

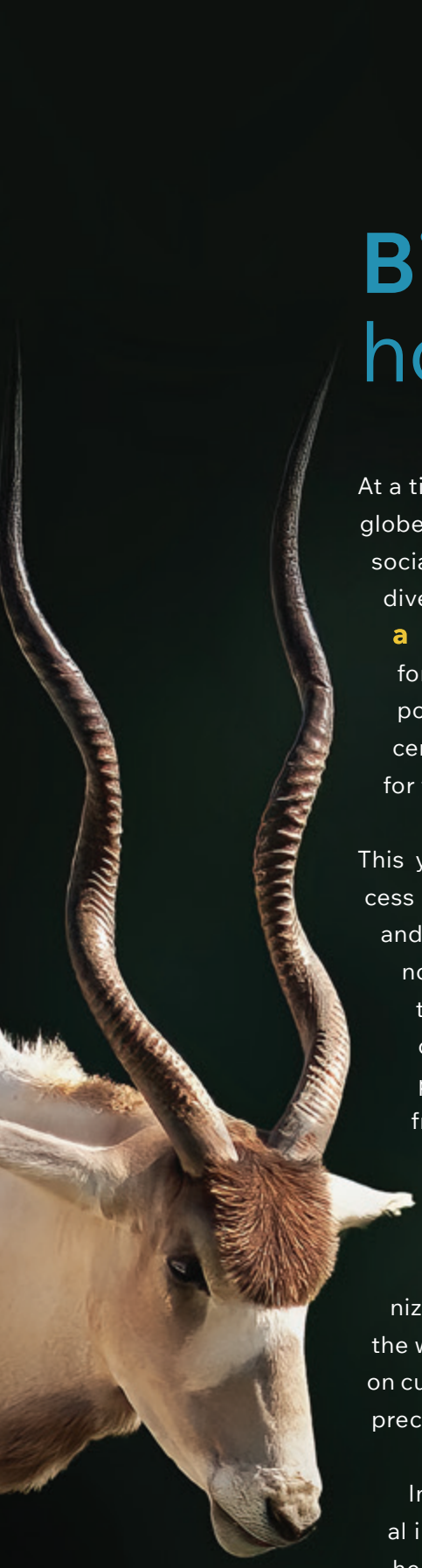
E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation

2024 IMPACT REPORT



REIMAGINING THE WAY WE CARE FOR OUR PLANET

e.o.wilson BIODIVERSITY FOUNDATION



Biodiversity holds the world steady.

At a time when communities around the globe face profound environmental and social challenges, the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation is **advancing a bold, science-driven vision** for the future. Our 2024 Impact Report highlights our most critical recent efforts—work that inspires hope for the future of our planet.

This year, we continued to expand access to the best available species data and local insights, helping ensure that no species is left behind. Through the Half-Earth Project Map, we are democratizing knowledge and empowering conservation leaders—from local stewards to global policymakers—with the tools they need to make smart, targeted decisions. Today, governments, businesses, and grassroots organizations are using the Map around the world to protect biodiversity based on cutting-edge science and geospatial precision.

In a testament to our growing global influence, Half-Earth Day 2024 was held alongside the UN Biodiversity Conference of the Parties (COP16) in Cali, Colombia. In under a decade, we have reshaped how people think about biodiversity and, more importantly, how they act on it. **When science informs action, progress follows.**

We are putting science to work in communities across the planet. From creating high-resolution biodiversity dashboards to supporting government agencies and conservation leaders in countries like the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cultivating the next generation of biodiversity scientists in Peru, our efforts drive results. Our education initiatives engage people where they are, helping them protect the places they love. And our research continues to push the boundaries of what is possible, revealing where conservation can have the most impact.

E.O. Wilson envisioned the goal of Half-Earth—protecting half the land and sea—as a catalyst for global ambition and innovation. **Today, the Half-Earth Project is not just a goal. It is a solution.**

With your partnership, we will continue to lead with science, advance biodiversity outcomes, and support the communities shaping a more hopeful future—one species, one place, one action at a time.

Thank you for standing with us.



Paula J. Ehrlich, DVM, PhD
***President & CEO*,**
E. O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation
***Co-founder*,**
Half-Earth Project

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We Are

LEVERAGING SCIENCE

The E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation's suite of resources provides decision-makers and practitioners from around the world with access to detailed species information, supporting efforts to meet 30×30 conservation commitments, among other Global Biodiversity Framework targets. We work closely with partners to share data, build tools, and provide custom dashboards to ensure every community has what it needs to make the best decisions for nature.

Partnering for Better Biodiversity Outcomes

The Foundation's science team collaborated with Nature & Culture International (NCI) to calculate a national Species Protection Index score for Ecuador that includes NCI's mosaic of subnational protected areas. For the first time, the nonprofit had a comprehensive view of species in all current national and subnational protected areas in Ecuador. Informed with this data-backed perspective, NCI is now positioned to determine what additional unprotected areas and species in the country should be targeted for priority conservation action.



