



# EFN EWS

JUNE 2002

**BUILDING  
CAPACITY FOR  
CONSERVATION  
LEADERSHIP**

## Russell E. Train Conservation Leaders Visit the United States

**W**hy are mallard duck populations increasing while black duck populations in the same areas are in decline? How does one approach the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for funding? What are U.S. government agencies and nongovernmental organizations like World Wildlife Fund (WWF) doing to help conservation in developing countries? Those were just some of the many questions discussed during a one-week visit to the United States in early January by four of Education for Nature's (EFN) Russell E. Train Conservation Leaders. Sandra Chediack from Argentina, Nicole Auil from Belize, Qiu Jian from China, and Jacqueline Maximillian from Tanzania braved the cold winter weather in Washington, D.C., and New York to meet with more than 50 individuals at some 13 nongovernmental organizations, government agencies, foundations, and corporations.

"It was an amazing experience to visit huge institutions with broad, global reach — places like the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), GEF, Ford Foundation, Smithsonian, and WWF — institutions I had never dreamed of having access to. The whole experience gave me a lot of confidence in myself to pursue my doctoral degree," said Jacqueline. Jacqueline was the first woman to become a faculty member in the School of Forestry and Nature Conservation at Sokoine University in Tanzania. When she returns home from the University of Idaho, she will be one of the few persons in her country qualified to teach courses in natural resource economics.



Left to right: Sandra Chediack, Jacqueline Maximillian, WWF-US President and Chief Executive Officer, Kathryn Fuller, Nicole Auil, and Qiu Jian.

Each year EFN designates six to eight of its top grantees at the graduate level as Russell E. Train Conservation Leaders. In addition to receiving financial support for their academic training, Conservation Leaders are also invited as a group to attend a one-week visit to the United States and are eligible to receive up to US\$3,000 for professional development training upon successful completion of their academic programs. This year's Conservation Leaders also included Lilian Nfor from Cameroon, Shakil Visram from Kenya, and Babita Gurung from Nepal. Lilian, Shakil, and Babita were not able to attend the professional development visit to the United States.

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Photo: WWF/Rick Weyhoeuser



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To learn more about the Education for Nature Program please contact:

**Education for Nature Program**

World Wildlife Fund  
1250 24th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20037-1132  
Tel: +1 202 778-9632 Fax: +1 202 861-8324  
Email: efn@wwfus.org  
Website: www.wwf-efn.org



## More About EFN

**The Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program** provides scholarships, fellowships, and grants to conservationists from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. EFN aims to build a dynamic and well-qualified corps of conservation leaders throughout the world by providing opportunities for these individuals to receive training.

### EFN AWARD PROGRAMS

#### Russell E. Train Scholarships and Fellowships

Grantees receive full or partial support to pursue a diploma, undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral degree. Learn more on page 6.

#### Russell E. Train Conservation Leadership Awards

Conservation Leaders receive full or partial support to pursue a graduate or doctoral degree, travel to the United States to participate in a leadership training workshop, and are eligible for additional funding for professional development upon successful completion of their studies. See page 1.

#### Education for Nature Professional Development Grants

Grantees receive full or partial support to attend short-term, non-degree training programs, seminars, and workshops. Learn more on page 3.

#### EFN Alumni Services

EFN alumni can share information, network, and stay connected with each other and WWF through *EFN News* and the EFN directory, and receive support for their professional development. Learn more on page 10.



**Nsanjama-Palmer Rising Stars at L'Ecole de Faune de Garoua in Cameroon.**

**F**ive francophone African conservationists were selected from a large pool of candidates to receive the first Nsanjama-Palmer Rising Star Scholarships. They are Marc Ella Akou, Germaine Koumba Koumba, Victor Lewandji, and Anne Marie Massounga from Gabon and Denis Ngatse, from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Grantees receive a full two-year scholarship to attend a diploma program in wildlife management at L'Ecole de Faune de Garoua (EFG) in Cameroon. EFG is a regional institution that provides conservation education to students and professionals from all over francophone Africa.

The Rising Stars have extensive backgrounds in conservation. Four grantees worked for government ministries, and one gained experience working with a nongovernmental organization. They were selected through a competitive application process to undertake a two-year study program at EFG that will end in August 2003.

The Nsanjama-Palmer Rising Star Scholarship program was established to honor the late Henri Nsanjama, Vice President of WWF-US's Africa and Madagascar Program, who dedicated much of his energy to building conservation capacity in Africa. Henri had committed to annually support the studies of African nationals at EFG. James R. and Barbara R. Palmer generously provided the funds to fulfill Henri's commitment. The next cohort of Rising Stars will be selected in August 2003.

## Meet the EFN Team

**Shaun Martin** is from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He assumed his position as Director of EFN in January 2001. Working with the EFN team and stakeholders both within and outside of WWF, Shaun helps set the program's strategic direction and develops new opportunities to support educational needs for conservation. He holds a B.S. in chemistry and an M.A. in international development from the University of Pittsburgh. He speaks Japanese and some French.

**Judith Mashinya** is from Harare, Zimbabwe. As Senior Program Officer, she manages all of EFN's activities in Africa, including two Nsanjama memorial scholarship programs and a curriculum development initiative in francophone Africa. Beginning this year, she will also manage WWF's Girls Scholarship Program. She holds a B.A. in administration and an M.B.A. from the University of Zimbabwe, as well as an M.P.P. in environmental policy from the University of Maryland at College Park. Judith speaks Shona and Chichewa.

**Chedy Gonzalez** is from Panama City, Panama. As Grants Administrator, Chedy manages contracts and administers funds for all Russell E. Train Scholars and Fellows. She serves as the liaison among EFN grantees, their universities, and WWF. Chedy has traveled extensively throughout Latin America and has worked in several countries. She is an alumna of University Santa Maria La Antigua in Panama, where she earned a B.A. in business administration. She speaks Spanish and French.

