

#### Letter from GWC Chief Scientist and CEO Wes Sechrest

At the core of our mission, we are driven to save the world's species and ecosystems. The very fabric of life on our planet depends on GWC and our partners scaling up our impact. This year has seen GWC exploring key habitats across the planet, increasing our research efforts, engaging with other conservationists around the world, and achieving more conservation successes, including new nature reserves.

We have continued our pioneering work in the Annamite Mountains of Lao PDR and Vietnam, working to protect the Critically Endangered Saola in partnership with the Saola Working Group and other organizations. This included major funding from the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund for work to protect four key sites for Saola and other threatened wildlife in the region.

Our strong track record in supporting the creation of new protected areas for biodiversity has grown. Together with an Ecuadorian NGO, Jocotoco, and international partners, GWC helped purchase more than 6,000 acres of alpine grassland and tropical forest targeting threatened species, including Andean Condors and Spectacled Bears. Through a network of connecting reserves, this project marks the protection of one the largest elevation gradients in the world, ranging from the top of the Andes to the floor of the Amazon Basin, a total area of more than 2 million acres.

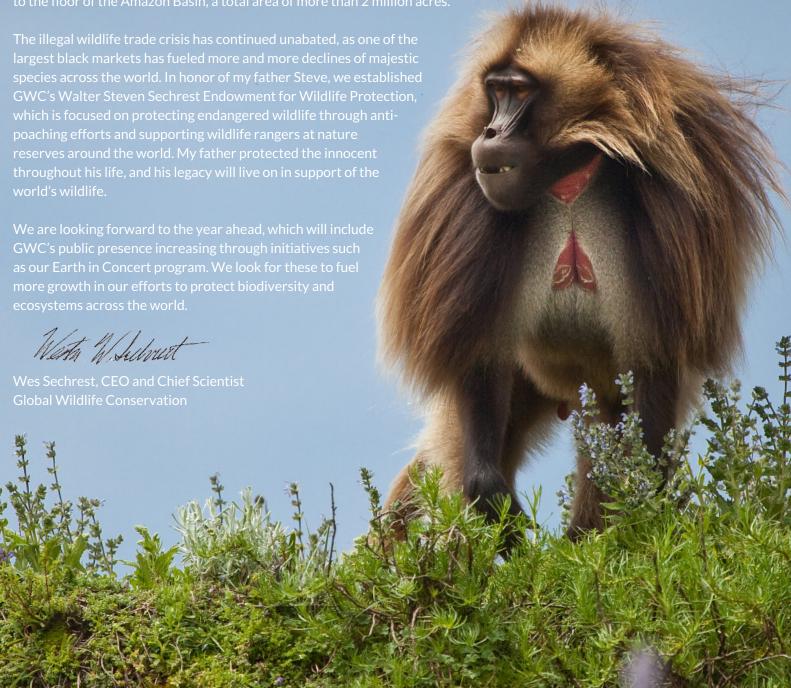


PHOTO BY ROBIN MOORE



### **Exploration**

GWC explores remaining wilderness areas to improve our understanding of biodiversity around the globe. Biodiversity surveys range from short one-person surveys intended to ground-truth the presence of a single species, to multi-month explorations of areas by international teams representing several taxonomic and ecological specialities. At the end of September 2014, a team of intrepid researchers led by GWC set out into the wilds of eastern Guyana on the northern coast of South America to track and document the region's abundant wildlife, ranging from the small invertebrate (bullet ants) to larger mammals (puma).

#### **Conservation**

Working with local partners, GWC protects and manages critical habitats for priority species, and implements conservation measures to ensure the viability of populations. This means addressing threats beyond habitat loss, such as disease or the illegal wildlife trade. In 2014, we created a new nature reserve in the Serranía del Perijá with our partner ProAves, the first reserve on the Colombia side of the mountain range and home to many species of plants and animals found nowhere else. We also became the first international partner to Australian-based Devil Ark, helping provide critical resources and strategies to save the iconic Endangered Tasmanian Devil from extinction at the hands of a rare contagious cancer.

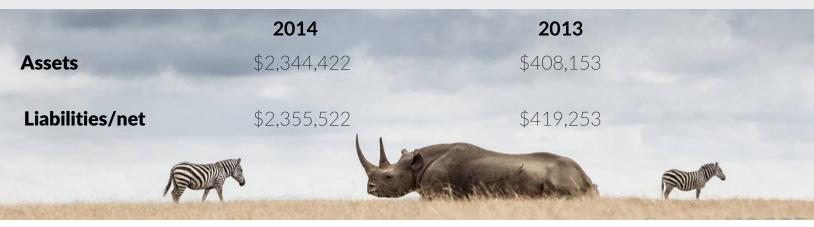


## Research

GWC researches the biology of species to develop the best methods for protecting them in the wild or, if needed, in captivity for future reintroduction into their native habitats. We also support the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, which underpins our conservation strategy by continuously updating the status of the world's wildlife.

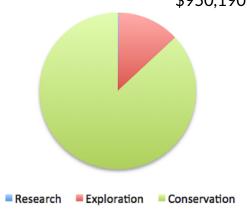


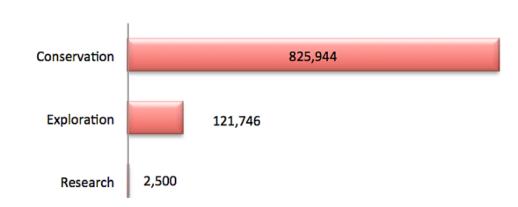
# **Statement of Financial Position**



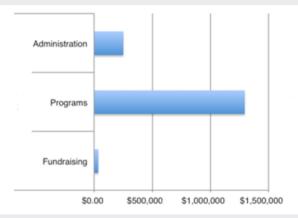
# **2014 Funding from Grants to GWC Programs**

\$950,190 from 27 grants (from zoos, foundations and non-profits)





# 2014 Use of Funds



### **Contact GWC**



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