



ANNUAL REVIEW 1989-90



WORLD CONSERVATION
MONITORING CENTRE





THE FOUNDERS

In July 1988, an Agreement was signed for the restructuring of the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre by the three partners in the World Conservation Strategy:

IUCN – The World Conservation Union

*UNEP – United Nations Environment
Programme*

WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature

The new Centre, re-launched as the **World Conservation Monitoring Centre**, is proud to be associated with these leading international agencies in the conservation sector, and is appreciative of their continuing support.



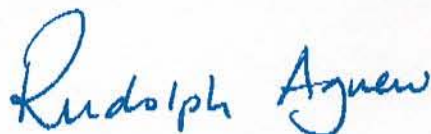
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We live in a world of rapid change. The inexorable growth in human populations, coupled with the rising expectations and aspirations of people, and above all the threat of major changes to the global climate, all combine to generate increasing pressure on the ecological systems of the world. Species are being driven to extinction with increasing frequency; essential habitats like tropical forests, wetlands and coral reefs are threatened by accelerating destruction; national parks, the last bastions of the world's genetic diversity, are faced with irreversible disturbance; and commercial exploitation is driving some species to the brink of extinction.

Faced with such dramatic change, the need for reliable, up-to-date information has never been greater. It is only through the rational analysis of scientific information that policies for the enlightened use of resources can be developed. There is an urgent need to place usable information into the hands of decision-makers if the concept of sustainable development is to have any practical application. This is the role of WCMC.

As this report shows, an excellent start has been made, although so much more remains to be done. It begins by outlining what WCMC is, what it does, and where it is going. It then presents three specific issues that illustrate WCMC's work: the impact of the ivory trade upon the African elephant, the destruction of tropical forests, and the value of parks and reserves in conserving nature. It concludes with a review of the activities in 1989-90, and with a call to arms for support and assistance in advancing the Centre's programme.

To monitor man's impact upon nature is a monumental undertaking. To assist in this task, WCMC is now seeking other organisations with which to collaborate in sharing the load. It is also seeking the support of governments and the international business community to help build the logistic base for WCMC's operations. Unbiased accurate information must be the key to planning a better future. WCMC provides such information, but seeks the help of those with the financial means to assist us in our vital task – vital to us all, irrespective of our wealth.



Rudolph Agnew
Chairman



WCMC

WCMC: WHAT IT IS

- ◆ *Which species of plants and animals are threatened with extinction? Where are they and how many are left?*
- ◆ *Where are the most important sites to conserve tropical forests or coral reefs? How fast are these habitats being destroyed?*
- ◆ *How effective is the global network of national parks in conserving the diversity of life on earth? Which parks are threatened by human disturbance, and where are new parks most urgently needed?*
- ◆ *How extensive is the trade in elephant ivory, reptile skins or tropical hardwoods, and what is its impact on populations in the wild?*
- ◆ *Where can I find information on conservation issues about . . . ?*

The demand for reliable up-to-date information on the conservation of species and ecosystems is growing as awareness of the consequences of environmental change becomes more widespread. It is WCMC's role both to provide such information and to promote its application for enlightened conservation planning.

WCMC, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, is an independent charity established by the three leading agencies in the conservation movement: IUCN – The World Conservation Union, WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature, and UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme. Its mission is to support international programmes for conservation and sustainable development through the provision of information on the world's biological diversity.



WCMC: WHAT IT DOES

WCMC provides an information service on global conservation. It achieves this by:

Gathering data on species, habitats and sites through an extensive network of worldwide contacts;

Managing this central repository of information to facilitate its analysis and distribution;

Disseminating this information as widely as possible in a form suitable for direct application by the conservation and development community;

Promoting the development of information networks to improve the exchange of data, including the establishment of data centres in developing countries.

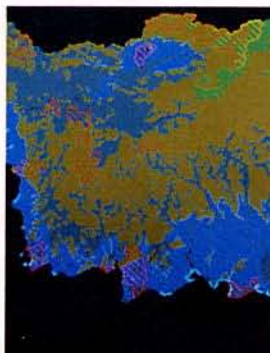
WCMC manages substantial information holdings covering:

- ◆ plant and animal species of conservation concern;
- ◆ important natural habitats and sites of high biological diversity;
- ◆ the global network of national parks and protected areas;
- ◆ wildlife utilisation and the volume and impact of the international trade in wildlife;
- ◆ conservation bibliography, including both published and unpublished literature.

WCMC provides an information service to a wide array of users ranging from governments, development agencies, non-governmental organisations and multinational corporations to individual scientists, journalists and conservationists. Although a charge may be made for its services based on staff time involved and ability to pay, WCMC encourages the free two-way exchange of data with conservation agencies and research scientists.