## Nsanjama-Palmer Rising Star Scholarship Grantees



**Left to right: Chedy Gonzalez, Andrea Santy, Nadia Cureton, Shaun Martin, and Judith Mashinya.**

**Andrea Santy** is from Silver Spring, Maryland. As Program Officer, she administers the EFN Professional Development Grants program and coordinates EFN's alumni program, including producing *EFN News*, administering Alumni Support Grants, and providing other services for current and former grantees. She holds a B.A. in international relations from the University of Dayton and an M.A. in international communication, specializing in international training and education, from American University. Andrea speaks Spanish and German.

**Nadia Cureton** grew up in Cameroon and attended secondary school in Tigray, Kenya. As EFN's Program Assistant, Nadia supports the entire EFN team and interacts with WWF field offices on many issues. She holds a B.A. in film studies and production from Hofstra University in New York and is pursuing an M.A. in cinema studies at New York University. She speaks French.

JULY 2001 – JUNE 2002

# EFN Professional Development Grant Recipients

## Atlantic Forests

**Maria Baldovino** (Argentina) is a Volunteer Field Assistant at the Ecological Investigation Laboratory of Yungas. She participated in a course titled *Tropical Ecology and Conservation* at the Organization of Tropical Studies in Costa Rica.

**Viviana Benesovsky** (Argentina) is a Researcher at the Ecological Investigation Laboratory of Yungas. She participated in a course titled *Biology of Conservation and Wildlife Management* at the Institute of Ecological Fisheries in Brazil.

**Carmen Guerreño de Basualdo** (Paraguay) is a Veterinary Technician at the National Natural History Museum of Paraguay. She participated in a workshop titled *Conservation Medicine* at the Institute of Ecological Fisheries in Brazil.

**Miguel Angelo Marini** (Brazil) is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Brasília, where he teaches courses on field zoology, conservation biology, and other subjects. He will present a paper at the Society of Conservation Biology 16th Annual Meeting in Canterbury, United Kingdom, titled, *Parasitism and Body Condition of Birds in Fragmented and Continuous Areas of the Atlantic Forest, Brazil*.

**Ricardo José Merlo Faella** (Paraguay) is an Environmental Lawyer for the Paraguayan Public Ministry. He participated in a module course titled *Management and Law* at the Popular University of Nicaragua.

## East African Marine

**Tamrini Ali Said** (Tanzania) is the Assistant to the Head of Planning for the Forest Conservation and Community Development Project in Zanzibar, Tanzania. He attended a module course titled *Participatory Planning for Community-Based Biodiversity Conservation* at the College of African Wildlife Management in Tanzania.

**Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association WIOMSA** hosted the 2nd Annual Scientific Symposium, *Advances in Marine Science in East Africa: Setting the Research Agenda* in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. The symposium provided a forum for scientists and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge and experiences. EFN sponsored the attendance of the following individuals:

- **Gabriel Albano** (Mozambique), Lecturer, Eduardo Mondlane University
- **Boaz Kaunda Arara** (Kenya), Lecturer, Moi University

- **Anabela Celsa Da Silva Andrade** (Mozambique), Assistant Lecturer, Pedagogic University
- **Veronica Dove** (Mozambique), Researcher, Fisheries Research Institute
- **Bernerd Mulwa Fulanda** (Kenya), Fisheries Officer, Sagana Fisheries Station
- **Patrick Gwada** (Kenya), Technical Researcher, Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI)
- **Antonio Mubango Hogueane** (Mozambique), Senior Lecturer, Eduardo Mondlane University
- **James Gitundu Kairo** (Kenya), Senior Researcher, KMFRI
- **Joseph Nyingi Kamau** (Kenya), Technical Researcher, KMFRI
- **Edward Ndirui Kimani** (Kenya), Researcher, KMFRI
- **Charles Magori** (Kenya), Researcher, KMFRI
- **Tomás Muacanhia** (Mozambique), Assistant Professor, Eduardo Mondlane University
- **James Mwandawiro Mwaluma** (Kenya), Researcher, KMFRI
- **Stephen Mwangi** (Kenya), Researcher, KMFRI
- **Jacob Odhiambo Ochiewo** (Kenya), Socioeconomics Research Program Coordinator, KMFRI

## Eastern Himalayas

**Yogesh Vaidya** (Nepal) is the Director General for the Department of Plant Resources in the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation in Nepal. He attended a conference titled *Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-6)* in Canada.

## Lower Mekong Forests

**Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies CRES** in Vietnam held a two-week workshop titled *Training on Conservation and Development for Journalists* to increase understanding of conservation issues in Vietnam. EFN sponsored the attendance of the following individuals:

- **Dinh Thong Bui**, Journalist, *Ha Tinh Newspaper*
- **Trong Thai Do**, Editor and Reporter, *Quang Binh Newspaper*
- **Thi Bich Nga Doan**, Reporter, *Gai Lai Newspaper*
- **Dang Thanh Ngoc Ho**, Reporter, *Thua Thien – Hue Newspaper*
- **Vu Minh Hoan**, Reporter, *Dai Doan Ket Newspaper*

## EFN Professional Development Grant Eligibility Requirements

### Who can apply for an EFN Professional Development Grant?

Awards are available for mid-career professionals who wish to gain practical experience, or attend a short course or seminar, and individuals who wish to pursue self-designed, non-formal learning experiences such as internships or other forms of practical learning.

EFN Professional Development Grant candidates must:

- Have a minimum of five years experience in conservation activities.
- Be currently employed or have the promise of employment upon completion of training.
- Have approval from his or her employer to attend training.
- Not be a current employee of WWF or a long-term consultant.
- Complete training within one year.
- Not earn a degree through the training.

### How do I apply?

Applications are submitted directly to designated EFN coordinators in WWF offices in participating countries. There is no application deadline for EFN Professional Development Grants. Grants are awarded throughout the year on a first-come, first-served basis, depending on the availability of funding. Applicants should allow up to three months between submission of the application and when funds are needed for training.



