



Banovich Wildscapes Foundation

Making a difference in the conservation of wildlife and wild lands.

MISSION:

The Banovich Wildscapes Foundation (BWF) is a nonprofit (501c3) organization fostering cooperative efforts to conserve the earth's wild places benefiting the wildlife and the people that live there.

The vision of BWF is to facilitate the bridge connecting sportsmen and environmental conservationists, encouraging them to work together for wildlife conservation. BWF promotes scientific research and conservation education; facilitates habitat protection and restoration projects; develops creative and respectful partnerships to fund conservation programs; and creates opportunities to build long-term community economic well-being.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION:

Founded in 2007 by John Banovich, Banovich Wildscapes Foundation is the culmination of tireless conservation efforts over the past two decades. Through his career as an artist, Banovich has inspired a deeper understanding of the world and its wildlife, encouraging successful conservation efforts and awareness of endangered species and their habitats. Through several projects and initiatives, BWF has developed effective partnerships to maintain the long-term survival of many threatened species – BWF is making a difference.

"I started the Banovich Wildscapes Foundation as a way to give something back to the world that has given so much to me. I believe there is nothing more important to future generations than wildlife and wild lands. It lifts our minds, replenishes our spirit and renews our passion for living." - John Banovich

John Banovich's career as a wildlife artist has always paralleled his passion as a conservationist. Traveling across the world seeking inspiration for his work, John has utilized these opportunities to research wildlife and to learn about associated conservation challenges at the local, regional, and national levels. Through his career, artwork and his publishing company, Banovich Art, John Banovich has developed effective ways to help implement and support conservation programs. He founded the Banovich Wildscapes Foundation (BWF) which evolved from these programs and now is helping to support conservation initiatives around the world, utilizing the imagery of John Banovich to promote a message of wildlife preservation and initiate real change.

"John Banovich has merged the world of wildlife art and conservation in a unique and exciting way. John is able to use his status as world-renowned artist to further conservation efforts even in the remotest parts of the world, working to save Siberian tigers in the Russian Far East, lions in Africa, and even the brown bears of North America. John brings energy, imagination, and leadership to the conservation arena, seeking new partnerships and new mechanisms to save the world's wildlife."

-Dale Miquelle, Program Director, WCS

BWF seeks to support conservation niches that its limited resources can impact. This is accomplished by developing initiatives that work in partnership with existing organizations on the ground, promoting

scientific research and conservation education, facilitating habitat protection of large conservation landscapes and restoration projects, developing creative and respectful partnerships to fund conservation programs, and building build long-term community economic well-being. Banovich has partnered with several different world-wide organizations that demonstrate a successful history of bringing the non-hunting conservation community and the sportsmen conservationists together for united efforts to save wildlife for future generations.

INITIATIVES & PROJECTS

BWF has founded two initiatives and partners with twelve projects in seven countries.

KENYA

Laikipia Predator Project (PRIDE Initiative)
KWT Mara Lion Project, Kenya (PRIDE Initiative)
Kenya Wildlife Trust, Mara Cheetah Project
Soysambu Conservancy
Mara Cheetah Project, Kenya

NAMIBIA

Tou Trust, Reconciling Lions and Livelihoods (PRIDE Initiative)

RWANDA

Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project (MGVP)
Ubumwe Community Center (UCC), Gisenyi

ETHIOPIA

The Murulle Foundation, Mountain Nyala Initiative

INDIA

Wildlife Protection Society of India

UNITED STATES

Craighead Institute

RUSSIA

Khunta Mi Initiative – Conserving the Amur Tiger

LION PRIDE INITIATIVE

Laikipia Predator Project, Mara Lion Project, and the Tou Trust

The BWF Lion PRIDE Initiative is dedicated to conserving the lion population by supporting important scientific research to preserve large conservation landscapes, and benefit rural community development.



“John Banovich’s intense personal relationship with wildlife and the natural world expresses itself not only in his spectacular artwork, but also in his remarkable commitment to saving that world in the face of unprecedented human pressures. His tireless work supports the efforts of field conservationists, educates the public and inspires others to follow his lead. John’s fundraising has been critical to the Laikipia Predator project conservation efforts.”

