WHAT IS ESSENTIAL?
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It’s the time of year when we stop to take stock—of both our achievements and setbacks, using the Tompkins Conservation standards formed with Doug almost 30 years ago.

As every one of you knows, climate chaos is determining how we live. It affects how we travel, what we eat, and the questions that keep us up at night. Change is a constant, but the acceleration of climate-related events and their consequences is exceptional. This is our motivation.

We are proud to highlight the significant progress of our partners in these pages. We see a gap in public understanding of how protecting nature is one of the central strategies to thwart climate change—a fact pushed to the sidelines as technological fixes take the spotlight. We make this mistake at our peril.

In 2021, Tompkins Conservation Chile became Rewilding Chile. Now independent, Rewilding Argentina and Rewilding Chile are taking the initiatives we began together and going forward. They have a new fiscal sponsor in the United States: Re:wild, a US-based nonprofit committed to protecting and restoring the wild. Tompkins Conservation continues to be a supporter of both organizations.

We shall keep funding projects that reflect our mission and values via rewilding and the conservation of land and sea. Activists at heart, we work to create a healthy civil society and natural world. We continue asking the big question. How do we support new protected areas to succeed in the long term? The answer is, never separate conservation from community; they are mutual lifelines for each other.

This year I turned 71, and while I haven’t been able to be in the field due to the pandemic, we’re all working together and I can see the conservation projects that Doug and I began nearly three decades ago continuing long after he’s gone. It’s a vision that knows no end.

I send you my best, with gratitude and appreciation.

Kris

COFOUNDERS: Douglas Tompkins (1943–2015), Kristine Tompkins
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Peter Buckley, Tom Butler, Malinda Chouinard, Yvon Chouinard, Jib Ellison, Quincy Tompkins Imhoff, Rick Ridgeway, Debbie Ryan, Kristine Tompkins
ADVISORY COUNCIL: Forrest Beldon, Christina Downar, Chris Evans, Toby Harer, Nicholas Rabideau, Jr., Natalie Lefler, Heather Looms-Tighe, Scott Martin, Jim Sano, Nancy Schaub, John van der Stricht

REWILDING TERRESTRIAL & AQUATIC LIFE.
WHAT WE BELIEVE

At Tompkins Conservation, donor partnerships have always made a crucial difference. Together, we have the power to reorient the trajectory of life on Earth toward beauty, diversity, wildness, and health.

WE MUST FOCUS ON WHAT’S ESSENTIAL. In the 1940s, 75% of the Earth was wild. Today, wild ecosystems have been reduced to a mere quarter of the planet. Oceans are deteriorating, while wetlands, grasslands and forests lose ground and species lose their habitat. Communities, especially those in the margins, face the harsh reality of a planetary ecosystem in trouble.

OUR MISSION IS REWILDING. A proven conservation strategy, rewilding regenerates complete and fully functioning ecosystems so that they can become self-sustaining with minimum human intervention. Native animals and plants return, making ecosystems whole again, and human communities are assured a dignified and stable future.

SAVING NATURE HAS EVERYTHING TO DO WITH CLIMATE CHANGE. Our climate crisis will not be solved by technology alone. Action is urgent: preserving vast ecosystems on land and sea, helping them to be whole and functional, returning missing species to fulfill key ecological roles, and helping communities build durable futures through nature-based economies.

“ALL LIFE HAS INTRINSIC VALUE.”
— Arne Næss

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK AT tompkinsconservation.org

TOMPKINS CONSERVATION — PARKS CREATION & REWILDING — WITH REWILDING CHILE & REWILDING ARGENTINA

CONSERVATION SPECIES

- Giant ant eater
- Pampas deer
- Collared peccary
- Bare-faced curassow
- Red-legged seriema
- Marsh deer
- Red-and-green macaw
- Jaguar
- Giant otter
- Red-footed turtle
- Huemul deer
- Darwin’s rhea
- Puma
- Guanaco
- Pampas cat
- Geoffroy’s cat
- Wolfskin’s vizcacha
- Andean condor
- Ocelot

15 NATIONAL PARKS CREATED OR EXPANDED
2 MARINE NATIONAL PARKS CREATED
20+ CONSERVATION AND MONITORING PROJECTS

National Parks, Parks and Projects in Chile
National Parks, Parks and Projects in Argentina
Terrestrial Parks and Protected Areas
Biosphere Reserve (Terrestrial Area)
Marine Parks and Protected Areas

