

Mountain Protected Areas UPDATE



No. 92 December 2016 International Mountain Day



*I care to live only to entice
people to look at Nature's
loveliness.*

John Muir (1838-1914)

*John Muir Trail, Sierra Nevada,
California, USA*

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“Working with Larry - 26 Wonderful Years”

by Graeme Worboys

WCPA Mountain Specialist Group Committee:

- Peter Jacobs (Chair)
- Patrizia Rossi
- Fausto Sarmiento
- Mike Tollefson
- Linda McMillan
- Gill Anderson (Mountain UPDATE Editor)

WCPA Mountains Senior Advisor:

- Graeme Worboys

Mountain UPDATE is a quarterly newsletter
distributed to members of our Mountain
Protected Areas Network

A note from the editor

December 11 2016 – *International Mountain Day* - a very fitting day to celebrate the life and work of Dr Larry Hamilton – **a great mountain man of the world.**

This special edition of the UPDATE is for Larry, a man greatly loved and respected for his conservation work and his humanity.

Those new to the Network may not realise that the Mountain Protected Areas UPDATE was his ‘baby’, with Larry responsible for the first 89 editions! Indeed Larry’s name is synonymous with the history of the WCPA Mountains Theme and Network.

So please enjoy and reflect upon the words of some of Larry’s closest friends and colleagues; many themes are repeated throughout but that is only because the sentiments expressed are so true...

And to those that sent articles thank you – and don’t be offended if reduced slightly, I had to resolve we couldn’t publish a book!

We will be back to the usual UPDATE in March 2017.

IUCN WCPA Mountain Update # 92

Editor: Gillian Anderson peopleinnature@bigpond.com

International Mountain Day...a time to reflect on Mountain landscapes and Mountain people

From *Peter Jacobs*, Chair, IUCN/WCPA Mountains Specialist Group

The world's continental land surface contains an amazing array of diverse landscapes and ecosystems of which mountain areas cover 26.5%. Mountainous formations also occur across considerable areas of the ocean floor. So why do mountainous landscapes in particular intrigue, support, attract and inspire people?

Mountainous landscapes are complex and enigmatic; bold, harsh, and seemingly unforgiving yet sensitive to disturbances, delicate and sensory. Maybe it is this inherent paradox that is attractive.

Their protection is vital as mountains provide essential ecosystem based services, income, a sense of identity and spiritual values to diverse global communities as well as inspiration and enjoyment to millions.

Mountains and mountain communities will need to build resistance and resilience to cope with the challenges of the 21st century. They are at the forefront of change due to the early and (along with coastal areas) probably the most profound manifestation of climate change impacts. Mountain Protected Areas are one of nature's solutions.

So many inspiring and clever people and organisations have been drawn to the mountains and see to valuable work in research, community resilience, management effectiveness and advocate for their protection. One such person was *Professor Larry Hamilton* who sadly passed away in October this year. He dedicated much of his life to global protection of mountains and his leadership was legendary. This Mountains UPDATE is thus dedicated to Larry on this special day: The International Mountain Day.

The WCPA Mountains Specialist Group was established largely due to Larry over 20 years ago and continues to build on Larry's legacy. Our current focus is on identifying priority mountain areas for biodiversity conservation that are currently unprotected. Select priority areas will be identified for advocacy to encourage the establishment of new mountain protected areas. For example, of over 4000 Key Biodiversity Areas in mountains only 20% are completely and formally protected. This work is in collaboration with UNEP WCMC and other WCPA technical experts.

Let's hope that as each International Mountain Day passes the global % of Mountain Protected Areas grows each year from its current 17% of all mountains (outside Antarctica) to include key biodiversity areas in mountains that are not adequately protected.



WCPA Mountains (Connectivity) Workshop Papallacta Ecuador 2006 – & Larry in his element!

Tributes from *People* around the World:

Global

Working with Larry Hamilton 26 wonderful years!!

From *Graeme Worboys* Immediate past IUCN WCPA Co-Vice Chair (Connectivity Conservation and Mountains)

What a wonderful, inspirational, dynamic and creative 26 years it has been. Larry was the inaugural IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Vice Chair for Mountains from (in effect) 1991 to 2003 and I succeeded him as the WCPA Connectivity Conservation and Mountains Vice Chair from 2003 to 2016. Working with him was a privilege and our partnership just got better over the years.

Half a world apart, we were regularly in touch. Early on, emails, long distant phone calls and get-togethers at workshops and conferences were important, but later, with technology improvements, regular cost-free Skype calls prevailed.

The Skype calls were transformative. The 16,000 kilometres between Larry in Vermont, USA and my home in Canberra, Australia “shrank” ... and we chatted regularly, free of the ticking cost-meter of international phone calls. On some calls our northern-southern hemisphere situational reality would be highlighted...with Larry’s evening whisky being enjoyed after his day shovelling winter snow...and my morning cup of tea being shared with heavy smoke filled air from nearby summer bushfires.

Editor’s Note: to read the rest of Graeme’s heartfelt and thoughtful account of Larry please go to the special UPDATE appendix.

Larry... in a nutshell

From *Dr. Mechtild Rössler*, Director, Division for Heritage & UNESCO World Heritage Centre

During 1980-93 working as Senior Fellow/Environment and Policy Institute, East-West Center, Honolulu, Larry’s cutting-edge themes and infectious collegiality made him a productive convener of workshops throughout the Asia-Pacific region. He wrote, co-authored and facilitated hundreds of applied conservation publications.