-Dr. Laurence Frank, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley

*“Portrait of a King”
John Banovich*

Africa’s predator populations are declining, becoming isolated and extinct. Recently, the lion population has experienced serious decline. These declines are occurring before we fully understand predator communities and how they function.

Predators are central to conservation. In ecological terms, large predators are keystone species that affect the entire ecosystem. Once distributed across most of North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia, lions are now found only in sub-Saharan Africa, with a tiny population in India. Numbering less than 25,000, they are largely confined to scattered parks and reserves—too isolated for the populations’ long-term protection from disease, genetic inbreeding and political instability. PRIDE stands for:

Protection of large, suitable habitat is fundamental to the long-term survival of African lions, but few protected areas are large enough for wide-ranging big game. African governments desperately need help in providing better protection for wildlife outside of parks. The most critical threat to lions is wide scale killing—in defense of livestock.

Research is vital to improve methods of preventing predators from becoming livestock raiders—thereby reducing the need to kill problem-lions. Though we know little about conservation biology of African predators, we must understand the complex dynamics between wildlife needs and ever-growing human needs.

Implementation of hunting and tourism revenues initiates change, when fairly distributed among communities living with wildlife. Rural communities that could benefit from sport hunting need trained and well-equipped game scouts to control poaching. Sport hunters need opportunities to help ensure that wildlife is sustainably managed.

Development of rural communities must directly consider the protection of wildlife. A significant portion of hunting and tourism income contributes to building and staffing schools, clinics, effective

game scouts and other essential infrastructure benefitting rural communities.

Education encourages rural communities to see wildlife as an asset rather than a liability, teaches others to minimize wildlife damage to crops and livestock, and discourages counterproductive killing of game. Game management officials must also improve principles of sustainable wildlife management.

“We will either learn to live with lions or we will lose them.”

– Dr. Laurence Frank, Research Associate, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley

PRIDE: KWT MARA LION PROJECT

Kenya – Supported since 2013 | www.kenyawildlifetrust.org

For the past few years the Kenya Wildlife Trust (KWT) has been increasingly concerned by the status of the Maasai Mara’s lion population. Currently, the Kenya Wildlife Service estimates that there are fewer than 2,000 lions left in the country, with a loss of 100 lions per year. Increasing human populations, coupled with diminishing natural prey and habitats, has brought lions into closer proximity with people. The Greater Mara Ecosystem represents a unique study area where large numbers of people, lions, prey, and livestock co-exist unaccounted for.

The KWT has therefore recently formed the Mara Lion Project (MLP) in order to establish lion numbers across this ecosystem, in addition to identifying and justifying threats facing the population. The project has “science driving conservation” at its heart, and its members are currently developing research questions to better understand the Mara lions. Led by Project Director and new senior scientist, Dr. Nic Elliot, the MLP will become a new entity for practical applied research and the conservation of lions across the Mara conservancies.

Despite being one of the best-known ecosystems for lion populations, there has been no long-term, in-depth research on them. Nic is hoping to apply his skills in modeling movement, connectivity, and dispersal, in efforts to understand when and why lions leave the Greater Mara Ecosystem.

The MLP will continue the conservation-oriented research on lion numbers and ecology from the KWT Mara Naboiso Lion Project, but will expand to cover the existing Mara conservancies, eventually spanning the reserve and the newly formed conservancies to the east and south. MLP will also be working closely with the Maasai communities to initiate a wide scale programme reducing conflicts and subsequent killing of lions. MLP will also be working alongside KWT’s new Mara Cheetah Project.

PRIDE: LAIKIPIA PREDATOR PROJECT

Kenya | www.lionconservation.org

Lions are threatened with extinction in all but the largest protected areas in Africa, due to modernization and conflict with livestock. With biologically sound management, this trend can be reversed wherever trophy hunting and tourism give the lion financial value.

