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INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION

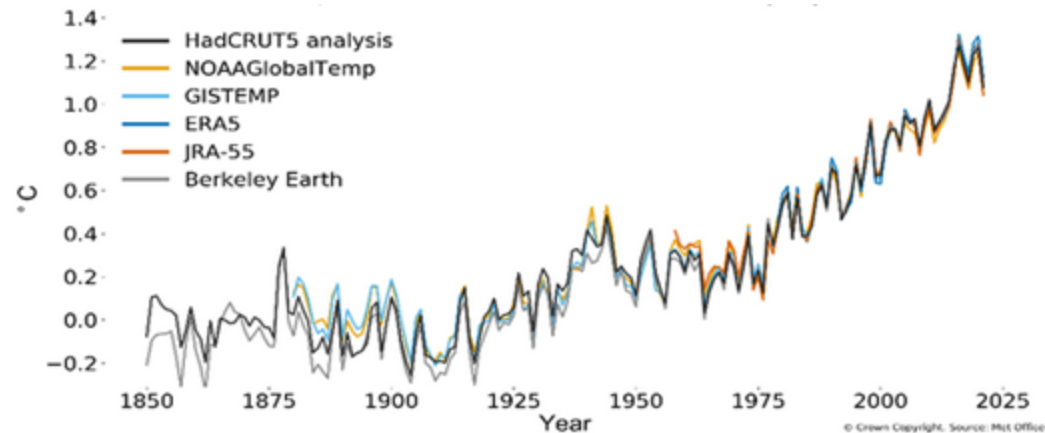
NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)^[1] says that 2021 has been a year which has further propelled the Earth into uncharted climatic territory. The exponential progression is undeniable as per the graph below where six different data sets show almost identical results. Even with a temporary cooling of 'La Nina' event early in 2021, the year will end being the 5th or 7th warmest year on record. CoP26 has come and gone, and it left little reassurance that the planet and its inhabitants will face a future with less risks from anthropocentric-driven climate effects. Sea level rise accelerated from 2013, reaching a peak in 2021; many record temperatures were experienced in Europe and North America, where in Canada temperatures almost reached 50°C; severe flooding in China and Europe; rapid melting of glaciers; numerous wildfires driven by heatwaves and drought conditions etc. The list goes on as climatic records were shattered year-on-year as the global mean temperature for 2021 (based on data from January to September) was about 1.09°C above the 1850-1900 average.

The Global Mean Temperature difference from 1850-1900 (°C)



Global annual mean temperature difference from preindustrial conditions (1850–1900) for six global temperature data sets (see notes for editors).

This, with the continued pandemic, has punctuated a difficult year for most. We believe that through a collective effort by the International Ranger Federation (IRF) and its partners, the significance of the role of rangers has been elevated over the past year, as per [the IRF's statement](#) in response to the UNFCCC COP26, Glasgow, United Kingdom, November 2021 CBD COP15, and the upcoming CBD Conference in Kunming, April 2022. Rangers provide services directly aligned to fulfill conservation and climate change targets; by building and maintaining trust and respectful relationships with local communities, providing education and information for visitors, and managing and controlling environmental risks while providing assistance during emergencies (many related to the climate crisis). Rangers are indeed our planetary health frontline workers, and thus the IRF believes that effective conservation measures to mitigate climate change and biodiversity loss can only happen with well-supported rangers on the ground. The biodiversity and the climate crises we face are human induced and therefore require human induced solutions. Rangers must be seen as the starting point of such global solutions.

There have been many positive achievements this year in our effort to implement the [Chitwan Declaration](#) and the subsequent [URSA Action Plan](#). The [IRF Code of Conduct \(CoC\)](#) certainly stands out and this has been strengthened for implementation through the [associated video](#) to understand the CoC and the newly released [CoC Guideline document](#). We implore all to make full use of this and send through any questions or comments.

