



Society for Conservation Biology

A global community of conservation professionals



Annual Report 2005
Looking forward



Looking forward

In the twenty years since the Society for Conservation Biology was incorporated, our organization has grown and flourished. We are now a global community of more than 9,000 conservation professionals working to better understand and conserve biological diversity around the world. *Conservation Biology* is the leading journal in our field, and *Conservation In Practice* is developing a committed readership. Our annual meetings bring together scientists and practitioners from around the world to share research results and case studies in conservation. In 2005, more than 1,600 individuals from 68 countries attended our annual meeting in Brasília, Brazil—the first ever held in South America. Our members are active participants in seven Regional Sections and a small, dedicated staff effectively runs the Executive Office.

In 2004, SCB's Board of Governors chartered a committee to look ahead and define key strategic goals for SCB over the next five years. The planning effort was launched at the 2004 Annual Meeting, informed by a survey of the members in late 2004 and by an organizational assessment completed by an outside consultant in late 2004 – early 2005. The draft strategic plan was completed in February 2005 and reviewed by the Board during its March 2005 retreat. Member comments were solicited by email and incorporated into the final document approved by the Board and presented in Brasília at the annual members' meeting.

Past strategic planning by SCB resulted in the globalization of the Society, creation of *Conservation In Practice*, and establishment of the Executive Office. The new strategic plan recognizes the need to expand the scope of SCB's programmatic work while simultaneously building the institutional infrastructure needed to support this rapid growth in membership and program. One major program has already been added—the David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship moved from The Nature Conservancy to SCB in late 2005.

The plan specifically emphasizes the need to increase the impact of conservation science on conserving Earth's biodiversity. With a rearticulated mission and four programmatic goals we seek to collectively advance the development and dissemination of the research, knowledge, practices, and policies necessary to advance conservation: Conservation Science, Conservation Management, Conservation Policy, and Conservation Education. In addition, two organizational goals were created to insure SCB's effectiveness: Financial Strength, and Impact. The plan recognizes that the efforts are mutually reinforcing and the greatest impact will be made through progress toward all goals.

In these pages, you will find both reflection on the year past and a look forward toward the future of a rapidly growing organization.

President 2004-2005, Deborah B. Jensen
President 2005-2006, John Robinson
Executive Director, Alan D. Thornhill

Vision

Enhancing the Impact of Conservation Science
SCB Strategic Plan 2006-2010

Clear goals help any organization or individual succeed. SCB succeeded during its first twenty years in part because many volunteers worked together to focus on a few key goals critical to moving the organization forward. We again have looked into the future for SCB. During the next five years we will build a strong portfolio of publications, improve the knowledge and practice needed to manage biodiversity, effectively inform policy decisions relevant to conservation, and strengthen education, training, and capacity building programs. We also will grow SCB's strength and reputation. Collectively these efforts will help us in our mission—a statement we have rearticulated to make more compelling and concise. Here we present the high-level summary of the plan—mission, visions, values and goals.

The strategic plan was the collaborative work of many individuals with input from members via the electronic survey in November 2004 and the comment period in June 2005. Special thanks to Strategic Planning Committee Chair Loyal Mehrhoff for extraordinary service and to committee members Luigi Boitani, Autumn-Lynn Harrison, David Johns, Devra Kleiman, Reed Noss, John Robinson, Jon Paul Rodríguez, Kathryn Saterson, and Alan Thornhill.

Mission – To advance the science and practice of conserving the Earth's biological diversity

Vision We envision a world where people understand, value, and conserve the diversity of life on Earth. We envision SCB as an effective, internationally respected organization of conservation professionals that is the leading voice for the study and conservation of Earth's biodiversity.

Values The natural diversity of organisms, ecological complexity, and evolutionary processes have value and are necessary to support all species including our own. | Human-caused extinctions and the degradation, destruction, or loss of functionality of natural ecosystems are undesirable. | Maintaining and restoring biodiversity is the responsibility of all people and governments. | The sciences, especially conservation sciences, perform a critical role in understanding how the natural world operates and how human societies and actions can both positively and negatively affect the natural world. | Science should inform policy and management decisions affecting biodiversity.

