



Bioprospecting for Peace in Russia

WFED is working with the US Government and Russian authorities to help create new partnerships between private sector research firms and former Russian bioweapons scientists to prevent the proliferation of biological weapons from the former USSR. The project is believed to be the first time that bioprospecting benefit-sharing incentives have been applied in a peace and security context with global implications.

Officially sponsored by the Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention of the US Department of Energy, the project aims to create new incentives for the redirection of Russian bioscience towards non-military commercial uses. Already, some former bioweapons labs in



St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow.

Russia are beginning to produce useful nonmilitary products such as HIV diagnostic and other healthcare kits. However, new partnerships must be created and markets must be expanded if the nonmilitary scenario is to prevail for the future.

Project negotiations commenced in 1998, when Energy Department officials who noted WFED's work in Yellowstone asked WFED to help design a new project that would create incentives to minimize the risk of proliferation of Russian bioweapons science

and to help redirect the science towards beneficial nonmilitary uses.

In late 1998, WFED helped arrange US and Russian meetings in France to discuss the project aims. In September 1999, WFED's Executive Director Preston Scott was invited to participate in

WFED and the Mattaponi: Cultural and Environmental Stewardship in the Balance



With support from WFED Stewards' Circle Members Dick and Harriet Larsen and assistance from WFED Chair Tom Lankford, WFED is working with the Mattaponi tribe of Virginia to find the best way to restore over 2,000 acres of ancestral land to the Mattaponi community for the

first time in nearly 400 years. WFED has embraced the project because it offers a rare opportunity to help bridge cultural restoration and environmental stewardship in the eastern United States.

In the mid-1600's, the Mattaponi signed the first agreement between people from eastern North America with people from Europe. In fact, the English were already well acquainted with the Mattaponi, because one of the tribe's daughters (Pocahontas) had married an Englishman (John Rolfe), traveled to England, and died there.

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L to R: Mattaponi Chief Carl Custalow, Tom Lankford, Todd Custalow and Preston Scott on the Mattaponi River.

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MATTAPONI, *continued from page 1*

The Mattaponi are one of the tribes who lived around the Chesapeake Bay that were part of the confederation of native Americans led by Pocahontas' father—the great chief Powhatan. The 17th century agreement recognized for the tribe the land that they still own—approximately 150 acres along the Mattaponi River in tidewater Virginia.

In late 1999, the Nature Conservancy, with the Mattaponis' help, acquired approximately 2,000 acres of pristine wetlands and forests that adjoin the Mattaponi reservation.

Now, less than a year later, the Nature Conservancy wants to sell the land to private buyers. If they do, it will destroy the Mattaponi's chance to get their land back for the first time in nearly 400 years.

The Mattaponi Heritage Foundation has prepared early plans for the creation of a Mattaponi cultural center that would showcase the life and culture of the Powhatan people who lived around the Chesapeake before—and after—European colonization.

Beyond land stewardship restoration, project goals include Mattaponi establishment of a:

- Cultural & Exhibition Center
- Living Village & Interpretive Area
- Fishery & River Resources Center
- Conservation & Wildlife Area

WFED is appealing to the Nature Conservancy to extend the same vision to native communities in North America that it extends to native communities in South America. In South America, the Nature Conservancy has advanced some of the most progressive projects promoting both environmental stewardship and cultural preservation. These projects have involved creative partnerships that return land to indigenous peoples who lived there before European peoples arrived in the Americas.

