

Chapter 1 : PA DCNR - Denton Hill State Park

The communities around the Ambaro and Ambanja bays live off these mangroves; the murky waters within shelter crab, shrimp and fish which the villagers catch and sell, and provide a sheltered haven for fish to spawn, supplying the fisheries of the whole region.

Anya Ratnayaka was a young wildlife conservationist living in Colombo in her native Sri Lanka when a rogue Fishing Cat changed her life. Like many young conservationists, she wanted to study and protect the famous Leopard. But a chance meeting with a Fishing Cat spurred Ratnayaka to become a powerful champion instead of this lesser-known, equally charismatic feline. I had never heard of them; I had no idea we had them in this country. Photo courtesy of Anya Ratnayaka Like Aldo Leopold looking into the glowing green eyes of a wolf, that moment was pivotal for Ratnayaka. Today Ratnayaka is one of a number of GWC associate conservation scientists dedicated to saving the Fishing Cat from extinction and raising its profile as a flagship for conservation in Sri Lanka and beyond. They are striking animals, stocky and about twice the size of domestic cats. Spotted a bit like Leopards, they also sport stripes running down the back of their heads along their backs. Fishing Cats are rare for their habit of fishing. Photo by Neville Buck Fishing Cats face a number of threats: Their native marshland habitats are disappearing. And they are mistaken for young Leopards and killed out of fear. Their spots help them hide, and they are easily mistaken for a large domestic cat or a small Leopard. Their habits make them difficult to track and count. Camera traps are often the only way to study them. Colombo is a wetland city—15 percent of it is urban wetlands—and this month received the Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation. Ratnayaka has tracked Mizuchi the urban Fishing Cat since Early one morning in , Ratnayaka got a message from a friend showing a Fishing Cat lounging by a pond. It was, in fact, the pond outside her former office—a decorative pond, kilometers away from the nearest known marsh or Fishing Cat habitat. She leapt out of bed and raced into work to discover that the Fishing Cat in question had just made a meal of dragon koi—very expensive ornamental fish. The Fishing Cat—now called Mizuchi—became a fixture at the pond and ate his way through a buffet of ornamental carp. Collaring and tracking Mizuchi and a handful of other Fishing Cats showed Ratnayaka that scientists were not being creative enough in where they looked for the animal. Fishing Cats are turning up in gardens, on roofs, and, especially, eating ornamental fish. Ratnayaka has developed a relationship with the Sri Lankan Department of Wildlife Conservation and runs interference when Fishing Cats eat expensive fish. But much of the time, people are enchanted to learn that these cats, like little Leopards, are roaming the streets—and sewers—of Colombo. We work with colleagues and friends living in their home countries around the world. And we reduce threats to the wild cats. He hosts workshops, camps, and classes to reach out to local villagers, especially children, to teach them about Fishing Cats, and the specific threats the felines face. He has also worked to decrease the number of Fishing Cats killed by vehicles and has helped rehabilitate and re-release orphaned and injured Fishing Cats. He sets camera traps and trains part-time research assistants from the local populations, in addition to educating local school children. Just letting people know that an astonishing, and unexpected, animal lives in their midst is often enough to begin a conversation, especially with children. You can start small. In Sri Lanka, everything is about the Leopard. There are other animals that are just as threatened that need just as much protection. We maximize our impact through scientific research, biodiversity exploration, habitat conservation, protected area management, wildlife crime prevention, endangered species recovery, and conservation leadership cultivation.

Chapter 2 : PA DCNR - Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail

The reality is that making a living at nature photography is hard work, both physically and mentally. As a full-time photographer, there are three ways to make a meaningful income. Print Sales—“Few nature photographers sell enough prints to make a meaningful income from print sales.