Photo: WWF/Dennis Glick

- **Thai Viet Anh Hoang**, Reporter, Nghe An Television
- **Trong Hieu Hoang**, Reporter, *Nong thon Ngay nay Newspaper*
- **Cam Van Nguyen**, Reporter, *Lao Dong (Labour) Newspaper*
- **Duc Hung Nguyen**, Reporter, *Investment Review*
- **Huu Ha Nguyen**, Reporter, *Women in Ho Chi Minh City Newspaper*
- **Phuong Kieu Huong Nguyen**, Reporter, *Thanh Nien Newspaper*
- **Quoc Khanh Nguyen**, *Suc Khoe van Doi Song Newspaper*
- **Thi Huong Giang Nguyen**, Reporter and Editor, *Scientific Activities Magazine*
- **Thi Lan Huong Nguyen**, Journalist, *Science and Development Newspaper*
- **Trong Huan Nguyen**, Journalist, *Voice of Vietnam*
- **Tuan Thanh Nguyen**, Reporter, *Pioneer Newspaper*
- **Van Thanh Nguyen**, Reporter, *Tuoi Tre Newspaper*
- **Thi Cam Phan**, Reporter, Vietnam News Agency
- **Thi Kim Quy Tran**, Journalist, *Vietnam Economic Times*
- **Thi Le Thuy Tran**, Journalist, *Saigon Times*

### Madagascar Dry/Spiny Forests

**Alphonse Rajaonarisaonina** (Madagascar) is Director of the Cultural Center for Education and the Environment. He is participating in a course titled *Environmental Management* at Galilleé College, Israel.

**Paulette Rasohantanivo** (Madagascar) and **Jeanine Raveloarisoa** (Madagascar) are Environmental Education Regional Coordinators at the Cultural Center for Education and the Environment. They participated in a UNESCO conference titled *Environmental Education, PlantÉRE2* in France.

**Herilala Jean Aimé Randriamahazo** (Madagascar) is the Radiated Tortoise Project Coordinator for the Wildlife Conservation Society in Madagascar and **Anselme Toto Volahy** (Madagascar) is the Scientific Coordinator for the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Madagascar Program. They will attend a 10-day facilitators' training course titled *Conservation Management*, hosted by the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, United Kingdom.

### Western Congo Moist Forests

**Trinto Mugangu** (Democratic Republic of Congo) is the Regional Technical Advisor for UNDP-GEF Biodiversity Projects in central and west Africa. He will present a paper titled, *Forests as a Last Frontier for Biodiversity Conservation in Africa* at the Society of Conservation Biology 16th Annual Meeting in the United Kingdom.

### Rift Valley Lakes

The **Envirovet Program** at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, provides comprehensive classroom and field experience on terrestrial/aquatic wildlife and ecosystem health for veterinarians and wildlife biologists. EFN provided funding for the following individuals to attend the course:

- **Margaret Driciru** (Uganda), Researcher, Large Predator Project
- **William Ogara** (Kenya), Senior Lecturer, University of Nairobi
- **George Owiti** (Kenya), Principal, Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute

- **Adeela Sayyid** (Kenya), Field Veterinary, Kenya Wildlife Service

**Joel Mpalanyi Musaasizi** (Uganda) is a Community Conservation Officer for CARE International in Uganda working on the Development through Conservation Project. He will attend the Society of Conservation Biology 16th Annual Conference in the United Kingdom.

### Sulu-Sulawesi Seas

The **Tri-National Training Program on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation**, hosted by WWF-Sulu-Sulawesi ecoregion (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines), enhanced participants' understanding of sea turtle biology and technical competence in conservation and management of sea turtle populations. EFN provided funding for the following individuals to attend the workshop:

- **Widya Astuty** (Indonesia), Program Staff, Badan Pengelola Lingsungan Kab Berau
- **Johny Hasbulah Bin Buis** (Malaysia), Research Assistant, Turtle Island Park, Sabah
- **Budiono** (Indonesia), Program Staff, Marine and Fisheries Department Bureau Agency
- **Anak Agung Gde Raka Dalem** (Indonesia), Lecturer, Udayana University, Bali
- **Irman Isnain** (Malaysia), Assistant Fisheries Officer, Department of Fisheries, Sabah
- **Irwan Bin Isnain** (Malaysia), Assistant Marine Research Officer, Tunku Abdul Rahman Park
- **Isnani** (Indonesia), Program Staff, Denas Pariwisata o Kebudayaan, Kab-Berau
- **Iwayan Anom Astika Jaya** (Indonesia), Conservation Affairs, Turtle Conservation Initiative
- **Cidur Julsadjiri** (Philippines), Protected Areas Superintendent, Turtle Island Wildlife Sanctuary
- **Lorenzo Ordenes** (Philippines), Protected Areas Superintendent, APO Reef Natural Park, DENR
- **Wahju Rudianto** (Indonesia), Marine and Wetland Areas Conservation Officer, Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation
- **Virgilio Sagun** (Philippines), Biologist, Pawikan Conservation Project
- **Irwan Siregar** (Indonesia), Executive Director, Kalbu, a local nongovernmental organization
- **Bogiek Sofiyanto** (Indonesia), Senior Supervisor, Marine Ecology Monitoring, PT Newmont Nusa Tenggara Environment Department
- **YuYun Suhardiono** (Indonesia), Program Coordinator, Bestari, a local nongovernmental organization
- **Edward Tangon** (Malaysia), Senior Wildlife Ranger, Kota Kinabalu's Department of Wildlife
- **Jose Perez Valdez** (Philippines), Volunteer, Education, Training, and Extension Committee, Bantay Pawikan Ng Bataan.

### Valdivian Temperate Rainforests

**Maximiliano Bello** (Chile), a Research Assistant at Senda Darwin Foundation, and **Nemo Luis Ortega** (Chile), a Planning and Operations Officer at National Forest Corporation participated in a course titled *Protected Area Management* at the University for International Cooperation in Costa Rica.

### WWF Species Program

**Israel Ngarira** (Zimbabwe) is a Scout at Hwange National Park, Sinamatella Camp, Zimbabwe. He is participating in a certificate course titled *Natural Resource Management* at South Africa Wildlife College.

# Alcoa Foundation Reaffirms Commitment to Conservation by Giving US\$500,000 Grant to EFN

**A**lcoa Foundation has reaffirmed its commitment to conservation by providing a three-year US\$500,000 grant to the Russell E. Train Education for Nature (EFN) Program. This new commitment builds on Alcoa Foundation's previous gift to EFN of US\$250,000. EFN is proud to include Alcoa Foundation as a major corporate sponsor.

