



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, by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, 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: Jacob Andrew Joseph LaTurner
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Jacob Andrew Joseph LaTurner Jr. OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: March 31 2023 Return: April 8 2023
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: n/a OR None
4. Departure City: Kansas City, MO Destination: Johannesburg Return City: Kansas City
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):
 Each individual was invited to see first-hand the innovative ways in which U.S. private and public investment in the region is providing invaluable support to biodiversity conservation and management efforts in Botswana and the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA) while strengthening the ability of local people and organizations to manage and
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 *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
 - 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:

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: 04/21/2023



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.

- Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)
- Travel Destination(s): Ngamiland, Botswana
- Date of Departure: March 31, 2023 Date of Return: April 8, 2023
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Jacob LaTurner

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

- 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	\$6327.09	\$2000.88	\$85.21	\$250 (Conservation Fees); \$236.67 (Tips)
Accompanying Family Member				

- 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: 04/18/2023

Name: John B. Gantt Title: President

Organization: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

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

Address: 1200 Potomac St. NW, Washington, DC 20007

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

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.



TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Jacob Andrew Joseph LaTurner
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:
International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Africa
4. a. Date of Departure: March 31 2023 Date of Return: April 8 2023
b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: Jacob Andrew Joseph LaTurner JR
(2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
(3) Yes No Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:
6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:
7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

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.
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 works to advance leadership in conservation by building political will among parliamentary leaders, and by supporting ministries in the management of protected areas. The
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
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.

Signature of Employing Member _____ Date 04/21/2023



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

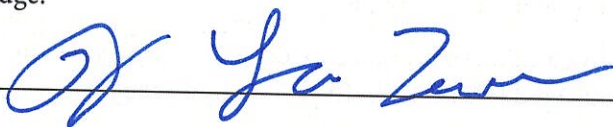
This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. This form and any attachments may be delivered to the Committee at 1015 Longworth or e-mailed to travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Jacob Andrew Joseph LaTurner

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

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

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): n/a

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): n/a

Office Address: 2441 Longworth House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-6601

Email Address of Contact Person: annie.martinez@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via e-mail: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.



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**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

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:
International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)
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.
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.
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:
ICCF Group; Natural Selection
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. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: March 31, 2023 Date of return: April 8, 2023
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC and Kansas City, MO
b. Destination(s): Ngamiland, Botswana
c. City of return: Washington, DC and Kansas City, MO
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: **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; **OR**
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
 - 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: Premium Economy)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

See addendum.

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 the 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):

See addendum.

- 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: Interncontinental OR Tambo City: Johannesburg, ZA Cost Per Night: \$279

Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to airport.

Hotel Name: San Camp City: Ngamiland, BW Cost Per Night: \$352

Reason(s) for Selecting: See addendum 15b

Hotel Name: Sable Alley City: Ngamiland, BW Cost Per Night: \$352

Reason(s) for Selecting: See addendum 15b

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 the box.*



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$5465	\$2039	\$40 See addendum.
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$5465	\$1760	\$40 See addendum.

	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	\$400	Conservation fees; tips
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$400	Conservation fees; tips

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 by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 03/01/2023

Name: John Basil Gantt Title: President

Organization: ICCF

Address: 1200 Potomac St. NW, Washington, DC 20007

Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us; cweis@iccfoundation.us Telephone: (202) 471-4222

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by an organization that provides funds, services, or in-kind assistance 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. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICC)
2. Name of your organization: Natural Selection
3. Yes No Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?
4. Yes No Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?
5. **Check one.** I certify that my organization:
 - 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. **OR**
 - c. Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (e.g., meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).
6. **Check only 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.
7. I certify by my signature that
 - a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
 - b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent;
 - c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and
 - d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 03/22/2023

Name: Colin Bell Title: Owner

Organization: Natural Selection

Address: Plot 526, Mophane Ave, Maun, Botswana

Email: colinbell@iafrica.com Telephone: +27 79 881 6195



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Additional Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the forms directly to the Primary Trip Sponsor.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

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Washington, D.C. 20515

ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by an organization that provides funds, services, or in-kind assistance 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. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor: _____
2. Name of your organization: _____
3. Yes No Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?
4. Yes No Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?
5. **Check one.** I certify that my organization:
 - 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. **OR**
 - c. Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (e.g., meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).
6. **Check only 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.
7. I certify by my signature that
 - a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
 - b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent;
 - c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and
 - d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Additional Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the forms directly to the Primary Trip Sponsor.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Kelle A. Strickland
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Jake LaTurner
U.S. House of Representatives
2441 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 proposed trip to Botswana,¹ scheduled for March 31 to April 8, 2023, sponsored by International Conservation Caucus Foundation, Conservation Council of Nations (d.b.a. the ICCF Group), and Natural Selection.