By Nathaniel Scharping March 9, However, tracking and caring for rhinos is a dangerous task. The black rhino is a notoriously aggressive creature that charges at the slightest provocation, moving at speeds of up to 35 miles per hour while brandishing its impressive horn. He sits on the board of the Sand County Foundation, which works in the American west, and established an endowment at Colorado State University. He credits a lifelong love of nature for his charitable work, as well as a constant yearning to be out in the field. It has yielded both promising results and a wealth of experiences for Warner, who details his adventures in a new book, *Running With Rhinos*, which is available now. As an amateur rhino conservationist, Warner helped to track rhinos through the brush, fight fires, smuggle equipment into the country and, on more than one occasion, flee from charging wildlife. All of the proceeds from the book will be donated to furthering conservation efforts. Discover spoke with Warner about his experiences, his theory of radical conservation and how we can apply the lessons he learned in Africa to American conservationism. The interview has been lightly edited for length and clarity. What was your primary goal in writing *Running With Rhinos*? I wanted people to get what conservation is about from a personal experience. I need to be a hands-on, sweat equity kind of guy. And I wanted to promote that idea, that nature requires input from all of us. We can do our own part — small parts, large parts, but we can do that. I also wanted to let people know that there is a different model out there for approaching environmental issues than the old, frankly, Sierra Club model, of alienating people and making enemies and suing people. Especially in the Third World, where people are really poor, creating sustainable livelihoods and working with people is really important for the protection of wildlife. A rhino has to be worth more alive than it is dead. And that is really difficult, because rhino horn is so ghastly expensive. Quite frankly, I see the first 50 years of the environmental movement as an utter failure. A failure of fact, not of intention. Good intentions leading to unfortunate negative consequences. And so, 15 or so years ago, I discovered Aldo Leopold. And I realized that The Land Ethic, and working with private landowners, collaborating with communities in the Third World, was a much better model than suing people, or forcing regulations upon them that are punitive. I believe that most people want to do the right thing, including doing the right thing by nature. Early on, even though I was managing drilling rigs for oil and gas, I would hike around the countryside with my Audubon flower book and my bird book and my tree book in my backpack. I honest-to-god believe that I came into this at a tipping point in history where the failures of the past were leading people to re-think how they did business. Eighty percent of all wildlife lives on private land around the world. What are we going to do, buy it all up and give it to government? Instead of focusing on the negative, focus on the positive. Black Rhinoceros cow and calf walking away in Etosha desert. We need to build on economic models. Unfortunately, some of our environmental laws do not allow us to consider economics when we make our environmental decisions. And I think this has to change. Consider my model of ecosystem services payments: And if the cattle eat the grass and are what people want to buy from them, and that sustains their livelihoods, then they put that back into sustainable grass management. And this helps the greater sage grouse, which is a bird I love and which I worked on saving for over a decade. So, if the greater sage grouse is more important to people in the cities than cattle, why not pay the ranchers to grow sage grouse? I see this as a positive thing, not a negative thing. Keep them on the land. Would we rather have the Bureau of Land Management managing three hundred instead of two hundred million acres of land? Or would we rather have a hundred million acres of landowners doing a good stewardship job while they make a living in the land? I prefer the latter. A crucial part of making radical conservation work seems to be getting many different parties to align their interests. How did you make that work in Africa? Well in Africa, and especially in the old Rhodesian colonies and the South African colonies controlled by the Brits, they came up with a new legal model for managing wildlife, which allowed communities and private landowners to use the land

economically as long as they could control the wildlife behind a fence. That means they could harvest it for meat, they could hunt it, they could buy and sell live animals, and they could have photo safari businesses. You can make more money hunting animals than eating their meat. And you can make more money out of a photo safari business than you can out of hunting them. So, there's a progression toward a more and more conservation-minded effort. And what I saw in Africa was communal areas, national parks and private landowners working together under a very ethical and scientific system. So you could apply for a license to shoot two males and never disturb the breeding herds, never hunt a female. You could hunt, say, 3 percent of your cape buffalo. How did the indigenous people you worked with respond to your suggestions? Were you met with hostility at all? All of my work in Africa was totally collaborative with the private landowners, the communities and the national parks. They actually wanted our help. We gave them better science tools, we gave them better management tools, but we never told them what to do. I think that the old American model is a disaster. I went to Africa to learn from them. And so I think I got as much out of my experience in Africa as I gave back to them. Ed Warner assists with a tranquilized rhino. Ed Warner From your experiences in Africa, was there a defining moment, something that brought it all home for you? I met with two chiefs of the Shangaan nation, an offshoot of the Zulus who live in southeastern Zimbabwe. Back in the early part of the 20th century, commercial hunting had wiped out vast amounts of wildlife for meat and skin and ivory. The natives had lived in harmony for hundreds, if not thousands, of years with the wildlife, and we cocked it up. And so what did us white guys do? We created a national park and we marginalized the local people who had been living on those lands and removed them. We took them off of the best soils for growing maize, which is their livelihood, and put them in places where they half starved to death. And the two chiefs said to me, Eddie, the government loves the animals more than they love us. And so instead of being an enraged white American, it resonated with me, it was brilliant. I looked at their culture from their experience instead of mine, and it changed my life. What is the best way to raise awareness about conservation issues? And most of the stuff I work on is really positive, so they rarely pick up the stories. Let's face it, without a death and eight arrests in Oregon, Time would not have picked up my little article. So, I gave blood, I ended up giving almost units of blood. As soon as I found a place where my enthusiasm could be of value I started volunteering. I volunteered working with children, with the public schools, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. I really believe that there is a vast amount of volunteerism in this country, not just the philanthropy of writing checks. I would love to see people in the urban environment volunteer half a day a year planting flowers in the green belt, just to have a contact with nature. A pair of black rhinos. I want them to believe that life is an adventure, that we need to be willing to take risks; financial risks, intellectual risks, professional risks and physical risks to change the world. You know, none of us get out of this life alive. What a ridiculous attitude, we risk our lives every day! And the real risk for me is to live the rest of my life in a lazy fashion and not accomplish anything. Is there anything else you would like to add? All I would ask of my readers, is when they get to the back of the book, and they see that donations can be made to the Sand County Foundation which does work in America, or the International Rhino Foundation, doing work in Africa, that they consider actually making a donation. All of the proceeds of this book are going to conservation. All of these people who are risking their lives and their professions are really worth supporting.

Chapter 3 : Making a living between land and sea - Beyond Conservation

In that context, promoting conservation means recognizing the reasons poachers hunt - and setting up a business model that gives local residents the opportunity to make a real, legal, living.

