



Annual Report 2016



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PHOTO CREDITS

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p 3: Samantha Zwicker

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p 8: Tom Abrose

p 10: Matthias Vanhamel

p 12: Casey Kelahan

p 14: Grupo Amable

p 16: Julian Roll-Mocek

p 18: Julian Roll-Mocek

p 20: Doug Sorin

p 22: Alison Sienkiewicz

p 23: J. S. Weis

Back Cover: Jason Scullion

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friends,

From where I stand, I see forests as thriving civilizations that help to define who we are. Our ancestors depended on forests just as we do today through parks and the services they provide. Whether it is clean water, sheltering more than 70% of the world's biodiversity, or the important sequestration of carbon dioxide that mitigates a warming planet, we all need forests.

Having just returned from backpacking in Olympic National Park in Washington state, which is ringed by massive clear cuts, I am reminded that if we do not practice the foresight and conservation advocated for by Olympic National Park founder, American President Teddy Roosevelt, future generations will not know the wonder of ancient forests—how they make you feel, how they can help us see ourselves and the world around us in ways that are not possible with computers and built environments.

For the past 4 years, WildFF has worked around the world to protect and restore globally threatened forests for current and future generations. We believe that transformative change needs to happen at a local level and requires a move towards a culture of sustainability—that is, one of consciousness of human impact on other people, natural resources, and the future. Our strategy has been to work directly with community leaders and place-based organizations that share our mission. Our approach includes both direct conservation practices like land acquisitions and tree planting as well as indirect efforts such as education and capacity building.

While it sometimes feels like there is continuous sense of attack on our forests in the current culture, WildFF has joined with countless others to ensure that our forests are conserved and continue to provide invaluable benefits to everyone. Our role in this movement includes putting seeds in the ground and creating a community as its defenders.

In Uganda, we work with traditional women healers to regrow trees lost after a tragic civil war. The **Native Seeds** project supports these women and their knowledge of medicine as a catalyst for local reforestation. In the Peruvian Amazon, the **Las Piedras Amazon Center** uses a sustainable ecotourism model that generates collaboration among researchers, travelers, and communities to meet local needs and protect the incredible biodiversity of the forest. The **Future Leaders** program is another initiative in the Amazon that brings young local leaders to the rainforest to inspire a strong sense of place, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

After spending our foundational years learning how to grow an effective organization and define ourselves, it is a pleasure to share our first WildFF annual report with you. The pages ahead detail our impact for each of our projects after 4 years of development. This report also serves as a tribute and thank you to our supporters and partners; our accomplishments could not have been possible without all of your incredible trust and support.

May we continue forward together,

Jason Scullion, PhD

Co-Founder and Board President







WildFF Organization

Seattle, Washington, USA

*Protecting and restoring globally
important wild forests*



2016 IMPACT

\$163,853

funds raised

\$158,342

funds dispersed
(direct to projects)

\$51,327

expenses

70+

paid employment opportunities
across all projects

60+

individual donors

WILD FORESTS & FAUNA

Wild Forests and Fauna (WildFF) protects and restores globally important forests. We do this through conservation and entrepreneurial capacity building in collaboration with local communities and leaders. We work at the landscape-scale and implement high-impact projects that connect people to forests around the world.

We work with partners in the following ways:

PROTECT – We protect threatened forests through responsible land acquisitions

RESTORE – We restore native forests through reforestation projects and developing sustainable economies in local communities

SUPPORT – We support our partners to establish themselves institutionally and acquire the funds necessary to catalyze their vision

View our current projects to see where we've helped plant seeds of change around the world.

PLACE

Continent: North America

Country: United States

Based in: Seattle, WA



PEOPLE



Jason Scullion, PhD
Board President
Member since 2012
Westminster, MD



Doug Sorin, MBA
Board Vice President
Member since 2012
Seattle, WA



Liz Feldman, MBA
Board Treasurer
Member since 2012
Portland, OR



Ryan Ceurvorst, MBA
Board Secretary
Member since 2015
Seattle, WA



Corrie Reynoso
Member since 2015
New York, NY



Lucy Dablin
Member since 2015
Las Piedras, Peru



Ben Colvin
Executive Director
Asheville, NC

PROGRESS

2012

- WildFF founded by Jason Scullion, Douglas Sorin, Liz Feldman and Nancy Zamierowski
- WildFF receives funding from Greater Kansas City Community Foundation

