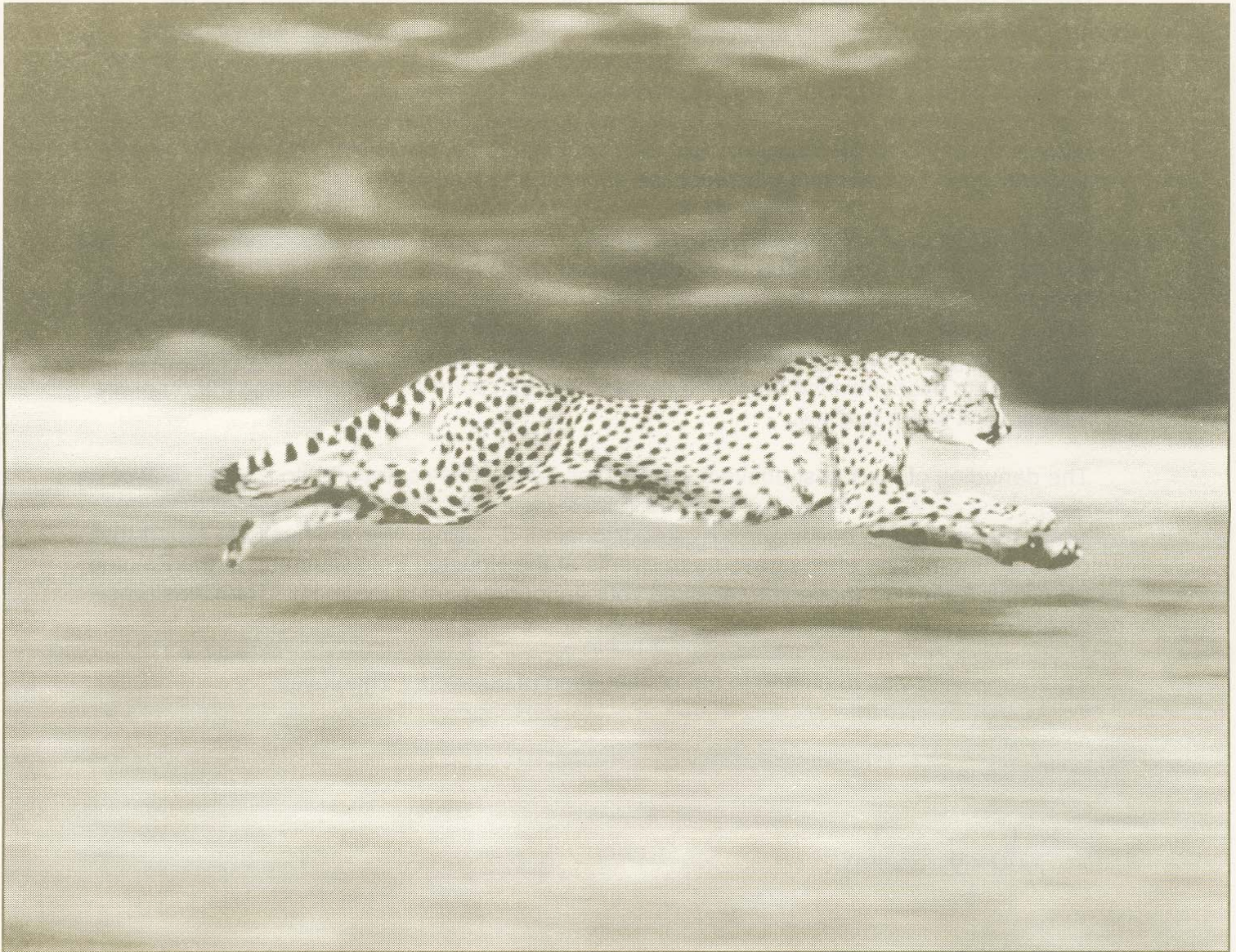


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Dear Friends,

Many of you have called our office in Los Angeles expressing your concern after the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. Our education center and the Mt. Kenya Game Ranch is located in Nanyuki, which by road is just under three hours due north of Nairobi, so we were not directly affected. We were, however, indirectly affected. The exact toll of the lives of local people is not known, nor is there an accurate estimate of the injured. What we do know is that all medical reserves were, and continue to be, depleted in Nairobi, and they desperately need help restoring the supplies of blood and medicine.