The first inductee, Theodore Roosevelt, established the U. S. National Wildlife Federation. Over the years, the National Wildlife Federation has also recognized conservationists whose names are less familiar to most Americans, but whose impressive accomplishments clearly merit recognition. Demonstrating early in his life a talent for drawing birds, Audubon had more than a thousand samples in his portfolio by the time he set out for England in search of a publisher. The result was stunning: Hugh Bennett

Inducted As a young man, Hugh Bennett noticed precious topsoil washing away from cultivated slopes throughout the United States. His speech about erosion and the methods for managing it led Congress to fund erosion research. Soon after, Congress created the Soil Erosion Service in the Department of the Interior to put the experiments into practice. Bennett served as chief. It was the "Dust Bowl" in that firmly put soil conservation into the national spotlight. By the time he retired from the position in 1934, the SCS had 14, employees, an annual budget of nearly 60 million dollars, and a watershed program well underway. John Burroughs

Inducted During his lifetime, John Burroughs published some two dozen books and numerous essays in a simple, charming, and honest style that made his writings favorites in the classroom. Greatly influenced by Emerson, Whitman, and Thoreau, Burroughs did more than any other writer to establish the American nature essay as a literary genre. Though his forays into the political battles of conservation were rare, he wielded great influence over the direction of the early environmental movement through his writings, including *Signs and Seasons*, *Ways of Nature*, and *The Breath of Life*. Presidents and scientists, journalists and school children made the pilgrimage to "Slabside," his retreat near West Park, New York. Rachel Carson

Inducted Two years into her tenure as an English composition major at Pennsylvania College for Women, Rachel Carson found herself so fascinated by a required biology course that she decided to abandon literature to become a scientist. Carson used her time to delve courageously into researching the hazards of pesticide misuse. Four years in the making, *Silent Spring* burst upon the world in 1962, so eloquent that it moved thousands of Americans from apathy to action, and so prophetic that it has become the symbol of the new environmental movement. The book sparked extensive chemical industry efforts to discredit Carson both personally and professionally, but her meticulous research, credibility, and commitment won out with the public. Rachel Carson refused to believe that the destruction of the environment is the inevitable price of progress. Comstock is widely recognized as the mother of nature education. Along with her husband, John, whom she met while she was a student at Cornell University, she formed the Comstock Publishing Company. The now-famous sourcebook for teachers went through 24 editions and was translated into eight languages. In her book, Comstock emphasized the rewards of direct observation. She was ahead of her time in stressing the importance of natural relationships that work to form what we now call an ecosystem. In time, the program grew into a nationwide teacher-education program administered by Cornell University and other colleges. By encouraging instructors to take their students outside to learn, and then helping them see the relationship between people and the natural world, Anna Botsford Comstock left her mark on countless generations. To most, he is best known for his acclaimed television series *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau*. From the research ship *Calypso*, we traveled with Cousteau and his crew on a journey of discovery that took us around the world and to the depths of the seas. We came to understand the magical beauty of the undersea world, its creatures and their link to our survival. For the first time, millions of people were brought face-to-face with sharks, whales, dolphins, sea turtles, octopuses, and other seldom-seen species. Cousteau also saw first-hand—and let us see—the pollution that was fouling the oceans thousands of miles from land, and jeopardizing the very existence of life in the underwater world. We can only speculate on how many were moved toward a conservation commitment or to action by images brought home by Jacques Cousteau. Jacques Cousteau was far more than a television figure—he was a true modern day explorer, researcher, and pioneer. Although he claimed conservation as a hobby, his achievements in conservation at all levels—local, state,

