



U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Member / Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form Original Amendment

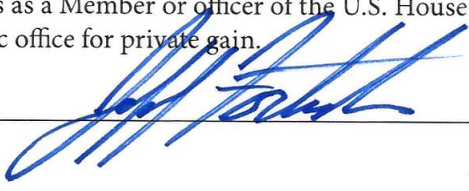
This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, B-81 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Jeffrey Fortenberry
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Celeste Fortenberry OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: March 15, 2019 Return: March 22, 2019
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: March 15, 2019 OR None
4. Departure City: New York City Destination: Nairobi, Kenya Return City: Omaha, NE
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: ICCF, Band Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): Met with local conservancies, local government officials, and U.S. Ambassador to Kenya, Kyle McCarter to review U.S. government expenditures on conservation, wildlife trafficking, poverty alleviation and certain security considerations.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
 - a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms*;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
 - d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.
Signify statement is true by checking the box:
 b. If not, explain: _____

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER
2019 APR -9 AM 9:28
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: 
Date: April 5, 2019



U.S. House of Representatives COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip *within ten days of their return*. You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: ICCF, Band Foundation

2. Travel Destination(s): Maasai Mara, Kenya and Nairobi, Kenya

3. Date of Departure: March 15, 2019 Date of Return: March 22, 2019

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Jeffrey Fortenberry, Celeste Fortenberry

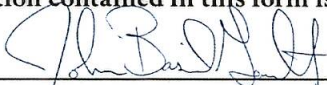
Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$6190.00	\$982.75	\$313.00	\$653.00 Tips, Conservation fees, park fees
Accompanying Family Member	\$6139.30	\$982.75	\$313.00	\$653.00 Tips Conservation fees, park fees

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box:

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 4/4/2019

Name: John Gantt Title: President

Organization: ICCF

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box:

Address: 25786 Georgetown Station Washington, D.C. 20027

Telephone: 202-471-4222 Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Jeff Fortenberry
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): BAND Foundation
International Conservation Caucus Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): Kenya
4. a. Date of departure March 14, 2019 Date of return: March 22 2019 MB
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
If yes, dates at personal expense: MARCH 14, 2019 MB
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a relative at the sponsor's expense? Yes No
b. If yes:
(1) Name of accompanying relative: Celeste Fortenberry
(2) Relationship to traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
(3) Accompanying relative is at least 18 years of age: Yes No
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(d) on the Primary Trip Sponsor Form (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent and you are requesting lodging for two nights)? Yes No
b. If yes, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:

7. Primary Trip Sponsor Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms: Yes No
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.
As a member of the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, I have oversight of international funds for diplomacy, national security, animal trafficking, and wild life conservation.
9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, and/or arranging the trip? Yes No

10. **FOR STAFF TRAVELERS:**

TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: 2/13/2019

Signature of Employing Member



U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Primary Trip Sponsor Form

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a Traveler Form at least 30 days before the start date of the trip.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

- 1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip: ICCF, Band Foundation
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box: [X]
3. Check only one. I represent that:
a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: [] OR
b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: [] OR
c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities. [X]
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: Band Foundation
4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): See addendum.
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? [X] Yes [] No
6. Date of Departure: March 15, 2019 Date of Return: March 22, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
b. Destination(s): Nairobi, Kenya and Mara Encounter Camp, Mara Conservancy
c. City of return: District Office
8. Check only one. I represent that:
a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: [] OR
b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: [X] OR
c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was de minimis under the Committee's travel regulations. []
9. Check only one of the following:
a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above: [X]
b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging: []
c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night: [] OR
d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights: [] If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

- 10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box:*
- 11. **Check only one of the following:**
 - a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:* **OR**
 - b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education:
- 12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
See addendum.

- 13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
 - a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
 - b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
 - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
Charter flight required to and from Mara Ecnounter for safety/logistical reasons.

- 14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:*
- 15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
 - a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: **OR**
 - b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked:
 - 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): Approximately \$60 in park and \$120 in Nairobi. +
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: See addendum.

