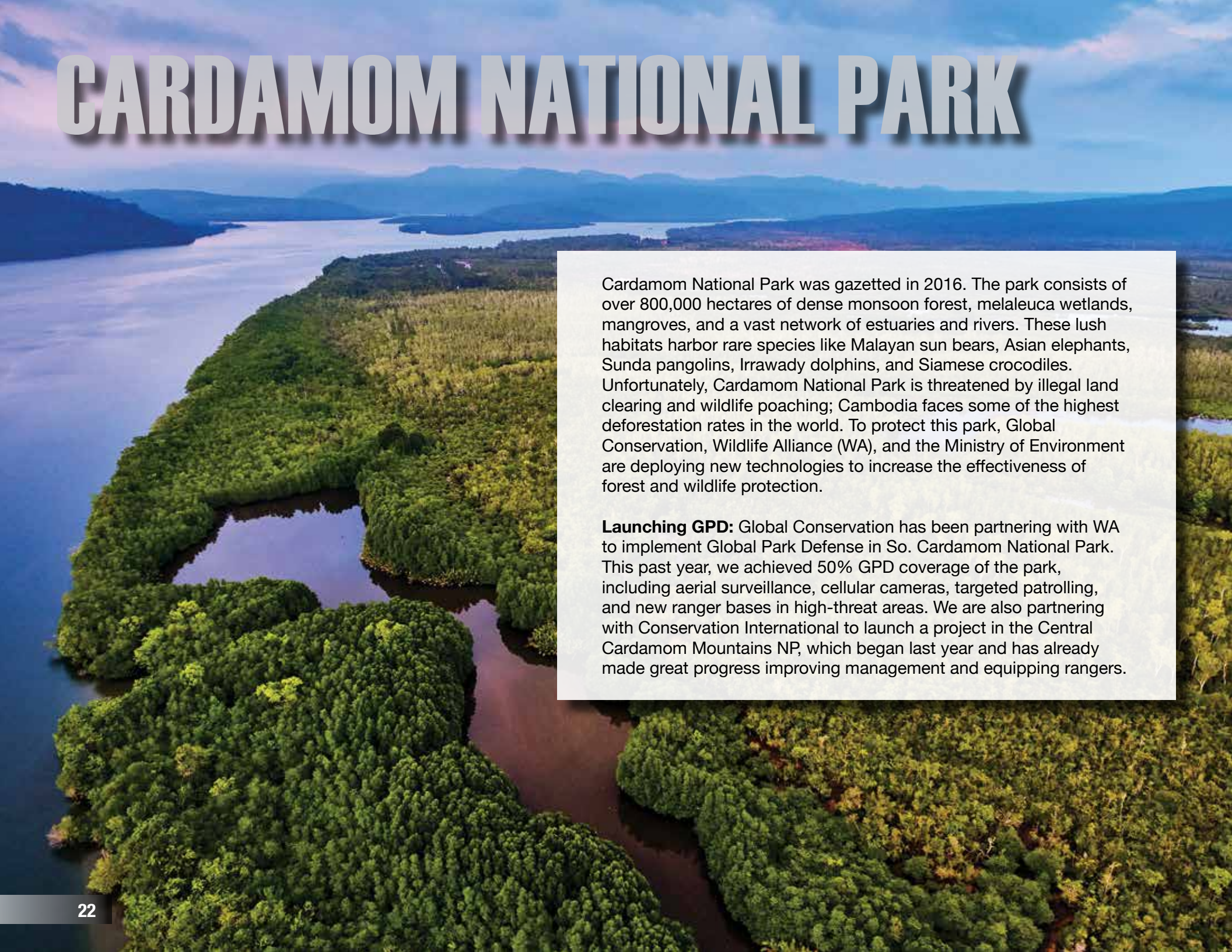


An aerial photograph showing a large, irregularly shaped lake with vibrant turquoise water. The lake is nestled within a vast, dense forest of lush green trees. The forest appears to be a tropical or subtropical rainforest, with varying shades of green indicating different types of vegetation. The lake's shoreline is irregular, with several small peninsulas and inlets. The overall scene is one of a pristine, natural environment.

