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TIME Exclusive: The U.N.'s New Survey of the Planet's Health



heroes for the planet

Meet people doing extraordinary things to preserve and protect the environment

PART 7 Wildlife

The latest segment of our two-year series focuses on wildlife conservationists, who work to save endangered species.

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ECO NEWS UPDATE

Endangered Eagles?

July 6, 2000 — The Bald Eagle might be taken off the Endangered Species list because of the recovery the birds have made over the last 20 years. The eagle, a symbol of America since 1782, when the Continental Congress placed it at the center of the Great Seal of the United States in 1782, went from being classified as "endangered" to "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act in 1995, and now the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wants to remove it completely from the list. Some biologists, however, fear that such a move could once again cause the population to decline, because

FEATURED HERO



Carrie Hunt

Lots of bears have a better chance to survive, thanks to Carrie Hunt, a biologist. As director of the Wind River Bear Institute of Heber City, Utah, she travels through the Northwest U.S. and Southwest Canada, training troublesome black bears and grizzlies to stay away from homes and campsites. Find out more about our latest hero for the planet, [Carrie Hunt](#).

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removal from the list could mean a loss of protected habitats and other conservation measures. In 1963 there were only 500 breeding pairs of the Bald Eagle in the lower 48 states, with Alaska being the only state with a healthy population. The decline in population was due to hunting, loss of prey and habitat and the use of the now-banned pesticide DDT. According to federal estimates, the population is now up to 6,000 breeding pairs.

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NOMINATIONS

We are accepting submissions for people who are trying to preserve wildlife. Please write a concise description of your hero and e-mail it [here](#).

NOMINEE: NORMAN BRUNSWIG, Manager, The Francis Beidler Forest, Four Holes Swamp, SC.

WHY NOMINATED: For working for 30 years to preserve and enlarge a swamp holding the largest remaining stand of old growth (virgin) baldcypress/tupelo trees in the world.

[MORE NOMINATIONS>>](#)

