annual report
july 2021–june 2022

ifaw

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Responders prepare to release a stranded Atlantic white-sided dolphin at Herring Cove Beach, Provincetown, MA, U.S. Activities conducted under a federal stranding agreement between IFAW and NMFS under the MMPA.
Cover photo: Trevor Samson / © IFAW
Adult female Gina is released at Garden Route Safari Camp, Mossel Bay, South Africa.

Photo: Andrea Spence / © IFAW
At IFAW we believe every individual animal matters and we create impact by operating at the nexus of animal welfare and conservation.

IFAW’s work to help animals and people to thrive together goes on, whatever the challenge. In FY22 we faced disasters, conflicts, the ever-increasing impact of global warming and COVID-19 risks, restrictions and lockdowns. And yet we continued to work together on the ground with partners around the world to find solutions and create lasting impact for both people and animals. In fact, IFAW’s rescue and conservation programs feel more urgent and important than ever.

As millions of refugees—many of them with pets—fled the war in Ukraine that started in February 2022, IFAW began implementing a comprehensive, multi-year rescue and recovery plan in and around Ukraine. In the first 100 days of the crisis, IFAW directly helped more than 42,000 animals and supported the incredible families and caretakers of those animals. The reality is that if we want to save people’s lives, we need to save the animals they love.

Undoubtedly, the scale of human suffering makes it easy to overlook animals caught in the crossfire. But as we’ve learned in nearly every war and natural disaster, this is a mistake with dire long-term consequences. According to researchers who analyzed decades of wildlife population trends across Africa, “the single most important predictor” of whether species such as elephants and large predators prosper or perish isn’t poaching, or deforestation or even climate change. It’s human conflict. IFAW is in this for the long-term.

IFAW’s commitment to a long-term vision is especially evident in our Room to Roam initiative, a visionary approach to conservation in Africa. Backed by over 20 years of science and fieldwork, Room to Roam aims to ensure viable, stable, resilient elephant populations long into the future. Through connectivity and secure habitats, we envision safe passages for elephants and other wildlife to move freely within their home ranges of East and Southern Africa. This brings greater biodiversity, a natural resilience to climate change and a future where animals and communities can not only coexist but thrive together.

We continue to believe that what’s good for animals is good for people, the economy and our planet. Two months after IFAW spearheaded a full-page advertisement in the New York Times calling on the Biden Administration to create a National Biodiversity Strategy, President Biden signed an Earth Day Executive Order implementing many of our requests including, for the first time, valuing nature as part of the U.S.’s economic health.

The problems we’re up against are urgent and complicated. To solve them, IFAW matches fresh thinking with bold action.

Photo: Mike Zomer / © IFAW

 Animals and people thriving together

 A herd of elephants grazing along a river bank in the Chobe Game Reserve, Botswana.

 Veterinarian Andrew Kushnir with dogs belonging to Ukrainian refugee Tatiana at the Medyka border crossing between Poland and Ukraine. Some of the dogs are in new carriers provided by IFAW.
Our world today has witnessed a sense of upheaval, both socio-political and environmental, that has left an indelible mark on our times. Our minds are conditioned to accept that traumatic events will result in human harm, or at the very least, a fundamental disruption of day-to-day life. We are not, however, accustomed to thinking about the suffering these events cause to animals and the overwhelming effects on the natural environment and on biodiversity.

The act of alleviating suffering is an act of mercy. It is not a strategy or a scientific endeavor. It’s not economic or measurable. An act of mercy is a fundamental reflection of the essence of compassion and has value in and of itself.

At IFAW we recognize the inherent dignity that all living beings so fully deserve, and we act from a sincere willingness to share the earth.

IFAW receives many requests from the general public to intervene to help animals in need. Often these requests entail helping alleviate the suffering of one or perhaps a very small handful of animals; individuals that would, biologically speaking, often be disregarded. Regardless of ecological impact, physical proximity or strategic importance, there is an underlying faith that IFAW will alleviate the suffering of those animals through rescue, rehabilitation, and in the ideal scenario, releasing that animal back into its natural environment.

In reality, this ideal scenario cannot always be achieved, and we must face the most difficult of decisions when we embark on that journey of empathy. We will not be able to save every animal that is being abused, neglected or is starving. But we accept the responsibility to lighten the load of all suffering animals. We focus on the impact that we have—in everything that we do and at all scales—from the “micro” where we help one individual animal to the “macro” where we work to ensure the needs of an entire species population for generations to come.

In the framework of animal welfare and conservation, the individual is the first critical component. Therefore, at IFAW, we place such inherent value on the individual—for each one constitutes a fundamental piece of the global puzzle. And thus, when we save one individual, we are taking the first step in ultimately saving the entire species.

We strengthen our impact by uniting two primary pillars: rescue and conservation. It begins with rescuing the individual animal. It then progresses to helping that animal thrive in captivity so that they can ultimately thrive in the wild. And it concludes with providing the individual with a safe environment to inhabit once they are released back to the wild. That is the ultimate goal.

Our work does not focus on the enrichment of our own projects alone. To do so would negate the global nature of the challenges wildlife and the human species face today. We see tremendous and often untapped potential in “unusual” suspects—unlikely heroes and “surprising partners” that emerge, bridging the divide between people and communities. From the landowners in New South Wales, Australia who see themselves as caretakers of their local areas, entrusted with helping local species thrive; to the Global Shapers Community of Harare, Zimbabwe, a group of tech-savvy, young professionals who share the goal of bettering their communities, addressing local, regional, as well as global challenges of the day.

Taken together, these unusual suspects provide the inspiration and greatest collective momentum for conservation of the world’s species. One habitat at a time, one community at a time.

People have faith in IFAW as an organization and in us as individuals, for we share a collective philosophy of compassion. Alleviating animals’ suffering is paramount. It’s a shared journey between mutual living beings. We do it because it lies at the fundamental core of who we are as an organization.

In the simple act of compassion, we truly realize that IFAW’s mission has so genuinely been fulfilled and that together we can protect the sanctuary of our shared earth.

IFAW Executive Management Team
IFAW Board of Directors

A woman and young child cover the soil around the base of the newly planted sapling with a layer of straw to retain moisture, suppress weeds, and prevent erosion.

BRMC rehabilitator releases one of the rehabilitated black-eared kites at Mountai Jiu, Beijing.
leadership

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Joep van Mierlo
Regional Director, Europe
Country Director, Netherlands
Patricia Zaat
Country Director, Canada

* This leadership overview is per end of fiscal year, 30 June 2022.

vision: animals and people thriving together.

mission: fresh thinking and bold action for animals, people and the place we call home.

Phoophoto: Victor Rosales / © IFAW

* This leadership overview is per end of fiscal year, 30 June 2022.
community engagement

Animals and people thriving together rely on local communities participating in, benefiting from and owning the animal welfare and conservation initiatives that affect them. IFAW’s approach to finding sustainable solutions rooted in local knowledge and leadership helps to empower local people to exercise their rights and ensure their voices are heard in local, regional and global decision-making platforms. Participative and inclusive community engagement is a core strategy that runs through all of IFAW’s work. We empower communities to lead conservation and animal welfare by strengthening sustainable livelihoods, increasing coexistence, reducing community support for poaching/trafficking and developing community leadership in conservation.

