

# IT'S OUR DUTY To protect them

YOUR GUIDE TO LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

### THE MOST POWERFUL THING YOU Can do for our world

The earth is home to so much life – more beauty than any of us could witness in a lifetime. We have a duty to do all we can to protect it, and leaving a gift to WWF in your will is one of the best ways to do this.

During our own lives, the threats facing our world have increased like never before. The burning of the Amazon, plastic pollution in our seas, the changing climate – so many precious, interconnected ecosystems are at risk.

But we have the power to protect our world – and WWF is leading the fight.

Without the generosity of people like you, who leave gifts in their wills to WWF, our work wouldn't be possible.



I am so thrilled that you are thinking about giving in this way – so, on behalf of all of us here, thank you.

Tanya Steele, Chief Executive, WWF Humpback whales are known for their songs, which echo throughout our oceans.

## YOUR WILL HAS Never been so vital

Fulfil your duty to our planet – and help protect its precious oceans for generations to come.

### FROM THE RAREST Forms of life...

By leaving a gift in your will to WWF, you're making sure that our world is protected: from the rarest creatures and the most fragile habitats, to the collective future of the entire planet.

There are so many reasons that having an up-to-date will is important. It allows you to take care of the people you love most and ensures your wishes are followed after you die. Then, if you choose too, it's a chance to care for the causes close to your heart.

We always recommend seeking legal advice before making or amending your will. But if you're unsure of who to speak to, or simply want more information before speaking to your solicitor, we're here to help.

However you decide to remember WWF, your generosity could look after the world for generations.

Go to the next page to find out how...

WE HAVE A SHARED DUTY

Together, we have the power to protect our planet for generations to come. Will you join the growing number of people choosing to protect the natural world by leaving a gift to WWF in your will?

Over 2,000 species of lappet moth caterpillars can be found worldwide.



Our world is so beautiful and precious, but it needs to be protected. It needs WWF to be there to help safeguard it.

I've supported WWF for years, and I see leaving them a gift in my will as my duty to the natural world. Because they're working so hard to protect it, for each and every one of us.



## ...TO THE DEEPEST OCEANS...

Our oceans are home to incredible creatures. It only takes the smallest change in temperature to put them in danger. We're doing everything we can to protect them – but we need your help. Climate change is threatening to destroy our oceans' wildlife, like these green marine turtles. Warmer sands lead to more females hatching than males, meaning they could struggle to find mates. As a result, their future is at risk.

But we discovered that cooling the sand around the turtles' nests would reset the gender balance and help protect the future of the turtles.

Right now, people like you are helping to protect our oceans and secure the future of so much majestic marine wildlife.

### ...THE WILDEST SAVANNAHS...

The Maasai people have lived alongside wildlife in Kenya and Tanzania for centuries. But the land around them is changing. Under pressure from land privatisation, a growing human population, expanding agriculture, and climate change, the struggle for land is bringing communities into conflict with the wildlife around them.

We've been working with local partners in the Mara to help people and animals coexist – by giving elephants collars.

These collars mean we can track their movements, and identify the routes and habitats they rely on. With this knowledge, we can predict where elephants will go, meaning we can warn local people of their approach and better plan long-term conservation strategies.

It's thanks to gifts in wills that projects like this are possible.

### ...AND ANCIENT RAINFORESTS...

The world's rainforests are being destroyed at an alarming rate. Every minute, an area of precious rainforest the size of five football pitches is lost.



The Amazon is the world's most biodiverse rainforest, and home to 350 indigenous groups. And because it absorbs vast amounts of carbon dioxide from the air, it plays a vital role in our planet's future.

But it's under threat. Illegal land grabbers are deforesting this exquisite rainforest for food production, and uncontrollable forest fires are a direct result.

Thanks to people like you, we're helping local communities to protect the forest using drones. This innovative technology allows locals to capture evidence of illegal deforestation, which they can then report swiftly to the authorities. This helps to protect the Amazon from invasion without putting locals at risk of a potentially dangerous confrontation.

## YOUR GIFT COULD PROTECT THEM ALL

Climate change is the greatest threat the world has ever faced - but with the help of people like you, we can do something about it.





In the polar regions, because of climate change, melting ice is wreaking havoc on people and wildlife.

Polar bears in the Arctic are being forced to swim vast distances in search of food. This drains their energy and puts their lives at risk. And it can lead to bears invading local settlements and coming into conflict with their inhabitants.

We're supporting locally-led polar bear patrols to help prevent any dangerous conflicts between bears and people – and protect this vulnerable species. Your gift could help us do more.

#### **EVERY GIFT MATTERS**

We're very grateful for every gift left to us, no matter how large or small. Every legacy we receive helps to protect our incredible planet, so even a small percentage of your estate would mean such a lot to us.

### We recommend talking to a solicitor

We'd encourage you to discuss your will with a solicitor to ensure that all legal requirements are met and that your will is valid.

A properly drafted will can help reduce the amount of tax payable on your estate and increase the value of the assets that you pass on to your loved ones.

#### If you already have a will

If you decide to leave a gift in your will, you may not need to make a new one. Small changes to your will can be stated in a document called a codicil, which is read in conjunction with your will.

However, your solicitor will need our registered address and charity details, which you can find in the 'sample wording' section.

#### Choose which type of gift you want to leave

You can leave three main types of gift in your will:



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You can leave a percentage of your estate after your family and friends are provided for. This is called a residuary gift.

You can leave a pecuniary gift – which is a fixed sum of money.

Or you could leave a specific gift such as a piece of jewellery or art.

All gifts are important to us. However, residuary gifts are particularly helpful as they usually maintain or increase their value over time.

#### Sample wording for your will

If you do decide to leave a gift, you may wish to discuss the wording below with your solicitor.

To leave a residuary gift, choose the percentage of your estate that you would like to leave to WWF. To leave a pecuniary gift, choose a specific sum of money you would like to leave instead.

'I give <u>% of my residuary estate or £</u> to WWF-UK of The Living Planet Centre Rufford House Brewery Road Woking Surrey **registered charity number 1081247** for its charitable purposes and I further direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer of WWF-UK for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy.'

#### Make your will for free

You can make or amend a standard will at no cost with our partners Bequeathed. Simply visit **bequeathed.org/wwf** 

## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

We know that making a will isn't always easy, but we're here to help. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

## **OUR PROMISE TO YOU**

Leaving a gift to WWF in your will is an important decision. That's why we promise that:

#### YOUR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES COME FIRST

But we hope that, once you have provided for them, you will also remember WWF.

#### WE WON'T PRESSURE YOU

Leaving a gift in your will is a personal matter and your decision to make at your own pace. But from time to time, we might be in touch to share news of our work and invite you to special events in your local area.

#### WE RESPECT YOUR PRIVACY

We'd love to know if you've decided to remember WWF in your will. But we'll keep any details you share with us confidential.

#### WE'LL USE YOUR GIFT WITH THE GREATEST CARE

We spend 78% of all gifts on projects, and invest the rest in raising future income. And for every pound we spend in this way, we raise  $\pounds 4$  more.

Facts correct as of April 2021.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Maria Dyson in our gifts in wills team on 01483 412459 or email maria@wwf.org.uk



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