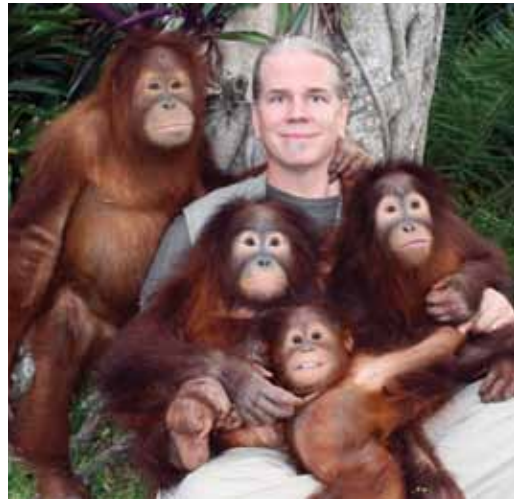




In support of outstanding wildlife conservation initiatives



Letter from the Director



The **Rare Species Fund** (RSF) was established in 1982 to provide financial support to on-site **wildlife conservation projects** and **wildlife educational programs** around the globe. RSF derives its

funding from The Institute for Greatly Endangered and Rare Species (T.I.G.E.R.S.), and from underwriting by philanthropic agencies.

For the past three decades my great joy has been watching the organizations that we support grow and blossom. And there is a direct connection between their success and the memorable interactions between visitors to the T.I.G.E.R.S. Preserve and our resident wildlife.

My staff and I invite you to visit us in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and discover for yourself the excitement of helping to preserve these magnificent animals for generations to come. There is something unique about being in the presence of tigers and other beautiful creations of nature. It is an experience that can transform the way you see yourself and the world around you forever.

Dr. Bhagavan "Doc" Antle
Founder
Rare Species Fund
T.I.G.E.R.S. Preserve
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

THANK YOU

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the many organizations and individuals who have supported the activities of the Rare Species Fund.

These include:

- ICCF
- Wildlife and Environmental Conservation
- Center for Elephant Conservation
- Isis Preservation
- Feline Conservation Federation
- Big Cat Habitat
- Marine World Africa USA
- Robert Duvall and Luciana Pedraza
- David Barron, Founder, International Conservation Caucus Foundation
- Jim Fowler, Zoologist
- Jim Sanderson, Founder, Small Cat Conservation Alliance
- Lynn Culver, Executive Director, Feline Conservation Federation
- Stephen J. O'Brien, Chief, Laboratory of Genomic Diversity, National Cancer Institute
- Terry Lincoln, Director, Dakota Zoo

Rare Species Fund

The Rare Species Fund (RSF) is a non-profit grassroots organization that provides financial support and practical training to in-situ wildlife conservation initiatives. This direct-to-end-user approach places RSF among the world's most effective conservation agencies. The RSF contributes to those efforts that have shown themselves to be the most viable in real-

world conservation of wild species populations.

By putting essential money and equipment directly into the hands of people implementing the programs, RSF ensures the greatest value for every dollar spent.

RSF also works closely with various state, federal and international agencies to help develop sound governmental policies pertaining to con-

serving and protecting the world's wildlife.

By assuring sustained funding for long-term research and conservation projects, RSF optimizes the prospects for preserving endangered species; for releasing captive animals into suitable, protected habitats; and for expanding awareness of the ties between humans and the natural world.



Global Programs

The Rare Species Fund supports projects such as the following:

1 **Tiger**

2 **Leopard**

3 **Cheetah**

4 **Lion**

5 **Orangutan**

6 **Elephant**

7 **Rhino**

8 **Black-footed cat**

Florida /
Jungle Island (**Miami**),
daily wildlife education programs

Massachusetts /
Tale of the Tiger (**Carver**), a thirty-year-old
annual wildlife event

South Carolina /
TIGERS Preserve (**Myrtle Beach**), home to
100 rare and endangered animals; receives
more than 3 million visitors annually

Brazil /
Jaguar conservation and indigenous persons education
(with the **Smithsonian Institution**); mitigation and
reimbursement for livestock lost to predators

Chile /
Andean mountain cat conservation
(with the **Small Wild Cat
Conservation Foundation**)

Namibia /
Cheetah conservation (with the
Cheetah Conservation Fund)

England /
Optimum Population Trust
(with Sir Richard Attenborough)

Kenya /
Orphaned elephant and
rhino care (with the **David
Sheldrick Wildlife Trust**)
elephant conservation
(with the **International
Elephant Foundation**)