Carbon for Forests: We are making detailed maps of deforestation and carbon data in partnership with Arizona State University's Asner Lab to identify areas of possible park expansion, areas facing deforestation, planning of patrol routes, etc. These maps will also be of great use in our Carbon for Forests program.

Community-Based Tourism Development: We are building an environmentally friendly ecolodge at the entrance to Sierra del Divisor National Park. This will be the park's first lodge. The ecolodge will benefit local indigenous communities, bring sustainability to the project, and provide funding for future conservation efforts. The land for the ecolodge has already been acquired, and we have already completed the design and begun work on the tourist departure center.

CARDAMOM NATIONAL PARK



Cardamom National Park was gazetted in 2016. The park consists of over 800,000 hectares of dense monsoon forest, melaleuca wetlands, mangroves, and a vast network of estuaries and rivers. These lush habitats harbor rare species like Malayan sun bears, Asian elephants, Sunda pangolins, Irrawady dolphins, and Siamese crocodiles. Unfortunately, Cardamom National Park is threatened by illegal land clearing and wildlife poaching; Cambodia faces some of the highest deforestation rates in the world. To protect this park, Global Conservation, Wildlife Alliance (WA), and the Ministry of Environment are deploying new technologies to increase the effectiveness of forest and wildlife protection.

Launching GPD: Global Conservation has been partnering with WA to implement Global Park Defense in So. Cardamom National Park. This past year, we achieved 50% GPD coverage of the park, including aerial surveillance, cellular cameras, targeted patrolling, and new ranger bases in high-threat areas. We are also partnering with Conservation International to launch a project in the Central Cardamom Mountains NP, which began last year and has already made great progress improving management and equipping rangers.

Fighting Snares: Over the past decade, snares, which are traps made of wire or rope, have become the biggest threat to wildlife in Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos. Wildlife is being snared to extinction to feed the demand for bushmeat, and this crisis requires constant vigilance. From 2017 to present, 66 trailcams and a repeater tower have been installed in the Cardamom Rainforest, allowing WA rangers to rapidly identify poachers and loggers and immediately deploy to intercept them.

At the beginning of 2020, GPD rangers were redeployed to the Veal Thapou poaching hotspot, as restaurants in this area had increasingly been selling wildlife meat. In addition to responding to GPD trailcam alerts, the rangers systematically patrolled the hotspot, seizing large numbers of snares, nets, and guns. The GPD team regularly inspected restaurants on a random basis to crack down on illegal bushmeat.

On January 21st, 2020, they raided two restaurants, seizing 120kg of bushmeat and 9 live turtles. Subsequently, the team has inspected restaurants once per week but has found no bushmeat, suggesting that law enforcement pressure is working. The number of snares found in Veal Thapou was lower than the baseline, suggesting that poaching is also declining.

Highlights from January 2019-June 2020

- 478 patrols conducted
- 78 night ambushes conducted
- 15,490 km covered
- 3,953 snares removed
- 25 live animals saved
- 67 illegal camps dismantled
- 99 chainsaws seized
- 125 cubic meters of timber seized
- 11 guns seized
- 5 court cases prosecuted

CAMBODIA

Rangers stamp out wildlife snaring in a known poaching hotspot



MURCHISON FALLS

UGANDA Law enforcement and operations center is the first of its kind in Africa

The 384,000-hectare Murchison Falls National Park (MFNP) is the largest and most-visited national park in Uganda. The Victoria Nile runs through it, flanked by riverine forest and rust-red cliffs. During the 1960s, Murchison Falls was the most popular park in all of Africa, containing some of the continent's largest concentrations of wildlife. But in the 1970's and early 80's, as Uganda sank into civil war, wildlife populations declined. Though the park has since begun to recover, it still faces challenges. Like in many parts of Africa, commercial poaching by international syndicates is a major problem in MFNP.