2013

- The ARCAmazon, Future Leaders Project, and Big Tree Project are launched
- First Board workshop in Bolinas, CA
- Letty Brown joins the Board
- Doug Sorin transitions from Board Member to organization's first Executive Director

2014

- WildFF receives 501(c)(3) status
- WildFF launches Native Seeds Project with a literary assessment of the potential for reforestation and forest conservation in Uganda
- Receives first grant from Kiwi Energy

2015

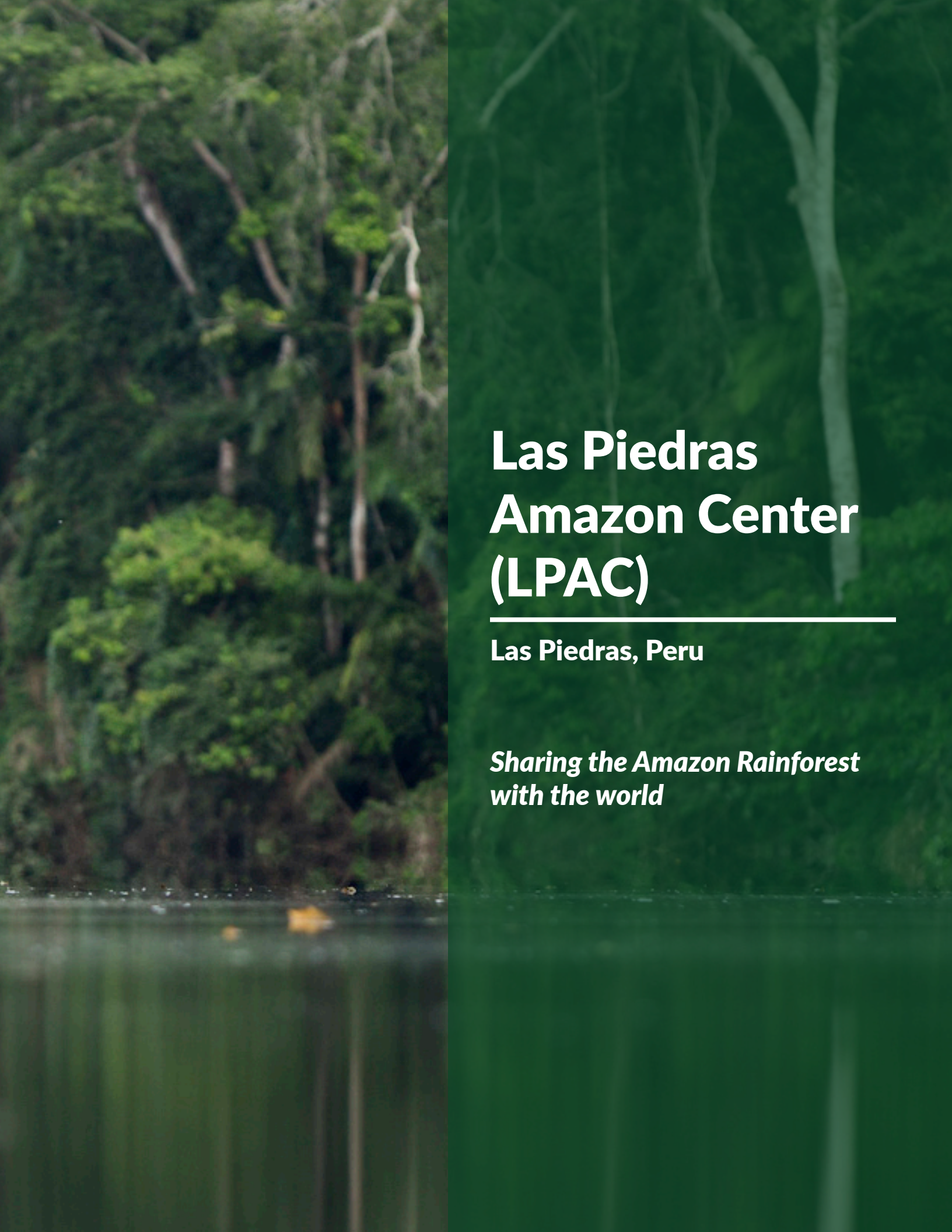
- WildFF celebrates protecting 11,000 acres of rainforest with a party in San Francisco: Jam in the Jungle
- WildFF expands its board with the addition of Corrie Reynoso, Lucy Dablin, and Ryan Ceurvorst

2016

- WildFF hires its first external Executive Director, Ben Colvin
- Receives grant from LUSH Cosmetics







