

#### 4.024 Conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx *Lynx pardinus*

AWARE that the Iberian Lynx is symbolic of the conservation of Mediterranean ecosystems, and that it is an endemic species in Spain and Portugal;

CONSIDERING that the Iberian Lynx was once distributed throughout the Iberian Peninsula, but that its numbers have been declining at least since the 19th century to the point where its current world population is estimated at between 150 and 200 animals;

RECOGNIZING that the loss of and damage to its natural habitats, in both present and potential areas of distribution, is one of the main factors leading to declining numbers in the wild;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the habitat of the Iberian Lynx is also the habitat of many other species with an unfavourable conservation status and that conservation of the Iberian Lynx benefits a whole community of flora and fauna;

NOTING that transport and hydrological infrastructure projects, urban development, changes in land use and alterations to the habitat caused by the intensification of agriculture and certain hunting activities are having a serious impact on the habitat of the Iberian Lynx;

AWARE that bilateral and multilateral funding bodies have promoted projects that have negative effects on the integrity of the habitats of the Iberian Lynx; and

RECOGNIZING the efforts made in the past few years by various administrations towards the recovery of this species and its habitat;

#### **The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:**

1. RECOMMENDS to the Governments of Spain and Portugal, as well as to the Governments of the Autonomous Communities of Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Extremadura, Castilla y León, and Madrid, pertaining to the Spanish State, to give, within the framework of their sectoral policies, greater priority to conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx;
2. URGES bilateral and multilateral funding bodies, as well as national, autonomous and local governments, not to authorize projects or participate in financial investments that may have negative effects on the habitats of the Iberian Lynx; and
3. REQUESTS IUCN's members to promote conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx throughout its present and potential areas of distribution;

#### **In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:**

4. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's Commissions, to promote conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx throughout its present and potential areas of distribution.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.