Zimbabwe /
Lion, leopard and cheetah conservation
(with **WildCru**); leopard and cheetah
relocation (with the **Matabeleland World
Wildlife Heritage Site**)

South Africa /
Cheetah conservation and public education (with **Cheetah Outreach**); black-footed
cat research and relocation (with the **Black Footed Cat Working Group**); black-footed
cat repopulation and public education (with the **Cat Conservation Trust**); eagle
research and protection (with the **Raptor Research Project**); predator conflict avoid-
ance and problem animal relocation (with the **Endangered Wildlife Trust**)

Thailand /
Tiger conservation, Khao Yai
National Park (with Dr. Jo-Gayle
Howard, the **Smithsonian
Institution**); Asian fishing cat
conservation (with the **Fishing Cat
Research and Conservation
Project**)

Borneo /
Orangutan conservation and
environmental reforestation
(with **Orangutan Foundation
International**)



Educating the Public

For nearly three decades RSF has been the originator of international wildlife tours, documentary films shot on location, books for children about animal friendships, prize-winning wildlife photographic books, online educational programs, and television specials. RSF reaches out through every possible means to increase public awareness of wildlife conservation.

One popular RSF program is Tale of the Tiger in Carver, Massachusetts, an annual event that has entertained millions of visitors over the past thirty years.

Above: Suryia the orangutan and his companion Moksha play with a guest at the TIGERS Preserve. **Below:** RSF-sponsored annual tours to Africa connect visitors with the natural world.



Educating the Decision-Makers

As a direct result of RSF efforts, on September 30, 2010, President Obama signed into law the **Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp** (MSCFSS) legislation. Modeled after the breast cancer semipostal stamp which raised more than \$71 million for research, the MSCFSS will provide critical funds for global conservation projects.



Above and Below: Doc Antle with Congressman Brown and friends on the Hill.

“This couldn’t have been possible without the help of you and your team at TIGERS and the Rare Species Fund. Whether by traveling here to Washington, D.C. to testify on the bill before the House Committee on Natural Resources, or by returning with your animal ambassadors to talk about the value of private conservation, the work you’ve done was essential to our success.”

— Henry Brown, Jr.
Member of Congress,
First District of South Carolina
Author, the MSCFSS legislation



T.I.G.E.R.S. Preserve

The Institute for Greatly Endangered and Rare Species (T.I.G.E.R.S.) is a unique fifty-acre wildlife preserve in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Founded in 1982, the Preserve and its satellite Preservation Stations have received upwards of forty million guests who have had the unique and transformative experience of up-close encounters with some of the

world's most beautiful and endangered animals. The Preserve houses more than 100 rare and endangered animals and is, in the words of one guest, **“a zoo times a zillion”** (*Charlotte Observer*). Participants in daily tours are inspired by the opportunity to caress the soft fur of a lynx, smell the sweet aroma

of a binturong, and witness the heart-pounding chase of tigers running at 45 miles per hour. During these encounters guests connect with wildlife in a manner not available at any other facility. Many have become active in conservation efforts as a result of these experiences. They leave with images that only a few privileged photographers and explorers on safari have

captured after years of travel: a tiger or cheetah running at full speed or swimming across a clear pool, great apes sliding through a jungle canopy, an elephant just a breath away.

Each year revenues generated by the Preserve have gone to Rare Species Fund-approved wildlife programs around the world.

SAVE THE TIGERS, SAVE THE WORLD

“For tigers to survive, we need wide open spaces, pristine lakes and rivers, clean clear skies, plentiful prey, and people who care. In other words, if we save the tiger, we save the world.”

—Bhagavan “Doc” Antle

Visitors to the TIGERS Preserve are inspired by their thrilling encounter with rare and endangered species, an experience that changes how they view their relationships with animals and the natural world.



Tigers

In 2005, RSF hand-delivered seven tigers and oversaw the creation of their habitat in the **Samutprakarn Wildlife Park in Thailand**, the first group of uniquely colored tigers to be established anywhere in Asia. RSF funding supports Thailand's Khao Yai project by providing in-country teams with the means to purchase equipment and learn anti-poaching techniques. RSF also supports training and capacity-building efforts within the **Carnivore Conservation Project in Northern Thailand**, which seeks to secure the population of wild tigers in **Khao Yai National Park**.

