



IUCN  
WORLD PARKS CONGRESS  
SYDNEY 2014

Date: 11.6.14

# MEDIA RELEASE

## DR. JANE GOODALL LAUNCHES WORLD PARKS CONGRESS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Renowned environmentalist, Dr. Jane Goodall, launched the IUCN World Parks Congress education program at Rose Bay Secondary College today, encouraging students to find inspiring solutions for parks, people and the planet.

Dr. Goodall, an ambassador for the World Parks Congress, met with year eight students who are participating in the program developed by NSW National Parks to celebrate Australia hosting the prestigious event which plans the future for some of the most valuable areas on the planet.

Over the coming weeks, the students will learn about the vital role of parks, completing projects with their NSW National Parks mentors and presenting their findings to global leaders at the Congress.

The Rose Bay Secondary College students will learn about effective park management in relation to the numerous pressures upon them in an increasingly urbanised world. Their specific research project will analyse African parks which are grappling with the effects of an insatiable poaching crisis. A topic close to Dr. Goodall's heart.

“Our global parks are vital to the health of our planet and society. They provide habitat for threatened animals, keep us healthy by being the source of clean air, water and new medicines, offer natural solutions to climate change and provide homes and livelihoods to millions of people around the world,” said Dr. Jane Goodall.

“These students will be the future park rangers, managers and custodians of our planet. This education program was designed to give them a louder voice at the Congress and get their unique perspectives as we set the agenda for the decade ahead” .

Eight schools throughout NSW will participate in the program and present their work to experts from 160 countries and organisations including UNESCO, The World Bank and the United Nations Environment Program.

Fondly referred to as the 'Environmental Olympics', the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's World Parks Congress will be hosted at Sydney Olympic Park from 12 – 19 November, 2014.

The wider community can get involved in this once in a decade event by registering as a delegate, attending the free public festival, 'PlanetFest' on Sunday 16 November or submitting their professional, amateur or instagram photos of parks and the threatened species they protect, to the Congress nature photography competition for the chance to win from \$24,000 worth of prizes.

More details can be found at: [www.worldparkscongress.org.au](http://www.worldparkscongress.org.au)

**Media Contact: Danielle Henry, IUCN World Parks Congress Media Manager**

**Ph: 9995 6069, M: 0477 718 768**

**E: [danielle.henry@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:danielle.henry@environment.nsw.gov.au)**



IUCN  
WORLD PARKS CONGRESS  
SYDNEY 2014

## **FACTS**

### **'FUSE' : WORLD PARKS CONGRESS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The 'Fuse' education program was developed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, a co-host of the IUCN World Parks Congress;

Students will complete parks and protected area research projects and present their findings at the Congress on Saturday 15 November;

The education program involves eight schools from across NSW including schools Western Sydney and rural NSW;

The 'Fuse' education program will be showcased in Congress Stream 8, "Inspire a New Generation", a priority topic being led by NPWS and Parks Canada. This stream aims to inspire and be inspired by youth and empower them to contribute to the future planning for global protected areas.

### **JANE GOODALL INSTITUTE ROOTS AND SHOOTS**

Jane Goodall is an ambassador for the IUCN World Parks Congress;

Dr. Goodall is a passionate advocate for youth environmental education and involvement;

The Jane Goodall Institute Roots and Shoots program was established 1991, with the goal of bringing together youth from preschool to university age to work on environmental, conservation and humanitarian issues;

Roots & Shoots now operates in 136 countries with 150,000 groups.

### **IUCN WORLD PARKS CONGRESS**

The IUCN World Parks Congress is held approximately every ten years;

It will take place at Sydney Olympic Park from 12 - 19 November;

Parks Australia and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service are the two domestic hosting agencies of the Congress;

Conserving the earth's most valuable natural places and promoting nature's solutions to global challenges is the focus of the Congress;

The world's 200,000 protected areas, covering over 14% land and nearly 3% of oceans conserve threatened wildlife, boost our food, water and climate security and provide health solutions for humanity;

With its theme, "Parks, people, planet: Inspiring solutions", the Congress will bring together 160 countries to showcase protected areas as the best investment in our planet's and our own future;

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature is the world's oldest environmental organisation.