Las Piedras Amazon Center (LPAC)

Las Piedras, Peru

*Sharing the Amazon Rainforest
with the world*



IMPACT TO DATE

\$154,000

revenue generated from ecotourism since 2015

\$15,422

provided to local communities through jobs and services

11,000

acres of Amazon rainforest protected

393

visitors to LPAC, including volunteers, workshop participants, and researchers

44

people employed in the Las Piedras watershed

LAS PIEDRAS AMAZON CENTER (LPAC)

The Las Piedras Amazon Center (LPAC) is located on a highly vulnerable 11,000-acre ecotourism concession in Peru's SE Amazon rainforest. WildFF has been working with the Peruvian NGO, ARCAmazon for the last five years to develop the LPAC project and advance sustainable development in the Las Piedras watershed. The LPAC land acts as a buffer for uncontacted tribes, native communities, and primary rainforest against unsustainable development and deforestation pressure.

About ARCAmazon

ARCAmazon was formed to mitigate the development pressures of Peru's new Inter-oceanic Highway on the Las Piedras watershed, including reducing deforestation, illegal timber extraction, and rampant bushmeat hunting. Broadly, the organization aims to increase the value of the Amazon, to conserve and protect it, and to connect people with the rainforest. ARCAmazon achieves its mission by bringing people into the rainforest and sharing the rainforest with the world while promoting sustainable development and conservation in the Las Piedras.

ARCAmazon's initiative's include: the Las Piedras Amazon Center (LPAC), Amazon Academy, and the Las Piedras Corridor Initiative (LPCI). Together, these efforts are designed to advance long-term conservation of the Las Piedras watershed.

In 2016, a spike in deforestation occurred following the invasion of neighboring concessions that reached the southern border of LPAC. The deforestation stopped there. The LPAC project has been recognized as an effective barrier to deforestation by international organizations such as the MAAP project.

WildFF Provided Programs and Services

WildFF has acted as ARCAmazon's principal donor and leadership partner. WildFF has worked with ARCAmazon to develop the

conservation and business strategy for LPAC as well as provide technical and fundraising support. WildFF continues to play an advisory role and advocates for ARCAmazon and LPAC abroad.

PLACE

Continent: South America

Country: Peru

Region: Las Piedras



PEOPLE

WILDFFF PROJECT TEAM



Jason Scullion, PhD
Project Lead



Doug Sorin, MBA
Project Lead



Lucy Dablin
Project Support

ARCAMAZON TEAM



David Johnston
Executive Director, ARCAmazon



Luis Garcia Neyra, JD
Board President, ARCAmazon



Chris Kirkby, PhD
*Vice President, ARCAmazon
Managing Director, Fauna Forever*

PARTNERS



ARCAmazon
conservetheamazon.org



Fauna Forever
faunaforever.org



Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
growyourgiving.org

PROGRESS

2012

- WildFF founders visit the Las Piedras for the first time

2013

- Worked with ARCAmazon to develop a business plan and fundraise to protect a strategically located tract of rainforest in the Las Piedras watershed

2014

- Assisted ARCAmazon founders with obtaining Peruvian NGO status
- Funded ARCAmazon with a \$60k support grant to initiate the project.
- Coordinated Indiegogo crowdfunding campaign with ARCAmazon to raise \$25k

2015

- Granted \$145k to ARCAmazon to purchase the rights to 11,000-acre ecotourism concession and build LPAC
- Co-negotiated the LPAC land purchase
- Provided support with organizational planning and site development

2016

- Hosted Future Leaders summit at LPAC
- Collaborated with ARCAmazon to design the Las Piedras Corridor Initiative



Innovando
Madre de Dios

Innovando
Madre de Dios

Innovando
Madre de Dios

Innovando
Madre de Dios

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Madre de Dios

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Innovando
Madre de Dios



Future Leaders

Madre de Dios, Peru

*Investing in a better future by
investing in our youth*





IMPACT TO DATE

\$1,500

granted to participant to fund ecotourism cycling business

134

individual donors supported Indiegogo campaign

100

hours of experiential learning activities

93%

of youth participants found the courses “directly relevant to their lives”

38

youth participants in the Innova network after 3 years

FUTURE LEADERS

The Future Leaders program is a youth leadership initiative that provides aspiring young professionals with skills in sustainable business, leadership, and environmental stewardship. Programs are hosted in globally important, endangered forests that have significant opportunities for forest and wildlife conservation.