We have a busy year ahead and much to build on from a positive ranger foundation laid in 2021. I would like to thank all that have contributed to the studies that have been undertaken in 2021 by IRF and its partners. We know this takes up valuable time and no one wants to be filling in 'another' survey. I would therefore like to ask for your continued support and patience in 2022, to support the development of the first ever State of the Ranger Report. We have also started the development of the first IRF Strategy, which will include engagement with key stakeholders.

Please note the exceptional [2nd International Ranger Awards](#). There is no shortage of deserving rangers so please share widely or consider submitting a nomination. The funding support to finalists and runners up will really make a difference to rangers and ranger teams on the ground.

On a final note, thank you to the IRF board and the support from the membership and our partners. We wish all rangers and their families a safe run down to the end of the year and hopefully a fresh reinvigorated start to 2022. Our thoughts are with all those rangers that will not be fortunate to be with their loved ones over this time as the work of ranger is never done.

Here's to good health and a rewarding 2022.

Chris Galliers

[1] <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/state-of-climate-2021-extreme-events-and-major-impacts>

COP26 STATEMENT

A Statement from the International Ranger Federation (IRF) for the UNFCCC COP26, Glasgow, United Kingdom, November 2021 and the CBD COP15, Kunming, China, April 2022

Context: The two interconnected global emergencies

Well protected and conserved areas play a transformative role in addressing the dual crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. Both crises are inextricably linked and cannot be solved one without the other. Restoring ecosystems is a promising strategy to reduce carbon emissions while conserving biodiversity. If the international community, governments, and private sector, commit to invest in carbon offsetting programs in protected and conserved areas along with supporting rangers as frontline conservation workers, the dual current crisis could improve significantly. Rangers, as planetary health workers, play a critical role in the conservation of protected and conserved areas; they are responsible for safeguarding nature, and cultural and historical heritage, and protecting the rights and well-being of present and future generations. As frontline workers, they monitor, manage and interpret the importance of our natural environments and carry out law enforcement to maintain the integrity of protected and conserved areas, often

under testing conditions, for extended periods, with poor support and remuneration. They also provide services directly aligned to fulfill conservation and climate change targets; by building and maintaining trust and respectful relationships with local communities, providing education and information for visitors, and managing and controlling environmental risks while providing assistance during emergencies (many related to the climate crisis). Rangers are indeed our planetary health frontline workers, who ensure the safekeeping of carbon sinks, biodiversity and vital yet threatened ecosystem services for humanity's well-being. [Continue reading:](#)

CODE OF CONDUCT

The International Ranger Federation (IRF) Ranger [Code of Conduct](#) (CoC) was developed by rangers, for rangers through a global consultation process. This summary of the [IRF Code of Conduct \(CoC\) Guideline](#) presents a set of recommended stages for adaptation and adoption by ranger employers to meet local, social and legal contexts.



Image credit: Extract from the IRF CoC Guidelines.

The [IRF Code of Conduct \(CoC\)](#) has been strengthened for implementation through the [associated video](#) to understand the CoC and the newly released [CoC Guideline document](#).

RANGER ASSOCIATION STUDY

The International Ranger Federation (IRF), in collaboration with Re:wild (formerly Global Wildlife Conservation) and the University of Central Florida (UCF) is conducting a study to examine the characteristics and function of ranger associations, challenges that ranger associations face, and ways in which ranger associations can improve. To date, we have conducted 68 interviews across 27 different countries. Additionally, the research team has developed a survey for rangers, with questions about their work context, as well as experiences and perceptions of ranger associations. The survey is online, anonymous, and has been translated into 7 languages to date. Currently, 462

surveys have been completed. The break-down of interviews and surveys can be seen in the table below.

Table 1. Breakdown of Interviews and Surveys by Region

Region	Interviews Completed	Surveys Completed
North America	7	60
Latin and South America	28	132
Africa	13	40
Europe	7	136
Asia	6	53
Oceania	7	41

For those of you who have participated, thank you! Your responses and knowledge are valuable and will play a vital role in shaping the future role of ranger associations. The research team will conduct a final wave of data collection in the Spring. As the study continues, we encourage you to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey. The survey can be reached by clicking on the link provided below:

Survey Link: http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eyUV9HWJJDHGwya

If you would like to participate in a confidential interview, please inform the research team at richard.elligson@knights.ucf.edu of your interest.

