

Application form for Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund Round 3

Stage Two

July 2016

Please read the [guidance notes](#) before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required. The guidance notes are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/illegal-wildlife-trade-iwt-challenge-fund>

1. Name and address of lead organisation

Notification of results will be by email to the Project Leader

Applicant Organisation Name:	Panthera
Address:	
City and Postcode:	
Country:	
Project Leader name:	Thomas McCarthy
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and project title

Stage 1 Ref:	Title (max 10 words): Conservation and Community Resilience: IWT Alternatives in Snow Leopard Range
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3. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 1/5/17		End date: 31/3/20		Duration: 3 years
2017/18 £ 123,000	2018/19 £ 105,000	2019/20 £82,000	2020/21 £ -	Total request £ 310,000
Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) co-financing as % of total Project cost				
(£)				%

4. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of you project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking.

(max 80 words)
In Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, pastoralists kill endangered snow leopards in retaliation for attacks on their livestock and poach ungulate prey species for subsistence, selling non-

edible parts into the illegal wildlife trade.

Panthera proposes to capacitate conservancies to recover and monitor snow leopard prey numbers; predator-proof livestock corrals to reduce herders' economic losses and eliminate snow leopard retaliatory killings; and build anti-trafficking capacity by expanding canine teams for wildlife law enforcement in border areas.

5. What will be the outcome of the project?

(See Guidance Notes 3.1 and 4, and Annex B - guidance on developing a logframe)
 This should be an action orientated statement e.g. training provided to the judiciary results in increased successful prosecutions of poaching. **This should be the same as the outcome statement given in Question 24.**

(max 50 words)

Recovery of snow leopard and prey populations and improved livelihoods of subsistence pastoralists through adoption of sustainable, community-managed trophy hunting of mountain ungulates and nature tourism, reduction of snow leopard and prey poaching and IWT, and elimination of livestock-predator conflict.

6. Which of the three key IWT Challenge Fund objectives will your project address?

6.a Put an X in all that apply
 (See Guidance Note 3.1)

1. Developing sustainable livelihoods for communities affected by illegal wildlife trade	X
2. Strengthening law enforcement and the role of the criminal justice system	X
3. Reducing demand for the products of the illegal wildlife trade	

6b. Which of the commitments made in the London Conference Declaration and / or the Kasane Statement does this project support? Please provide the number(s) of the relevant commitments: there is no need to include the text from the relevant commitment.
 (See Guidance Notes 4.1 and Annex A)

London Declaration: XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX
 Kasane Statement: 10, 11, 12, 1

7. Country(ies)

(See Guidance Notes 3.4 and 4.4)
 Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than four countries.

Country 1: Kyrgyz Republic	Country 2: Tajikistan
Country 3:	Country 4:

8. About the lead organisation:

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	2006
What is the legal status of your organisation?	NGO Yes
How is your organisation currently funded?	(Max 100 words) Panthera's conservation programs are funded by individuals, private foundations, government donors, and the private sector. Panthera's 'Global Alliance', created in 2010 with environmental philanthropists from China, India, the United Arab Emirates and the United States, has committed USD over ten years. These partners include Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, the Wildlife Conservation Trust, and Dr. Thomas Kaplan and Mrs. Daphne Recanati Kaplan. Panthera's 2015 annual operating budget is USD .
Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? Note that this is not required from Government Agencies	Yes

8b. Provide detail of 3 contracts/projects previously undertaken by the lead organisation that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed. These contacts should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your IWT Challenge Fund application.

Contract/ Project 1 Title	Sabin Snow Leopard Grants Program
Contract Value/ Project budget	£
Duration	5 Years; Currently on Year 2
Role of organisation in project	Provide research funds to support <i>in situ</i> conservation projects on snow leopards
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project.	This grant program supports applications for <i>in situ</i> conservation efforts on the snow leopard in Asia, with an emphasis on field conservation and research activities including: 1) Applying interventions that directly and immediately mitigate threats to snow leopards including activities which measurably reduce the persecution of snow leopards by pastoralists and poachers, the illegal trade in snow leopards, and so on; and 2) Monitoring and research focused on areas of the snow leopard's range for which there is limited or poor data, including developing baseline information on snow leopard populations; identifying and delineating

	important connections between known snow leopard populations; and undertaking basic research on snow leopard ecology where gaps exist. Currently completing its second year, this program has granted £ to 13 projects in six snow leopard range countries and one project with rangewide application.
Client contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	Andrew Sabin Family Foundation