Mission

To empower participants to become leaders of change in their community through increased understanding of sustainability and entrepreneurship.

Many of the money-making opportunities in Madre de Dios are harmful to the surrounding forests, such as small-scale agriculture, unsustainable commercial mining, and logging.

As a result, local young professionals have few options to build or work towards a sustainable economy. The Future Leaders program aims to counter this trend by building the capacity of young individuals so they may develop local constituencies for sustainability and create alternative incomes for themselves and future generations.

WildFF Provided Programs and Services

The 2016 Future Leaders summit in Madre de Dios was a two-part event. The summit included an afternoon panel discussion in the city that was open to the public and a five-day retreat attended by 16 local Peruvian youth and 4 professors at a rainforest lodge on the Tambopota River. The goal was to train youth participants in entrepreneurship, leadership, and environmental studies. Courses included marketing and business strategy, leadership in practice, sustainability, the geography of the Amazon, and legal aspects of organizational development.

In addition to the courses, the 2016 summit was designed to enable participants to develop a collective vision of a more

sustainable Madre de Dios and how to achieve their vision. The culminating activity for this summit was a business-case challenge for a local ecotourism lodge focused on developing marketing plans.

PLACE

Continent: South America

Country: Peru

Region: Madre de Dios



PEOPLE

WILDFFF PROJECT TEAM



Liz Feldman, MBA
Project Lead
Program Instructor



Jason Scullion, PhD
Program Instructor



Corrie Reynoso
Project Support

FUTURE LEADERS TEAM



Eber Cabanillas Suarez
Course Instructor



Juan Carlos Huayllapuma Cruz
Course Instructor and Photographer



Vanessa Soto Suyco
Local Program Coordinator

PARTNERS



Kiwi Energy
kiwienergy.us



Rainforest Expeditions
perunature.com



Universidad Nacional Amazonica de Madre de Dios
unamad.edu.pe

PROGRESS

2013

- Project approval, program and curriculum development initiated

2014

- 1st Innova Summit, 15 participants
- Introduced participants to principles in sustainability, ecology, business modeling and idea generation.

2015

- Granted \$1500 to Grupo Amable to purchase bicycles to start an ecotourism cycling business
- 2nd Innova Summit, 19 participants
- Focused on idea generation methods using IDEO's human centered design to guide participants in developing their vision of a sustainable Madre de Dios region in 2050
- Raised funds and supporters through Indiegogo crowdfunding campaign for 3rd summit

2016

- Began partnership with Kiwi Energy for the 3rd Summit
- 3rd Innova Summit, 16 participants
- Participants analyzed the ecotourism market and presented a marketing strategy for a local ecotourism lodge using material taught in the workshop.
- Hosted a panel discussion in Puerto Maldonado with local professors and entrepreneurs to connect youth with leaders in their community.
- Partnered with LUSH Cosmetics and Kiwi Energy for the 4th Innova Summit in 2017





Native Seeds

Gulu, Uganda

*Seeding the future of Uganda's
forests with the Wise Women*



IMPACT TO DATE

300,000

seedling capacity at two tree nurseries in Gulu, Uganda

4,500

trees planted with partner communities

150

women supported through knowledge sharing and capacity-building workshops

12

local employees working at nursery and for the project

3

WildFF project staff employed

NATIVE SEEDS

The Native Seeds project is a collaboration between WildFF and Wise Women Uganda (Mon Ma Ryek), a community-based organization (CBO) comprised of women healers in Gulu, Uganda. Using the indigenous knowledge of traditional healers as a catalyst for forest conservation and restoration, the project focuses on bringing back native tree cover to make Northern Ugandan communities more resilient in the face of climate change.

About Wise Women Uganda / Mon Ma Ryek

Mon Ma Ryek (“Wise Women” in Luo-Acholi) merges founder Juliet Adoch’s past work with over 150 traditional healers with literacy programs and community outreach (such as Acholi Child Rescue Team) with goals of empowering women healers in Acholiland through projects that address ecological, cultural, and economic needs.

Traditional healers in Northern Uganda are some of the few individuals left who contain the knowledge of indigenous plants and trees. These individuals have a deep understanding of the local ecology of their landscapes, the uses and benefits of local plants, and the knowledge of where these important species continue to grow in nearby forests. Today, traditional healers are on the front-lines of community health, with 80% of individuals in Uganda continuing to use them as their primary source of health care.