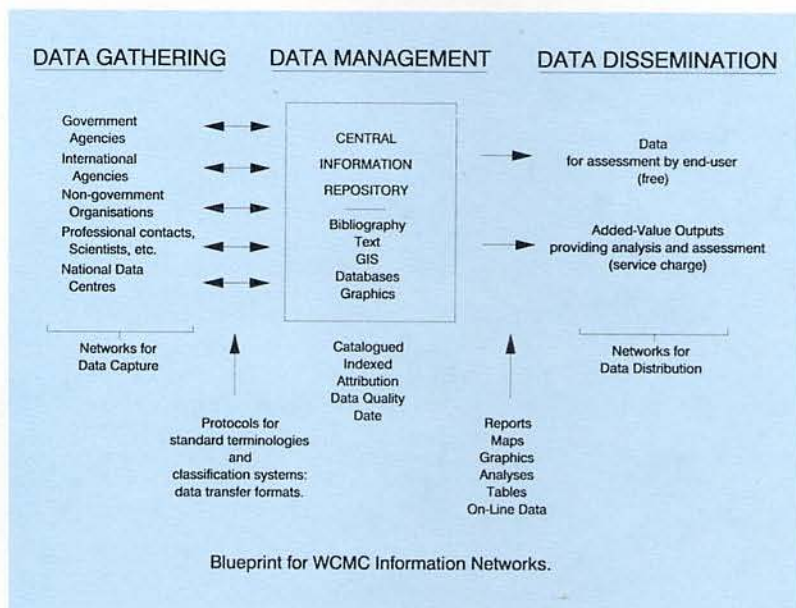
To monitor the impact of man upon nature is a major task. It is only through collaborative working between agencies with the development of networks for information flow, particularly in developing countries, that the support for conservation can be mobilised.

WCMC has now embarked upon an ambitious five-year programme to promote these networks and to develop further its central database capabilities and information services. The Centre looks to the scientific and conservation community for guidance and support in carrying this programme forward.



WCMC: WHERE IT IS GOING

To monitor the diversity of life on earth is a colossal task. The way forward must lie in developing *information networks* linking the conservation agencies and field workers that actually gather data with WCMC serving as the central information repository. WCMC's role will be to promote the establishment of these networks, particularly through the development of national conservation data centres in developing countries, to prepare the standards formats for the exchange of electronic data, and to provide reciprocal benefits to data contributors through access to its global information holdings.



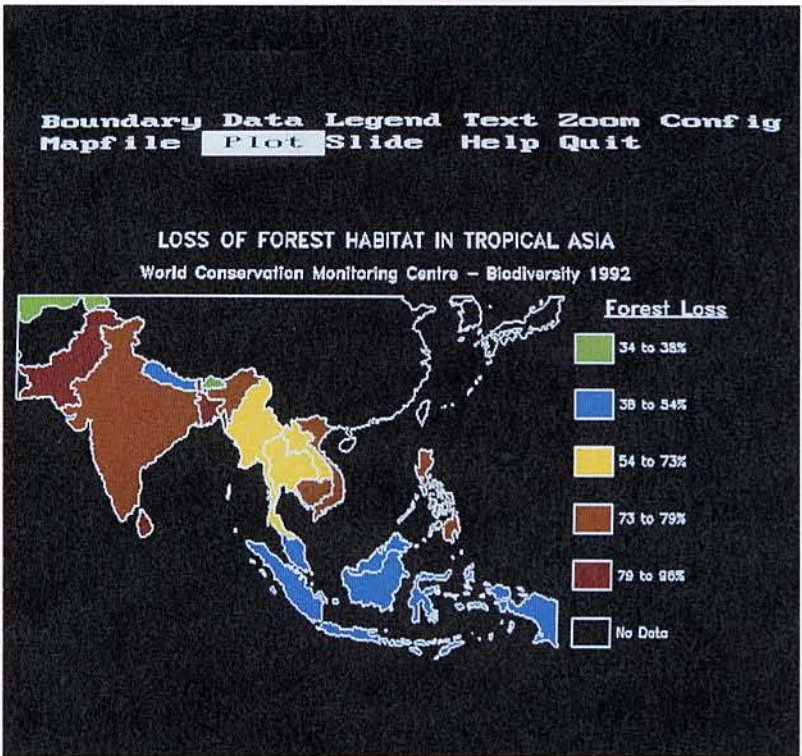
The information must be stored in a way that is directly accessible by users. Each data accession will be recorded with a date and source citation to aid the user in data evaluation. The data holdings, including the bibliography, will be catalogued and indexed, and made available through on-line telecommunication networks. Improved dissemination, in a format that meets the needs of users and data-providers, will promote conservation activity.

The most emphatic means of presenting information is with maps. WCMC will develop a library of digitized maps covering vegetation types, tropical forests and other habitats of conservation concern. These maps will then be integrated with other ecological and socio-economic data, such as rainfall, soil type, agriculture and human demography to produce outputs of direct application for land-use planning in developing countries.