- 16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: <u>Mara Encounter</u>	City: <u>Mara Conservancy</u>	Cost Per Night: <u>\$190.00</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting: <u>Safety, logistical, proximity to activities</u>		
Hotel Name: <u>Fairmont The Norfolk Hotel</u>	City: <u>Nairobi</u>	Cost Per Night: <u>\$215.00</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting: <u>proximity to activities/meetings</u>		
Hotel Name: _____	City: _____	Cost Per Night: _____
Reason(s) for Selecting: _____		

- 17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:*



U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$5,680.00	\$867.50	\$460.00
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$5,680.00	\$867.50	\$460.00

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$784.00	tips, field activity, park fees, visa (\$50)
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$784.00	tips, field activity, park fees, visa (\$50)

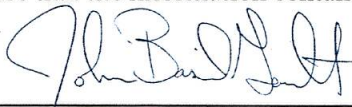
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

19. **Check only one:**

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below: **OR**
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

21. I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 2/12/2019

Name: John B. Gantt

Title: President

Organization: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

Address: 1200 Potomac St NW Washington, DC 20007

Telephone: 202-471-4222

Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics
 U.S. House of Representatives
 1015 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
 Phone: 202-225-7103 General Fax: 202-225-7392

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

GRANTMAKING TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by a public charity or private foundation (both as defined under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code) that provides a grant of funds to another entity to underwrite, in whole or in part, a trip or an event, meal, or activity that will occur during a trip, or a necessary expense that will be incurred during a trip, with express or implicit knowledge or understanding that one or more House Members or employees may participate in or attend that trip or event, or otherwise may be beneficiaries of the gift or donation. **Provide a copy of your completed form to the primary sponsor of the trip.**

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. I certify that (name of your organization): BAND Foundation
has been designated a § 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service.
 Yes No
2. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation
3. I certify that my organization (*complete a or b*):
- a. Has provided a grant, gift, or donation to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor and conducts an audit or review of its grant, gift, or donation to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the terms of its grant, gift, or donation. *or*
- b. Has had a direct role in the organizing, planning, or conducting of a trip to
(destination) _____ on (date) _____ that is
being organized or arranged by the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor.
4. Check one:
- a. My organization does not employ or retain a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent *or*
- b. My organization employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but their involvement in planning, organizing, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the travel regulations.
5. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.
6. I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Nicholas Lapham

Name: Nicholas Lapham

Title: President

Organization: BAND Foundation

Address: 1723 Hoban Rd NW Washington DC. 20007

Telephone number: 2023445705 Email: Nick@bandfdn.org

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)



ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

March 12, 2019

The Honorable Jeff Fortenberry
U.S. House of Representatives
1514 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your spouse's proposed trip to Kenya,¹ scheduled for March 14 to 22, 2019, sponsored by International Conservation Caucus Foundation, with financial support from Band Foundation. We note that this trip includes one day at your personal expense.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$390] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Sergeant at Arms (SAA) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. SAA may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman



Kenny Marchant
Ranking Member

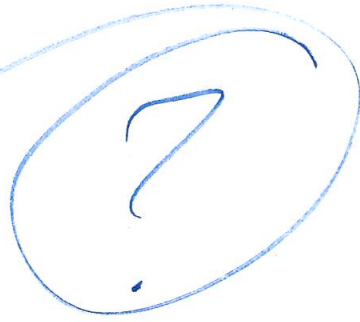
TED/KM:smm

4. Name and title of Congressional Invitees

Representative Doug Lamborn

Representative David Cicilline

Representative Jeff Fortenberry



Each individual was invited so they could witness firsthand the vital role of conservation and good natural resource management in alleviating poverty, promoting sustainable economic development, and strengthening national security for Kenya and other nations. This mission will also specifically demonstrate the challenges of combating the Wildlife Trafficking Crisis and methods for mitigation at the local, regional, national, and international level.

Participants are all members of the International Conservation Caucus (ICC). Congressman Fortenberry is a Co-Chair of the House ICC. Congressman Lamborn is a Member of the House Natural Resource Committee, and Congressman Cicilline is a Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee whose jurisdiction is relevant to topics that will be covered on the trip.

12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

The International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) educates U.S. policymakers and other global political and business leaders on the vital links between good natural resource management, sustainable economic development, conflict avoidance, and regional security. ICCF organized the logistics of lodging and travel for the trip and identified topics and expert speakers.