and nationalâ€™were numerous and lasting. During his administration, three million acres of public land were set aside as wildlife refuges. Darling was an articulate and forceful speaker, a vigorous crusader, and an expressive writer. Frustrated after years of battling red tape and political intrigue, he resigned from his federal post and convinced President Roosevelt to call the first North American Wildlife Conference in . The landmark session would address the need for an organization to unite and speak for the diverse individuals and groups seeking to protect wildlife and wild places. Darling had a leading role in ensuring passage of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of , also known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, which provides money to states for the purchase of game habitat and to help fund wildlife research through a tax on sporting firearms and ammunition. He designed the first duck stamp, which then sold for one dollar toward the purchase of refuges. And his influence on wildlife conservation was immortalized in the J. His vision and commitment lives on today in the work of the unifying champion of wildlife and wild places of which Darling was the primary architectâ€™the National Wildlife Federation. Marjory Stoneman Douglas â€™ Inducted A passionate, articulate, and tireless voice for the environment for most of her years on this earth, Marjory Stoneman Douglas left behind a legacy unparalleled in the history of conservation: In the s, Douglas wrote editorials urging Everglades protections, and in the s and s, she lobbied on the state and federal level for designation of the area as a national park. But it was the publication of her now-famous book, *The Everglades: River of Grass*, in that transformed the national consciousness. Later that year, she watched as an honored guest while President Truman dedicated Everglades National Park. Douglas founded the nonprofit group Friends of the Everglades in and spent many years traveling throughout the state, rallying support for the protection of the south Florida wetland and speaking out against people and industries that threatened it. Well beyond her th birthday, Douglas continued her grassroots effort to inform, outrage, and inspire others to action, becoming a beloved symbol of the Everglades she dedicated her life to protecting. In her declining years, she continued to raise awareness of the damage that misguided "replumbing" efforts and unwise development had wrought on the Everglades and challenged the nation to fix these mistakes and return the ecosystem to health. Her challenge has been taken up by the National Wildlife Federation and other groups working in support of an historic effort to protect and restore this unique American treasure. Ira Gabrielson â€™ Inducted A true conservation pioneer, Ira Gabrielson spent two decades of his early career carrying out ecological research as a field biologist for the Bureau of Biological Survey, the forerunner of the U. His full-time work in the field ended and his administrative career began in when he went to Washington to become chief of the Bureau. Thanks in large part to his strong political ties, several milestone wildlife laws were passed during his tenure. Among the legislation he helped see through: The Duck Stamp Act, which established the sale of migratory bird hunting stamps, and the Pittman-Robertson Act, which levied an excise tax on the sale of sporting firearms and ammunition. Both measures provided essential funding for conservation efforts. In this capacity, he was responsible for adding millions of acres to the National Wildlife Refuge System. C-based Wildlife Management Institute, dedicated to habitat restoration and wildlife research. He headed the institute for 24 years. In a career that spanned more than 65 years, Ira Gabrielson proved that the profound power of the individual can make a big difference for the cause of conservation. George Bird Grinnell â€™ Inducted As founder of the first Audubon Society in New York and as a central figure in the fight for the environment, George Bird Grinnell spent a lifetime protecting the land he loved. After receiving a doctorate in paleontology in , Grinnell took over *Forest and Stream*, a weekly publication for sportsmen and naturalists. He used the paper as a tool for channeling the growing dissatisfaction of outdoor enthusiasts with dwindling game populations and disappearing habitat into a crusade to conserve natural resources. To accomplish his goal of ensuring effective enforcement of game laws, Grinnell advocated a game warden system to be financed by small fees from all hunters. The notion that the traditionally free and unstructured activity of hunting must be financially supported by sportsmen themselves and regulated on the state level was a revolutionary concept that would become a cornerstone of game management. Realizing that the enforcement of game laws was the solution to only half a problem, Grinnell turned his attention to habitat conservation. In , he began an editorial effort to persuade America to manage timberlands efficiently to yield a sustained "crop. When Roosevelt became president in , the conservation philosophy first formulated by George Bird Grinnell became the basis

of the American conservation program. An articulate spokesman and influential writer, Hornaday wrote hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles and more than 20 books, which wielded great power in helping to bring about wildlife conservation laws. His role in the passage of the Fur Seal Treaty was largely responsible for sparing the Alaskan fur seal from oblivion. His tireless efforts against huge obstacles led to the passage of important conservation legislation, including the Federal Migratory Bird Act, which protects all migratory birds and allows regulated seasons on game species. He organized and became president of the American Bison Society, and convinced the federal government to establish the National Bison Range in the West. By , the buffalo—a symbol of our national heritage—was no longer in danger of extinction, thanks in large part to William Temple Hornaday. The Beautification Act, enacted into law by Congress in was the direct result of her campaign for nationwide scenic enhancement, particularly in regard to roadside development. She also led an effort to beautify Washington, D. Now covering acres and displaying more than plant species, the center demonstrates how native plants conserve water and minimize the use of polluting fertilizers and insecticides. Aldo Leopold — Inducted In the early s and the dawn of government land regulations, Aldo Leopold foresaw that the coming impact of humankind could destroy the last vestige of wilderness if no voice were raised in protest. Leopold lent his own eloquence to the challenge of defending the land, and his words resound more poignantly today than ever. A forester, game manager, scientist, teacher, and writer, Leopold was also a visionary, whose concept of a land ethic serves as the philosophical underpinning of the modern-day conservation movement. Urging the need for land-responsibility by the individual, he was convinced that wilderness had a place in a world filled with man-made turmoil. A graduate of Yale Forestry School, Leopold spent the early days of his career as a ranger for the U. Forest Service in New Mexico. He left the Southwest in to become assistant director of the Forest Products Laboratory in Wisconsin for four years, before resigning to devote his time to the development of the science of game management. In , Leopold accepted the chair of game management post at the University of Wisconsin, the first such position to be established in the nation. That same year, he published his classic textbook, *Game Management*. Later his prolific writings and astute, yet poetic observations of nature would inspire countless others to learn and care about the natural world. His final book, *A Sand County Almanac*, is perhaps his greatest gift to future generations. A beautifully articulated expression of the relationship between people and the land, it gave birth to the concept of a land ethic and has sowed the seeds of stewardship in readers ever since. His eloquent and enduring writing will serve as a beacon for conservationists for generations to come.

