

DELEGATE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

INTRODUCTION

The WILD Foundation and Unidos para la Conservación are actively developing a Scholarship Fund for WILD 9 to provide qualified delegates with small grants for partial costs of participating in the Congress. Based on available resources for this fund, the WILD9 Executive Committee will provide scholarships for training and other professional development opportunities, airfare, registration and accommodation. (Please note - per diem costs will not be provided.) Scholarships are granted on need and qualifications, level of participation in WILD9, strength of references, and personal case for support. Availability of funds and the specificity of the funding sources will play a role in decision-making. All scholarship recipients must meet the Scholarships Fund criteria described below and complete the application process within the time period specified. Scholarships are meant to maximize the geographic, cultural, gender and age diversity of WILD9 participation.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

Potential delegates whose financial circumstances would not permit them to participate, including but not limited to: wilderness and protected area management professionals, scientists, indigenous and community leaders, others engaged directly in WILD9 program areas, and young professionals (19-30). (Youth (13-18) involvement and scholarships will be handled separately and more information on the application process will be available shortly.)

TARGET COUNTRIES AND RECIPIENT TYPES

Potential delegates from all regions are encouraged to apply. Given WILD9's regional emphasis, a large portion of recipients will be selected from Mexico, Latin America and the Caribbean. Candidates from developing countries in Africa and Asia also will be prioritized. Certain recipients will represent NGO grantees of foundation supporters. Others will be government officials who are counterparts to U.S. federal agency employees and conservation managers.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the application provided and submit electronically, along with all supporting materials, prior to **June 1, 2009**. All materials must be received at the same time, including references. Scholarship applications will be considered on a first-come, first-serve, rolling basis until all scholarship funds are expended.



SELECTION CRITERIA

- Financial need;
- Type of participation in WILD9;
- Country of origin/work focus;
- Relevance to criteria set by Scholarship Fund contributors (which may include geographic representation, WILD9 Program Area focus, cultural/indigenous community representation); and
- Relevance of conservation work (science and/or case study) to WILD9 themes and to Program Area goals:

- a. WILD9 Communications & Outreach*
- b. Wilderness Policy Capacity-Building*
- c. North American Pact on Wilderness.*
- d. Global Wilderness Forum for Government Agencies*
- e. Multilateral Organizations*
- f. Wilderness Professionals Network*
- g. Native Lands*
- h. The Water Census*
- i. Private Wilderness*

- j. Marine Wilderness*
- k. Payments for Ecosystem Services Provided by Protected Wilderness*
- l. Climate Change Impact on Wildlife*
- m. Preserving the Recreation and Exploration*
- n. Values of Wild Destinations in the Face of Climate Change*
- o. Youth-teen and Young Professionals*
- p. International League of Conservation Photographers*

DELEGATE SPONSORSHIP PROCESS

Once selected, sponsored delegates will receive a formal invitation and WILD9 participation information and logistical support. WILD will provide an overview of the World Wilderness Congress process, including structure, themes, Program Areas, and working sessions, and engage each delegate in preparing for active participation. Such preparation will require the sponsored delegate to generate a minimum two-page case study and/or summary of research for submission to WILD by 1 October 2009. WILD will provide a thorough introduction to the WWC resolutions mechanism, whereby delegates endorse conservation objectives and WILD monitors and evaluates the success of each as part of its ongoing program work.

POST-WILD9 FOLLOW UP

All WILD9 information will be available on the web, and some of it in hard copy format. For over 30 years, WWC publications have created a singular series of benchmarks in international nature conservation. They include the resolutions adopted by Congress delegates, which are also available (with contact information) on the WWC website. WILD will task scholarship recipients, senior advisors and staff with targeted follow-up of specific resolutions adopted at WILD9, as well as Program Area work to continue beyond WILD9. Measurements of progress will include an assessment of success that can be reported at the next WWC and via the WILD website.