The ICCF Group recognizes governance as an essential and under-addressed component in modern conservation efforts. To address this gap, it builds and supports successful legislative caucuses around the world to provide education and build political will around unifying topics of natural resource management. Our programs engage political decision makers in the United States and partner nations, facilitate the development of innovative public-private conservation partnerships, and deploy top conservation professionals from U.S. and Canadian government agencies to share their expertise. A member of the ICCF Group is leading the delegation while on the ground.

The BAND Foundation is a private family foundation established in 1999 by Burks and Anthony Lapham and their children, Nicholas and David. It seeks to advance the family's charitable interests through strategic grant making, primarily in the areas of nature conservation, epilepsy research and climate change (the latter via an affiliated donor advised fund). The Foundation supports programs in the United States and abroad with a special emphasis on geographies with which the family has present or historic ties. BAND believes in a flexible, risk-tolerant approach to grant making, through which it seeks to provide timely support to critical issues, catalyze effective partnerships and unlock larger financial flows from public and private sources. The BAND Foundation did not have a role in choosing trip participants.

15 b. 2. Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The purpose of bringing this mission to Kenya is to familiarize and educate the delegation about the critical role that conservation and sound natural resource management play in poverty alleviation, sustainable economic development, and regional security for Kenya and other developing countries of the world and subsequent impacts on the U.S. The U.S. is one of the leading funders of conservation projects in Africa through USAID, multilateral programs, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and it is important that Members of Congress and their senior staff understand how these funds are being used and what is being accomplished. It is also important that they understand the U.S.'s recent responses to illegal wildlife trafficking, as the U.S. is involved politically, legislatively, and financially in addressing this crisis. Masai Mara National Reserve is a prime location to see a conservation model that is working and seeing firsthand the very animals and habitats that conservation models are aiming to protect.



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Member Delegation to
The Republic of Kenya**

Day 1, Friday, March 15th:

5:00 am Meet at DCA for flight to JFK. ICCF staff will be there to meet the delegation and distribute briefing books.

Each member of the delegation will receive a briefing book that will cover general topics on Kenya (historical summary, current economic & political conditions, current bilateral and multilateral programs and funding, and other aspects of U.S.-Kenya relationship), as well as detailed information on conservation work and all site visits planned.

1:00 pm Depart JFK for Nairobi, Kenya (JKIA). Kenya Airways Flight KQ 003

Accommodation: Airplane

Day 2, Saturday, March 16th:

Topic: Overview of Delegation's Visit in Kenya and the Masai Mara

10:30 am Arrive in Nairobi. Retrieve luggage and proceed to charter aircraft.

Noon Flight to Mara Naboisho Conservancy

Located in Kenya adjacent to the Masai Mara National Reserve, this private conservancy is a ground-breaking project of tourism benefiting conservation and

community. With its high concentration of wildlife, and generous personal space and freedom on offer, visitors enjoy exceptional wildlife encounters. The Mara Naboisho Conservancy in Kenya is home to the big cats – in impressive numbers – and herds of elephant, giraffe, and wildebeest. The 50,000-acre conservancy is made up of land contributions from 500 Maasai landowners. The conservancy fees provide the Maasai community with a sustainable livelihood and ensure the conservation of the wildlife in this vital corridor of the Masai Mara ecosystem.

1:30 pm

Arrive and check in to Naboisho Camp

Set in the Mara Naboisho Conservancy, Naboisho Camp offers spectacular opportunities to view wildlife in their natural habitat, from plains game to big cats.

2:00 pm

Welcome briefing over lunch by Naboisho Camp staff

Allan Earnshaw, from Kenya Wildlife Trust, will provide an overview of the park, its habitats, and its biodiversity. ICCF staff will also go over the trip itinerary with participants and answer any questions.

3:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Field briefing with park staff and ICCF Founder David Barron on the importance of biodiversity & habitat protection to poverty alleviation and sustainable economic development.

As the world's population grows to over 9 billion in the next 40 years, the demand for food, water, and energy will double, further testing nature's ability to provide for people. The loss of natural resources, such as forests, fresh water, fertile soils, and natural pollinators, and the resulting competition for these increasingly scarce resources, can lead to increased poverty and negative impacts on human health and wellbeing. Natural resources are also essential to sustainable economic development.

