



INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION QUARTERLY

ICCF GALA AWARDS “GOOD STEWARDS” AROUND THE GLOBE

On January 19th, the International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) hosted its U.S. Congressional International Conservation Inauguration Gala honoring extraordinary leadership in international conservation, attended by Members of Congress, diplomats, world business leaders, and leaders from the international NGO community. Conservation leaders Mateus Mutemba and Greg Carr of the Gorongosa Restoration Project and Julia Miranda Londoño, Director General of National Parks of Colombia, were presented with ICCF’s “Good Steward” Award in recognition of their outstanding personal commitment to conservation.

Under the stewardship of Dr. Miranda, ten new parks have been added to the Colombia National Parks System. In 2008, the Gorongosa Restoration Project



signed a 20-year agreement with the Government of Mozambique to restore and co-manage Gorongosa National Park. Under the leadership of Greg Carr and Mateus Mutemba, the Gorongosa management team has reintroduced buffaloes, wildebeests, and other species to the ecosystem, planted more than one million trees in the Mt. Gorongosa rainforest, and created the E.O. Wilson Laboratory.

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ON THE HILL

FORTENBERRY NAMED NEW ICC CO-CHAIR

Co-Chairs of the International Conservation Caucus:

Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX)
Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)
Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN)
Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA)

Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC)
Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH)
Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)
Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)

The U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus (ICC) has announced its bipartisan leadership for the 115th Congress. The ICCF is pleased to welcome Representative Jeff Fortenberry to the leadership of the ICC and looks forward to working with him towards advancing U.S. leadership in international conservation.

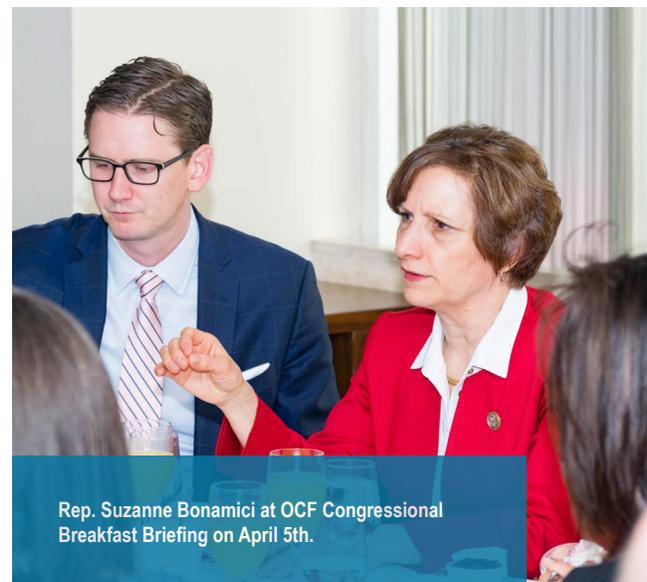
Fortenberry represents Nebraska's First District. He is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, and serves on three subcommittees: Energy and Water, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and State and Foreign Operations. In addition to his new role as Co-Chair of the International Conservation Caucus, he serves as Co-Chair of the Nuclear Security Working Group, Co-Chair of the Caucus on Religious Minorities in the Middle East, and Co-Chair of the Congressional Study Group on Europe.