Alcoa Foundation's previous gift to EFN is supporting 10 Russell E. Train Scholars and Fellows from Argentina, China, Colombia, and Mexico. Alcoa Foundation's new gift will continue to support scholarships and fellowships for individuals in communities and countries where Alcoa has a significant presence. This gift not only allows EFN to expand the number of grants in these countries, but also frees up funds from other donors to expand the program in other regions of the world. With the Foundation's support, WWF will also undertake an independent evaluation of the program and the influence it has had on the careers of its grantees and the institutions.

Alcoa Foundation invests in improving the quality of life in Alcoa communities worldwide. Since 1952, Alcoa Foundation has disbursed over US\$318 million in grants in 26 countries. The Foundation focuses its giving on five "Areas of Excellence," including conservation and sustainability.

"We are really pleased about our growing partnership with WWF. This is an opportunity to help develop the next generation of leaders in the conservation and sustainability field. These are committed people from many countries who have dedicated themselves to addressing some of the most pressing environmental issues of our time," noted Kathleen Buechel, President and Treasurer of Alcoa Foundation.

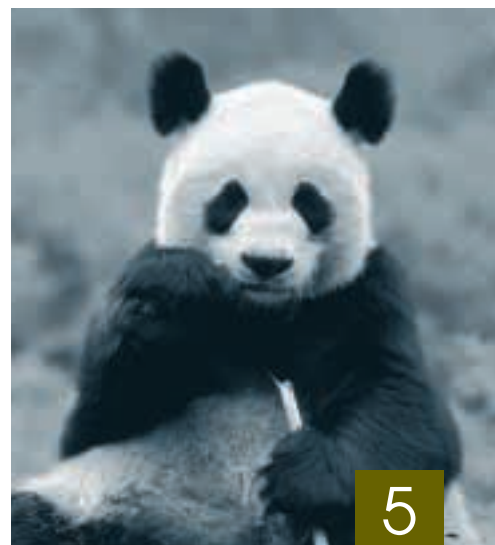
Sandra Chediack and Qiu Jian, two Alcoa Foundation-supported EFN grantees, had the opportunity to learn about Alcoa's environmental programs and policies as well as sustainable development activities during a meeting with Patrick Atkins, the company's Director for Health, Safety, and Environment, in January. (See complete story on page 1.) Diego Amorocho, another Russell E. Train Fellow supported by Alcoa Foundation, says, "Professionals in developing countries are constantly searching for opportunities to improve their personal capacity to contribute to the preservation of the natural heritage in their own countries. The lack of funds to engage in or continue graduate studies is the main constraint conservationists face in most developing countries. Alcoa Foundation is making an enormous contribution to ensure a better and more equitable world."

Alcoa Foundation and Alcoa share a commitment to innovative environmental and conservation programs and initiatives. By providing grants and cultivating nonprofit partnerships, the Foundation seeks to educate young leaders, protect forests, promote sound public policy research, and better understand the linkages between business and the environment. In 2000, Alcoa began a long-term environmental program based on sustainable development principles and set ambitious environmental goals to guide the company's programs through 2020.



**Pat Atkins, Alcoa's Director for Health, Safety, and Environment, talks with Sandra Chediack during the Conservation Leaders' visit to New York City.**

*We are really pleased about our growing partnership with WWF. This is an opportunity to help develop the next generation of leaders in the conservation and sustainability field.*



## Russell E. Train Scholarships & Fellowships

### What costs do Russell E. Train Scholarships and Fellowships cover?

Scholarship and Fellowship grantees receive support to cover education related expenses, including tuition and fees, living stipend, books, health insurance, and travel expenses from their home to their university. Study may take place anywhere in the world.

### Who can apply for a Russell E. Train Scholarship or Fellowship?

Scholarship and Fellowship applicants must:

- Have a minimum of two years experience in conservation activities or two years enrollment in a conservation-related academic program.
- Demonstrate excellence in their studies and/or career pursuits.
- Present a concrete plan describing how their studies or program will enhance conservation in an EFN ecoregion, including a plan for dissemination of learning.
- Commit to working in conservation in their home country or region for a minimum of two years after completion of their academic programs.

### How do I apply?

Application guidelines and deadlines vary by ecoregion. Not all EFN ecoregions participate in the Scholarships and Fellowships program. Please contact your local WWF office to learn about the application requirements and deadlines for your ecoregion.

# Poverty and Biodiversity in Patuca National Park

## Carlos Luna, Honduras

By Aldo Gabriel Francia, M.Sc., Conservation and Wildlife Management, Universidad Nacional, Costa Rica

In June 2001, I completed my graduate coursework in conservation and wildlife management at the Universidad Nacional in Costa Rica. Before starting my thesis, I participated in a research project along with several colleagues from the university. We were invited by a local nongovernmental organization to undertake research in the Patuca National Park in Honduras with the objective of integrating the theory and practice acquired during our studies. Over the past few years, the park has become more populated and the land is increasingly used for agriculture and development. Those activities are putting an increased strain on the natural resources in the area.

One of the goals of our research in Patuca National Park was to identify the direct and indirect causes of the threats affecting the biological diversity of the park by conducting a rapid ecological assessment.<sup>1</sup> A second goal was to gather technical and scientific information on the biological diversity of the region, using groups of biological interest such as birds, fish, orchids, bats, and other mammals.

Among the findings of our research are:

- Patuca National Park is an area rich in biodiversity and natural resources, and it has a great natural capacity to regenerate itself.
- Increasing agriculture in the park is one of the principal threats to biodiversity. Access roads are the principal promoter of development and a leading cause of forest fragmentation.
- Institutional presence is obviously lacking on the part of the government, reflected in the insufficient number of forest guards, insufficient training of guards, and existence of illegal activities in the area.
- The low level of education, mainly in the population under 20 years old, limits economic opportunity in the community and makes it difficult to implement development and capacity-building programs and conservation projects.
- The socioeconomic needs of the local population and the lack of institutional infrastructure promote unsustainable use of the natural resources.
- Addressing the threats and their causes provides opportunities to advance conservation goals in this area. Efforts should be directed toward the sustainable management of livestock and agriculture and the preservation of wildlife populations. The current practices observed in the area are generally not sustainable on a large scale.