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Dinner and briefing with ICCF Founder David Barron to introduce topics that will be discussed during the trip, including transboundary conservation, community conservancies, the African poaching crisis, etc.

Accommodation:

Naboisho Camp

Day 3, Sunday, March 17th:

Topics: *The Poaching Crisis, Community Conservancies*

6:30am-10:30am

Breakfast briefing in the field with Mara Predator Hub staff on Mara Predator Conservation and the Big Cat Project

The Maasai Mara ecosystem contains globally significant populations of large predators, including lions, cheetahs, wild dogs, leopards and others. Understanding how these species interact on the landscape is fundamental to ensuring their long-term survival. The Mara Predator Conservation Program, a project of the Kenya Wildlife Trust, conducts targeted research to understand the dynamics of predator populations, assesses threats such species face (e.g., from agricultural encroachment, habitat fragmentation, poisoning and unsustainable tourism) and engages stakeholders in strategies for reducing human/wildlife conflict. The MPCP works across the Mara ecosystem in both the Maasai Mara National Reserve and the community conservancies that ring it. Its initial work has focused on lions and cheetahs. A new project on wild dogs has just been launched.

The Mara Naboisho Big Cat Project brings together community, researchers, NGOs, and Tourism Partners in Naboisho Conservancy in an effort to help secure the future of the Big Cats (lion, cheetah, and leopard). Currently the project has four major components: tracking, research, conflict mitigation, and community education. ICCF staff will discuss illegal wildlife trafficking challenges in Kenya and the broader region, as well as implications for national and regional security.

11:00 am-12:00 pm

Briefing at the camp with Daniel Sopia, CEO of the Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA) on the importance of community conservancies in the region

Representatives of the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association and the Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association will brief the delegation. The Maasai Mara is Kenya's most important wildlife and tourism area. Roughly 25% of Kenya's wildlife resides within the greater Maasai Mara region, a 4,500 km² wildlife landscape comprised of the 1,510 km² Maasai Mara National Reserve (MMNR) and 3,000 km² of adjacent community and private lands. This area includes the key dry season range for the largest animal migration left on Earth.

The long-term conservation of this ecosystem depends on choices made by the Maasai and other landowners who control two-thirds of the greater Mara. Since the 1970s, when Maasai communal lands were subdivided into individual parcels, farming, settlements, and fencing have spread significantly, leading to the loss of more than half of all wildlife in the Mara between 1977 and 2001.

In the face of these challenges, local Maasai landowners and innovative tourism operators have joined together over the past decade to create conservancies on private lands across the Mara ecosystem. Conservancies are formed by pooling hundreds of individual properties into larger wildlife, tourism and livestock management entities, connecting otherwise increasingly fragmented landscapes. The conservancy landowners receive a monthly lease payment from tour operators using the area. Conservancies are managed by stakeholder conservancy boards, representing landowners and tourism partners.

There are now 15 conservancies in the greater Maasai Mara, covering 1,394 km² and increasing the region's total protected area coverage from 33% to 64%. The conservancies support the livelihoods of approximately 13,500 households, or an estimated 100,000 people. Lease fees paid to conservancy landowners totaled \$7.5 million in 2017, demonstrating the potential for wildlife conservation to generate significant local economic returns. Conservancy governance structures bring transparency and increase participation in lease structures and benefit sharing. Benefits extend beyond the lease payments, with 1,600 people – mostly residents of the Mara – employed at nearly 50 conservancy-based tourism camps, while more than 250 conservancy-employed rangers help protect wildlife across the landscape.

Though still relatively new, conservancies are starting to show exciting conservation promise, providing critical habitat for a range of key species and leading to local wildlife recoveries in some areas. Recent research demonstrates, for example, that lion densities in the conservancies are actually higher than in the Maasai Mara National Reserve itself.

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Lunch briefing: Building Next Generation Impact Across the Maasai Mara's Community Conservancies

Mission participants will be briefed by park staff and experts from Kenya Wildlife Trust about the Building Next Generation Impact Across the Maasai Mara's Community Conservancies project, which seeks to: (1) strengthen and integrate management across the various conservancies; (2) enable the conservancies to become durable engines for local economic development through innovative, environmentally responsible tourism and livestock production; and (3) improve communications among key local stakeholders, including landowners, tourism partners, wildlife managers, and others.