As member of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) of IUCN since the 1970s, he led the Mountain theme for almost 25 years. In 1992 he created the quarterly newsletter Mountain Protected Areas UPDATE, which he edited until 2015. He and a small group of fellow scientists created a call to action for mountain conservation which was presented to the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit and became the basis for the mountain chapter in Agenda 21. He championed tropical montane cloud forests, corridors of ecological connectivity, trans-border cooperation for conservation and peace, understanding of mountains as water towers, and the spiritual/cultural values of mountains.

A full tribute on the World Heritage web-page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1571> was picked up by google news.

From the obituary prepared by *Adrian Phillips*, WCPA Chair 1994-2000 and Graeme Worboys, WCPA Connectivity & Mountains Vice Chair until 2016 <https://www.iucn.org/news/larry-hamilton-ground-legacy>

Under Larry’s leadership, the mountain theme became one of the strongest global networks of experts within our wider family of protected areas leaders. He built and led the Commission’s constituency of mountain enthusiasts and experts between 1992 (the Caracas Parks Congress) until 2003, retiring as Vice Chair at the Durban World Park’s congress. He brought them together in numerous WCPA mountain workshops - such as those in Hawaii (1991), Australia (1995), Canada (1996) and South Africa (2003) - which produced valuable products and helped build a formidable esprit de corps among the “mountaineers”. Larry’s mountain network numbered over 400 by the time he retired.



Larry Hamilton. Ecological and Earth Sciences in Mountain Areas Conference. Sept. 2002. Mountain Culture at The Banff Centre
Photo: © Don Lee, The Banff Centre

America (north – central - south)

windsurfing, cloud forests, mountains...what a friend, what a guy!

From *Jim Thorsell*, (World Heritage globally)

It all started back in 1987 when Larry and the inimitable Bing Lucas, assisted in the evaluation of the contentious World Heritage nomination of the **Wet Tropics** in Australia. Two years later Larry, then based at the East-West Centre in Hawaii, invited me to spend 6 months with him on a sabbatical from IUCN reviewing biodiversity issues in the islands of the South Pacific. Peter Valentine was also there at the time and we convinced Larry that every Friday we were busy holding a “marine park workshop” on the other side of Oahu. In reality this was only an excuse for going windsurfing. He soon caught on and chided us for not inviting him.

Then, in 1990 he moved on to mountains (mostly due to his great interest in cloud forest protection). This was kicked off at the seminal workshop held in **Volcanoes NP**, Hawai’i.

It was at this meeting where he displayed his enormous ability to energize people and orchestrate what evolved into the mountain theme sub-programme in IUCN. This was a most timely event in terms of the UN Year of the Mountains where he played a lead role along with Bruno Messerli and Jack Ives among others to get mountain protected areas in the global agenda.

Then came the regional mountain workshops in Africa, Latin America and Asia where he was in full flight stimulating and encouraging a broad cadre of “mountain people” to the cause. He made it fun too - witness the mountain dinners held regularly at the many IUCN events where he was the great impresario and conductor (with Linda backing him up).

It is difficult to imagine another such as Lorenzo with his ability to enthuse, to mobilize and to do it with such personality as he did right up to his last month. After 30 years of a personal and professional partnership I can only sum him up by saying: **what a guy!**

a giant in our field and a giant among humanity

From *Dr. Stephen C. Trombulak* (Vermont)

My work as a conservation biologist and activist was inspired by and improved by my relationship with Larry. But many others will no doubt talk about that theme. I want instead to recall Larry’s incredible graciousness and gregariousness toward the future generations of conservation and environmental leaders: today’s students.

One aspect of my work at Middlebury College is directing our summer environmental institute where students learn how to engage in positive professional networking. I bring the students together with local professionals at a local pub simply to enjoy each other’s company.

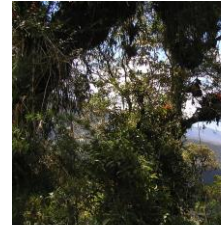
The students mingle among all the guests, but their own natural desire to talk with people who make them feel comfortable and valued inevitably leads them to gravitate to a few of the guests. And just as inevitably, the guest holding forth with the largest circle of students was always Larry. His interest in the students themselves, his outgoing personality and his inexhaustible supply of stories about life in the field all made him the brightest star of the night.



Volcanoes NP Graeme Worboys 2016

And when the evening was all over, he always expressed how much he got from the students, seemingly unfazed by the profound impact he had on their experiences and professional development.

a trop-andean landscape legacy



From *Fausto Sarmiento*, Mountain Specialist Group committee Professor Department of Geography, University of Georgia

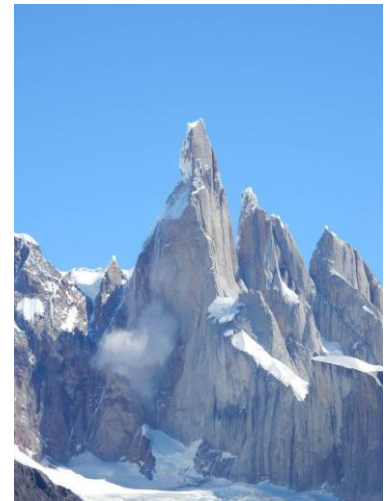
As one of the hot spots of biodiversity in the world, the tropical Andes were highlighted as a conservation target from many donors and NGOs, mainly as reflection of the cutting edge research on Mountain Forest Hydrology spearheaded by Larry from the East-West Centre in Hawai'i and then working as senior advisor at the IUCN and as special board member of the Nature Conservancy. It is with those roles that *Larry Hamilton* was a key figure in organizing and executing several international meetings on Tropical Montane Cloud Forests that provided the state of the art for research and conservation efforts on a worldwide mountain protected area basis.

He was also keen to initiate and maintain a long-term funding scenario for conservation of the **Choco-Andean conservation corridor**, the private reserves system in Chile and the many efforts for connectivity conservation in Central America, in particular Costa Rica and Panama, where he championed conservation campaigns for environmental services of the '**bosque nuboso**'.