Our research led us to several important recommendations. It is essential to design and develop programs in coordination with the institutions that already work in the region and to use community organizations that exist. A management plan for Patuca National Park should consider the needs of the people living there.

Photo: WWF/Tony Rath



# tional Park



Slash-and-burn agriculture has had devastating effects on the land in Patuca National Park



A local resident prepares her meal using a wood-burning stove. Increasing population and a reliance on timber have led to rapid deforestation in the park.

Current practices imply that the inhabitants' needs are not being met, a problem that poses a major threat to the area. In addition to identifying the needs of the community, we must also strive to create a balance between human needs and conservation needs. By using our knowledge of the biological diversity in the protected area, we can develop both long-term, sustainable conservation strategies and social development goals in harmony with the values and culture of the inhabitants of Patuca National Park.

The residents of the park are increasingly aware of how their activities contribute to the degradation of the surrounding habitat. The water levels in the river have greatly decreased during the summer months, leading to soil erosion. Sedimentation decreases the quality of potable water and has led to a decline in the number of fish. The park residents see how these threats often result in the loss of edible species and medicinal herbs and are increasingly willing to take action.

Despite many difficulties, the residents of Patuca National Park are looking toward the future and are working to create sustainable practices in the park. Local NGOs and residents of the park are committed to finding solutions to the existing environmental problems. To improve the current condition, residents, NGOs, and the government must be willing to invest in capacity building and must encourage residents to move away from agriculture to other professions, such as ecotourism. When we think of the problems that exist in Patuca National Park, we hope to find ways to construct viable conservation strategies for the biodiversity and a better future for its inhabitants.

I Margoluis, R and N. Salafsky. 1998. *Measures of Success and the Methodology of Rapid Ecological Evaluation*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.

## Patuca National Park

Consisting of 375,000 hectares, Patuca National Park is located in eastern Honduras, forming part of the Mesoamerican biological corridor. The Tawabka Indians have inhabited the park for many centuries. However, they have been progressively displaced, first by explorers during colonial times, who arrived looking for gold, and more recently by Hondurans and El Salvadorians looking for new land and escaping poverty and armed conflict. Currently, the population of the park is estimated at 8,000, of which only 40 percent is literate. Most of the population inhabits the lower and more accessible areas. This fact has had a large impact on the natural resources, largely because of the practices of slash-and-burn agriculture in the virgin forests and the use of open areas for cultivation of grains for basic subsistence. Those practices and the earlier introduction of cattle have caused major destruction of forest resources. In the area that extends to the source of the Capapán River, the level of deforestation is up to 30 percent. Over the past 20 years, an average of more than 175 hectares of land has been lost each year.



# Alumni Notes



**Nelly Llerena (Peru), Russell E. Train Fellow '98**



**Tanzanian alumni along with a lecturer from the Institute of Marine Science (left to right) Asha Abeid '98, Ali Juma Ali '97, Samira Juma '98 (far right)**



**Qiu Jian (China), Conservation Leader '02**



**Grace Wong (Costa Rica), Russell E. Train Fellow '96**

## AFRICA

**Asha Abeid, Tanzania (1998)**  
*Diploma, Forestry, Forestry Training Institute, Arusha, Tanzania*  
Asha is a Conservation Education Officer for the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Natural Resources, Environment, and Cooperatives in Tanzania. She focuses on education and community outreach in the Jozani and Chwaka Bay area by using different approaches such as meetings, videos, leaflets, and radio and television programs.

**Julius Fanel, Tanzania (1999)**  
*M.Sc., Natural Resources Management, Sokoine University, Tanzania*  
Julius is a Livestock Officer in the Arumeru District for the Ministry of Water and Livestock Development in Tanzania. Recently, he participated in a one-week writing workshop where he reviewed and edited a handbook on fodder production for zero grazing.

**Mary Kivaria, Tanzania (1998)**  
*M.Sc., Environment and Development, South Bank University, United Kingdom*  
Mary is an Environmental Education Coordinator for the Commissioner for Education at the Ministry of Education and Culture in Tanzania. She advises on conservation education for primary and secondary schools and teacher training colleges.

**Noelia Myonga, Tanzania (1999)**  
*M.Sc., Conservation Biology University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom*  
Noelia is a Warden for the Tanzania National Parks in the Planning Unit.

## ASIA

**Jamuna Gurung, Nepal (1998)**  
*B.Sc., Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, Lincoln University, New Zealand*  
Jamuna is a Conservation Officer for the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, Annapurna Conservation Area Project, Nepal. She reviews tourism management programs and activities, provides support to conservation offices and local communities, coordinates with local partners, and works in outreach to help train and educate others on effective tourism management.

**Jharmak Karki, Nepal (1996)**  
*M.Sc., Wildlife Management, Wildlife Institute of India*  
Jharmak is a Project Coordinator for the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation in the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation in Nepal. He provides training to protected area rangers on a variety of issues, including primate conservation, wildlife and habitat management, and mapping. He also collaborates on studies on primate and human conflict,

community development through buffer zone management, and habitat conservation for the endangered red panda.

**Rajendra Poudel, Nepal (1998)**  
*B.Sc., Forestry, Pakistan Forestry Institute*  
Rajendra is currently working as a Village Tourism Associate for the Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program for UNDP. His work takes place in Lumbini, a famous tourist destination and pilgrimage site for those visiting the birthplace of Buddha.

**Caroline Ongleo, Philippines (1999)**  
*Ph.D., Environmental Science, University of the Philippines, Los Baños*  
Caroline is working as a Policy Advocacy Communication Officer on an Integrated Population Control for Coastal Resource Management (I-POPCORM) project at Health Foundation Philippines.

**Manoj Shah, Nepal (1998)**  
*B.Sc., Forestry and Wildlife, Institute of Forestry, Nepal*  
Manoj is a Park Ranger for the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation in Nepal. He is the team leader of the Antipoaching Unit at the Royal Bardia National Park, where he spends most of his time planning and executing antipoaching operations and mobilizing informers. He also delivers lectures on biodiversity conservation, environmental education, and antipoaching to school teachers and park rangers.

