



*Symposium on Science and Stewardship to Protect and Sustain Wilderness Values*  
6-13 November 2009, Mérida, Mexico

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

(concurrent science, stewardship & education sessions - 9<sup>th</sup> World Wilderness Congress)

Symposium concurrent sessions of WILD9 are in addition to plenary sessions and other events planned for the Congress in association with The WILD Foundation, the Wilderness Task Force of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and Unidos para la Conservación. Visit the official Congress website ([www.wild9.org](http://www.wild9.org)) for information regarding the exceptional variety of Congress program offerings (policy, technical, training, cultural and more), as well as general information (registration, accommodations, pre/post trips) as it becomes available.

WILD9's central theme is *Wilderness as a strategic element in the global response to climate change*, including scientific, mitigation and adaptation roles. Some broad sub-themes for the Congress include advancing our knowledge related to freshwater contributions of wildland protection, transboundary connectivity benefits and threats, risks and benefits of natural and prescribed fire, land and seascape disturbance issues, and human communities in transition in relation to nature. This symposium will be structured to enhance international and intercultural communication (WILD9 will feature bi-lingual translations of presentations - Spanish and English) and will integrate poster presentations into oral presentation sessions to increase one-on-one dialogue. Input received in response to an earlier "Call for Participation" suggests the desire to specifically recruit oral or poster presentations under the following proposed program areas, though other topics will be considered:

- ❖ **The Wild Yucatan: Unique Cultural and Biophysical Resources and Threats**
- ❖ **Hydrologic and Human Connections With Aquatic Systems**
  - **Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity – Freshwater and Marine**
  - **Ecological Services of Water & Wilderness: Keeping Freshwater Resources Wild**
- ❖ **Building from the Best: Nature Protection, Humans, and Tourism**
- ❖ **Global Change & Wilderness: Climate Change Economics, Cultural Adaptation, Fire Restoration, Monitoring & Stewardship**
- ❖ **Personal Growth, Recreation, Ethics and Environmental Attitudes Related to Protected Nature**
- ❖ **Private Land Conservation: Benefits, Costs and the Future**
- ❖ **Evolving Relationships Between Indigenous People and Wilderness: Applying Traditional Knowledge to Mitigate Climate Change Effects and Protect Cultural Landscapes**
- ❖ **Life at the Edge: Transboundary Protection and Restoration, Biological Corridors, Buffer Zones, and Mega Reserves**
- ❖ **The Role of Education, Training and Conflict Resolution in Stewardship of Wilderness Resources**

Please submit abstracts (500 words or less) for presentations or sessions by e-mail (preferred), fax or regular mail by *APRIL 1, 2009* to: [Symposium@wild9.org](mailto:Symposium@wild9.org); *WILD9 Symposium*, Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, 790 E Beckwith Ave, Missoula, MT 59801 USA, or FAX 406-542-4196. Papers will be submitted at the time of the Congress for consideration as research or stewardship contributions. A peer review process will guide selection and publication of science papers.

*Gracias y Saludos! Symposium Co-chairs*

*Alan Watson (Leopold Institute) and Joaquin Murrieta-Saldivar (Director, Mexico Program, Sonoran Institute)*