Photo by Eduardo Zedan

Filling in gaps that national [protected] areas don't cover—regional, provincial, and even municipal protected areas—is critically important for us to reach our ambitious 30×30 biodiversity goals.

- **Matt Clark**, *president and executive director*, Nature & Culture International

We are also deploying new tools to better support decision making and biodiversity monitoring for government, corporate, and nonprofit users. The system our science team has developed provides stronger data infrastructures and customized interfaces for our species data and indicators, providing more relevant and accessible biodiversity information for decision makers. Doucette Kayombo Useni of the Democratic Republic of the Congo joined us at the 2024 Half-Earth Day event to speak about the value of the data in this system for conservation in her country. The Foundation continues to partner with governments that need additional support to reach—and report progress on—conservation goals, such as the 30x30 targets established by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Additional collaborations with a range of partners are actively under discussion and, we hope, will be formalized soon.

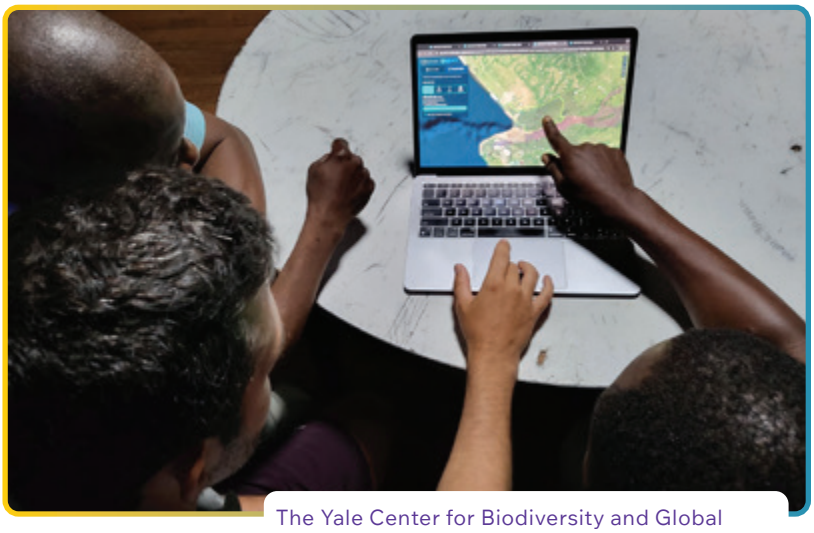


Photo courtesy of ICCN

The Yale Center for Biodiversity and Global Change's Alex Killion demonstrates the species data on the Half-Earth Project Map to colleagues in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