The infrastructures in Kenya have been greatly tested by not only the bombing disaster, but by last year's El Niño (lest we forget!). Many of our student groups have been personally challenged by these events and the ensuing rise in inflation, which has curtailed many of the schools extra-curricular activities. In spite of all that, we are still maintaining a regular flow of students all eager for as much as they can get of our educational programs and materials. There exists an overwhelming thirst and demand for education on all fronts, and the numbers of students just seem to grow.

The denuding of the forest above the education center has contributed to a great deal of flooding at the center so expenses have risen for repairs in excess of any in previous years. Naturally repairs and re-building requires additional fund-raising. We are happy to report that among our fund-raising efforts have been events at the Houston Polo Club and at the Painted Ladys Glitter Safari '98 (hope you received your announcement in the mail). The Christmas cards are once again available - see page eight for ordering information.

Your support is vital to us and to the continuation of our work. Thank you.

Warmest Regards,

Stefanie Powers

News From Kenya: Scholarship Success Story

From 1994 to 1997, Beatrice Wamuyu Mwai studied at Alliance Girls High School in Nanyuki, Kenya with the aid of a scholarship from Ascot Heath County Infant School in Berkshire, England. Beatrice comes from a humble background, with her single mother supporting six children. Her father died in 1986.



In a recent letter to the Foundation, Beatrice wrote: "Please accept my greetings and appreciation. I am writing to thank you so much for the concern you have showed towards my education for all these years. You came to my aid when I was at Wathituga Primary School when I was very much in need and got me a scholarship through the Ascot Heath School which saw me successfully complete high school. When I was at the Alliance High School, some people visited our school and gave us a talk on further education and careers which included scholarship contacts. I applied for two scholarships and just received information that I have qualified for a scholarship to do medicine as a major in the states. You have made me what I am today, and I will always be grateful to you. I will keep in touch as I will always be a child of the Foundation. Thank you very much and God bless you. Beatrice Mwai" In addition, Beatrice is a keen conservationist and will always help further the cause of preservation of all species.

The directors and staff of the William Holden Wildlife Foundation Education Center congratulate Beatrice, Mrs. Rosalie Cameron, Mrs. Audry Birch and her pupils of the Ascot Heath County Infant School for a job well done. We urge all our other scholarship students to emulate Beatrice.



Good News for Mustangs!

The International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros announced on Sept. 23rd, the acquisition of the entire herd of wild horses located at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. These horses represent the last of nearly 1800 wild horses which once roamed the two million acre range and were scheduled for total removal this year. The horses will be moved to South Dakota next May. The president of ISPMB, Karen Sussman, says "The most important aspect of this project is that it will preserve a rare gene pool of wild horses." Prior to 1989, wild horses from the range had to be turned over to the state and sold for slaughter. The law was changed in the early 1990's and, with the cooperation of the army, it was possible to remove horses into adopted homes, but this removal will allow these wild horses to run free on a private ranch where the ISPMB will form a national wild horse and burro center. For more information, please contact us at WHWF.



1.8 NEWS

Death threat to 7,000 tree species

Ian Waldie

THE world's forests are being stripped of their rarest trees. The first global survey reveals that 1 in 12 species is in danger of extinction.

More than 7,000 tree varieties are at immediate risk as some of the world's richest forests are burnt and cleared for agriculture, timber and urban development.

Sara Oldfield, an expert with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre at Cambridge, which co-ordinated the study, said: "I don't think anyone realised how many trees were at risk. It's only when we pieced together the different parts of the jigsaw from people on the ground that we got the overall scale of the global problem."