Contract/ Project 2 Title	Protected Areas for the Jaguar Corridor
Contract Value/ Project budget	£
Duration	10 years; Currently on Year 1
Role of organisation in project	Consolidate core jaguar habitats and corridors with community and protected area agreements, trainings, and law enforcement programs
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project.	Panthera will demonstrate how mixed-use lands, where effective protected areas are embedded in a mosaic of lands open to human use and development, can benefit local communities and wildlife, securing an ecologically healthy trajectory for the future. Work includes the creation of protected areas; protected area law enforcement and security; and livestock-predator conflict reduction. Leadership, infrastructure, equipment and training make the difference between an effective protected area and one that is protected only on paper. Investment in the human and capital infrastructure for national parks and indigenous community reserves creates an economy that values wildlife and secures the resources for people who depend on natural systems for food, fuel and water. Outcomes include securing community commitment toward the creation of a new protected area in Colombia; training of community members in SMART law enforcement monitoring; and expansion of cattle-conflict projects and community workshops.
Client contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	Sitka Foundation The Sitka Foundation

Contract/ Project 3 Title	Panthera Furs for Life
Contract Value/ Project budget	£
Duration	3 years; Currently on Year 2
Role of organisation in project	Panthera assists and trains local park staff to establish surveillance networks in Southern Africa
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project.	Aims are to monitor leopard populations and the impact that the use of fake fur may have on conserving and increasing leopard populations; manufacture and import fake leopard furs and obtain buy-in from the users of leopard skin in traditional wear to use fake fur as a more environmentally friendly alternative. Project objectives include: manufacture and distribution of fake furs; educational outreach to decrease demand for leopard skins; facilitate enforcement of laws regulating the possession and trade of leopard skins; train and equip wildlife management agencies to establish surveillance network; and facilitate the adaptive management

	of leopards by statutory authorities. Outcomes include distribution of 15,000 fake furs; public endorsement by Zulu royal family and South African President Jacob Zuma; prosecution by law enforcement of locals involved in IWT; and systematic camera trap surveys to monitor regional leopard population trends.
Client contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	Peace Parks Foundation

9. Project partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project, and how local institutions, local communities, and technical specialists are involved as appropriate. Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships. **Details on roles and responsibilities in this project must be given for the Lead Organisation and all project partners.**

Lead Organisation name:	Panthera
Website address:	www.panthera.org
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)	<p>Panthera, a wild cat conservation nonprofit organization founded in 2006, will lead project development and implementation in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. A hallmark of Panthera's Snow Leopard Program, currently active in seven countries, is linking human livelihoods with conservation. In coordination with its government, nonprofit, and community partners, Panthera will design and implement human-snow leopard conflict mitigation strategies, support the development of local conservancies, and train wildlife detection dog units. Active in Tajikistan since 2009 and in the Kyrgyz Republic since 2014, Panthera has a staff of ten in the region. In Tajikistan, Panthera works through its branch Panthera Tajikistan and in the Kyrgyz Republic, through the local NGO Panthera Foundation Kyrgyzstan.</p> <p>Tatjana Rosen leads Panthera's projects in both Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic since 2011 and is fluent in Russian and Farsi. Rosen is also species focal point for snow leopards for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), an environmental treaty under the United Nations Environment Programme. Rosen assists both countries on matters regarding the implementation of both Conventions and quota-setting for sustainable wild ungulate trophy hunting.</p>

Partner Name:	1. Panthera Foundation Kyrgyzstan
Website address:	http://www.panthera.kg/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)	<p>Panthera Foundation Kyrgyzstan (PFK) (“Илбирс Фонду КФ») is a local NGO formally established in 2016 with the goal of consolidating and scaling of wildlife conservation activities in the Kyrgyz Republic. Led by Director Zairbek Kubanychbekov, PFK negotiated the wildlife management contracts for the project’s five nascent community-based conservancies and works closely with Kyrgyz Republic’s Department for the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources of the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF). Kubanychbekov also facilitated the implementation of an MoU between the Kyrgyz Customs Service and Panthera to train and deploy of wildlife and contraband detection dogs.</p> <p>PFK proposes to lead the consolidation of the five conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and oversee the establishment of the sixth; coordinate wildlife surveys and related training needs; work with the Kyrgyz Customs Service to train wildlife detection dogs; and coordinate the exchange of intelligence among conservancies and government partners.</p> <p>Mr. Rahim Kulenbekov and Mrs. Shirin Tagaeva will assist Kubanychbekov. Kulenbekov is in charge of the wildlife research and Tagaeva is the point of contact for all partners regarding tourism and women’s training in the conservancies.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	Yes
Partner Name:	2. Kyrgyz Customs State Service
Website address:	