We engage with those living closest to the animals and habitats we strive to protect because we believe this is key to ensuring positive and sustained change. We are committed to working respectfully and collaboratively with communities to find lasting solutions that work for wildlife, people and the animals within their care. In FY22 we continued to inspire and support communities to be at the heart of solutions.
putting local communities at the heart of the solution

reducing poaching with climate-smart farming

Small-scale farmers in Eastern Zambia harvested the first season with climate-smart farming, reducing poaching at the heart of the solution. Community Engagement

IFAW initiated a beekeeping project back in 2020 to provide a safer alternative livelihood that reduces human-elephant conflict (HEC) and to create empowerment opportunities for women. In September 2021, IFAW, Swire Coca-Cola and Xishuangbanna Tropical Rainforest Conservation Foundation (XTRCF) joined forces to extend the existing initiative and launched the “Carbon Sequestration Community” project in southwest China. This project aims to establish an eco-friendly community development model by integrating Asian elephant conservation with carbon sequestration to combat climate change through long-term removal or capture of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The project expands beekeeping as a low-carbon livelihood and supports the certification of carbon-neutral honey.

During FY22, IFAW provided eight training courses on beekeeping techniques as well as weekly one-on-one support. Twenty households harvested 1,093 kilograms of honey from 200 beehives, despite above-average rainfall in the project area that was rough on the bees. Participants collectively decided to harvest honey only once during the year (rather than twice), giving the bees more food to recover and grow.

The project targets 3,500 mostly female farmers—1,000 in Malawi and 2,500 in Zambia—across 32,278 square kilometers of the Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) as traditional leaders from East and Southern Africa in Amboseli, Kenya to share ideas and experiences that will ensure both people and wildlife thrive in the places where they live together. Traditional leaders play a vital leading role in conserving and facilitating transparent and collaborative processes that are anchored in indigenous culture, norms and values. The meeting was considered a trailblazing opportunity for Chiefs from Malawi, Zimbabwe and Kenya to discuss the real-life challenges faced by their communities and to explore solutions that will pave the way for successful human-wildlife co-existence.

empowering women in Africa with vocational training to save wildlife

IFAW and the German foundation Margarete-Breuer Stiftung (MBS) are supporting 60 women in the Amboseli community in Kenya to transform their lives through new professions. The Jenga Mama project (named after the Swahili words for “Empower a Woman”) is providing vocational skills training in professions like hairdressing and beauty therapy, food and beverage production, plumbing, garment making and information technology. The three-year training and entrepreneurial mentorship will give the women the professional skills and knowledge for employment or for successfully setting up microenterprises.

Education and training, especially for women, will lead to more income-generating opportunities, while removing pressure on natural resources and ecosystems. Steady employment and nontraditional streams of income will also reduce the negative economic impact of wildlife destroying crops or livestock, and thus mitigating and reducing human-wildlife conflict. Together with members of the local community, IFAW facilitates dialogue for peaceful coexistence and ensures community needs are met.

The Carbon Sequestration Community project also shifted a 35-acre rubber plantation to growing eco-friendly crops such as nuts and mangos, which will generate income for communities, while also sequestering carbon. The project also piloted a photovoltaic (PV) system capable of generating 20,000 kWh per year.ゆっくり’s husband, Sauti, loosens the soil with a hoe, Chikomoni, Zambia.
IFAW’s Landscape Conservation program continues addressing the ever-increasing impact of human activities on wildlife and natural resources. Wildlife and ecosystems in IFAW priority landscapes face major threats that affect their conservation status, including habitat loss and fragmentation, poaching, climate change and human-wildlife conflict. Our integrated approach creates solutions that promote long-term sustainable ecosystem management, while also benefiting indigenous and local communities and enhancing coexistence with wildlife.

Across our priority landscapes, we continue supporting anti-poaching efforts to secure wildlife and their habitats, engaging communities and empowering people through sustainable livelihood opportunities. We support improved wildlife protection by investing in ranger training, patrol kits, mobility, infrastructure and operational support. This has resulted in an 86% decrease in wild animals being poached in landscapes in which IFAW operated in FY22.

Our mission has never been more important and urgent, and it will not be easy or quick, but at IFAW we are committed to ensuring that all wildlife species thrive in the landscapes we help protect.
promoting long-term sustainable ecosystem management

improving living conditions for community wildlife rangers in Kenya and expanding Team Lioness

IFAW constructed two ranger bases at Risa and Lemomo in Kenya and expanding Team Lioness for community wildlife rangers improving living conditions and promoting long-term management of sustainable ecosystem and promoting community conservation. That’s why, in mid-2020, IFAW joined forces with the Great Eastern Coast’s (Unisc) Detection Dogs for Conservation (DDC) program. Through this project, koala populations at risk can be identified and better conservation management strategies developed.
as wildlife and people run out of space, we’re creating Room to Roam

In FY22, we continued to make progress on our Room to Roam initiative, our innovative approach to conservation in Africa that consolidates many decades of IFAW work from the past, while outlining a bold vision for the future.

Climate change compounds the threat of broken landscapes, with animals like elephants risking their lives to travel further than ever for essential water and food to survive. Decades of conservation efforts have relied on human management and interference, which is often costly or temporary. We see a better solution.

Backed by 20 years of science and fieldwork, Room to Roam aims to ensure viable, stable, resilient elephant populations long into the future—and with little to no human interference. Through improved connectivity and secure habitats, we envision safe passages for elephants and other wildlife to move freely within their home ranges in East and Southern Africa. Through Room to Roam we are contributing to greater biodiversity, a natural resilience to climate change and a future where animals and communities can not only coexist but thrive.

We know what a healthy herd looks like and we believe Room to Roam is how we get there. In continuing more than two decades of IFAW scientific data and fieldwork, we will ensure not only the persistence of viable, stable elephant populations, but also the health of people and the planet at large.

community impact

Room to Roam doesn’t only help elephants and other wildlife—it also opens new opportunities for local communities to enhance their well-being and coexist with wildlife. Land outside of national parks belongs to communities and private landowners, including traditional leaders, conservancies and land trusts. When we engage communities in natural resource management—whether for ecosystem health and/or as an economic driver—they can be directly involved in planning and implementing long-term solutions.

The context of our work crosses borders, cultures and organizations, meaning that relationships with people are at the heart of our approach and are a key to success. Through Room to Roam, IFAW is forging partnerships with communities, traditional leaders, governments, private sector actors and other NGOs in a long-term plan to reconnect critical landscapes and allow wildlife and people to flourish.

facing challenges with a vision for the future

- 1.4 billion people live on the African continent, a number that is expected to double in the next 40 years.
- 400,000 savannah elephants remain in Africa, with just 330,000 elephants remaining in IFAW’s Room to Roam landscapes.
- Up to 70% of elephants’ range is outside of national parks and protected areas, making them vulnerable to poachers or human-wildlife conflict.
- More than 10,000 elephants are killed every year by poachers. Without bold and rapid action, some elephant populations could be poached to extinction within a generation.