2ND INTERNATIONAL RANGER AWARDS

IUCN **WCPA** **INTERNATIONAL RANGER AWARD 2022**

2nd International Ranger Awards

Open for nominations until
31 January 2022

<https://bit.ly/3d87HQy>

Conservation Allies **WWF** **re:wild**

The 2nd Annual International Ranger Awards will recognise the remarkable work of rangers in protected areas around the world. Hosted by the IUCN and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, in collaboration with the International Ranger Federation, Re:wild, Conservation Allies, and WWF Tigers Alive Initiative, these awards are intended to improve rangers' capabilities, raise awareness about the critical role they play in conservation efforts, and help share rangers' unique stories and perspectives.

Twelve winners (individuals or teams) will each receive \$10,000 USD to support the work of their associated organisation. This year two of those awards will be

given specifically to rangers working to save tigers in protected areas. Ten further highly commended awardees will receive \$5,000 USD to support their associated organisation.

These awards recognise rangers of all different backgrounds and roles. Nominations are encouraged regardless of duties, gender, ethnicity, or geographic location. Nominations are open until 31 January 2022. For details visit [IUCN WCPA International Ranger Award | IUCN](#).

THE THIN GREEN LINE FOUNDATION



Image credit: Mia Cooke-Joshi from The Gorilla Organisation

Close Collaboration to Enhance Conservation

Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, [The Thin Green Line Foundation's](#) (TGLF) supporters have shown a heartfelt commitment to the fundamental needs of rangers working on the frontlines of conservation. This generous support has allowed The Thin Green Line to make significant contributions to the global ranger community in 2021. Close collaboration with the [International Ranger Federation](#) (IRF) has enabled The Thin Green Line to strengthen its impact, expedite delivery of projects to remote locations, and achieve consistent outcomes for rangers across the world. In 2020-2021, Thin

Green Line has 43 projects in 29 countries. This extensive commitment has provided support to over 1400 rangers. Nearly 300 Rangers received COVID-19 emergency support including personal protective equipment.

Training goes the Distance

The Thin Green Line believes that investing in training is an essential step in improving rangers' skills and their confidence. We have continued this work through our flagship LEAD Ranger Program, while also supporting shorter-term training courses globally. From indigenous rangers in Bolivia's Gran Chaco, to Thailand's Pang Sida National Park, and in many other protected areas, we supported the training of 189 rangers in 2020-2021. This included 30 Ranger Life Saver coaches trained through LEAD Ranger, who are now qualified to deliver ongoing training in the organisations they represent across Africa.

Furaha Kazungu Kahindi, was recognised for Life Saving and Humane Actions, having graduated from the LEAD 'Ranger Life Saver' course in early 2021. Furaha saved the life of a community member who was injured during an encounter with a wild elephant. Not only has Furaha directly changed the fate of one family, but he has also fostered a newfound trust and respect for rangers from the communities living around the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest protected area in Kenya where this incident occurred.

Personal Equipment Makes a Difference

All the gear that each ranger carries on foot patrol makes the job of monitoring and protecting wildlife and habitat more achievable. In 2021, The Thin Green Line was proud to be able to provide over 1300 rangers with equipment or uniforms as part of its annual project funding program. Equipment funding supports multiple conservation objectives including anti-poaching projects and community wildlife monitoring programs. Diverse species and habitats will benefit from the enhanced work of rangers. Uniforms, boots and waterproof

clothing were provided for rangers in Kenya, Tanzania, Indonesia, Sierra Leone and Congo. Camera traps were funded for projects in Cameroon, French Polynesia, and for Sumatran rangers in Indonesia. Basic firefighting equipment and protective clothing were funded for rangers in Indonesia, Armenia and Georgia.