Committee travel regulations require that you submit your complete pre-trip approval request to the Committee at least 30 days before the commencement of the trip or it will not be granted. Despite your failure to do so in this instance, we are approving your current request. However, any future requests should adhere to the 30-day requirement.

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 \$480 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 \$480] 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

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 Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS 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>.

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.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:tn

4. Each individual was invited to see first-hand the innovative ways in which U.S. private and public investment in the region is providing invaluable support to biodiversity conservation and management efforts in Botswana and the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA), while strengthening the ability of local people and organizations to manage and conserve species, habitats, and ecological processes.
- *Representative Henry Cuellar (D-TX)*
Representative Cuellar is co-chair of the House International Conservation Caucus and a member of the House Appropriations Committee.
 - *Representative Jake LaTurner (R-KS)*
Representative LaTurner is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and sits on the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over funds provided for international development and conservation work.
12. 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 works to advance leadership in conservation by building political will among parliamentary leaders, and by supporting ministries in the management of protected areas. The ICCF Group supported the ICCF in organizing the logistics of lodging and travel for the trip and identified topics and expert speakers.
- Natural Selection is a conservation-driven tourism company, which owns and operates the camps visited on the trip. They look to make a difference by reinvesting into conservation and partnering with local communities, governments, and conservation organizations in the areas they operate to help protect important conservation areas and create long-term benefits. Natural Selection offers reduced lodging rates to ICCF as a conservation organization working in the region. Given the company's expertise in sustainable tourism and wildlife conservation, Natural Selection's founders were also invited to brief the delegation.
13. This mission visits sites in remote locations which are not easily accessible by car or commercial flight. A Cessna Caravan is chartered to provide safe and timely travel between these sites.
- 15(b) The purpose of this mission 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 Botswana, neighboring states within the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA), and other developing countries of the world and subsequent impacts on the U.S. The Okavango watershed region stretches across southern Africa. Botswana contains the Okavango Delta, a UNESCO heritage site and pristine expanse, home to thousands of species, including the world's largest elephant population. Sites visited fall along wildlife migration routes, which make them ideal to demonstrate the importance of the Delta ecosystem, showcase models of sustainable tourism and public-private partnerships, and highlight the impacts of human-wildlife conflict and wildlife poaching.

Rates at San Camp and Sable Alley are inclusive of lodging, meals, and vehicle and guide costs. Rates at the Intercontinental OR Tambo are inclusive of breakfast.

- 18.** The cost of lodging reflects the full amount of inclusive rates offered at each location as outlined above. These rates are exclusive of conservation fees and tips.



U.S. Congressional Delegation to Botswana

March 31 - April 8, 2023

Friday, March 31st - Travel Day

12:35 - 15:29 Flight DL 2908 to Hartsville-Jackson International Airport (ATL)

Passengers: Jake LaTurner

13:58 - 16:13 Flight AA 4802 to Hartsville-Jackson International Airport (ATL)

Passengers: Henry Cuellar

21:55 Depart ATL on Flight DL 200 to Johannesburg, South Africa

Accommodations: Airplane

Saturday, April 1st - Travel Day

19:00 Arrive at O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB)

20:30 Check into the hotel and rest for the evening.

Accommodations: Intercontinental O.R. Tambo, Kempton Park

Sunday, April 2nd

08:00 - 09:30 Welcome and overview

Briefing over breakfast with ICCF founder David Barron, who will outline the purpose of the mission and provide an overview of the agenda for the days ahead.

10:00 Transfer (walking distance) to JNB Airport

12:20 - 14:30 Flight BP 212 to Maun, Botswana

15:00 - 15:45 Cessna Caravan charter flight to Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

15:45 - 16:30 Transfer and check in at San Camp

16:30 - 17:00 Welcome briefing over tea by San Camp staff



Staff will provide an overview of the park, its habitats, and its biodiversity. San Camp is set on the edge of the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans with the largest wildlife migration in southern Africa when the zebras and wildebeest from up north make their way onto the southern grass savannas of the region.