Starker Leopold — Inducted A. Starker Leopold, the oldest son of famed ecologist Aldo Leopold, was a conservationist, naturalist, wildlife biologist and educator. Starker may be best known for the Leopold Report, a series of recommendations he produced with colleagues on ecosystem management that were presented in to the Secretary of the Interior, outlining the steps needed for managing national park visitors while also protecting natural resources. The recommendations proved to be a landmark publication for the National Park Service. The son of famed ecologist Aldo Leopold, he served for 22 years as chief hydrologist of the U. Among his assignments during that period was an assessment of plans to build the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. His vehement complaints compelled the pipeline consortium to initiate safeguards. He also consulted on plans for a South Florida jetport that threatened a portion of the Everglades.

Chapter 4 : Conservation Hall of Fame | National Wildlife Federation

A visit to Peck Ranch Conservation Area (CA) is more than a jaunt on a trail or a quick reconnection to nature. It's a living history lesson in the progress Missouri has made on its promise to protect and manage our state's wildlife.

Nominate a notable nonprofit by emailing us at nominations@nwf.org. As our population expands, so does our potential for disrupting nature and climate. Sustainability is the practice of changing habits so that humans and nature can coexist without damaging the environment. Efforts to make things more sustainable can be global and local. The Paris Agreement is an international effort to get countries all over the world to decrease their greenhouse gas emissions. In your own home and community, you can do things like recycle and use reusable bags instead of plastic. Any sustainable practices – large or small – are important steps in helping us make Earth a safe home for future generations. These nonprofits are each doing their part to promote sustainability. They help people work toward the goal of living in harmony with the environment. Sierra Club Established in 1892, the Sierra Club has been part of many campaigns and legislation to protect wild lands. The Sierra Club also offers outings that give people the chance to experience environment-friendly travel. The organization funds scientists who study ecosystems in the environment. These scientists find out what threats they face and what we can do to preserve them. WCS has four zoos and one aquarium in New York. These operate with the goal of saving endangered species and learning more about wildlife. The nonprofit works with governments, communities, businesses, and indigenous people to protect wildlife all over the world. It also fights to pass and protect legislation that conserves animal habitats. These issues include climate change, pollution, and the need for sustainable food production and ocean conservation. The EDF helps shape economic markets, partners with businesses, creates government policies, and uses scientific research to work on solutions to our current problems. The act reforms old chemical safety law. This helps make sure products we buy are safer for us and the environment. Defenders of Wildlife The Defenders of Wildlife is a voice for wild animals against big oil and other corporations with agendas. Defenders keeps a close eye on government policies that may cause harm to environments these animals depend on to survive. This act takes wolves in the Great Lakes region and Wyoming off the endangered wildlife list. It also attempts to weaken the Endangered Species Act. The Defenders of Wildlife also help promote coexistence strategies for humans and wildlife. The nonprofit looks for ways to fight climate change, too. World Wildlife Fund The World Wildlife Fund WWF works in about 100 countries to conserve forests, fresh water, oceans, wildlife, food, and climate for both animals and humans. The WWF also offers a fellowship to students getting graduate degrees in conservation-related fields. There are chapters in local communities and in the global marketplace. Rainforest Alliance Each day, 130,000 acres of forest get destroyed. The Rainforest Alliance aims to preserve forests and their ecosystems and help people find sustainable ways to use land and produce food. The nonprofit recognizes that people rely on land and forests to grow food and make a living. But it also believes we can do that without causing harm to the environment. Rainforest Alliance works with the agriculture, forestry, and tourism industries to change their practices. The nonprofit also offers sustainability training around the world. The nonprofit then uses this information to educate and influence governments, businesses, and the community. The WRI has projects all over the world. These projects help countries use clean energy sources, conserve forests and water, reduce waste, and lessen our impact on climate change. Conservation International Conservation International CI works to protect nature for wildlife and humans. If we want to have a future, we need to learn to be sustainable. The organization thinks long term and proposes solutions across government and private sectors. Some issues CI focuses on include making coffee production more sustainable and keeping an eye on sharks in the oceans. International Institute for Sustainable Development Often, calls for economic development can conflict with sustainability goals. The organization uses its research to work with policymakers and private businesses to reform policies and build sustainable solutions. IISD also works on international trade. The Rocky Mountain Institute RMI works to move the world away from fossil fuel demand and toward sustainable, low-carbon energy sources instead. The RMI provides information and resources that help businesses and other institutions around the world save energy and reduce pollution. For example, its

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programs in China and on islands with small economies guide both toward clean energy. Green America
Green America believes sustainable solutions can be put into action by using economies as a driving force
behind them. The nonprofit encourages consumers to spend on green products and services. It also encourages
businesses to adopt eco-friendly practices. Written by Rena Goldman on October 31, related stories.

Chapter 5 : Average Salary in Environmental Science » Environmental Science Degree

At more than , square miles, it is the world's largest transboundary conservation area, and aims to sustainably manage the ecosystem to the benefit of wildlife—elephants and rhinos, lions and wild dogs, crocodiles and cheetahs—and people.