BONAMICI JOINS HOUSE OCEANS CAUCUS LEADERSHIP

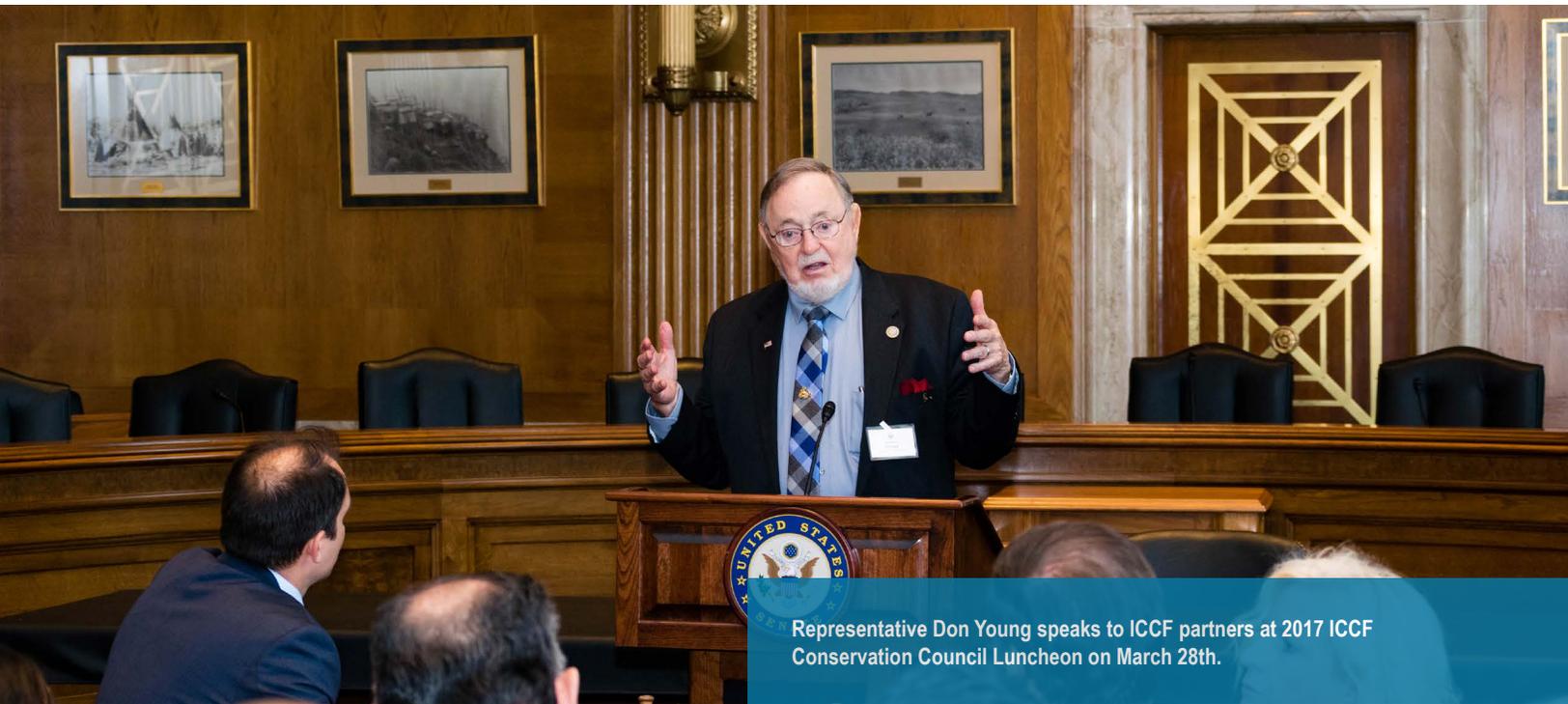
Representative Bonamici (D-OR) to serve alongside Representative Don Young (R-AK) as House Oceans Caucus Co-Chair.

The House Oceans Caucus (OC) announced its bipartisan leadership for the 115th Congress. Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) joins Representative Don Young (R-AK) as Co-Chair of the House Oceans Caucus. The ICCF and OCF look forward to working with Representative Bonamici towards advancing U.S. and international leadership in the responsible utilization of marine resources.

Bonamici represents the First District of Oregon. She is a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, is the founder and Co-Chair of the bipartisan Congressional STEAM Caucus, which aims to encourage innovation and creative thinking by integrating arts and design with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math education, serves as a member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and is the top Democratic member on the Subcommittee on the Environment.



Rep. Suzanne Bonamici at OCF Congressional Breakfast Briefing on April 5th.



Representative Don Young speaks to ICCF partners at 2017 ICCF Conservation Council Luncheon on March 28th.