17:00 - 19:00

Evening briefing in the field with park staff on the importance of biodiversity & habitat protection to poverty alleviation and sustainable economic development

As the world 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.

19:00 - 20:00

Return to camp, freshen up for dinner

20:00 - 22:00

Dinner briefing led by ICCF founder David Barron and Congressman Henry Cuellar, Co-Chair of the International Conservation Caucus

Speakers will discuss the important role the Senate and House ICCs play in U.S. leadership in international conservation, highlighting caucus-led initiatives like the 2018 DELTA Act.

Accommodations: San Camp, Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

Monday, April 3rd:

06:30 - 08:30

Early morning field visit to observe the Okavango watershed and Makgadikgadi Pans ecosystem

The Makgadikgadi Pans National Park is a salt pan – with an area of 3,900 kilometers - situated in the middle of the dry savanna of northeastern Botswana. It is one of the largest salt flats in the world, lying southwest of the Okavango Delta and surrounded by the Kalahari Desert. When the rains fall during the wet season, the pans fill with water and attract large numbers of zebra, springbok, and wildebeest, followed closely by predators.

08:30 - 10:00

Breakfast briefing in the field on sustainable management of wildlife populations

ICCF staff will lead a discussion on different tools available to sustainably manage wildlife populations. There are many examples where Africa's



biodiversity is being effectively conserved through well-managed parks and protected areas, and sustainable landscapes that support nature, human well-being, and Africa's economies. Botswana has a unique challenge with an overcrowding of elephants, which requires opening of migration routes across international borders and other tools to address. In neighboring southeast Angola, which contains the headwaters of the Okavango Delta, wildlife populations have been decimated as a result of prolonged Civil War, but efforts to improve park management offer an opportunity to restore wildlife populations.

10:00 - 12:00 Return to camp and rest before lunch

12:00 - 14:00 Lunch briefing on innovative technologies

Briefing will discuss various technologies being utilized in the region, which focus on modernizing wildlife surveys and supporting community-led human-wildlife coexistence. Topics will include USAID-supported initiatives.

14:00 - 16:00 Afternoon Break. No activities are planned at this time and members of the delegation will have an opportunity to rest before evening activities.

16:00 - 18:00 Field visit with Zu/'hoasi Bushmen to learn about indigenous communities living around Botswana's parks and protected areas

Indigenous peoples' stewardship of natural resources is instrumental in efforts to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystems. The delegation will learn about indigenous peoples in the region and their generations of ancient knowledge about plants and animal behavior.

18:00 - 19:00 Return to camp and freshen up for dinner

19:00 - 21:00 Dinner briefing led by ICCF

ICCF staff will present on the ICCF Group's work in Africa with legislative caucuses to advance political will around natural resource management. They will discuss lessons learned and ICCF's new Sudano-Sahelian Initiative.

Accommodations: San Camp, Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

Tuesday, April 4th:

06:30 - 08:30 Early morning field visit to observe wildlife migration routes

Migrations occur in most grassland ecosystems around the world, often numbering millions of animals. Over the last century or more, these declined dramatically and those remaining are under threat due to habitat



fragmentation. Wildlife corridors are a way to reduce area-specific mammal overcrowding by reconnecting protected areas that would have previously been part of the same ecosystem.

08:30 - 10:00 Return to camp and prepare for flight

10:30 - 11:00 Cessna Caravan charter flight to Khwai Private Reserve

11:30 Arrive at Sable Alley and check in

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch briefing on successes and challenges of the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area

The KAZA TFCA is enormous, larger than Germany and Austria combined and nearly twice as large as the United Kingdom. It lies in the Kavango and Zambezi River basins where Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe converge.

It includes the 15,000 km² Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta, as well as Victoria Falls, a World Heritage Site and one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

The KAZA TFCA process evolved from two initiatives: the Okavango Upper Zambezi International Tourism Initiative (OUZIT) and the "Four Corners" Transboundary Natural Resource Management Initiative. However, unlike its predecessors, the KAZA TFCA initiative is owned and led by the governments of the five partner countries, with a clear focus on conservation as the primary form of land use and tourism being a by-product thereof.