Global Conservation is investing in a multi-year Global Park Defense program in collaboration with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). We funded \$260,000 from Jan 2019-March 2020, and \$200,000 thereafter with matching funding from International Elephant Foundation and other donors.

Infrastructure Development: Murchison Falls Law Enforcement and Operations Centre (LEOC) was designed and built to integrate a Joint Operations Command Centre (JOCC), armory, police station and cell block, guard room, storage facility, radio and internet towers, and operational assets and supplies. The LEOC is the first of its kind in Africa, integrating all relevant departments and providing for interagency requirements.

Capacity Development: Over the past few years Project Director Michael Keigwin has been working with Vulcan to bring UWA and Uganda up to date with counterpart parks and conservancies. The development of EarthRanger and its protected area management functionality are second to none.



Michael Keigwin at work in Uganda



Community Development: In 2019, 100 youth from the north of the park were selected to undertake vocational college courses. Each came from families who interact with the park – e.g. some from serious poaching communities, and others who experience high levels of elephant crop raiding. Having been in the park for a year, 17 of the apprentices are looking to become UWA rangers. Their attitudes have now changed, and they are now trusted park ambassadors within their communities.

Research and Monitoring: GC supported the first all-digital aerial wildlife survey in Africa. With the latest airborne imaging systems, baseline wildlife population surveys and detailed land use and deforestation maps can be automatically generated for park and wildlife management, community development and wildlife corridor planning.

Future Goals

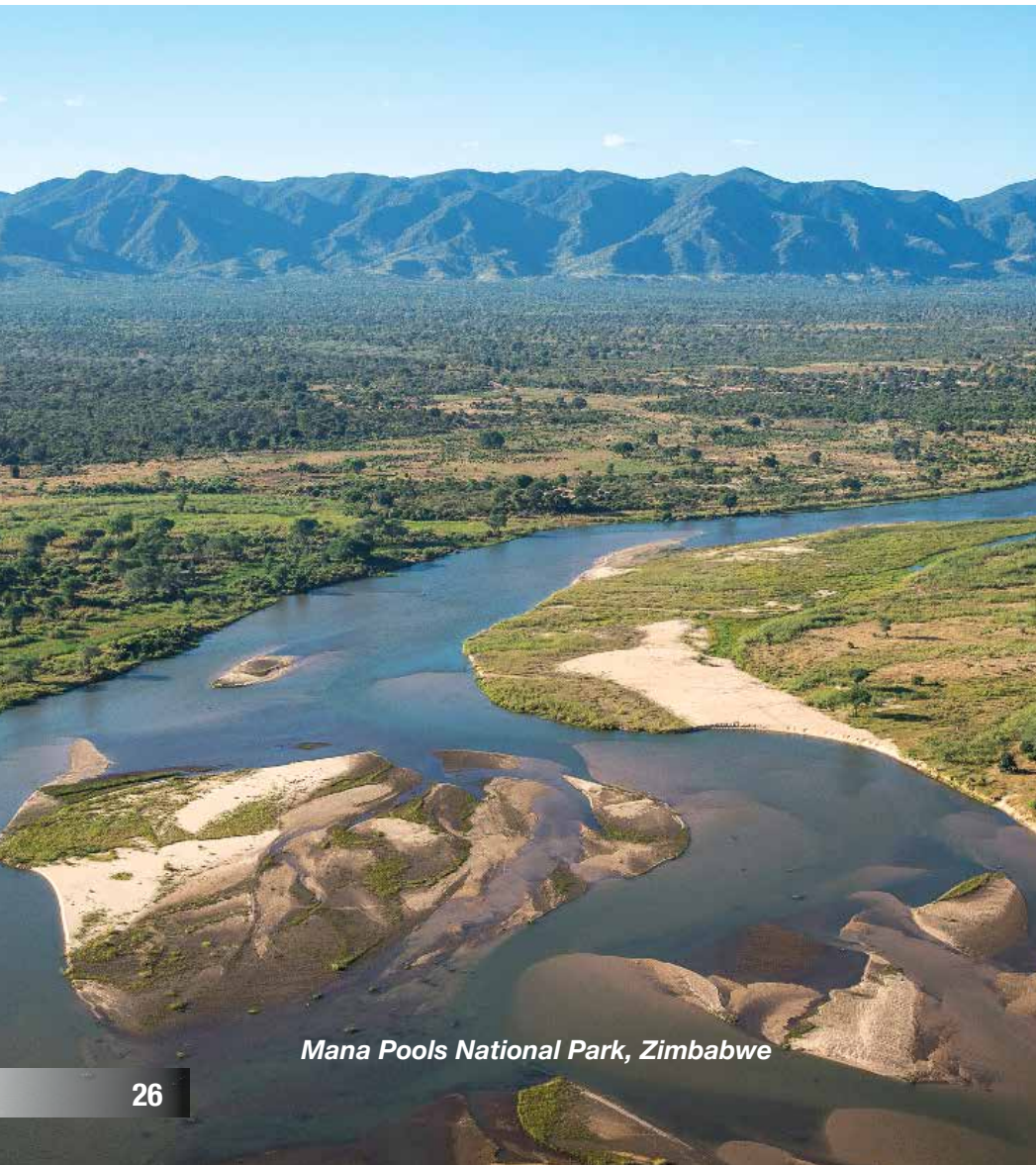
1. Develop operational capacity through training and acquiring additional communications equipment.
2. Register satellite collars on lions and other wildlife to increase real-time ecological monitoring.
3. Install final two radio towers and repeaters, along with solar power.
4. Acquire and deploy GSM camera traps.