<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>The Kyrgyz State Customs Service (“Customs Service”), is in responsible for customs control at the borders of the Kyrgyz Republic.</p> <p>In 2014, Panthera established a working relationship with the Customs Service and its Canine Academy to cross-training narcotics detection dogs. With the entry of the Kyrgyz Republic into the Eurasian Customs Union, the borders of the Kyrgyz Republic with China and Tajikistan were identified as priority areas for deployment of canine units for the detection of narcotics and wildlife products. This prompted a two-year Memorandum of Understanding between the Customs Service and Panthera, drafted in 2015 and executed in early 2016.</p> <p>In 2015, Panthera and Working Dogs for Conservation (WD4C) initiated the training of four detection dogs specializing in narcotics and wildlife products. In May 2016, two dogs were deployed at the Bordobo border between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Since deployment, dogs have detected smuggling of argali horns on two occasions. According to local poachers interacting with members of the Alai Valley conservancies, smuggling of argali and ibex has come to a halt.</p> <p>Customs Service canine trainers Mr. Alexey Tarasenko, Mr. Evgenii Mashenko, and Mrs. Natalya Gladkova provide continued mentoring to the four handlers and dogs on the team.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Partner Name:</p>	<p>3. State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic</p>
<p>Website address:</p>	<p>www.nature.gov.kg</p>

<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>Kyrgyz Republic's State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry is in charge of the implementation of a common policy on environmental protection and management, biodiversity conservation, and the implementation of forestry and hunting policies and laws. Panthera has had a Memorandum of Understanding with the Agency since 2015. The Agency will play a key role in supporting the development of the community-based conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Agency has already demonstrated their support by signing wildlife management agreements with the existing five community-based conservancies and has pledged continued political support going forward. We will be working closely with Almaz Musaev, Director of the Department on the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources. Musaev is responsible for implementing the Hunting Law and negotiating wildlife management agreements with the hunting concessions and conservancies. He is also the focal point for the implementation of CITES and CMS in the Kyrgyz Republic.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name:</p>	<p>4. Hunting Association of Tajikistan</p>
<p>Website address:</p>	
<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>The Hunting Association of Tajikistan brings together all private hunting concessions that run trophy hunting on argali sheep and has the stated objective of "joining forces to promote the interests of developing hunting with government and to market hunts".</p> <p>The Association closely advises the Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on matters related to hunting and quota setting.</p> <p>The role of the Association will be to provide guidance to Panthera in its support to the Tajik conservancies, recently organized under the umbrella of the NGO Hunting and Conservation Alliance of Tajikistan (H&CAT). They will also collect intelligence on IWT. Mr. Alihon Latifi, Director of the Association, will be the key contact.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name:</p>	<p>5. Pamir-Eco Cultural Tourism Association (PECTA)</p>
<p>Website address:</p>	<p>http://www.pecta.tj</p>

<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>PECTA is based in the Tajik Pamirs and works with tourist operators, drivers, local communities, and development and conservation NGOs to promote tourism and improve community livelihoods through income generation. PECTA has worked with Panthera on promoting tourism in the Tajik conservancies since 2014, championing tourism in the supported conservancies as part of the Hunting and Conservation Alliance of Tajikistan (H&CAT). “Yak and Bag” is a flagship tour offered by one Panthera conservancy that is promoted by German outdoor company Globetrotter (Accessible at: http://globetrotter-magazin.de/magazinartikel/tajikistan-yak-and-bag-pamirs).</p> <p>PECTA proposes to market tourism in the nascent conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic through the Kyrgyz Community based Tourism Association (KCBTA). Mr. Matthias Poeschel from Aga Khan Foundation Mountain Societies Development Program and Ms. Zhandiya Zoolshoeva will be supporting Panthera and the conservancies with consulting and marketing. Poeschel and Zoolshoeva, together with consultant Ms. Christine Oriol, are coordinating the “Women Rock’in Pamirs” initiative to train women as wilderness tourist guides in the Tajik and Kyrgyz conservancies.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</p>	<p>No: Forthcoming as of December 9 2016</p>
<p>Partner Name:</p>	<p>6. Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan</p>
<p>Website address:</p>	<p>http://www.ijozat.tj</p>

