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Join us January 24-26, 2018 in Santiago, Chile!

Join private, NGO, and local community land conservationists from around the world
at the ILCN's 2018 Global Congress!

The [2018 Global Congress](#) will build upon the momentum, conversations, collaborations, and relationships that have emerged over the past several years. The Congress will explore a range of topics in the areas of conservation finance; law and policy; organization and governance; and land management, restoration, and stewardship.

Through a series of plenary discussions, wide ranging workshops, and facilitated dialogues, Congress participants will consider the challenges and opportunities ahead for private land conservation. In addition, the Congress will include a field trip that features several important Chilean conservation stories, allowing hosts to share their successes and participants to build relationships in an informal atmosphere. **The Congress is free to participants. Registration will open this fall.**

The ILCN is currently soliciting Congress presentations and panels. [See our Call for Proposals here.](#) Proposals may be submitted [here](#) and will be accepted through **July 21, 2017.**

For more information on attending, submitting a workshop proposal, or about the Congress in general, please see the website [here](#) or contact Emily Myron, Project Manager for the ILCN at emyron@lincolinst.edu or +1 617-503-2212

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Highlights from the ILCN

We are excited to share stories from ILCN members. If you have a successful conservation initiative, story, event, or webinar to share, then please contact us at ILCN@lincolninst.edu.

European Commission Launches New Project to Develop a European Private Land Conservation Network

The ILCN is pleased to share news of the recent start of a EU-cofunded project under the lead of NABU (Birdlife Germany) to create a European Private Land Conservation Network (ELCN). This network will be the first of its kind for European Union (EU) member countries, and the ILCN is excited to be a core partner in its development.



Privately protected wetland in Northern Brandenburg, Germany (Photo: NABU Granssee, Tilmann Disselhoff)

Inspired by conversations at the ILCN's First Global Congress in Berlin in 2015, the European Commission issued a call for proposals in spring 2016 for the development of an ELCN. A group of organizations that attended the Berlin Congress put forward a proposal, which has since been selected for funding by the LIFE program. The ELCN partners will have their first meeting in mid-June.

In the last two decades, EU member states have dedicated considerable resources to biodiversity protection, particularly to the designation and proper management of the [Natura 2000](#) network. However, the EU is still challenged by high species extinction

rates and growing pressures on biodiversity. It has become increasingly clear that successfully engaging private landowners is crucial to the success of this network.

The recent [Fitness Check of the Birds and Habitats Directives](#) cites studies and exchanges that show the potential of private land conservation tools in reaching EU nature and biodiversity targets. The [report](#) goes on to state that “As a large share of the Natura 2000 network is privately owned, an increased involvement of private owners is essential for successful management of the network;” however, “The studies carried out clearly show that these tools are so far only used to a limited extent in most Member States, are very heterogeneous and poorly known.” The creation of the ELCN is a direct response to this need and will be crucial for piloting new private land conservation and stewardship actions and building a broad constituency around private land conservation.

With support from the LIFE program, the ELCN will spend the next three and a half years developing a robust, well-informed European network on private land conservation with a clear long-term strategy and strong international allies.

The ELCN’s work program focuses on implementing and assessing innovative private land conservation tools and models, exchanging knowledge and experience about these tools, identifying legal and political obstacles to up-scaling them, and publicizing private land conservation among relevant stakeholders. By doing so, the project intends to contribute to the further development of private land conservation tools and expand their use.

This effort is coordinated by NABU, in close partnership with eight associated beneficiaries, and represents nine countries. In addition, all pilot actions have been planned in a participatory manner in close cooperation with relevant local or regional stakeholder groups, and will be implemented together with them. For additional information, please contact Tilmann Disselhoff, the project coordinator, at tilmanddisselhoff@gmail.com or tilmann.disselhoff@nabu.de.

Privately Protected Areas and World Environment Day

This year, Canada will host [World Environment Day](#) on June 5, 2017, with UN Environment!

This year’s theme (Connecting People to Nature) is an opportunity to celebrate the role nature plays in our lives every day. We know that healthy ecosystems safeguard habitat for wildlife, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and provide opportunities for tourism and family fun.

There will be celebrations around the world on World Environment Day, and this is a special opportunity for privately protected area organizations, staff, and volunteers to take an active part in drawing the world’s attention to the critical role that healthy ecosystems and environments play right now and for future generations.



Creston Valley (Photo: Steve Ogle)

The Privately Protected Areas community has so much to celebrate, and it is important that we raise our collective voices to promote the work we do around the world. World Environment Day provides an opportunity to showcase our organizations’ great work and tell the world how we are helping people connect to nature.

There are many ways to celebrate World Environment Day and perhaps you already have plans! If you're using social media please include #WorldEnvironmentDay or #WED and #PrivatelyProtectedAreas .

For more information, contact [Lisa McLaughlin](#) at the [Nature Conservancy of Canada](#), or visit the [World Environment Day website](#).