Goals

Conservation Science – The scientific research and knowledge needed to understand and conserve biodiversity is identified, funded, completed, disseminated, and applied to research, management, and policy.

Conservation Management – Conservation practitioners and managers are provided the scientific information and recommendations needed to conserve biological diversity at all scales.

Conservation Policy – Policy decisions of major international conventions, governments, organizations, and foundations are effectively informed and improved by the highest quality scientific counsel, analysis, and recommendations to advance the conservation of biological diversity.

Conservation Education – Education, training, and capacity-building programs are identified, strengthened, and developed to inform the public, educate leaders, and support current and future generations of conservation scientists and practitioners.

Impact and Reputation – SCB is recognized as the world's leading authority in conservation science and our membership, publications, and conferences deliver high quality, integrated, and effective products.

A Strong Organization – SCB builds and maintains the organizational capacity necessary to operate our programs, provide products and services, and run an effective organization.

Regional Sections

SCB 2005 Regional Boards of Directors

Africa

Ronald W. Abrams, Stephen Mufutau Awoyemi, Morné du Plessis, Paula Kahumbu, Beth Kaplin, Shedrack M. Mashauri, Michel Masozera, Alison Ormsby, David Western

Asia

Habib Ahmad, Danilo S. Balete, Hiroyoshi Higuchi, Tom McCarthy, Jeffrey A. McNeely, Yoshihiro Natuhara, Linda Olsvig-Whittaker, Batbold D. Otgoid, Andrew T. Smith, Eric Wikramanayake, Pralad Yonzon

Austral and Neotropical America

Luis F. Aguirre, Julio Calvo, Lorena Calvo, Alfredo Cuarón, Jaime Jiménez, Marcelo Lima, Rodrigo A. Medellín, Cristian Olivo, Gerrardo Arturo Sanchez-Azofeifa, Javier Simonetti, Miguel Vázquez

Australasia

Robert Davis, Karen Firestone, Caroline Gross, Jean-Marc Hero, Menna Jones, Richard Kingsford, Andrew Mack, Brendan Mackey, Craig Morley, Nicola Nelson, Tish Silberbauer