Tigers are a barometer of the natural world and ideal wildlife ambassadors for stimulating support of conservation efforts. Estimates by watchdog agencies suggest the worldwide population of tigers has dropped nearly 95% in the past forty years: barely 3,000 individuals remain at large. Up-close and un-caged encounters in properly managed private facilities—in particular, personal contact with the rare and colorful royal white and golden tabby tigers—evokes a lasting emotional response and stimulates the public's interest in supporting tiger preservation efforts.

Many tiger conservation programs divide tiger species along geographic and political lines (Siberia, Indochina, South China, Sumatra, and Bengal). Recent genetic evidence suggests that all modern tigers have descended from a common ancestry dating back only a few thousand years, and that geographic and political borders in no way define what a tiger is. RSF seeks out the finest tiger preservation projects for its support, with emphasis on those natural varieties too often overlooked by conversation programs.

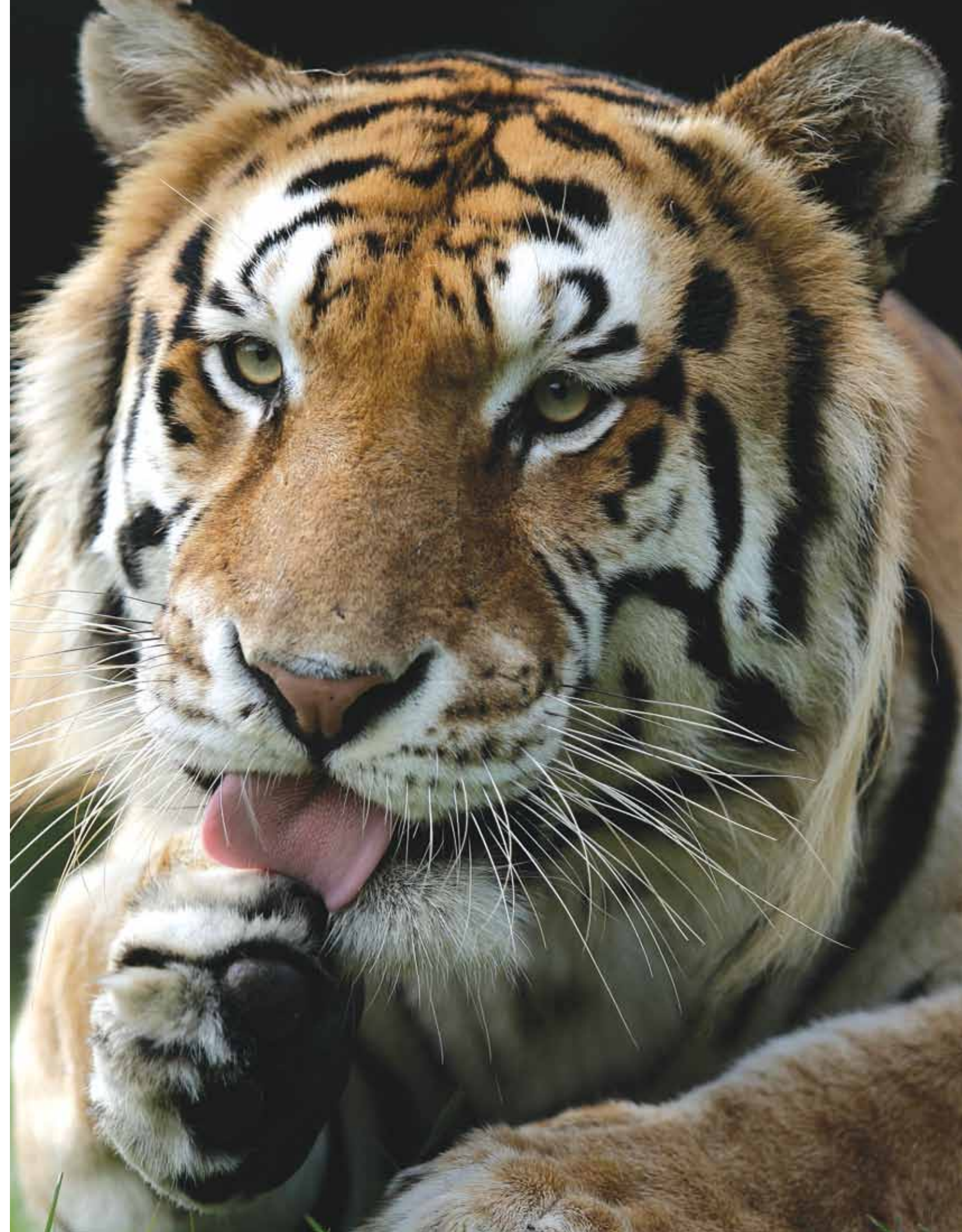
“A tiger from Sumatra and a tiger from South China have less genetic differences than a person from Ireland and a person from Asia.”

