



## RESOLUTION #7



**TITLE:**  
**WILD PEACE ALLIANCE**  
**A global initiative for practical action to  
address the diverse forms of conflict in  
conservation and wilderness areas**

### WHEREAS

**Conflict in conservation, and conflict to do with wild species takes many forms:**

- **On-going human-wildlife conflict** within and surrounding conservation and / or wilderness areas is a threat to existing conservation achievements and regional peace.
- **Wildlife poaching**, driven by national and international crime syndicates and by socio-economic challenges faced by local communities, is a source of on-going conflict between conservation authorities, local communities and Non Government Organizations (NGO).
- **Inside and on the borders of protected areas (PA)**, human-wildlife conflict and conservation / biocultural conflict exists at varying levels across the globe and is highly complex in nature. Solutions are not simple, but complex and case specific. The relationship between parks and communities on their borders or within their borders is crucial to the long-term security and healthy functioning of such parks.
- **During times of war, zoos, wildlife reserves and animal sanctuaries** act as "Noah's Arks" for critically endangered species. During times of war these geographic landforms and havens can be irreparably damaged or destroyed.
- **80% of the world's biodiversity occurs in conflict zones**, it is clear that the conservation sector has an obligation to both foster peace and work towards peace in such conflict areas.
- **Solutions to conservation related conflicts** are currently employed in a reactive manner, usually by conservation agencies and wildlife managers who may not have either sufficient training, skills or funding to deal with conflict (or human wildlife conflict) in communities or between organizations and communities.
- **Technological solutions** are many and varied, but funding and a central repository of lessons learned from their implementation is not available for conservation managers or organizations on the ground to implement with confidence.
- **Academic solutions** take the form of reports and research papers with valuable recommendations, but insufficient practical implementation (or testing efficacy where it is implemented ) is being done to build a solid community of practice to champion peaceful outcomes in conservation conflict zones.

- **Legislative and regulatory laws and policies** are not sufficiently available or enforced and especially during times of war, parties to these war related contraventions against nature are often not held liable for their impact on nature by the international community, due to lack of political will, resources and motivation.

#### **The results of**

- impacts of war on wilderness and wildlife,
- ecocide perpetrated by global corporations, communities and governments,
- conflicts over wildlife resources and wilderness resources,
- direct human-wildlife conflict
- anthropogenically induced environmental change resulting in the loss of biocultural diversity.

#### **The escalating destruction of**

- endangered species due to conflict
- wildlife and wilderness lands due to conflict arising in the socio-political and economic spheres

#### **The important work being done**

- by the Eradicate Ecocide movement to have ecocide recognized as the 5th crime against peace,
- by the Earth Foundation, to ensure safety of captive animals during times of war,
- by the Human Wildlife Conflict Collaboration in training managers on the ground to transform conflict with wild species where human-wildlife conflict occurs,
- by the International Institute for Sustainable Development, and others, in producing relevant academic recommendations to address conservation conflict,
- by private organizations, universities, individuals and governments to produce and implement effective peace-building strategies, policies and technology.

## **THEREFORE**

We commend

- the Earth Foundation's work to ensure safety of captive and wild animals during times of war,
- past and on-going efforts of the Human Wildlife Conflict Collaboration in training managers on the ground to transform conflict in human wildlife conflict zones,
- the Eradicate Ecocide movement's lobbying to have ecocide recognized as the 5th Crime Against Peace by the United Nations,
- on-going research, monitoring and evaluation into understanding the complexities of human-wildlife conflict and conservation conflict in general.

We understand

- the challenges faced in creating a global culture of peace and transforming conflict in
- conservation conflict zones,
- that a globally mobilized alliance focused on keeping peace in conservation and
- wilderness areas and places of high biocultural diversity can help prevent further
- conservation losses due to conflict,
- that by bringing together the worlds leading conservation groups, research institutions and
- leading conservation and peace visionaries conflict in conservation and wilderness areas
- can be transformed.

## RESOLVE TO

we, the delegates of the 10<sup>th</sup> World Wilderness Congress, resolve to

**Call upon** all conservation agencies, NGOs, and governments and individuals concerned for the preservation and wellbeing of wilderness areas and wild species to form a **globally coordinated and strategic alliance for peace in wild places and with wild species**, tasked to:

- **Encourage** governments and international agencies to commit resources to create insurance funds to address the impact of war on wilderness, and wild species.
- **Ensure** task teams and task forces are trained and able to respond to wilderness conflict crises during times of war and during times of peace.
- **Support** the Earth Organization's campaign and declaration to the United Nations for a resolution that will protect captive wildlife in times of war, and the reclassification of certain forms of damage to protected geographical areas during armed conflict as War Crimes in order to safeguard such areas as Wildlife and Marine Reserves. This requires the protection of facilities where wild animals are kept temporarily or permanently, including facilities used for the preservation, research, breeding, treatment or study of wild animals, as well as the protection of people working at these facilities, local organizations and aid organizations.
- **Plan** for and fund contingency plans for the protection of wildlife during times of war, or when unexpected conflict occurs in regions unaccustomed to conflict.
- **Invest** in adequate and effective training of the staff of conservation organizations having to deal with conflict and equip them with the complex skills needed to transform conflict where it occurs.
- **Research** effective conflict transformation methodologies and build a global case study database in order to identify best practice and share live-case effective methodologies.
- **Employ**, monitor and test the efficacy and impact of emerging and innovative strategies, policies and technological, applications to mitigate conflict occurring in the first instance.
- **Build and promote** a culture of peace associated with conservation action across the globe through the approaches listed above and by making peace with wild species and wild places a recognized global cultural objective.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation** to be set in place to assess the impact and success of the proposed global

alliance for wild peace.

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