OCEANS CAUCUS LEADERSHIP SETS PRIORITIES FOR 115TH CONGRESS

Co-Chairs Identify IUU Fishing, Marine Debris, and Food Security as Priority Issues

At an Oceans Caucus Foundation-hosted luncheon in January, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Representative Don Young (R-AK), Co-Chairs of the Senate and House Oceans Caucus, respectively, spoke about their priorities for ocean conservation.

These include the enforcement of new laws against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, addressing marine debris, and ensuring that sustainable fish protein

is a resource for global food security, issues which both agree can be dealt with in a bipartisan fashion.

Ocean conservation is not only an environmental issue; rather, it has direct impacts on economic and national security and remains a priority on both sides of the aisle in the 115th Congress. Sustainable, legal fishing plays an important role in domestic and global food security. Like illegal fishing, marine debris poses a serious threat to the

long-term sustainability of our ocean resources. Co-Chairs of the Oceans Caucus agree that nonpartisan, innovative, market-oriented solutions are needed to better address this issue.



“ We have a tremendous amount of debris in the oceans today, most of it coming out of China, Indonesia, Thailand, and Japan, and the currents bring it into the United States. In fact, there’s some areas out there, you know, that have areas as large as 5-10 miles wide and 25 miles long, packed with [refuse].”

- Representative Don Young (R-AK)

SENATORS SULLIVAN, PETERS NAMED HONORARY OCEANS CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS

Senators Join Oceans Caucus Co-Chairs Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) & Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)

Senators Dan Sullivan and Gary Peters are the new Chairman and Ranking Member, respectively, on the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard. The subcommittee's jurisdiction includes "[responsibility] for legislation and oversight of matters that impact our oceans and coasts including: coastal zone management; marine fisheries and

marine mammals; oceans, weather and atmospheric activities; marine and ocean navigation; ocean policy and NOAA."

In these positions, both will play a key role in the way the Senate deals with issues pertaining to conservation and marine management in the 115th Congress.



Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK) (left);
Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) (right)



Senate Oceans Caucus Co-Chairs introduced bipartisan marine debris legislation on March 29th.

SENATE OCEANS CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS LEADING BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO ADDRESS MARINE

In March, Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK), Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), and Senator Corey Booker (D-NJ) introduced bipartisan legislation to address the ever-growing marine debris crisis threatening the health of our oceans and marine life.

Senator Whitehouse is a founding Co-Chair of the Senate Oceans Caucus, and Senator Sullivan was recently named an Honorary Co-Chair of the Oceans Caucus. Fellow Oceans Caucus Co-Chairs, Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Gary Peters (D-MI), and Oceans Caucus members, Senators Chris Coons (D-DE), Jim Inhofe (R-OK), and Thom Tillis (R-NC), have also co-sponsored the bill.

“Stopping the flow of garbage that fills our oceans and washes up on shorelines is a challenge that requires bipartisan and international cooperation.”

- Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)



INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CORPS DEVELOPS MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HAITI'S LARGEST MPA

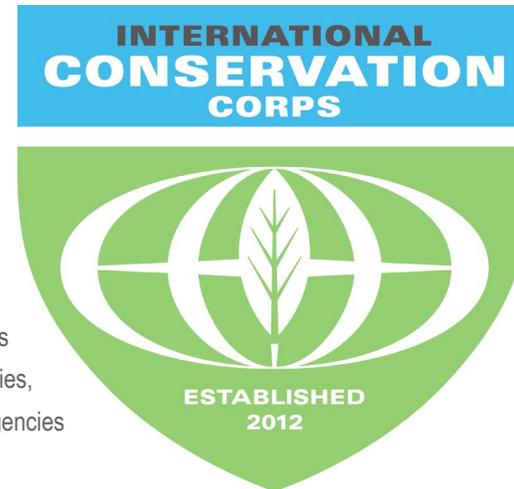
Conservation experts from The ICCF Group's International Conservation Corps, working with Haiti's Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM), recently completed the development of a comprehensive ten-year management plan for Haiti's largest marine protected area.

