



CANADIAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DE LA FAUNE

Your connection to wildlife

Bulletin

NEWS FROM CWF
JULY + AUGUST 2013

Pedal Power

Angella Goran is cycling across Canada to promote the natural world

When Angella Goran approached the Canadian Wildlife Federation with the idea that cycling across Canada would connect people with wildlife, we were intrigued and excited. We wanted to hear her story of how, when and why.

GORD WEBER



Pedal Power...

The result? A new, nationwide collaboration between Goran and CWF called "Bike for Wildlife" that will see Goran pedalling across the country to raise awareness about conservation and the importance of being active outdoors.

Goran, an athlete and entrepreneur in Ottawa, has been athletic all her life. She's made healthy living her mission personally and professionally as the founder and managing partner at Cyclepathic Indoor Cycling Studios in Ottawa and owner of SokWear Inc. and JokWear Inc. athletic apparel. And like CWF, she has seen the ever-present need for people—especially youth—to rediscover the outdoors. But why bike for wildlife, and why now?

"Being outside strikes a chord in all of us," Goran says. "Whether your passion is cycling, walking, swimming or bird-watching, there is a natural high that comes from experiencing our natural world."

Goran's words echo CWF's mission to ensure an appreciation of the natural world and a lasting legacy of healthy wildlife and habitat. But biking more than 6,000 kilometres during her upcoming journey—with at least 67 stops along the way—is a mighty task. It's certainly not for everyone, and that's what sets it apart. The goal here isn't to be like everyone else, it's to achieve and conquer something bigger.

Creating a national adventure—which begins on a bike but with a message propelled further and stronger by interacting with communities—challenges people of all ages to get outside.

And that's what it's all about. "As I ride town by town, being outside, being active and sharing the importance of conservation at each stop is what will make this great," Goran says. "Making a difference can happen at any age, by any means possible. Let's challenge ourselves today to be better—to have a new awareness of Canada, its heritage and challenging our own potential."

It's easy to lose sight of what being outdoors and active can mean for us physically, spiritually and even environmentally. In recent years, the shift towards pedal-power commuting speaks volumes for a society ready to make changes for the better. The way the world communicates is ever changing too; this bike ride represents the new ways and approaches to reaching people.

CWF's Bike for Wildlife project is the first time we've hit the pavement (so to speak) on a cross-Canada mission. Not only are we eager to meet folks face to face, but this ride will highlight national research and funding projects we have underway. Schools will have the opportunity to meet Goran. Communities not along her direct path can connect with this journey online. All the tools to bring CWF to you, your classrooms and homes will be a click away at BikeForWildlife.ca, where you can find a complete map of Goran's route and the stops she'll be making along the way.

The adventure kicks off Aug. 14 in Victoria and will conclude in Halifax at the end of October. Don't miss out when Goran rolls through your town.

—STEPHANIE POFF

CWF PROFILE



Larry Leigh
PAST PRESIDENT

Larry Leigh has a long track record as a conservationist. His work on the CWF executive alone goes back to 2000 and he served as president between 2009 and 2011.

Although born and raised in Toronto, where he worked as a police officer with the Metropolitan Toronto Police Service for 15 years, Larry is a northerner at heart. He has lived in Whitehorse for more than 30 years and built a career there as a well-respected conservation officer and hunter education coordinator with the Yukon government.

Larry is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys hunting and fishing, and he continues to find life in the North an engaging adventure. In his work as a conservation advocate, he takes particular pleasure in working with young people to teach them about outdoor safety, survival, wildlife identification and outdoor ethics.

Project Highlights ...your donations in action*

Projects funded by CWF's Endangered Species Program:

\$28,500

To World Wildlife Fund Canada to investigate ways to reduce the bycatch of at-risk shark species in Atlantic Canada's commercial fishery. The program will test combinations of electromagnetic materials attached to hooks to see if they reduce unintentional shark capture.

\$10,000

To researchers at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ont., to identify which seasonal climate variables have the greatest impact on at-risk snapping turtles. The study will also identify turtle populations and locales that are most vulnerable to climate issues.

\$21,384

To University of British Columbia researchers to help identify critical breeding, foraging and overwintering habitat for Great Basin spadefoot toads and western toads living in grassland ecosystems. The study will use telemetry, surveys and monitoring.

*This is just a selection of recently funded projects. For more information on projects funded by CWF, visit CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca/funded-projects.

Projects funded by Canadian Wildlife Foundation:

\$5,000

To the Manitoba Museum in Winnipeg to support its interactive exhibit, The H2O Solution. Combining video game technology with scientific information, the exhibit explores Lake Winnipeg and its basin, which are vulnerable to climate change and under stress from nutrient overloading due to nearby industry, agriculture and residential development.

\$1,000

To Nature Champions, a Fredericton, N.B., group that organizes conservation activities for local youth, such as building bird and bat houses and creating gardens to support pollinators. These activities encourage youth to become environmentally responsible citizens.

\$5,000

To the Manitoba Burrowing Owl Release and Recovery Program/Study. This program promotes and supports increasing Manitoba's burrowing owl population. As part of its work, the program identifies factors affecting burrowing owls in Manitoba and collects data on diet and habitat use for both captive-bred and wild birds.



Your Shot

Dennis Swayze of Winnipeg won the March By Popular Vote monthly photo contest with a dramatic shot of a great grey owl in flight. The theme of the contest was "Wonderful Wildlife." The theme for the July and August contests are "Get Outside" and "Gorgeous Gardens," respectively.

Visit WildPhotoContest.ca for your chance to win a CWF prize package valued at \$100.



CWF NEWS, PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES

What's Happening



Calgary Goes Camping

If you were in the Calgary area on June 22, you may have taken part in the Great Canadian Campout. CWF partnered with Parks Canada, Scouts Canada (Calgary chapter), the Calgary Zoo, and the Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Centre to promote the event, which encouraged people in the Calgary area to get outside in their own backyards,

neighbourhoods, communities and parks for a night in the outdoors. It was a great chance for people—especially youth—to connect with the natural world.

Make Those Dollars Grow

CWF has teamed up with Johnson Inc., a leading Canadian insurance firm, to launch a new matching gift campaign to help protect wildlife and wild habitats.

Under the program, announced earlier this year, Johnson has pledged to triple member donations up to \$100,000 this year. "We're committed to doing the right thing for our clients and the environment," Renée Dyer, Johnson's vice-president for consulting and plan benefits, said in announcing the program. "We're proud to support the important work done by CWF."

Summer Institute Update

This month, a group of educators are heading to Nunavut to participate in the 2013 CWF Summer Institute. During the 10-day excursion—which runs July 19-28—participants will take part in a variety of activities exploring facets of Nunavut's natural, cultural and historic life. Stay tuned to the CWF website for updates on the 2014 Summer Institute program.

Over the Garden Fence

Have you signed up for CWF's Over the Garden Fence online community? If not, be sure to do so. You'll be able to explore wildlife-friendly gardens across the country and discover the stories behind them. You'll also be able to add your own garden and share tips with other gardeners. To join, visit WildAboutGardening.org.

Connect

For more online wildlife news, tips, facts and photos, sign up for CWF's free monthly newsletter, *Wildlife Update*. Visit CanadianWildlifeFederation.ca and enter your e-mail address under "Get CWF News." You can also follow the Canadian Wildlife Federation on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