The goal of the KAZA TFCA is "to sustainably manage the Kavango Zambezi ecosystem, its heritage and cultural resources based on best conservation and tourism models for the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities and other stakeholders in and around the eco-region through harmonization of policies, strategies and practices."

Its vision is to establish a world-class transfrontier conservation and tourism destination area in the Okavango and Zambezi River Basin regions of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe within the context of sustainable development.

14:30 - 16:00 Afternoon Break. No activities are planned at this time and members of the delegation will have an opportunity to rest before evening activities.

16:00 - 18:00 Field visit and briefing 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.

18:00 - 19:00 Return to camp and freshen up for dinner

19:00 - 21:00 Dinner briefing on public-private partnerships for protected areas

Protected areas are widely recognized as the “anchors” to any effort to preserve and regenerate nature and restore ecosystems for the benefit of wildlife, human well-being, and Africa’s economies. Yet, most African countries lack the funding and capacity necessary to effectively manage protected areas.

Parks and protected areas that are effectively managed share a common theme – they are managed under a collaborative management partnership model, where the government agency responsible for managing the protected area has delegated certain management responsibilities to a partner which assumes those management responsibilities and in most cases funding obligations.

Accommodations: Sable Alley Camp, Khwai Reserve

Wednesday, April 5th:

06:30 - 08:30 Field visit and briefing on Okavango Delta ecosystem, local communities, and ecotourism

Briefing will discuss the Okavango Delta World Heritage Site as well as the importance of a community-driven conservation economy and sustainable tourism in the Okavango River Basin. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it will discuss the importance of protecting fragile ecosystems such as the Okavango River Basin, which is home to rich biodiversity and a lifeline for a million people in southern Africa. It will talk about strengthening the resilience of the local communities who live in harmony with nature, so that conservation of biodiversity can be achieved – as well as the significance of empowering communities with a steady source of income through employment in community-based alternative livelihoods to curb the dependence on wildlife and to make a living. This briefing will also highlight the need for cooperation among tourism companies to work toward benefiting local communities and conservation.

The reserve has a number of vastly different habitats that are essential for the production and health of the Okavango Delta. The delegation will visit



and discuss the reserve's floodplains and open savannah, which have specific wildlife and management hurdles.

08:30 - 10:00

Breakfast briefing on human-wildlife conflict and communities

Human-wildlife conflict is a serious obstacle to wildlife conservation worldwide and is becoming more prevalent as human populations increase, development expands, and other human and environmental factors put people and wildlife in greater direct competition for a shrinking resource base. The delegation will learn about cost-effective solutions to mitigating these conflicts, as well as ways in which conservation benefits humans living in proximity to parks and protected areas. 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.

10:00 - 12:00

Return to camp and rest before lunch

12:00 - 14:00

Lunch briefing with Nidhi Ramsden, Animal & Human Health for the Environment and Development (AHEAD) Program, Cornell University

In northern Botswana's Ngamiland District, where the elephant population continues to grow by at least 5% per year, thousands of elephants are increasingly bottled-up between villages and vast livestock disease control fences that prevent them from moving through nearby Namibia into Angola and Zambia. Decreasing pressure on Ngamiland's elephants is crucial to reducing the human-elephant conflict that is unfortunately continuing to grow in intensity. Six wildlife dispersal areas, or habitat corridors, have been identified as critical to securing a long-term future for KAZA's iconic wilderness and species. However, the most important of these corridors, including those that connect Ngamiland to other key parts of KAZA, remain compromised by fences, many of which were put in place decades ago to control animal disease but no longer necessarily serve their original purpose.

14:00 - 16:00

Afternoon Break. No activities are planned at this time and members of the delegation will have an opportunity to rest before evening activities.

16:00 - 18:00

Field visit and briefing from ICCF staff on challenges facing African wildlife, including an introduction to the African poaching crisis

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.

18:00 - 19:00

Return to camp and freshen up for dinner

19:00 - 21:00

Dinner 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. The delegation will learn about recent legislative and policy successes in the region, as well as long-term strategies being developed to ensure availability of natural resources to communities and people now and for generations to come.