Having the essential kit to do their jobs safely and effectively boosts rangers' morale. It means that they can focus on conserving habitats and preventing poaching instead of repairing old boots or coping with malaria or COVID-19.

- Big Life Foundation – Kenya and Tanzania
- Grevy's Zebra Trust – Kenya
- The Gorilla Organisation – Democratic Republic of Congo
- Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary – Sierra Leone
- Orangutan Foudnation – Indonesia
- Paso Pacifico – El Salvador
- Rewilding Argentina – Argentina
- Parna Ngururra Aboriginal Corporation - Australia

Emergency Support - Delivering Hope

The Thin Green Line has reached many more Fallen Ranger families in the last 12 months. Emergency relief is a fundamental aspect of The Thin Green Line's mission. Nothing can compensate for the death of a loved one, but during such a difficult time, the Fallen Ranger Fund provides an important financial lifeline when material support is often lacking. We're very fortunate to have regular supporters enabling us to provide emergency assistance. We also rely on conservation partners around the world to coordinate the detailed information we need to ensure those funds reach families in remote places around the world. According to Sean Willmore, Thin Green Line's founder and director, delivering that support directly and urgently is not straightforward. "Assisting

each case involves people across the globe coordinating details to support each family,” said Sean. “The families of Fallen Rangers often live in remote areas with limited access to services in their own country, let alone avenues to international aid.”

PAMS Foundation, Freeland and Elevation Foundation, are just a few of the organisations Thin Green Line collaborates with, along with member associations of the International Ranger Federation, to reach families of Fallen Rangers with urgent financial support. With contacts in over 25 countries, Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) liaise directly with colleagues of Fallen Rangers to facilitate help for the families. Part of the International Ranger Federation, GRAA have made it possible to reach more families in 2021 despite the impact of COVID-19. "Working with GRAA and other in-country organisations, we can navigate language and cultural aspects and deliver assistance without long delays," Sean said.

The Thin Green Line provided financial assistance to 68 families of Fallen Rangers in 2020-2021. Working closely with The Thin Green Line UK we coordinated assistance for five more families. Forty families had received support in 2019-2020. The increased support in 2021 reflects in part the assistance provided to families of rangers who died from COVID-19.

Special funding from Avaaz enabled TGLF to respond to the tragic impact of the pandemic in several ways including provision of personal protective equipment and salary supplements for rangers. Thanks to Avaaz, Thin Green Line was also able to support the families of 13 Fallen Rangers who died from COVID-19.

IRF MEETS WITH BIOFIN



Image credit: Monica Alvarez

On November 23rd 2021, the President, Executive Officer and Development Officer of the IRF held a meeting with Onno van den Heuvel, Global Manager of the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) and Keith Swenson to explore ways on how to work closer to benefit rangers and how rangers can be better recognized and supported for the front-line efforts they are responsible for in biodiversity protection.

Some of the ideas discussed included the opportunity to add new solutions, relating to rangers, into the 150 Solutions Catalogue of BIOFIN

<https://www.biofin.org/solution-search>, to build case studies, showcase and invite BIOFIN to collaborate in the next IRF Ranger Roundtable Discussion with the focus group.

BIOFIN was initiated in response to the urgent global need to divert more finance from all possible sources towards global and national biodiversity goals, as highlighted during the 2010 CBD COP 10 in Nagoya, Japan.

FEMALE FORTRESSES OF THE FOREST



Image credit: Ivy Farheen Hussain

An account of the female rangers in Assam - Written by Ivy Farheen Hussain

When we think of women, the typical visual that comes in our mind is grace and

beauty. We often do not associate women with strength, but resilience. Not with pain, but tolerance. Not with knowledge, but wisdom. But, women throughout generations have proven to be great negotiators, fighters, legislators and most importantly, leaders. Now I encourage you to think about forests. A lush gigantic green forest, beaming equally with life and danger. Every corner hiding something - rare beauty or a gruesome death. Now, I ask of you to picture a woman in a forest. No, not a willowy, delicate women collecting flowers or sitting beside a waterfall looking ethereal. I want you to imagine a woman cadet in a camo uniform, scars in her face and a gun on her shoulders, badge on her chest and hair tied in a bun and eyes scouting for dangers from animals and humans alike. That is where our subconscious is questioned. And let us address that discord today. [Continue reading:](#)