A warm memory comes to mind when recalling the Mountain Connectivity International Workshop I helped him to organize in **Papallacta, in the equatorial Andes**, highlighting the recently completed largest conservation area of Ecuador in the **Condor Bioserve**. Aside from the technical aspects that rendered a well-received Earthscan book that became the manual for connectivity conservation, the many stops along the road serving as gateway to the Amazon, allowed *Larry* to take pictures of the many different types of fences he found along the way.

He was as enthusiastic as when he and I stood at the snowline of **Chimborazo** in an emotional ceremony unveiling a plaque to Humboldt and Montology. *Whether at 5,000m or at the verge of the Amazon verdant, Larry was always a jovial force in favour of biodiversity conservation and all-things "Mountain" - thus supporting the novel concept of Montology as a transdisciplinary mountain science.*

We in the region are thankful for the synergies and initiatives that were supported by his technical reports and assessments to donors as well as for his exemplar networking abilities via the Mountain Update. Many of us in Latin America will retain the image of Larry and his wife Linda, visiting **Torres del Paine National Park** as his most impressive recount of their many travels around the worlds mountains.



Torres del Paine NP – Patrizia Rossi

a global influence

From *Dr Olivier Chassot*, Central America

El Dr. Larry Hamilton estuvo visitando Monteverde en Costa Rica en varias ocasiones y participó en la preparación del documental *Mountains in the Mist* (2004), co-producido por Maarten Kappelle y colegas. Este documental ha sido apreciado por miles de visitantes en la Reserva Biológica Bosque Nuboso Monteverde del Centro Científico Tropical en Costa Rica. Larry atesoraba el bosque nuboso. Era una persona extraordinaria y se mantenía muy activo con el grupo de Conservación de la Conectividad y Bioma de Montaña de la Comisión Mundial de Áreas Protegidas de la UICN.

Hasta el año pasado, seguía incansable editando el boletín electrónico *Update*, enfocado al tema de montañas en el ámbito global. Larry ha inspirado varias generaciones de conservacionistas. Tenía un corazón enorme, una gentileza sobresaliente, una filosofía de vida y una actitud frente a la vida y a la muerte dignos de admiración, así como una capacidad intelectual fuera de lo común. Larry creía en la gente y en la necesidad de llevar cualquier acción en favor de la protección de la naturaleza a la cual dedicó su vida entera. Me tocó el alma y me inspiró para siempre.

beloved Adirondacks

From Dan Plumley & Dave Gibson, Partners, Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve

We'll never forget his inspirational leadership and interest in our "Forever Wild" Adirondack Mountains protected area.



New Zealand & Australia

New Zealand, mountains and beyond

From *Bruce Jefferies* (who Larry affectionately called the kiwi from down under)

I remember, as a newly appointed park ranger who was gingerly making his way into the world of protected areas, encountering Larry Hamilton at a mountains meeting at Lincoln University New Zealand. I felt an immediate connection with him. It took me some time, however, to really appreciate how fortunate I was to have the acceptance and friendship of some true visionaries, mentors and friends in the 'Conservation World'

I consider myself to be very lucky to have had known two very special people in this category - Bing Lucas (Commission Protected Areas (CNPPA) Chairperson until 1994 (now the World Commission on Protected Areas) and Larry Hamilton. Adrian Philips in his poignant obituary noted that Bing and Larry were born 1 day apart. Consequently, Bing became "Silver Fox 1" and Larry was "Silver Fox 2". And that's how I'll always remember them.

There are only a few people who influence your life and direction the way Larry did and I found myself asking why he was so special? Was it his sharp and perceptive sense of humour, penetrating questions, enjoyment of sharing a dram of the good stuff, warm companionship, insightful interrogations, optimism and far-sightedness? Frankly I don't know what makes people special. They just are! And Larry just was!

Although the UPDATE is directed towards mountain protected area practitioners, the wisdom that Larry shared with many of us is just as applicable to those working in lowland tropical forests, marine and reef systems, or temperate grasslands – in effect, in all places where we practise our craft.

Larry Hamilton could see further than most of us. We always stand on the shoulders of those that go before us and all of us were fortunate to have Larry's shoulders - as they never seemed to sag.

For me Alan Parson's song The Traveller says it all:

*Days are numbers, watch the stars
We can only see so far
Someday, you'll know where you are...*



Tongariro Crossing, Tongariro NP, New Zealand

It was his life's mission to help us look after mountains. We have lost one of our greatest mentors.

the shirt off his back

From *Janet Mackay*, Australia

I was lucky enough to connect with Larry when I became the program coordinator for the Australian Alps cooperative management program in its early and formative years.



Australian Alps

Impressed with what we were doing Larry and I worked closely to deliver a 10 day Australian Alps travelling workshop with **participants from 21 countries** where we workshopped the concepts, successes and issues of trans border and mountain management. What a great workshop it was with Larry, Bing Lucas and many of the well know mountain identities from Europe, Asia, USA and Canada. Larry was such an inspiration and raised the hard issues, but always with sensitive thinking of solutions.

International Year of Mountains saw Larry as a key note speaker at the conference we organised in the Australian Alps national parks. Larry was as usual, in the thick of so many of the key conversations, offering sage and practical advice.