Europe

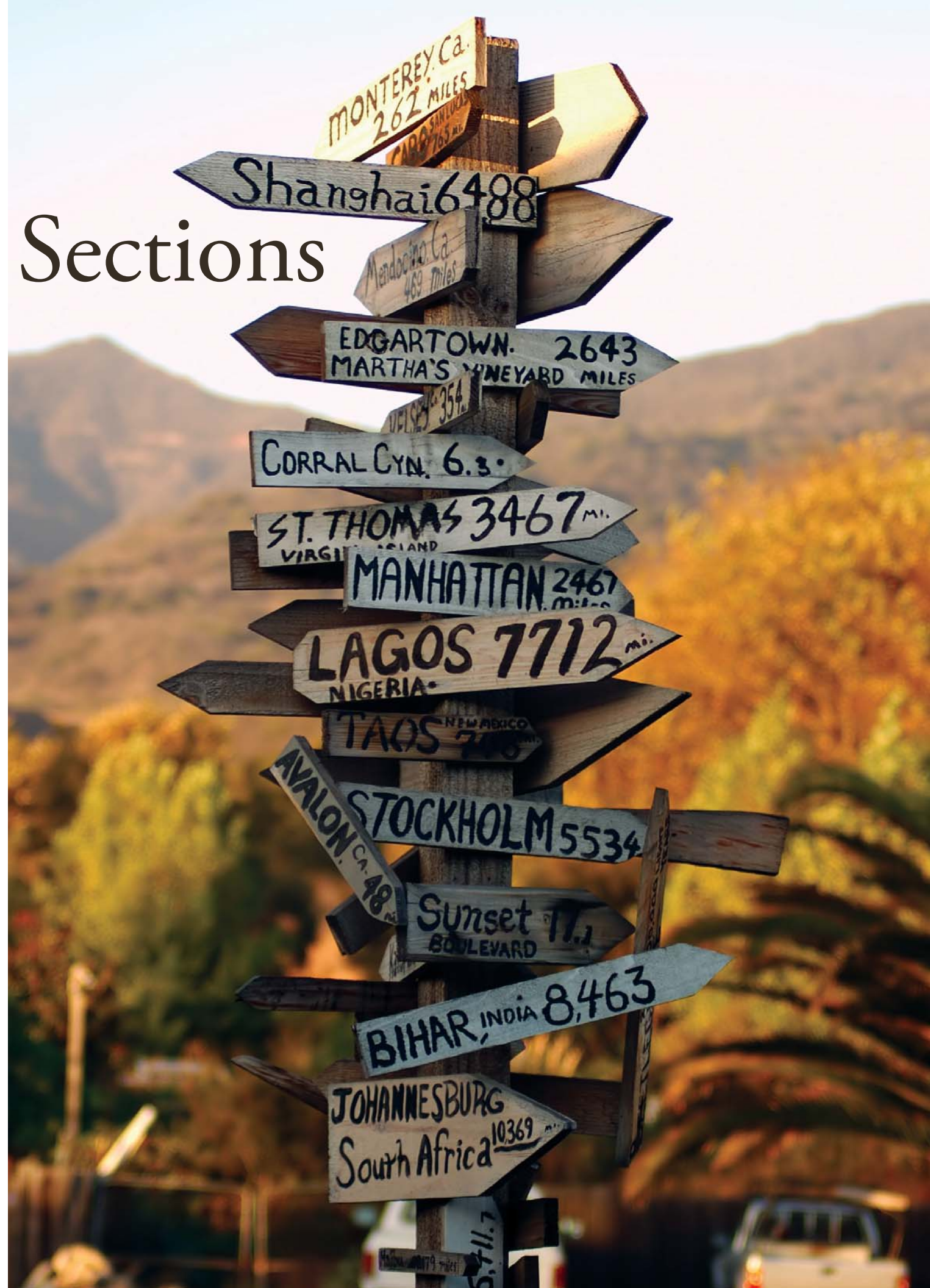
Luigi Boitani, Andrés Báldi, Javier Bustamante, Martin Dieterich, Renato Massa, Jari Niemelä, Owen T. Nevin, Andrew Pullin, Per Sjögren-Gulve

Marine

John Cigliano, Ellen Hines, Elliott Norse, Norm Sloan, Glenn VanBlaricom, Robert Wilder

North America

Brian Czech, Dominick DellaSala, Chris Eckert, Kathy Granillo, Pam Krannitz, Barry Noon, Reed Noss, Peter Raven, Michael Reed, Sarah Reichard, Fiona Schmiegelow, Steve Trombulak, David Wilcove



Increasing capacity

Due in large part to a continuing grant from The Christensen Fund, all Regional Sections participated in the development of SCB's 5-year strategic plan and two Section presidents played significant leadership roles in the strategic planning process. Many key participants may have been excluded for financial reasons—the Christensen Fund grant ensured that the plan represented needs of all regions of the world from the very beginning.

The Society for Conservation Biology has thus begun to realize goals related to capacity building, including representation of our colleagues from previously under-represented locations and disciplines, and participation of these groups in the governance of the Society and its annual meetings. The **Austral and Neotropical America Section** hosted SCB's 2005 Annual Meeting in Brasília, Brazil, and the **Africa Section** will host the 2007 meeting in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Sections are also energizing to host meetings on a local scale. The **Asia Section** hosted its first regional meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal in November 2005. Each of these meetings are the first SCB meetings on their respective continents. The **Europe Section** is also preparing for its first regional meeting, to be held in Hungary in 2006.

Membership in the Society is now more geographically diverse than ever. Of 9,000 members, 3,000 are from outside the United States, and 1,000 of these are from developing countries. Always the dominant section in terms of membership, the **North America Section** was very active in 2005 in rescoping its goals to complement an increasingly global SCB—especially focusing on North American policy issues such as the management of fire-prone forests of the western United States and the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

Many Sections were involved in education and outreach activities in 2005. Members of the **Marine Section** Board of Directors taught a short course on marine ecology and conservation at the 2005 Annual Meeting and all participants received the new textbook *Marine Conservation Biology*, co-authored by former Marine Section president, Elliott Norse. The **Australasia Section** awarded a number of student prizes this year at regional conferences. The **Africa Section** focused much of its energy on young African conservation biologists by preparing a career guide on the discipline of conservation biology in Africa and launching a capacity development project to provide opportunities for young Africans to present their research to other scientists and work together to complete a scientific article appropriate for a peer-reviewed journal.