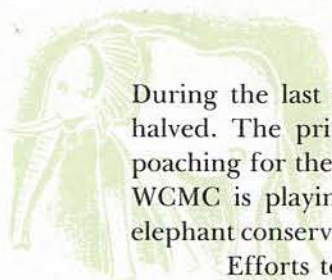
There is little point in improving the information handling capabilities of the Centre without effectively marketing its services. WCMC will continue to provide an "added value" information service to a broad range of users based on the analysis and interpretation of its data holdings. Projects will be undertaken in the future on:-

- ◆ threatened species, especially elephants, whales and other marine mammals;
- ◆ plant species threatened by trade such as cacti and orchids;
- ◆ tropical forests;
- ◆ critical sites for the conservation of biological diversity;
- ◆ Antarctica;
- ◆ a directory of national parks and protected areas of the world.



A major compendium of conservation data entitled *Global Biodiversity 1992: Status of the Earth's Living Resources* will also be prepared. With funding from the UK Overseas Development Administration, this will be the most complete and authoritative reference work on global conservation, with the information presented on a country-by-country basis.

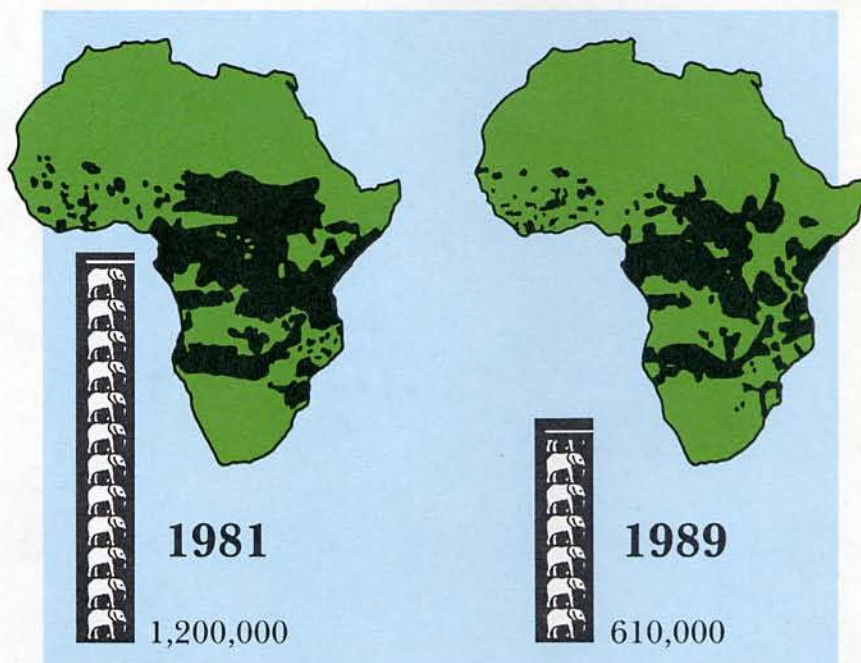
ELEPHANTS AND THE IVORY TRADE



During the last decade, the number of elephants in Africa has halved. The principal cause of this decline has been widescale poaching for the ivory trade. Through its ivory trade monitoring, WCMC is playing a key role in the international initiatives for elephant conservation.

Efforts to control the ivory trade began in 1976 with the listing of the African elephant on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). This regulation was reinforced in 1986 with the introduction of an export quota system, followed by a total ban introduced by the 1989 CITES Conference of the Parties.

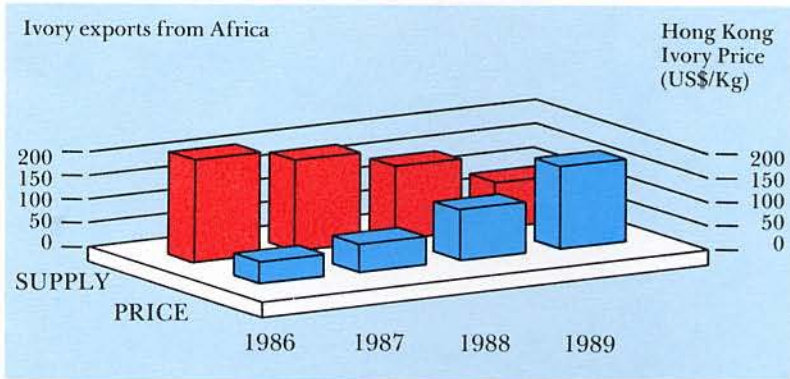
Data provided by WCMC were fundamental to the decision to introduce the ban. WCMC maintains the central trade database for the 110 countries now party to the Convention, and since 1986 has tracked the movement of every tusk legally exported from Africa. WCMC data showed that the quantity of ivory traded annually in the early 1980s was around 1,000 tonnes, resulting from the death of some 90,000 elephants each year.



Elephant range and numbers.