An emotional moment for me was the final wrap up when Larry had been asked to make some comments. He called me up on the stage and, in thanking the team for organising the conference, gave me the 'shirt off his back' – a treasured cotton shirt with drawing and the words 'national parks' written all over it. I still have that shirt, treasured by me in remembrance of one wonderful man – an inspiration and a mentor.

big mountains...mini mountains...molehills - a far-reaching influence

From *John Watson*,
Western Australia



One evening, while attending the 1990 Perth IUCN General Assembly as a Western Australian observer, I chanced upon a 'side room meeting' and through the open door saw a projected colour slide of a Scottish mountain which I immediately recognised. Intrigued by this, I hovered in the doorway for a short while before a friendly welcoming hand emerged from the darkness...*Hi, I'm Larry Hamilton...come in buddie!*

This turned out to be a meeting of the fledgling mountains group. Larry encouraged me to attend a CNPPA meeting the following week. Larry stayed on in WA for a few more days to visit our 'mini-mountains' in the Fitzgerald River National Park Biosphere Reserve and, what Larry and I later affectionately referred to as, our 'molehills', the barely Scottish Munro-sized peaks of the Stirling Range National Park.

Before I knew it, with Larry's encouragement and infectious enthusiasm, I was in Hawaii at the 1991 *Parks, Peaks and People* consultation/workshop, trying to extol to the big mountain gurus the virtue of those small elevation 'molehills' which were apparently excluded from formal mountain recognition due to lack of adequate protected area 'height range'... in spite of their truly 'Himalayan' scale biodiversity and high concentration of threatened flora species.

Sadly, the mountain dinner after the 2002 Cathedral Peak mountain workshop and Durban World Parks Congress was the last time we met – however, we continued to liaise regularly about mountains, the special biodiversity values of 'molehill' mountains, connectivity conservation through landscape-scale corridors, protection of caves & karst (for which, with Larry's encouragement, I had instigated the 1997 'sister' set of IUCN international guidelines modelled on the *Guidelines for Mountain Protected Areas*), and Larry's research into fences around the world including Western Australia's 3,256 km rabbit proof fences.

Larry was a true mentor and champion for many of us working in the mountain management field. In my case he was the most influential and inspirational mountain protected area advocate throughout my professional career.

Whenever I am in the mountains I will always pause awhile with fond memories of him.

Central Asia – Himalayas

some reflections

From *Ashiq Ahmad*, WWF Pakistan

On the world conservation scene professionals like Larry are not seen that frequently; they appear just rarely and in just a few numbers in a century.

Though I met him just twice in my life I was impressed by his talent and dedication and wish to *follow him on some of the things at least that he introduced such as management of conservation corridors.*

I have already put it as a major component in one of my future initiatives.

From *Madhav Karki*, Nepal - Executive Director, CGED-Nepal and Team Leader

We have indeed lost a pioneer, highly respected and reputed mountainologist, scientist, professor and decent human being. I had met him once in Nepal. I pray to the Almighty for the strength for his family to overcome this great loss and peace and tranquillity for the departed soul.

From *Krishna Prasad Oli*, Member Climate Change Council, Government of Nepal, Faculty of Social Development and Western China Development Studies, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China

I express my deep condolences and wish a safe passage of the departed soul to the cosmos. Although he will no longer be with us physically, his spirit and aspirations will always guide all of us who are committed to the conservations of the mountains of the earth planet.



Tibet

a little story connecting Russia, Bhutan, Vermont and Australia

Courtesy of *Yuri Badenkov* and 2 Aussie friends (*Don Gilmore* & *David Cassells*)

What a great thing is our planet and our mountain network! Just now I am writing a Chapter "*Gross National Happiness Model for Mountain Kingdom of Bhutan*" in a book "*Life in mountains: Natural and Cultural Diversity - Diversity of development models and approaches*" (in Russian). So, I can join Bhutan's **Prayer Flags Flying** from rainy grey Moscow suburb (Zhukovka village).

Don and David mounted some prayer flags for Larry on a ridge above the **Motithang Takin Preserve** overlooking Thimbu in Bhutan. The cap is because Larry was a long-term Trustee of the Science and Stewardship Committee of Vermont's Nature Conservancy.



Thimbu, Bhutan

Europe

an Italian and French transboundary dynamic duo

From *Patrizia Rossi*, Mountain Specialist Group executive

Larry has left such an important legacy behind him that will remain forever. He has been a wonderful mentor for many generations of conservationists, and among them I put myself too!

Many years ago Larry introduced me (a young conservationist from the new and unknown park of **Alpi Marittime**) to the big international conservation world of IUCN, inviting me and my transboundary French colleague Marie Odile from **Mercantour NP** (he used to call us "the dynamic duo") to the transboundary seminar in the Australian Alps.

After this first, we took part together to the many other "travelling seminars": I can clearly see him with his special anti-sun hat making him look like "Lawrence of Arabia".



Alpi Maritime Mercantour border

From *Achaz von Hardenberg*

I had the pleasure to know Larry, corresponding with him as associate editor of the Journal of Mountain Ecology while I was still working at the **Gran Paradiso National Park** (Italy).

He also very generously invited me to be a member of the Mountain Protected Area Network.

from little things big things grow

From *Enrique J. Lahmann*, Global Director, Union Development Group, Director World Conservation Congress

Throughout the years Larry has always been a source of inspiration to me. It was actually through one of Larry's publications "Handbook for Mangrove Area Management", written with Sam Snedaker (my Ph.D. advisor), that I first learned about IUCN, which has been "my home" for the last 28 years. I have always had very close to my heart some words of praise that Larry had for me after a presentation I made at the Parks Congress in Caracas in 1992 on the links between protected areas in the upper watershed and coastal productivity.

As a young professional at that time, to have some words of recognition from one of the luminaries meant a lot to me and in some way motivated me to strive for the best.