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- Wolfskin’s vizcacha
- Andean condor
- Ocelot
14.7 million acres of national parks
7 jaguars reintroduced to Iberá (locally extinct since the 1950’s)
19 red-and-green macaws flying free after a 150-year absence
30 million acres of marine protected areas
6 giant river otters in Iberá (locally extinct since the 1980’s)
13 total species rewilded
365 million dollars invested in creating parks, supporting communities, and rewilding
30 pumas collared in Patagonia NP, Chile, for a decades-long study
1-to-10 ratio of millions of acres leveraged to create parklands in the Route of Parks
10% of remaining huemuls worldwide safeguarded by Rewilding Chile recovery program
1st national park run on renewable energy in South America, Patagonia NP, Chile
64 Darwin’s rheas released in Patagonia NP, Chile
75+ communities empowered by parkland creation
29 years of conservation and activism
0 industrial salmon farms in Argentine waters after the historic national ban in 2021
THERE CAN BE NO CONSERVATION WITHOUT THE GUIDANCE AND LEADERSHIP OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES. The two are inextricably linked.

BRINGING BACK NATURE PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS. It animates our spirits and restores the clean water, uncontaminated air, and healthy soil that are the baseline for dignified life. It also establishes restorative economies that bring vegetable gardens to food deserts, careers with nature-based tourism, and opportunities for new generations.

PARTNERSHIPS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. We promote a joint vision of regenerative economies in alliance with local and provincial governments. We also have support local activists fighting against powerful industries that extract resources and leave behind destruction and disarray.

OUR COLLECTIVE VISION IS BIG. With Rewilding Argentina and Rewilding Chile, we have worked with 11 government administrations to align conservation visions, leveraging land donations to create greater impact via national parks and marine protected areas. These diverse ecosystems harbor important ecological processes, significant carbon sinks, and diverse forms of life.

ON-THE-GROUND RESULTS

IN CHILE, the 1,700-mile Route of Parks has been adopted by regional organizations and the national government in a movement to re-vision Patagonia in terms of its cultural traditions and conservation potential.

IN ARGENTINA, workshops with local communities are rescuing artisan and culinary traditions, promoting sustainable agriculture to bring fresh produce to food deserts, and sharing the benefits of healthy ecosystems.

IN TIERRA DEL FUEGO, Rewilding Argentina and allies helped rally local activists against industrial salmon farming in the Beagle Channel, resulting in an unprecedented nationwide ban.

THE WAY FORWARD IS TOGETHER

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PLEASE JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO SAFEGUARD THE PLANET FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.
REWILDING ARGENTINA

In 2021, we helped make the world a whole lot wilder. Jaguars released from an on-site reintroduction center are establishing a foundational population in the Iberá wetlands. Red-and-green macaws born in the wild to our released specimens are now flying free, and a pair of giant river otters are busy raising a litter of spunky cubs. The Patagonia Azul project is restoring coastal ecosystems and rewilding algae to support abundant marine life. We do the crucial work of getting native species to healthy populations to ensure functional ecosystems that sequester more carbon and contribute to climate stability.

rewildingargentina.org

EL IMPENETRABLE NATIONAL PARK

Ecoregions: Dry Chaco — Current protected area: 316,295 acres — Rewilding projects: Jaguar, lowland tapir, red-footed tortoise

EXPANDING BIODIVERSITY corridors — As South America’s second largest forest, the Chaco is a key area for biodiversity conservation. But as one of the world’s fastest-expanding agricultural frontiers, it has an 80% deforestation rate that has pushed native species to the brink. After helping to create El Impenetrable National Park, we are restoring biodiversity and ecosystem functionality through rewilding. The first ever mating of a wild with a captive jaguar has produced two offspring for release. To secure their future habitat and prevent poaching, we are working to acquire land to enlarge the protected area. This would also benefit the giant river otter, a top predator believed extinct in Argentina until its recent sighting in the park. We are also working with local communities by introducing gardens for food security and workshops to generate household income.

IBERÁ WETLANDS

Ecoregions: Wetlands — Current protected area: 1.7 million acres — Rewilding projects: Jaguar, ocelot, giant river otter, collared peccary, Pampas deer, giant anteater, bare-faced curassow, red-and-green macaw

A BIODIVERSE REFUGE for resilience — One of South America’s largest freshwater reservoirs, the vast wetlands of Iberá are home to 30% of Argentina’s biodiversity. Hunting and habitat loss have eradicated native species, leading to the degradation of nature and the loss of traditional ways of living.