1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Field visit to conservation sites in the park with a briefing from ICCF staff on a number of the challenges facing the animals in the conservancy.

The world is dealing with an unprecedented spike in illegal wildlife trade, threatening to overturn decades of conservation and development gains. As both populations and economies have grown in East Asia, the demand for wildlife products has surged, sending the black-market price of ivory, rhino horn, and other products to historic highs. The recent rise in wildlife product prices has been met by the increased involvement of more organized, better funded, and better armed criminal and terrorist networks, and even militias, compounding the challenges faced by those charged with protecting the wildlife. Wildlife products can easily be converted into cash and used to purchase weapons and fund violent campaigns, and have become a substantial source of income for terrorist organizations in Africa.

Ivory and rhino horn are gaining popularity as a source of income for some of Africa's most notorious armed groups, including Somalia's al-Shabab, the Lord's Resistance Army (L.R.A.), and Darfur's janjaweed. Illegal wildlife products are a substantial lifeline to African-based terrorism. These groups, which are systematically exploiting porous borders and weak governance and hindering sustainable economic activities, have the potential to set back African development by decades and create large swaths of ungovernable land and new hotbeds for terrorist cells.

ICCF staff will discuss the state of the poaching crisis in Kenya and work being done to address this crisis legislatively and through on-the-ground programs.

6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Dinner briefing with Allan Earnshaw, Kenya Wildlife Trust

Allan is a fourth generation Kenya whose family came to Kenya in 1896. A Partner and Director of Ker Downey Safaris since 1980, he is also a member of several other environment and conservation boards in addition to KWT, including the Kenya Private Sector Alliance and the Kenya Tourism Federation.

He is also a former Board member of the Kenya Wildlife Service. Allan's key conservation goal is the creation of an independent national association of wildlife Conservancies that will include community and private landowners, the appropriate government institutions, the private sector and relevant NGOs.

Accommodations:

Naboisho Camp

Day 4, Monday, March 18th:

Topics: Community Projects; Biodiversity in the Masai Mara; Vulture Conservation

6:30 am- 8:30 am

Field visit for wildlife viewing

8:30 am – 11:30 am

Breakfast briefing by representatives of the Enonkishu Conservancy and Mara Beef on the Mara Beef Project

The Mara Beef Company is partnering with the Enonkishu Conservancy, working with the Maasai community on improving livestock husbandry practices and genetics for the local pastoralists by introducing high-quality beef breeds to their herds. The goal is to strengthen rural communities and decrease the risk of catastrophic drought while improving soil health.

The Mara Beef Company, Enonkishu Conservancy, and Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservation Association are partnering to protect natural resource management in a wildlife-livestock integrated approach. The project has created a grazing plan for the Conservancy to allow grasslands to be grazed intensively for a short period then be left alone to recover for long periods, thereby improving the grasslands over the course of time.

The integrated use of wildlife and livestock by communities in this area aims to spread the economic and financial risk, reduce vulnerability to stochastic events such as droughts, and increase food security through supplementary income generation. This approach holds enormous potential benefits for wildlife conservation and livelihood security.

In addition, the project is engaging with the community to conserve and restore biodiversity and implement a grazing management system aimed at restoring healthy soils that withstand drought and rebuild watersheds, provide habitat for wildlife, are the basis for healthy food production, absorb carbon from the atmosphere, and support livelihoods and rural traditions.

12:30 pm- 2:30 pm

Lunch briefing by camp staff on Biodiversity in the Masai Mara

Camp staff will brief the delegation on the ecological value of biodiversity and its importance for the livelihoods of local communities as it provides ecosystem services and bases for tourism and income generation. Camp rangers will also discuss the challenges and successes of biodiversity conservation efforts within the Masai Mara Reserve and neighboring Serengeti National Park and observe the physical manifestations of the detriments of biodiversity loss and the benefits of biodiversity strength.