To achieve our ambitious vision, we are fostering long-term partnerships with governments, wildlife authorities, communities, private sector actors and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with expansion planned in further elephant range states.
IFAW’s Wildlife Rescue team operates globally and strives to prevent the suffering and improve the welfare of animals. With 5,342 animals rescued and 3,460 animals released in FY22, our Wildlife Rescue program continues to make excellent progress in achieving a better quality of life for animals around the world. The focus is on rescue, rehabilitation, release and monitoring of wildlife, but we also work to share best practices, provide training and develop response and animal rescue networks. A critical part in the success of our work is engaging with communities to facilitate a relationship where both people and animals thrive in their shared environment. Communities in and around the places where wildlife are rescued, rehabilitated and released play a crucial role in the survival of nearly every animal species.
achieving a better quality of life for animals

rescuing and rehabilitating orphaned elephants

In the past fiscal year, we continued our work to rehabilitate orphaned elephants and keep them on their journey back to the wild. At the Wild Is Life (WIL) and IFAW-supported Zimbabwe Elephant Nursery (ZEN), Moses and Sally are two recently arrived elephant calves.

Moses, incredibly, found his own way to the WIL-IFAW release site at Panda Masuie in Zimbabwe back in July 2021 (the majority of our rescued elephants are found abandoned or hurt and transported to our center for specialized care). Moses walked at least four kilometers alone from Zambezi National Park. We don’t know what happened to Moses’s herd or how he found his way to the release site. The other elephants at Panda Masuie love spending time with Moses and he has grown very comfortable as a new member of the herd.

In October 2021, we airlifted a seriously injured elephant calf to safety after she was found entangled in a wire snare. Fishermen had spotted the approximately 18-month-old female calf close to Chirundu on the Zambian border. She was dragging a snare and had wounds from surviving an attack by hyenas. In a complicated operation, vets removed a wire snare that had cut through her ear, leaving it almost amputated. She was immediately airlifted to our facility in Harare and we’re very pleased with her progress. She was given the name Sally and has bonded with the other rescue elephants we care for. Moses and Sally will remain in our care at Panda Masuie and, like all the rescue elephants, will eventually depart of their own accord to live free as wild elephants.

brining rhinos back to Manas National Park

In 2021, IFAW proudly marked 20 years of impact through our partnership with the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI). One achievement of our powerful partnership is that today, greater one-horned rhino calves roam and successfully breed in India’s Manas National Park. Twenty years ago, following a period of civil unrest in the region, one-horned rhinos were poached to local extinction in the area.

The Kaziranga National Park, in the same northeastern Indian state of Assam, is home to the world’s largest population of greater one-horned rhinos. Rhino calves sometimes get separated from their mothers in this area, often during biannual flooding that forces animals to seek higher ground. IFAW and WTI decided to rehabilitate orphaned rhino calves from Kaziranga and then release them into Manas when they are 2 or 3 years old, an age at which they are more able to establish their own territory.

For more than 15 years, orphaned or injured rhino calves have been rescued and brought to the Center for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC) during the annual floods in Kaziranga National Park. The calves are given 24/7 care and rehabilitated until they are able to be translocated to Manas National Park and released back to the wild. Since 2002, more than 7400 wild animals have been rescued by the team at CWRC and its satellite units.

One journey that illustrates the success of this approach is Ganga. Her mother was lost to flooding in 2004 when Ganga was just four months old. Caregivers at CWRC hand-raised her until she was released in Manas in 2007. She continues to thrive today and has given birth to four calves over the years, with the latest calf arriving in July 2021. Her calves are doing well too—she’s even a grandmother. To date, eight calves have been born to rhinos rehabilitated by CWRC and released in Manas.

In addition to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of greater one-horned rhinos, IFAW-WTI has worked to increase the area of protected land around Manas National Park. As new human developments are underway, corridors are secured and the next six are passage through the U.S. House of Representatives.

protecting lions, tigers, and other big cats in the United States

There are an untold number of big cats living in captivity in the U.S. These animals are at risk for abuse and often live in terrible conditions in private hands as pets, menageries and even as rescue animals, and at unqualified roadside zoos operating with little oversight or accountability. IFAW works with legitimate sanctuaries to ensure a brighter future for big cats that are confiscated or surrendered, and we address the root of this problem by advocating for policies that will end the private ownership of big cats.

IFAW collaborated with five U.S. sanctuaries to support the rescue of 13 big cats confiscated from Tiger King Park by federal authorities. All 13 cats (two lions and 11 tigers) were confiscated as a result of a U.S. Department of Justice investigation into violations of wildlife and animal welfare laws at the facility operated by Jeff Lowe, former business partner of the infamous animal exploiter, Joe Exotic. IFAW supported the sanctuaries in providing intake exams, medical care, quarantine, enclosure modifications and enrichment for the confiscated exotic felines. Shortly after the confiscation, the three cubs were born with physical deformities that prevented them from properly using their hind legs. With regular physical therapy, all three are now walking and even running.

IFAW has been a leader in advancing the Big Cat Public Safety Act (BCPSA) — a critical piece of legislation to rein in the cruel and dangerous U.S. trade in captive big cats, lions, leopards and other big cats.

Significant progress was made in the 117th Congress, including a Congressional hearing to elevate the issue and the bill’s passage through the U.S. House of Representatives.
rescuing and rehabilitating migrating birds in Lebanon

A large variety of birds use Lebanon as their most important flyway in the Middle East along the Great Rift Valley. This includes eagles, vultures, falcons, passerines as well as storks and cranes, some of which are either endangered or threatened species. Unfortunately, bird hunting is a very common practice in Lebanon—making it a bottleneck for migratory birds.

To tackle the indiscriminate shooting and taking of birds, IFAW partnered with the Lebanese Association for Migratory Birds (LAMB), a local NGO that operates a rescue center concentrating on raptors and storks. In May 2022, the two organizations jointly launched the Levant Operation for Bird Rescue (LOBR).

In the first two months alone, 14 rescue operations were performed, which included owls and migratory soaring birds like long-legged buzzards and short-toed snake eagles. Some of the birds were already too far gone and didn’t make it, but of the birds in rehabilitation four have already been released back into the wild.

With support from IFAW, LOBR has also begun improving their facilities to increase their capacity for rescue, rehabilitation and release activities.

In FY22, we supported their triage clinic with critical resources, expert advice and guidance in their day-to-day operations. This enabled the Mosswood Wildlife team to rescue and rehabilitate 204 koalas and 236 other animals and release 79 koalas and 88 other animals back into the wild.

overcoming challenges to continue rescuing and caring for raptors in China

In December 2021, the IFAW Beijing Raptor Rescue Center (BBRRC) celebrated its 20th anniversary. BBRRC was established to rescue, rehabilitate and return to the wild sick and injured birds of prey as well as those confiscated from illegal trade, and is the only designated raptor rescue center by the Beijing Municipality. In FY22, the team brought 180 raptors of 20 different species into the facility for rehabilitation and care, and released more than 100 raptors back to the wild.

In May 2022, the Omicron variant spread rapidly throughout many cities in China and the government continued to advise strong quarantine controls. More than half of our IFAW China staff were unable to commute to the office, including several of our rehabilitators. In light of entrance restrictions onto the university campus where the rescue center is located, rehabilitators decided to take turns to live at the center alongside the injured raptors, 24 hours a day. In doing so, they were able to continue caring for the animals, especially those in critical condition that needed regular medical treatment. Many times, the rehabilitator had to perform operations alone that would normally require two or more people. The rehabilitators collaborated via online meetings to discuss some complex treatment issues when needed.

Rehabilitators also provided field teaching for more than 100 students at various universities, and trainings to other rescue facilities and professionals across China.