Read on for a practical guide on how to get a job in conservation. This article is regularly updated, get in touch with any suggested additions. You really can make a difference. Conservation jobs often involve working outdoors. You may get to visit wild and wonderful places. No two days are the same. You find yourself working with people who have the same values. For every day in the field, you may well have to spend several behind a desk, in the lab or at meetings. You might long for the stability and normality of an ordinary A job in conservation is extremely unlikely to make you rich. How to Get Started in Conservation building experience! Many useful things can be taught in the classroom, but when it comes to topics like conservation and the environment, there is really no substitute for experience. Put your free time and summer holidays to good use with some of the following and you will be grateful for the experience when you come to finding a job later. Volunteer for as many things as possible. Try anything once, find your niche and your motivation. Attend talks or meetings like the excellent Explore Conference or microlecture evening at the Royal Geographical Society, London. Take the plunge and join your first expedition not sure how? These are a good place to start. Look no further — Discover Conservation has been amassing interviews with real life conservationists, in the field, around the world. For example, Andrew Snyder writes about studying reptiles and amphibians in Guyana, Luke Massey is a conservation photographer in Zambia and Kalli Doubleday studies human-tiger conflict in India. How To Get Real Life Conservation Experience I maintain a list of conservation organisations that I think do really worthwhile work, in incredible places right around the world. Should You Work For Free? On the one hand, many argue that it gives a huge number of early career conservationists a chance to start gaining valuable practical experience. Conservation, as an industry is poor. Many NGOs have a small staff and there are a huge number of people willing to work for free. But on the other side of the argument , many point out that we should be showing that we value our early career conservationists more, by paying them. Unpaid internships may also favour the wealthier in society that can afford to not earn an income for a period. Some even say that the proliferation of volunteer positions is exploitation. My reasoning is three-fold: Firstly, when I was starting out, my priority was to gain experience, not earn money. I could earn money in supermarkets or working as a waiter and I did , it was dull, but straight forward. Gaining experience in conservation, was harder, but I could do that in my spare time. Remember that I started with no experience, so getting paid was unlikely. Instead, I took the view that I was being paid in knowledge and experience. For me, that was far more valuable. Lastly, from personal experience, lots of people that start out as volunteers or interns end up being offered paid jobs by those same organisations, a few months down the line. Academically there are lots of advantages to having a Masters or PhD in terms of getting a job later. They can however cost quite a lot of money and of course take several years. The best place to start looking is findamasters. When it comes to a PhD you should ask yourself a few questions: Will it help you get to where you want to go or would practical experience be more useful instead? Are you happy to manage your own time? With a PhD comes flexibility, but also responsibility. Are you willing or able to pay more fees Masters or earn a lot less than your friends PhD for years? From project management, to persistence, applying to grants and of course in depth knowledge of your chosen field. In short, if you get the chance, jump at it. The original conservation movement was very much based on environmentalists and to a certain extent scientists. These days, the people and skills need to diversify if conservation is to be competitive and successful— Why? They need to reach out and share their ideas Marketing! They need to come up with new ideas and solutions engineers! And of course we need to educate Teachers! Approach people or organizations you would like to work for. Maintain a professional LinkedIn profile , and consider Twitter too! Gain experience as early as possible. Keep up to Date. Follow progress and developments of projects around the world. RSS Feeds are great for this. Many are reluctant to do this, so you will immediately have an advantage. At best, you will be highly valued and

possibly offered a more permanent position. At worst, you have gained some valuable transferable experience. Be persistent but not annoying. Put yourself in the right places at the right time. Learn to Accept Failure. Learn from your mistakes and start over. Working in conservation is at once the most and least rewarding thing you can do. Develop an idea for a field research project, ask for feedback and take it on board , and then apply for funding from one of these organisations.

Chapter 6 : How to Get Involved with Conservation Volunteering

A job in conservation is extremely unlikely to make you rich. How to Get Started in Conservation (building experience!) Many useful things can be taught in the classroom, but when it comes to topics like conservation and the environment, there is really no substitute for experience.

