

CELEBRATING THE LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF E.O. WILSON

SECURING HIS LEGACY THROUGH THE HALF-EARTH PROJECT

MAY 31, 2016

"The only solution to the Sixth Extinction is to increase the area of inviolable natural reserves to half the surface of the Earth or greater."

- E.O. Wilson

HONORARY HOST
Glenn Close

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
E.O. Wilson

e.o.wilson BIODIVERSITY FOUNDATION

half-earth project

half the earth for the rest of life



IT IS TIME TO SAVE THE VERY FABRIC OF LIFE ON EARTH AND RAISE OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS TO A NEW LEVEL.

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IT IS TIME TO SAVE HALF OF THE PLANET'S SURFACE FOR THE IMMENSITY OF LIFE UPON WHICH WE ABSOLUTELY DEPEND, AND WHICH DEPENDS UPON US.

ON BEHALF OF the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation, I am pleased to **welcome** key partners, supporters and fans as we pay tribute to E.O. Wilson's life achievements and come together to bring his grand vision for *Half-Earth* to life.

Throughout his life, E.O. Wilson has spearheaded efforts to **protect the world's biodiversity**. As one of this century's most eminent biologists, he has won more awards than another other scientist and is considered to be one of the greatest thought leaders of our time. He is renowned for his ability to convene scientists and conservation organizations, to inspire the public, and to appeal to the core of our humanity.

With his *Half-Earth* call-to-action, Wilson has created the groundwork for **one of the grandest conservation efforts of our time**, the *Half-Earth Project*. Our survival is inextricably entwined with the survival of all species that call our planet home, yet our current destructive trajectory is resulting in mass extinction of species and irreparable damage to our world. The *Half-Earth Project* will provide the urgently needed **leadership and knowledge** necessary to conserve half the planet for the rest of life, and stop the extinction crisis.

The *Half-Earth Project* will:

- Get the **Science** Right.
    - Provide leadership and knowledge that fosters understanding and tracks progress towards the goal of Half-Earth.
- Share **Knowledge** for Generations to Come.
    - Perform and support research and scholarship that helps us best understand our world and how to take care of it.
- **Engage** the Public and Catalyze Change.
    - Drive media campaigns and action to protect half the planet.

The *Half-Earth Project* has science at its core and our transcendent moral obligation to the rest of life at its heart. Thank you for joining us this evening, and thank you for joining us in creating a movement culture that embraces *Half-Earth* and works to save half the earth for the rest of life.

Paula J. Ehrlich, DVM, PhD
President & CEO

Program

"Humanity is passing through a bottleneck of overpopulation and environmental destruction. At the other end, if we pass through safely and take most of Earth's life forms with us, human existence could be a paradise compared to today."

- E.O. Wilson

WELCOME
Dr. Paula J. Ehrlich
President & CEO, E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation

HALF-EARTH PROJECT VIDEO

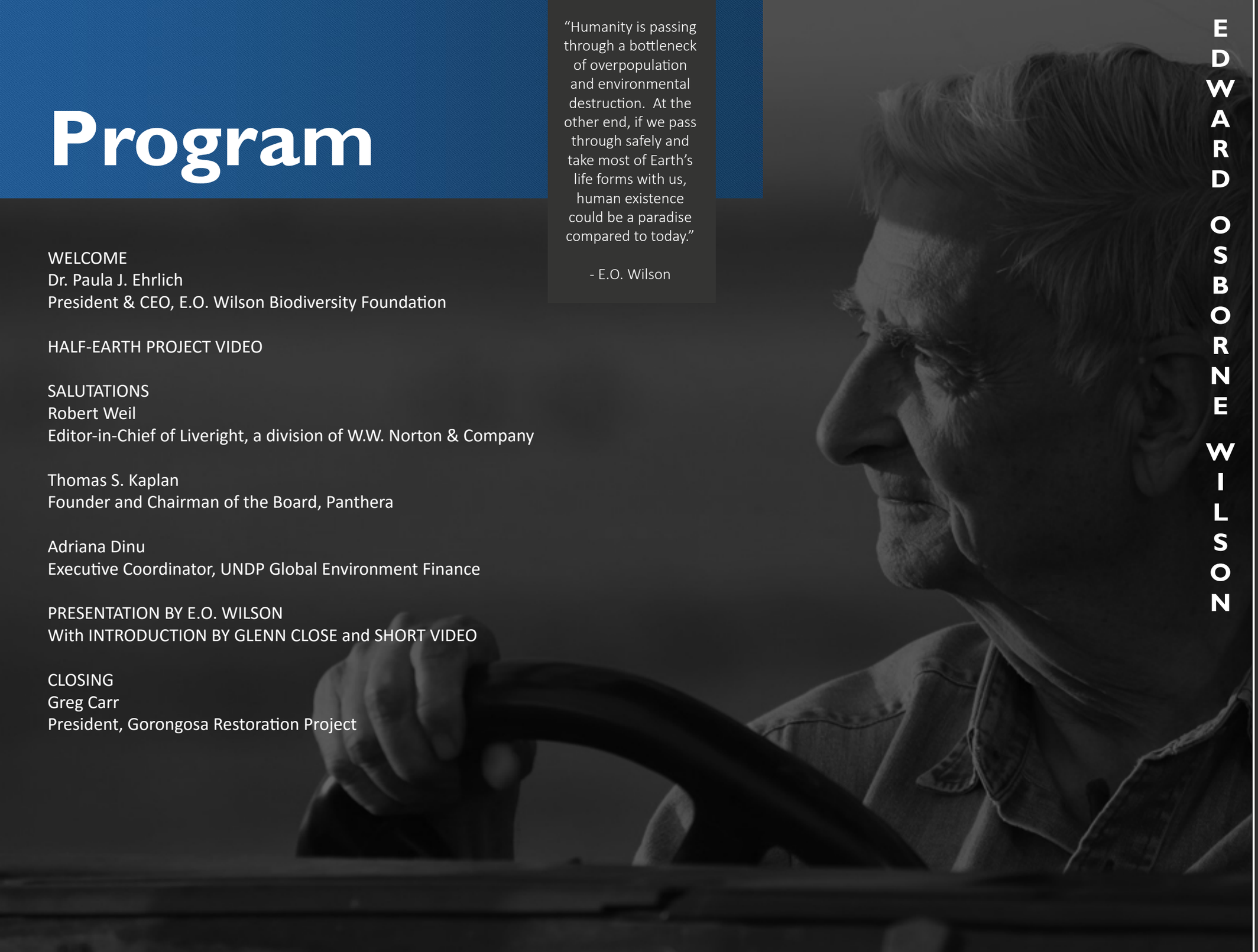
SALUTATIONS
Robert Weil
Editor-in-Chief of Liveright, a division of W.W. Norton & Company

Thomas S. Kaplan
Founder and Chairman of the Board, Panthera

Adriana Dinu
Executive Coordinator, UNDP Global Environment Finance

PRESENTATION BY E.O. WILSON
With INTRODUCTION BY GLENN CLOSE and SHORT VIDEO

CLOSING
Greg Carr
President, Gorongosa Restoration Project



Edward Osborne Wilson is generally recognized as one of the leading scientists in the world. He is also recognized as one of the foremost naturalists in both science and literature, as well as synthesizer in works stretching from pure biology across to the social sciences and humanities. Wilson is acknowledged as the creator of two scientific disciplines (island biogeography and sociobiology), three unifying concepts for science and the humanities jointly (biophilia, biodiversity studies, and consilience), and one major technological advance in the study of global biodiversity (the Encyclopedia of Life). Among more than one hundred awards he has received worldwide are the U. S. National Medal of Science, the Crafoord Prize (equivalent of the Nobel, for ecology) of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and the International Prize of Biology of Japan; and in letters, two Pulitzer Prizes in non-fiction, the Nonino and Serono Prizes of Italy and COSMOS Prize of Japan. For his work in conservation he has received the Gold Medal of the Worldwide Fund for Nature and the Audubon Medal of the Audubon Society. He was recognized by the National Geographic Society with the Hubbard Medal, which is awarded for distinction in exploration, discovery, and research. He is currently Honorary Curator in Entomology and University Research Professor Emeritus at Harvard University and Chairman of the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation Board of Advisors.