The Protected Area of Managed Natural Resources of the Three Bays was created by Presidential Decree in 2014 to protect a unique marine system of coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangrove forests, and deep offshore waters, as well as adjoining coastal plains. The sea- and landscape has been greatly altered over many centuries of human occupation and is currently unsustainably utilized and characterized by poverty and poor living conditions of its occupants. The Presidential Decree mandates management and restoration of PA3B's marine and terrestrial environments, with a focus on the maintenance and restoration of biodiversity and ecological integrity while responding to the needs of communities located within the protected area's borders and becoming a source of economic vitality.

To develop this management plan, the International Conservation Corps conducted a thorough review of background materials, visited stakeholders and local communities, hosted a stakeholder workshop

with participants from a number of economic sectors from several local communities, and met with government agencies and partners.

Development of the plan took into account a wide range of factors, including regional, national and international context (boundaries, socio-economic context, economic activities, transportation infrastructure, demographic trends, land tenure and ownership, legal and policy framework and management authority, regional and global biological significance, international agreements and obligations, implications of IUCN Category, etc.); physical environment and biological resources (climate, weather, geology, hydrology and oceanography, natural hazards, terrestrial and freshwater habitats and ecosystems, freshwater fauna, avian/reptile/amphibian/mammal species, marine habitats and ecosystems, and species at risk); historical and cultural values; and threats (overfishing, wood harvesting, pollution, unsustainable development, agriculture, aquaculture, invasive species, salt production, mining, etc.).



IN THE FIELD

ONGOING PROJECTS AROUND THE GLOBE

- *Strengthening the management capacity of Colombia's national park system*
- *Strengthened capacity of the government of the Bahamas to manage its forests*
- *Improving the management and operations of Thailand's premier national park*
- *Supporting the Paulson Institute in China to establish a national park service*
- *Working in Kenya to support the Naibunga Conservancy*

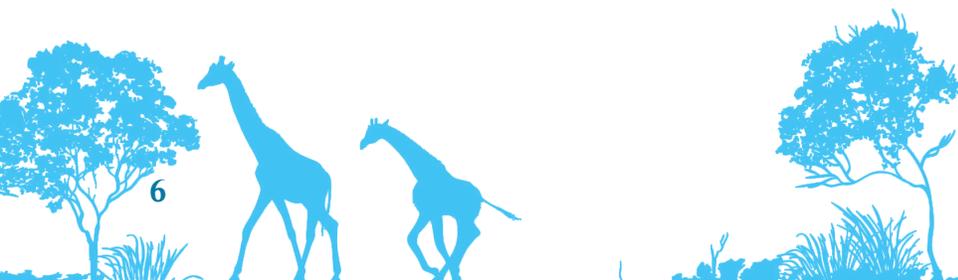


ICCF Group Chairman David Barron and the President of the Gabonese National Assembly at the launch of the Gabonese Parliamentary Conservation Caucus (GPCC) in Libreville on February 22nd.

CONSERVATION CAUCUS ESTABLISHED IN GABON AT CENTRAL AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY SUMMIT

Gabon Parliamentary Conservation Caucus (GPCC) is first parliamentary conservation caucus established in Central Africa

On February 22nd, members of the Gabonese Parliament launched the Gabon Parliamentary Conservation Caucus (GPCC) and hosted a Central Africa regional summit on combating wildlife crime. The summit brought together senior-ranking policymakers from six countries across Central Africa. The ICCF Group signed an MOU with Gabonese parliamentary leadership to collaborate on implementing a caucus strategy for strengthening natural resource governance and economic development.



TRAINING JUDGES & PROSECUTORS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

On February 23-24, The ICCF Group convened senior prosecutors, judges, magistrates, investigators, wildlife agency officials, and legislators from Central African countries to examine strategies for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of wildlife crime investigations, prosecutions, and sentencing.