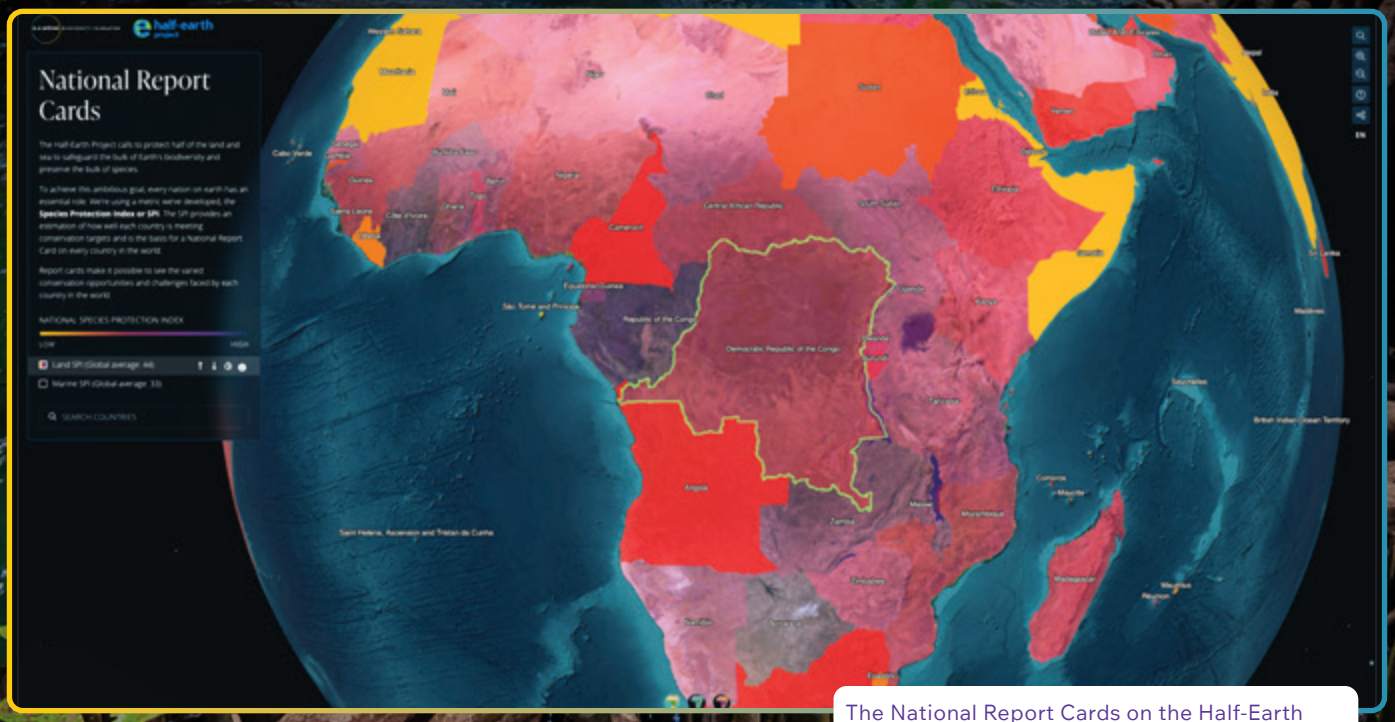


Photo by Eduardo Zedan

Looking forward, we are actively looking to scale the biodiversity monitoring and reporting programs to other parks and proposed conservation sites in the Democratic Republic of Congo. And we will work… to take what we are doing in the DRC and extend it to other countries.

- **Doucette Kayombo Useni**, *partnerships liaison*, Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN)

Half-Earth Project Map



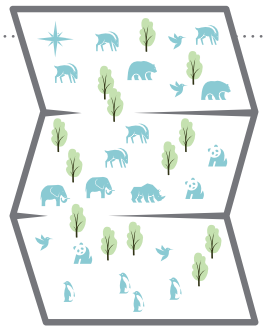
The National Report Cards on the Half-Earth Project Map make it possible to see progress toward 30x30 goals for each country in the world.

Photo by the Half-Earth Project Map.

half-earth project

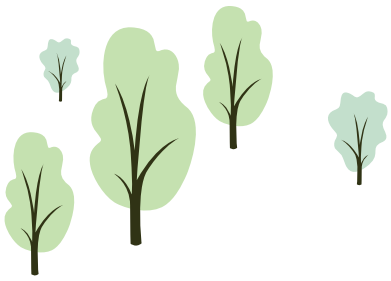
Half-Earth Project Map
2024 Updates

In 2024, the Half-Earth Project Map increased its globally standardized species data across multiple world regions and provided updated navigation tools for users. Continued innovation makes the Half-Earth Project Map, along with its remarkably rich insights on how best to protect the most species through prioritized areas for protection, a valued and unique tool.



1-KILOMETER
RESOLUTION

In 2024, the map added unprecedented 1-kilometer resolution richness and rarity layers for mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians across Southeast Asia.



46,000
TREE SPECIES

A new global layer of more than 46,000 tree species helps to highlight the best areas for conservation.



1,200
MAMMAL SPECIES

+

3,000
BIRD SPECIES

1-km resolution richness and rarity layers added for ~1,200 mammal species and ~3,000 bird species across Central and South America and the Caribbean, providing a comprehensive picture of these taxa across the western hemisphere.

