

Impact of COVID19 on Ranger workforce

Rangers play an indispensable role in the management of nature and natural resources that people across the world depend upon. Despite the key role rangers play, the majority of the World's rangers are lacking in adequate skills, welfare, resources and enabling conditions to perform their duties both effectively and safely. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the working and enabling conditions of the ranger workforce globally. Rangers are increasingly called upon to prevent, manage and respond to the threat of zoonotic disease transmission. In recent history, rangers have responded to Ebola outbreaks in Central and West Africa and Avian Flu in Asia. This survey is undertaken by with World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC) and International Ranger Federation (IRF) to explores the short-term as well as long-term implications of COVID-19 on the work and welfare of rangers.

The questionnaire should take less than 15 minutes to complete. Please submit your responses by September 21st, 2020. The survey is **ONLY TO BE FILLED BY RANGERS (both community and government)** not by NGOs supporting rangers. Please email Rohit Singh (rsingh@wwfnet.org) for any queries or questions.

Thank you very much in advance for making the time to respond and for your contributions.

Section 1

1.1. Name of the protected area/conservation area: _____

1.2. Country of protected area/conservation area you work in: _____

1.3. What is your age? _____

1.4. What is your sex? _____

1.5. How long have you worked in the protected area/conservation area: _____

1.6. Are you currently living and working in an outpost or remote location with no access to medical assistance within reach (i.e., not PA headquarters): YES/NO

Section 2

We will now ask you questions related to how COVID-19 may have affected daily operations in your protected area. Using the scale below, please note how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

COVID-19 has negatively impacted protected area/conservation area...	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not applicable
2.1. Law enforcement activities (e.g. patrol)	1	2	3	4	9

2.2. Habitat management/infrastructure activities	1	2	3	4	9
2.3. Wildlife monitoring and census activities	1	2	3	4	9
2.4. Community conservation, education, and outreach activities	1	2	3	4	9
2.5. Human-wildlife conflict management activities	1	2	3	4	9
2.6. Training/Capacity building activities	1	2	3	4	9

2.6. Have rangers been assigned to work related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, monitoring checkpoints, providing medical assistance, conducting border patrols, etc?

YES/NO

2.6.1. IF YES, please note the type of work here:

2.7. In your opinion, are you working more or less since the beginning of the COVID-19 became a pandemic?	Less 0	About the same 1	More 2
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Section 3

We will now ask you questions related to how COVID-19 may have affected organizational staffing and the budget in your protected area. Using the scale below, please note how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

From your familiarity, COVID-19 has led to...	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
3.1. Budget cuts that have negatively affected the daily work of rangers (e.g. less fuel, rations, etc.)	1	2	3	4	9
3.2. Budget cuts that have negatively affected the personal lives of rangers (e.g. delay in	1	2	3	4	9

salary, reduction in pay, living conditions etc.)					
3.3. Budget cuts that have negatively affected protected area law enforcement activities (e.g. less patrol activities)	1	2	3	4	9
3.4. Budget cuts that have negatively affected protected area community conservation efforts (e.g. community meetings and projects)	1	2	3	4	9
3.5. Budget cuts that have negatively affected protected area human-wildlife conflict management activities	1	2	3	4	9

In your opinion...	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
3.6. Tourism positively contributes to protected area/conservation area management.	1	2	3	4	9
3.7. Tourism has been negatively impacted by COVID-19.	1	2	3	4	9
3.8. Any other revenue (e.g. donations) source has been negatively impacted by COVID-19	1	2	3	4	9

3.5. Have rangers been laid off from their job due to COVID-19 related budget cuts or safety reasons (e.g. contracts not renewed because it is hard to maintain a safe distance)

YES/NO

3.6. Has your salary been reduced or delayed due to COVID-19?

YES/NO

IF YES, please answer 3.6 (If NO, please go to Question 4.1):

3.6.1. What was approximately the percentage of the reduction: _____ %

Section 4

We will now ask you questions related to how COVID-19 may have affected the occupational welfare in your protected area. Using the scale below, please note how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
4.1. I have received adequate information about COVID-19 from the employer (e.g. government or other organizations).	1	2	3	4	9
4.2. I have access to adequate sanitation and hygiene equipment (e.g. clean water, soap, face masks, etc.) that is useful in preventing the spread of COVID-19.	1	2	3	4	9
4.3. I have access to adequate medical insurance that helps cover potential treatment for COVID-19.	1	2	3	4	9
4.4. I am concerned about my financial well-being due to COVID-19.	1	2	3	4	9
4.5. COVID-19 has led to a reduction of adequate operational supplies (e.g. fuel, rations, etc.) due to COVID-19 restrictions (e.g. lockdowns).	1	2	3	4	9
4.6. Do you feel supported by your organization during COVID-19.	1	2	3	4	9
4.7. I worry about my family contracting COVID-19.	1	2	3	4	9

4.8 I spend more time with family COVID-19	1	2	3	4	9
4.9 I spend less time with family COVID-19	1	2	3	4	9

Please only answer the following questions:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
4.10. I worry about contracting COVID-19 during my patrol operations.	1	2	3	4	9
4.11. I worry about contracting COVID-19 when I encounter a suspect.	1	2	3	4	9
4.12. I worry about contracting COVID-19 when I perform community conservation services (e.g. meetings).	1	2	3	4	9
4.13. I worry about contracting COVID-19 when I informally interact with the community or visitors.	1	2	3	4	9
4.14. I worry about potentially transmitting COVID-19 to community members.	1	2	3	4	9
4.15. I worry about potentially transmitting COVID-19 to wildlife that I encounter during patrols.	1	2	3	4	9

Section 5

We will now ask you questions related to how COVID-19 may have affected the threats that affect your conservation/protected area. Using the scale below, please note how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in your country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
5.1. Illegal hunting for subsistence has increased.	1	2	3	4	9
5.2. Illegal hunting for commercial/profit has increased.	1	2	3	4	9
5.3. Illegal logging has increased.	1	2	3	4	9
5.4. Illegal encroachment has increased.	1	2	3	4	9
5.5. Other pressure on conservation/protected area resources have increased (e.g. grazing, NTFP collection)	1	2	3	4	9

Section 6

We will now ask you questions related to how you have been helping local communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Using the scale below, please note how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic...	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
6.1. The conservation/protected area authority has conducted sufficient awareness and education programs about COVID-19 for local communities.	1	2	3	4	9
6.2. The conservation/protected area authority has sufficiently contributed financially to local communities.	1	2	3	4	9
6.3. The conservation/protected area authority has sufficiently shared rations with the local communities.	1	2	3	4	9

Section 7

7.1. Do you believe that rangers have a role in controlling COVID-19? YES/NO

7.1.1. If YES, how so? _____

7.1.2. If NO, why not? _____

7.3. Do you have access for COVID-19 testing? YES/NO

IF YES to 7.3., then answer the following:

7.3.1. Do you have to pay for the testing YES/NO