

Civets, like the one pictured above, are found throughout Asia and Africa, including many of our project sites.



CC attended the annual Peace Corps Connect Conference and Advocacy Day in D.C.



Two hunters turned conservationists install camera traps in Somié



Our annual PPP fundrasier was a success. We raised over $13,000 for conservation!

FALL 2025

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

Protecting biodiversity, one community at a time.

SEASONS OF CHANGE

CELEBRATING LOCAL ACTION AND GLOBAL IMPACT

Dear Friends of Community Conservation,

Summer in Wisconsin has been both beautiful and busy. I had the privilege of leading our first country-focused online workshop for young conservationists in Bangladesh, with participants also joining from Nepal and Cameroon. The conversations were rich and inspiring, and new projects are already emerging, from conserving bird habitats in riparian areas to conserving elephants in northeast Bangladesh.

At home, we celebrated our biggest Pedal, Paddle, Plod (PPP) yet, with more teams and participants than ever. Together, we raised over $13,000 for communities worldwide and logged more than 700 activities!

I also traveled to Washington, D.C., for Peace Corps Connect, where I shared how my Peace Corps service continues to shape my work with Community Conservation. During my first Peace Corps Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill, I was able to lift up the stories of communities leading conservation around the world. While there, I also met with Friends of Malaysia, whose generous support is strengthening women's conservation efforts at our Malaysia site.

As summer winds down, I invite you to stay connected through our latest blog posts, free online lectures and podcasts, and stories on social media (yes, even YouTube!). You can keep the momentum going by forwarding our updates to a friend, joining our Ambassadors-At-Large Program, planning your legacy, or making a gift. And if you have a donor-advised fund, #HalfMyDAF ends on September 26, 2025. However you decide to help, I know that together we can continue to show that when communities lead, conservation thrives.

Thank you for your support.

Dr. Teri Allendorf, Executive Director

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A SPECIAL THANK YOU

$1000 GRANT AWARDED TO MALAYSIAN CONSERVATIONISTS



A BIG thank you to Friends of Malaysia, an RPCV group, for awarding a $1,000 grant to support women's activities at our Malaysia site. Expanding women's participation in conservation is a priority shared by all our partners (see our blog post on this). This generous grant has also sparked new conversations about women-centered initiatives across our sites.

INSIGHTS & ACTION

ARE YOU USING THESE FREE RESOURCES?



We've published several new blog posts since our last newsletter, and we hope you'll enjoy reading them. If you haven't explored our "Resources" page yet, now's a great time! We're regularly adding new lectures and podcast episodes, and you'll also find links to all our social media channels at the bottom of our homepage.

EVENTS THAT YOU MADE SPECIAL

CC ON TOUR CONTINUES INTO THE 2025-2026 SEASON



Special thanks to the supporters and volunteers who joined us at Valley Stewardship Network's 25th-anniversary event in June and the spoken-word event at the Rob Horwich Art Garden in August. We love connecting with supporters and fellow conservationists in the wild and bonding over a shared love for the planet. If you know of an event in 2025–2026 that CC should attend or speak at, please email our Development Director, Kellie Surmacz.

Donate Today! Donations determine the number of projects we can undertake in a year and the number of endangered plant and animal species we can protect. Thank you!

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



We are excited to welcome our newest board member, Charli Cardenas, SPHR! Charli grew up on a dairy farm in northeastern South Dakota, where her love of the outdoors began. She earned her B.A. in Business Management (HR concentration, Psychology minor) from Southwestern Minnesota State University in 2008 and her M.S. in Human Resources from Southern New Hampshire University in 2017. Charli has served in multiple leadership roles, including membership director on the South Dakota State HR Council and founder of DisruptHR Sioux Falls. She also holds her SPHR certification. Outside of work, Charli's son Desmond inspires her passion for conservation. In her free time, she enjoys reading, running, motorcycling, and spending time with her pets, Apollo and Mr. Peanut.

And yes! We're looking for new board members. Learn more at: bit.ly/CCJointheBoard

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Doug Pierce, Vice President
Anne B. Clark, Secretary
Shauna Steigerwald, Treasurer
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