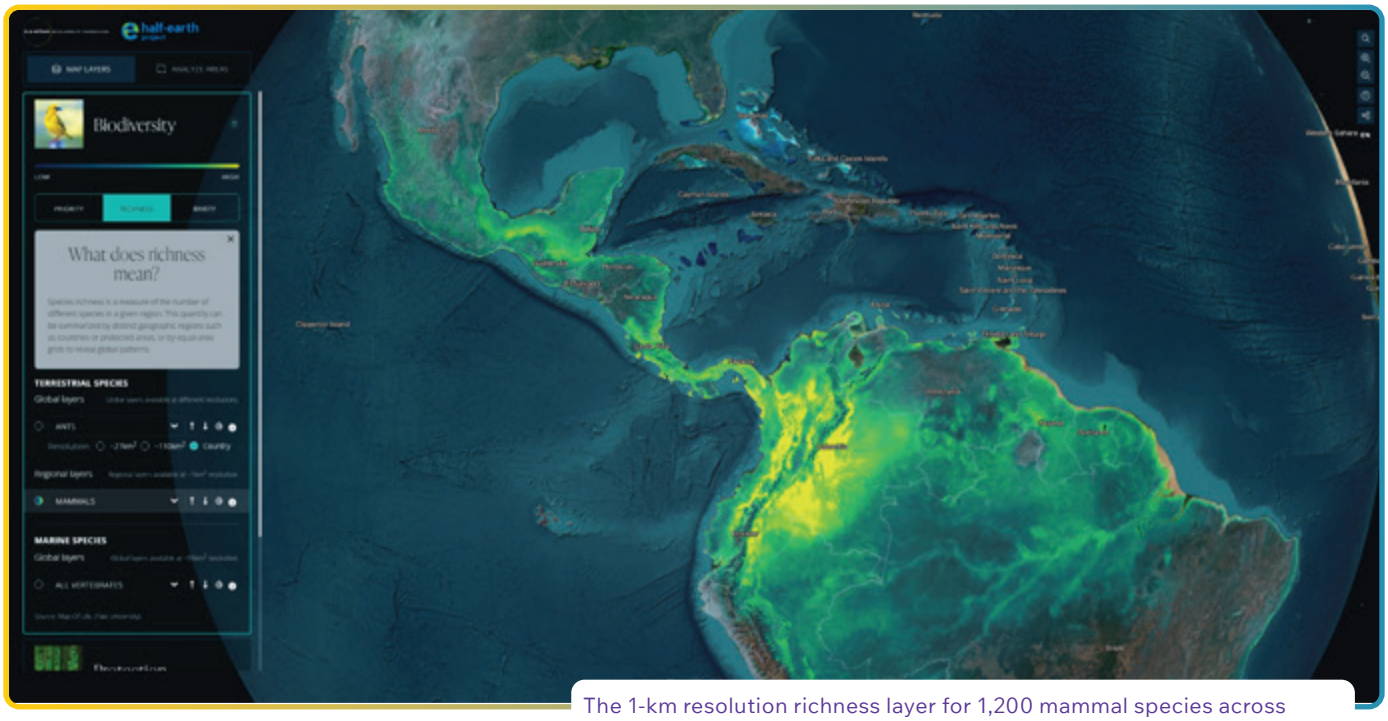


Photo by the Half-Earth Project Map

The 1-km resolution richness layer for 1,200 mammal species across Central and South America on the Half-Earth Project Map, with yellow representing the highest number of species in a given region.



Photo by Eduardo Zedan

The information provided by the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation highlights the biodiversity of the areas where we work. It allows us to communicate the importance of these regions to a variety of audiences, including decision-makers, local communities, researchers, other conservation organizations, and the general public, mobilizing support across diverse stakeholders and sectors.

- **Lucila Castro**, *executive director*, Natura Argentina

Two New Studies Advance Understanding of Species Protection

Our commitment to scientific excellence and cutting-edge research continued in 2024. Two new studies, partially funded by the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation, contributed significantly to our understanding of species protection and environmental conservation.





Global Shortfalls in Documented Actions to Conserve Biodiversity

In a landmark study, researchers found that even though there has been a substantial expansion of protected areas in recent years, 91% of threatened species have insufficient representation of their habitats in protected areas. Moreover, conservation interventions are notably insufficient or absent for 58% of the world's threatened terrestrial species.

The study was published in *Nature* (June 2024) and was co-authored, among others, by members of the Half-Earth Project Map team, including:

- **Danyan Leng**, postgraduate associate, Center for Biodiversity and Global Change, Yale University;
- **Alexander Killion**, managing director, Half-Earth Project Map, and managing director, Center for Biodiversity and Global Change, Yale University; and,
- **Walter Jetz**, Jack and Laura Dangermond Scientific Chair, E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation, and director, Center for Biodiversity and Global Change, Yale University.

Fine-Grain Predictions Are Key to Accurately Representing Continental-Scale Biodiversity Patterns

Efforts to limit biodiversity loss depend on accurate predictions of species distributions and biodiversity patterns. This study compared the accuracy and biases of coarse-grain (up to 50-km) and fine-grain (1-km) species distribution models (SDMs) to determine which performed most accurately. The study concluded fine-grain SDMs are superior and coarse-grain SDMs can miss important habitat in areas with diverse landscapes or for habitat-specialist species, often resulting in underestimates of biodiversity totals.

The study was published in *Global Ecology and Biogeography* (November 2024) and was co-authored by members of the Half-Earth Project Map team:

- **Jeremy M. Cohen**, associate research scientist, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Yale University; and,
- **Walter Jetz**, Jack and Laura Dangermond Scientific Chair, E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation, and director, Center for Biodiversity and Global Change, Yale University.



We Are

PRIORITIZING SPECIES

Through the Half-Earth Project, the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation develops and promotes information tools and educational programs that prioritize species protection outcomes. When species are at the center of conservation and protection efforts, communities and countries can achieve better biodiversity outcomes.

New Global Report Establishes Status of Species Protection

The science team behind the Half-Earth Project Map has amassed a critical amount of species data during the past decade. With this collected data and advanced geospatial modeling, we are now able to measure how well species are represented in protected and conserved areas, such as national parks and wildlife preserves. In addition, we can identify the additional areas required to turn the tide on the extinction crisis. These seminal findings were included in the first annual Species Protection Report, published last fall.