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

OCEANIA



Image credit: Protected Areas Workers Association (PAWA)

Tribute to Uncle Mark Flanders

This year has seen the loss of a truly inspiring Aboriginal Elder from the Gumbaynggir nation on the Mid-North Coast of New South Wales, Australia. Uncle Mark Flanders (Uncle) worked as an Aboriginal Discovery Ranger for 18 years. During this time, he shared his cultural knowledge with thousands of people, all of which respected and admired this amazing person. Uncle was a valued Protected Areas Workers Association (PAWA) member keen to represent PAWA at the IRF World Rangers Congress (WRC) in the Rocky Mountains, Colorado in 2016. He was successful in receiving sponsorship to

attend the WRC by the PAWA committee.

Uncle had never been overseas before, and as his wife Michelle shared with me recently, that he was blissfully unaware of some of the key travel essentials. Uncle flew to the US and landed without a care in the world, or any US dollars or a phone that he could use. In his usual friendly, cheeky and open style he was quickly adopted by people who were more than happy to help him. At the WRC he presented on cultural interpretation and how he saw his role as being the conduit to bring black and white together through the sharing of his culture. After this talk, and in the following couple of days, as people got to know him, he quickly became one of the stars of the Congress. When the Congress was over, he had not organised anything to fill in his time before his return flight home. So, the international ranger family provided him with invitations to stay with families and be their guest of honour. His openness meant that he made deep and lasting friendships and connections. Uncle will be remembered for the joy, smiles and laughter he gifted everyone in his presence.

Please watch this video which was created to pay tribute to this amazing man: www.facebook.com/NSWNationalParks/videos/544042333625127

Thank you, Ann Walton, for this lovely tribute to Uncle Mark.



Image credit: Protected Areas Workers Association (PAWA)

Fire uniforms go to South Africa from Australia

Over the last few years, Protected Area Workers Association of New South Wales and ACT (PAWA) members have been collecting and donating surplus fire uniforms to ranger associations in need. PAWA had accumulated close to 200kg of fire uniform (thanks everyone involved!) and as we have done in the past, PAWA approached Naomi Stevens (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Executive Director) and asked for assistance to send the uniform overseas.

Naomi has been a great supporter of PAWA initiatives and we, as well as rangers from around the world, thank her and NPWS for their generosity and support. This time around we managed to send much needed fire uniforms to

South Africa, through our partners in the IRF and the Game Ranger Association of Africa (GRAA). PAWA sent the uniform items to Durban and after many hassles with customs and payment of duty GRAA finally received the uniforms and have started to distribute this valuable specialist firefighting clothing to where it is desperately needed.

The photos are of Babanango Game Reserve rangers who received some of the uniforms. Babanango Game Reserve is a mostly (68%) community owned reserve that is being re-wilded to become a formally protected 'big five' area. Equipment has also been disseminated to two other protected areas in Kwa Zulu Natal - namely Munyawana Game Reserve and Manyoni Game Reserve. Chris Galliers, President of the IRF and South African ranger informed PAWA that these reserves are private "big five" protected areas and are members of the GRAA. There is still remaining equipment which will go to supporting two state owned protected areas namely Weenen Nature Reserve and Spionkop Nature Reserve. All reserves face fire risks and actively carry out firebreaks and management burns.



South Australian Ranger Association Annual Migration

The South Australian Ranger Association (SARA) recently held their 'Annual Migration' in Port Lincoln South Australia. The Annual Migration is an annual forum for South Australian rangers and field staff in conservation that hosts speakers, tours and workshops over two days. The 2021 migration is the 9th annual event, and was a welcome opportunity for staff across South Australia to connect, network and share experiences. The annual event was forced online in 2020, but luckily we were able to re-convene in Port Lincoln in 2021. Local staff showcased their region, with Lincoln and Coffin Bay National Parks being the main focus for tours and working bees.

