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Subject: International Ranger Award

Dear IUCN Members, Dear Conservation Community,

As Director General of IUCN and Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, we are pleased to invite you to nominate deserving rangers and ranger teams to the IUCN WCPA International Ranger Award.

Rangers are at the heart of global conservation efforts, often risking their lives to protect biodiversity, support local communities, and safeguard our planet's most vulnerable ecosystems. Their extraordinary commitment is fundamental to achieving the "30x30" target.

The IUCN WCPA International Ranger Award is a prestigious global recognition that celebrates the exceptional contributions of rangers worldwide. Nominations for the 2025 award will close on 31st January 2025, with the award ceremony planned during the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi in October 2025. Since 2021, 59 awards have been presented to teams and individuals, representing 315 rangers from 32 countries, with a total value of \$480,000.

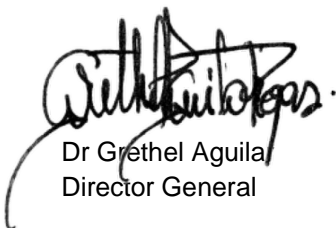
This award not only honours individual and team achievements but also amplifies the key role that rangers play in global conservation efforts.

By celebrating the courage, dedication, and impact of individual rangers and teams, this award strengthens the ranger profession and raises global awareness of their critical role in safeguarding our natural heritage. It demonstrates IUCN's widespread support for rangers and the work of the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (of which IUCN-WCPA is a founding member) to advance professionalisation of the ranger sector and secure improved working conditions and legal protections across diverse and often challenging conservation landscapes.

We encourage all governmental and non-governmental IUCN members and those engaged in supporting ranger work to nominate the remarkable rangers in your organisations and networks for this prestigious award. Honouring their achievements will inspire future conservation leaders and reinforce the indispensable role of rangers in delivering on global biodiversity targets.

Thank you for your commitment to supporting those protecting our planet's precious natural spaces.

Sincerely,



Dr Grethel Aguila
Director General



Dr Madhu Rao
Chair, IUCN World Commission on
Protected Areas