The year 2005 was one of firsts for the Society. SCB held its first meeting annual meeting in South America, and the Asia Section hosted SCB's first Regional Section meeting.

Nepal | Asia Section

Representatives from 19 countries attended the SCB Asia Section's first regional meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal, 17-20 November 2005. The conference, *Biodiversity Conservation in Asia: Current Status and Future Perspectives* attracted 162 participants, mostly young local conservationists. Nepalese graduate students and young field conservationists accounted for one-third of all attendees and another third were young scientists from other Asian countries.

The interaction of young Nepalese conservationists with their counterparts from countries such as Indonesia, Israel, Laos, and Japan was novel and exciting. For many attendees, the meeting provided a first real sense of community within a broader conservation constituency.

The Asia Section was particularly thankful for the organizational support of Pralad Yonzon, The Christensen Fund, Resources Himalaya, SITA World Travel Nepal, Nature Nepal, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, and the Mountain Forum Secretariat.



Meetings

Brazil | Annual Meeting

Tropical areas house an overwhelming proportion of the world's biological diversity. Despite their immense natural wealth, countries located in these areas have a marked deficit of trained personnel and adequate funding for planning and prioritizing conservation efforts.

The 19th Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology, *Conservation Biology Capacity Building and Practice in a Globalized World*, was held in Brasília, Brazil from 15-19 July 2005. Brasília, a World Cultural Heritage site, is located within the Cerrado—a global biodiversity hotspot. Hosted by the Institute of Biology of the University of Brasília, the meeting was the first SCB annual meeting to be held in South America. Miguel Ângelo Marini (Chair), Jader Soares Marinho Filho, Regina Helena Ferraz Macedo, and John Du Vall Hay served as the Executive Committee, with support from colleagues in Brazil and many other countries around the world.

The 2005 meeting was SCB's largest to date, with more than 1,600 registered participants. The 966 presentations included 270 symposium presentations, 369 contributed oral presentations, and 327 posters. A record number of 68 countries were represented, and more than half of the participants came from lower-income countries. Countries with the highest number of participants were Brazil (~600), United States (~350), United Kingdom (~60), South Africa (~45), and Mexico (~40). Over 80,000 USD were awarded for travel, and students from institutions worldwide were extremely well-represented, comprising almost 40% of attendees.

The Society is grateful for the dedicated, always friendly, and untiring Brazilian staff for making the meeting a tremendous success and to the many sponsors for making this meeting possible.

Major Sponsors

Conservation International
Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
The Christensen Fund