<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>The Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (CEPRT) is the institution charged with natural resource protection for the country, and is the regulatory body setting quota for species (like argali sheep) that are listed under the Red Book of Tajikistan. Under the Committee, Panthera works with the Section on Control of Use and Protection of Fauna and Flora, the CITES Management Authority that ensures hunting permits are issued correctly and that conservancy hunting grounds are assigned at the appropriate level. Panthera works closely with the Committee to implement the activities under the National Snow Leopard Ecosystem Priorities Plan (NSLEP).</p> <p>Panthera has worked closely with the Committee since 2012, and is in the process of negotiating an updated Memorandum of Understanding.</p> <p>The Committee provides political support to the conservancy work, as well as facilitates intelligence exchange between the informal informant network and key stakeholders (police, secret service, and border and customs service).</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</p>	<p>No: Forthcoming as of December 9 2016</p>
<p>Partner Name:</p>	<p>7. Working Dogs For Conservation (WD4C)</p>
<p>Website address:</p>	<p>http://wd4c.org</p>
<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>WD4C is one of the leading conservation organizations dedicated to training working conservation dogs for research, anti-poaching, and to combat the illegal wildlife trade.</p> <p>Since 2015, WD4C and Panthera have jointly supported training and mentoring of the Kyrgyz Customs Service dog handler teams. Under the proposed project, WD4C will continue supporting the canine units with additional scent training focused on endangered saiga and saker falcon, as well as sourcing and training new dogs to be added to the Kyrgyz Customs Service wildlife detection team.</p> <p>Ms. Aimee Hurt, Director of Operations at WD4C, leads this component. Hurt has worked with conservation dogs since 1998 and has in-country experience in the Kyrgyz Republic supporting the Customs Service canine units by training and mentoring dog handler staff, as well as training detection canines.</p>

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	Yes
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Partner Name:	8. CITES Secretariat
Website address:	www.cites.org
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)	<p>The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is the UN Convention regulating trade in endangered species listed under the Convention, including argali.</p> <p>The Secretariat will provide guidance to Panthera in supporting the implementation of the Convention in Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic, especially as related to the implementation of CoP17 decisions (CoP17 Com.I.3) and Res. Conf.12.3 (Rev.CoP17) as related to hunting trophies. The Secretariat will serve as the communication hub with CITES national authorities for destination and transit countries of wildlife of concern for this project.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	Yes
Partner Name:	9. EcoEnforce
Website address:	

<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p>	<p>EcoEnforce is a consulting team led by Mr. Luke Bond and Dr. Sylvia Loh, formerly at INTERPOL. Bond and Loh will provide IWT enforcement training for customs and border officials, community-based conservancies, and the Department on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources of the State Agency on Environment and Forestry. The Standard Enforcement Training for Wildlife will focus on tracking poachers, patrol tactics, wildlife crime scene management, and enhancing coordination skills among the participants.</p> <p>While at INTERPOL, Bond led Project Predator (https://www.usaid.gov/kyrgyz-republic/fact-sheets/project-predator), a partnership between the Kyrgyz Republic, INTERPOL, and 19 other countries including Tajikistan, to decrease poaching and trafficking of snow leopards. Additionally, Bond led trainings for 14 rangers under the Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) IWT012 project "Citizen-Ranger Wildlife Protection Program (CRWPP) in Kyrgyzstan". One of the outputs was the "Regional Enforcement Strategy to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade in Central Asia 2015-2018", calling for establishment of the Snow Leopard and Wildlife Enforcement Network (SLAWEN).</p> <p>EcoEnforce will also work with Panthera and SLT on further developing the SLAWEN as well as the National Environmental Security Task Force (NEST) in the Kyrgyz Republic.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

10. Project staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff.

Please include more rows where necessary.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV attached?
Thomas McCarthy	Project Leader, Executive Director, Panthera Snow Leopard Program	10	Yes
Tatjana Rosen	Director, Snow Leopard Programs, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan	100	Yes
Zairbek Kubanychbekov	Director, Panthera Foundation Kyrgyzstan	100	Yes

11. Species project is focusing on

(See Guidance Note 4.2)

Where there are more than 4 species that will benefit from the project's work, please add more boxes.