The report utilizes the Species Protection Index (SPI)—a measure developed by the Foundation's scientific chair, Walter Jetz, and his team at Yale University, in collaboration with the GEO Biodiversity Observation Network. SPI evaluates species representation in protected and conserved terrestrial and marine areas and draws attention to species most in need of increased protection. This information helps communities and governments make more precise determinations about future priorities and the choices that will benefit the most species.



2024 Species Protection Report—**Key Findings**

based on ca. 46,000 species of marine and terrestrial vertebrates



14.4%

Terrestial-protected area networks cover 14.4% of the total global land area.



6.7%

Marine-protected area networks cover 6.7% of the oceans.

SPI Scores

In 2024, global terrestrial SPI reached a score of 48 out of 100, meaning that about half of the protection goals for assessed terrestrial species have been met.

TERRESTRIAL
48/100



MARINE
60/100

Global marine SPI has advanced farther, reaching a score of 60 out of 100.

During the past 10 years



With a 2% increase of protected land areas, terrestrial SPI increased by only 4 points.

Marine SPI, however, increased by 17 points with just a 4% increase in protected ocean area.

The 2024 Species Protection Report is a joint effort of the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation's Half-Earth Project, the Map of Life (MOL), the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON), and Esri.



What Is the **Species Protection Index (SPI)?**

Species are the key biological drivers of the diverse ecological functions that sustain our planet. Representing this ecological diversity within systems of protected and conserved areas is fundamental to current and future conservation planning.

SPI measures how well species are represented within networks of protected and conserved areas and assesses these places' coverage of the most important areas for biodiversity and ecological representativeness.

More than just a monitoring tool, the SPI is designed to actively support conservation decision-making in support of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. **In fact, the SPI is the only UN-adopted indicator for Target 3 that is rigorously derived from individual species assessments and is spatially quantitative.**

This means that the SPI metric does not reward countries for setting up protected areas in biodiversity-poor regions. Only protected areas that include species habitat—**particularly for species that are endemic to a country or that have small ranges**—will increase a country's SPI.



New Half-Earth Chair Leads Students on Expedition to Protect Frog Species

Through the Half-Earth Chairs & Scholars program, the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation supports a senior researcher and his or her mentorship of emerging scientists in high-priority biodiverse regions. In April 2024, we announced a new Half-Earth Chair, **Alessandro Catenazzi**, a Swiss-Peruvian herpetologist on the faculty of Florida International University.

Based in the Andes-Amazon of Peru, Catenazzi's research focuses on amphibian populations, which are experiencing dramatic decline and extinction. Last fall, Catenazzi led an expedition into the cloud forests of Manu National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in the southern Peruvian Amazon. With Foundation support, the team continued analyzing the transmission and impact of the waterborne fungal disease chytridiomycosis, or "chytrid fungus," on the area's frog population.

The research team included graduates from the National University of Saint Anthony the Abbot in Cuzco (UNSAAC) and San Cristóbal of Huamanga University (UNSCH) in Peru. Together, the team surveyed a dozen communities of cloud forest frogs, individually marking, measuring, and swabbing the skin of each frog to track and analyze its infection history. Catenazzi and his team's work is critical to understanding the fungus and protecting amphibian biodiversity across the Amazon and around the world.

The Half-Earth Chairs & Scholars program is generously supported by ADM Cares and the Viridi Futuro Foundation.



Photo by E. Biggi

The most exciting part about being a Half-Earth Chair is being able to train the next generation of biodiversity scientists, especially close to the areas where most of this biodiversity resides. Being out in nature and having the ability to witness the endless variety and beauty of living things are among the most rewarding parts of my work, as is the privilege to work with a diversity of people and to influence and contribute to their growth through training and education.

- **Alessandro Catenazzi**, *Half-Earth Chair*



Photo by Alessandro Catenazzi

Supporting the Next Generation of Biodiversity Scientists

Half-Earth Scholar Update **Noriña Vicente**

In 2022, Noriña Vicente of Tete, Mozambique, was named a Half-Earth Project Scholar and began pursuing a master's degree in integrative biology at San Francisco State University. Vicente first developed as a researcher and biodiversity scientist under the mentorship of Half-Earth Chair **Piotr Naskrecki**, director of the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Laboratory at Gorongosa National Park.



Half-Earth Scholar Noriña Vicente graduating from San Francisco State University.

In August 2024, Noriña successfully defended her thesis on the taxonomic revision of the African ant genus *Mesoponera*. Shortly after, she was awarded the prestigious Consortium of Natural Sciences and Biodiversity Schools Fellowship and began pursuing a Ph.D. in biodiversity, genetics, and evolution at Porto University in Portugal. Now part of the Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems research team there, she is focusing her research on how ants have adapted morphologically and evolutionarily to arboreal environments in Equatorial Guinea's tropical ecosystems.



Doctoral candidate Noriña Vicente with the Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems Research (TROPIBIO) team at the University of Porto.