WildFF Provided Programs and Services

The Native Seeds team supports the Wise Women by providing resources and ongoing trainings in their areas of interest, including beekeeping; native tree planting, care and management; product development of herbal medicine; and Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) support.

The Native Seeds project contributes to viable forest landscape restoration through the creation of agroforestry systems that address issues of food security, access to herbal medicine,

promotion of biodiversity, restoring soil hydrology and ensuring economic viability. These agroforestry systems are spread through local farming communities to bring back native tree cover while making farmlands more fertile, more productive, and more resilient.

PLACE

Continent: Africa

Country: Uganda

Region(s): Gulu



PEOPLE

WILDFF PROJECT TEAM



Doug Sorin, MBA
Project Lead



Georgia Beasley
Project Manager



Robin Van Loon
Project Leader



Julian Moll-Rocek
Research Coordinator

UGANDA TEAM



Juliet Adoch
Wise Women Project Manager



Lincoln Ocaya
Forestry Program Manager

PARTNERS



Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
growyourgiving.org



Mon Ma Ryek (Wise Women Uganda)
facebook.com/WiseWomenUganda



Ocer Campion Jesuit College (OCJC)
ocercampion.org

PROGRESS

2014

- WildFF launches Native Seeds Project with a literary assessment of the potential for reforestation and forest conservation in Uganda

2015

- Native Seeds team takes first two trips to Gulu, Uganda to evaluate and launch the Native Seeds Project
- A capacity-building workshop is held with 150 female traditional healers
- The Village and Savings Loan Association (VSLA) for the Wise Women is established
- WildFF grants funds to buy 4 hectares to establish a cultural learning center and native tree nursery
- A second native tree nursery is established at Ocer Campion Jesuit College

2016

- The Native Seeds team takes third trip to Uganda
- WildFF hosts a 3-day beekeeping workshop with the Wise Women, providing hives and materials to each participant
- The Wise Women Center land is expanded to include roadside property
- The Wise Women receive official CBO (community-based organization) status
- Members of the Wise Women receive monthly trainings in tree seedling care, planting and management with Forestry Program Manager Lincoln Ocaya





Big Tree Project

Global

*Protecting and restoring big trees
through research and education*



IMPACT TO DATE

1

new Big Tree nursery
constructed at the Las Piedras
Amazon Center (LPAC)

BIG TREE PROJECT

Throughout the world, big trees are not only of disproportionate value, they are at disproportionate risk in the ecosystems they inhabit. The tropical rainforests of Africa, Asia, and South America are known to store up to half of the above-ground biomass of the forest. This tremendous density explains the unmatched carbon sequestration rates of big trees, reiterating their importance in buffering against climate change.

The Big Tree Project is exploring active solutions to the pressures facing big trees in various regions. In specific forest communities of Uganda, Peru, and the US, the following three methods are being employed to protect their big trees:

Tree Monitoring – The development phase of a tree mapping and surveillance system has been initiated. Using traditional field research techniques as well as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs or “drones”), the goal is to map the number of big trees and local forest conditions to develop areas of local conservation priority and support existing conservation policies. The long-term goal is to use the drone in forest frontier regions to detect illegal logging and improve the information used by communities and natural resource managers.

Reforestation – A pilot project is being researched in the Peruvian Amazon to restore important big trees, such as coaba and cedar. Our researchers are actively developing a nursery and carrying out strategic plantings as well as identifying community partners and applying for funding sources.

Social Media – Our Facebook page actively engages viewers through weekly posts and campaigns to bring awareness about the importance and threats facing big trees.

PLACES

Continents: North & South America

Countries: United States & Peru



PROGRESS

2012

- The Big Tree Project is launched

2013

- WildFF partners with Flight Riot to build a Skywalker drone
- First drone test flight in Mendocino County

2014

- Letty Brown, PhD writes literary review of the current state of big trees
- Jason Scullion, PhD test flies the Skywalker drone in the Peruvian Amazon.
- WildFF's Big Tree Project featured in THE MAGAZINE, "A Lorax That Flies: Conservationists use new drones to protect old trees"

2015

- Jason Scullion, PhD and Sophia Winkler develop a tree monitoring protocol by bringing the drone to the Las Piedras

2016

- Funded a big tree nursery at the Las Piedras Amazon Center (LPAC)
- Started exploring partnerships and opportunities to expand the Big Tree Project into forests in the United States



BIG TREE PROJECT

USING DRONES TO WATCH OVER OUR TREES





WILD FORESTS & FAUNA

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