PANTHERA

On behalf of Thomas S. Kaplan, Daphne Recanati Kaplan, and Alan Rabinowitz, along with the extended Panthera family, we celebrate E.O. Wilson and his lifetime of magnificent and inspirational achievements.

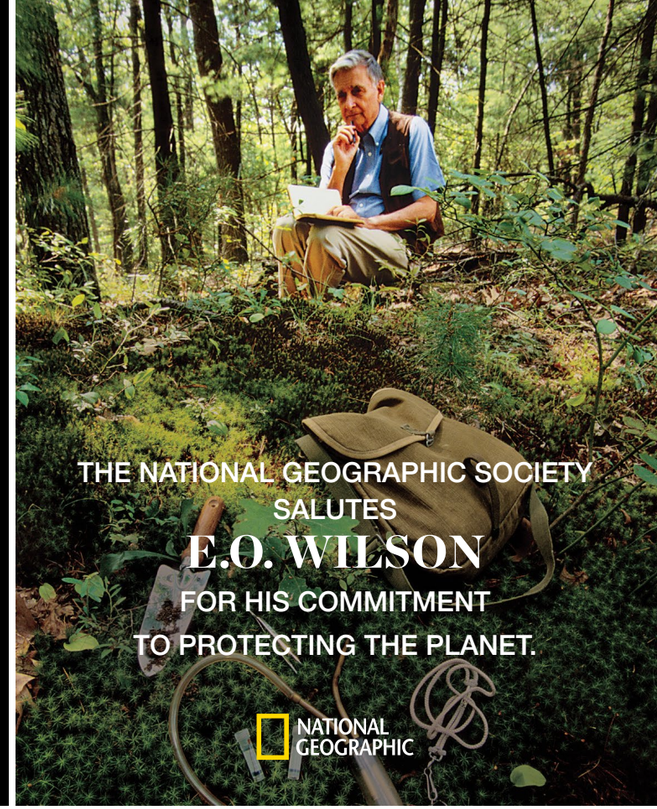


The Half-Earth Project needs a whole college

Congratulations to E.O. Wilson on a lifetime of achievement

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND FORESTRY · STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK · ESF

www.esf.edu





IN MEMORY OF DOUG TOMPKINS

KAREN FRENCH

I would like to thank Doug and Kris Tompkins for their work conserving the natural integrity of the awe-inspiring lands and people of Patagonia, in both Chile and Argentina.

Their work is testament that the vision of venerable E. O. Wilson to conserve half the earth is within reach.

Because of Doug and Kris and my friend Nadine Lehner I was able to experience that awe from Patagonia's beauty and power. And for that I am forever grateful.



We haven't saved half the Earth yet, but 14 million acres isn't a bad start.

After decades spent decoding some of nature's greatest mysteries, and helping humanity feel the joy of her diversity, Ed Wilson's vision animates us now with dreams of preserving half of this astonishing planet.

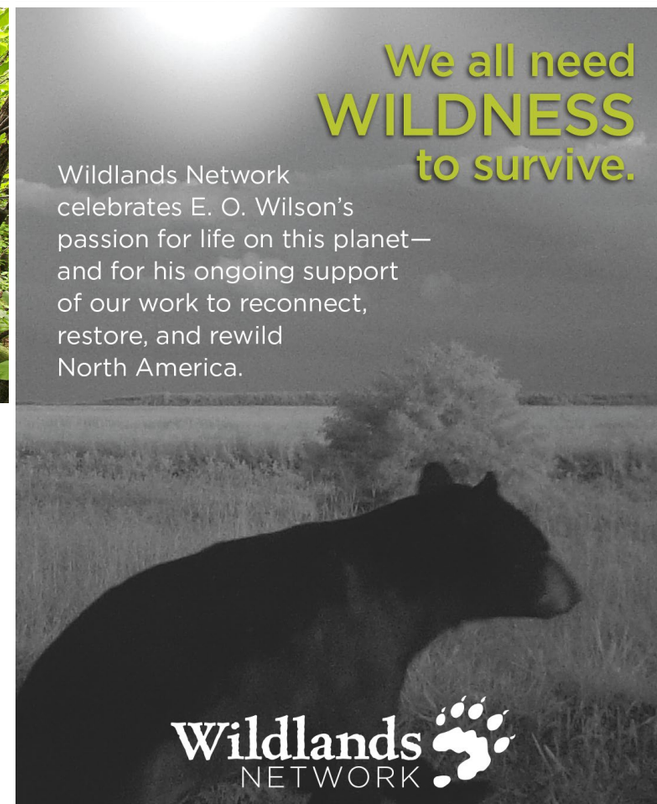
Our 170 staff conservationists in Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Mexico, and Brazil thank Ed for showing us what really matters, and for challenging us to do something about it.