WFED's appeal is one that can make everyone a winner—with human cultures and their natural environments protected for future generations. *

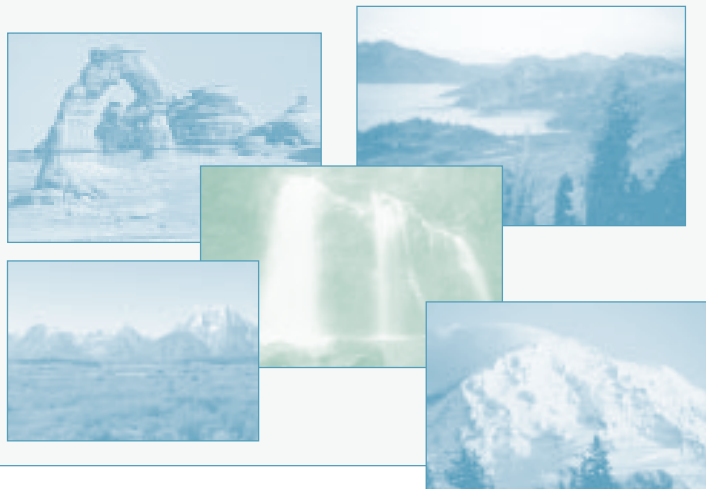
WFED Supports Study of Bioprospecting in National Parks

WFED is supporting the National Park Service's (NPS) current study of the environmental impacts of bioprospecting in US national parks. This is believed to be the first time that any country has initiated a systematic analysis of the environmental risks and benefits associated with bioprospecting on a nationwide basis. The study will place special emphasis on the impacts on conservation from these activities at Yellowstone National Park, and is being carried out under the National Environmental Policy Act.

WFED has worked with Yellowstone since 1995 in connection with NPS' first pilot bioprospecting benefit-sharing program. Researchers have been collecting biological samples from Yellowstone for more than 100 years for scientific research purposes. Some of these research results have been very valuable (generating hundreds of millions of dollars for private sector firms). The park, however, was never positioned to share in any of the resulting benefits.

In 1997, all that changed. With WFED's assistance, Yellowstone negotiated the first bioprospecting benefit-sharing agreement with a private sector research firm. The agreement was modeled in principle on similar agreements being negotiated in tropical countries where research firms seek access to rainforests and other biologically rich environments to search for leads for new medicines and other products. In turn, firms agree to share a portion of any resulting profits from successful research activities for conservation and other beneficial purposes.

The new NPS study will examine the conservation and environmental impacts of the pilot project first launched at Yellowstone for potential expansion to national parks throughout the US. For many years, researchers have been collecting biological samples from many national parks that protect important biological diversity existing in many different types of environments ranging from caves to forests to glacial ice to volcanoes and hot springs. The study is expected to generate a great deal of interest in the US and abroad. Already, the Yellowstone agreement is considered one of the leading bioprospecting initiatives in the world. *



RUSSIA, *continued from page 1*

further discussions in Moscow and at one of the largest former bioweapons facilities located near Novosibirsk in Siberia. The Novosibirsk facility has been the subject of several prominent media reports as well as an important book published in 1999 by the former deputy director of the USSR's bioweapons program. WFED's project approval and initiation was announced by the Energy Department in July 2000 at a joint US-Russian scientific conference.

Preston returned to Russia in October 2000 to work directly with the Russian partners in the project and to help them prepare for their negotiations with participating US bio-science companies. *

Yellowstone Litigation Update

WFED is assisting the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior to uphold Yellowstone's historic bioprospecting agreement in the US Court of Appeals. Although Judge Royce C. Lamberth dismissed the opponents' case with prejudice and ruled in April 2000 that the Yellowstone agreement is "proper," the opponents appealed the ruling as expected. The US Court of Appeals has scheduled arguments in March 2001, and an appellate ruling is expected in the following months. For background on the Yellowstone litigation, see *Stewards' Watch*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Spring 2000) ("Federal Court Approves Historic Yellowstone Bioprospecting Agreement"). *

YELLOWSTONE Revealed

"Life too small to see in waters too hot to touch... and from these discoveries a new way of looking at Yellowstone was revealed." —from *YELLOWSTONE Revealed*, (narrated by Walter Cronkite).

