

CATCA E-Newsletter



Volume 25, September 2012



In this edition:

The Animal Conservation and Wildlife Foundation, our new sister NGO in Europe, our collaboration with the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Kenyan government, Save Yupi Campaign, our participation at the IV European Ground Squirrel Conference and more.

A very important message from our President and Founder

I am thrilled to announce that now CATCA has now a sister NGO in Europe, the **Animal Conservation and Wildlife Foundation (ACWF)**.

The ACWF was created in Europe because many of our international campaigns for the animals are based in Europe. Our new NGO is located in Poznan, Poland.

The ACWF is an animal conservation and welfare organization, that will launch education campaigns and investigations to help the animals, from Poland and abroad.

Few days ago, the ACWF started a collaboration with the renowned Kenya Wildlife Service, to tackle the online illegal wildlife trade. As CATCA/ACWF we will keep working together for the elephant conservation during the CITES CoP. Kenya is a leader in elephant conservation and the African Elephant Coalition, that has 24 African countries working together to combat the poaching of these magnificent animals for their ivory tusks.

The ACWF website is: <http://www.ACWFeu.org>

If you would like to support our ACWF work, just go to our website and you can donate to our animal causes by Paypal, or you can send us a cheque to our CATCA address in Canada:

P.O.Box 16021, 617 Belmont St. New Westminster BC V3M-6W6, Canada



Thank you!

Ericka Ceballos

**President and Founder Campaigns Against the Cruelty to Animals (CATCA) N. America
President Animal Conservation and Wildlife Foundation (ACWF) Europe**

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CATCA/ACWF in Kenya

August 24-25, 2012



Few days ago, the ACWF started a collaboration with the renowned Kenya Wildlife Service, to tackle the online illegal wildlife trade. As CATCA/ACWF we will keep working together for the elephant conservation during the CITES CoP.

The KWS is a leader in elephant conservation in Africa, and Kenya is the head country of the African Elephant Coalition, which is fighting to stop the senseless and brutal poaching of elephants for their ivory.

The KWS was created to combat the intense elephant poaching in Kenya and has a paramilitary army of courageous rangers, that risk their lives everyday to save elephants, rhinos and other wildlife in Kenya. Only this year, 15 brave rangers have died in confrontations with poachers in this country. They also work with their communities, providing education and helping the people around the national parks.

It is a real honour for me to collaborate with the KWS in these issues.

For more information about the KWS, please read our article: **Kenya Wildlife Service Interview 2010** here: <http://www.catcahelpanimals.org/24.html>

In the picture above: with Patrick Omondi, Senior Assistant Director and Head of Species and Conservation Management of the Kenya Wildlife Service, Solomon Kyalo of the CITES Management and Scientist Authority and other KWS Officials, just after one of our meetings in Tsavo and Nairobi last week. Below to the left: with Mr. Omondi. The picture to the right: elephants in Tsavo West, Kenya.





SAVE YUPI CAMPAIGN

Unfortunately, there has been several delays with Yupi having a proper formal veterinarian assessment.

First the governor of Michoacan seemed all accesible and willing to accept our offer to send a couple of polar bear experts to do the formal medical check up, but the new zoo director refused that, and also demanded a large number of documents and requirements that any other zoo would never even consider to ask. In the meanwhile of his never ending demands, he also criticized us in the media while providing very obsolete information regarding this campaign, which only made him look bad in the media.

Then few days ago, to our surprise, we learned that he is not longer the zoo director, because the governor of Michoacan now has appointed another director.

Our colleagues in Morelia had a meeting with the new zoo director on Saturday, only to learn that the former zoo director (now vice-director of the zoo), had arranged with another zoo in Mexico where they have other polar bears, to do a veterinarian assessment on Yupi the day after, on Sunday!

The vets in Mexico had never knocked down a polar bear to conduct a formal assesment of their health, so the leader of the NGO's in Morelia out of concern took a vet to explain them each step of the procedure the day after, to be sure that everything was done in a proper way. Their vet guaranteed that everything was well done.