Special Sponsors

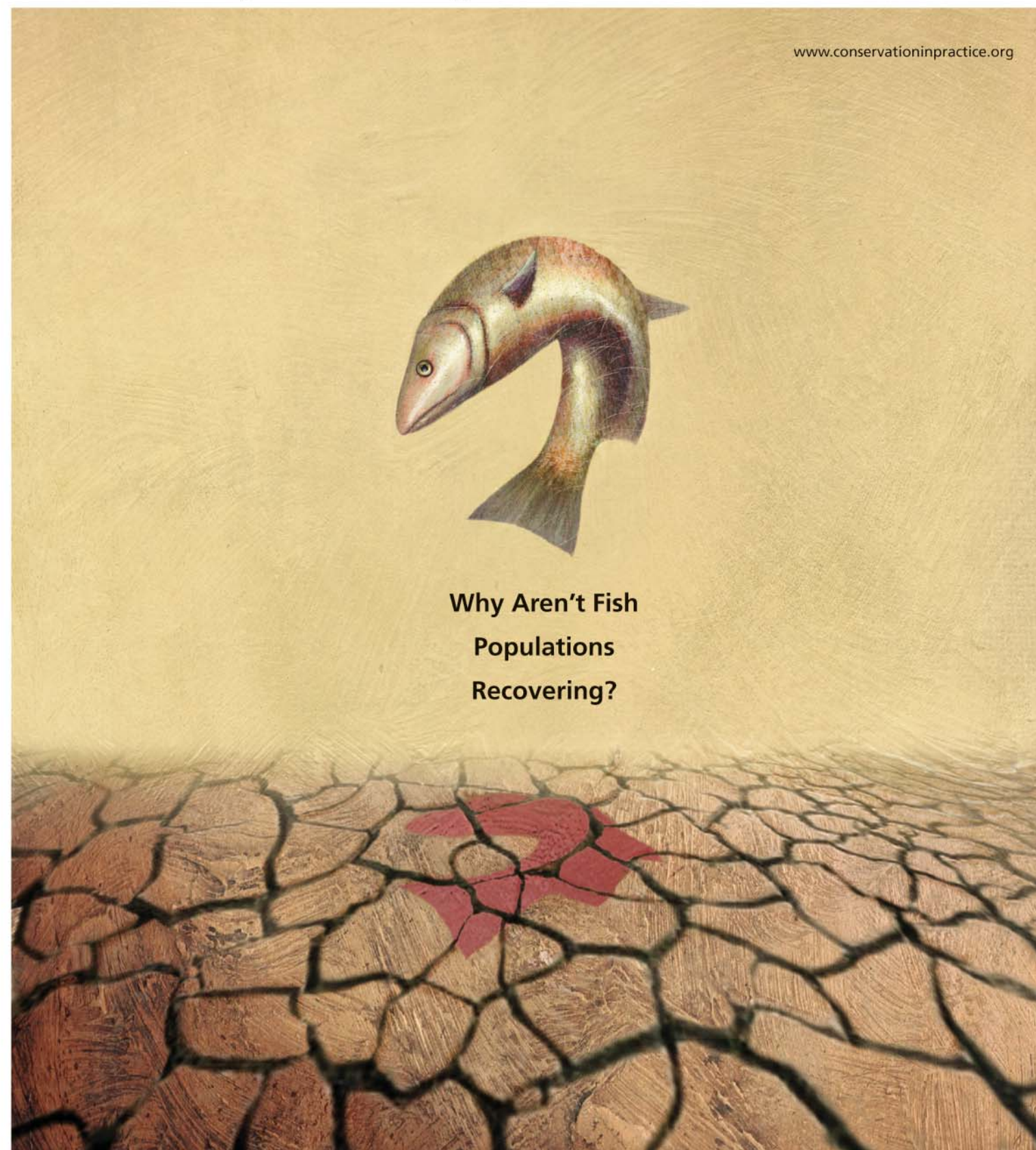
Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior
Wildlife Trust Alliance
WWF - Brasil
Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Distrito Federal

Sponsors

Fundação o Boticário
The Nature Conservancy
Wildlife Conservation Society
Blackwell Publishing Inc.
Secretaria de Cultura do Governo do Distrito Federal

Conservation In Practice

A Publication of the Society for Conservation Biology



SCB's **programs and publications** continued to grow in 2005. The Society relaunched its Web site, www.Conbio.org, with a fresh look and updated features. SCB's free online job postings were the most visited pages of the site. In 2005, SCB added to its suite of publications—the opportunity to subscribe to *Biological Conservation* at a discounted rate is now included as a benefit of SCB membership. The Society's core publications, *Conservation Biology* and *Conservation In Practice*, grew in both size and impact and a number of new programs were added including new Local Chapters and the David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship Program.

Programs | Smith Fellows

In 2005, SCB assumed leadership of the prestigious David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship Program, sponsored by the Cedar Tree Foundation. Dr. Michael Dombeck was appointed Executive Director of the Program. Dr. Dombeck, former Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, is a professor of Global Environmental Management at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and UW System Fellow for Global Conservation.

The late Dr. Smith, founder of the Cedar Tree Foundation and a pioneer in the medical field with a passion for conservation, established the Smith Fellows Program in 1998 with a grant to The Nature Conservancy who oversaw the program for six years. Since its inception, the Smith Fellows Program has identified and supported early-career scientists who will shape the growth of applied conservation biology.

The Program enables young scientists to improve and expand their research skills and direct their research efforts toward problems of pressing conservation concern. Smith Fellows are expected to design, initiate, and conduct original research projects in collaboration with both academic and field mentors.