After helping to create Iberá Park, we are forging lasting change through rewilding. After reintroducing forager species, we are bringing back seed dispersers and apex predators: red-and-green macaws, bare-faced curassows, jaguars, and giant river otters, all engineers of a healthy ecosystem. Partnering with the provincial government, we can increase income and well-being in 10 communities around Iberá Park through nature-based tourism and regenerative activities.

PATAGONIA AZUL

Ecoregions: Patagonian Steppe, Argentine Sea — Current protected area: 49,275 acres — Rewilding projects: Gracilaria algae, puma

A SEA OF POSSIBILITY — Called “the Galápagos of Argentina” for its 60 coastal islands, Patagonia Azul is a key breeding, feeding, and migration site for a great diversity of life. But industrial fishing and a century of unsustainable sheep ranching have destabilized both terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Rewilding on land and sea presents the rare opportunity to restore function and health to these ecosystems while building a regenerative local economy. Our next objectives include acquiring more land for conservation, launching a regenerative ocean farming project based on the production of native algae and shellfish, opening a gateway for public use, working to restore offshore islands with abundant marine life, and bringing back marine meadows of Gracilaria algae to support sea life.
In Pumalín Douglas Tompkins National Park, the Reñihue River delivers nutrients to abundant marine life. PHOTO: ANTONIO VIZCAINO

**REWILDING CHILE**

On to a thrilling new chapter! After working almost 30 years in park creation, ecological restoration, and communities in Patagonia, our strategic partners in Chile have relaunched a bold, new name at the heart of our objectives. As Fundación Rewilding Chile, they will emphasize the key role of rewilding as an effective and proven approach to combat the climate crisis, pandemics, and global biodiversity loss. At the same time, they have ambitious plans for the creation of conservation mirrors that protect contingent land and sea.

**THE NATIONAL HUEMUL CORRIDOR**

Ecoregions: Temperate rainforest, Patagonian steppe, ice fields, subantarctic forest. Endangered species support: 10 endangered huemul subpopulations along the Route of Parks. Rewilding project features: Rescue and rehabilitation center, ongoing studies, outreach.

SAVING THE WESTERN hemisphere’s most endangered large mammal — Today, 1,500 wild huemul deer (Hippocamelus bisulcus) left in the wild represent only 1% of their historical population. Our urgent task is to restore huemul habitat, study and mitigate disease introduced by livestock, and reestablish vital wildlife corridors throughout the Route of Parks. To address the emergence of Caseous Lymphadenitis in huemuls in Cerro Castillo National Park, we are collaborating with communities and government agencies to reduce threats and create an on-site Huemul Rescue and Rehabilitation Center. Our long-term vision is to establish a huemul conservation network of private and public lands and transboundary corridors throughout Patagonia.

**COMMUNITIES IN THE ROUTE OF PARKS**

Ecoregions: Temperate rainforest, Patagonian steppe, ice fields, subantarctic forest. Future protected area: 231,219 acres. The Route of Parks: 1,700-mile scenic route, 17 national parks, 60+ gateway communities.

PUTTING PEOPLE at the center of conservation — In 2015, Tompkins Conservation launched the Route of Parks, a bold vision for Patagonia with communities at the heart of conservation. Our work strengthens the link between communities and the national parks, empowering local leaders and fostering community engagement and stewardship. After our historic community outreach programs in Pumalín and Patagonia national parks, we are now expanding to the gateway communities of Alerce Andino, Pali Aike, and Cerro Castillo national parks. The ultimate goal is to develop community advocacy groups and establish a group of friends of the parks to help position Chilean Patagonia as a global model for nature-based economic development.

**CAPE FROWARD**


LAND & SEA CONSERVATION MIRRORS — At the end of the world, the Pacific, Antarctic, and Atlantic Oceans converge, generating an explosion of life and natural dynamics found nowhere else. This wild region of land and sea deserves permanent protection. After the acquisition of 231,020 acres of private land, we have an unprecedented opportunity to leverage the creation of four new national parks — two terrestrial, two marine — for the permanent protection of these rare, intact ecosystems. Safeguarding this area of high biodiversity and productivity is an efficient strategy to ensure valuable carbon storage and species survival for global climate change resilience.