[Lincoln... - National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia](#)

[Coffin Bay... - National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia](#)

Like our colleagues around Oceania and globally, rangers in South Australia

have been impacted over the last 18 months by the COVID=19 pandemic, with record numbers of visitors resulting in a higher number of incidents, increased compliance efforts and reactive work to meet new restrictions and hygiene requirements. Adding to this is the impact of recent bushfires significantly impacting our work, places we love and in some cases our homes and properties. The bushfires in 2020 and 2021 have had long lasting effects and contribute to the sustained pressure on rangers to manage the restoration of habitats and infrastructure.

The in-person contact at annual forums is an important component of maintaining strong resilience in rangers. The SARA receives regular feedback that participants leave feeling rejuvenated, motivated and refreshed towards their work. This year, three different organisations were represented with staff from the SA National Parks and Wildlife Service, SA Water (Water Reservoirs) and Forestry SA staff participating. Staff enjoyed speakers discussing a range of topics including conservation programs, tourism management and reintroduction programs.

Tours and working bees brought participants to coastal cliffs, dune systems and beach environments. The annual SARA auction raised over \$1,000 for The Thin Green Line Foundation and provided participants with some lighthearted fun and some prized possessions. The 'Director's Dinner,' 2021 proved to be a year of winners, with all rangers being named recipients of the 'In the Ranger Spirit Award' for their professionalism, resilience, and service to the community during significant bushfire and pandemic events. We are all looking forward to continuing our important work and our next forum in 2022.

AFRICA



2021 has been another difficult year for the ranger community because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ranger community has lost many dedicated men and women because of the pandemic. Lockdowns and restrictions have also hindered the implementation of opportunities such as the Game Ranger Association of Africa's (GRAA) Bursary Training and assessments. However, despite these challenges we have continued to upskill Africa's rangers! Training conducted in 2021 include Advanced Field Ranger Training, Remote Area First Aid Training, Tracker Training and Mentoring.

While funding sources have decreased, we continue to pursue fundraising avenues so that we can maintain member benefits, such as our insurance cover which offers cover to members in the event of death, disability and also medical evacuation 24/7, even if they are not on duty. This is an essential benefit that all rangers deserve. Thanks to this insurance cover we have been able to assist rangers get to hospital quickly and receive the necessary treatment to save their lives!

Collaboration with the IRF and other international ranger bodies continues to strengthen. As the leading regional ranger association of Africa, the GRAA serves as a ranger association model for others across the world with rangers who are actively working in the field.

A common issue among several African countries is the degrading state of conservation bodies at provincial and government levels. This also echoes the need to professionalise the ranger profession so that we have a stronger voice at these levels. The GRAA continues to be the voice of the African ranger and is working with the IRF and the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) on an action plan to professionalise the industry.

At the GRAA's AGM this year, members officially accepted the IRF Code of Conduct. We hope many other ranger associations and countries will follow suit so that the ranger profession not only becomes more recognised, but that ranger standards and conditions improve.

The GRAA also decided to become a member of URSA. This will help to raise our profile as the regional ranger association of Africa and raise important issues that African rangers deal with. Membership will also strengthen our opportunities to have the African ranger agenda heard at an international level.

Wildlife Ranger Challenge

The Wildlife Ranger Challenge 2021 was a massive fundraising success to support the rangers in Africa: Launching the week of [#WorldRangerDay](#) 2021, the [#WildlifeRangerChallenge](#) was once again, the largest coordinated pan-African fundraising campaign. Culminating in a half marathon in full equipment, the Wildlife Ranger Challenge brought over 2,000 rangers together from 125

protected areas across 24 countries in a series of challenges to raise awareness for the ranger sector and the vital work they do, securing over \$3M of funding in the process to support over 8,500 rangers from 53 protected areas. Supporters from around the world were encouraged to bolster efforts and 'Run with Rangers' by taking part in a 5, 10, or 21km run and donating to the challenge on September 18, 2021.