AV1 Dolomites, Italy

from the Austrian Alps to the Andes

From *Christoph Stadel*, Salzburg, Austria

I feel very privileged having known Larry for several decades and over the years having been able to knot ribbons of personal friendship and scholarly exchanges with him. I vividly recall particularly the meetings of the Andean Mountain Association in Huarina, Bolivia and in Quito, Ecuador. We walked together along the shores of Lake Titicaca and climbed the steep terraced slopes of *Isla del Sol*; we admired the majestic **Andean Cordilleras**, and we marveled at the splendid variety of tropical mountain forests. Sometimes we had long intense discussions about the role and function of protected areas in the context of marginalized societies, and there was not always agreement between an ecologist and a Human Geographer, but it was this frank transdisciplinary discussion that proved to be so enriching for both of us. Larry and I also got together at a number of mountain meetings in different geographical environments, we appreciated the findings and insights of our colleagues of the "mountain mafia", and we participated in fascinating excursions.

Beyond his vast scientific knowledge and experience, I admired Larry greatly for his deep humanitarian commitment, and his dedication to peace, human justice and empathy of different cultures and societies.

On one occasion Larry and Linda visited our home region of the *Salzkammergut* in Austria located at the northern rim of the rugged limestone Alps. We walked over the lush mountain meadows and through beech- and coniferous forests, followed the trails of former glacial lakes, but strolled as well through the old city of Salzburg.



Hohe Tauern NP, Austria

Larry is no longer physically with us, a fact that fills me with a great deal of *tristesse*. But these beautiful memories of Larry's companionship are for me certainly not a permanent source of melancholy and grief, but a celebration of the many happy and rich moments we shared in our professional and personal lives.

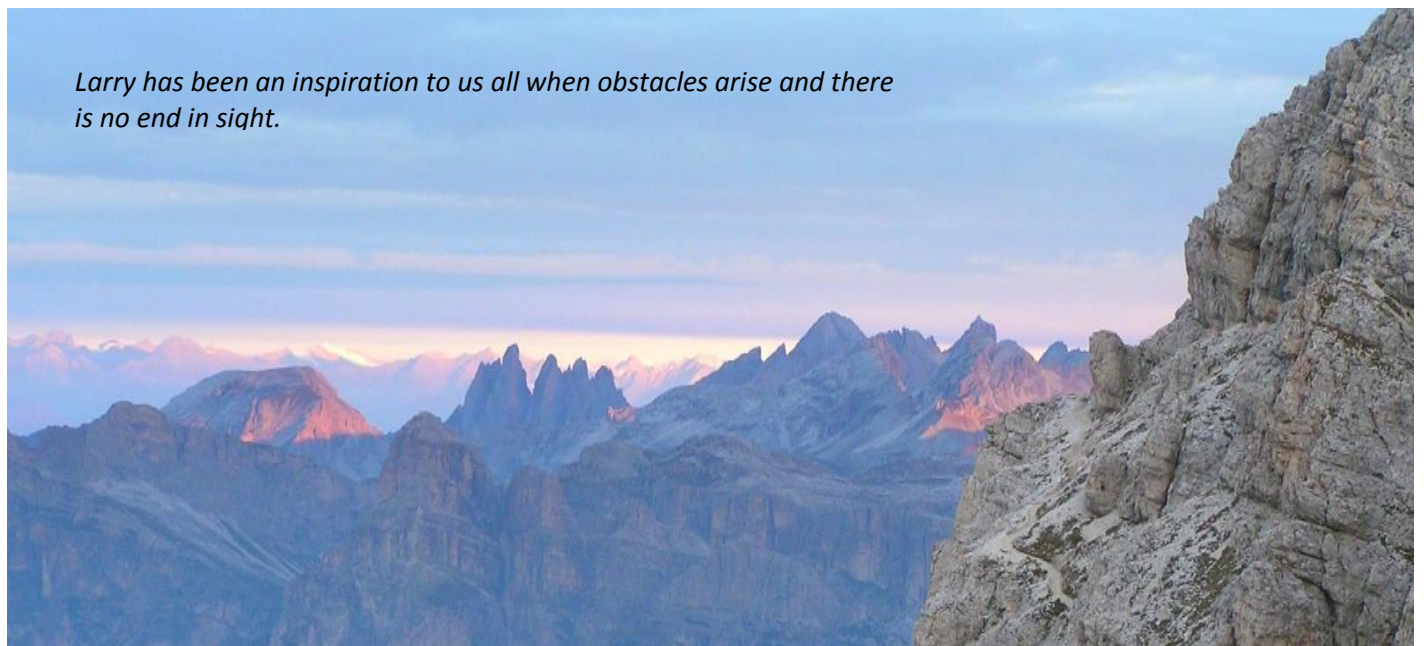
an inspirational drive to make conservation progress

From *Roger Crofts*, WCPA Regional Vice-Chair Europe 2000-08

I first met Larry at the World Conservation Congress in Montreal in 1996 and engaged with him more closely at the steering committee of the WCPA in the Bahamas in 1998. On both those occasions and many occasions since Larry was always a wonderful father figure for the protected areas movement. He was supportive, welcoming of new people like myself and new ideas.

He always wanted to know what you were doing for conservation and whether you had anything to contribute to the Mountain Update.

My best memories are of his gently verbal jousting matches with Graham Kelleher, his apparent adversary as lead on the Marine programme of WCPA as they were supposedly at opposite ends of the spectrum. Well they were but only in altitude, certainly not in attitude. Both used their friendship, their progressive attitudes and their frustration with passivity to make conservation progress and to recruit new members to the conservation cause. Between them, they challenged and cajoled us all to make greater and faster progress.



Larry has been an inspiration to us all when obstacles arise and there is no end in sight.

not just any dinner – but a Mountains Dinner!

From *Pamela Lanier*

Larry and Linda were very welcoming to me when I went to Salamanca, Spain for Wild10. Not knowing many people and feeling pretty alone when I saw an open invite for the Mountains Dinner I immediately signed up. Just knowing that on the second night I was going to an event with others made me feel included in a larger sense...which of course was the genius of this pair.