REWILDINGCHILE.org

*Photos: Top: Linde Waidhoffer, Middle: Cote Catalan, Bottom: P&RE - FitzRoy Tourism & Real Estate*
While our conservation vision started as a two-person endeavor, it didn’t stay that way for long. Our dedicated teams are the heart and soul of our achievements. Many have spent decades advancing these projects, often while living in field stations, with all the challenges that remote locations may bring. Today we are proud to welcome the third generation of our strong conservation team.

**INGRID ESPINOZA**  
Director of Conservation | Rewilding Chile

I’m very fortunate to be working against climate change and biodiversity loss every day. It’s not just a Monday-to-Friday job: the work is my whole life. For 17 years, I have worked with Doug and Kris Tompkins: in Chilean Patagonia, creating national parks through intensive collaboration with Chile’s public institutions. I work mostly on the technical aspects of conservation. Our greatest challenge is to ensure the ongoing protection of the Route of Parks. There are many threats in this region. Currently, less than 1% of coastal waters is protected. Today we are focused on creating conservation corridors, to safeguard both terrestrial and marine ecosystems for the long term, with more marine national parks. Put together, these places are the green lungs, not only for the country but also for the planet.

**ENZO BONNANO**  
Community Outreach | Rewilding Argentina

I was born in Camarones, a coastal village in Patagonia surrounded by sheep ranches. My love for the sea brought me to study marine fisheries production. But when I started working on fishing vessels, I began to see the massive damage the industry does to entire ecosystems. Now I teach at the local high school, and run a regenerative ocean farming program to raise native algae and shellfish. But my pet project is leading Friends of the Ocean. We began with a small group of students cleaning up beaches, but our recent coastal cleanup festival drew half the town. I believe our actions are changing the youth perspective on environmental issues such as overfishing and climate change. Camarones is learning the value of what we have here, and how to live with nature without destroying it.

**DANIEL VELASQUEZ**  
Wildlife Ranger | Rewilding Chile

I spend my days tracking and observing endangered huemul deer in Patagonia National Park. As someone who grew up raising livestock, I never thought I’d do this. But I’ve become very attached to the species. Huemuls are elusive. You need to seek them out early in the morning or late, when everyone else’s day has already ended.

A huemul cannot reproduce until the age of three, and has one offspring per year. It’s a fragile population. In 2006, there were four females and one male in this sector; now the population is over 40. It’s been a pleasure to see their numbers grow under my watch. It’s important to have protected areas for them. These creatures have to be studied in their own habitat.

I’ve been doing this for 21 years, and now my son also works as a ranger. I’ve loved working in conservation.

**LAURA FERNÁNDEZ**  
CFO | Rewilding Argentina

Doug Tompkins’ humble attitude, ethical values, generosity, audacity, conviction of the need for change, and long-term vision have been decisive in my life.

In 2002, I joined Doug and Kris to help create an Argentine foundation intrinsically based on their values. I employ land protection strategies, buying and donating land to the state to create protected areas, helping to convert fiscal land into protected areas, fundraising, and giving technical advice.

So far, we’ve protected 12 million hectares in Argentina. Over 20 years, our team has transformed each of those joyful achievements into the know-how to keep on protecting Argentina’s ecosystems, working in harmony with nearby communities that benefit from nature-based tourism.

**BETH WALD**  
Social Media Coordinator and Photographer | Tompkins Conservation

I’m a visual storyteller. It’s always a challenge to catch people’s attention when they are flooded with visuals and information. But at TC and our strategic partners, our advantage is having all kinds of incredible stories to tell, from the return of species like the jaguar, giant otter, and macaco to our work with communities and large-scale land conservation successes. These are stories of hope, of solutions, and real change happening not only on the ground but in the perception of people and even communities who gain a new understanding of what is important and possible.

I’ve seen and documented the work of many environmental and conservation organizations around the world, but few have had the consistency of vision and impact that Tompkins Conservation has.
JOIN THE NEXT GENERATION OF TOMPKINS CONSERVATION

We are activists for a world of beauty and balance. We are dedicated to conserving and restoring landscapes, protecting marine ecosystems, reintroducing native wildlife, and bolstering local economies. But we can’t do it alone. Your generous contribution furthers initiatives in Chile and Argentina that confront the greatest threats facing the entire planet: climate chaos, biodiversity loss, and collapsing ecosystems. Tompkins Conservation is a 501c(3) public charity, and is now our sole US-based nonprofit. Join us.

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