



POINT LOMA

NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

San Diego, CA

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News

Irreplaceable: Wildlife in a Warming World

Campaign and Exhibit Educate Public about Species Imperiled by Global Warming, Feature Stunning Images by Award-Winning Wildlife Photographers

San Diego, California – October 3, 2008 – “[Irreplaceable: Wildlife in a Warming World](#),” a national traveling photo exhibit raising awareness about plants and animals threatened by climate change, opened this week at Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) in San Diego. The exhibit will be on display through October 15th as part of the University’s fifth annual “[Creation Care Week](#),” a celebration of Christian values of environmental stewardship, including sustainability and the protection of biodiversity.

The “*Irreplaceable: Wildlife in a Warming World*” exhibition is a collaboration of art, justice, science, and faith groups that aims to inspire hope, wonder, and action through the beauty and power of images.

Featuring work by award-winning wildlife conservation photographers, the 40-print exhibit brings the public face-to-face with the wildlife most threatened by climate change – from the Pacific salmon and monarch butterflies along California’s coasts to the American pika and wolverine of the Sierra Nevada. The images will be on view in PLNU’s Nicholson Commons Living Room. The Irreplaceable exhibit is co-sponsored by [Earthjustice](#), [Noah Alliance](#), [International League of Conservation Photographers](#) (ILCP), and [Conservation International’s Center for Applied Biodiversity Science](#) (CABS.) Local partners include [Restoring Eden](#) and Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU).

“All faith traditions teach that we are called to care for the vulnerable. And in today’s world, this includes species suffering because of climate change,” said Suellen Lowry, Noah Alliance program director.

“We’re honored to bring the *Irreplaceable* campaign to Point Loma Nazarene University as the campus celebrates its commitment to caring for creation.”

PLNU is a leader in environmental stewardship and sustainability among Christian colleges and universities. As an early adopter of sustainable practices, the school has become a model for other liberal arts institutions seeking to become more sustainable. PLNU has been publicly recognized for its sound environmental practices and commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Key campus initiatives include:

- An efficient single stream recycling program, which has reduced material going into the landfill by 50-70 percent.
- Implementation of food composting programs, the use of water-saving toilets, a campus-wide purchasing directive to buy products made from recycled materials, and a commitment to achieve at least a Silver LEED standard on all new building projects.
- Becoming one of only three evangelical campuses to make a public commitment to become carbon neutral in the near future when PLNU President Bob Brower signed the American Colleges and Universities Presidents Climate Commitment last year.
- Receiving an Orchid nomination for sustainable design based on the solar panel project currently being installed. The system is planned to provide 80 percent peak energy for four major buildings and will reduce CO2 emissions.
- Working toward integrating creation care principles into the overall educational experience, instilling a stewardship ethic in the campus community (including faculty, staff, and students), and reaching out into the surrounding community to promote sustainable practices.

“The ‘Irreplaceable’ exhibition fits with our institution’s core values, which include environmental stewardship, as it tells the story of wildlife at risk, inspiring our community to go and do something about it,” explained Dr. Mike Mooring, professor of Biology and co-chair of the University’s Resource Stewardship Task Force. “We are very excited to have this world class exhibit on our campus for Creation Care Week.”

“The Bible teaches us the importance of caring for all God’s creations,” said Peter Illyn, executive director for Restoring Eden, a Christian ministry dedicated to environmental stewardship, who will be among the guest speakers at Creation Care Week. “ It’s an issue of moral imperative that we do our best to preserve the bio-diversity that God has bestowed upon us because our own well-being is inextricably linked with the well-being of all creation.”

In addition to the ***Irreplaceable: Wildlife in a Warming World*** photography exhibit, Creation Care Week will include speakers, workshops, film screenings, discussions, campus tours, off-campus field trips, chapel addresses, a creation care fair, and a dinner banquet, all with the theme of responsible care of natural resources. A workshop co-sponsored by PLNU’s Center for Pastoral Leadership will host pastors from churches around the county to explore strategies for bringing creation care into the life and programs of the local church.

The Creation Care Fair, held at the Campus Mall on Wednesday, October 8 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., will feature vendors of sustainable products and organizations devoted to environmental stewardship. The public and media are invited to tour the University’s sustainability initiatives during Creation Care Week. For a complete schedule of events visit:

http://www.pointloma.edu/PhysicalPlant/Sustainability/CreationCare/Creation_Care_Week_Schedule.htm

About the *Irreplaceable: Wildlife in a Warming World* Campaign:

The *Irreplaceable* Campaign educates the public and policy-makers on global warming’s impact on wildlife. The exhibit has been on tour since April 2008 and has been displayed in Providence, RI; Missoula, MT; Seattle, WA; Denver, CO; Aspen, CO; and now in San Diego, CA. A sister exhibit is

currently on display in San Francisco at the Main Public Library through December 31, 2008. Other cities on schedule include St. Paul, MN; Los Angeles, CA; and Washington D.C.

About the campaign partners:

Earthjustice (www.earthjustice.org)- Earthjustice is a non-profit public interest law firm dedicated to protecting the magnificent places, natural resources, and wildlife of this earth and to defending the right of all people to a healthy environment. It brings about far-reaching change by enforcing and strengthening environmental laws on behalf of hundreds of organizations and communities.

Noah Alliance (www.noahalliance.org)- The Noah Alliance is a collaboration of Jewish, Evangelical, Protestant, and other religious community organizations, and individual people of faith, that are concerned about the protection of endangered species and biological diversity. It seeks to provide a service by facilitating education and action among members of the religious community who are concerned about the most imperiled species. The members of the Noah Alliance include Restoring Eden, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, and the Academy of Evangelical Scientists and Ethicists.

International League of Conservation Photographers (www.ilcp.com)- The International League of Conservation Photographers (ILCP) is a consortium of professional photographers, known as Fellows, who have demonstrated the highest skills in photography, outstanding ethical standards in the capture, manipulation and captioning of images, and a sustained commitment to conservation. Its mission is to further environmental and cultural conservation through photography.

The Center for Applied Biodiversity Science (CABS), (<http://science.conservation.org>) the scientific hub of Conservation International, works to link science and action to guide the conservation of nature worldwide. Founded in 1999 with generous support from the [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](#), CABS brings together a staff of more than 70 research scientists who are highly respected in their fields and dedicated to saving our biodiversity.