To purchase a copy of WFED's award-winning video, *YELLOWSTONE Revealed*, please send a check for \$35.00 (includes shipping and handling) with your name and address to World Foundation for Environment and Development, 1816 Jefferson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20036. *



USA

Maret Students Map Yellowstone Hot Springs

In May 2000, four seniors from the Maret School in Washington traveled to Yellowstone to map some of the park's hot springs never before systematically identified and studied.

Meredith Kirschner, Cloe Thompson, Isabelle Liberman, and Christina Scott worked with Yellowstone's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) experts to help set up simple ways that high school and college student volunteers could do much of the field work to support Yellowstone's ambitious effort to map the park's 10,000 hot springs, geysers, fumaroles, and boiling mud pots.

While many of the park's most charismatic thermal features (such as Old Faithful) are well known to visitors and are national icons, the overwhelming majority of the park's 10,000 thermal features have never before been identified and mapped. Such environmental data is critical to the park's ongoing management of the thermal features, as well as to visiting researchers who are interested in discovering new forms of life in specific types of extreme environments.

The Maret students' project with Yellowstone was facilitated by WFED as part of WFED's ongoing collaborative environmental education and stewardship work with the park.

Meredith, Chloe, Isabelle, and Christina mapped approximately 75 hot springs never before identified throughout the park stretching from the Lamar Valley in the northern range to within a mile of Old Faithful. The students used advanced satellite-linked GIS mapping equipment, together with more basic instruments to measure and record each hot spring's temperature, pH, and conductivity. Digital photographic images of each hot spring also were recorded to provide a visual baseline for future researchers.

The Maret School seniors' volunteer work at Yellowstone was the first student-focused project WFED has facilitated at the park. Maret School students have participated in three WFED environmental learning excursions to Costa Rica since 1995. *



L to R: Meredith Kirschner, Isabelle Liberman, WFED Executive Director Preston Scott, Christina Scott, Cloe Thompson near Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone National Park.



Costa Rica WFED Addresses Globalization Conference

WFED was invited to provide its perspective on a wide range of globalization issues at an international conference sponsored by Tulane University and hosted at CIAPA (Centro de Investigación y Adiestramiento Político-Administrativo) in the hills above San José, Costa Rica in June 2000. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, CIAPA was founded by Dr. Samuel Stone of New Orleans and served as the site for some of the historic negotiations that led to the end of the civil wars plaguing Central America in the 1980s. Many leading scholars and statesmen active in the region, including former Costa Rican President and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Oscar Arias, attended the June 2000 conference at CIAPA.

WFED Executive Director Preston Scott spoke for WFED, and stressed the importance of private sector involvement in addressing problems of economic development and environmental protection in Central America and elsewhere around the globe. Preston emphasized WFED's pro-active approach towards environment-development problem-solving, and surveyed for conference participants some of WFED's most important initiatives—ranging from its early work in the Middle East to its current emphasis on negotiations on biodiversity conservation and use issues worldwide.

Preston also co-chaired a conference roundtable with Dr. Jorge Jiménez (Director of Costa Rica's Organization for Tropical Studies), where participants discussed alternative strategies for advancing economic development and environmental protection. WFED's *YELLOWSTONE Revealed* narrated by Walter Cronkite also was shown during the conference.

Describing WFED as “dedicated to catalyzing positive change in selected problem areas that transcend national boundaries,” Preston reminded the audience that (quoting former United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld) “easy successes with the public are possible for a juggler, but lasting results are achieved only by the patient builder.”

WFED is exploring potential collaborations with Tulane's Stone Center for Latin American Studies and the School of Law. *

Dominican Republic WFED to Assist Protected Areas

WFED's Leif Christoffersen traveled to the Dominican Republic in September 2000 to meet with David Arias (Executive Director of the Dominican Environmental Consortium), Gustavo Tirado (Director of the General Department for Territory Regulations), Julio Cesar Ureña (Executive Director for the Sub-Secretary of Protected Areas and Biodiversity), and Milcíades Mejía (Director General of the National Botanical Garden).