In southern Kenya, the Laikipia Predator Project (of Living with Lions) and Kilimanjaro Lion Conservation Project are working to reverse the ongoing extermination of lions, due to modernization and the loss of the ancient methods of livestock management.

The work of the Laikipia Predator Project has demonstrated that living with lions is not difficult if livestock management methods— developed over a millennia ago by African herding tribes—are properly implemented. However, there has never been any attempt at scientific management of lion populations.

Based on several years of research, the LPP has developed comprehensive plans for increasing lion numbers while decreasing their impact on livestock in livestock-producing rangelands. Reintroducing sustainable use creates economic value for the wildlife of Kenya. Laikipia lions are shot as “problem animals” every year, demonstrating the need for the broad application of management principles and hunting blocks throughout Africa.

The LPP needs more resources for research and Problem Animal Control to effectively manage the Laikipia lion population and reverse their current slaughter in the Masai. Additional personnel, radio collars, lion hounds, vehicles, and a light plane (for radio tracking and transport between projects), will ensure positive change.

MARA CHEETAH PROJECT

Kenya | www.kenyawildlifetrust.org

Mara Cheetah Project (MCP), founded by the Kenya Wildlife Trust and led by Dr Femke Broekhuis of Oxford University’s Wildlife Research Unit (WildCRU), will determine the current status of cheetahs in the Greater Mara ecosystem and to identify the major threats that could be causing declines in the current cheetah population. The data will initially be collected during a two-year period using an array of data collection techniques including behavioral observation, faecal analysis, historic data and interviews with herders. So far the proposed study area for this project will only include the Masai Mara National Reserve and four adjoining conservancies; Mara North Conservancy, Olare Orok Conservancy, Motorogi Conservancy and Naboisho Conservancy.

Central to the project will be the involvement of Kenyan citizens both in terms of employment and training. Research assistants will play a significant role both in conducting research and communicating the projects findings. The project also aspires to educate the communities living in the greater Mara ecosystem about the importance of wildlife such as cheetahs. The education program will include activities such as film shows, lectures and workshops at the Koyiaki Guiding School and visits to local schools.

PRIDE: TOU TRUST, ULTIMATE SAFARIS

Namibia - Supported since 2012

www.ultimatesafaris.na/about/enriching-lives

Ultimate Safaris is one of Namibia's premier safari operators with more than 25 years of experience in the safari industry. Operating in some of the most pristine and delicate wilderness areas on earth, they are dedicated to protection and conservation of these areas, and to improving the quality of community life.

Tou Trust was launched in 2006 to support the future of these unique environments, by advocating each community’s pivotal custodianship of these wonderful assets. Tou Trust’s mission is to identify and support community-based development projects and conservation initiatives that will sustain and

protect ecological integrity, biodiversity, and cultural heritage, subsequently contributing to the social and economic well-being of the local people—the custodians of a rich tradition.

Urgent intervention is needed to meet the intensifying conflict between cattle herders and lions. By tracking lions and creating employment opportunities for lion guardians within local communities, The Tou Trust is working towards creating sustainable income from ‘living with lions’ for the communal conservancies in the Kunene region of Namibia, further contributing to lion conservation. Lion guardians alert farmers and herders of the potential conflicts between lions and their cattle, so they may take appropriate precautionary action. Using GPS collars, local farm and livestock workers monitor lions, in and near the Conservancy. They receive direct financial benefit from the increased opportunity for tourists to see lions in the area.

Each herder, chosen to be a lion tracker, is given the opportunity to join a lion eco-safari from one of the nearby Wilderness Safaris camps. Lion guardians are thoroughly trained in tracking, lion behavior and safe ways of approaching lions. Lion guardians are paid by the conservancies and have the opportunity to earn additional income in the form of gratuities from guests who spend times with lions. Thus, the presence of the lions in the valley presents an opportunity for the lion tracker/guardian to earn extra income.