—Stephen J. O'Brien

Chief, Laboratory of Genomic Diversity,
National Cancer Institute



Residents and staff of the TIGERS Preserve, with four color variations of tigers: (left to right) standard Bengal, golden tabby, snow white, and royal white.



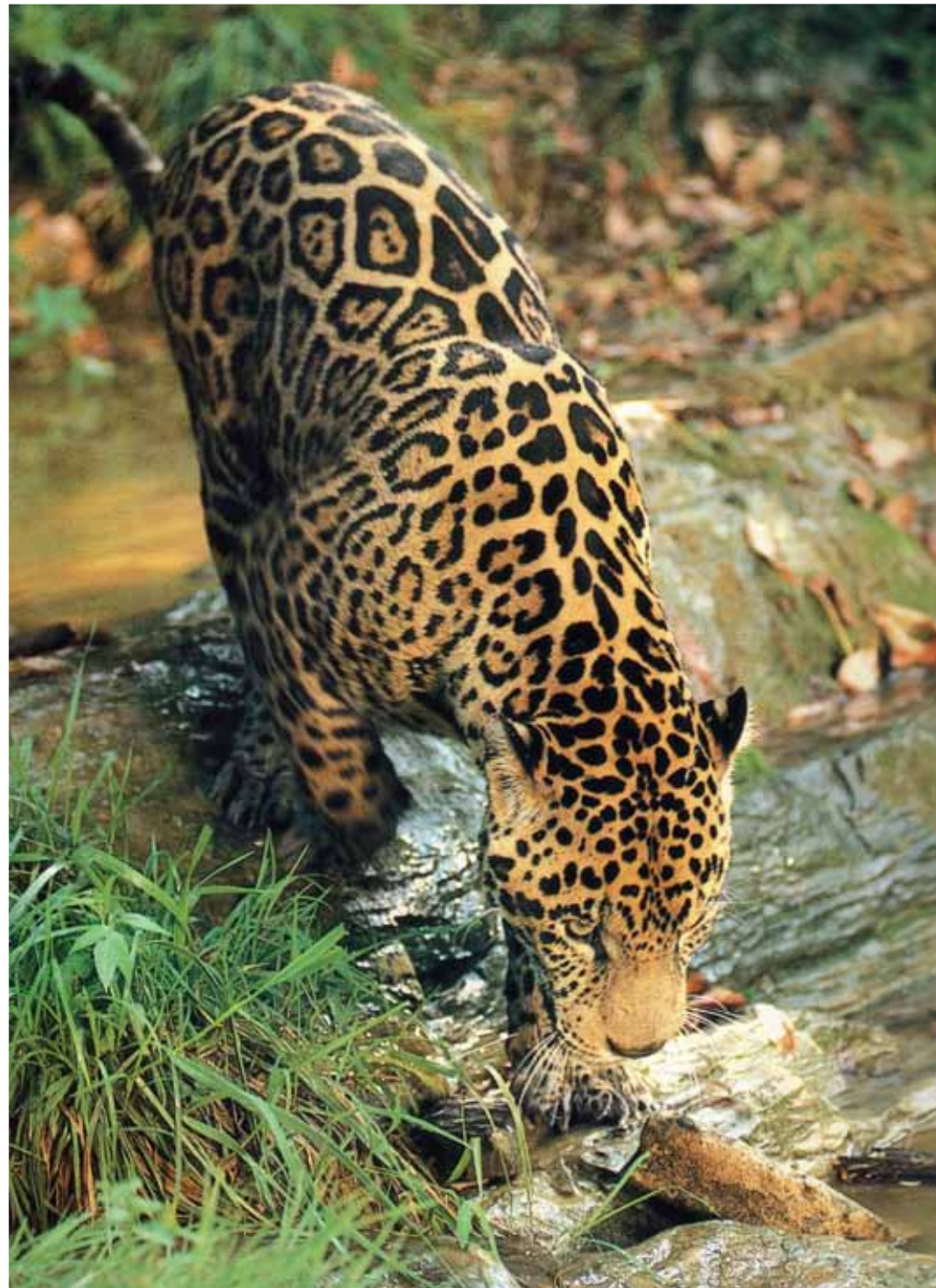
Jaguars

RSF funds assisted the **Smithsonian Institution** in taking battery operated television into the South American rainforest to show remote villages and rural populations a short film of the beauty of jaguars and other South American mega fauna. Due to habitat destruction millions of children and adults who inhabit this region never see these animals