Photos courtesy of Noriña Vicente

"I have been extremely fortunate to work with one of the greatest and kindest mentors, Half-Earth Chair Piotr Naskrecki. As a scientist, he taught me to exceed my expectations and not to limit my capacities. I feel extremely lucky and grateful to have worked with him and to have learned so much through his support. Through him, I see E.O. Wilson's mind and kindness, and he embodies the type of role model I aspire to become in the future."

- **Noriña Vicente**, *doctoral candidate*, University of Porto

Places for a Half-Earth Future
Inspiring Action

Places for a Half-Earth Future are locations that are high priorities for conservation due to the extraordinary richness and rarity of species that live there. Their targeted protection will contribute to a sustainable and thriving biosphere.

On the Half-Earth Project Map, the Places for a Half-Earth Future layer shows the top 10 percent of each country's priority areas for conservation. These places are important starting points for decision-makers.

This year, nongovernmental organizations, environmental ministries, and local communities have utilized this information to focus conservation activities and help educate local communities. By highlighting places that are critically important for biodiversity—and currently under-protected—we are building public awareness of these species-rich areas and inspiring action.



Borneo
Priority Place 933

Priority Place 933 straddles the international border between Indonesia and Malaysia on the island of Borneo. Home to over 549 bird species, 286 mammals, 343 reptiles, and 217 amphibians, Borneo alone contains one of the oldest rainforests on Earth, estimated to be over 140 million years old. The area supports iconic species like the critically endangered Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus*), Sunda clouded leopard (*Neofelis diardi*), and Sumatran rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*).

Chocó, Colombia
Priority Place 349

The tropical forests of Chocó, Colombia, are a biologically rich and ecologically significant region that spans Colombia's Pacific coast, parts of Panama, and northwestern Ecuador. Here, coastal mangroves, riverbanks, wetlands, and dense primary rainforests create niches for species adapted to specific conditions, including hundreds of species of birds like the Yellow-eared parrot (*Ognorhynchus icterotis*) and the Esmeraldas antbird (*Sipia nigricauda*).





Map photos by the Half-Earth Project Map.



We Are

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY VOICES FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Photos by Eduardo Zedan



Through education programs, outreach, and public events, the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation seeks to integrate community insights with the best possible science for improved biodiversity outcomes. As E.O. Wilson did during his life, we aim to create a culture of recognition around the importance of biodiversity in our lives and help grow a public movement for change.

Knowledge for Life

Last October, Colombia, the world's third most biodiverse country, provided the perfect backdrop for the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 16). Recognizing this unique opportunity to connect with conservation experts from across the globe, the Foundation hosted its 8th Half-Earth Day on October 22, coinciding with the start of COP 16 deliberations.

With "Knowledge for Life" as its inspiring theme, the 2024 event highlighted the critical importance of integrating diverse knowledge sources in conservation decision-making. The main program drew remarkable interest, filling the venue to capacity with more than 350 in-person attendees and numerous virtual participants from around the globe.

The audience was captivated by thirteen dynamic speakers from six countries who took the stage to share their frontline experiences in biodiversity conservation across South America and Africa. These passionate advocates didn't just present--they challenged and inspired the audience to embrace new ways of thinking about knowledge systems in conservation. Their powerful testimonies illuminated the diverse ways knowledge exists, how it's shared across cultures and communities, and how these various perspectives can transform our approach to protecting our planet's precious biodiversity.

The day concluded with a memorable musical performance that beautifully celebrated the intersection of science, nature, people, and culture—setting a positive and collaborative tone for what would become known as "The People's COP."

Major sponsors for Half-Earth Day 2024 included ADM Cares and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Colombian Educators **Explore the Half-Earth Project Map**

During Half-Earth Day, we organized an education workshop, convening over 60 environmental educators from across Colombia, with participants representing Indigenous communities, remote villages, urban centers, and conservation organizations.

Featuring presenters from Colombian environmental nonprofits Fundación TierrAmar, Educambio, and Women for Conservation, the workshop explored how to use data from the Half-Earth Project Map alongside local and Indigenous knowledge to better ensure the protection of one of the planet's most biodiverse places—by the people who live there.



Using the Half-Earth Project Map and species-level data, workshop participants engage in a mapping design challenge to propose new protected areas in Colombia.



Photos by Eduardo Zedan

> ***Working with local educators and teachers in Colombia is a profound honor. Educators are not just teachers; they are the heart of their communities, deeply connected and committed to the well-being of the people and the environment.***

- **Jocelyn Miller**, *education program manager*, E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation

Wade Davis: A Champion for Earth's Rich Biodiversity and Its Indigenous Peoples

Wade Davis is a writer, photographer, and filmmaker whose work has taken him from the Amazon to Tibet, Africa to Australia, Polynesia to the Arctic. Explorer-in-Residence at the National Geographic Society from 2000 to 2013, Davis is professor emeritus of anthropology at the University of British Columbia.