WCMC also attempts to quantify the extent of the illegal trade in ivory, particularly through the import and export statistics of national customs offices. This work has shown that the tightening of the CITES controls in 1986 led to a significant shift in trade routes with increasing quantities being exported to countries not implementing CITES regulations.



The Ivory Trade: Decreasing supply leads to increasing price.

The ban has been accompanied by a collapse in the ivory market in most of the major importing countries and there is some evidence that prices in Africa have also dropped. Substantial stockpiles of raw ivory are held in Africa and the Far East, especially in Hong Kong. There is a real concern that new markets could be established in the Far East in countries, such as the Republic of Korea or Taiwan, which are not party to CITES, or in the Arab states. Trade in substitutes such as hippo teeth and the tusks of walrus and narwhal, even ivory from extinct mammoths, is likely to increase in the future.

For the ban to be effective in conserving elephants, vigilance is essential. WCMC will continue to monitor the trade through its in-country contacts to give early warning of the development of new markets, and to monitor the residual ivory trade from those African countries that are exempt from the CITES ban.

In addition, WCMC will collaborate closely with UNEP in the expansion of its database on live elephant populations, so that data on the ivory trade can be incorporated with the population statistics. This initiative will provide the information for identifying future priorities for elephant conservation.





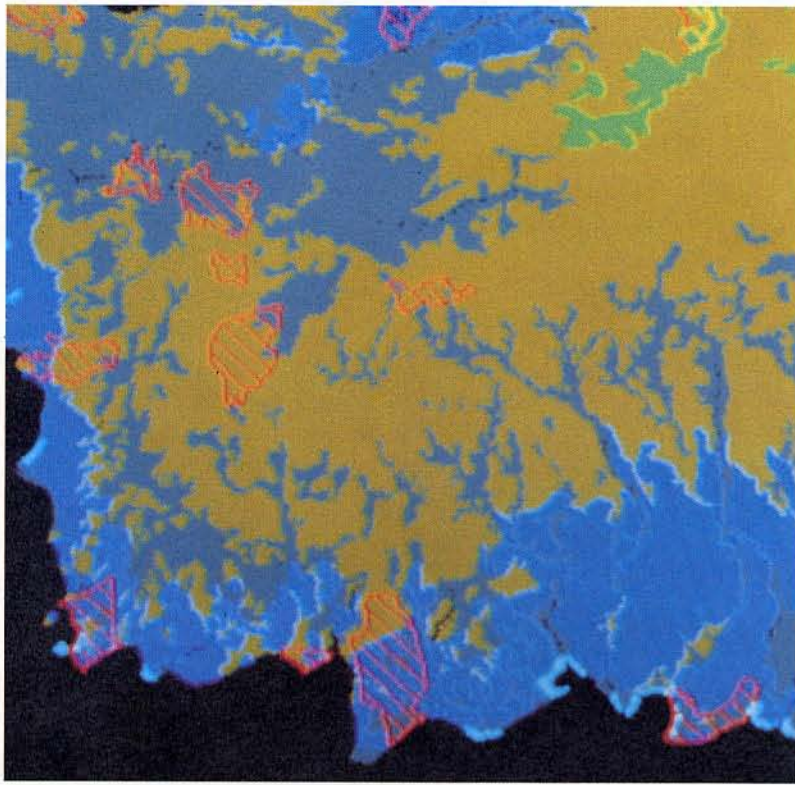
THE LOSS OF TROPICAL FORESTS

Recent estimates suggest that the rate of loss of tropical forests is one-and-a-half greater than it was a decade ago, and is still accelerating. Most destruction is unplanned, being the result of agricultural encroachment and uncontrolled logging. Whatever its cause, such losses provide only short-term benefits at the expense of long-term degradation of whole forest ecosystems and the deprivation of indigenous people who depend upon the forest for their livelihood.

The destruction of tropical forests and the myriad of largely unknown species of plants and animals they contain, is now recognised as one of the major global environmental issues that directly or indirectly affect us all. Governments everywhere are seeking solutions. International initiatives, such as the Tropical Forestry Action Plan and the International Tropical Timber Agreement, have been set up to promote the sustainable management of forest resources, but their activities are handicapped by the lack of reliable up-to-date data and, particularly, accurate maps.

Even with the advances in satellite mapping techniques, it is paradoxical that maps showing the past and present distribution of rain forests are hard to find. And where they are available, the range of accuracy, projection, scale and classification systems of the forest types makes it very difficult to compile these sources into a standard global overview.





By applying modern computer methods, WCMC has embarked upon an exciting project to map the tropical forests of the world. The *Conservation Atlas of Tropical Forests* is a collaborative project with IUCN, generously supported by BP. It will generate the first ever compilation of all the existing data on rain forests and their distribution, including the network of national parks and protected areas, using a standard classification system, scale and projection. It will comprise the most authoritative single source of information about tropical forests providing an invaluable tool for planners, politicians and decision-makers.

