

INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY CONSERVATION NETWORK

BACKGROUND

The International Connectivity Conservation Network (ICCN) is a World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) voluntary network of individuals and organizations working on individual terrestrial and marine large-scale connectivity conservation projects and initiatives around the world. It primarily aims to provide information, share knowledge and offer assessment in order to foster connectivity conservation initiatives in the face of climate change's challenges to conservation and sustainable development. The ICCN seeks to benefit its members by providing current information on connectivity conservation management and highlighting and sharing best practices based on its member's actions in the field of connectivity conservation on a large-scale.

The ICCN is led by a team of experts that will communicate and gain knowledge on a wide range of connectivity conservation issues, and derives its mandate from the WCPA. It applies its common knowledge in order to facilitate the work of individuals and organizations involved in connectivity conservation and provides feedback to the network on progress made in the field. The ICCN also works in close collaboration with the WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, which shares common objectives.

The ICCN aims to organize, where and when possible, yearly meetings in different continents, seizing existing opportunities provided in global conferences with thematic affinity, such as IUCN, Society for Conservation Biology, Association for Tropical Biology conferences, or Conferences of the Parties. From time to time, it may host IUCN WCPA specialist connectivity conservation conferences.

OBJECTIVES

The ICCN objectives are:

- 1. Developing a support and exchange network of connectivity conservation managers, researchers, other professionals and communities dealing with the management of connectivity areas at a large scale.
- 2. Promoting a greater awareness of values of connectivity conservation across landscapes among the international community of governments, environmental NGOs, donors and the general public, especially on the light of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- 3. Establishing WCPA Connectivity Conservation Focal Points to develop an agreed plan to help facilitate large-scale connectivity conservation in key Biogeographic Realms of Earth.
- 4. Helping IUCN play a strong role in the connectivity conservation agenda around the world.
- 5. Supporting countries in the implementation of Target 11 of the CBD 2010-2020 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.
- 6. Facilitating the training of students, managers, other professionals and community members in connectivity conservation through e-information, workshops, seminars and academic programs.

GOVERNANCE

The ICCN is facilitated by Dr. Olivier Chassot, the Deputy Vice-Chair for Connectivity Conservation, as part of the WCPA Mountains and Connectivity Conservation (M&CC) Team. The ICCN is supported by an Executive Team and Regional Focal Points.

Meetings and scientific events will be facilitated by the ICCN Executive Team and will be guided by the IUCN Quadrennial Programme and the more detailed M&CC Strategic four year plan. The ICCN will be part of the larger IUCN One-Programme response with particular focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives. Once confirmed by IUCN, these actions will then form part of the IUCN M&CC four year strategy, and would be part of the IUCN One-Programme approach.

IUCN WCPA (M&CC) ICCN Executive Team

- Dr. Olivier Chassot (Co-ordinator)
- Ian Walker (Executive Member)
- Linda McMillan (Communications Advisor)
- Rod Atkins (Secretary)
- Dr. Bernal Herrera (Science and Capacity Building Advisor)
- Dr. Graeme Worboys (Senior Advisor)

MEMBERSHIP

Organizations and individuals may be members of the ICCN. Membership is open to large-scale connectivity conservation managers, researchers, other professionals and community group representatives working on connectivity conservation initiatives. WCPA membership is not a pre-requisite for membership of the ICCN. Members of existing networks, such as the WCPA, WCPA Regional Nodes and other IUCN specialist groups who have an interest in connectivity conservation are encouraged to also join the ICCN.

To become a member of the ICCN, please visit our website at http://connectivityconservation.net/membership-information/

FUNDING

The Tropical Science Center (Costa Rica) has provided financial support for 2011 and 2012, and will keep on contributing every year, according to the network's needs. Additional sponsorship funding may be provided by NGO Groups and other sponsorship organizations.

Donations to the ICCN will be encouraged in order to support the network and potentially some research projects through small grants. Grants application will be developed in co-operation with the greater IUCN.

EVENTS 2012

Join the ICCN at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Jeju, South Korea, 2012:

- 1. Official launch of the ICCN: Protected Planet Pavilion, September 7, 2012, 11:00-13:00
- 2. Connectivity Conservation, Law and Beyond: for an environmentally and socially resilient planet: Hall A, September 10, 2012, 14:30-16:30

Please, support our motion M073: Enhancing Connectivity Conservation through International Networking of Best Practice Management.

Join the ICCN at the 16th Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation, Panama City, Panama, 2012:

6th Mesoamerican Biological Corridor Workshop, September 17-18, 2012

CONTACTS

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www.connectivityconservation.net



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