www.natureandculture.org

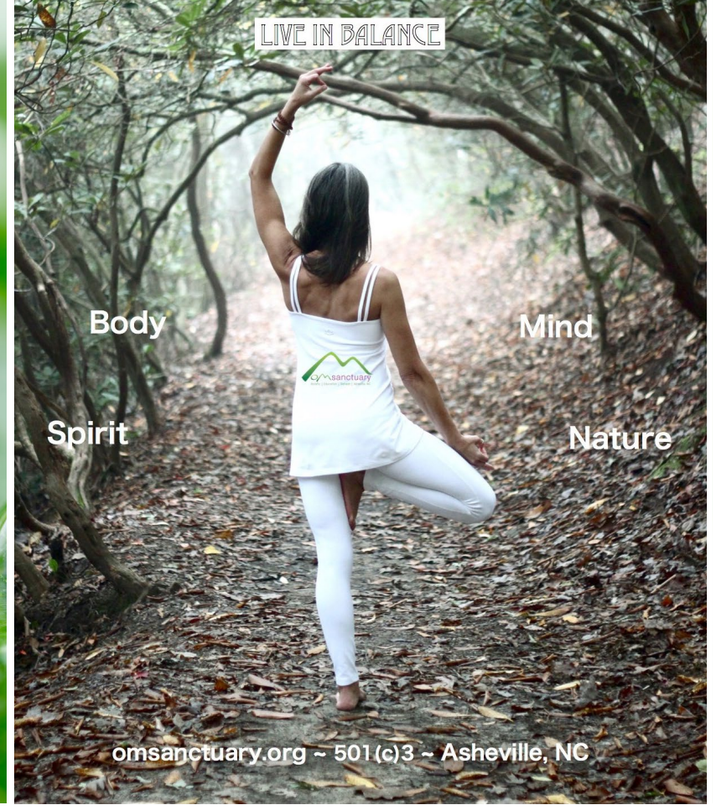
NATURE AND CULTURE INTERNATIONAL

We all need WILDNESS to survive.

Wildlands Network celebrates E. O. Wilson's passion for life on this planet—and for his ongoing support of our work to reconnect, restore, and rewild North America.



Wildlands NETWORK



DEAR DR. WILSON,

Thank you for your extraordinary conservation leadership. Your friends at The Nature Conservancy continue to be inspired by all you do to champion the protection of our planet's biodiversity.

AMY AND MARK TERCEK





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GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK

Thanks Professor E.O. Wilson for his inspiration and friendship, and for allowing us to name the "E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Laboratory" in his honor.

ICCF

The International Conservation Caucus Foundation
Advancing U.S. leadership in international conservation through public & private partnerships & developing the next generation of Congressional conservation leaders.

internationalconservation.org

BEST WISHES FROM MANY FRIENDS WHO COULDN'T MAKE IT TONIGHT

Alan Alda | Thomas A. Barron
Joshua Bell | Michael Bloomberg
Bill Clinton | Lee Durrell | Jane Fonda
Harrison Ford | John Francis
Bill and Melinda Gates | Dennis Gillings
Al Gore | Jeremy Grantham | Amory Lovins
Yo Yo Ma | Philippe Prufer | David Rockefeller
David and Alice Rubenstein
Jeff and Sonia Sachs
Tim Smit | Neil deGrasse Tyson
Craig Venter | Jim Watson
John Taylor "Ike" Williams

SUPPORT
THE HALF-EARTH PROJECT

AND BE A PART OF A GLOBAL MOVEMENT TO
CONVERVE HALF THE EARTH FOR THE REST OF LIFE

"To strive against odds on behalf
of all life would be humanity
at its most noble."