Additionally, tour operators pay a monthly fee to the Conservancy for safari use. The Conservancy uses the funds to support farmers experiencing human-predator conflict and to pay additional lion guardians. While still in a very early stage of the project, early results show how local level models of conservation and community development, supported by ecotourism, changes lives while protecting natural and cultural heritage. Projects stimulate authentic cross-cultural interaction and help local communities increase goodwill between hosts and guests. Tou Trust provides an alternative to the exploitative and destructive elements of conventional tourism by educating guests to be more sensitive and conscientious.

KHUNTA MI INITIATIVE

Russian Far East - Supported since 2005 | www.wcs.org

The Khunta Mi Initiative partners with the Wildlife Conservation Society to encourage a greater commitment from the worldwide hunting community for conservation of the Siberian tiger. Approximately 330-370 adult Siberian or Amur tigers are left in the wild—all residing in the Russian Far East. Since 1992, the WCS Hornocker Wildlife Institute has conducted intensive studies of tiger ecology and initiated a series of conservation initiatives to save this big cat. Primary threats to tiger survival are habitat loss from intensive logging and development, poaching and depletion of prey from illegal hunting. In the Russian Far East, less than 20% of the habitat needed for the survival of the Siberian tiger is protected. All other tiger habitat exists as multiple use lands, where hunting is allowed. Therefore,

tigers and hunters must find a way to live side by side.



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the remotest parts of the world, working to save Siberian tigers in the Russian Far East, lions in Africa, and even the brown bears of North America. John brings energy, imagination, and leadership to the conservation arena, seeking new partnerships and new mechanisms to save the world's wildlife."

"Khunta Mi" by John Banovich

*-Dale Miquelle, Program Director,
Wildlife Conservation Program*

Under the Soviet regime, natural resource management decisions were centralized in Moscow, eliminating local communities and hunters from management processes. In 1995, new legislation provided opportunities for locals to create non-governmental 'societies' that could in turn obtain rights to manage hunting lands. This new arrangement does not provide land ownership, but privatizes the right to use and manage game species on leased territories. These changes have revolutionized wildlife management in Russia. For the first time ever, locals were provided with the responsibility to manage wildlife. Rather than poach or diminish wildlife from the once state-owned properties, people had reasons to properly manage their resources, which they depended upon, for recreation, income and food.

Now hunters and hunting societies are responsible for managing game species (including the deer and wild boar on which tigers depend) on over 80% of tiger habitat. With more than 40,000 registered hunters in tiger habitat, hunters form a primary stakeholder group that holds the fate of tigers in their hands. However, without adequate training, and with inadequate means to generate revenue, they lack the capacity to effectively cope with these new responsibilities.

WCS is committed to demonstrating that tiger conservation can go hand-in-hand with preservation of the rich hunting tradition in the Russian Far East. Both tigers and hunters have a common interest – high densities of red deer, roe deer, sika deer and wild boar. By helping local hunting societies better manage their resources we will be helping both tigers and hunters.

Since 1996, WCS has been working with hunting leases and hunters across the region to support newly established hunting leases; increase capacity for self-management and financial independence; increase wildlife populations (specifically ungulate populations) through effective hunting management on hunting leases; create well-controlled use of renewable wildlife resources; and disseminate information to the local hunters to improve and enhance their understanding of tigers.

WCS continues to build capacity for hunting leases, while developing vital environmental education and outreach programs. Ungulate recovery is a priority for WCS, as well as exploring alternative sources of income for locals. Financial stability is key to the long-term survival of hunting leases. In combination, these innovative efforts strive to conserve the last viable population of Amur tigers in the world.

MOUNTAIN NYALA INITIATIVE

Ethiopia - Supported since 2006 | www.murulle.org

Since 2006, BWF has supported the Murulle Foundation, a Colorado-based non-profit organization actively engaged in scientific research and sustainable conservation of the mountain nyala (and its critical habitat). The mountain nyala is one of the most highly prized big game species in Africa, and safari hunting plays a vital role in conservation and management.