1. Snow leopard—Endangered (IUCN 3.1)	2. Argali—Near Threatened (IUCN 3.1)
3. Saiga – Critically Endangered (IUCN 3.1)	4. Saker falcon—Endangered (IUCN 3.1)

Problem the project is trying to address

What specific aspect(s) of the illegal trade in wildlife will your project address? Please describe the level of threat to the species concerned. Please also explain which communities are affected by this issue, and how this aspect of the illegal trade in wildlife relates to poverty or efforts of people and/or states to alleviate poverty.

(Max 300 words)

In the remote mountains of Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic, pastoralists kill endangered snow leopards in retaliation for attacks on livestock, and their ungulate prey species are also poached for subsistence. Parts of poached species are sold into the IWT. Lack of livelihood alternatives for local communities; weak land management and enforcement at major trafficking points; and human-predator conflict all exacerbate the decline of snow leopards and their prey species. Participation in IWT deteriorates the local and national institutions that manage ecosystems by undercutting nature-based livelihoods from tourism and legal hunting—communities' most significant opportunity income generation outside of animal husbandry. The 2016 TRAFFIC report indicates that ~400 snow leopards are killed rangewide in retaliation for attacks on livestock, urging scaling of proven techniques addressing livelihood conflict.

Panthera proposes to reverse natural resource degradation and IWT by integrating conservation with ecotourism and managed hunting to strengthen local income and reduce dependence on animal husbandry. Panthera's conservancy model uses sustainably-managed ungulate hunting to generate local employment and revenues, incentivizing community engagement. Low-volume, high-value ungulate hunting and nature tourism provide significant revenue opportunities for remote subsistence communities in snow leopard range. Concurrent work includes eliminating predator-livestock conflict and improving law enforcement capacity to combat IWT.

In Tajikistan, three conservancy-managed hunts per year raise upwards of £14,000—90 times the local average annual income—with minimal take-off of ungulates, primarily older males. Hunts create employment opportunities. Proceeds are invested to develop and maintain micro-finance programs, healthcare facilities, schools, water infrastructure, and conservation activities.

Predator-proofing of corrals eliminates household food insecurity and economic vulnerability from carnivore attacks on livestock—the loss of a single sheep equates to £64, or five months of cash income. Interventions to predator-proof corrals simultaneously eliminate the incentive for retaliatory killings and reduce snow leopard availability for IWT.

12. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on:

- How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods)
- How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management)

tools etc.).

Please make sure you read the Guidance Notes, particularly Section 3, before answering this question.

(Max 750 words - this may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you should update or refine as necessary. Tracked changes are **not** required.)

Panthera began developing community-based conservancies in Tajikistan in 2008. Our approach produced ungulate population increases between 50% and 78% within 3 years across the conservancies. The conservancies were recognized with the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation's Markhor Award in 2014 for outstanding sustainability performance linking conservation and livelihoods. Community enhancements financed by hunting tourism include a microfinance program, school improvements, and construction of a clean water supply system. 100 jobs were created and £50,000 was invested in community enhancements.

Panthera began working with 2 communities in the Alai Valley, Chon Kemin, and Aksu, in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2014. In 2016, Panthera negotiated wildlife management agreements with the Kyrgyz State Environmental Protection and Forest Agency for five conservancies, which now have legal authority to manage the areas assigned to them for conservation and ungulate hunting. We propose to build on this recent political and legal recognition to develop monitoring and enforcement capacity against poaching, and develop economic alternatives to IWT.

Predator-proofing of livestock corrals is one of Panthera's most successful approaches to reducing livestock-predator conflict across snow leopard range. To date, Panthera has built 130 corrals in Tajikistan, eliminating retaliatory killing of cats in program villages. In 2013, we developed an informant network with the conservancies and corral projects—a first in the region—which led to the confiscation of seven snow leopards in Tajikistan.

