



November 11, 2004

RUSSELL A. MITTERMEIER, PH.D.
President

John Martin
Chairman
Images for Conservation Fund

Dear Mr. Martin

Conservation International (CI) embraces the power of photography for drawing attention to the beauty of nature preserves both public and private throughout the world, and as a means of protecting those lands and the wildlife habitat they represent. This calls for the inclusion of nature photographers in the international conservation of biodiversity, which the Images for Conservation Fund (ICF) and the Pro-Tour of Nature Photography bring forward.

Conservation International is pleased to endorse the concept and programs of ICF. In particular CI commends the Sustainable Development Program and the protection of wildlife habitat on private lands through the nature photo tourism industry, which provides a new revenue stream for landowners. Through this new industry, private landowners learn that all species have living economic value and that conservation can be good business. The education of amateur and professional nature photographers to land conservation is also a significant element of the CI endorsement.

Conservation International recognizes the value of nature photography in advancing its mission "to conserve the Earth's living heritage, our global biodiversity, and to demonstrate that human societies are able to live harmoniously with nature." We at Conservation International are pleased that Images for Conservation Fund is an exciting partner in our mission, and we wish you much success.

Sincerely,

Russell A. Mittermeier
President