"Mt. Nyala and Bamboo" by John Banovich

In recent years, researchers have portrayed a dismal picture of this species' status, by greatly underestimating its population and distribution. These claims have caught the attention of conservation groups, resource managers, scientists and policy makers worldwide. Inaccuracies have fueled anti-hunting sentiments aimed to disrupt sustainable management and conservation policies initiated by the Ethiopian Wildlife Department.

Paul Evangelista, who has recently been recognized by the IUCN as one of the world's few authorities on the mountain nyala, has compelling

scientific evidence that shows mountain nyala populations have been greatly underestimated previously, because the range of the species and certain behavioral characteristics were never fully understood. Mountain nyala populations are actually much higher than recent reports have led authorities to believe.

Mapping the potential habitat and distribution of the mountain nyala is one of the Murulle Foundation's top priorities. The full range of the species has never been adequately defined, and international wildlife conservation groups still underestimate the total population. Policies based on these estimates threaten to undermine Ethiopia's sustainable wildlife management programs. Not only does this threaten the future of mt. nyala safari hunting, but ultimately threatens the future existence of the species outside protected areas.

Research results will be shared with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the international scientific community, with the goal of guiding management activities and facilitating the designation of protected wildlife areas in Ethiopia.

UBUMWE COMMUNITY CENTER (UCC)

Rwanda - Supported since 2008 | www.ubumwecenter.org

Rwanda has a disproportionate number of physically and mentally disabled people, due in part to the 1994 genocide. Most have no option but to beg in the streets. The Ubumwe Center is a place where adults with disabilities and their children can be educated, employed and find greater control in life.

John Banovich first visited the Ubumwe Community Center (UCC) in Gisenyi, Rwanda in 2008, with the guidance of Partners in Conservation (PIC). UCC is a non-profit committed to providing assistance, food, shelter and education to the handicapped population and to the street children of Gisenyi.

Banovich met one of the center's founders, artist, Frederick Ndabaramiye. His life story inspired Banovich to visit again in June 2010, bearing four large boxes of art supplies for the center.

Ndabaramiye is a young man who lived at the Imbabazi Orphanage. In 1998, those responsible for the genocide maimed Ndabaramiye, when he refused to kill 18 other people. He was fifteen. Ndabaramiye

was in the hospital for almost a year, and afterwards was brought to the Imbabazi where he met the PIC team.

In 2002, the Columbus Zoo arranged and paid for Ndabaramiye's medical and prosthetic expenses. Ndabaramiye told PIC members, "The Columbus Zoo gave me a chance to be independent again and now I want to help other people who are just like me." In 2005, Ndabaramiye and Zackary Dusingizimana, a teacher at the Imbabazi Orphanage, used their own means to found the Ubumwe Community Center.

The goal of the UCC is to respectfully assist the handicapped as well as street children. In 2007, the UCC started a new program to help deaf children. They have never been able to attend school, but now come to the center daily, to learn sign language.

In 2008, 14 children and adults received new braces and prosthetics with funding from PIC. PIC is also providing operating expenses for the center and is funding a hot lunch program for more than sixty children and adults who attend the center every day; for most of these people this is the only meal of the day. In February of 2008, construction of a new building for the Ubumwe Center began, funded by the Columbus Zoo, individual donors, and PIC.

The Banovich Wildscapes Foundation would like to thank Jane & Frank Lyon and Gary & Carolyn Dietrich for their generous donation towards the center's art supplies.

MOUNTAIN GORILLA VETERINARY PROJECT (MGVP)

Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo
www.gorilladoctors.org

There are approximately 880 mountain gorillas left on earth, residing in only two small parks—one in Uganda and the other comprising a corner of Uganda, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. With so few mountain gorillas left in the world, the health and well-being of every individual gorilla is vital to the species' survival.

MGVP is dedicated to saving the mountain gorilla species, one gorilla patient at a time. Their international veterinarian team, the Gorilla Doctors, provides hands-on medical care to sick and injured mountain gorillas living in the national parks. In addition to providing mountain gorillas with healthcare, the veterinary team monitors the health of Grauer's (DRC eastern lowland gorillas) intervening when possible to help sick individuals. The Gorilla Doctors also help rescue and treat mountain and Grauer's gorillas orphaned by poachers.