As a result of these meetings, WFED has been asked to provide consultative advice on the development of new laws and regulations governing access and benefit-sharing arrangements for the Dominican Republic's protected areas. The parties also agreed to work together on the development of a proposal to submit to the MacArthur Foundation for joint funding of a two-year project starting in 2001.

With adequate support, this project offers an important new component of WFED's project portfolio in 2001 and beyond. *

MacArthur Foundation Support Sought to Launch New Initiatives

WFED is seeking support from the MacArthur Foundation to explore new project opportunities in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Kenya, and several other locations. The Alexander Von Humboldt Institute of Colombia and WFED have drafted a proposal to develop a pilot national conservation-based bioprospecting program in Colombia. After WFED staff first met with government and NGO leaders in the Dominican Republic in August 1999, WFED developed a project concept paper with the Dominican Environmental Consortium. WFED also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kenyan National Council for Science and Technology that is designed to lay the groundwork for a similar pilot bioprospecting program in Kenya.

The MacArthur Foundation, which supports the work of a major WFED partner (the Global BioDiversity Institute [GBDI] and its founder Dr. John Kilama) was informed of WFED's proposed projects in July 2000. WFED's Leif Christoffersen and Thomas Fee met with Dr. Vecita Chichon of the MacArthur Foundation in Chicago in August 2000 to explore several collaborative opportunities in Colombia and the Dominican Republic. WFED also met with MacArthur staff member Dr. Abdoulaye Ndiaye about possible support for initiatives in Africa. In August 2000, WFED's Preston Scott and Leif Christoffersen explored other partnerships in Africa while in Botswana as part of a GBDI workshop on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (see article on page 5).

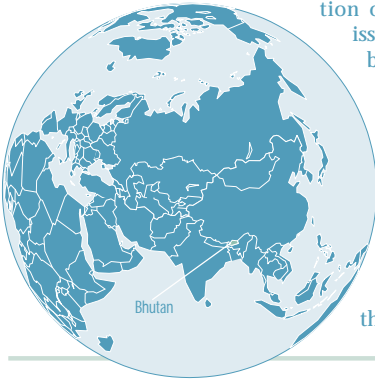
Dr. Chichon expressed interest in the Dominican Republic project and encouraged WFED to submit a proposal for consideration by MacArthur. Dr. Ndiaye explained that both information technology and bioprospecting would be some of the most important industries for African development in the 21st century, and encouraged WFED to keep MacArthur informed about possible opportunities for new regional bioprospecting projects in Africa. *

Bhutan

Himalayan Workshop Update

WFED and Bhutan's Ministry of Agriculture Policy and Planning Division are developing a bioprospecting training workshop to be held in the Himalayan mountain kingdom in 2001.

At Bhutan's request, WFED is designing the workshop to address a broad range of issues that relate to the establishment and management of a national conservation-based bioprospecting program. The workshop curriculum will include an overview of selected bioprospecting case studies, an orientation



on intellectual property, property rights issues and an analysis of various access and benefit-sharing approaches. The workshop also will review Bhutan's bioprospecting-related legislation, assess current research activities in Bhutan's national parks, present an overview of market opportunities, and assess alternative bioprospecting approaches.

It is expected that approximately 50 government conservation authorities will attend the workshop to be held in Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan. *

Botswana

Presentations for GBDI

WFED's Leif Christoffersen and Preston Scott traveled to Gaborone, Botswana, in August 2000 to serve as members of the international faculty in the Global BioDiversity Institute's four-week Southern African Biodiversity, Biotechnology, and Law Training Course. The course was attended by 65 participants from 12 member countries of the Southern African region.

Leif gave a presentation that included information about market opportunities for bioprospecting activities around the world, with focused case studies on Norway and Madagascar. He also led two working group sessions in which participants developed and presented diagrams outlining the principal players engaged in bioprospecting activities in each of their countries. Leif also facilitated participant discussions on ways to develop and implement country-specific and regional bioprospecting activities.