A huge thank you to the organising partners, the Scheinberg Relief Fund, the field partners, the rangers themselves, and the Wildlife Ranger Challenge Steering Committee for an incredible and impactful event.

WATCH: <https://vimeo.com/612955254/3a56ac4740>

LATIN AMERICA



Results of the First Latin America Female Ranger Congress

The First Latin America Female Ranger Congress was organized by the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF) of Chile from late September to December 2021 and follows the commitments of the *Regional diagnosis of the employment situation of rangers in Latin America* that came out of the Latin American Ranger Congress held in Baños, Ecuador in 2018. One of the central objectives of the Congress was to inspire people to promote paradigm changes that value everyone, regardless of their gender identity, in their efforts for conservation. Also, to influence overcoming personal, institutional, social and political barriers to achieve gender equality in the ranger workforce. The

Congress considered three milestones: a survey about the current situation of female rangers, webinars on gender and management of protected areas and the construction of an Agenda for Female Rangers in Latin America.

Preliminary results of the female ranger's survey

526 woman who identified themselves as rangers participated in the survey. The average age was 36 years, most of them work in public protected areas (86.3%) with a high level of education (40.1% completed university education and 18.4% completed technical higher education). A high percentage presented as single (62.5%) or heads of households (59.3%), with a son or daughter (53.8%). 11.7% identify with the LGBTIQ community and 16.1% indicated that they belong to an indigenous or tribal people. On health conditions, 22.5% responded suffering from chronic diseases, the main ones being: depression and anxiety (18.5%); allergies and muscle bone diseases (both with 15.4%), and obesity (12%). Regarding gender violence, discrimination, and institutional policies on the matter, 46% responded that at some point in their working life as a ranger they have been exposed to gender-based violence or discrimination, while 24.5% reported the situation. Related to the existence of protocols against sexual harassment, workplace harassment of sexual connotation or arbitrary discrimination, 45.2% responded that they exist in their institution and 24.8% indicated that their institution does not have such instruments. Likewise, 44.6% indicated that their institution has policies for gender equality in hiring, promotion and remuneration. 57.8% considered that in their institution there are barriers that generate inequality between women and men, among them: sexist biases and stereotypes in general and about being a ranger, as well as a culture of impunity and fear of reprisals, and *micromachismos*.

Webinar series

The webinars were held between September 28th and 30th 2021. Experiences

with a gender perspective in the management of protected areas in the region where shared. The event aroused great interest, reaching more than 250 people per day. There was the participation of renowned women in conservation such as Brigitte Baptiste and Julia Miranda who gave a clear message to directives of protected area agencies to listen to and support rangers and also highlighted the importance of having a code of conduct for rangers while improving their working conditions and recognition. On the last day, the IRF Development Officer, Mónica Alvarez presented the key takeaways of the *URSA Report: Towards Gender Equality in the Ranger Workforce* followed by a discussion with the audience of the challenges and opportunities for female rangers in the profession. IRF invited rangers in the region to come together and strengthen ranger associations in Latin America so these discussions can be addressed in a collective manner.

Agenda for female rangers in Latin America

During the month of November, five commissions worked to address the situation of female rangers and collectively build an Agenda for Female Rangers in Latin America, which is a living document that will remain available so that it can be enriched by all female rangers. The agenda will be released on December 15th with the participation of the IRF President, Chris Galliers.

The International Ranger Federation has been actively supporting and participating in the multiple stages of the Congress along with other partners as the Chilean International Development Agency (Agsid), The Pew Charitable Trusts, Austral Patagonia Program of the Austral University of Chile (Proap) and WWF Latin America, Latin American Ranger Federation, URSA, Así Conserva Chile, RedParques, IUCN, Network of Women in Conservation of Latin America and the Caribbean, The Nature Conservation, WCS, UNDP, UNUDC and Center For Protected Area Management of Colorado State University.

