

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/009

Geneva, 1 February 2023

CONCERNING:

World Wildlife Day 2023:
In-person World Wildlife Day event in Washington, D.C.

1. This notification is published by the Secretariat.
2. With reference to Notification to Parties No. 2022/085 (issued 20 December 2022), World Wildlife Day 2023, which will also mark the 50th anniversary of the signature of the Convention, will be celebrated around the world on 3 March under the theme “**Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation**”. The theme focuses on all who are working for wildlife conservation and making a difference for wild species, ecosystems, people and livelihoods and for CITES.
3. This year, the Government of the United States of America and the CITES Secretariat will co-host the official in-person event of the World Wildlife Day on **Friday 3 March from 10:00 – 12:30 (EST)** at the National Geographic Grosvenor Auditorium (1600 M St NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, USA) in collaboration with other partners. The event will be in English only; the provisional agenda of the event is attached herewith for your information.
4. Parties are invited to contact their representations in Washington D.C. to participate in the event and forward the attached invitation letter (which will be required for registration). Interested Party representatives are requested to register their attendance through the link below:

<https://wildlifeday2023-in-person-event.eventbrite.ch>

The deadline for registration is **15 February 2023**.

5. As the Grosvenor Auditorium has limited seating, this will be an invitation-only event. Representatives of Parties will be given priority; some local international organizations and non-governmental organizations will be invited directly and given seats upon availability.
6. The event will also be livestreamed for online viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/worldwildlifeday/streams>.



Geneva / Washington, DC, January 31, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

On 3 March 1973, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was adopted and signed in Washington, DC. The significance of this day has been recognized by the annual global celebration of the [United Nations World Wildlife Day](#).

Each year, the day is marked by a different theme intended to bring focus on and highlight key aspects of wildlife conservation. In 2023, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, World Wildlife Day will be celebrated under the theme “*Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation*”.

As in the past years, World Wildlife Day will be celebrated with in-person and online events across the globe. The main event hosted by the United States Government and the CITES Secretariat, and in partnership with UNDP, Jackson Wild, the International Foundation for Animal Welfare and the National Geographic Society, will take place in Washington DC, the birthplace of the Convention.

With this letter we would like to invite you to the event, which takes place on **Friday, 3 March from 10:00 – 12:30 (EST)** at National Geographic’s Grosvenor Auditorium (1600 M St NW, Washington, DC). The draft agenda of the event is attached herewith for your information.

This invitation letter allows you, or a person nominated by you, to attend the in-person event. The event will also be livestreamed for online viewing (<https://www.youtube.com/worldwildlifeday/streams>). Kindly register your in-person attendance through the link below:

<https://wildlifeday2023-in-person-event.eventbrite.ch>

The deadline for the registration is **15 February 2023**. As the Grosvenor Auditorium has limited seating, we will confirm your place once it is secured.

We would be very pleased to see you at the event and look forward to our continued collaboration in wildlife conservation - and in support of CITES.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Ivonne Higuero.

Ivonne Higuero
CITES Secretary-General

A blue ink signature of Martha Williams.

Martha Williams
Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation

#WWD2023



WORLD
WILDLIFE DAY
3 MARCH



World Wildlife Day 2023 and Celebration of CITES@50: Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation

3 March 2023 - National Geographic Grosvenor Auditorium, Washington DC

Provisional Programme

Time	
10:00 – 10:20	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Musical Opening Welcome remarks from CITES Secretary-General High-level opening statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of the United States of America Government of Switzerland (Depositary Government) World Bank Global Environment Facility (TBC) National Geographic Society
10:20 – 10:50	Partnership stories from around the world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live guests and videos of successful partnerships stories at international, regional, and national/local levels
10:50 – 11:20	International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) International Youth Art Contest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of finalists & announcement of winners
11:20 – 11:55	Partnership stories from around the world (continued)
11:55 – 12:20	Jackson Wild Film Showcase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of finalists & reveal of winners
12:20 – 12:30	Closure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary & thanks Musical closure

Partnership Story Presenters

- Elly Hamunyela Director, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Namibia
- Christy Plott Louisiana Alligator Advisory Council, United States of America
- Jean Lagarde Betti Assistant Professor, University of Douala, Cameroon
- Lench Fevrier Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
- Nabila Norshuhadah Mohd Hazzrol & Tan Hui Min Steffi Youth Conservation Network, Malaysia & Singapore
- Ana Folhadella Director, Amazon Conservation Association
- Richard Scobey Executive Director, TRAFFIC
- Chris Smith Managing Director, Bankers without Boundaries