IN THE NEWS

ZIMBABWE

Elephant poaching brought to a standstill using Global Park Defense



Mana Pools National Park, Zimbabwe

Elephants: 'My mission to stop poachers in Zimbabwe'

By Matthew Murray
BBC News

© 17 October 2020



Elephant conservationist lauds "huge result"

"We've gone 12 months without an elephant being shot and killed by poachers at Mana Pools National Park, which is a huge result."

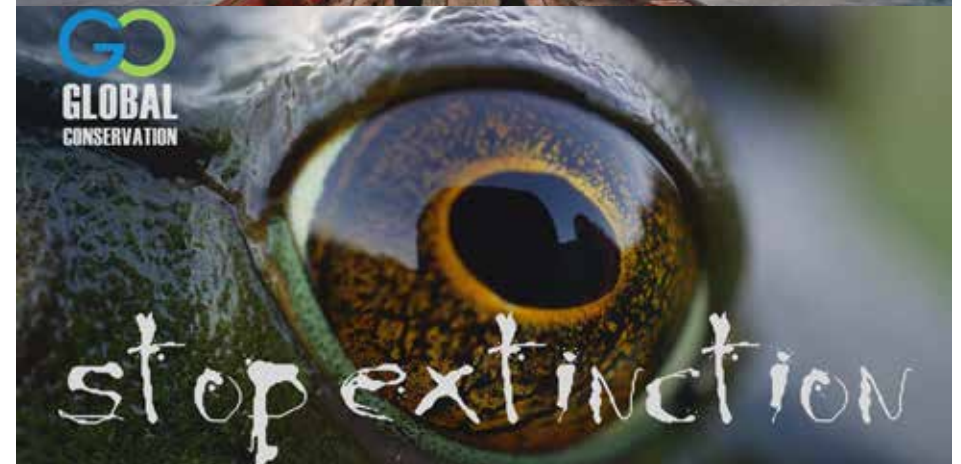
For Nick Murray, a conservationist born in Pontypridd, this result has followed years of hard work.

Nick now runs a conservation project with his wife Desiree covering the Lower Zambezi Valley of Zimbabwe, an area of 10,000 sq km (3,800 sq miles).