Yesterday, foreign and finance ministers from the G8 group of industrialised nations said in London they had approved an action programme to tackle the destruction of the world's forests. Robin Cook, the foreign secretary, said: "The past year has seen concern in many quarters of the world over the destruction of our forests and in particular the dramatic damage that has risen from forest fires."

David Bellamy, the botanist,

by Steve Farrar

said: "There's never been as much species destruction as there is now. Perhaps we have just started to come to our senses in time and can do something to stop it."

The Cambridge report, the product of two years' work by an international team of more than 300 experts, identifies for the first time every species in danger. Many of the species have important medical applications: one threatened tree that grows in Argentina and Bolivia is being studied as a possible source of a drug treatment for HIV infection. Other species are vital for the preservation of eco-systems.

In Britain, the researchers found three rare native species of the whitebeam to be in imminent danger of extinction. The most endangered is the Wilmott whitebeam, a variety that grows only in the Avon Gorge near Bristol. Just 20 bushes survive. Experts revealed last week that the two last mature trees were cut down by conservationists by mistake.

Even the oak, popularly held as a symbol of strength and



Extinction: David Bellamy fears unprecedented destruction

reliability, is vulnerable. Many of Mexico's 99 oak species are being pushed towards extinction by overgrazing and land clearance.

The Sir Harold Hillier Gardens in Hampshire is participating in an international attempt to save some of these trees and has imported the seed of 30 varieties to be propagated in local nurseries.

Brazil faces losing the Pau-brasil, the tree that gave the country its name and is internationally sought-after as the raw material for making the highest-quality violin bows.

Dr Gwilym Lewis, principal scientific officer at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, said: "This remarkable tree has been removed in enormous quantities over the centuries and is

10 MAY 1998 • THE SUNDAY TIMES

now under threat because it is still a most desirable timber for the musical instrument business. This is another example of the natural history of the planet disappearing at an alarming rate."

John Harvey, head of nature conservation for the National Trust, said he was not surprised about the extent of the problem but his organisation tried to

use sustainable sources of British timber in its work whenever possible.

Tony Juniper, campaigns director of Friends of the Earth, the environmental pressure group, said: "I don't think there's any doubt in informed scientific circles that we're heading towards an ecological disaster comparable to the one that made the dinosaurs extinct.

"That's the scale of man's impact on the Earth and it puts what this report says into perspective."

Oldfield said the Cambridge survey, which identifies a total of about 100,000 tree species, was not exhaustive. There are many species that have not yet been identified.