In addition, IFAW continued collaborating with enterprises to improve rescue standards through technical upgrades. With support from Unisys, the largest player in video surveillance in China, IFAW BBRRC upgraded its video surveillance system to better monitor the status of raptors in their cages without disturbance. IFAW also cooperated with InNail, a high-end nail salon, and Perfect World Animation Co., Limited, to raise awareness about wildlife protection among young people and children.
Disaster events continue to increase in both frequency and severity around the world, unleashing devastation at a level we have not seen before. Humans are not alone in facing the immediate and long-term effects of these ongoing disasters—animals share the same burdens.

IFAW has witnessed first-hand the escalating intensity and destructiveness of disasters, whether a hurricane, an earthquake or a wildfire; these events are devastating to both people and animals. Our team of dedicated and trained experts operates globally to offer immediate emergency support to rescue and care for animals when disasters hit and to keep animals and guardians together. We also work to develop resiliency planning and capacity building in high-risk communities.

Intense planning and expert communication can mean the difference between life and death for people and animals. We believe that a coordinated response is crucial in addressing the risk and impact of emerging disasters on animals in Europe. That’s why in 2021, we set up the European Disaster Response & Risk-Reduction team. This team will play a vital role in coordinating local stakeholders and advocating for the inclusion of animals in disaster preparedness and response plans.

Overall, in FY22, we helped more than 101,717 animals affected by disasters, including 5,780 refugee pets from Ukraine helped at the Polish border.
Disaster Response

offering emergency support to rescue and care for animals in disasters

helping people and animals in drought-stricken Somaliland

After three consecutive failed rainy seasons, severe drought conditions displaced 810,000 people and decimated crops and farm animals in Somaliland in FY22. 59% of households reported they had lost all their farm animals, forcing them to abandon their livelihoods and move to towns, according to surveys carried out by the Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee (HAVOYOCO) among people displaced by drought in the Togdheer, Sool and Sanag regions of Somaliland. Many animals died due to lack of pasture and water, while others were sold in desperation as pastoralists tried to raise enough money to support their families as food and water prices skyrocketed.

IFAW evaluated the dire situation in Somaliland and, together with local partner Candlelight, provided emergency water trucks for both farm animals and household consumption. Together we provided a total of 605 barrels of water (121,000 liters) for 300 people and 555 core-breeding small ruminants (sheep, goats, and donkeys) in the villages of Ceeg, Warcibran, Fiqi-ayub, Haji-Salah and Duruqsi in Somaliland.

Thin resources available to the local communities resulted in emergency-level acute food insecurity. With the help of Candlelight, IFAW hired five trucks, each transporting 162 bales of pasture forage to the project’s target villages. The delivery ensured sustainability during the drought season and the survival of farm animals. Candlelight signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with each target village committee indicating their roles in helping us reach affected households.

rescuing animals in the wake of Hurricane Ida and supporting long-term community recovery

On 29 August 2021, the 16th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Ida made landfall in Port Fourchon, Louisiana in the U.S., unleashing devastating high winds, life-threatening storm surges and widespread flooding. Within 24 hours of receiving a support request from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF), IFAW teams were en route to provide emergency support, including water rescue, temporary shelter and animal search and rescue.

We set up a 250-animal capacity temporary shelter for overflow dogs in the Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes. We also provided emergency grants to help more than 1,000 cats, dogs and community animals as they recovered from the tragedy.

To help communities recover in the long-term, IFAW supported Operation Whiskers, an initiative to address Louisiana cats still impacted by Hurricane Ida. The project works to rescue owned and unowned cats impacted by the storm, reunite lost cats with their owners, re-home cats that were once pets but which could not be reunited with their families and return sterilized and eartipped community cats. This multi-parish cooperation targeting 2,500 cats has been recognized as a unique approach to responsible management of cat populations in Louisiana.

providing immediate support after a tsunami hit Tonga

When the eruption of an undersea volcano in January 2022 triggered a tsunami that devastated the Pacific nation of Tonga, IFAW immediately began assessing the situation and determining how to help. The tsunami and volcanic ashfall damaged the infrastructure of residences, roads, marine ports, energy and water supply, and underwater cables (phone and internet) that connect the island to the rest of the world. Islands like Atatū were almost entirely destroyed and the devastation left people, pets and farm animals extremely vulnerable.

We soon received word from our friends at South Pacific Animal Welfare (SPAW), a New Zealand charity that provides veterinary services throughout the South Pacific, that there was widespread tsunami damage. One clinic location was even displaced 50 miles inland from its location.

IFAW provided SPAW with emergency funding to support critical veterinary supplies for Tonga’s animal community. This was a coordinated effort with the Tongan government to distribute three months of essential veterinary aid to Tongatapu and the outer islands. Officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests (MAFF) and local volunteers were vital in ensuring that veterinary supplies were delivered where they were needed most. IFAW’s grant helped between 3,000 and 4,000 animals, including dogs, cats, farm animals, chickens and more.

We see a lamb bottle-fed formula provided by an IFAW grant to areas of Tonga affected by the January 2022 volcanic eruption and tsunami.

IFAW responders providing emergency water during drought response in Somaliland.
emergency support for flood-impacted wildlife

Between early 2021 and mid-2022, parts of eastern Australia suffered through three devastating floods. Some areas in New South Wales (NSW) were impacted every time. Some of these areas were also devastated by the Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20. Australia’s iconic wildlife has barely had the chance to recover from prolonged drought, catastrophic bushfires, and now several record-breaking floods.

IFAW provided vital assistance to more than 10 wildlife rescue groups and carers across NSW and Queensland. We provided critical life-saving resources including enclosures, food, supplements, equipment such as generators, water pumps, heating, heartbeat stimulators, and medical supplies.

In the lead up to these flood events, the IFAW team reached out to wildlife carers and rescue groups to ensure they had plans in place and were prepared should they need to evacuate. We continued to share our disaster toolkit and offer workshops on how to create and put in place evacuation plans because we know being prepared saves lives.

Australia has been experiencing first-hand how climate change is increasing the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events and the impacts have been relentless for communities and wildlife. IFAW is committed to working with local groups and carers to ensure they are prepared before disasters hit and to help them, and the animals in their care, recover.

providing emergency relief after disasters hit Haiti

A 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the country of Haiti and the surrounding region on Saturday, 14 August 2021. IFAW immediately contacted our local partners to assess the damage to their communities and we rushed aid to help provide safe shelter and food for animals and people impacted by the earthquake and aftershocks.

Our local partners in Haiti set up several veterinary care stations in the Les Cayes area—which was the hardest-hit region. The clinics provided critical veterinary care for animals impacted by the earthquake and tropical storm Grace. In total, IFAW teams provided care to 5,367 animals, including farm animals, goats, sheep, horses, donkeys, dogs, cats and pigs. IFAW previously worked with local partners following the 2010 earthquake and several disasters since.

Even as disaster response efforts were underway in Haiti, our rescue teams responded to additional disasters: In Mexico, Grace hit Tulum and Playa del Carmen as a Category 1 hurricane. IFAW’s veterinarian Dr. Erika Flores and her team helped secure animal shelters and clinics ahead of the storm and supported local rescue and recovery efforts. And on Cape Cod in the U.S., our Marine Mammal Rescue team prepared for an emergency response with tropical storm Henri.

