



INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO HOST

THE 11th INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION

WORLD RANGER CONGRESS 2027

PURPOSE

Call for Expressions of Interest to organise and host, the 11th International Ranger Federation World Ranger Congress (IRF WRC) in 2027 in conjunction with the International Ranger Federation (IRF).

OBJECTIVE

The IRF WRC brings together rangers from all over the world, giving them the opportunity to learn new skills, share knowledge, create partnerships, and develop strategic ways to protect nature and nature's protectors.

The IRF WRC occurs approximately every three years in a different location, allowing host countries from each IRF region to raise the profile of rangers locally and internationally. It allows rangers to showcase their successes, to identify how they're addressing their regional challenges and share their knowledge and skills with colleagues from around the world.

It is the IRF's preference that no two consecutive IRF WRC's are held in the same IRF Region, however this is negotiable.

BACKGROUND

The International Ranger Federation (IRF) is a non-profit organization established to raise awareness of, and support, the critical work that rangers do in conserving the world's natural and cultural heritage. Founded in 1992, the IRF predominantly has a membership comprising of ranger associations from across the world, together with organisations and not-for-profit organisations that align with the aims of the IRF.

The IRF WRC provides a global forum for rangers from around the world to network with likeminded people from all different geographical areas who share a common discipline or field.

Past IRF WRC locations:

- 1995 - Zakopane, Poland
- 1997 - San José, Costa Rica
- 2000 - Kruger National Park, South Africa



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- 2003 - Wilson Promontory National Park, Victoria, Australia
- 2006 - Sterling, Scotland
- 2009 - Santa Cruz, Bolivia
- 2012 - Arusha, Tanzania
- 2016 - Estes Park, Colorado, USA
- 2019 - Sauraha, Chitwan, Nepal
- 2024 – Hyeres, France

11th IRF WRC Schedule

Action	Date Range
10 th (2024) IRF WRC Announcement	February 2023
11 th IRF WRC Communication of Process	August 2023
11 th IRF WRC EOI Process COMMENCES	1 September 2023
11 th IRF WRC EOI Process CLOSSES	1 July 2024
IRF Board Meeting - Host Presentations	August 2024
IRF Board Meeting – IRF WRC Host Selection	September 2024
11 th IRF World Ranger Congress Announcement – 10 th IRF WRC France	October 2024
11 th IRF World Ranger Congress	2027

IRF WRC Organising Arrangements

The IRF WRC Organising Committee consists of IRF Board members and host organisation's Executive and/or members. This group works closely and collaboratively together to bring this internationally recognised congress to the attention of rangers world-wide, as well as their employees, advocates, ambassadors and supporters.

The IRF WRC Organising Committee will agree specific roles and responsibilities for each of its representatives. It will also determine how the event organisation, finances, sponsorship, marketing and logistics are managed.

It is important to highlight that the IRF WRC is run as a cost-neutral exercise. The IRF WRC is funded via low-cost registration and sponsorship. The IRF is not expected to outlay any expenditure towards the IRF WRC without prior agreement.



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The hosting organisation is expected to:

- Be a member of the IRF (Full, Provisional or Associate).
- Comply with requirements as outlined in the Terms of Reference (TOR) and subsequent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Be financially viable and accountable. It is desirable that they hold at least \$20,000USD in account for any initial outlays, but to be later reimbursed as incoming finances accrue.
- Open a WRC account that can be seen by the IRF, so all financial management is open and transparent.
- Have support from any relevant supporting or sponsoring entities. Support must be in writing and confirmed via MoU's and signed agreements with said entities.
- Commit to ensuring that the IRF's strategic directions, Codes of Conduct and other initiatives steer the planning of the IRF WRC.
- To ensure inclusiveness, the hosting organisation is to provide real-time translations of the IRF WRC proceedings in at least English, Spanish and French at a minimum.
- Select committed individuals to take on roles within the hosting organisation's committee (3-5 suggested).
- Develop a suitable health and safety plan for the IRF WRC.

The IRF WRC location/venue MUST:

- Large enough to offer a meeting space to accommodate 350 to 400 delegates over four/five days, and have multiple smaller meeting spaces for concurrent meetings.
- Space (inside or outside) for a group photo of all attending delegates, and up to 100 national flags.
- Within or close to natural or protected areas, that must be considered for field trips as part of the program.
- Preferably within three (3) hours drive of an International / Regional Airport.
- Able to provide morning/afternoon tea and lunch, and at least one evening dinner meal for the five days of the IRF WRC. The costs for which should be included in the WRC registration fee and/or provided via sponsorship.
- Able to offer alternative eating/food establishments or shops to suit a range of budgets near the IRF WRC venue.
- Close to a range of accommodation options suitable for all budgets.
- In a location that has mobile/cell phone capabilities (for safety reasons).
- Have reasonable Visa/Entry requirements that enable rangers from across the world to attend.



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The IRF WRC itinerary/ schedule MUST:

- Be a minimum of five (5) days for the congress and field trips
- On day one (1) allow for a parade of nations and group photo
- Include and IRF and host organization welcome and presentation
- Include time and meeting space for a three (3) hour IRF Regional Meeting, to be held concurrently, (there are seven (7) IRF Regions)
- Include time and location an IRF Board Meeting
- On the final day, include:
 - IRF Board Elections to (2) hours
 - Next IRF WRC announcement