in the wild, and the film was part of a widely heralded project to enlighten the native people about their own natural resources. The film was shot using Inca, an adult male jaguar raised at the T.I.G.E.R.S. Preserve. Jaguars from the Preserve were also used as key characters in the film “Jaguar, Year of the Cat” made by “Nature” for international broadcast. This program included the only film clips in the world of a mother jaguar and her cubs in a wild setting.

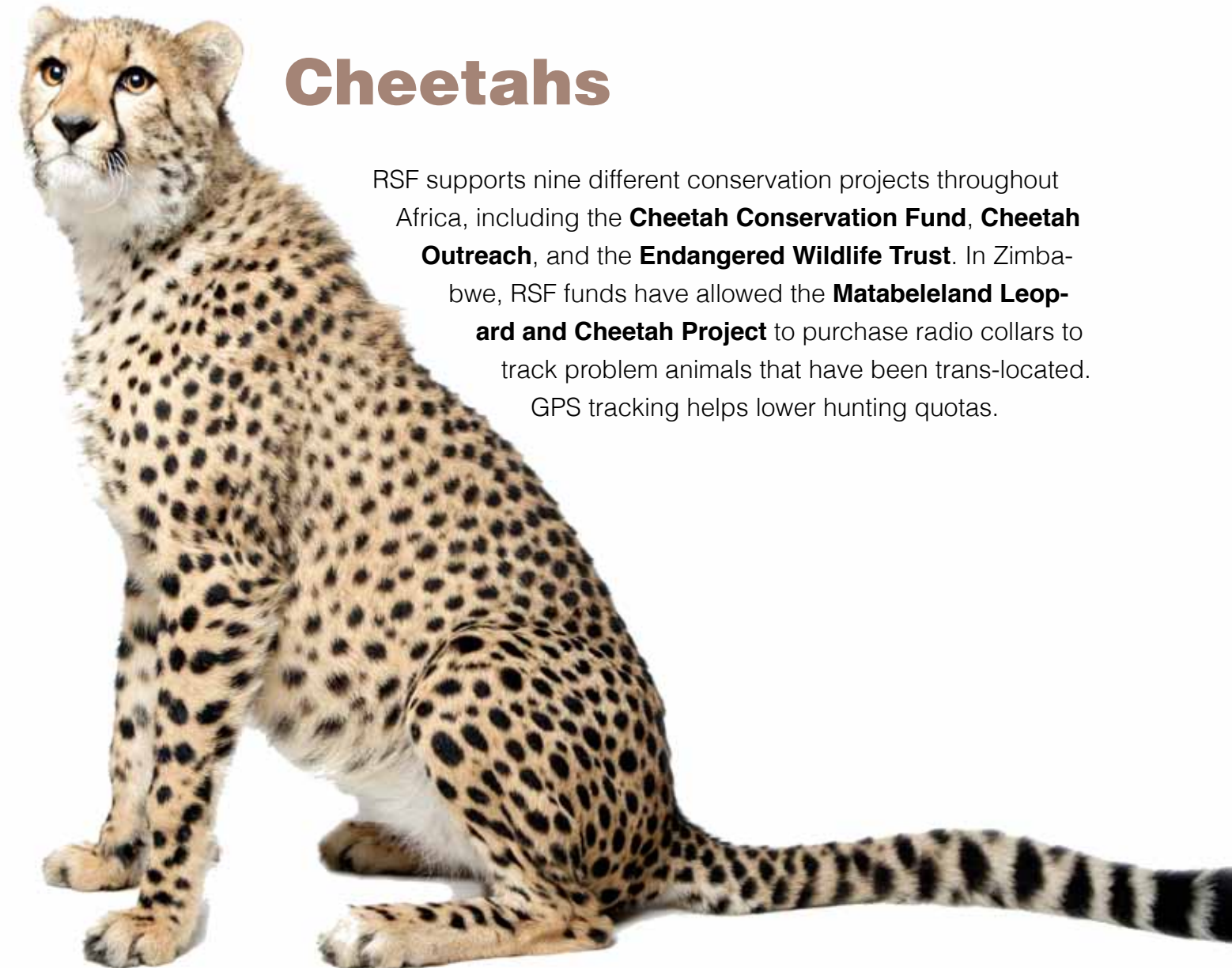
RSF is currently supporting a program that reimburses farmers for livestock lost to wild predators, including jaguars. This initiative ensures