To prepare these maps, WCMC has developed a fully operational Geographic Information System. This facility provides a major opportunity to establish new linkages for the exchange of biogeographical data with other agencies.

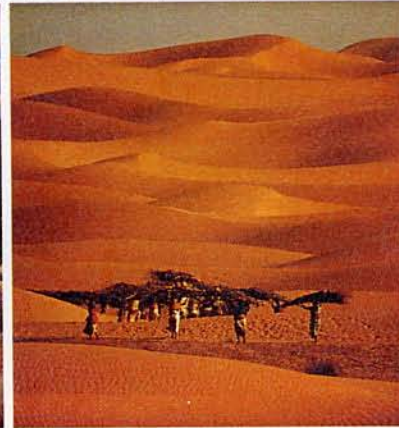
In addition to the tropical forest maps, WCMC will prepare digitised data files of other important habitats and vegetation types to produce a library of computerised maps. These can be integrated by GIS with a variety of other environmental, demographic and socio-economic data to produce a database of outstanding value for the conservation of biological diversity.



NATURE'S LAST STRONGHOLDS:

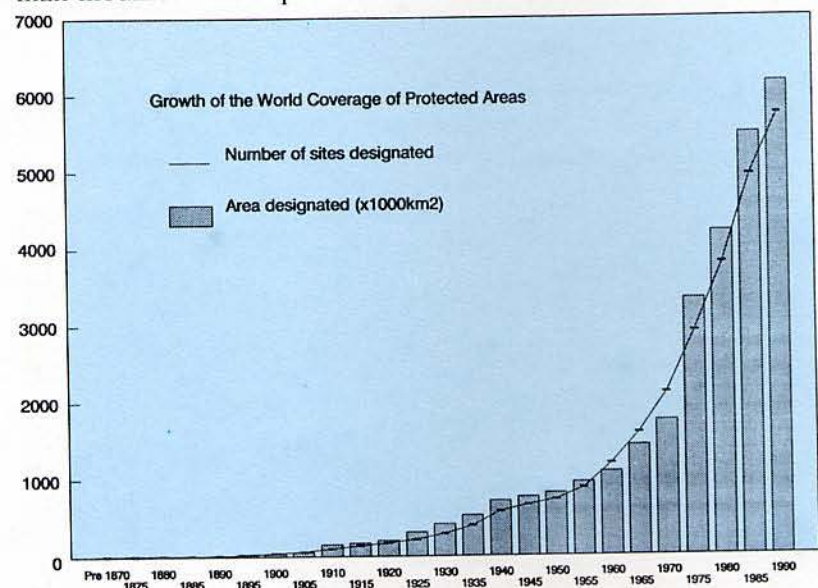
National Parks and Protected Areas

The basis of sound conservation planning is to manage the land in a way that makes the best sustainable use of its resources. Some areas of high fertility may be appropriate for intensive cultivation, whilst others may be arid or fragile and suitable only for pastoralism or seasonal use. Equally, some sites are of such species or habitat richness that the first priority in their management must be to maintain their biological diversity. The most urgent need for conservation is to develop the proactive capability to identify and protect such sites before they are impoverished or destroyed by human activity.



Virtually every country in the world has established protected areas covering a range of biological, geological and cultural features. Some are tiny, protecting little more than a grove of trees, others are vast covering regions larger than a small country. The conservation objectives of these areas range widely from total protection with human exclusion, to the extensive management of whole landscapes embracing a variety of human economic and social activities.

An increasing number of protected areas are threatened directly or indirectly by human activities. Forest clearance, poaching, agricultural settlement, mining, hydro-electric dams, and road construction, often promoted by central government backed by international finance, challenge the integrity of many of the world's finest national parks. Equally pernicious is the insidious effect of offsite pollution, such as acid rain and up-stream industrial discharge. Some areas are no more than "paper parks", threatened by the total inadequacy of their management. Yet increasingly these protected areas are becoming the last reservoirs of the genetic diversity of life on earth surrounded by a sea of man-modified landscapes.



It is essential that the basic information on the global network of protected areas, the species and habitats they contain, the efficiency of their management, and the threats they face, is made available as widely as possible. WCMC provides this information by maintaining an overview database on the world's protected areas which now includes some 20,000 sites. The source of this information is a network of protected area managers around the world, scientists and other experts with whom WCMC staff maintain regular contact.

The protected areas data must be fully integrated with the other land-use variables. The boundaries of these areas are being digitised for GIS overlay with the species, habitat and other ecological data sets. Dynamic issues, such as management efficiency, use of biological resources, and benefits to local communities, must also be addressed. These developments will enable WCMC to continue to provide an information service about protected areas of direct application to the evolving needs of the conservation community.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Summary

The year 1989/90 has been a turning point in the development of WCMC. The groundwork laid in the first year of the new Centre is already beginning to produce returns, and we are on target with the implementation of the five-year development plan.