Ankazomborona is perched on the edge of a muddy channel separating land from a forbidding forest of twisted mangrove trees, their roots veering up in the quest for air in the thick dark mud. Their pirogues float gracefully up the channel towards the village, and fishers unload their nets, wading through the calf-deep squelching mud. The communities around the Ambaro and Ambanja bays live off these mangroves; the murky waters within shelter crab, shrimp and fish which the villagers catch and sell, and provide a sheltered haven for fish to spawn, supplying the fisheries of the whole region. In one pirogue we spot these materials used to make traditional large fish traps called kira. These funnel shaped traps are erected on the edge of mangroves to catch fish, shrimp and crab leaving the mangroves as the tide goes out. Charlie previously lived for a number of years in the Vezo fishing villages where Blue Ventures works in the southwest of Madagascar, and her curiosity to understand the fisheries up here in the northwest is infectious. We meet Marie waiting to buy produce from the fishers to sell on. All around the village we spot mats covered in dried fish of a range of species. Drying fish means it can be exported easily to regional hubs such as Ambilobe, Ambanja, Diego, Sambava, but it will get a lower price. This short visit and the experiences of our team working in similar villages around the Ambaro and Ambanja bays tell us that local people have identified that their resources and livelihoods are in crisis. They have seen fish stocks crash in their own lifetimes and a parallel disappearance and degradation of vast areas of mangroves. Our experience in the south west with octopus shows that identifying fisheries that respond to local management measures over short timescales is a successful way of catalysing long term community management of resources – a foot in the door. We are still at a very early stage in the northwest, but we hope to find similarly successful short-term fishery management measures here which will contribute to long-term management of mangroves in combination with sustainable finance mechanisms such the sale of carbon credits, preserving the vital ecosystem services these habitats provide. On our way back, we meet a trader overseeing the packing and washing of shrimp in four large baskets. He has bought shrimp from twenty different pirogues today, but has only collected kg – these five baskets. He tells us that when he started out just one pirogue on its own could catch this same quantity in a day. You can help Blue Ventures secure funding to get a unique mangrove ecotourism project off the ground in the Bay of Ambanja. This project will allow tourists, students and locals to experience and learn about mangrove ecosystems, and provide another mechanism to finance conservation of this critical habitat by providing revenue to local communities. To make this happen we need your vote. Follow this link – it only takes 3 clicks! Our collector aims to collect between kg and 1 tonne of shrimp to fill his truck and take to Diego where he sells to a Chinese buyer. He had already filled a chest freezer with catch from the previous days, so is ready to make the trip today. After studying natural sciences, focusing on ecology and conservation at Cambridge University, she went on to work on projects engaging people in nature and its conservation. A planned "year out" to get practical conservation experience in the Indian Ocean developed into more than four years working in the Comoros and Madagascar, with the ECDD project in Anjouan and the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in Madagascar, where she specialised in outreach for community-based conservation projects, while also working on project development and management.

Chapter 7 : Conservation - Wildlife World

Average Salary in Environmental Science Workers in an environmental-related field are in high demand, due to the rising commitment to protecting the natural world. Most salary figures are presented as a median value instead of average to more closely reflect the typical salary you could expect within this field.

Sign up A cheaper plan to stop poachers: Give them real jobs A new program in Zambia teaches former poachers new ways to make a living in order to support conservation goals. October 23, By Joseph J. Poverty drove the father of nine to wander the bush evading wildlife scouts to shoot buffalo and elephant and sell the meat to local traders. Out of prison now, his movements are monitored by a local antipoaching team. Mbewe says he has no intention of going back behind bars. Mbewe is also learning to farm and work as a beekeeper. As long as he refrains from poaching, COMACO buys his honey at a price higher than the local market average, processes it, packages it, and sends it on to local markets. In Zambia, battle over future of Victoria Falls The program goes beyond teaching former poachers new ways to earn a living; it is creating a sophisticated network of markets that makes money for locals while reducing poaching, improving land use, and supporting conservation. Why poaching continues Demand for ivory in China and Japan has driven the worldwide illegal ivory trade to its highest level in two decades, a University of Washington study concluded in February, and Zambia appears to be a key source. In , authorities seized 6. Poaching also has a local market. They now work under government auspices. Cellphone technology has allowed poachers to become more sophisticated. Several groups are working to change community attitudes toward illegal hunting in Zambia. Changing attitudes If farmers agree not to poach and to adopt conservation-friendly methods, they gain "compliance bonuses" and access to the prices offered by COMACO, which normally exceed the local market rate. Extension officers show local villagers the benefits of farming organically, building high-yield log beehives, and growing multiple crops to avoid seasonal food shortages that might drive them to hunt or cut down trees to make charcoal. Veronica Banda, a villager in Mfuwe, Zambia, who cares for 15 dependents, thought the COMACO officers were "mad people" when they asked her to abandon "slash and burn" farming, she said in a mixture of English and Nyanja, the local language. Rice, honey, and peanut butter are taken from thirty-two local trading depots to three regional trading centers for processing. The project has hired a new salesperson to navigate the marketing challenges of modern supermarkets. The program has also built village-based safari bush camps to generate revenue. The program is four years away from breaking even, Lewis projects, and still relies on funding from charitable organizations and donor governments. In the end, however, local residents will decide whether the program is working.

Chapter 8 : Saving Black Rhinos Through 'Radical Conservation' - The Crux

For most people, observing wildlife is a thrilling experience, but when an animal causes damage or attempts to share your living space, that thrill can turn to irritation or fear. Just like us, birds and other animals are doing their best to make a living and raise their young.