Everyone who support this process is invited to read and sign the following declaration as a natural person or as an organization:

<https://mujeresguardaparques.cl/declaracion.php>

To find all the material and other testimonies of female rangers worldwide, provided by the IRF, go to this link:

<https://www.mujeresguardaparques.cl/materiales.php>

Gallery <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWLSJm>



Rangers at the Latin America and Caribbean Protected Area Day

The International Ranger Federation (IRF), Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) and the Latin America Ranger Federation (FLG), participated together in the Latin America and Caribbean Protected Area Day on Saturday the 16th of October 2021. During the event “Why is it worth being on the frontline of

conservation?” rangers from Ecuador, Uruguay and Costa Rica shared key insights of day-to-day challenges and responsibilities while fulfilling their duties. To watch the conversation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_a9nR-jzBA
More info here: <https://www.celebracionareasprotegidas.org>



GESTIÓN DEL TURISMO EN ÁREAS NATURALES PROTEGIDAS LATINOAMÉRICA AL NATURAL

redparques
6ª EDICIÓN 2021

LATINOAMÉRICA AL NATURAL
Ecoturismo para la conservación en áreas protegidas

COVID-19 RESPUESTA



Chris Galliers
Presidente de la Federación Internacional de Guardaparques

ENTREVISTA

Chris Galliers, guardaparque de origen sudamericano, es actualmente el presidente de la Federación Internacional de Guardaparques (IRF por sus siglas en inglés). Ha estado activamente involucrado en la prevención de caza furtiva del rinoceronte desde 2010. Es miembro de Game Rangers Association of Africa (Asociación Africana de Guardaparques) donde fue presidente por dos periodos (2012 - 2018). Asimismo, fue electo Representante Regional para África en IRF en 2012 y ha estado involucrado en su directiva desde entonces.

Las áreas naturales protegidas constituyen espacios verdes para la salud y el esparcimiento de las personas, entre eso, desde su punto de vista ¿Cuál debe ser el rol de las áreas naturales protegidas, para promover espacios saludables y a la vez contribuir con la reactivación del turismo post COVID-19?

Las áreas protegidas requieren de planes de salud y seguridad en torno al COVID. Deben contar con equipamiento, infraestructura y señalética necesaria.

Es muy importante que el personal que las opera, como los guardaparques, esté adecuadamente entrenado y capacitado para poder desarrollar efectivamente sus funciones dentro de las áreas. También, el personal de campo debe ser apoyado y respaldado en sus esfuerzos para aplicar los protocolos, como respetar los límites de capacidad de carga de visitantes en las áreas protegidas, por ejemplo.

Sobre la Federación Internacional de Guardaparques

La Federación Internacional de Guardaparques está integrada por más de 140 asociaciones de guardaparques de todo el mundo. Para conocer más sobre IRF y sus iniciativas, como el reciente Código de conducta realizado por y para guardaparques, visite sus plataformas de comunicación:

www.internationalrangers.org
FB @InternationalRangerFederation
IG @int_ranger_fed

IRF President interview in REDPARQUES bulletin

Chris Galliers, President of the International Ranger Federation (IRF) shares his insight on reactivation of tourism in protected areas in the context of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Find the complete 6th version on the [REDPARQUES](#) bulletin about tourism in protected areas here: <https://cutt.ly/YR5I5MN> and on RedParques website: <https://redparques.com/publicaciones>



On behalf of the IRF Board and Regional Representatives, we wish all our members, partners, supporters, families and friends a blessed festive season and a prosperous new year. Happy Holidays!

VIEW THIS NEWSLETTER IN SPANISH OR FRENCH

To view this Newsletter in Spanish, follow this link:

<https://mailchi.mp/05ac2d8e47eb/boletn-de-diciembre2021>

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<https://mailchi.mp/a7edcac16888/bulletin-dinformation-de-dcembre2021>

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