that the predators do not become a financial liability for the farmers and are therefore less likely to be illegally poached. The RSF rewards farmers in the program who set aside a minimum of twenty percent of their land

to be kept in its natural wild state. This ensures a viable habitat for the jaguar and other indigenous wildlife such as tapirs, monkeys, toucans, sloths, caiman and spectacled bears.



Cheetahs



RSF supports nine different conservation projects throughout Africa, including the **Cheetah Conservation Fund, Cheetah Outreach**, and the **Endangered Wildlife Trust**. In Zimbabwe, RSF funds have allowed the **Matabeleland Leopard and Cheetah Project** to purchase radio collars to track problem animals that have been trans-located. GPS tracking helps lower hunting quotas.

“Please know how grateful we are to have your support and your kind donation to spread the word of our conservation efforts.”

Dr. Laurie Marker, Founder/Executive Director
Cheetah Conservation Fund
Otjiwarongo, Namibia

“Thank you so much... Your contribution will go toward the following programs to help save the fastest land mammal on land: hands-on school education programs, teacher workshops, international teacher fellowships, development and distribution of curriculum-linked resources.”

April Davis, Fundraising Chair
CCF—Cheetah Outreach Trust

Orangutans

Founded by Dr. Birute Mary Galdikas in 1986, **Orangutan Foundation International** operates Camp Leakey, an orangutan research area within Tanjung Puting National Park and the Orangutan Care Center, home to 330 displaced orangutans. By protecting orangutans, these organizations simultaneously protect the habitats of many other endangered species. The RSF has invested in the planting of trees to replenish the rainforest located in the vicinity of Tanjung Puting National Park in Central Indonesian Borneo as part of the **OFI Forestry Restoration Program**.



Above: Doc Antle and primatologist Birute Galdikas, renowned authority on orangutans. **Below:** Orangutan mother and child at the TIGERS Preserve.



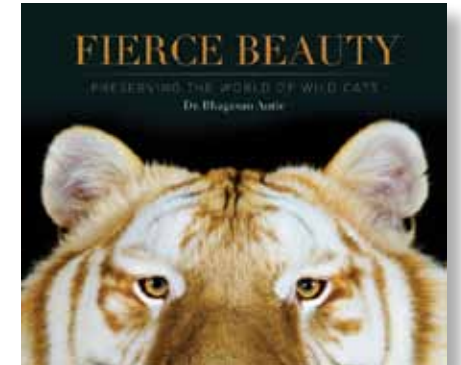
Books

Award-winning books for grownups and children have positioned the Rare Species Fund at the forefront of quality wildlife publications.

FIERCE BEAUTY: Preserving the World of Wild Cats

(Earth Aware Publishing, 324 pages, 110 photographs, \$75)

This deluxe coffee-table volume is intended to stir emotions and raise awareness of the challenges to wildlife preservation. Through stunning portraits and detailed photography, *Fierce Beauty* provides the next-best experience to a live encounter with rare tigers and other endangered big cats.



SURYIA & ROSCOE: The True Story of an Unlikely Friendship

(Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, 32 pages, \$16.99)

Featured everywhere from "The Today Show" and National Geographic to *The New York Post* and YouTube, Surya the orangutan and Roscoe the dog are creating quite a name for themselves. Filled with heartwarming photos, this book follows these unlikely friends as they spend hours together rolling around, going for walks, and even swimming.

A Children's Book Of The Month Club Selection

About the Director

The public knows **"Doc" Antle** from his appearances on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno, Good Morning America, "The Today Show", Animal Planet, National Geographic, and as spokesperson for CNN's programs on big cats. The conservation world knows him for his groundbreaking work as advocate and wildlife conservationist.