A Discussion on "The Value of Private Land Conservation"

On May 10 2017, the [Biodiversity, Hunting and Countryside Intergroup](#) of the European Parliament organized a meeting hosted by Members of Parliament and the President of the Intergroup Karl-Heinz Florenz on "The Value of Private Land Conservation." The event was co-hosted by the [European Landowners Organisation](#). The meeting was as an opportunity to discuss the necessity of involving the private sector in the management of the land as providers of ecosystems services which benefit the EU biodiversity.

A range of case studies were presented, each of which explored ways to engage private landowners in conservation. Underlying the conversation was an understanding of the need for an integrative approach for the implementation of Natura 2000 and in order to reach the European Union's biodiversity goals.

See the presentations and biographies of attendees [here](#).

Spotlight

Isabella Gambill

Spending her childhood summers at a family lake house in Finland, Isabella came to find joy and solace in nature at a young age. However, as those summers passed, she saw her beloved landscape change – what once was relatively wild was later marred by clear cut forests, vanishing wildlife, and sprawling development.

Since that time, she has had a strong interest in blending reverence for nature and natural heritage with protecting local communities. Inspired by the desire to make the conservation movement as diverse and inclusive as possible, Isabella studied environmental justice in college.

In spring of 2013, Isabella began working with the team that, soon after, started the ILCN. One of her favorite aspects of the ILCN is that it serves a platform for bringing people of different backgrounds, from different geographies, of different generations, and with different areas of expertise together to think through common challenges in an interdisciplinary and holistic way. Since the ILCN began, Isabella has been an invaluable team member, carrying out many of the behind-the-scenes tasks needed to begin, nurture, and gather such a network. Over the years, she has been exposed to conservation ideas from around the world, which has inspired her to take the next step in her career.

This fall, Isabella will begin her graduate studies. First, she will spend one year at the University of



Cambridge, pursuing a Master of Conservation Leadership degree. In this course of study, she will focus on how to successfully implement and manage large landscape conservation projects in different countries around the world. Then, Isabella will return to the United States to pursue a Master of Law and Diplomacy at the Fletcher School at Tufts University, where she will gain an interdisciplinary framework for how to tackle international environmental policy, diplomacy, and negotiation. Through this customized dual-degree program, which was largely informed by her time spent with the ILCN she hopes to ultimately pursue a career in the world of international conservation policy.

The ILCN wishes to thank Isabella for her hard work and commitment to the Network and wish her all the best in this next step of her journey.

To contact Isabella in the future, please email her at Isabella.gambill@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:

Greening Consumption & Production Online Course

May 31-July 12, 2017, Webinar

This six-week facilitated course is aimed at policymakers and practitioners working in the area of sustainable consumption and production (SCP). By taking this course, you will gain an overview of key issues related to SCP and sustainable commodity supply chains. You will become proficient in mechanisms to facilitate SCP at the international level and in your own country, and have the chance to interact with world-known specialists from UNDP, the private sector, NGOs and national ministries. More information is available [here](#).

An EU Action Plan for nature, people and the economy

June 6, 2017, Webinar

As a follow up to the Fitness Check of the EU Nature Directives, the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions and the Maltese Presidency are jointly hosting a conference on 6 June 2017 on the EU Nature Directives Action Plan. Registration has closed for the conference, but the main sessions of the conference can be followed live [here](#). The draft programme of the conference is available [here](#) and more information is available [here](#).

International Congress for Conservation Biology

July 23-27, 2017, Cartagena, Colombia

Society for Conservation Biology's 28th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB 2017) will focus on Insights for sustaining life on Earth, responding to the need for conservation science to help create a better tomorrow for both biodiversity and people who depend upon it. The Congress welcomes participants interested in conservation science and its application to policy and practice. More information is available [here](#).





EUROPARC Conference September 6-10, 2017, Magic Mountains, Portugal

In the year declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, the EUROPARC Conference is hosted by the Portuguese region of the Magic Mountains – a Sustainable Destination awarded with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas since 2013. This conference will look at the NEW VOICES, NEW VISIONS, NEW VALUES – FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE IN EUROPE, with inspiring keynote speakers, practical workshops and several opportunities to network with protected area professionals from across Europe. More information is available [here](#).

See more on the ILCN's [Calendar of Events](#).

Please take our survey

We are currently compiling a survey of organizations around the world that are engaged in the conservation of private land.

If you have not yet completed our survey and feel that your organization's work is in line with the mission of the ILCN, then we invite you to [please take our brief survey](#) and to share it with relevant partners.



Many thanks to our content contributors: Tilmann Disselhoff (Project Coordinator, European Private Land Conservation Network) and Lisa McLaughlin (Acting Vice President of Conservation, Nature Conservancy of Canada).

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The mission of the International Land Conservation Network is to connect organizations and people around the world that are accelerating voluntary private and civic sector action that protects and stewards land and water resources.

Learn more at landconservationnetwork.org.



The ILCN is a project of the [Lincoln Institute of Land Policy](#).



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