In October 2024, Davis participated in the final keynote session "What It Means to be Human—Our Relationship with Nature" at Half-Earth Day in Colombia with Cristián Samper, managing director and leader for nature solutions for the Bezos Earth Fund, and Carmen Guerra, policy manager for Nia Tero. In March 2024, Davis participated in a special Foundation gathering at the Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve in Southern California.

We are grateful to Wade Davis for his ongoing collaboration and friendship. His voice—like E.O. Wilson's—reminds us of the interdependence of nature and people and the sacred trust we all have to protect the living Earth.



Photo courtesy of Wade Davis

> ***Ed Wilson knew that polemics were never persuasive. He knew that fear never provoked change, only hope did.***
>
> • **Wade Davis**, *professor emeritus*, University of British Columbia

Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors
2024

United States

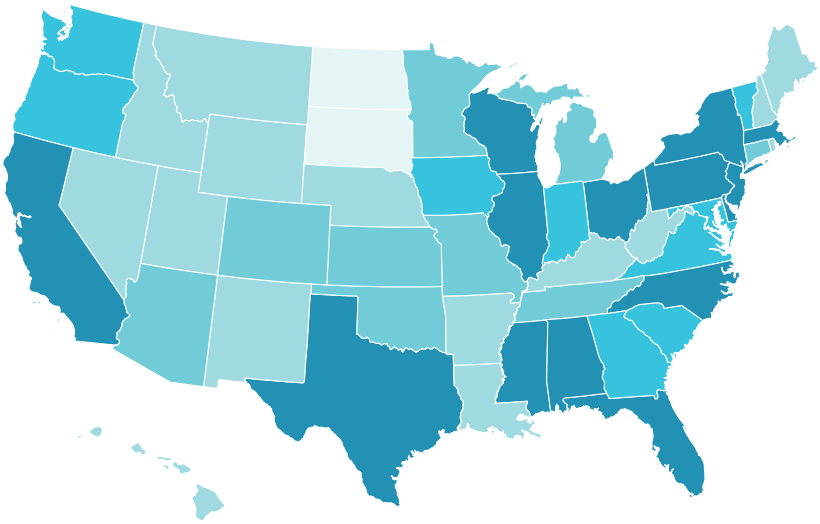
- Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors now hail from 47 states and the District of Columbia. (All states are represented except North Dakota, South Dakota, and Alaska.)

- 126 new Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors were added, an increase of 14%.

- 41 new Half-Earth Ambassadors were added in North Carolina, an increase of 150%.

- Master Ambassadors include teachers from Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, New York, and North Carolina (2).

- New curricula developed and made available to teachers: "Bioacoustics and Bats of North Carolina," "Half-Earth in Colombia," "Listening to the Ocean: Soundscapes of Coral Reefs," "The Cicadas are Coming," and "Monitoring Biodiversity with Environmental DNA."



States with the highest number of Half-Earth Project Educator Ambassadors are in dark blue.

- Foundation education staff and Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors published four research articles in education journals: *Science and Children*, *Science Scope*, *The Science Teacher*, and *The American Biology Teacher*.

- Foundation staff and Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors participated in 26 formal presentations and workshops in 2024, including in 10 U.S. states and 1 foreign country.

Abroad

- Australia, Belgium, Brunéi, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Guinea, India, Italy, Mozambique, Portugal, Spain, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

The Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors program is generously supported by ADM Cares and the Burt's Bees Foundation.

Educator Ambassadors Like **Wendi Pillars** Are Carrying on E.O. Wilson's Passion for Education

As a Half-Earth Master Ambassador, Wendi Pillars is carrying on E.O. Wilson's legacy by channeling his passion for education. "My goal is to inspire curiosity," she said, after recounting an experiment she conducted with her students. To test soil health, she had her students bury underwear and then dig it up months later to see how much it had decomposed. And it seems to be working. "They keep asking me about the underwear," she said, laughing.



Photo courtesy of Wendi Pillars

Pillars has been a teacher for nearly three decades, and she brings her diverse background in writing, art, business, and military service with her into the classroom as she works to equip students to confront global challenges. Currently, she teaches fourth and fifth grades in Chatham County, North Carolina.

> ***E.O. Wilson was fascinated by ants and believed it was the little creatures that run the world. I think about that a lot with my students. These young people have the curiosity and potential to change the world.***

One of Pillars' goals is to make science personal for students. "It is important that students understand the biodiversity in their own community and see how that directly connects to global biodiversity," she said.

Using lessons created for the Half-Earth Educator Ambassadors and the Half-Earth Project Map, Pillars teaches her students how to conduct experiments that measure rarity and richness in the schoolyard. She recounted how one student was thrilled to realize that what he was doing—taking careful measurements and analyzing data—was what real scientists do. "It empowers kids to think differently about the world, but also to think of science as a potential career," she said.