Over the past 23 years, he has seen the wildlife populations of the valley decrease rapidly. In particular, the elephant population at the Unesco World Heritage site has nearly halved in the past two decades from 20,000 to 12,000.

Nick said poaching had "hammered" the elephant population, and the drop in

GLOBAL CONSERVATION ON YOUTUBE



TECH FOR PARKS

TRAILGUARD AI

Global Conservation has supported the development of a new cellular trailcam technology called TrailGuard AI. TrailGuard AI is a revolutionary next-generation cellular trail camera created by the environmental organization RESOLVE and software developer CVEDIA. TrailGuard is a very small camera embedded with a processing chip, and its on-board AI can be trained to recognize people, vehicles like logging trucks, and specific wildlife species, even in the dark, without an internet connection. When triggered, images containing positively identified people, vehicles, or wildlife are sent as an alert in under two minutes to a designated cell phone or computer via 2G mobile networks or as a long-range radio signal.

TrailGuard is incredibly small – the head of the camera, along with the passive infrared sensor, is only about the size of a person's index finger. This makes it extremely easy to camouflage. The TrailGuard can also operate for 1.5 years on a single rechargeable battery. As of the end of 2020, the first cameras have been manufactured and are being rolled out in seven parks. The goal is to reach 100 parks in Africa by the end of 2021, and to expand the program to Latin America and Asia.