The dinner did not disappoint - I was greeted by Linda and Larry who introduced me to several people and joined a table where our fellow diners worked hard to win the storied and much loved limerick contest! I left that one evening feeling like I completely belonged and was a part of a larger committed group of people who care and are willing to work (and have camaraderie!) to protect our mountains and planet!

can you pass Larry's last test?

Below is the Mountain Quiz prepared by Larry and presented at the Mountain Dinner on his behalf by his old friend and colleague in Hawai'i, *Jim Juvik* at the World Conservation Congress.

Having spent 23 years trying to educate you Network members about mountains, and being unable to be with you in person at the now legendary Mountain Dinner in Hawai'i, I am making my spirit presence known by giving you the following test. Larry Hamilton September 2016

1. What does the K in K2 stand for?
2. What is the approximate average height of Tibet?
 - i. 10,000 ft (3,000 m)?
 - ii. 13,000 ft (4,000 m)?
 - iii. 16,000 ft (5,000 m)?
3. What is bed tea in the Himalayas?
4. What is the name of an 11-day loop trail that circumnavigates the highest mountain in the European Alps?
5. And, now name a 53-mi (86-km), 6-7-day loop trail, it circles a group of spectacular Patagonian mountains in the southernmost national park in Chile.
6. Around what mountain is there a 32-mi (51-km), 3-day trail that circumnavigates a 22,028-ft (6,714 m) Tibetan holy mountain where pilgrims usually outnumber trekkers.
7. Which is the height of the South Pole: 20ft (60m) or 211ft (63m) or 9,186ft (2,801m)?
8. Which of the following four things is different from the other three and why?
 - i. Jebel (Morocco)
 - ii. La (Nepal)
 - iii. Shan (China)
 - iv. Sgurr (Scotland)
9. Which of the following four things is different from the other three and why?
 - i. Cordillera Blanca
 - ii. Cordillera Falsa
 - iii. Cordillera Negra
 - iv. Cordillera Roja
10. Ice-capped mountains occur near the equator in three places. The Andes and East Africa are two of these places. Where is the third?
11. Which is Europe's deadliest mountain, with 32 deaths on it between 1989 and 1994?
 - i. The Eiger (Switzerland)?
 - ii. Ben Nevis (Scotland)?
 - iii. Mont Blanc (France/Italy)?
12. Name the most northerly mountain range in Africa, with a heavy winter snow cover at the edge of the Sahara Desert, and in which the highest peak is Toubkal (19,520 ft/5,951 m).
13. Fewer than 650 mountain gorillas survive in the mountains at the junction of three African countries. Name two of them (the countries, not the gorillas!).
14. There are two mountains bearing the name Mont Blanc. One of these is in the European Alps. Where is the other?
15. Name the mountain whose elevation above its base is higher than Everest/Sagarmatha/Chomolungma, making it the highest mountain in the world.

IUCN WCPA Mountain Specialist Group. www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/wcpa/what-we-do/mountains

For any relevant mountain protected area news, please email me (Gill) on peopleinnature@bigpond.com

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Special Mountain UPDATE appendix

WORKING WITH LARRY HAMILTON (AND MOUNTAINS) 26 WONDERFUL YEARS!!

Graeme L. Worboys

Immediate past IUCN WCPA Co-Vice Chair (Connectivity Conservation and Mountains)

9 December, 2016

(WCPA Mountain members are shown in italics)

Working with Larry Hamilton! What a wonderful, inspirational, dynamic and creative 26 years it has been. Larry was the inaugural IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Vice Chair for Mountains from (in effect) 1991 to 2003 and I succeeded him as the WCPA Connectivity Conservation and Mountains Vice Chair from 2003 to 2016. Working with him was a privilege and our partnership just got better and better over the years. Half a world apart, we were regularly in touch. Early on, emails, long distant phone calls and get-togethers at workshops and conferences were important, but later, with technology improvements, regular cost-free Skype calls prevailed. The Skype calls were transformative. The 16,000 kilometres between Larry in Vermont and my home in Canberra “shrank” ... and we chatted regularly, free of the ticking cost-meter of international phone calls. On some calls our northern-southern hemisphere situational reality would be highlighted ...with Larry’s evening whisky being enjoyed after his day shovelling winter snow ... and my morning cup of tea being shared with heavy smoke filled air from nearby summer bushfires.

In **1991**, Larry was based in the East-West Centre, Hawaii. He organised a “consultation” on mountain protected areas through the Commission for National Parks and Protected Areas (CNPPA), WCPA’s predecessor. This was undertaken with good friends Bing Lucas (CNPPA Chair) and *Jim Thorsell* (IUCN Secretariat, Gland) and held on the big Island of Hawaii. Larry was inspired. He wanted to discuss and highlight the importance of mountain protected areas and their wise management and he invited 41 participants from around the world to attend his lively and energetic workshop. I was fortunate to be one of three Australians to attend along with *John Watson* of Western Australia, and *Jamie Kirkpatrick* of Tasmania.

His “consultation” was both productive and ground breaking. It generated a *“Call for Action on Protected Areas in Mountain Environments”* directed to the upcoming (1992) Fourth World Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas in Caracas, Venezuela; a publication prepared by *Duncan Poore*, *“Guidelines for Mountain Protected Areas”* and a proceedings *“Parks, Peaks and People”* edited by Larry and his colleagues. There is no doubt the consultation also stimulated important international mountain conservation initiatives and helped cement long-lasting friendships and collaborative partnerships. For Bing Lucas, Chair of CNPPA, it demonstrated a need for a mountain protected area Vice Chair role.