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Afternoon site visit to the Headquarters of the Mara Elephant Project. The delegation will hear from CEO, Marc Goss

Naboisho's Mara Elephant Project (MEP) brings together researchers and conservationists in an effort to help secure the future of African elephants. The project's three-year plan has two major components: tracking up to 15 elephants to better understand their movements, and engaging the community through anti-poaching education. Park staff will brief the delegation on the program, as well as issues facing elephants throughout the region.

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Dinner briefing on the Reserve and Ecotourism

Park staff will brief the delegation on the magnitude and scope of the reserve and provide an introduction to key species, their value to the nation and local peoples, and the implications of their loss. David Barron will also discuss the significance of the ecotourism industry in Kenya specifically, but also other parts of Africa and Latin America. Topics of discussion will include large-scale vs. small-scale tourism, trophy hunting, challenges to private reserves, and incentives for local communities to implement and improve conservation practices to support development. The delegation will see firsthand how ecotourism affects the Masai Mara region.

Accommodations: Naboisho Camp

Day 5, Tuesday, March 19th:

Topic: Ecotourism; The African Poaching Crisis; Importance of Conservation to U.S. Interests

6:30 am-8:30 am Morning field visit to view predatory species during their most active hours

8:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast briefing on the African Poaching Crisis and its implications for people and communities

Park staff and ICCF staff will continue to educate the guests about the African poaching crisis, which is threatening to overturn decades of conservation and development gains. Poaching in Africa is destabilizing economies, decimating iconic species, financing terrorist and violent organizations, contributing to the deterioration of governance in rangelands, and creating large swaths of land in which terrorist groups and militants can train and operate. Guests will learn about recent legislative and policy successes in the country, as well as long-term strategies being developed, to ensure availability of natural resources to Kenyan communities and people now and for generations to come.

10:00 am – 12:30 pm Presentation by Dr. Crystal Courtney, Director of The Maa Trust

The Maa Trust is a non-profit organization based in community-owned conservancies in the Maasai Mara, Kenya. They work to increase the benefits of wildlife and conservation to Maasai families so that they appreciate, and contribute to, the protection of wild animals on their land, and they aim to unite communities by involving them in conservation at a management level.

After the presentation the delegation will see some of the programs at work including the women's beading program.

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch briefing by ICCF staff on the parliamentary caucus model and the achievements of Kenya's parliamentary conservation caucus

The Parliamentary Conservation Caucus – Kenya is a multiparty coalition of Members of Parliament with a commitment to elevating the role that stewardship of natural resources plays in Kenyan domestic policy and East Africa's regional development strategy. The members of this coalition recognize that a focus on resource security within Parliament is vital to ensuring Kenya's stability and prosperity, and to addressing its food, water, poaching, deforestation, and energy challenges. They also recognize that solving these challenges will require the public and private sectors to work together.

2:30 pm – 5:30 pm Field briefing on Balancing the Needs of People and Animals

Field guides and ICCF staff will educate the guests about complex issues of human-wildlife conflict, including tensions caused by competition for land and dangers posed by wildlife to humans and livestock. The guests will learn about innovative programs for addressing these challenges, as well as natural resource wealth management approaches that incentivize protection of wildlife and habitats. The delegation will learn about conflict flashpoints, as well as cost-effective solutions to mitigating these conflicts. They will also learn about how this conflict impacts human communities and why this matters to the U.S.

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Dinner briefing on Sustainable Economic Development and Natural Resource Wealth Management

ICCF staff will brief the delegation about the role of conservation in promoting sustainable economic development, as well as ways in which conservation and development are mutually reinforcing. They will also educate participants about the economic & national security importance of good natural resource management to developing economies as well as the importance of access to resources & dependable supply chains to the U.S. and other global economies. Natural Resource Wealth Management™ and its effect on local and national economies in Africa, Latin America, and Asia will be discussed, as well as examples provided where conservation efforts were not implemented.