Engaging People Where They Live, to Protect the Places They Love



Harrison Ford and T.A. Barron at the Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve

Last March, amidst migrating marine life and the beauties of the California coast, the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation and The Nature Conservancy-California hosted leading environmental advocates and philanthropists—including Yvon and Malinda Chouinard, Wade Davis, and Harrison Ford—at the Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve. The group was assembled to honor the enduring legacy of E.O. Wilson and to consider the question, "What kind of world do we want to see, and how will we get there?"

The day was brimming with possibility as the group considered how we might raise our collective ambition to protect Earth's biodiversity and reverse the extinction crisis. Paula Ehrlich, CEO and president of the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation, challenged the group to imagine how "deep scientific understanding could inform action…and bring together our common humanity toward a goal—a goal that will actually solve the problem."

As founders of Esri, the global market leader in geographic information system software—and a major funder of the Half-Earth Project Map—Jack and Laura Dangermond are among the Foundation's most ardent champions. At the gathering, the Dangermonds were recognized for their continuing support with the announcement of the Jack and Laura Dangermond Scientific Chair, the first named position at the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation. Walter Jetz, longtime leader of the Foundation's scientific research efforts and professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the Yale School of the Environment, was named the first recipient.



Top: Jack and Laura Dangermond with Paula Ehrlich; Bottom: Nancy Lee and Dinesh Nandan

All photos by Mar y Sol Productions

Harrison Ford Invites Us to **"Listen to the Quiet"**

In a video released last spring, Harrison Ford, friend of E.O. Wilson, made a passionate call to action to preserve the planet. In his message, Ford urged viewers to pay attention to the beautiful tapestry of life, to truly discover the poetry of its mysteries, and to help ensure the planet's future health and stability.

The video, produced in collaboration with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Anthony Doerr and Foundation President and CEO Paula Ehrlich, was the centerpiece of our outreach to supporters in 2024. Harrison Ford made a generous gift to kick off the fall campaign and encouraged matching donations from other supporters. The challenge was promoted in a series of digital appeals sent to our supporters throughout the spring and summer. We are grateful to all those who responded to Harrison Ford's challenge to help us reach our goal.

What could not have been anticipated, though, was how the video would resurface months later when Ford needed to evacuate his home during the wildfires in Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The truth of Ford's impassioned plea resonated with new audiences as they watched the devastation in California unfolding.

With over 400,000 views on YouTube and nearly 2,000 comments, the video quickly became a powerful reminder of the fragility of the planet and our own dependence on the natural world.

YouTube **Comments**

"This is so moving, and the tears are flowing. Harrison Ford, this will forever be my favorite footage of you on screen. Thank you and thanks to the foundation."
—@WoodswomanWrites

"Heartfelt, honest, and pure message from people that truly, truly care. Mr. Ford is a longtime conservationist and his message, spoken passionately and from the heart (written impeccably by Mr. Doerr), should be heard around the world."
—@perryharovas

"Wherever you live, get outside and find the natural world. Slow down and appreciate [it] with all your senses. Champion biodiversity around the world."
—@brucekuehn4031



"The systems that sustain life on Earth—that put birds in our skies and water in our rivers and oxygen in our atmosphere—are mind-bogglingly ancient, densely interlocking, and only partially understood tapestries composed of millions of species, all exchanging matter and energy in a glorious whirling ballet, which is so beautiful it can put you on your knees when you start to fit your mind around it. But ecosystems aren't just quiet symphonies to admire. Ecosystems allow us our impossibly rich, dazzlingly beautiful lives."

• **Harrison Ford**



Photo courtesy of Gwendolyn Binder

Why I Give

When I first came across the Foundation's Half-Earth Project, it immediately caught my attention. I had been introduced to E.O. Wilson through his book Consilience: The Unity of Knowledge. *In it, he defines "consilience" as synthesizing ideas from across sectors to solve complex problems. My field of biomedical research requires interdisciplinary work, and that idea resonated with me.*

The Half-Earth Project is consilience in action. Like the Foundation's mission of using diverse knowledge and insight to reimagine how we care for our planet, the Half-Earth Project brings together new technologies, scientists, and local communities to conserve natural spaces and advance global protection of species. The Half-Earth Project inspires informed collective action, which is what nature and species need.

Gwendolyn Binder
Half-Earther



Your Commitment to Nature

We extend our deepest gratitude to those individuals, companies, and foundations that support our mission to reimagine the way we care for our planet. Your generosity has been critical to our success during the past year. We are humbled by your trust and commitment to our cause, and we look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to ensure a healthier planet for future generations.

The Foundation publicly acknowledges donors who have given $1,000 or more as Half-Earthers. For a listing, please see our website.

If you would like to learn more about different ways of supporting our mission, please contact a member of our development team.

Kiara Cobb, development coordinator, kcobb@eowilsonfoundation.org

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There can be no purpose more enspiriting than to begin the age of restoration, reweaving the wondrous diversity of life that still surrounds us.

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