A possum rescued during the floods in New South Wales in Australia by Hunter Wildlife Rescue.

The disaster response team provides vaccines and care to community animals and livestock in the aftermath of the earthquake in Les Cayes, Haiti.
emergency help and long-term recovery for animals and people in need in Ukraine

IFAW worked with partners in Ukraine during the 2014 Crimea crisis, and we stood by those same shelters when Russia invaded in February 2022. Through our strong partnerships, we were able to rapidly expand our emergency response efforts in Ukraine, Poland and neighboring countries. We connected with government and veterinary authorities to discuss their needs and we supported zoos and sanctuaries with evacuating and transporting wildlife into safer areas.

Our disaster response team deployed to Poland for two months between March and May 2022 to manage the only animal service station, the so-called “blue tent”, at Medyka, the busiest border crossing point with Ukraine. Our responders, veterinarians and volunteers at the tent worked nonstop to help refugees and their pets. In 8 to 12-hour shifts, they provided 24/7 access to pet food, triage veterinary care and animal supplies.

Many people told us how grateful they were to be received with empathy and compassion, and that we alleviated some of the worry about their furry friends.

One of these people was 31-year-old Alina Beskrovnaya, a brave Ukrainian woman that escaped a basement in Marupol, a Ukrainian port city nestled between Crimea and Donbas. She, her mother and her three cats had been stuck there for five weeks before they were able to escape, embarking on a challenging six-day journey past 16 Russian control points that would finally take them to the border crossing, where IFAW was able to provide some relief for them.

In total, 43 IFAW responders, including seven veterinarians, deployed to greet and care for refugees and their pets as they entered Poland and began the next part of their journey. Our responders came from all over the world to help: Germany, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Australia, the U.S., Mexico and Costa Rica.

We also supported Ukrainian veterinarians who assisted refugees and their pets entering Poland via the Przemyśl train station until late June 2022. In addition, we’ve issued over 40 emergency grants to support animal rescue and relief efforts—both inside Ukraine and in other countries. We continue to receive requests for support and we work closely with each grantee to ensure their needs are met and that as many animals as possible are helped.

In the first 100 days of the war, IFAW directly helped more than 42,000 companion animals (most of which were cats and dogs) and wild animals like bears, bats and tigers. In addition to helping animals in crisis, we also supported the incredible families and caretakers of those animals.

IFAW is grateful for the generous support we’ve received from around the world during the war in Ukraine. This generosity has allowed us to continuously provide critical aid such as veterinary care, animal food, emergency funds and pet supplies where this aid is needed most. Thanks to this generosity we are also able to make a multi-year commitment to help animals and people in Ukraine. When the war began, the recovery phase was outlined alongside our emergency response phase. When the time comes, we will move into the recovery phase during which we will focus on improving animal welfare standards and practices, as well as building more resilient facilities, systems and wildlife habitats.

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A healthy planet needs a healthy ocean. And yet today, our world’s marine life and marine habitats face ever-increasing threats from human activities such as shipping, unsustainable fishing, industrial development and pollution. Healthy populations of large marine animals, particularly whales and sharks, play a key role in regulating ocean ecosystems and keeping carbon locked in the ocean.

Protecting these large, iconic marine animals is critical, and protecting them has further benefits for other species and vital habitats throughout the world’s ocean. IFAW’s Marine Conservation program continued making impact in FY22 in three key areas: saving the North Atlantic right whale, addressing collisions between ships and endangered whales and reducing underwater noise pollution.
saving the North Atlantic right whale

In FY22, IFAW continued working to reduce threats to North Atlantic right whales (NARW) from entanglement in fishing gear and from vessel strikes in U.S. and Canadian waters. We collaborated effectively with industry, government and stakeholders to improve prospects for the survival of this critically endangered species. IFAW has led an increasingly effective coalition of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to influence both state and federal management processes to accelerate progress while expanding incentives for adopting 21st-century fishing gear solutions.

IFAW helped a group of “early adopter” fishermen secure a first-of-its-kind exempt fishing permit to use on-demand fishing gear in the Massachusetts bay restricted area, an area of federal waters otherwise closed to fixed-gear fishing operations during peak right whale occurrences. This is an achievement that will result in a real impact by keeping fishermen on the water while also keeping NARWs safe.

Our advocacy work helped increase federal funding for NARW conservation by US$ 16 million (for a total of US $21 million). IFAW also supported the first-ever installation of thru-hull transducers on four fishing vessels, which are used to signal the acoustic release of on-demand gear and signify a real commitment by early adopters. We’re also helping vessels avoid striking whales by empowering people who spot whales to report their locations in real-time through the Whale Alert app. Our outreach efforts resulted in a doubling of App downloads, to a total of 68,558 users who can report and share NARW and other whale sightings.

reducing the risk of ship strikes for endangered whale populations

With encouragement from IFAW, three major shipping companies are helping to save endangered sperm whales in the Mediterranean. The Hellenic Trench, to the west and south of the Peloponnese and southwest of Crete, is identified as a critical habitat for these whales, of which only 200 to 300 individuals remain. In January 2022, the world’s largest shipping container company, MSC Group, became the first major company to re-route their ships on the west coast of Greece to reduce the risk of collision with endangered sperm whales. This announcement was followed by a commitment from Eurotunnel to also re-route their ships to avoid high-risk areas along the Hellenic Trench. The German Shipowners Association (VDSP) has asked their member companies to do the same. This is the result of years of effort by IFAW and local partners and a critical step in encouraging action by Greece at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in the near future.

reducing underwater noise and ship strike risk globally

IFAW’s Blue Speeds campaign advocates for the reduction of shipping speeds to 75% of maximum design speed (equivalent to reducing speeds by around 10%) in European Union (EU) waters in order to reduce negative impacts of shipping on marine life and habitats. These slower speeds can reduce shipping underwater noise by 40%, ship strike risk by 50% and greenhouse gas emissions from shipping by 13%.

In FY22, we concluded an economic analysis, which indicates that our proposed reduction of shipping speeds could generate an annual social benefit valued at between € 3.4 and 4.5 billion (depending on fuel prices). Our Blue Speeds campaign, which aims to gather widespread public and political support for slower ship speeds in European waters, is preparing for launch in the autumn of 2022.

increasing pressure on Iceland’s last remaining whaling company

As the Icelandic government increases pressure on the last remaining whaling company to end its hunt, public opposition in Iceland against fin whaling increased to 35%—double the number who opposed in a previous survey—according to polling commissioned by IFAW in FY22. Our decades-long effort to end whaling in Iceland was strengthened in FY22 when the Icelandic Minister of Fisheries & Agriculture announced new animal welfare rules and surveillance requirements for the killing of whales in Iceland. These new regulations are similar to those in place for the slaughtering and hunting of other animals in the country, and are aimed at scrutinizing the welfare aspects of whaling.

Studies have shown that it can take up to 25 minutes for a whale to die after being shot with an explosive harpoon. The announcement of new rules and requirements is a significant development that shows Icelandic leaders are examining how whales are being killed in their waters and showing concern for these sentient beings.
IFAW rescues marine mammals and advances stranding science by improving stranding response methods and conducting training, innovating effective techniques in the field and providing mutual aid, training and sharing protocols. IFAW’s Marine Mammal Rescue program is a world-recognized leader in stranding response. In FY22, the team responded to 264 stranded marine mammals. This included responses to 51 live cetaceans (including small whales, dolphins and porpoises), 29 of which were released back into the wild.