Wildlife detection canines are an unparalleled tool in the fight against the IWT, and are deployed in Africa and Asia. The four dogs Panthera trained in the Kyrgyz Republic are a first for the country. Two dogs are deployed at one of the Kyrgyz Republic's most significant trafficking points—the Bordobo post with Tajikistan—and the other two are trained and will soon be stationed at the Torugart border post between the Kyrgyz Republic and China.

Panthera proposes to:

1. Support six community-based conservancies for conservation and sustainable management of argali and ibex (snow leopard prey species) in Kyrgyz Republic and 4 in Tajikistan:

We helped establish five conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and propose to develop and strengthen their monitoring and enforcement capacity, and establish a sixth conservancy at the communities' request to develop tourism capacity.

In Tajikistan, we seek to extend support to the four conservancies we helped establish that are nearly self-sufficient. Conservancies will improve patrols and monitoring to recover ibex and argali populations. The CEPRT is committed to supporting the Tajik conservancies and issues hunting permits each year.

The Kyrgyz Republic's SAEPF has committed to issuing hunting permits to the conservancies (1 permit per 100 ibex or argali) when ungulate surveys indicate population recoveries. Repeat ungulate surveys conducted in four of the conservancies in Fall 2016 already indicate a 50% increase in ungulate numbers since Panthera's initial interventions.

2. Mitigate human-snow leopard conflict and reduce incentives to IWT:

In Tajikistan, Panthera will build predator-proof corrals to prevent retaliatory killings that follow the loss of livestock to snow leopard depredation. Construction of corrals eliminates

predator conflict and attendant incentives for IWT. Panthera provides materials not locally available for corral building and assists villagers in construction.

Informant networks detect wildlife contraband and collect information on demand and availability. EcoEnforce and our experts will train networks to strengthen intelligence gathering methodologies with conservancy members. Identities are kept confidential with security protocols in place in accordance with WWF-TRAFFIC Guidelines for Managing Informants.

3. Establish wildlife detection canine units at borders between Tajikistan, China, and Kyrgyz Republic:

Panthera trained four wildlife detection canines and handlers—two are posted at the Kyrgyz border with Tajikistan, and two will be at the China-Kyrgyz border. Canines are trained to detect snow leopard, argali, and ibex.

4. Improving the capacity of law enforcement to respond to IWT:

Panthera will cooperate with CITES and EcoEnforce to provide IWT enforcement training for customs and border officials, members of the conservancies, and inspectors from the Department on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources of the State Agency on Environment and Forestry. It will also work on establishing National Environmental Security Task Forces in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. Panthera's work draws on the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), the Standard Enforcement Trainings for Wildlife, the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit and the expertise of the CITES Secretariat. The training will focus on tracking poachers, tactics, wildlife crime scene management, and enhancing coordination skills among the participants. Trainings build on work initiated under the IWT Challenge Fund Snow Leopard Trust project IWT012, "Citizen-Ranger Wildlife Protection Program (CRWPP) in Kyrgyzstan".

13. Beneficiaries

Who will benefit from the work outlined above, and in what ways? How will this contribute to sustainable development for the reduction of poverty? Is it possible to quantify how many people are likely to benefit from this intervention e.g. number of households, and how do you intend to monitor the benefits they accrue?

If your project is working in an Upper Middle Income Country, please explain how benefits will be delivered to people living in poverty in Low and/or Low Middle Income countries. Include, where possible, information on whether and how there are ways to support the most vulnerable communities, including women.

If your project is focused on demand reduction, it can be harder to make a direct link between your project and beneficiaries in low income countries. Demand reduction projects should clearly demonstrate their indirect links to poverty reduction, for example, by identifying the source countries for the products concerned.

14. Gender

(See Guidance Note 3.5)

Under the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014, all applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your project will collect gender disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

(Max 750 words)

Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic rank 39% and 37.9% respectively in the 2010 Human Development Report Multidimensional Poverty Index. The 24 communities in the proposed project area share the challenges of geographic isolation and limited income-generating opportunities related to agriculture and livestock production, tourism, and handicraft businesses. Families may supplement their cash incomes by working as migrant labourers, mostly in the Russian Federation. We expect to directly benefit 8,000 individuals (including 3,500 women and 1,400 children; equivalent to 800 households) in six communities in the Alai Valley, Chon Kemin Region, and Aksu Village (Kyrgyz Republic) and 3,000 individuals (including 1,000 women and 400 children; 300 households) in 18 communities in the Pamirs in Tajikistan. Benefits can be broken down as follows: 30% income, 40% infrastructure, and 30% education. We will monitor income-related benefits accrued through a post-project survey.