*"My friend Jack Hanna introduced me to the great work that Dr. Mike Cranfield and his staff are doing at the MGVP, and having visited their facility in Rwanda, I saw first-hand that their work is absolutely essential for the long-term survival of the mountain gorillas."
-John Banovich*

“Watching Me Watching You” by John Banovich

Gorillas are monitored and provided with life-saving medical care on a regular basis, in order to ensure a healthy future for these special animals. The Gorilla Doctors perform health studies and do everything they can to build local capacity in veterinary medicine and ecosystem health.

MARA CHEETAH PROJECT

Kenya - Supported since 2013 | www.kenyawildlifetrust.org

The global cheetah population is rapidly dwindling and vulnerable to extinction, with less than 10,000 individuals left in the wild. Presently, the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem is one of the two remaining strongholds for the global cheetah population. Although there has been a cheetah project running in excess of 25 years, no comparable project has as yet been established in the Mara—until now.

Mara Cheetah Project (MCP), founded by the Kenya Wildlife Trust and led by Dr Femke Broekhuis of Oxford University’s Wildlife Research Unit (WildCRU), will determine the current status of cheetahs in the Greater Mara ecosystem and identify major threats to the declining population. Data will be collected during a two-year period using various techniques including behavioral observation, fecal analysis, historic data and interviews with herders. So far, the proposed study area for this project includes the Masai Mara National Reserve and four adjoining conservancies: Mara North, Olare Orok, Motorogi, and Naboisho Conservancy.

Central to the project will be the involvement of Kenyan citizens, both in terms of employment and training. Research assistants will play a significant role both in conducting research and communicating the findings. The project also aspires to educate the communities living in the greater Mara ecosystem about the importance of cheetahs and other wildlife. The education program will include activities such as film, shows, lectures visits to local schools, and workshops at the Koyiaki Guiding School.

CRAIGHEAD INSTITUTE

United States | www.craigheadresearch.org

Applied science and research organization Craighead Institute (formerly Craighead Environmental Research Institute) has a long history of designing and managing innovative research projects in support of conservation in the Northern Rockies, and around the world.

Founded in 1964 by renowned grizzly bear researcher Dr. Frank Craighead, its mission is to maintain healthy populations of native plants, wildlife and people as part of sustainable, functioning ecosystems. Craighead Institute has conducted ecological research on grizzly bears in Yellowstone Park, genetic research on grizzly bears in Alaska, conventional and satellite radio-telemetry of wildlife, and the use of remote sensing to map vegetation and wildlife habitat.

In the past 15 years Craighead Institute has also been active in guiding conservation policy and management, developing wildlife habitat suitability and connectivity models, and completing large-scale conservation area designs for regions in the United States, Canada, and Tibet.

As increasing numbers of Americans move west, planners and land managers are challenged to guide the design and placement of new roads, homes, communities and much-needed renewable energy developments in ways that preserve the teeming wildlife populations and vast wild landscapes.

Craighead Institute is committed to partnering with other scientists, land managers, planners, and concerned citizens to build and apply effective, science-based solutions to these environmental challenges with the goal of sustaining both people and wildlife in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Craighead Institute believes that people can coexist with intact wild ecosystems, and will continue to play a key role in helping resource managers and conservationists develop conservation plans that benefit all species—including ours.

WILDLIFE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF INDIA

India | www.wpsi-india.org

John Banovich travelled India in February of 2002. He first encountered wild tigers in Bandhavgarh, Konar, and Ranthambhore National Park. This life enhancing experience was the inspiration for the painting, Jewel of India. In an effort to support the dramatic decline of the wild tiger, Banovich has joined forces with the Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI).

Founded in 1994 by its Executive Director, renowned tiger conservationist Belinda Wright, WPSI works to help avert India's wildlife crisis by combating the escalating illegal wildlife trade—particularly the illicit trade of tiger parts. It has now broadened its focus to deal with human-animal conflicts, providing welcomed support for research projects.