IFAW’s team not only rescues and provides cutting-edge veterinary care to individual animals, but also drives constant innovation and ground-breaking research that is shared with collaborators from around the world. We continue working to increase the survival rate of stranded or at-risk marine mammals and share our knowledge to improve stranding response and welfare globally. We use data in an effort to improve the welfare of individual marine mammals and promote conservation.
Marine Mammal Rescue

increasing the survival rate of stranded marine mammals

seven stranded dolphins return to the wild

In the early hours of May 18, 2022, calls to IFAW’s Stranding Hotline alerted us of dolphins stranded in a tidal area of the Herring River in the Wellfleet area of Cape Cod, U.S. Wellfleet is the busiest area in the world for mass stranding events due to its hooked shape and the large tidal fluctuations in Cape Cod Bay.

More than 40 staff, interns, AmeriCorps members and trained volunteers quickly mobilized and responded, with support from the National Park Service for managing crowds and logistics. Seven Atlantic white-sided dolphins were found stranded and IFAW coordinated how to quickly reach the dolphins and get our equipment out to their challenging location.

Our team faced the increased difficulty of rising waters, but were able to apply cooling blankets on the dolphins that, when soaked in water, act to maintain a healthy body temperature for animals (such as horses) in hot weather.

Thanks to a strong local community and IFAW’s extensive volunteer network, all seven dolphins were rescued, received health assessments, treated and transported to a deeper water release site off Provincetown. The dolphins were transported in IFAW’s mobile dolphin rescue clinic, our one-of-a-kind, custom-designed vehicle that enables IFAW experts and veterinarians to treat as many as nine dolphins at a time for dehydration and trauma caused by stranding.

scaling up protection thanks to contribution from the Dutch Postcode Lottery

Thanks to a very generous contribution of € 1.5 million from the Dutch Postcode Lottery, IFAW will be able to further scale up the protection of whales, dolphins and porpoises. These animals play an important role in regulating marine ecosystems and in storing CO2, thus helping to combat climate change. The donation will support IFAW in improving the chances of survival of rescued marine mammals after their release through a new pilot project to establish an innovative Cetacean Intensive Care Unit. IFAW will also establish a long-term and sustainable international training program to support and educate first responders and work to reduce threats to these animals in their habitats.

reaching students in New Zealand

In FY22, we provided grant funding to long-term partner Project Jonah, to deliver marine mammal conservation messaging in schools and to inspire young wildlife advocates in New Zealand. In FY23, the grant will fund two educator positions and aims to reach several thousand students.

number of responses in FY22

>1,000 calls to IFAW’s Stranding Hotline in FY22

16 animals of 6 different species released with satellite tags

44 necropsies conducted and 18 cause of death determinations

100 beach signs placed to protect seals

IFAW thanks all our donors, supporters and partners around the world who enabled our impact in the area of marine mammal rescue in FY22, with special acknowledgment of:

Dutch Postcode Lottery
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): Prescott Grant

A long-finned pilot whale mother and calf swimming on the surface of the ocean off of Brewer Canyon in the Great Southern Region, Western Australia.

Covered with a sheet, a stranded Atlantic white-sided dolphin is carted to the mobile dolphin rescue clinic.
Wildlife crime is the fifth largest transnational criminal activity, putting at risk the survival of thousands of species of animals and accelerating the ongoing collapse of biodiversity. The illegal trade in live wild animals is causing tremendous suffering and countless animals die while being captured, transported and kept in homes as exotic pets. Even legal wildlife trade, particularly when there is a lack of regulation and enforcement, can facilitate the spread of zoonotic diseases, creating huge threats to humanity.

In our efforts to combat wildlife crime, IFAW works to build the capacity of law enforcement, strengthen policies, reduce consumer demand and disrupt the online trade in wildlife. IFAW’s advocacy work supported significant policy actions that were achieved in FY22 including a USD 5.9 million increase in federal support for wildlife crime prevention in the U.S., the implementation of the UK’s 2018 Ivory Act, the launch of new ivory rules in EU Wildlife Trade regulations, the initial development of a draft National Strategy for Wildlife Crime in Guyana and the EU Digital Services Act & Organised Crime Strategy.
combating illegal trade in wild animals

Poaching and trafficking are threatening wildlife such as hippos, elephants, monkeys and pangolins in the Virunga and Queen Elizabeth National Parks in the Greater Virunga Landscape. With funding from the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), IFAW and the IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands supported legislation to punish wildlife crimes and improved wildlife trade management in China. In early 2022, IFAW started work as part of the UNITE project which is dedicated to tackling environmental crime and funded by the Internal Security Fund (ISF) of the European Commission. Our first focus was to monitor the illegal online wildlife trade in Germany and Italy, after which we contributed to a cybercrime open-source intelligence (OSINT) workshop for European law enforcers in Madrid. Further goals are to expand the network of online companies, logistics companies and law enforcement agencies in order to fight illegal wildlife trafficking online.

In September 2021, the Coalition to End Wildlife Trafficking Online released an update highlighting the progress made through engagement with the private sector in an industry-wide approach. Between 2018 and 2021, the Coalition grew to more than 45 members, training representatives from 10 countries and 60 customs law enforcement officers and frontline anti-smuggling enforcers. The aim was to further increase collaboration and crack down on organized cross-border crime. IFAW also provided suggestions for the provisions of several laws and regulations in 2021, and supported legislation to punish wildlife crimes and improved wildlife trade management in China.

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In November 2021, a community informant supported by IFAW in Bukavu in DRC provided information to park rangers about a route commonly used by poachers. The rangers laid an ambush, arrested five suspects and recovered 700 kilograms of hippo meat, three machetes and one gun with seven rounds of ammunition. Other law enforcement action in FY22 led to the arrest of 11 suspects and the recovery of 87 kilograms of hippo meat, four ivory pieces, two pieces of hippo teeth, one buffalo horn and the skins from a serval cat, a leopard and a black and white colobus monkey.

In FY22, IFAW facilitated Conserv Congo and the Natural Resource Consortium for Wildlife (NRCN) work with law enforcement authorities in Butembo in DRC to investigate syndicates involved in wildlife trafficking. This resulted in the arrest of five suspects with five bottles of Okapi antelope oil. The suspects were handed over to the police for prosecution. Another investigation into an ivory criminal syndicate led to the recovery of 100 kilograms of ivory and the arrest of four suspects in Bukavu in DRC.

In FY22, IFAW facilitated the 3rd “Operation of Melkong Dragon”, supported by IFAW and the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network (TRAFFIC) and co-hosted with the Anti-Smuggling Bureau of the General Administration of China Customs and Vietnam Customs, was held in Shanghai, China. Participants included 70 customs law enforcement officers and representatives from 15 countries and 60 frontline anti-smuggling enforcers. The aim was to further increase collaboration and crack down on organized cross-border crime. IFAW also provided suggestions for the provisions of several laws and regulations in 2021, and supported legislation to punish wildlife crimes and improved wildlife trade management in China.