Preston's presentation gave the participants a detailed analysis of the Cooperative Research and Development Agreement between Yellowstone National Park and the Diversa Corporation (the first bioprospecting agreement in the United States).

WFED's presentations were very well received and led to many inquiries about WFED assistance from many delegates from throughout the Southern African region. *

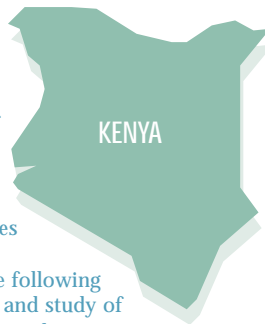
Kenya

WFED Signs MOU

In May 2000, WFED signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Kenya National Council of Science and Technology (NCST) to support its efforts to develop a pilot conservation-based bioprospecting project for Kenya. NCST activities include research involving Kenya's public lands.

WFED and NCST will work together to pursue the following activities: 1) analysis of issues that relate to access to and study of biological resources with special focus on methods for implementing benefit-sharing agreements with the research community; 2) enhance the capacity of Kenyan authorities to engage in such activities; 3) explore ways to facilitate collaborative scientific research activities that can promote the conservation and sustainable use of Kenya's biological resources; 4) collaborate on ways to monitor and evaluate such activities; 5) develop new educational and public information materials to improve awareness and understanding about access and sustainable use of biological resources; and, 6) jointly undertake follow-up to support the Kenyan delegates that attended the Global BioDiversity Institute's 1999 East African Biodiversity and Law training program in Nairobi.

WFED and NCST are currently defining an action plan that will enable them to begin to implement the project. *



WFED's Leif Christoffersen and Preston Scott with participants of the Southern African Biodiversity, Biotechnology and Law Training Course in Botswana.

Staff News

Stewart Macon assists with research and communication for a variety of WFED's program activities, with special focus on providing administrative and logistical support with WFED's fundraising and project development work.



Stewart graduated from Johns Hopkins University, where he designed his own Social and Behavioral Sciences curriculum. As part of his degree, he did independent studies on various issues relating to development on Nantucket Island. Stewart also studied environmental pressures facing a wide spectrum of tropical habitats in Belize through San Francisco State University's Belize Wildlands Program.

Stewart's previous conservation project experience includes work with the Irvine Natural Science Center supporting environmental education in Maryland; supporting Billfish inventory activities in Nantucket, Massachusetts; and contributing to wildlife inventory activities for the Dorchester Institute in the Chesapeake watershed.

Nora Abramson is a senior at Columbia University, where she majors in English. She was an intern at WFED in August 2000 and provided support with research and fundraising initiatives. Nora co-founded Urban ROOTS (Revival of Outdoor Opportunities Through Students) and her experience there provided her with background that contributed to her work on WFED projects.



Nora also has attended Monsash University in Melbourne, Australia, and has served as a director of Students Helping Achieve Diversity and Ethnic Sensitivity, an intern at Friedman, Billings, and Ramsey Group, Inc., Rolling Stone Magazine, and the Corcoran Gallery's Visual Arts Community Outreach program. *

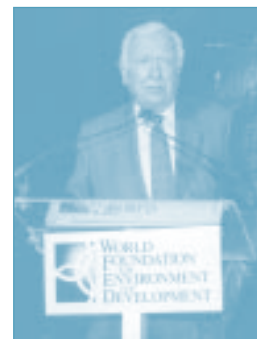
Inaugural Stewards' Circle Dinner

On May 10, WFED celebrated its Inaugural Stewards' Circle Dinner with special guests Walter and Betsy Cronkite. Hosted by Sam Rose and Julie Walters at their Bethesda home near Washington, the event attracted more than 125 WFED supporters and friends, and successfully launched WFED's individual donors' campaign for the year 2000.