An important element of the Society's work is WPSI's countrywide network of investigators. Developing information collected through this network, the WPSI team assists and liaises with government enforcement authorities to seize wildlife products and arrest the offenders. A WPSI team of expert lawyers supports the prosecution of important wildlife cases, reviews wildlife laws and campaigns for useful amendments.

WPSI is one of the most respected and effective wildlife conservation organizations in India. It is a registered non-profit organization, funded by a wide range of Indian and international donors. The Society's Board Members include leading conservationists and business executives.

The tiger population in India is officially estimated between 1,571 and 1,875. Many of the tigers—particularly those outside protected reserves—face a variety of threats, including habitat fragmentation, encroachment, and poaching and developmental projects. These problems are directly or indirectly linked to anthropogenic factors. Decades of scientific research on tigers and their prey have provided us with a set of guidelines to develop and design protected areas to help the species' survival. However, these reserves protect only a fraction of tigers' habitat, and most are under severe human pressure. In the last few years, tiger poaching has increased dramatically, fueled by illegal trade in tiger body parts.

Despite all these problems, India still holds the best chance for saving the tiger in the wild. Tigers occur in 18 States within the Republic of India, with 10 States reportedly having populations in excess of 100 tigers. There are still areas with relatively large tiger populations and extensive tracts of protected habitat. We need to make a concerted effort to combat poaching and habitat loss, if this magnificent animal is to survive into the future.

SOYSAMBU CONSERVANCY

Kenya - Supported since 2010

The Soysambu Conservancy in Kenya preserves the Rift Valley Ecosystem, benefitting future generations. It strives to sustain wildlife, indigenous livestock and habitat, supports local conservation initiatives, facilitates neighboring community development and educates the community about the value of its wildlife and environment.

In 2010 BWF helped arrange a sizeable grant for Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF) Humanitarian Services, to improve communities near the Soysambu Conservancy in Kenya. Humanitarian services director Gene Rurka personally implemented the donation.

Rurka traveled to Kenya and mobilized a large support group of community members to provide school desks, microscopes, and efficient cooking stoves. The group laid three kilometers of pipe— providing clean water—installed a large water tank and building materials for a new clinic. The dispensary provides essential medicines and medical services for about 6,000 people in the region.

Additionally, BWF contributed to a Primary School Food Program, whereby 115 children receive daily hot lunches at school. Previously, funds were considerably extended, so that lunch consisted of a type of porridge with milk and sugar. With continued funding, the program offers a more nutritious lunch of Githiri (corn and beans).

"When I visited the dispensary with my good friend, Kat Combes, she showed me the remaining work required to open this important dispensary. We had to help...another example where a little money can go a long way to help make a difference in the lives of rural Africans." –John Banovich

The following is a selected list of organizations that have benefited from the support of the Banovich Wildscapes Foundation:

- African Wildlife Foundation
- American Red Cross
- Boteti River Fund, Botswana, Africa
- Boulder County Medical Society,
- Camano Chapels of "MODS"
- Chancellor Center for Oncology
- Chancellor International Wildlife Foundation
- Chimps Incorporated
- Craighead Environmental Research Institute
- Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project in Tanzania
- Dallas Museum of Natural History
- Dallas Safari Club, Dallas, Texas
- Deaconess Hospital Foundation
- Hope Through Housing Foundation,
- Houston Safari Club
- Houston Museum of Natural Science Guild
- Humane Society
- Kilimanjaro Predator Project, Kenya, East Africa
- Laikipia Predator Project; Kenya, East Africa
- Mt. Baker Council Boy Scouts of America
- Montana Outdoor Science School,
- Natural Resource Defense Council
- Noah's Ark Animal Sanctuary
- Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium
- Rhino Rescue, Suffolk, England
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- San Antonio Zoo

- Shikar Safari Foundation
- St. James Healthcare Foundation
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital,
- Safari Club International
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Wildlife Protection Society of India
- Woodland Park Zoo
- Yellowstone Foundation, Wolf Recovery Program