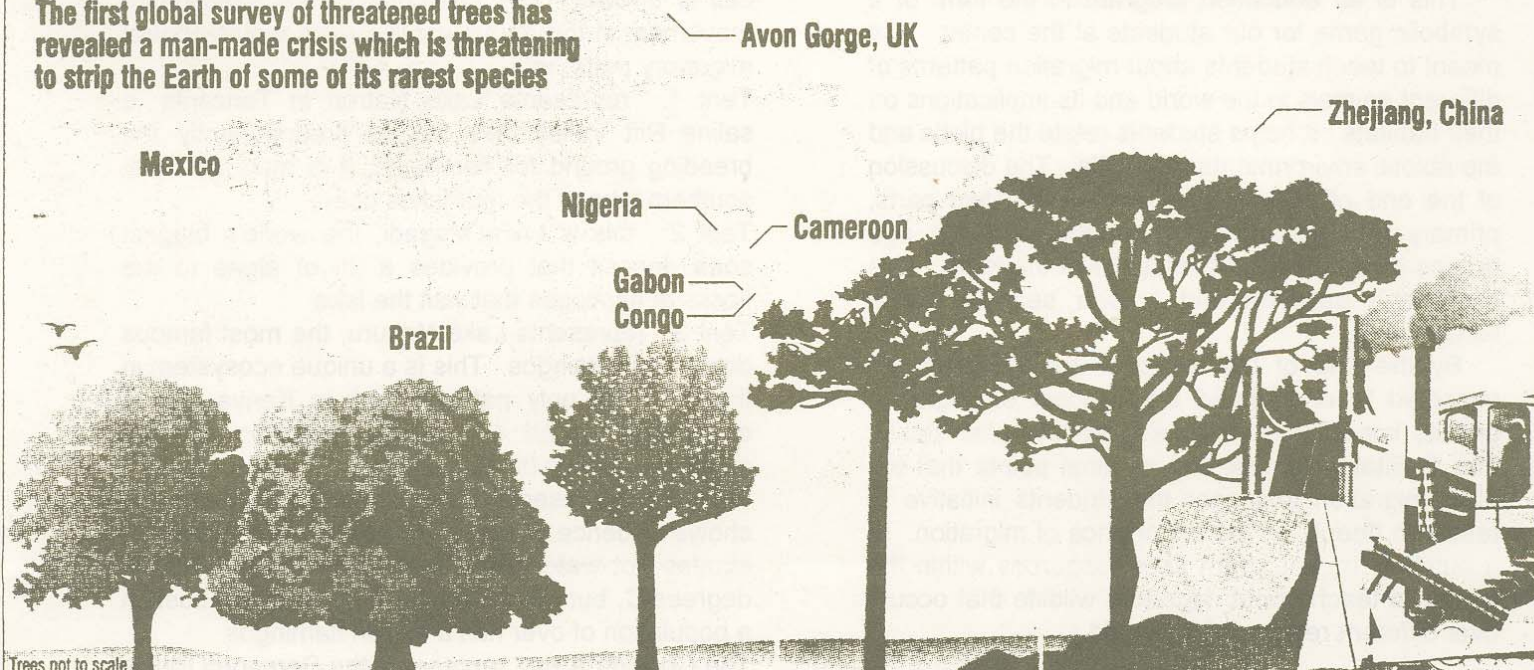
"Very little is known about rare trees growing in some of

the more isolated forests in central Africa, New Guinea and the Amazon," she said.

The report was compiled before the man-made fires that destroyed swathes of tropical rainforest and millions of trees in Borneo and Sumatra last year. "It's safe to assume the disaster wiped out some species nobody had ever seen before," she said.

THE WORLD'S MOST ENDANGERED TREES

The first global survey of threatened trees has revealed a man-made crisis which is threatening to strip the Earth of some of its rarest species



MEXICAN OAKS

Many rare species are being pushed to the brink of extinction and land clearance for agriculture

PAU-BRASIL

The tree which gave Brazil its name is much sought after by violin bow makers for its unique qualities

WILMOTT'S WHITEBEAM

Just 20 of UK's rarest indigenous species of the yellow flowering tree are clinging to life in the Avon Gorge

MOABI

Rainforest tree found in Central Africa which has seriously declined as logging companies exploit it for timber

CHINESE CONIFERS

Urban expansion and land clearance has meant many ancient trees which have survived for centuries are being felled

ANIMAL MIGRATION

Prepared for the

William Holden Wildlife Foundation Education Centre

by Francis Maina and Peter Maina

Migrants on the Move:

Simply put, migration is to move from one place to another. Migration is also a change of habitat on a temporarily or permanent basis. Animals that migrate are called migrants, those that don't are residents. Migration can occur over long or short distances alike. Animals migrate for various reasons, but whatever the reason, it is important to the animal and its environment in one way or another. Reasons for migration would range from looking for pasture, water, escaping winter, to breed or when threatened by man.

This is an education program in the form of a symbolic game for our students at the center. It is meant to teach students about migration patterns of different animals in the world and its implications on their habitats. It helps students relate the biotic and the abiotic environments of wildlife. The discussion at the end of the game is divided into two parts, primary and secondary, to enable different age groups comprehend the essence of the topic. This involves a question and answer session and a lecture.

By the end of the exercise, the students are expected to understand the concept of migration and its importance in keeping ecosystems stable. The facilitator will use the cardinal points that explain migration to trigger the students initiative to research deeply on the importance of migration. In a nutshell, this program uses resources within the center to teach about migratory wildlife that occurs over different regions of the world.