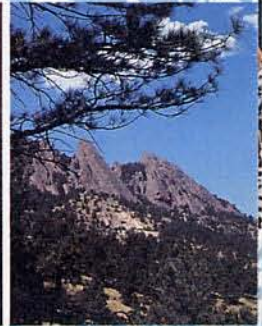
Highlights of the year include:

- ◆ **A new computer network** has been introduced, providing access for most staff to computer systems using the latest micro-processor technology.
- ◆ **A Geographic Information System (GIS)** has been installed for computerised mapping, integration and analysis of geographically-referenced data, particularly on tropical forests and protected areas.
- ◆ 1,600 sq.ft. of **additional office accommodation** has been taken to house the GIS facility and to relieve overcrowding. Plans for a new 13,500 sq.ft. **headquarters** have been submitted to the Cambridge City Council.
- ◆ The Core Programme has focused on the **upgrading of the systems** for gathering and managing information, and a number of workshops to consider future user demand and improvements to the database design have been held.
- ◆ **Data gathering, verification and analysis** have concentrated mainly on threatened Red List species, on tropical forests, and on protected areas in the Indomalayan and Palaearctic regions.
- ◆ **The Project Programme** has expanded by some 50%, with more than 25 major projects completed.
- ◆ The most complete and up-to-date **database of computerised maps** of the tropical forests of Asia and Oceania has been developed which will be expanded to cover Africa and Latin America.



Artist's impression of the proposed new headquarters in Cambridge, UK.

- ◆ A major study of the conservation status of *tropical timber species* in trade has been undertaken for the International Tropical Timber Organisation.
- ◆ The monitoring of the international *trade in threatened species* has continued, with detailed investigations of the impact of the trade in the skins of *Varanus* lizard species and Asian pythons.
- ◆ Information support was provided to the *main international conservation conventions* and programmes, including CITES, Bern, Ramsar, World Heritage, Man and the Biosphere, and ITTO.
- ◆ *National Biodiversity Profiles* were prepared on seven countries; WCMC has now produced a series of over twenty profiles.
- ◆ Nearly one thousand significant *requests for information* and a substantially greater number of casual enquiries were answered, all without charge as part of our information service.



These, and the rest of the year's programme, represent a substantial achievement which has been made possible only through the commitment of a highly motivated and professional staff.

The Centre is now successfully launched on its restructuring programme, with a particular focus on developing its information networks and the wider dissemination of its data holdings. The demand for reliable up-to-date information on the world's biological diversity is increasing: WCMC is evolving to meet this challenge.

Robin Pellew
Director



CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year July 1989 – June 1990^a

	12-months ended 30 June 1990	6-months ended ^b 30 June 1989
INCOME		
1. Core Income from Partners ^c	600,000	300,000
2. Restricted Project Income ^d	645,004	223,004
3. Bank Interest	62,175	11,571
TOTAL INCOME	1,307,179	534,575
EXPENDITURE		
1. Staff Costs	591,338	270,170
2. Temporary Staff and Consultants	223,288	37,792
3. Computer Equipment and Maintenance	49,252	32,446
4. Office Costs	45,829	19,675
5. Operating Expenses	160,891	69,061
6. Travel	81,723	37,978
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,152,321	467,122
SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES^e	154,858	67,453
COMPUTER ASSETS ACQUIRED DURING YEAR	128,030	—
INCREASE IN WORKING CAPITAL	26,828	67,453

Notes

^a This financial statement is extracted from the Auditors' Report for FY 1989–90, a copy of which can be obtained from WCMC.

^b WCMC was formally incorporated at the end of December 1988, so the previous audit period was the six months January–June 1989.

^c IUCN, WWF and UNEP each contribute £200,000 per annum core funding.

^d Net project income including the balance of work in progress and cash in advance, together with provision for irrecoverability.

^e The retained Surplus includes £128,030 of Fixed Assets in the form of new computer equipment acquired during the year but depreciated over a five-year period; if the full purchase price is included as an expenditure item, the operating surplus declines to £26,828.

1989-90 PROJECTS

As an information service, WCMC undertakes a large number of projects and contracts, too many to list in full. Therefore only the more important projects are shown. These are divided into those COMPLETED during the year, and ONGOING projects.

Projects Completed during the Year:

- IUCN:** Threatened Species Red Data Books on African Primates and Madagascan Lemurs (with IUCN Species Survival Commission)
- IUCN:** Tropical Forest Atlas (Asia and Oceania)
- IUCN:** Collaboration with East European Programme for Environmental Status Reports of Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia (other countries in preparation)
- WWF-Int:** Coordination of the TRAFFIC Network
- WWF-Int:** Madagascar Environmental Profile (in French)
- WWF-UK:** Wildlife Trade Investigations
- UNEP:** Environmental Data Report Tables
- UNEP:** Biodiversity Report for Caribbean Regional Seas Protocol
- CITES:** Monitoring the Trade in African Elephant Ivory
- CITES:** Impact of the Trade in *Varanus* lizards upon Wild Populations
- CITES:** Analyses of the Proposed Revisions of the Appendices for the Conference of Parties
- CITES:** Analyses of the Country Annual Reports
- EEC:** Report on the Implementation of CITES within the EC
- EEC:** CITES Annual Report 1988
- EEC:** Biodiversity Profiles of six African countries with posters
- EEC:** Habitats Directive: Draft Animal and Plant Species Lists
- ODA:** Report on the Indira Gandhi Conservation Monitoring Centre, India
- ODA:** Report on the Role of ODA in Conserving Biodiversity



