

- SWANA represents the interest of its membership before legislative and regulatory bodies.
- SWANA develops and advocates policies in the field of municipal solid-waste management.
- SWANA is a member of the International Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Association (ISWA). Through this mechanism, SWANA provides a means for its membership to interact with their peers in other countries.

SWANA services are available to anyone working in the field of MSWM, or to any individual who is interested

in the subject of MSWM. Most services are available at little or no cost, but SWANA members receive a discount for all services for which there is a charge. For further information please contact the undersigned.

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International Wilderness Leadership (WILD) Foundation

The International Wilderness Leadership (WILD) Foundation is now doing business as the WILD Foundation. The original name has been in use since 1974 and will continue to serve as the organization's full legal name. However the new, easy-to-remember name has been established for more popular use.

The mission of the WILD Foundation remains the same: developing and supporting projects that link wilderness and people. This is accomplished through the protection of wilderness and wildlife, the promotion of the wise use of wildlands world-wide, and the provision of environmental education and training. The Foundation works internationally through an active Board of Directors, associates in the field, and local governmental and nongovernmental conservation organizations.

WILD has a special focus on wilderness and people issues in southern Africa. For example, in Botswana, the focus is on training, education, and resolving critical issues in the Okavango Delta. The Foundation has provided a patrol aircraft to be used in the Zambezi Valley in Zimbabwe to help control poaching and assist in translocating the Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis*). WILD supports the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia, where two skilled research workers are striving to save the Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubata*) from extinction. WILD also works in South Africa to develop environmental education, wilderness designation, wilderness experience, and training programmes. In Mozambique, WILD is helping to supply equipment for the new Bazaruto Archipelago National Park.

The WILD Foundation is probably best known for periodically convening the World Wilderness Congress (WWC). The Congress, an ongoing international, action-

oriented forum, has so far convened on four occasions (South Africa, 1977; Australia, 1980; Scotland, 1983; and United States, 1987), and has involved thousands of delegates from more than 70 countries. From throughout the world, politicians, corporate executives, scientists, teachers, tribal people, philosophers, and the general public, meet to discuss — and act on — issues and projects involving wilderness, world-wide conservation, and sustainable development. The 5th WWC is earmarked to convene in Norway in September 1993 and will focus on wild Nature and sustainable living in the circumpolar regions. The celebrated Norwegian explorer and conservationist Dr Thor Heyerdahl, of *Kon Tiki* fame, will serve as the Honorary Chairman.

The WILD Foundation also produces books, their most recent to appear, published in cooperation with the US Forest Service, being the second edition of *Wilderness Management*, which is the major sourcebook in this field. The Foundation's newsletter, the *Leaf*, is published three times per year (\$20 subscription); it serves to review the status of WILD's programmes and to provide an experienced perspective on critical international conservation issues.

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Biological 'Hotspots' Face Most Serious Threats

Rain-forest 'hotspots', containing the planet's greatest diversity of plant and animal species, also face the greatest threat of deforestation. Moreover they are located in countries which are among the least prepared — economically and scientifically — to conserve their biological resources, according to a document recently published by Conservation International, a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC, USA. This document is in the form of a large and coloured, three-times-folded poster entitled *Biodiversity at Risk: A Preview of Conservation International's Atlas for the 1990s*. Priced at US \$9.95, it combines for the first time data on biological richness, human disturbance, and local conservation capacity, in virtually all of the world's nations,

including those that harbour 15 rain-forest 'hotspots' and 3 tropical wilderness areas. Rain-forest 'hotspots' are considered the most diverse and most threatened on Earth.

The data on the large poster are displayed on a series of maps and maplets produced by Conservation International's geographic information system (CI/SIG), a computer programme that allows researchers to integrate biological and ecological data with socio-economic and physical-environment data. New data on human disturbance reveal that more than half the world's land-area has been changed from its natural state, and show that the majority of Earth's richest habitats have been already altered significantly by human intervention. With the exception of tropical and cold deserts and polar tundra, the