



## RESOLUTION # 15

### TITLE: **Mega connectivity conservation in the Altai Sayan Mountains of Central Asia**

**Whereas** the 9th World Wilderness Congress (Wild9) is a global forum of wilderness that includes many protected area experts who share experiences, lessons, advances and cutting edge approaches and ideas for protecting, conserving and restoring wild nature;

WILD9 is a platform to synthesise the collective wisdom of over 1500 delegates from 52 countries including community leaders, policy and decision-makers, wilderness land owners and managers, scientists, researchers, indigenous communities, business corporations, philanthropists, young people and many others;

#### **And, Whereas:**

- 1) The Altai-Sayan Region is the heart of Asia where the borders of Kazakhstan, Russia, China and Mongolia meet
- 2) The natural habitats of a range of critical species are found in the Altai-Sayan, including habitats for the endangered Argali, the largest of the world's native sheep and the Snow Leopard
- 3) The high mountain catchments of the Altai-Sayan are the source s of some of the World's mightiest rivers and are of critical importance to the people of Asia and beyond
- 4) Large landscape scale conservation along the high mountain catchments and across political borders including protected areas, transboundary protected areas and connectivity conservation is necessary to protect the natural values of the Altai Sayan

**Therefore:** the Delegates at the 9<sup>th</sup> World Wilderness Conference urge China, Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Russia to encourage, facilitate, and move ahead with large scale connectivity conservation along the entire Altai-Sayan border area and beyond, including any associated intergovernmental and transboundary cooperative management agreements that are needed

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