While the Fellows' research projects focus on urgent conservation issues, they also learn first hand about the challenges and rewards of conservation applications. The program's focus is to enlarge their professional opportunities and ensure future success by helping them build relationships in the conservation and research communities and by providing opportunities for professional development through targeted workshops and training events.

SCB's relationships with conservation leaders world-wide will offer Smith Fellows a broad range of research, application, and policy experiences while developing the future world leaders in conservation biology. For more information, visit the Smith Fellows Web site at www.smithfellows.org



In partnership with the Society for Conservation Biology

Publications

Conservation In Practice

Circulation	2005	2004
United States	5127	3238
Outside USA	887	661
Institutions	991	108
Total	7005	4007

As it enters its sixth year of publication, *Conservation In Practice* is ready to grow. In 2005 the Pew Institute for Ocean Science signed on as the magazine's newest partner. *Conservation In Practice* is a single magazine supported by eight of the most influential organizations in the field. Together, these partners create a forum for candid conversations—one that goes beyond the boundaries of individual organizations and disciplines.

Conservation In Practice and its partners raise the bar on conservation writing. The magazine received two publishing awards for its work in 2005. From the Western Publication Association, *Conservation In Practice* won a Maggie Award for Best Overall Quarterly Trade Publication and from the Society for National Association Publications, the magazine won a Gold Award for General Excellence.

Conservation Biology

Circulation	2005	2004
United States	3163	3511
Outside USA	1379	1238
Institutions	4732	3275
Total	9274	8024

Conservation Biology set records in 2005. The journal received its highest number of manuscript submissions and published 20% more pages than in 2004, including two Special Sections: Brazilian Conservation: Challenges and Opportunities and Implementation and Management of Marine Protected Areas. The Brazilian Special Section was reprinted in Portuguese in the inaugural volume of the new journal *Megadiversidade*.

A new section of the journal, Conservation Policy, debuted in 2005. It is intended to address the intersections and relationships of conservation science with appropriate policy issues. Also new in 2005, accepted papers are published online months before they appear in hard copy, significantly reducing the time to publication.

Governance

Executive Committee

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John Robinson, President
Georgina Mace, President Elect
Kathryn Saterson, Secretary*
Paul Beier, Secretary
David Johns, Treasurer
Reed Noss, Past President*
Malcolm L. Hunter, Jr., Past President

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Katrina Brandon, Social Sciences
Tracy Dobson, Humanities
Menna Jones, Australasia Section*
Devra Kleiman, Botanical Garden, Zoo, Aquarium, or Museum
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Craig Morley, Australasia Section
Elliot Norse, Marine Section*
Bryan Norton, Humanities*
Andrew Pullin, Europe Section
Jon Paul Rodriguez, Non-governmental organization
Mary Rowen, Governmental Agency
Javier Simonetti, Austral and Neotropical America Section*
Thomas Sisk, Local Chapters
Bill Sutherland, University or College
Steve Trombulak, North America Section
Glenn VanBlaricom, Marine Section
Pralad Yonzon, Asia Section

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Aram Calhoun, Student Affairs Committee
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Malcolm L. Hunter, Jr., Nominations Committee*
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Kathryn Saterson, Awards Committee
Gary Tabor, Development Committee
Alan D. Thornhill, Executive Director
Steve Trombulak, Education Committee*
Bethany Woodworth, Conference Committee

* term ended July 2005



SCB recognizes new and continuing conservation leadership. Dedicated to solid science, international collaboration, and conservation practice, these individuals have left lasting impressions on the discipline of conservation biology and the global conservation movement.

Edward T. LaRoe III Memorial Award

Daniel Pauly For his global perspective on fisheries issues and his ability to effectively and enthusiastically convey the results of his research and their management implications to fisheries managers and policy makers worldwide.

Distinguished Service Awards

Binod Chandra Choudhury For his profound success in effecting change in government and industry policies through solid scientific research on endangered wildlife of India.

Richard Cowling For setting a global standard for participatory systematic conservation, especially in the context of South Africa's new democracy and pressures for land reform.