Accommodations: Naboisho Camp

Day 6, Wednesday, March 20th:

Topics: Transboundary Conservation; Naibunga Conservancy Trust

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast briefing with ICCF staff on Transboundary Conservation

ICCF staff will brief the delegation on management of migratory wildlife across international borders, including existing efforts and needed actions. Discussions will also focus on improved management of shared ecosystems. Wildlife that migrate through ecosystems spanning more than one country pose unique challenges. For example, poachers often cross into neighboring

countries to conduct their illicit activities then escape back across the border, with the knowledge that rangers are prohibited from crossing national borders to track and arrest them. Guests will learn about a range of transboundary wildlife challenges and ways that governments can work together to address these challenges.

9:00 am – 11:30 am Field visit to the Koyiaki Guiding School to be briefed by Principal Morris Nabaala

The Koyiaki Guiding School's mission is to provide education to local Maasai youth in the tourism industry and responsible land use thereby providing employment opportunities and promoting and encouraging conservation of the unique Maasai Mara ecosystem in general and the Koyiaki-Lemek conservation areas in particular.

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch briefing by ICCF staff on the Importance of Conservation to U.S. Interests

There is a direct connection between international conservation and America's economic and national security interests. The unprecedented drawdown of critical natural resources poses enormous challenges for the United States and the world. As the world's population grows to over 9 billion in the next 40 years, the demand for food, water, and energy will double. The loss of natural resources, such as forests, fresh water, fertile soils, and natural pollinators, and the resulting competition for these increasingly scarce resources, can lead to instability, conflict, and radicalization. The unsustainable extraction of natural resources affects worldwide commodity prices, undermines U.S. competitiveness, and places part of our economic infrastructure at risk. By assisting developing countries with the conservation and protection of their natural resources, America is able to directly improve economic security, both abroad and at home, and strengthen national security.

2:00 pm Transport from Naboisho Camp to Wilson Airport in Nairobi

4:30 pm Arrive in Nairobi; transfer to Fairmont The Norfolk Hotel and check in to hotel

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Dinner briefing with Kaddu Sebunya, CEO, African Wildlife Foundation and other conservation stakeholders based in Nairobi

The delegation will be briefed over dinner by Kaddu Sebunya, CEO of the African Wildlife Foundation, on a range of pressing issues that AWF prioritizes with Kenya and other African governments with whom they work. They will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion.

Accommodations: The Norfolk Hotel

Day 7, Thursday, March 21st:

Topic: Conservation Governance

8:00 am - 9:00 am Breakfast, with an opportunity to discuss meetings planned for later in the day

10:00 am - 11:00 am Meeting with U.S. Ambassador Kyle McCarter

Members of the delegation will meet with the new U.S. Ambassador to Kenya to discuss U.S. interest in the region and what the U.S. is doing to help preserve regions like the Mara.

12:00 pm- 1:30 pm Lunch with ICCF Kenya staffers

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm Meetings with government officials

Members of the delegation will meet with Kenyan legislators, including members of the Parliamentary Conservation Caucus-Kenya; Administration officials, including the Minister of Natural Resource and Tourism; and the U.S. Ambassador to Kenya to discuss a range of topics, including the caucus model, the African poaching crisis, U.S. investment in the country, etc.

4:30 pm Return to hotel – start packing for return home

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Dinner briefing: U.S. Investment in the Region

David Barron will brief the delegation on innovative ways that U.S. investment in the region is providing invaluable support to the region's biodiversity conservation and management efforts while strengthening the ability of local people and organizations to manage and conserve species, habitats, and ecological processes. The delegation will also learn about collaboration with nongovernmental organizations, communities, and other stakeholders to facilitate the protection of land- and seascapes in Kenya and East Africa. ICCF staff will also lead a discussion of the participants' experiences in Kenya and how what they have seen in the field corresponds to Kenya's and the U.S.'s policy priorities and agendas.

7:00 pm Travel to JKIA Airport for K9 demonstration and overnight flight to New York

Kenya's K9 program has been implemented to not only detect fire arms, bombs, etc. but also to detect illegally trafficked wildlife products. It has been enormously successful in Kenya and other countries as dogs cannot be corrupted or bribed, which the illicit wildlife trafficking network depends on.

10:55 pm Depart JKIA for JFK. Kenya Airways Flight KQ 002

Accommodations: Airplane

Day 8, Friday, March 22nd:

Arrive Home

6:25 am Arrive at JFK

TBD* Depart JFK for District

TBD* Arrive at District

*Return flights will vary by individual.