1989-90 PROJECTS (Continued)

World Bank:	Tropical Forest Hotspots
World Bank:	Atlas of Mediterranean Biodiversity
Council of Europe:	Review of Threatened European Hymenoptera
IIASA/IUCN	Acid Rain and Protected Areas in Eastern Europe
Mitchell Beazley:	The Last Rain Forest – a popular account of tropical forest conservation (with IUCN)
UN-ECE:	Red Lists of Threatened Species of Europe
US Fish and Wildlife Service/US-AID:	Protected Area Reviews for Selected Countries of Asia and Oceania
WRI:	Production of Biodiversity and Wildlife Trade Statistics for World Resources Report.

Ongoing Projects:

IUCN:	Tropical Forest Atlas (Africa and Latin America)
IUCN:	Preparation of UN List of National Parks and Protected Areas of the World
IUCN:	Protected Areas of Biogeographical Realms, particularly Indomalaya and Oceania
IUCN:	Threatened Protected Areas of the World
IUCN:	Threatened Antelopes of Africa: the IUCN Red Data Book
IUCN:	Threatened Primates of Asia: the IUCN Red Data Book
IUCN:	Whales, Porpoises and Dolphins: the IUCN Red Data Book
IUCN:	Centres of Plant Diversity
UNEP/IUCN:	African Wetlands Directory
CITES:	Wildlife Trade Monitoring
CITES:	Impact of the Trade in Asian pythons upon Wild Populations
Unesco:	Natural World Heritage Sites
Unesco:	Biosphere Reserves
Bern Convention:	Review of Appendix I (Plant) and Appendix II (Animals)
EEC:	Crocodile Ranching and the Crocodile Skin Trade
ITTO:	Conservation Status of Tropical Timbers in Trade
NERC/ESF:	Threatened Plants of Europe
ODA/FAO:	Tropical Forest Managed Areas Assessment
Ramsar:	Wetland Sites of International Importance
Smithsonian Institution:	Threatened Plants of Latin America

1989-90 PUBLICATIONS

Lemurs of Madagascar and the Comoros: The IUCN Red Data Book (with IUCN Species Survival Commission)

Threatened Primates of Africa: The IUCN Red Data Book (with IUCN Species Survival Commission)

African Biodiversity Status Report (with IUCN Species Survival Commission)

Analyses of Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices (with IUCN and TRAFFIC)

Asian Wetlands Directory (with WWF-International and IWRB)

CITES Problem Countries (with WWF-UK)

TRAFFIC Bulletin, Volume 11, Numbers 1 and 2/3

Recent Changes in World Ivory Trade (with TRAFFIC-International)

The International Bulb Trade (with TRAFFIC-USA)

The Trade in Ivory (a collection of four papers contributed to the Ivory Trade Review Group)

The Green and Hawksbill Turtle: Trade and Status (published by CITES)

Threatened Plants Newsletter, Numbers 21 and 22 (English and Spanish)

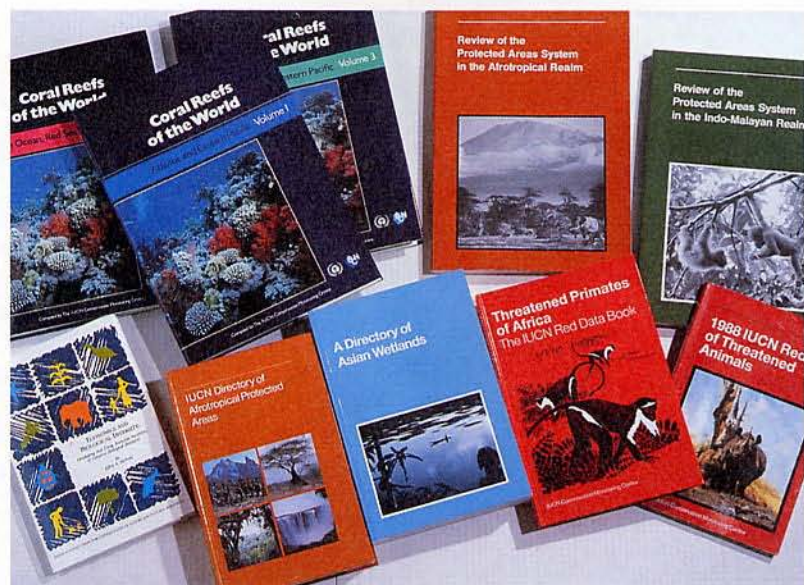
Globally Threatened Plant Species in Europe (with UN-ECE)

World Plant Conservation Bibliography (with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)

Conifers of Conservation Importance: A Preliminary World List (with Botanic Gardens Conservation Secretariat)

Directory of Wetlands of International Importance (with Ramsar)

National Biodiversity Profiles of India, Nigeria and Mexico: draft profiles with poster maps of Botswana, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Senegal and Madagascar: forest sector profiles of some twenty developing countries have also been produced.