Objectives:

- 1) to investigate stimuli of migration, for example weather conditions, breeding, search for pasture, prey and water
- 2) to assess the benefit of migration both to the animal world and the environment
- 3) to evaluate the groups of animals that are major migrates and those that make short or no migrations at all; for example, a hippo verses a wildebeest
- 4) to assess the migration patterns on terrestrial lifestyles (represented by wildebeest) and aquatic lifestyles (represented by flamingos)

To study the physical environments in which these animals occur and the impact on man on these ecosystems, four Rift Valley lakes have been used in the game as migratory sites for flamingos, each represented by a tent. These are four fragile water ecosystems, whose continued stability is threatened by man.

The Game:

The Ball: represents the needs of the animals, for example water and food that cause migration. As such the students would run to the place where the ball is thrown. The ball controls the direction of movement in the game just like rains would control migratory patterns.

Tent 1: represents Lake Natron in Tanzania, a saline Rift Valley lake that is predominantly the breeding ground for flamingos. It is also the most southern lake of the four lakes used.

Tent 2: this is Lake Magadi, the world's biggest soda deposit that provides a lot of algae to the flocks of flamingos that visit the lake

Tent 3: represents Lake Nakuru, the most famous domain of flamingos. This is a unique ecosystem in that it is the only national park in Kenya that is completely fenced off, leaving migration to birds alone and mainly the flamingos

Tent 4: represents Lake Bogoria. A lake that shows evidence of active volcanically in the area. It exudes hot water at a temperature well above 92 degrees C, but most important the lake can sustain a population of over half a million flamingos

The Cooking Area: represents the Serengeti Plains in Tanzania. This is the starting point for the wildebeest herds in their annual migration

The Area Outside Simba: stands for the Massai Mara Game Reserve, a temporary destination for the herds from Tanzania.

The Game:

A group of 40 students can participate. They are divided into two groups, one of 20 flamingos and another of 20 wildebeests. These groupings represent animals whose life is largely aquatic and those that lead a predominantly terrestrial life, for flamin-

goes and wildebeests respectively. They also represent birds and mammals respectively in migration patterns. For the sake of convenience the facilitator can divide each of the above two groups by half, so that we end with two flamingos groups and two wildebeest teams. However the size of the groups given here are not static and the facilitator can make convenient groupings depending on the initial student level.

The facilitator starts by selecting one of the flamingo groups and throws the ball to Lake Bogoria (the tent near the dining place). The students (selected groups of flamingos) run to the particular tent and the last two are disqualified. To make this more interesting, the students must run (hop) on one leg. The disqualified students represent flamingos that are very slow to compete and cannot survive in the migration. At this point, the facilitator explains the evolution term 'Survival of the Fittest' and its importance in ensuring only the superb genes are left in a species to propagate. The ball continues to be thrown in other lakes, progressively eliminating the last students until the last two or three remain to represent the flamingos, which would otherwise survive in the migration. The second group of flamingos represents another generation and is conducted through a similar exercise to derive the best flamingos.

The second phase of the game takes the wildebeests from Serengeti to Massai Mara and back progressively eliminating the last wildebeests until the best of the wildebeest is found. The second group of the wildebeest enters the race and is similarly tested. The students run on all fours and compete between the cooking place and the area outside Simba. After the winning flamingos and wildebeests are identified, the whole group sits at the Fire Place and the facilitator explains the essence of the whole exercise. The students get to answer questions on migration, its causes and importance to the species and the environment.

A copy of 'Animal Migration Patterns' is available in the library for prior review by the facilitator. Also, some video tapes like 'Year of the Wildebeest' by Alan Root can be very instrumental in explaining the annual wildebeest migration. It covers the physical aspects of these Rift Valley lakes that are homes and passage ways for flamingos. It also features the two ecosystems Serengeti and Massai Mara, and continues to give the particular needs of the two animals that cause them to migrate. Finally, the whole program sums up in emphasis for enough space for wildlife that would enhance their migration trends and provide for their needs.

