

ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION

PROTECTING LIFE ON EARTH

www.actforconservation.org



U.S. INTERESTS

WHY GLOBAL CONSERVATION MATTERS TO AMERICANS

It's about our health, our security, our pocketbooks and the kind of world we want to leave to our children.

U.S. COMPETITIVENESS

Responsible U.S. companies are being undercut by illegal logging, fishing and mining around the world, which flood the international market with low-cost products. If there were no illegal producers, the U.S. would be able to increase its exports of wood products by about \$460 million per year. The U.S. forest, paper, fishing and mining industries have called for greater efforts to advance conservation that can crack down on illegal resource extraction.

SECURITY

Many experts believe that the increasing competition for fresh water, food and arable land will lead to civil instabilities, mass migrations and conflict around the world. Additionally, many of the world's remaining natural areas are located in remote and poorly governed

regions. Without good management, some of these areas have become refuges for the drug trade and other illegal activities as well as strongholds for terrorist groups who transit easily through poorly controlled wilderness areas.



For more information, visit:
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“The conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem. Unless we solve that problem, it will avail us little to solve all others.”

–Theodore Roosevelt

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

The U.S. is expected to produce an extraordinary 38 percent of all global pharmaceuticals by 2011, a major engine of growth for the U.S. economy. More than one-quarter of all medicinal drugs possess active ingredients from natural areas. Medicines derived from natural sources, including 10 of the world's 25

top-selling drugs, have a market value of \$75 billion to \$150 billion per year. But the loss of habitat and species is estimated to eliminate one prescription drug from entering the market every two years between 1991 and 2050.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Leading an international effort to protect the Earth's last vestiges of nature is precisely the kind of visionary role the world expects and relies on America to fill. This effort will enable the U.S. to bring principled, international leadership to a critical global priority. The U.S. should look beyond its usual partnerships with donor countries in Europe and East Asia and ask emerging centers of wealth and power to play a meaningful role in addressing the conservation crisis. Such an approach could help move these global players to become responsible stakeholders in global sustainability.