No matter whether you attempt to do it as a full-time professional or a part-timer to supplement income from an existing job, there are many things to consider. Nature photography is a tough way to make a living. However if you do it right, you can make it work. Both full-time and part-time photographers need to remember and understand these concepts: You need to get really and I mean really good as a photographer. This takes many years of working hard. You must deal with rejection. Full-time photographers can add these to the list: You have to know your market and change when necessary. Be able to justify expenditures such as travel, equipment and extensive marketing website, social etc. Part-time Photographer Being a part-time nature photographer can be a way to subsidize an existing income or make it possible to afford new gear, travel etc. Any income from photography that comes along is often just extra cash, over and above income from a regular job or other source. In other words, if you make no money in your photography, your lifestyle would not significantly change. The income of most part-time nature photographers comes from print sales or stock. Full-time Professional Photographer The only way to make any meaningful income in nature photography is to do it full-time. Being a full-time professional nature photographer sounds romantic. We travel to exotic places, spend hours outdoors in the wilderness, meet fascinating people and more. Folks say I have a dream job. The reality is that making a living at nature photography is hard work, both physically and mentally. As a full-time photographer, there are three ways to make a meaningful income. Print Sales—Few nature photographers sell enough prints to make a meaningful income from print sales. More expressive and large-sized works sell better these days. Think outside the box. Stock agencies are not paying what they used to. Microstock and subscription stock has changed everything. Today there are so many photographers selling their work for next to nothing that the overall business is very different than it was years ago. Can you make some income as a part-time stock photographer? Sure, but only a few can make enough income from stock to rely on it solely. The stock industry has changed with the advent of digital. A huge inventory of digital images has driven down the payment to photographers. Some microstock agencies operate on a quantity basis and are an inexpensive source of images for businesses of all kinds. A lower payment to the agency means the payout to the photographer is smaller as well. One way to try making money in stock is to shoot large quantities of images. They should be of subjects that are in demand and different from the norm or subjects not often photographed. To my mind, this is the only way to make a living in nature photography today, but it is not as easy as you might think. It takes many years to build a photography business. You have to be prepared to: Travel like crazy and be willing to be away from your home and family for weeks at a time. Shoot less and become a competent teacher and communicator. Develop some business savvy. When you determine your fees, be sure they will cover all your expenses and still show a profit. Learn how to market and promote yourself. Do you know how to make yourself marketable enough to get folks to want to take your workshops? You have to get your name out there. Know your client base and be able to relate to it. Can you deal with people and their idiosyncrasies and not let them affect you? Can you compete with successful photographers who have been doing this for many years? Eat, sleep and drink photography, and know your place in the market. It takes time, knowledge and dedication. He has an extensive schedule of workshops throughout the United States and beyond. Jack was chosen as one of FujiFilms X-photographers. His work has been published in many well-known magazines as well as for stock and fine art print sales and e-books. See more of his work at www.

Chapter 9 : Why Choose Conservation

A small independent dive based coral reef conservation project, based on an island an hour from mainland Malaysia. Azafady Conservation Programme. A really worthwhile Madagascar based sustainable development and conservation organization, working closely with local people. There are several other organisations in the Lemur Conservation Network.

But as ever more tourists visit the country, some rural people are starting to make a living from it. At the San Antonio Cloud Forest near the city of Cali, Raul Nieto has turned his small farm into a bird-watching center with dozens of feeder stations. Local farmers are not allowed to raise cattle here, or chop down trees. Over the last decade, the number of bird species recorded in this pocket of cloud forest has risen from to , according to the eBird digital platform. The real long-distance champions The long-distance champion Meet the bar-tailed godwit: Breeding primarily on Arctic coasts, and the Scandinavian and Siberian tundra, this wading species spends the winter in Australia and New Zealand. In , a tagged bird was recorded as having flown 11, kilometers miles , from Western Alaska to New Zealand, in a single nine-day stretch. That probably makes it the record-holder for non-stop flight. The real long-distance champions The little guy Named for the bright red plumage under its beak, the ruby-throated hummingbird can grow up to 9 centimeters 3. During migration, some specimens fly miles non-stop across the Gulf of Mexico to their breeding grounds in the Eastern United States. The real long-distance champions The officer Belonging to the stork species, the greater adjutant owes its name to its gait “ which is said to resemble that of a military officer. Outside of the breeding season, it visits neighboring countries across Southeast Asia. In real life, the birds are more awe-inspiring than scary. Crossing the Pacific and Atlantic, up coasts in spring and down in autumn, they clock up to 14, kilometer journeys. Oh, and they can also dive down to more than 60 meters. The real long-distance champions The sewing machine Dunlins are small waders, and breed in Arctic regions. While those from Northern Europe and Asia fly as far as Africa for the winter break, their Alaskan and Canadian counterparts prefer the much closer North American coasts. Their characteristic mechanical way of picking at food has earned them their nickname. The real long-distance champions The snowbird Arctic terns have developed the ultimate strategy to evade winter: They breed in the Arctic during the northern summer, then travel to the shores of Antarctica, racking up 80, kilometers of travel or more per year in the process. That means they see two summers. The real long-distance champions The holy bird Critically endangered, the northern bald ibis is now only found in southern Morocco. The real long-distance champions The all-rounder The northern wheatear has nothing to do with wheat or ears but it does make one of the longest migrations of any small bird. It passes over oceans, snow and desert during its spring journey from Sub-Saharan Africa to the Northern Hemisphere. There, the birds occupy an area stretching from Central Asia to Europe and Alaska. Trackers have shown they can travel kilometers a day on average. The real long-distance champions The commoner The common crane is a common appearance in the north of Europe and Asia, where it breeds typically in moors and wetlands. For its winter vacation, it commonly migrates to North and East Africa, as well as to Israel and parts of Iran. As temperatures drop, the small wader changes into its brown winter coat and migrates south on coastlines around the world. The real long-distance champions End of a journey These ducks had made it across the Mediterranean from North Africa only to be shot on arrival at this beach in Albania. Every year, hunters kill many millions of migratory birds across the Mediterranean “ for food or money, or, most controversially, sport.