David Ferguson For achieving major conservation successes through collaboration, friendship, humility, and hard work - thus inspiring many scientists and bureaucrats the world over.

Maria Elena Ibarra For her 40 years of inspiration, creativity, and scientific leadership in Cuban conservation efforts, and despite tremendous logistical obstacles, for fostering a new environmental ethic among young Cuban biologists.

Tropical Biology Association For motivating young conservation biologists and promoting international understanding through innovative field courses.

SCB 2005 Student Presentation Awards

1st place: Clinton Epps University of Berkeley, USA
Major highways block gene flow and decrease genetic diversity of desert bighorn sheep

2nd place: Andrew Holdsworth University of Minnesota, USA
Earthworm invasion is extensive and reduces plant diversity in hardwood forests of the western Great Lakes, USA

3rd place: Bernadette Bezy University of Costa Rica, Costa Rica
Spawning and recruitment of the reef-building corals, *Pavona clavus* and *Pavona gigantea* in Culebra Bay, Costa Rica: learning from the next generation

4th place: Trond Larsen Princeton University, USA
Consequential coprophages: diversity patterns, species ranges and interactions between disturbance regimes, dung beetle communities and plant regeneration

Lasting Impressions

Outlook

Financial Statement 2005

The David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship Program (Smith Fellows) was added to the SCB budget in 2005. SCB Annual Meeting budgets were managed externally until 2005 at which time they were included in the primary SCB budget.

Support and Revenue	2005	2004	2003	2002
Dues and contributions	\$1,313,138	\$980,000	\$990,000	\$950,000
Government contracts	\$518,390	\$47,000	\$63,000	\$10,000
Foundation and non-profit grants	\$168,000	\$295,000	\$231,000	\$225,000
Other income	\$38,473	\$12,000	\$16,000	\$15,000
Total Support and Revenue	\$2,038,000	\$1,334,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,200,000
Expenses and Capital Allocations				
Publications	\$1,200,000	\$1,140,000	\$987,000	\$950,000
General and administrative	\$250,000	\$190,000	\$180,000	\$130,000
Membership	\$90,000	\$70,000	\$68,000	\$58,000
Conservation programs	\$196,000	\$40,000	\$65,000	\$62,000
Total Expenses and Capital Allocations	\$2,029,000	\$1,440,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,200,000
Liabilities and Assets				
Endowment investments (market value)	\$1,053,500	\$887,000	\$737,000	\$599,000
Property and equipment (net of depreciation)	\$16,800	\$17,000	\$20,000	\$17,000
Current assets	\$508,700	\$469,000	\$561,000	\$333,000
Current assets (receivables)	\$79,000	\$382,000	\$162,000	\$116,000
Total assets	\$1,658,000	\$1,755,000	\$1,480,000	\$1,065,000
Total liabilities	\$29,000	\$78,000	\$139,000	\$13,000

We owe our gratitude to the following organizations for supporting SCB in 2005:

Cedar Tree Foundation | The Christensen Fund | David and Lucile Packard Foundation

John D. and Katherine T. MacArthur Foundation | Marisla Foundation | The Nature Conservancy

Pew Institute for Ocean Science | University of Washington, USA | U.S. Forest Service, Region 2

World Wildlife Fund

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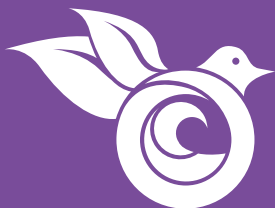
Cover: Bee on flowering wild passion fruit, Cerrado habitat, Brazil. Pete Oxford/Minden Pictures; Inside cover: Adult waved albatross in nesting colony, Punta Cevallos, Espanola Island, Galapagos. Tui DeRoy/Minden Pictures; Page 2: Aurora Borealis over Fairbanks, Alaska, USA, September 2005. Roman Kruckuk/iStockphoto; Page 4: Wooden signpost in California, USA. Stockxchange; Page 6: Chukpilhara Memorials, Nepal. Jason Maehl/iStockphoto; Statues, Brasília, Brazil. Jane Sweeny/Lonely Planet Images; Page 10: Aboriginal Australian cave paintings. Dave Huss/iStockphoto; Page 12: Octopus eye. Kerry Werry/iStockphoto

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