- E.O. Wilson

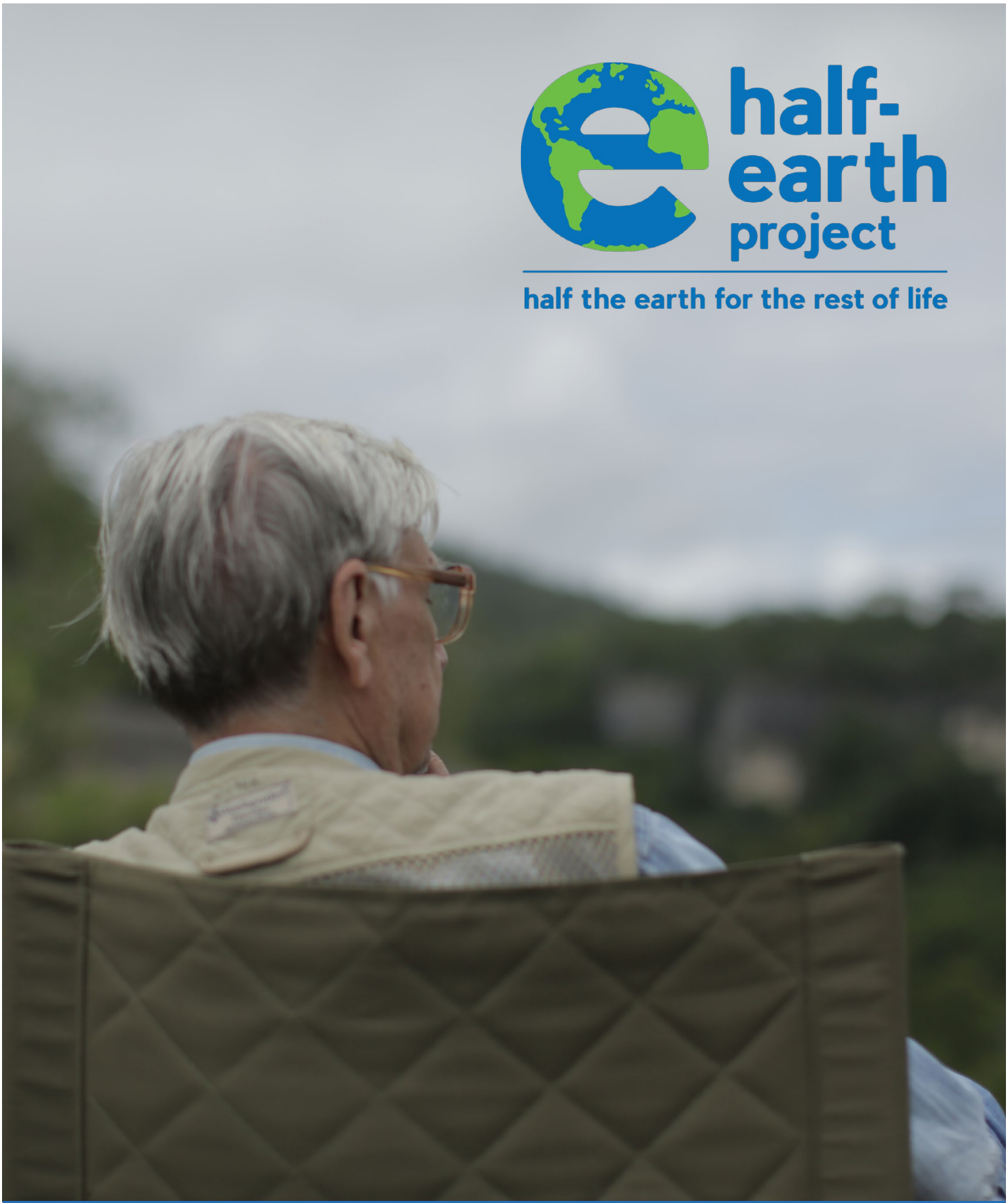
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