Mr. Cronkite amused the guests with stories from the filming of *YELLOWSTONE Revealed* (WFED's award-winning video that he narrated). The Cronkites first joined WFED at Yellowstone in 1998 for the on-site filming of *YELLOWSTONE Revealed*, and have generously shared their time and energy to help support WFED's mission ever since.

In his remarks, Mr. Cronkite also stressed the importance of biodiversity conservation efforts to improving the quality of life on Earth with references to personal observations rooted in his lifetime experience and travels around the globe. Challenging the evening's guests to "take interest and support those who are active in improving the uses of Nature and improving the status of life on this planet," Mr. Cronkite added: "I am proud to have a part in the WFED effort."

WFED wishes to thank Sam and Julie for their inspiring generosity in hosting the event, as well as everyone who attended and joined the Cronkites in their support of WFED and its work. *



Above, Walter Cronkite speaks to WFED's Inaugural Stewards' Circle Dinner guests; left, Walter and Betsy Cronkite with Julie Walters.

Special Thanks to MLB and SONY

WFED extends special thanks to Stewards' Circle Member Michael F. Clayton and the law firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius (MLB) for providing valuable legal services to WFED in 2000—with extra special thanks to MLB's Barbara Shirley for her expert assistance in connection with WFED's expanding professional service agreements with the US Government, MLB's Nancy Kuhn for her superb guidance in connection with WFED's personnel and institutional development, and MLB's Reid Adler and Erich Veitenheimer on intellectual property rights issues. MLB has provided more than \$20,000 of pro bono legal services to WFED in 2000, thereby helping WFED direct its limited resources to its highest priority initiatives—creative lawyering at its very best. Thank you Michael and all of your colleagues at MLB!!

WFED also wishes to thank SONY for its generous pledge of equipment contribution in 2000. A supporter of the making of *YELLOWSTONE Revealed*, SONY also has pledged to provide new camera and related equipment to WFED. The new equipment will help WFED capture images from its work around the world to be used for new environmental education and outreach purposes. Thank you SONY! *

WFED Stewards' Circle Members

Ron & Ann Abramson
Steven & Letha Braesch
Connie Caplan
David and Joan Challinor
Michael Clayton & Virginia Tuttle
Mary S. Cooper
Rudiger Dornbusch
Tom Fee & Laurel King
Jaime & David Field
Robert & Lois Gottlieb
Stewart & Marlene Greenebaum
Richard Hoffman & Deborah Levy
Doug Jemal
Steven Kohn & Leslie Rose
Anthony R. Lanier
Tom & Harriet Lankford
Richard & Harriet Larsen
Reid Liffman & Nancy Newark
William & Lynn Macon
Kevin & Marina Meehan
Grant Ottenstein
Brendan Owen
Sam Rose & Julie Walters
Ron & Elaine Shapiro
Stan & Peggy Smith
Steven R. Smithgall
Lee & Marty Talbot
Michael O. Vogelbacher
Reed & Joanne Wills

Stewards' Circle Trip to Costa Rica

WFED is planning a trip to Costa Rica in early 2001 for Stewards' Circle Members. The purpose of this trip is to introduce Stewards' Circle Members to selected conservation areas in Costa Rica, and to provide support to Dr. Dan Janzen's fundraising efforts for the Guanacaste Conservation Area (ACG), recently designated as a World Heritage Site. Dr. Janzen, a WFED Board Member, internationally recognized conservation biologist and Senior Advisor to the ACG, is leading the effort to raise funds to enable the ACG to complete the purchase of the Rincón rainforest in northwestern Costa Rica.

To learn more about the details of this effort, please contact Leif Christoffersen at WFED. A notice about the trip will be sent to all current Stewards' Circle Members once a date and itinerary have been finalized. Watch the mail! *



Dr. Dan Janzen in Costa Rica

WFED's Stewards Program

Many friends have asked how they can help support WFED's mission and work. The generosity of Sam Rose and Julie Walters allowed WFED to first launch its Stewards Program in 1999 and develop an individual-focused support network. Now, individuals who want to support WFED's creative efforts to resolve environmental conflicts peacefully and build innovative and sustainable conservation projects can contribute to WFED directly through WFED's Stewards Program.