Prosecutions of wildlife crimes are often inhibited by weak investigations producing insufficient or tainted evidence, lack of coordination among law enforcement

agencies, and significant courtroom delays. Delegations reviewed and agreed to implement new strategies for addressing those challenges, including prosecutor-led investigations, instituting prosecution handbooks for wildlife crimes and inter-agency standard operating procedures, as well as the development of sentencing guidelines by the judiciary.

The ICCF Group is producing an “Action Plan and Implementation Road Map” for strengthening criminal justice institutions

within the context of each country’s identified needs and challenges.

Other jurisdictions, such as Kenya, have seen drastically improved conviction rates from wildlife prosecutions after implementing such strategies as prosecutor-led investigations and developing prosecutor handbooks on wildlife crimes.

RECENT BRIEFINGS & WORKSHOPS



On March 15, ICCF hosted President of Costa Rica Luis Guillermo Solís on Capitol Hill to recognize Costa Rica’s conservation leadership.

Congressional Breakfast Briefing with Representative Bonamici
April 5, 2017

Capitol Hill Briefing: Reducing Consumer Demand for Rhino Horn in Southeast Asia
April 3, 2017

2017 ICCF Conservation Council Luncheon
March 28, 2017

Head of State Dinner with the President of Costa Rica
March 15, 2017

ICCF Kenya CEO Breakfast Briefing
March 7, 2017

Central African Criminal Justice Workshop on Combating Wildlife Crime
February 23-24, 2017

Central Africa Regional Summit on Combating Wildlife Crime
February 22, 2017

MPCC Review of Forestry Act Amendments
February 11, 2017

Oceans Caucus Policy Luncheon
January 21, 2017

International Conservation Gala
January 19, 2017

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The ICCF Group is off to a great start in 2017. We have hosted a number of high-profile events in the United States and internationally, we have added new leaders to the International Conservation Caucus and Oceans Caucus to reflect the beginning of a new Congress, and we have developed an ambitious agenda for the remainder of the year.

As we welcome a new Congress and Administration, there are many changes in the political landscape in Washington. However, conservation remains a bipartisan issue. It is essential that we continue to showcase how vital international conservation is to American interests. The ICCF Group remains focused on helping policymakers and the private sector work together to achieve outstanding conservation results in an effective and

cost-efficient manner, utilizing public-private partnerships and market-oriented conservation strategies.

Over the past several years, we have built a strong network of parliamentary conservation caucuses, with ten in Africa and three in Latin America. In 2017 we will continue to build caucuses in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia. In addition to our 2017 programs to advance political will in the U.S. and globally, we will continue to expand our programs in the field through our International Conservation Corps. We are partnering with governments around the world to share the U.S.'s conservation expertise to support parks and protected areas.

We are proud of what we have achieved and are excited about what lies ahead. We



John Gantt welcomes guests to the 2017 ICCF Inauguration Gala on January 19th.

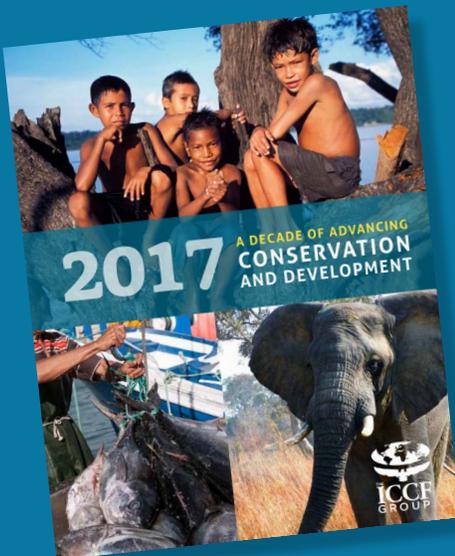
remain grateful to all of our outstanding partners who make our work possible.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John B. Gantt, Jr.".

John B. Gantt, Jr.
President, ICCF U.S.

BECOME AN ICCF GLOBAL PARTNER!



For information about our partnership opportunities, please contact:

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