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strongest measures ever to close ivory markets in Europe

After many years of campaigning for a total ban on ivory trade in the European Union (EU), the European Commission finally announced in December 2021 the strongest measures in EU history. In addition, after decades of campaigning, the UK Ivory Act was implemented in June 2022 (following on from legislation passing in 2018). These announcements were an important milestone in the fight against wildlife crime, and great news for elephants.

This nearly complete closure of the European domestic ivory market and suspension of imports and re-exports in raw and worked ivory will now hinder criminal efforts to launder illegal ivory and re-enter markets for poaching. Only a few exceptions for antiques and some musical instruments remain. While the new guidance in the EU lacks the teeth of dedicated legislation, EU Member States generally adhere to guidance, as seen with EU rhino horn provisions. Ultimately, it shows that Europe is finally taking responsibility for the death of thousands of elephants caused by the ivory trade.

making wildlife trafficking more difficult

In Europe, IFAW’s dedicated advocacy team lobbied intensely to influence the negotiations on the new EU Digital Services Act (DSA) before adoption by the European Parliament in July 2022. The DSA is an innovative legislation that defines responsibilities and accountability for providers of intermediary services, and in particular online platforms, such as social media and marketplaces. IFAW set out to ensure that “what is illegal offline is illegal online”, including wildlife trafficking.

Online wildlife trafficking is driven by consumer demand for wildlife products like elephant ivory, rhino horn and big cat skins, as well as an increasing trend in live pets, fueled by the promotion of exotic pet ownership and interactions on social media. As COVID-19 restrictions limited movement, traders turned to the internet to sell wildlife. The DSA could not be timelier to tackle the growing illegal online trade. It introduces new transparency requirements for companies that will make the detection of illegal wildlife products and law enforcement easier, provisions for trusted flaggers to monitor potential illegal activity and dissuasive penalties. Perhaps most critically, due to IFAW advocacy efforts, the illegal trade of animals has been included in the definition of illegal online content.

advocating for stronger EU action against wildlife trafficking

The landmark EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (WTAP), championed by IFAW, is currently up for renewal. Adopted in 2016 by the European Commission (EC), the WTAP created stronger political momentum to fight wildlife crime, increased cooperation among enforcers and urged a greater EU role and profile in international negotiations. It created the basis for targeted funding and resulted in IFAW’s participation in two EU-funded projects to combat wildlife cybercrime. During its implementation the EU promoted efforts to reduce consumer demand, increased species protection at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Conference of the Parties and enhanced cooperation with third countries. Following its expiration, in 2021 the EC held a stakeholder workshop and public consultation on the new WTAP.

IFAW actively participated by providing detailed recommendations and collaborating with other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to drive robust revisions. We advocated to strengthen aspects on cybersecurity, monitoring and enforcing international partnerships and funding. Early indications signal most of our recommendations will be included in the renewed WTAP to be adopted by the end of 2022.

improving the handling of live animals seized in trade

In November 2021, IFAW was awarded a generous grant by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) to help ensure live animals confiscated from illegal wildlife trade are handled properly while in custody and during judicial processes leading to prosecutions. While efforts to tackle trafficking have historically been focused on wildlife products, limited attention has been paid to the trafficking of live animals.

Wild animals are being illegally captured, transported, and sold live at a shocking rate and traffickers primarily target threatened or protected species. This illegal trade undermines wildlife conservation efforts, increases zoonotic disease risks and severely impacts animal welfare. The Confiscated Animals – Rescue & Enforcement (CARE) project, led by IFAW and implemented together with Jakarta Animal Aid Network, the Jane Goodall Institute and Legal Atlas in Indonesia, leveraged technical resources on the safe handling of live animals during seizure or confiscation. It also provides training to frontline enforcement officers on best practices for animal welfare, evidence collection and biosafety.

As COVID-19 restrictions limited the time before law enforcement officers had access to live animals, the program in Amboseli, Kenya, facilitated a two-day intensive training for all Ranger Training Institute’s members and Law Enforcement Affairs officers in Kenya. The training focused on the standardization of a confiscations network that will serve as a pilot program for regional networks around the U.S. and inform IFAW’s work on housing and care of confiscated wildlife globally.

training rangers as first responders in wildlife crime investigations

One way to combat wildlife trafficking is to equip community rangers with the skills to manage wildlife crime scenes in the time before law enforcement officers have time to arrive. In March 2020, IFAW funding from the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) facilitated a two-day intensive training program in Amboseli, Kenya. The training helped 30 community wildlife rangers from the Olgunuli Community Wildlife Rangers (OCRWR) develop new skills as first responders in wildlife crime scene investigation. In total, 272 IFAW, 44 community rangers and Amboseli and Lola landscapes received training in crime scene management and geographical information systems.

2021–2022 Annual Report

IFAW thanks all our donors, supporters and partners around the world who enabled our impact in the area of wildlife crime in FY22, with special acknowledgment of:

U.S. State Department Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands

Earth League International

Jame Goodall Institute

Uganda Wildlife Authority

African Wildlife Foundation

Kenya Wildlife Service

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

Department of National Parks and Wildlife (Malawi and Zambia)

112

African grey parrots seized in IFAW-supported operations in Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo

US$ 21+ million

In-kind media donations leveraged in China

356

kilograms of ivory seized in the Malawi-Zambia landscape

365

with the ultimate goal of mitigating wildlife trafficking and increasing conviction rates for wildlife poachers and traffickers.
IFAW actively engages in advocacy work, both nationally and internationally, because we believe that safeguarding habitats and species in the long-term relies on protection provided by laws and policies. We build project-advocacy linkages, get IFAW priorities on agendas, support the implementation of decisions and forge strategic partnerships with governments, non-governmental organizations, funders and other stakeholders to amplify those speaking about our priorities.

Our International Policy team provides direct support and advice to governments based on our many years of on-the-ground project experience. IFAW provided policy advice and implementation assistance to 49 governments in FY22.
negotiating in preparation for CBD CoP15

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN agreement to conserve nature, is currently negotiating a new global framework to guide countries’ efforts to safeguard nature over the next decade. It is hoped this new Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be adopted at the CBD Conference in December 2022. In advance of that meeting, the CBD has been hosting a number of negotiating sessions to prepare the new framework. IFAW participated in the fourth of these meetings in Nairobi, Kenya, in June 2022.

strengthening protection for sharks and rays

More than 50% of shark species are threatened or near threatened with extinction. In March 2022, IFAW released a new report “Supply and Demand: The EU’s role in the global shark trade”, which found that the European Union (EU) plays a key role as a supplier and trader in the global shark trade—which is driving many species towards extinction. When effective management is put in place, shark populations have been shown to recover.

advocating for change at the IUCN World Conservation Congress

In September 2021, the IUCN World Conservation Congress (IWCC) gathered governments, scientists, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Indigenous Peoples’ groups to explore pathways towards solutions on almost all aspects of environmental health. IFAW participated to support the adoption of resolutions to better protect animals and their habitats worldwide. Our focus ranged from the reduction of ocean noise to halting biodiversity loss.

All IFAW-supported resolutions were adopted, including an IFAW co-sponsored resolution aimed at better protecting our ocean environment and marine life. This resolution urges members to conclude negotiations on a new international treaty to conserve biodiversity on the high seas (areas beyond the control of individual nations) that would include the ability to create new marine protected areas and manage the impact of human activities on high seas marine life. Adoption of these resolutions will strengthen global commitments and set clear guidance for governments, international bodies and NGOs to cooperate, coordinate and enact better policies to protect nature.