The 41 workshop attendees were automatically the first members of Larry’s WCPA mountain protected area network. Many were inspired to action, with people like *Chandra Gurung* championing the Terai Arc connectivity corridor in Nepal; *Mingma Sherpa* helping to develop corridors in Bhutan and *Yuri Badenkov* advocating for greater protection in the Altai Mountains of Russia.

Larry quickly grew his mountain protected area network to over 400 mountain protected area professionals in more than 60 countries. He (and later the mountains executive team) regularly added outstanding new members; however, if Larry didn’t hear from a member for a few years, they

The consultation had been transformational and in 1993 Bing stated:
“The chemistry that activated the consultation was in major part due to Larry Hamilton’s infectious enthusiasm, organisational flair, facilitation skills and deep knowledge and feeling for mountains. (...). I was privileged to be a participant and was delighted when the Council of IUCN agreed to my recommendation that Larry be appointed vice-chair of CNPPA with the portfolio of Mountain Protected Areas – a task he has taken up with his customary energy and commitment.”

would suddenly find that their membership had lapsed. It was an approach that ensured the Mountains membership was active, and it worked!

Larry's status as a highly desired keynote speaker ensured the importance of mountains was actively promoted in forums all around the world. We (the network) all loved our mountains, but Larry also gently reminded us of their importance as "water towers of Earth; refugia for species; scenic wonders; revered inspirational and cultural sites and grand recreational destinations". He also established a much loved quarterly "Update" newsletter. It had special notoriety for its quality, inspirational mountain stories, defiant conservation advocacy and revelations of "the very latest" in mountain protected area management. His personal updates and stories about network members helped bind and enthuse the network and its readership and circulation was always far greater than the number of Newsletters despatched to WCPA Mountain members.

In the "early days", Update was generated as a hard copy and despatched through the normal post. Like most of Larry's WCPA mountain matters that needed help behind the scenes, the physical production and despatch of the quarterly Update was a Hamilton family team-work task with Linda Hamilton helping time and time again to ensure the newsletter was despatched on-schedule. Linda was a "force behind the force" that championed mountains and conservation! As the international membership grew, the cost of this mailing grew and sponsorship from organisations like the Wilberforce Foundation (*Gary Tabor*) was particularly important in ensuring that Update was despatched.

The WCPA mountains team, with Larry at the helm, was soon recognised by IUCN for its formidable productivity. Papers were written, books published, workshops run and as a consequence, mountain protected areas gained prominence in IUCN's conservation work. A WCPA Steering Committee fun-rivalry between Mountains and Marine (*Graeme Kelleher*) was enjoyed by all and directly and indirectly enhanced awareness of mountains and marine.

Larry's WCPA work was regularly at the cutting edge of conservation thinking. He championed issues long before they became mainstream topics including "conserving dark skies"; "transboundary protected area management" and "connectivity conservation". In each situation, he would link the issue directly to his mountain protected area work.

In **1995** together with *Janet Mackay* of the Australian Alps Liaison Committee, he co-hosted a workshop on transboundary protected area management in the Australian Alps. The workshop was based on the innovative Australian Alps national parks co-operative management programme that involved four governments (the Australian Government, two states and one Territory) and resulted in IUCN's first publication on transboundary protected area management edited by *Janet*. Later, in 2001, Larry teamed up with *Trevor Sandwith* and other authors to produce IUCN's Best Practice Guideline on Transboundary Protected Areas.

Larry also facilitated large scale connectivity conservation and wildlife corridors given the special relevance of mountains and mountain chains to these initiatives. He had a direct role (for example) in the corridor work that I was becoming involved in.

In **1991**, following the Hawaii consultation, I hosted Larry in Australia for an inspection of many of New South Wales (NSW) protected areas. As part of this, we visited the (then unprotected) South-East Forests of NSW. These grand forests were found along a north-south geographic feature, the "Great Escarpment of Eastern Australia" and we discussed, on site, a bold vision for a NSW wildlife corridor along 1300+ kilometres of this escarpment. Larry did not forget our discussion, and a few years later, when organising an international workshop on connectivity conservation at IUCN's **1996** Montreal World Conservation Congress, he invited me to speak on the Great Escarpment vision. He had also asked an energetic and charismatic Canadian lawyer, *Harvey Locke* to speak on an emerging Yellowstone to Yukon corridor.

From vision to reality, these two corridors evolved thanks to enlightened politicians, philanthropists and the hard work of many people and in 2016, twenty years later, a quick search of the World Wide

Web permits the discovery of the Great Eastern Ranges Corridor and the Yellowstone to Yukon (Y2Y) Corridor, both featured as important large-scale corridors of Earth. The 1996 IUCN Montreal Congress was also the location of Larry's first "Mountains Dinner" where he and *Jim Thorsell* (in an evening café setting) mixed fine food, fine wine, a "mountains quiz" and Thorsell's "tall stories and true" so successfully that the Mountains Dinner became a traditional fixture for all future IUCN WCPA international events.

About **1999**, when I was working as a senior manager with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Larry was preparing to step down from his Vice Chair role, and asked if I would be interested in taking on this position.

I was a bit surprised and flattered to be asked, but knowing the immensity of the task, I did ask him for more time to think about the invitation. A year went by and he asked again... but given the intensity of my professional management position at the time, I said (again) ... "*I need more time*".