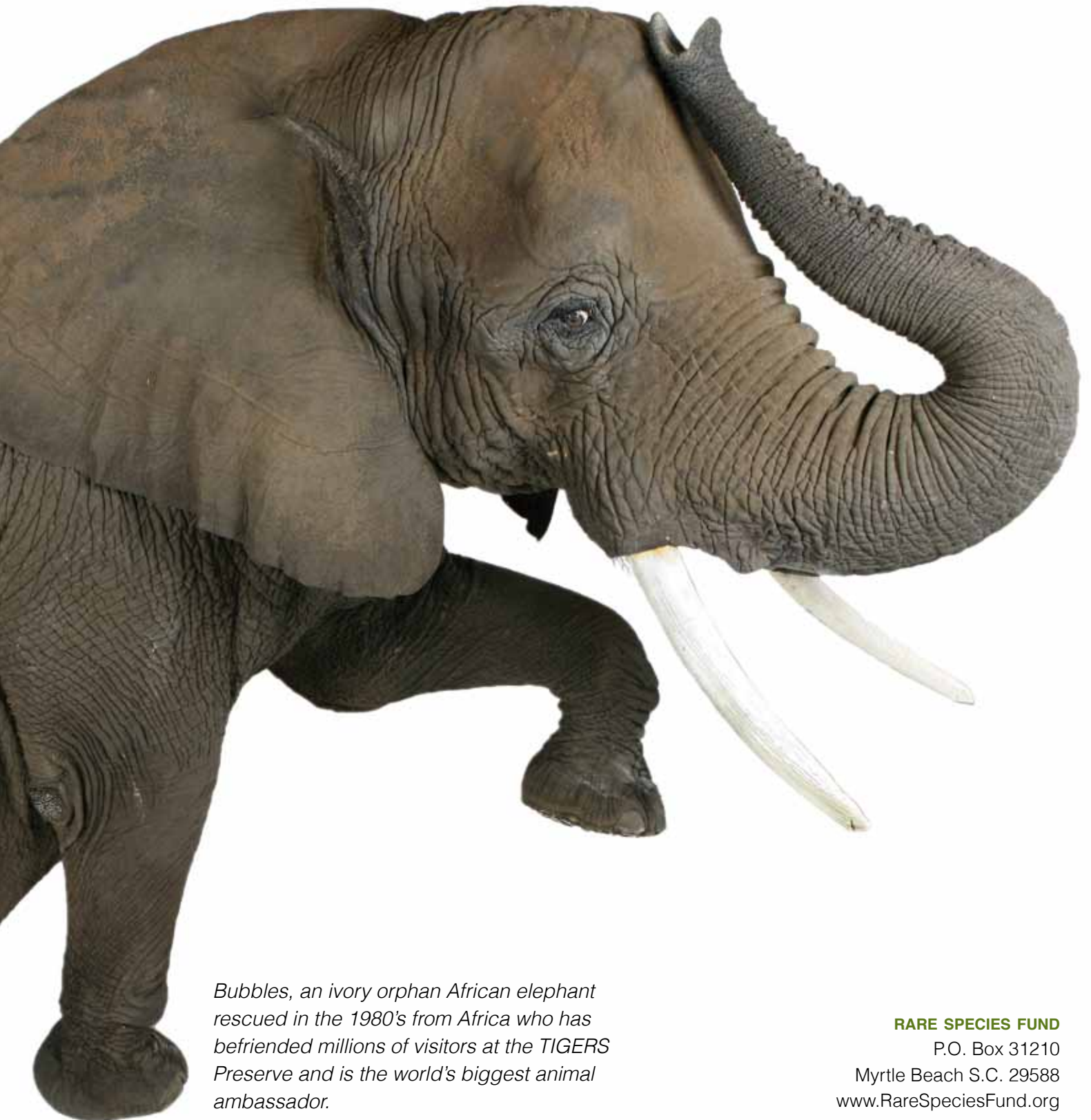
Doc Antle works with organizations such as the Feline Conservation Federation to foster quality wildlife care, education and animal husbandry. He is a leading voice for private wildlife facilities, a self-regulating group of peers who seek improved quality of care and habitat for rare and endangered species.



Doc Antle with the world's largest cat, Hercules, the liger.

*“When the last individual of a race of living beings breathes no more,
another heaven and another earth must pass before such a one can be again.”*

—NATURALIST WILLIAM BEEBE
(1877-1962)



*Bubbles, an ivory orphan African elephant
rescued in the 1980's from Africa who has
befriended millions of visitors at the TIGERS
Preserve and is the world's biggest animal
ambassador.*

RARE SPECIES FUND
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