In Tajikistan, documented benefits from sustainable trophy hunting have been significant. Community-based organizations now protect wildlife across 3,000 km². In the Pamirs, 21 foreign hunters legally harvested 20 ibex in four conservancies during the hunting seasons of 2012/13-2016/17, earning £. The markhor conservancies' lands cover 600 km²; they were allowed to harvest 18 markhor during the hunting seasons of 2014-2016/17, earning £. Sixty jobs were created, with poachers increasingly becoming rangers. We seek to replicate similar results in the Kyrgyz Republic.

In Tajikistan, we will reduce the economic loss and retributive killing of snow leopards due to livestock depredation by predator-proofing corrals and developing information gathering mechanisms regarding snow leopards and their parts entering the IWT. Investments of £ for 20 corrals to reduce livestock loss can prevent losses of 800 sheep —valued at £—and save the lives of at least eight snow leopards.

We will further improve the detection of IWT activities by deploying a cross-border canine unit at the Torugart post between the Kyrgyz Republic and China. Our canine project will further empower customs officials to successfully detect IWT, leading to increased deterrents and prosecutions. IWT traders will be discouraged from transporting illegal wildlife trade products across the border, an activity that would damage the new trophy hunting programs. While no baseline is available, in 2015 over 5,300 saiga antelope horns were confiscated at the Torugart Post on their way to China when experienced customs officials became suspicious of a driver's behavior, resulting in prosecution of the smugglers and confiscation of vehicles.

(Max 300 words)

Women's participation in the economy and decision-making is currently limited to household activities. Panthera's local female staff members have experience negotiating local customs and religious sensibilities (Sunni and Ismaili Shia Islam) and will provide women with targeted training that promotes gender equality while respecting cultural norms and maintaining our ability to operate. Recognizing women's potential with accounting, leadership, and tourism management training provides them with the opportunity for greater participation in local economic activities. Furthermore, we seek to train women as tourism and hunting guides, opportunities that are fully welcomed by the conservancies' members who recognize that many hunters and tourists are women and prefer to be guided by women. We will ensure that all children from the villages we serve are enrolled in K-11 by having the conservancies pay for books and uniforms, and helping us identify any barriers that may prevent girls from attending school. We will also introduce environmental curricula to nurture the next generation of wildlife conservationists. The approach of incorporating educational needs in our project has proven successful in terms of leveraging greater tolerance towards snow leopards in our work in Ladakh, India. Men will also be provided training in leadership and conflict resolution skills, and taught taxidermy techniques.

15. Impact on species in focus

How will the species named in Question 11 above benefit from the work outlined above? What do you expect the long-term impact on the species concerned to be?

(Max 200 words)

The community-based approach will reduce poaching pressure on snow leopard, argali, and ibex populations. Population increases of slow reproducing species such as snow leopards take longer to detect. Ungulate species such as argali reproduce quickly with conservation measures in place. We detected a 50% increase in ungulate populations within one year of protection via ranger monitoring in the Kyrgyz conservancies. Once prey populations rebound, snow leopards are likely to return to previously prey-depleted areas. We documented an increase from 6 to 10 snow leopards after 3 years in one conservancy in Tajikistan.

Panthera documented a near 100% reduction of livestock-snow leopard conflict after predator-proofing livestock corrals. We anticipate a significant, if not entire, reduction in retaliatory killing of snow leopards in participating communities. Area research concludes that human-wildlife conflict is the primary reason for snow leopard poaching. Strategies to improve livestock management, such as building predator-proof corrals and deterring retaliation, must be scaled.

Panthera seeks to concomitantly combat trade in saiga and saker falcon, both endangered and in high demand, the first in Chinese Medicine, the latter in the UAE. Our intelligence network led to the arrest of individuals smuggling saker falcon from the Kyrgyz Republic.

16. Exit strategy

State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual". Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?

(Max 200 words)

Long-term project success is underpinned by close collaboration and existing agreements with our government partners and buy-in from beneficiary communities. Panthera trains multiple individuals to reinforce one another and train younger conservancy members.

