WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium’s unmatched reputation transcends that of just a local zoo, because our community has invested in making us one of the best zoos in the country. We strive to use this national influence to elevate the Zoo as a global leader in wildlife conservation.

There are very few “wild” habitats left on Earth, and addressing the complex and interconnected world of humans and wildlife can seem daunting. The Columbus Zoo and The Wilds are perfectly positioned to address local, national and global challenges facing vulnerable ecosystems and diverse species. We believe that together with our conservation partners, we can achieve a more sustainable coexistence of all living things.

Decades of experience in the field has taught us one critical thing: effective conservation starts with inspiring, empowering and partnering with people. We jump at the opportunity to share the wonder of wildlife with our guests... inspiring them through powerful storytelling and meaningful animal encounters. We empower impoverished communities by giving families the resources they need to thrive while reducing their environmental impact. And, we partner with passionate people who are leading innovative conservation projects in 36 countries – protecting animals and, in some cases, bringing them back from the brink of extinction.

To make a sustainable, long-lasting impact on wildlife and wild places, we will:

» **STRENGTHEN** our signature conservation efforts – including unparalleled rhino breeding success at The Wilds; rehabilitation and reintroduction of endangered Florida manatees; and pioneering partnerships in Rwanda that promote the coexistence of people and wildlife

» **INVEST** $1 million or more annually in active wildlife conservation projects and grassroots efforts through our grants program

» **GROW** our capacity to respond immediately to wildlife crisis situations such as natural disasters, illegal trafficking and widespread disease