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Since its inception in 1903 as the world's first international conservation organisation Fauna & Flora International has been working tirelessly for the preservation of plants and animals across the world. For over 100 years Life Members have provided the support and commitment that has helped us to achieve so much, not least key achievements such as:

- Reintroducing the Arabian oryx to the wild
- Establishing the International Gorilla Conservation Programme
- Establishing Vietnam's first locally managed conservation organisation

Collaboration is key to our approach, and wherever possible we work with other global conservation organisations to ensure we are effective and efficient. That's why in 2015 we moved into the David Attenborough Building of the Cambridge Conservation Initiative with several other global conservation groups. Now we are asking you to be part of our wider collaborative work by becoming a Life Member.

As a Life Member you will receive Oryx—The International Journal of Conservation and our annual magazine Fauna & Flora, and you will also be invited to special events, where you can network with some of the world's leading conservationists. You will be joining a select group of supporters who have shown an extraordinary commitment to international conservation.

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Gary Morrisroe/FFI

"I have been a member of Fauna & Flora International since the 1950s... investment in the work of FFI is truly an investment in the future of our planet"

Sir David Attenborough

To join as a Life Member, you can:

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Cover During a hunt in 1902, U.S. President Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt declined to shoot a tethered Louisiana black bear *Ursus americanus luteolus*, an incident that inadvertently gave rise to the manufacturing of Teddy Bear toys for children. This subspecies was protected by the U.S. Endangered Species Act in 1992 but removed from coverage in 2016 based on the alleged presence of two viable native populations that had begun to interbreed. However, historical and genetic data show that one of these populations is descended from bears captured in the U.S. state of Minnesota, far to the north. A recent judicial decision ignored those data, effectively dooming *luteolus* to genomic extinction through hybridization with the introduced population. This issue examines this matter in depth, along with articles on bear conservation in Bangladesh, Hainan and Nepal. The cover shows native Louisiana black bears of the Lower Atchafalaya population, photographed at Avery Island. For further details, see pp. 273–274 and 290–318. (Photograph © Pam McIlhenny)