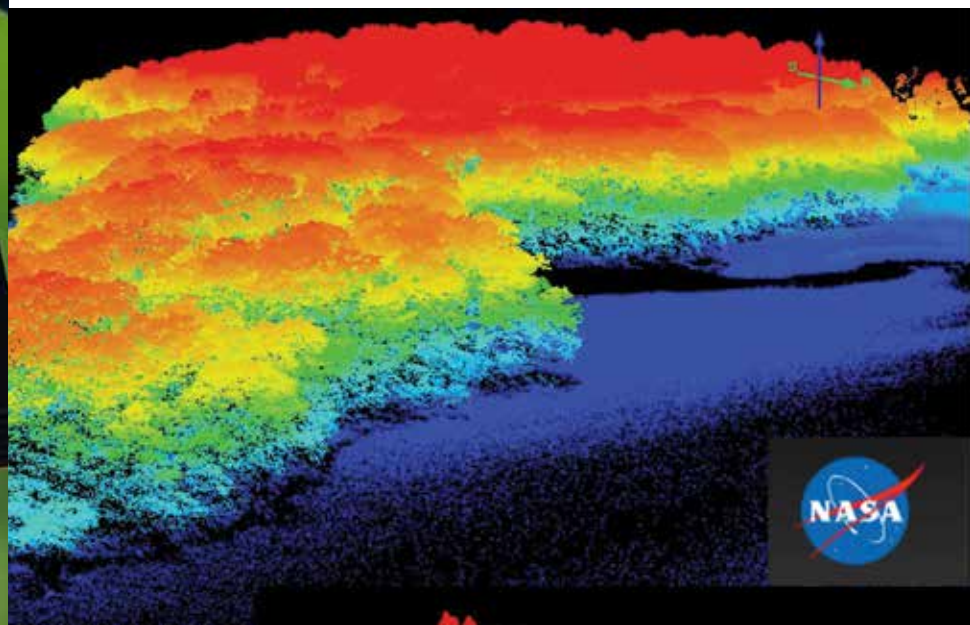


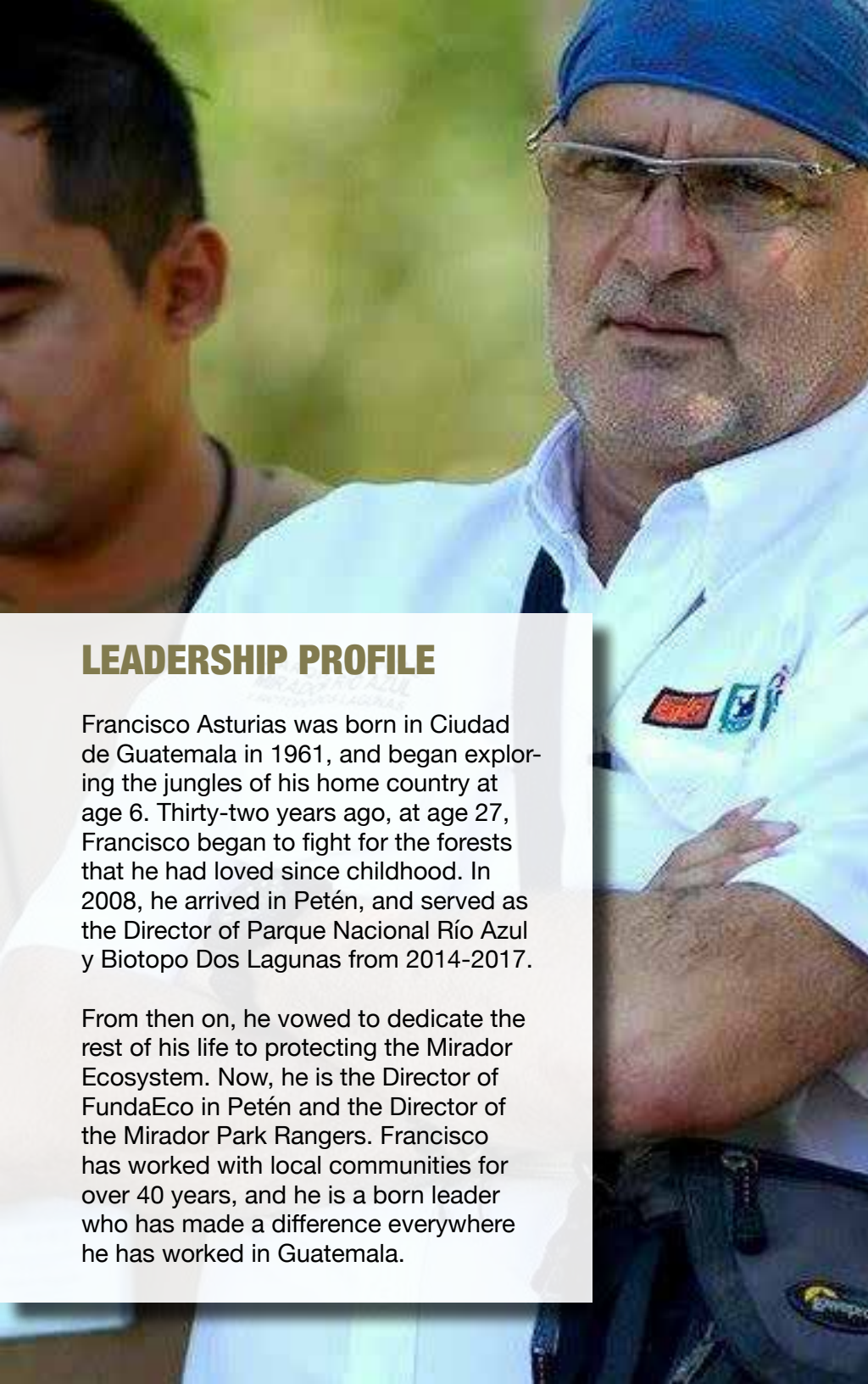
CARBON FOR FORESTS

Global Conservation's Carbon for Forests is the first forest-based carbon offset program which directly funds the protection and restoration of tropical forests, using advanced satellite monitoring combined with ISO-standard monitoring and verification. Already, Carbon for Forests has secured \$10 million in funding for Cardamom National Park.

Carbon offset financing aims to reduce the global amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by incentivizing projects that capture carbon from the air and store it. Protecting all existing forests would represent at least 30 percent of the action needed to keep global temperature rise at or below 2 degrees Celsius. We use carbon offset financing to reward projects that promote good forest management in developing countries with the highest rates of deforestation.