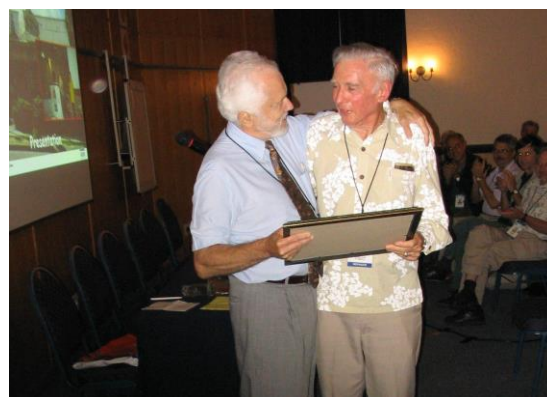
In **2002**, Larry was in Australia as a Keynote Speaker for an International Year of the Mountains event, and said "*arghhh Worboys, how much time do you need!*" But he needn't have asked, for I had finally decided to accept his invitation. This decision proved to be one of the best of my life. The last 13 years as Vice Chair has been exceptionally hard work, but I have had the privilege of contributing to important conservation initiatives; working with the finest of the world's protected area professionals (starting with our Mountains executive!); forming wonderful friendships and meeting and working in some of the best natural and cultural settings of Earth (thank you Larry!).

The formal Vice Chair handover was at the **2003** Durban World Parks Congress and as part of this, we organised a rather formidable party to celebrate Larry and his enormous contributions. What a party it was ... there were formalities first ... with WCPA Chair Kenton Miller presenting Larry with IUCN's prestigious Packard Award and then *Jim Thorsell* roasted and toasted Larry as only he can do. I presented a mountains memorabilia "scroll" on behalf of our mountains network; and singing and dancing soon followed, including a brilliant Nepali foursome and tenor *Martin Price*. It was a grand night!

Larry was ever present and supportive over the next 13 years. This is the way we wanted it to be. I expanded the mountains leadership team to include outstanding mountain protected area professionals *Linda McMillan*, *Fausto Sarmiento*, *Patrizia Rossi*, *Mike Tollefson* and *Olivier Chassot*, with Larry as Senior Adviser and Update Editor. He was always an active member of the Mountains executive. Larry and *Linda McMillan* in particular worked brilliantly together in producing the quarterly online Mountains e-Update.

The WCPA Mountains Team continued their highly productive efforts, especially through publishing and workshops. New capacity development publications included IUCN's "*Guidelines for Planning and Managing Mountain Protected Areas*" (2004) and "*Managing Mountain Protected Areas: Challenges and Responses for the 21st Century*" (2004). These were generated following the 2003 WCPA Mountains Workshop in the Drakensberg's, South Africa.

In **2004**, *Harvey Locke* conducted an international mountains connectivity conservation management workshop in Banff, Canada focusing on the Y2Y corridor and *Miquel Rafa* facilitated a similar workshop in the Cantabrian Mountains of Spain in 2005 that promoted connectivity



conservation between the Pyrenees and the European Alps. Larry actively participated in both of these workshops.

At the request of IUCN, the WCPA Mountains team actively developed the 2006 IUCN compendium text book on protected area management titled *“Managing Protected Areas, A Global Guide”*. This quickly became an important protected area management text book for students of protected areas.

In **2006**, there was another IUCN assignment for the Mountains team. A guidance text on “how to manage large connectivity conservation areas” was needed. This was a pioneering task and would eventually take two international workshops and four years of volunteer time. *Fausto Sarmiento* facilitated the first workshop in Papallacta Ecuador in November 2006 and participants generated 25 valuable Case Studies and a wealth of practical guidance on how to manage large corridors. Larry actively participated at Papallacta and helped guide the workshop logistics. He also conducted a special and dignified commemoration for two of our outstanding WCPA Mountain leaders, *Chandra Gurung* and *Mingma Sherpa* who were tragically killed in a helicopter crash in Nepal in September 2006. It was agreed that the future (2010) book would be dedicated to *Mingma* and *Chandra* and Larry agreed to prepare the dedication, an action he completed with great sensitivity and recognition for these two distinguished men and their accomplishments.

In **2008** a second WCPA connectivity conservation workshop in support of the proposed book was conducted in Dhulikhell, Nepal. It was hosted and managed by *Nakul Chettri* of ICIMOD together with *Rod Atkins*. The workshop successfully finalised a “theoretical framework” for managing connectivity conservation. This was a critical part of the IUCN book that was published soon after in **2010** titled *“Connectivity Conservation Management, A Global Guide”*.

In **2016**, my twenty-six wonderful years of official WCPA Mountains collaboration with Larry (and the Mountains team!) concluded when we both retired. We had both just finished our contributions to IUCN’s new (2015) compendium text *“Protected Area Governance and Management”* along with other WCPA Mountains Executive authors, *Patrizia*, *Linda* and *Fausto*. Larry’s text featured the importance of mountains (Chapter 3) and *Ian Pulsford* prepared an entire Chapter on connectivity conservation (Chapter 27). The new book has been highly acclaimed and just 16 months after its launch, it had received 22,700 downloads in 155 countries.

In **2015** and 2016, given our forecast 2016 retirements, both Larry and I had spent time recruiting our replacements and we were delighted that Peter Jacobs (Chair of the new WCPA Mountains Specialist Group); Gill Anderson (Update Editor) and Gary Tabor (Chair of the new WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group) were appointed. We were also delighted that the Mountains Executive and Olivier Chassot wished to continue their executive work. We wished the new teams every success with their work.

Post Hawaii 2016 was meant to be a time for the two retirees to have some social time free from IUCN activities and as part of this, my wife Bev and I were looking forward to a proposed 2017 visit to Vermont to meet Larry and Linda. Larry’s passing in October 2016 was unexpected and an enormous blow and I find it is still somewhat difficult to deal with. I do especially treasure our 26 years of friendship and shared commitment to conservation. It has been the best of time and it has been a privilege to work with Larry. Our last Skype call was just four days before he passed away and as always, it was positive, vibrant, full of joy and forward looking.

What a man!