**Kanglin Wang, China (1997)**  
*Ph.D., Forest Biological Sciences, University of the Philippines, Los Baños*  
Wang is an Associate Professor in the Department of Ethnobotany at Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences. He has researched and written extensively on bamboo, including its traditional uses, characteristics, and distribution patterns.

## LATIN AMERICA

**Ane Alencar, Brazil (1998)**  
*M.A., Remote Sensing and GIS, Boston University, USA*  
Ane is a Researcher for the Amazon Environmental Research Institute (IPAM) in Brazil. Currently, she is working on a research project that generates development scenarios based on land-use dynamics along the Cuiaboi-Santarium economic corridor. The scenarios are intended to be used as a tool for policy makers in deciding on environmental conservation.

**Braulio Buendía, Peru (1998)**  
*M.Sc., National Resource Conservation, Universidad Nacional Agraria de La Molina, Peru*  
Braulio is working at the Institute of National Natural Resources in the

Department of Forest and Wildlife as a Forestry Specialist. His main responsibilities include natural resource and wildlife management, as well as forest control.

**Zoraida Calle, Colombia (1999)**  
*M.Sc., Biology, Universidad del Valle, Colombia*

Zoraida is a Researcher in the Agroforestry Systems Area for the CIPAV Foundation in Colombia. CIPAV is a small organization dedicated to research and to improvement of sustainable agriculture practices. Part of CIPAV's strategy is to involve youth living in rural areas to participate as co-researchers, transferring lessons back to the local community. Zoraida's research focuses on the rehabilitation of degraded pasturelands with native trees.

**Alba Camacho, Honduras (1998)**  
*M.Sc., Natural Resources Management, INCAE, Costa Rica*

Alba recently began a new position as a Consultant for the Regional Program for the Fight Against Poverty and Social Exclusion in Central America. She facilitates the process for increasing capacity-

building programs in local communities to promote economic development and environmental protection.

**José Mauro Farias, Brazil (1997)**

*M.A., Environmental Education, State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*  
José works in conservation of the Niterói City Park. He works with children and community members to educate them on the biological diversity of the park.

**Nuria Guerreiro, Brazil (1998)**

*M.B.A., Business Administration, INCAE, Costa Rica*  
Nuria is the Director of Marketing Development for the Secretary of Flora and Extraction in Acre, Brazil. She works to help indigenous groups introduce sustainable environmental economic development practices to increase the quality of life of the communities.

**Olga Guzman, Colombia (1998)**

*B.Sc., Ecological Biology, Universidad de Nariño, Colombia*  
Olga is the Environmental Education Coordinator for Fundación Social Cali at

La Planada Nature Reserve in Colombia. She works with primary and secondary schools, youth groups and tourists. In addition, she is working with teachers to create a local education network.

**Fabio Lozano, Colombia (1998)**  
*M.Sc., Entomology/Biology, Universidad del Valle, Colombia*

Fabio is a Biologist working for the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, Colombia. He conducts biological research in rural areas.

**Rocio Polanco, Colombia (1996)**  
*M.Sc., Wildlife Management, National University of Colombia*

Rocio is the Conservation Program Coordinator for Fundación Natura. She coordinates and evaluates conservation and wildlife management projects in Colombia. Many of these projects work directly with communities that interact with wildlife.

## Russell E. Train Conservation Leaders Visit the United States

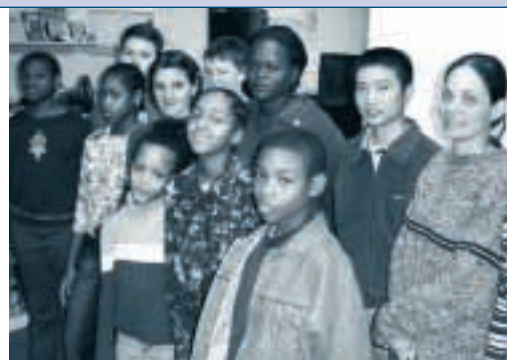
Continued from page 1

Networking with colleagues in conservation was a key objective for the visit. Sandra Chediack, an Argentine doctoral candidate at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), noted, "It was very productive to meet people that work at WWF and other conservation organizations. We made contacts with many people who can help us to continue our conservation work at home."

The visit not only gave participants a chance to learn about conservation activities in the United States, but also provided many opportunities for their American hosts to learn what is happening in the rest of the world. A highlight of the trip was a visit to Stuart Hobson Middle School in Washington, D.C. The visit allowed Conservation Leaders to talk about conservation issues in their home countries with 40 seventh graders (12 - 13 years old). Students learned about pandas, manatees, African wildlife, and tropical rainforests. Conservation Leaders were impressed by the level of knowledge the children had about conservation and the sophisticated questions they posed.

The group agreed that the most valuable aspect of the trip was the chance to meet fellow Conservation Leaders from other countries, to share information with them, to talk about challenges they face, and to have fun with each other. Qiu Jian, who works with pandas for the Sichuan Provincial government in China and is pursuing a master's degree in environmental management at the University of New South Wales in Australia, particularly enjoyed spending time with the others in the group. He remarked, "I learned a lot from the other Conservation Leaders. They told me what problems they have confronted, what they have done in their careers, and what their plans are for the future. Their strong dedication to conservation has inspired me a lot!"

One issue all four leaders confronted was the decision to leave their homes and successful careers to become students once again. Before leaving Belize, Nicole Auil was that country's only researcher working on countrywide manatee issues; now she is one of many graduate students at Texas A&M University pursuing a master's degree in



Conservation Leaders share their experiences in the field with students from Stuart Hobson Middle School, Washington, D.C.

wildlife management. "Meeting with so many professionals in conservation during this trip has reinvigorated my passion for the work I'm doing and has inspired me to make the most of my studies here so that I can return home and continue to work in the field," Nicole said. Since the visit, Nicole has accepted a summer consulting position at a nature reserve in Niger, West Africa, where researchers suspect manatees are living in the river systems.