The Great Rift Valley

This great icon of nature's wonder runs down a stretch that displays splendid lakes, loveable mountains and hills, breathtaking cliffs and valleys and admirable geysers and springs. The world's mightiest valley runs down from Afar Depression in Ethiopia to make the Eastern walls in Kenya and Tanzania, the western walls in Uganda, Eastern Zaire before running down into Zambia and Malawi to meet the eastern wall in Mazambique.

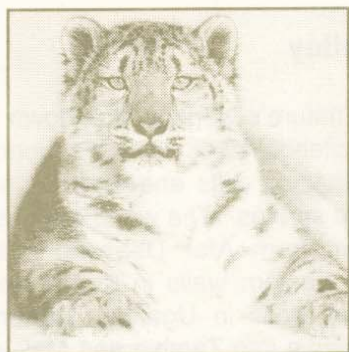
Almost all lakes in this major region are in this 'Giant Crack'. Alkaline lakes are a notable landmark in the Rift Valley. Fresh water lakes are not any less notable and one of them, Lake Naivasha has been proposed as a possible Ramsar Site. Ramsar Convention designates wetlands of international importance and which need concerted efforts between states in their conservation.

The Serengeti

In the language of the Massai, 'siringet' means a wide open space. The Serengeti lies in northern Tanzania. It is bounded by the Rift Valley and the Ngorongoro Highlands to the south and east, Lake Victoria to the west and the Isuria escarpment to the north.

The dry season is June through October, while the rainy season is November through May. The major habitats are grasslands, woodlands, rivers and rock outcrops. The park has two small soda lakes, many marshes and water seeps.

Established in 1951, the Serengeti is the largest and oldest of Tanzania's national parks. The boundaries of the park are intended to encompass the migration of the wildebeest, and have been altered as more has been learned about migration. The entire route of the wildebeest defines the Serengeti Ecosystem. In 1981, the park was made a world heritage site and together with the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, a biosphere reserve. Both designations emphasize Serengeti's value. The Serengeti is home to more than two million large animals. The wildebeest are the most numerous and number around 1.2 million. All the Serengeti's animals are linked together by a complex web of inter-relationships. The migration takes the wildebeest and zebra on a migration journey through country that harbors all the large predators: lions and leopards, cheetahs and wild dogs, hyenas and jackals and in the north, some of the largest crocodiles in Africa.



"Wishing you the best
of the holiday season."

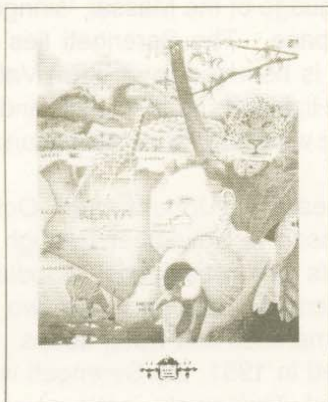


**William Holden Wildlife Foundation
Offers
Holiday Greeting Cards**



"Have a wildly
wonderful holiday!"

Once again, the William Holden Wildlife Foundation is pleased to announce that we are making available directly to our members, our line of holiday greeting cards. Each pack contains 10 holiday cards and envelopes, and is available for \$12.00 each. Postage and handling for United States members is \$2.00 for the first pack, and \$1.00 thereafter. For all international members, postage and handling is \$4.00 for the first pack, and \$2.00 thereafter. Holiday cards are available now from our Los Angeles office and will be throughout the coming holiday season.



Posters are \$18.00 each (\$15.00 plus \$3.00 postage.)
Please send check or money order to:

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
Post Office Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Please send _____ poster(s) to:

Name _____

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City: _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Just a reminder that the Foundation has WHWF t-shirts!

T-shirts are \$12.00 each (\$10.00 plus \$2.00 postage).
Please send your check or money order to:

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
Post Office Box 67981, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Please indicate size/color and quantity below:

White or Power Blue

Safari Green or Black

Small _____

Medium _____

Large _____

Extra Large _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____