We are able to accurately estimate the Carbon Offset Value of (and changes in) each 1-million-acre (405,000-hectare) forest block for monitoring and verification. Carbon for Forests signs 20-year carbon offset contracts with Large Carbon Emitters (LCEs), such as oil companies. This program is generating critical funding for our projects, guaranteeing sustained forest protection and restoration in each park.





LEADERSHIP PROFILE

Francisco Asturias was born in Ciudad de Guatemala in 1961, and began exploring the jungles of his home country at age 6. Thirty-two years ago, at age 27, Francisco began to fight for the forests that he had loved since childhood. In 2008, he arrived in Petén, and served as the Director of Parque Nacional Río Azul y Biotopo Dos Lagunas from 2014-2017.

From then on, he vowed to dedicate the rest of his life to protecting the Mirador Ecosystem. Now, he is the Director of FundaEco in Petén and the Director of the Mirador Park Rangers. Francisco has worked with local communities for over 40 years, and he is a born leader who has made a difference everywhere he has worked in Guatemala.

IN MEMORIAM

Rangers are heroes: they put their lives on the line each day to defend our last remaining wild places. They are absolutely crucial to our Global Park Defense programs, and we owe them a debt of gratitude. Sadly, in 2019 and 2020 we lost several of our best.

Leuser Ecosystem, Indonesia: In November 2019, Hendri Syahputra passed away while on duty, swept away while crossing the river in Nagan Raya. Hendri joined FKL as a ranger in 2016, citing his love for the natural environment and the potential to have a positive impact on community. His legacy will undoubtedly influence current and future rangers to protect the environment and forests for the betterment of everyone on earth.

Mana Pools, Zimbabwe: On December 31, 2019, two young rangers, Ranger Mabharani and Ranger Tembo, were murdered by Zambian poachers while attempting to transport the arrestees to jail. These rangers lost their lives protecting Zimbabwe's parks and wildlife and will be remembered for their brave sacrifice.

Murchison Falls, Uganda: In April 2020, Sgt. Albert Odar died when he fell from the back of a Land Cruiser. Odar was one of the most effective anti-poaching operatives known, and he will be missed greatly. In his honor, UCF and UWA have teamed up to create a "Fallen Rangers Fund" for Uganda, and have already raised \$5000. Funds will be dispersed, as available, to cover fallen rangers' children's school fees.





ADOPT A PARK

Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park - Myanmar

There is so much work to do. You can fund specific programs by selecting your contribution level. Your support is making a world of difference!

DEPLOYMENT

Deploy Global Park Defense	\$100,000 per year
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Fund the protection of a park for a year!

PLANNING

Park Master Plan	\$25,000
Threat Assessment	\$10,000
Ecotourism Plan	\$10,000

PROTECTION

Fund Command Center	\$25,000
Fund a Ranger Team	\$10,000
Fund UAV Drones	\$10,000
Fund SatPhones	\$10,000
Deploy SMART Patrols	\$10,000
Fund Digital Radio Kits	\$10,000
Fund Cellular Trailcams	\$5,000
Fund Radios	\$5,000
Fund Combat Trauma Kits	\$1,000

Global Conservation enables families, foundations and corporations to “Adopt-A-Park,” bringing critical resources for implementing Global Park Defense.

Palau Northern Reefs

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For Global Conservation financials, see our website or email the Executive Director at jmorgan@globalconservation.org.

Corcovado National Park - Costa Rica

Global Conservation is a 501(c)(3) U.S. organization providing fully tax deductible donations for our supporters. If you are interested in supporting our critical mission, please contact our Executive Director. 100% of donations go directly to Global Park protection. Global Conservation takes great pride in our lean organization, project effectiveness, prudent use of funding, and scalability of our model. Join us and see what is possible with direct funding using a proven model for park protection in developing countries.



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