Yupi's tests were transparent to our colleagues and she awoke well soon after her tests were perfomed.

We will know more details about this vet assessment soon and I will keep you posted. **LIKE our FB page and you will receive in your computer updates on this important ongoing campaign:**

<http://www.facebook.com/CampaignsAgainstTheCrueltyToAnimals>



Help us to help Yupi! CATCA is coordinating this campaign in Mexico and worldwide, but we have need funds to maintain this campaign in Mexico. Buy a Save Yupi T-shirt for \$20.00 CAD and 100% of your funds will go to this campaign, while you promote awareness on Yupi's situation. **We ship anywhere! To Canada it is just \$2.25 for the S + H. Thank you!**

Internet trade of elephant ivory in Africa and Asia



We are currently investigating the e-trade of elephant ivory in Africa and Asia. In the middle of September we will start with Zambia and Mozambique.

CATCA is now looking for volunteers to help us with this task. For Zambia we need English spoken people and for Mozambique Portuguese speaking people. All the training will be provided by CATCA.

The results of this investigation will be printed as a report and this will be personally delivered to the CITES member countries authorities, exposing the e-trade of elephant ivory in those continents, to gain support against the threatening proposals that will arise at the next CITES CoP16 in March 2012.

CATCA/ACWF at the IV European Ground Squirrel Conference Kamien Slaski, Poland 5-7 September, 2012



I participated at the IV European Ground Squirrel Meeting for the first time as ACWF. In the last years I participated as CATCA. This meeting is every two years and it is all about the importance to preserve these species of squirrel that have already vanished in several European countries, so NGO's and scientists are working to re-introduce these species, while creating protection for the habitats where they are released and for other animal and plant species.

As ACWF, we shared a poster about the Uinta Ground Squirrel from North America with PTOP Salamandra of Poland. Our poster title was: "*Cannibalistic behaviour of Uinta Ground Squirrels*", and it was about the disturbing behaviour of this species that we observed in July 2012 that cause them to get run over by cars on the roads.

We were very pleased that our poster was voted as the favourite poster exhibited during the meeting, as the other European colleagues made some very interesting posters with lots of scientific data. We received a price for the best poster.

More information about this conference and the award that we received, can be viewed here:
<http://www.salamandra.org.pl/component/content/article/37-susel/643-susowa-konferencja-w-kamieniu-lskim.html?directory=1> (In Polish)

CATCA Raffle Winner



On August 17th, CATCA delivered our Raffle prize of 6 BBC DVD's animal documentaries and a very special Harp Seal CD/DVD (made by a kind colleague in the US for our 3 CATCA Seal Lobbying Tours in 2008).

Congratulations to Victoria Sobie from Vancouver!

Thank you for your support to our animal activities!

World Animal Day 2012



Proudly I am the Ambassador in Canada for the international **World Animal Day (October 4th)**.

To celebrate the animals on this very important day, CATCA will try to organize an informative table in Vancouver or Vancouver Mainland. More information will be provided in our FB and by e-mail.

For updates in this or any of our campaigns and projects, look for us in FB!

We invite you to visit our CATCA FB page, like it and share it with your friends! Help us to promote our work for the animals: <http://www.facebook.com/CampaignsAgainstTheCrueltyToAnimals>

We have very important news articles about animals in our FB (e.g. Kony kills elephants to get money for his terrorizing war campaigns, harp seal pups condemned to die in Aquarium in Canada, rhinos in peril in S.A. etc). **We also promote animal campaigns, petitions and more in our FB page.**

Visit our websites: www.catcahelpanimals.org and www.ACWFeu.org and see what else I do.

If you consider my work for the animals worth it, consider to support it with some hours of volunteer work (no matter where you are) or by a donation for our effective animal campaigns.

CATCA and the ACWF are 100% volunteer based organizations.
We depend on donations to keep doing our effective work for the animals.

We are now accepting air miles donations to help me to participate in high end international animal conservation conferences and worth it animal meetings, just like the one I had in Kenya.

Thank you!

Ericka Ceballos

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