Accommodation: Sable Alley Camp, Khwai Reserve

Thursday, April 6th:

06:00 - 08:00

Early morning field visit. The group will visit the reserve's riverine woodlands, rivers, and lagoons to see the difference in wildlife and management schemes needed in different environments.

The Okavango Delta system is a designated Ramsar site of international importance, jointly managed through the Okavango Delta Management Plan and the Permanent Okavango River Basin Commission (OKACOM), a tri-partite agreement between Botswana, Namibia and Angola to promote the sustainable management and conservation of the entire water basin.

08:00 - 10:00

Breakfast briefing in the field with Dr. Jennifer Lalley on the role tourism plays in conservation management plans



Wildlife tourism in Botswana has a significant impact on the economy and is widely considered a model for countries developing their tourism industries.

Dr. Jennifer Lalley is the co-founder of Natural Selection and is a U.S.-born conservation biologist who has lived and worked in Africa for 27 years. She has a Master's degree from the Durrell Institute for Conservation and Ecology and her PhD from Oxford University. She currently resides in Botswana where she is a co-director and chair of the Natural Selection Conservation Trust in Botswana and the U.S.-based, 501(c)3 charity the Natural Selection Foundation.

Dr. Lalley will speak to the importance of the tourism industry to the conservation of Africa's wild places.

10:00 - 12:00 Return to camp and rest before lunch

12:00 - 14:00 Lunch briefing with Kai Collins, National Geographic

Kai Collins is Director of the National Geographic Okavango Wilderness Project and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Wild Bird Trust. Kai was previously Group Conservation Manager for Wilderness Safaris. The Okavango Wilderness Project aims to explore and survey the least-known, most inaccessible parts of the Okavango River Basin spanning Angola, Namibia, and Botswana in Southern Africa. Since 2015 they have systematically explored major rivers such as Cuito, Cuanavale, Cubango, and Cuando through land-based expeditions followed by mekoro (traditional dugout canoes) expeditions to record data on biodiversity, ecosystem health, and socioeconomics.

14:00 - 15:00 Afternoon Break. No activities are planned at this time and members of the delegation will have an opportunity to rest before evening activities.

15:00 - 17:30 Field visit and briefing on impacts of weather on the waters of the Delta

The Okavango River Basin is Africa's most expansive inland water system and home to its largest remaining elephant populations. It begins in the Angolan highlands and runs through Namibia before entering Botswana and developing into the Okavango Delta, over 1,000 miles from its headwaters. The Okavango River and Delta are an incredible example of the complicated and intricate flood pulse water cycle that supports ecological and social systems in this region including over one million Botswanans, Namibians, and Angolans.

The unusual aspect of the Okavango is that it receives its water in Botswana's dry season. Only after summer rainfall has ceased do the floodwaters arrive in the Delta from further north, creating a fertile oasis



crammed with life. It can take six months for the waters to filter down from the Panhandle in the north to the outer limits of the Delta. The level of each year's inundation is primarily dependent on rainfall in the catchment areas in Angola as well as over the Delta itself, and there is a distinct short- and long-term cycle to the flooding patterns of the Okavango and associated river systems.

This afternoon's field visit and briefing will be on the water, and guides will educate participants about the intricacies of the Okavango water system and focus on the impacts of weather patterns on the region and its biodiversity.

17:30 - 18:30 Return to camp and freshen up for dinner

18:30 - 20:00 Dinner briefing on conservation linkages to the global economy, peace, and stability

ICCF staff will lead a discussion to tie together information learned on the trip and more closely examine linkages to broader global issues. This will also be an opportunity to field any remaining questions.

Accommodations: Sable Alley Camp, Khwai Reserve

Friday, April 7th - Travel Day

08:00 - 09:00 Light coffee and breakfast before boarding the flight to Maun

09:30 - 10:00 Cessna flight to Maun

14:30 - 16:10 Flight 4Z 301 to JNB

22:55 Depart on Flight DL 201 to ATL

Saturday, April 8th - Travel Day

09:35 Arrive at Hartsville-Jackson International Airport (ATL)

12:16 - 13:45 Flight DL 759 to Washington Reagan National Airport (DCA)

Passengers: Henry Cuellar

13:21 - 14:37 Flight DL 2914 to Kansas City International Airport (MCI)

Passengers: Jake LaTurner