WCMC TRUSTEES

The executive authority for WCMC is vested in its Board of Trustees, comprising two representatives of each of the three founding partners with an independent chairman.

Chairman

R.I.J. Agnew

For IUCN

M. W. Holdgate, Director General

R. C. Steele, Treasurer and Council Member

For UNEP

A.T. Brough, Acting Assistant Executive Director

R.J. Olembo, Deputy Assistant Executive Director and Coordinator, Environmental Management

For WWF

P.H. Ehringhaus, Deputy Director General, WWF-International

G.T. Prance, Trustee, WWF-International (appointed 1.2.90)

K.S. Fuller, Chief Executive, WWF-US (resigned 1.2.90)

SPONSORS AND DONORS

The following organisations have generously sponsored the activities of WCMC during the year 1989-90:

IUCN – The World Conservation Union

United Nations Environment Programme

World Wide Fund for Nature-International

Overseas Development Administration, UK

British Petroleum

Computer hardware and software has been generously donated to WCMC by the following companies:

Digital Equipment Corporation

IBM-UK

Tektronix

Relational Technologies Incorporated (INGRES)

Environmental Systems Research Incorporated (ESRI)

Interactive Systems Corporation

Santa Cruz Operation

Borland International

Unipalm

Substantial discounts for the purchase of computer equipment were also provided by the following companies:

Dell Computer Corporation

Technomatic

WCMC STAFF

Directorate:

Dr Robin Pellew, Director
Dr Harry Miles, Head of Programme
Yvonne Douglas, Administrative Officer
Sheila Millar, Secretary to the Director
Veronica Greenwood, Reports Secretary
Esther Byford, Office Assistant

Species Conservation Monitoring Unit:

Jane Thornback, Head of Unit
Dr Brian Groombridge, Senior Research Officer
Martin Jenkins, Senior Research Officer
Dr Patty Almada-Villela, Research Officer
Rosina Abudulai, Unit Secretary

Threatened Plants Unit:

Christine Leon, Acting Head of Unit
Steve Davis, Senior Research Officer
Robert Madams, Research Officer
Judith Sheppard, Records Assistant

Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit:

Jonathan Barzdo, Head of Unit
Dr Richard Luxmoore, Senior Research Officer
John Caldwell, Senior Research Officer
Tim Inskipp, Senior Research Officer
Steven Broad, Research Officer
Kim Lochen, TRAFFIC Publications Officer
Sarah Buckland, Records Assistant
Julie Gray, Unit Secretary

Habitats Data Unit:

Dr Mark Collins, Acting Head of Unit
Michael Adam, GIS Officer
Clare Billington, Research Officer
Marcus Davey, Research Officer
Barbara Brown, Unit Secretary

Protected Areas Data Unit:

Jeremy Harrison, Head of Unit
Dr Zbigniew Karpowicz, Senior Research Officer
Dr Michael Green, Senior Research Officer
James Paine, Research Officer
Graham Drucker, Research Officer
Alison Suter, Unit Secretary

Computer Services Unit

Scott Sargeant, Computer Services Manager
Duncan Mackinder, Systems Development Manager
Peter Rooney, Computer Programmer/Analyst
Alasdair Blake, Programmer/Systems Manager
Georgina Armour, Unit Secretary





CALL TO ARMS

Conservation programmes of sustained benefit to mankind must be based on a rational analysis of scientific data. WCMC has now embarked upon an ambitious five-year programme to develop the necessary information resources for improved conservation practice.

But to achieve the targets it has identified, WCMC needs your help. To monitor the impact of mankind upon nature is more than the Centre can manage alone. It is only through collaborative initiatives and the development of information networks that the data support for conservation can be mobilised.

WCMC needs financial, technical, and logistic support; it needs to establish contacts with scientists and research institutes to exchange data; it needs to develop joint programmes with other agencies for information transfer; it needs to promote monitoring capabilities in developing countries; it needs to disseminate its information holdings as effectively as possible. But above all it needs your help to make it work.

If you would like to find out more about the Centre's programme, or to contribute to its implementation, please do not hesitate to contact the Director, Dr Robin Pellew, at:

**219 Huntingdon Road
Cambridge CB3 0DL
United Kingdom**

Phone: 0223 277314

Fax: 0223 277136



WCMC is grateful for the support of





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