Practical results for wilderness, wildlife and people

WILD has the flexibility, experience, reputation, and partnerships to identify the most pressing problems and stimulate immediate, positive action to protect wild nature and human communities. For example, it just a few of our initiatives in 2007 were:

- Published the first comprehensive guide to wilderness laws and policies around the world.
- A handbook on International Wilderness Law and Policy is already acclaimed as a break-through tool for Wilderness Policy and Management.
- Working with our partners at the International League of Conservation Photographers, launched and implemented two Royal Academy Visual Expeditions (WAIE) to draw international attention to urgent conservation issues using Communications and Media.
- Assisted in the effort to provide an urgently needed surveillance aircraft for Local Action in Zukus Park National Park, Chad (North Africa) to deter poachers and protect its endangered elephant herd.
- Working with colleagues in Latin America and around the world, began planning the conservation objectives for WILDL, the 3rd World Wilderness Congress, now set for 20-21 December 2009 in Mexico City’s Vaticano pavilion. WILD’s theme, “Feel, Think, Act,” follows the WVC tradition of generating practical results, while focusing on critical regional and international issues such as climate change.

Our definition of wilderness

As the environmental crisis of global climate change dominates front-page news and becomes a primary concern to citizens around the world, WILD is at the forefront in recognizing the critical role played by wild nature in addressing this challenge. This focus is based on our generally accepted definition of wilderness as “the most biologically intact, natural areas left on our planet, which provide ecosystem support services such as water and air purification, climate regulation, reforestation of soil fertility, production and maintenance of biodiversity and much more.” While this definition grants our work in science and presents a strong case for policy, we understand that the benefits of wilderness are not just biological and economic, but also social and spiritual. Wilderness is an essential element of a healthy and prosperous human society.
Practical results for wilderness, wildlife and people

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- Published the first comprehensive guide to wilderness laws and policies worldwide.
- A ROADmap on International Wilderness Law and Policy is already acclaimed as a breakthrough tool for Wilderness Policy and Management.
- Working with our partners at the International League of Conservation Photographers, launched and implemented two Royal Academy Visual Expeditions (WARs) to draw international attention to urgent conservation issues using Communications and Media.
- Assisted in the effort to provide an urgently needed surveillance aircraft for Local Action in Zuidbos National Park, Chad (North Africa), to deter poachers and protect its endangered elephant herd.
- Working with colleagues in Latin America and around the world, began planning the conservation objectives for WILD’s, the 3rd World Wilderness Congress, now set for 10-12 November 2009 in Mexico’s Zacatecas province. WILD’s theme is, “Feel, Think, Act,” follow the WAC’s tradition of generating practical results, while focusing on critical regional and international issues such as climate change.

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Host Cities of the World Wilderness Congress
Practical results for wilderness, wildlife and people

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- Published the first comprehensive guide to wilderness laws and policies around the world.
- Worked with our partners at the International League of Conservation Photographers, launched and implemented two Royal Audience Visual Expeditions (WAVES) to draw international attention to urgent conservation issues using Communications and Media.
- Assisted in the effort to provide an urgently needed surveillance aircraft for Local Action in Zimbabwe National Park, Chad (North Africa), to deter poachers and protect its endangered elephant herd.
- Working with colleagues in Latin America and around the world, began planning the conservation objectives for WILD’s, the IV World Wilderness Congress, now set for 5-13 November 2010 in Mexico’s Vaticano/puntos. WILD’s theme, “Test, Think, Act,” follows the WVC’s traditions of generating practical results, while focusing on critical regional and international issues such as climate change.

Our definition of wilderness

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Host Cities of the World Wilderness Congress

- Lead: Tokyo, Japan
- Lead: Seattle, Washington
- Lead: Coeur d’Alene, Idaho
- Lead: La Plata, Mexico
- Lead: Durango, Mexico
- Lead: Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Lead: San Antonio, Texas
- Lead: Mexico City, Mexico
- Lead: Guadalajara, Mexico
- Lead: Monterrey, Mexico
- Lead: Chihuahua, Mexico

What we do

For 35 years, WILD has been a conservation pioneer and the only international organization dedicated specifically to protecting the North American wilderness.

How we do it

With sister organizations in numerous countries (The Wilderness Network), and through active collaboration with governments, corporations, scientists, educators, environmentalists, the media, fish biologists, and the arts, WILD creates positive conservation action at local, regional, and national levels. WILD initiates and empowers positive change for wilderness, wildlife and people through four key programme areas:

- Using Communications and Media to stimulate informed and inspired public action.
- Through Wilderness Policy and Management we promote the most effective wildlife legislation and management to benefit human communities.
- And, to field test our ideas and solutions on the ground, our Local Action field projects train individuals, institutes and assist organizations and provide urgently needed conservation supplies.

As the center of our work in the World Wilderness Congress (WWC), the world’s longest-running, public environmental forum, it achieves practical conservation results for wilderness and people by forming collaborative relationships, and convening world leaders, top environmentalists, leading scientists, nature people, artists, fish biologists and people from every profession and walk of life. The WWC generates innovative ideas, initiatives projects that create a real difference in communities around the world, inspires professionals and volunteers alike, and sounds a call-to-action for governments and corporations.