*We wish all of our Conservation Leaders much success in their academic programs and in their future careers!*

## EFN Alumni Support Grants

**To be eligible for an Alumni Support Grant, you must meet the following criteria:**

- You must have received a Russell E. Train Scholarship or Fellowship from EFN to pursue studies leading to an academic degree.
- You must have completed your home service requirement by working in conservation or a related field in your home region for two years since completing your EFN contract.
- Your current work and proposed training must help advance conservation in your region.
- Your proposed training must be completed within one year and cannot be part of an academic degree program.
- You must not have received an EFN Alumni Support Grant in the previous three years.
- You must have the approval of your employer to attend the training.

EFN Alumni Support Grants cover expenses for tuition, housing and food, books and materials, required equipment, travel to and from the training site, local transportation, and health insurance (if required by the training institution). Although training may take place anywhere in the world, please note that *for training in the United States, EFN is able to cover expenses for tuition only.*

### How to apply

Interested alumni may download the application form from the EFN website at [www.wwf-efn.org](http://www.wwf-efn.org) or email [efn@wwfus.org](mailto:efn@wwfus.org) to request an application. Research proposals will require an additional two-page overview of the research. Applications should be submitted to Andrea Santy, EFN Program Officer. Funds are limited, and grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Funding requests may not exceed US\$3,000. The application process takes at least three months from the time your application is submitted until the date funds are dispersed.

# EFN Alumni Program and Grants

If you are an EFN alumnus or about to become one, we have some great news for you. In 2001, EFN started a new alumni program to support its former grantees. The program offers a number of services, including *EFN News*, a free publication service, a directory, and alumni and institutional support grants. Here is more about each service.

**EFN News:** The newsletter you are reading comes out twice a year and provides information about current EFN grantees and alumni, WWF activities, networking opportunities, resources, conferences, and more. If you would like to contribute an article to the next issue, please contact Andrea Santy at [andrea.santy@wwfus.org](mailto:andrea.santy@wwfus.org).

**Free Publication Service:** Current and former grantees are eligible to receive free copies of cutting-edge conservation publications donated by WWF-US and U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Biodiversity Support Program. A list of publications is available in the alumni section of the EFN website at [www.wwf-efn.org](http://www.wwf-efn.org). Copies are limited and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

**EFN Directory:** This year we have compiled a directory listing Russell E. Train Scholars and Fellows so that you may connect with one another on areas of common interest. Included in the directory is an update form in case your contact information is incorrect. Please keep EFN informed of any address changes so that you can continue to receive EFN materials and services.

**Alumni Support Grants:** If you are a former Russell E. Train Scholar or Fellow and want to gain additional experience, you can apply for an Alumni Support Grant. (See guidelines and how to apply on this page.) The grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Eligible alumni may receive one grant of up to US\$3,000 every three years. The funds can be used to attend conferences, workshops, and short-term training courses offered by universities and other institutions or to conduct research within an EFN focal ecoregion.

*If you are a Russell E. Train Scholar or Fellow and want to gain additional experience, you can apply for an Alumni Support Grant.*

Photos: WWF/Howard Burdett/Bruce Bunting/Martin Harvey



# Short-Term Training Opportunities

## 2002—2003

### *Centro Agrónomico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE)*

Offers a variety of short courses on topics ranging from natural resource management and agriculture to geographic Information systems (GIS) and community development. Most courses are in Spanish.

CATIE 7170 Turrialba, Costa Rica

Tel: +506 556-6431

Fax: +506 556-1533

[www.catie.ac.cr/education/education.asp](http://www.catie.ac.cr/education/education.asp)

### *College of African Wildlife Management*

Offers a variety of short-term courses, modules, and special courses throughout the year.

Mweka, P.O. Box 3031

Moshi, Tanzania

Tel: +255 0811 320255

Fax: +255 027 2751113

Email: [dgamassa@twiga.com](mailto:dgamassa@twiga.com)

[www.mweka-wildlife.ac.tz](http://www.mweka-wildlife.ac.tz)

### *Institute for the Conservation of Tropical Environments (ICTE)*

Provides research opportunities for students who want to engage in research on tropical forests and endangered Malagasy biodiversity.

N-543 SBS Building

SUNY at Stony Brook

Stony Brook, NY 11794-4364, USA

Tel: +1-631-632-9440

Fax: +1-631-632-7692

Email: [icte@sunysb.edu](mailto:icte@sunysb.edu)

<http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/CAS/icteweb.nsf>

### *Monterrey Virtual Tec University*

Offers several programs in social development, including a "social leaders" program on planning and managing NGOs.

Tel: +52-818-328-4027/989-2528

Email: [lideres.sociales@campus.ruv.itesm.mx](mailto:lideres.sociales@campus.ruv.itesm.mx)

[www.ruv.itesm.mx/programas/lideres](http://www.ruv.itesm.mx/programas/lideres)

### *Organization of Tropical Studies*

Offers several courses each year on conservation and natural resource management.

Partial fellowships may be available.

Apartado 676-2050

San Pedro, Costa Rica

Tel: +506 240-6696

Fax: +506 240-6783

Email: [academic@cro.ots.ac.cr](mailto:academic@cro.ots.ac.cr)

### *Smithsonian Institute*

Offers programs for conservation biologists, ecologists, resource managers and environmental leaders.

- Smithsonian Environmental Leadership Course (September 8-20, 2002)

- Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring for Adaptive Management Course (May 11-June 12, 2003)

MAB Program, Smithsonian Institution,

S. Dillon Ripley Center,

1100 Jefferson Drive SW,

Washington, DC 20560-0705, USA

Tel: +1 202 357-4792

Fax: +1 202 786-2557

Email: [simab@si.edu](mailto:simab@si.edu)

[www.si.edu/simab/](http://www.si.edu/simab/)

## June 23 - November 30, 2002

### *Tropical Biology Association*

Field Courses in Tropical Ecology

- Course in Kibale Forest National Park, Uganda (June 23 - July 22 & July 27 - August 26, 2002)

- Course in the East Usambara Mountains, Tanzania (September 2 - 30, 2002)

- Course in the Dry Forests of Madagascar (November 1 - 30, 2002)

P.O. Box 44486, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Phone: +254 2 746090

Fax: +541 2 741049

Email: [tba2@africaonline.co.ke](mailto:tba2@africaonline.co.ke)

[www.zoo.cam.ac.uk/tba](http://www.zoo.cam.ac.uk/tba)

## August 8 - October 13, 2002

### *USDA Forest Service*

#### *International Programs*

- International Seminar on Protected Area Management (August 8-24, 2002)

- Forest Management Seminar (August 25-September 12, 2002)

- International Seminar on Watershed Management (September 27-October 13, 2002)

1099 14th Street, NW, Suite 5500W

Washington D.C., 20005, U.S.A.