IFAW continues to advocate for listings of shark species in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which has led to action at the international and national level to create management for species threatened by the international trade in shark products.

We were happy to see the EU formalize its position for the 19th session of CITES (scheduled for November 2022), including co-sponsorship of the most significant shark proposal in CITES’ history. The proposal put forth by Panama aims to bring the majority of the shark fin trade under sustainable trade limits for the first time.
getting east coast koalas up-listed to endangered

For two years IFAW has campaigned for koalas in New South Wales (NSW), Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) to be up-listed from Vulnerable to Endangered. In February 2022 our call was answered. Australia’s then Environment Minister Sussan Ley made the announcement after IFAW, Humane Society International (HSI) and World Wildlife Fund-Australia submitted a joint nomination to the federal Threatened Species Scientific Committee in March 2020.

The decision means koala populations in Queensland, NSW and the ACT are now classified as Endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) 1999, bringing greater protections for koalas and their habitats. The decision also recognizes the koala is one step further along the pathway to extinction and warns that without stronger protections, east coast koalas are at risk of disappearing altogether.

Strong evidence was submitted to support the nomination including scientific reports by ecological consultants Biolink, which revealed Queensland’s koala population has crashed by an estimated 50% since 2001, and up to 62% of the NSW koala population has been lost over the same period.

This is not the end of the campaign, however, and there is much work to be done. Koalas don’t stand a chance unless their habitat is protected. IFAW continues to work with local, state and federal governments to protect the places koalas call home.

putting nature at the heart of climate action at CoP26

At IFAW, we’re putting nature at the heart of everything we do to combat climate change. We joined the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in October 2021 to inspire and encourage a far greater focus on investing in nature as a core tool to combat climate change. IFAW gave recommendations to help ensure that governments, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations take actions to protect vulnerable species, critical landscapes and seascapes, and communities disproportionately impacted by climate change. COP26 was critical because it was considered the last chance for governments to commit to significant enough changes to slow the dire rate of climate change and meet the goal of the Paris Agreement to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius. Studies show that nature conservation alone could account for up to a third of carbon mitigation needed to reach the Paris Agreement targets.

Australia’s then Environment Minister Sussan Ley made the announcement after IFAW, Humane Society International (HSI) and World Wildlife Fund-Australia submitted a joint nomination to the federal Threatened Species Scientific Committee in March 2020.

The decision means koala populations in Queensland, NSW and the ACT are now classified as Endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) 1999, bringing greater protections for koalas and their habitats. The decision also recognizes the koala is one step further along the pathway to extinction and warns that without stronger protections, east coast koalas are at risk of disappearing altogether.

Strong evidence was submitted to support the nomination including scientific reports by ecological consultants Biolink, which revealed Queensland’s koala population has crashed by an estimated 50% since 2001, and up to 62% of the NSW koala population has been lost over the same period.

The campaign garnered international support with more than 250,000 people around the world signing an IFAW petition in support of these greater protections for koalas.
IFAW donors and supporters include individuals, corporations, foundations, communities and governments. Our work and the progress we are making together is only possible thanks to this continued support. As we reflect on what we achieved in FY22, we want to extend another heartfelt thanks to all those who have supported us and shared our vision of animals and people thriving together.

worldwide financial overview

program priority expenditures

IFAW as a global coalition of charitable organizations, allocates donor contributions and other resources efficiently to maximize impact for animals. US$117.3 million went directly to advance program priorities and save more animals.

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- Disaster Response & Risk Reduction 9%
- International Policy 3%
- Landscape Conservation 21%
- Marine Conservation 3%
- Marine Mammal Rescue 3%
- Wildlife Crime 41%
- Wildlife Rescue 20%

diverse ways of support

In FY22, IFAW had 887,178 donors from around the world.
IFAW welcomes gifts and bequests of all sizes.

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

- Supporter contributions 58%
- Bequests 16%
- Donated goods and services 25%
- Investment and other operating income 1%
combined financial statements

Combined financial statements unaudited* for the years ended 30 June 2022 and 2021. Figures below in thousands of US dollars.

statement of financial position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>30,560</td>
<td>28,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other current assets</td>
<td>20,038</td>
<td>14,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets, net</td>
<td>16,943</td>
<td>17,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>49,817</td>
<td>62,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>117,358</strong></td>
<td><strong>123,965</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and other current liabilities</td>
<td>12,084</td>
<td>11,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes payable</td>
<td>10,275</td>
<td>14,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,359</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,474</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>94,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>98,491</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>117,358</strong></td>
<td><strong>123,965</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

statement of activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporter contributions</td>
<td>70,053</td>
<td>57,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>19,724</td>
<td>19,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated goods and services</td>
<td>29,609</td>
<td>25,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment and other operating income</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>12,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues, gains and other support</strong></td>
<td><strong>120,456</strong></td>
<td><strong>114,817</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total program and operating expenses</td>
<td>117,367</td>
<td>102,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,089</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,993</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Financial statements for each IFAW entity are prepared in accordance with local country accounting principles and are audited separately. The combined financial statements are prepared on a basis that approximates accounting principles used in the United States.

allocation of program and operating expenses

Year ended 30 June 2022. IFAW is a global nonprofit network of affiliates in the following locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Program &amp; program support</th>
<th>Fundraising</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare, Inc.</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>88.1%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare Inc./Fonds international pour la Protection des animaux Inc.</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>79.8%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichting IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare)</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAW Internationaler Tierschutz-Fonds gGmbH</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fonds International pour la protection des animaux (IFAW France)</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>79.3%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare (Australia) Pty Limited</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>80.6%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare NPC</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>89.8%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare Limited</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) Limited</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare (Zimbabwe) Trust</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IFAW allocates donor contributions and other resources efficiently to maximize impact for animals. US$57.4 million went directly to advance program priorities and save more animals.

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

**program priority expenditures**

IFAW allocates donor contributions and other resources efficiently to maximize impact for animals. US$57.4 million went directly to advance program priorities and save more animals.

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

**diverse ways of support**

In FY22, IFAW had 306,852 donors in the U.S. IFAW welcomes gifts and bequests of all sizes.

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

**United States financial overview**

**Summary Financial Statements**
revenue and expenses

Figures below in thousands of US dollars for the years ended 30 June 2022 and 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporter contributions</td>
<td>39,758</td>
<td>22,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>2,933</td>
<td>4,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated goods and services</td>
<td>28,635</td>
<td>23,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment and other operating income</td>
<td>(1,604)</td>
<td>7,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenues, gains and other support</td>
<td>69,722</td>
<td>58,258</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>57,371</td>
<td>46,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>8,289</td>
<td>6,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative support</td>
<td>3,796</td>
<td>3,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total program and operating expenses</td>
<td>69,456</td>
<td>55,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>2,418</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International Fund
for Animal Welfare

Annual Report FY 2022
United States

International Headquarters
1400 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
United States of America

+1 (202) 536-1900
info@ifaw.org

International Operations Center
290 Summer Street
Yarmouth Port, MA 02675
United States of America

+1 (508) 744-2000
info@ifaw.org

Australia
Belgium
Canada
China
France
Germany
Kenya
Malawi
Netherlands
South Africa
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States
Zambia
Zimbabwe