WFED Stewards' Circle

WFED invites contributors of \$1,000 or more to join WFED's Stewards' Circle—a community of supporters whose significant investment with WFED expands the reach of WFED's innovative conservation initiatives worldwide. WFED recognizes different levels of support within the Stewards' Circle:

Steward:	\$50,000	Navigator:	\$5,000
Pioneer:	\$25,000	Discoverer:	\$1,000
Explorer:	\$10,000		

Members of WFED's Stewards' Circle enjoy the following benefits:

- Invitations to WFED's Stewards' Circle Dinner and Stewards' Circle events
- Opportunities to travel on WFED field excursions and attend WFED functions and activities
- WFED video productions, publications and reports
- WFED Stewards' Watch

Other Levels of Support

WFED appreciates all levels of support for WFED's important conservation initiatives. You may become a supporter of WFED at any of the following levels:

WFED Patrons (Contributions of \$500–\$999)

Benefits:

- Invitations to WFED functions and activities
- WFED publications and reports
- WFED Stewards' Watch

WFED Associates (Contributions of \$100–\$499)

Benefits:

- Invitations to WFED functions and activities
- WFED Stewards' Watch

WFED Friends (Contributions of \$50–\$99)

Benefit:

- WFED Stewards' Watch

Watchwords: 2000 Wrap-Up

With a reputation for innovative thinking and a bold willingness to lead—and with growing support from Stewards' Circle Members and other friends—WFED has continued to take on some important and difficult challenges in 2000.

WFED always has worked to make certain that humanity remains at the center of the environmental equation. From its early days when our projects focused more on UN-related tasks to the year 2000, we have stood fast in the belief that (to paraphrase the words of President Kennedy) “one person can make a difference, and every person should try.”

Our work in Russia comes at a time when the threat of harmful byproducts from aging weapons of mass destruction is real. In June, *The Times* (London) reported that several Russian children from the Siberian city of Vladivostok were exposed to a form of smallpox when they discovered improperly discarded vials of vaccine that reportedly were related to bioweapons work conducted in the past.

Plague knows no national boundaries, and neither should efforts to eliminate the threat of it—whether environmental, social, or political—wherever it occurs. Working with both Russian and US interests, WFED is helping to chart a way that promotes constructive and valuable new applications of Russian biological know-how for peaceful and non-military uses. WFED is proud to have played a leading role in the development of the first cooperative US-Russian project to apply bioprospecting benefit-sharing principles in this historic peace and security context—a 21st century way of forging “swords into ploughshares.”

Closer to home, WFED also is working to help right an historic wrong with the Mattaponi tribe of Virginia—the community of Pocahontas. For the first time in centuries, the Mattaponi have the opportunity to reclaim more than 2,000 acres of ancestral lands that adjoin their small reservation. WFED has led the effort to help the Mattaponi secure the resources required to acquire the land from the Nature Conservancy. With a vision to restore the forests to their pristine quality and to create a new museum and cultural center dedicated to the life of native people of Virginia—which would be a first for the Commonwealth as it approaches the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown—the project symbolizes WFED's commitment to both cultural preservation and environmental stewardship.

Together with the people and places that benefit from WFED's special vision and commitment, we thank the Stewards' Circle and all others who help make our efforts possible—a fitting way to conclude the start of the new century. *

Website Update

In June 2000, WFED launched its new revised web site (<http://www.wfed.org>). It includes 33 web pages providing information on WFED, its projects, fundraising, history, and ways for people to become involved in WFED's mission.

WFED thanks Mary Colella, website designer, who helped WFED launch its new website. *

Support WFED!

Shop using www.wfed.greatergood.com and up to 15% of every purchase benefits WFED! *

—Preston Scott



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