Tel: +1 202-273-4695

Fax: +1 202-273-4750

[www.fs.fed.us/global/is/welcome.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/global/is/welcome.htm)

**Costs:** US\$4,500-5,600 (lodging and some meals)

## September 23 - 26, 2002

### *University of Dar-es-Salaam*

Scientific Symposium on Environment

Brings together scientists from Africa and around the world to share research experiences and environmental knowledge. Those interested in presenting papers should submit abstracts by May 31, 2002.

**Cost:** US\$ 40

Submit abstracts to:

Dr. CC Joseph, [Cosam@chem.udsm.ac.tz](mailto:Cosam@chem.udsm.ac.tz);

Dr. Y.D. Mgaya, [ymgaya@ucc.udsm.ac.tz](mailto:ymgaya@ucc.udsm.ac.tz);

Mr. OJ Msokwa, [msokwa@hotmail.com](mailto:msokwa@hotmail.com)

[www.udsm.ac.tz/newsevents/science.htm](http://www.udsm.ac.tz/newsevents/science.htm)

## September 24 - 26, 2002

### *University of Edinburgh*

Environmental Consensus and Conflict Resolution Workshop

Aims to demonstrate how consensus building can be used in planning to prevent conflicts and as a form of conflict resolution. Darwin Building, Mayfield Road Edinburgh EH9 3JU, Scotland

Tel: +44 131 650 6439

Fax: +44 131 662 0478

Email: [vikki.hilton@ed.ac.uk](mailto:vikki.hilton@ed.ac.uk)

[www.ierm.ed.ac.uk/shortcourses/eccrw.htm](http://www.ierm.ed.ac.uk/shortcourses/eccrw.htm)

**Cost:** US\$1800

**The following websites provide information about scholarships, fellowships, and grants for educational opportunities in conservation. Over 100 new funding sources have been added to EFN's Funding Database at [www.wwf-efn.org](http://www.wwf-efn.org).**

- **Arkansas Game and Fish Commission:** [www.agfc.com/education/conservation\\_scholarship\\_details.html](http://www.agfc.com/education/conservation_scholarship_details.html)
- **Bat Conservation International:** [www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org)
- **Canadian Bureau for International Education:** [www.cbie.ca/awsc.html](http://www.cbie.ca/awsc.html)
- **Education for Nature:** [www.wwf-efn.org](http://www.wwf-efn.org)
- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations:** [www.fao.org/forestry/for/forc/free/education/courses.asp](http://www.fao.org/forestry/for/forc/free/education/courses.asp)
- **Ford Foundation Program on International Scholarships:** [www.programabecas.org](http://www.programabecas.org)
- **FUNDACYT:** [www.fundacyt.org](http://www.fundacyt.org)
- **IDP Education Australia:** [www.idp.edu.au/students/scholarships/all/index.asp](http://www.idp.edu.au/students/scholarships/all/index.asp)
- **Institute of International Education:** [www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org)
- **LASPAU:** [www.laspau.harvard.edu/fb-oas.htm](http://www.laspau.harvard.edu/fb-oas.htm)
- **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation:** [www.nfwf.org/programs/grant\\_apply.htm](http://www.nfwf.org/programs/grant_apply.htm)
- **Nepali Student Scholarship and Fellowship Exchange:** <http://nepal.bas.net>
- **Society for Conservation Geographic Information Systems:** [www.scgis.org/2002\\_Conference/scholarships\\_2002/scholarship\\_2002\\_instr.pdf](http://www.scgis.org/2002_Conference/scholarships_2002/scholarship_2002_instr.pdf)
- **The Africa-America Institute:** [www.aaionline.org](http://www.aaionline.org)
- **United Nations Environment Program:** [www.unep.org/unep/products/publicat/education/global.htm](http://www.unep.org/unep/products/publicat/education/global.htm)
- **WWF Canada:** [www.wwfcanada.org/en/res\\_links/rl\\_macnaughton.asp](http://www.wwfcanada.org/en/res_links/rl_macnaughton.asp)

# Become a part of the EFN network!

It's easy to become part of the EFN network. First, if you are an EFN grantee or alumnus, please fill out the form below so that we can update your contact information in our database. Second, consider contributing an article on your research or experience or submitting information about conferences, workshops, and training programs that are taking place in your region.

The directory and *EFN News* are designed to build a stronger conservation network and to keep members informed about upcoming events, trends in conservation, and funding opportunities.

**Please complete the form below and return it to:** Andrea Santy  
Education for Nature  
World Wildlife Fund  
1250 24th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037, USA  
Fax: 202.887.5293 Email: [andrea.santy@wwfus.org](mailto:andrea.santy@wwfus.org)

## Contact Information Update

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Degree earned through support from EFN:**

- |   |   |                                |                                |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diploma                      | <input type="checkbox"/> B.A.                               | <input type="checkbox"/> B.Sc. | <input type="checkbox"/> M.A.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> M.Sc.                        | <input type="checkbox"/> M.Phil.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> LL.B. | <input type="checkbox"/> LL.M. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D.                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate or Short-term training |                                |                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify) |   |                                |                                |

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Study: \_\_\_\_\_ Year degree or training was completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you currently working in the field of conservation?**  Yes  No

If yes, please provide a brief description of your work or a project that you are currently involved in. This information will be included in the "Alumni Notes" section (page 8) of the next newsletter.

### How to contribute to future issues of the EFN Newsletter

If you would like to have an article or photo featured in the next issues of *EFN News*, please contact Andrea Santy at [andrea.santy@wwfus.org](mailto:andrea.santy@wwfus.org). Articles and photos must meet specific requirements to be included in the newsletter. Andrea will provide all necessary information upon request. **Articles and photos for the next issue should be received no later than August 15, 2002.**