Upon project completion, conservancies are designed to be self-sustaining, though they will continue to benefit from Panthera's ongoing technical guidance and will incrementally be able to:

- Monitor snow leopards and ungulate prey;
- Submit annual reports to government;
- Secure hunting permits and successfully market hunts;
- Market and provide services to nature tourists;
- Enforce a democratic system for making decisions within the conservancy, leading to actions benefitting the whole community; and
- Have a stronger voice in the policy-making processes in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic.

Panthera has a permanent presence in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. We will continue to liaise with government partners and agencies and conservancies to undertake population monitoring necessary to ensure that ungulate off-take is sustainable and conducted ethically.

The Kyrgyz Customs Service possesses the capacity to maintain and support the canine unit once established.

In Tajikistan, the predator-proofed corrals will be maintained primarily by the women, a policy which has worked well for the past 4 years.

17. Funding

18a) Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)? Please give details

(Max 200 words):

We seek funding to support existing work in Tajikistan to predator-proof corrals; to provide ongoing technical support to four existing community-based conservancies in Tajikistan; to support five operational conservancies and a new conservancy in the Kyrgyz Republic; and to support new initiatives targeted at curbing the illegal trade in snow leopards and their parts in both Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic.

The development of community-based conservancies for conservation and managed hunting of argali and ibex is an expansion of the work first started by the German Development Agency GIZ in 2008 in Tajikistan. The replication of this approach in the Kyrgyz Republic is a recent initiative begun in 2014. The project to reduce human-snow leopard conflicts and incentives for illegal trade in snow leopards and their parts began in 2013. The project to support a wildlife detection canine unit on the border between Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic began in 2015. We began building predator-proof corrals in Tajikistan in 2012.

18b) Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

Yes

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional to this work and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits:

Elements of the Standard Law Enforcement Training build on the IWTC-supported Snow Leopard Trust project (IWT012), "Citizen-Ranger Wildlife Protection Program (CRWPP) in Kyrgyzstan." We are not aware of other organizations applying for funding for this work in these two countries.

18c) Are you applying for funding relating to the proposed project from other sources?

Yes

If yes, please give brief details including when you expect to hear the result. Please ensure you include the figures requested in the Budget Spreadsheet as Unconfirmed funding.

National Geographic Big Cats Initiative: £– Panthera will apply in Spring 2017 and anticipates results by Summer 2017

18. Funding and budget

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/illegal-wildlife-trade-iwt-challenge-fund>

Please refer to the Finance Information document for more information.

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP.

Budgets submitted in other currencies will not be accepted. Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate, up to 3% per annum. The IWT Challenge Fund cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

19. Co-financing

19a) Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

(See "Financial Information for IWT" and Guidance Note 3.4)

Confirmed:

Trust for Mutual Understanding: £This grant covers travel expenses for:

- Our Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic program director Tanya Rosen to move between US, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyz Republic;
- Chief Scientist Askar Davletbakov from the Institute for Biology and Soil Sciences, National Science Academy of the Kyrgyz Republic to meet with biologists from Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks and American Prairie Reserve and participate in a long term big horn sheep study in the US;
- Leader of the first argali conservancy in Tajikistan, “Burgut” in Alichur, Mahan Atabaev to meet with members of the Salish and Kootenay tribes of the Flathead Nation, and American Prairie Reserve and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks experts to learn how “privately” managed reserves deal with conflicts and manage wildlife populations in the US;
- Martin Gilbert, DVM, PhD, of Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) Wildlife Health Group to share his expertise with local staff in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic regarding infectious disease and the conservation of wildlife;
- Sean Gerrity, CEO, American Prairie Reserve to our field sites in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic to share his expertise with local staff.

Judith McBean Foundation: £

- Partial support of four existing wildlife detection canine units in Kyrgyz Republic, anti-poaching networks in Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic, and construction of six predator-proof corrals in Tajikistan.

National Geographic Big Cats Initiative: £

Please note that in our application, we had estimated this amount to be £as it was unsecured. We have in the meantime received this grant, although less than requested.

- Travel for Tanya Rosen and Aimee Hurt from Working Dogs for Conservation;
- Gas and horse rentals for patrolling in conservancies and nearby valleys, travel expenses to attend four meetings of the informant network, and car repairs;
- Camera traps, binoculars, communication radios, and GPS units for conservancies and associated informant networks.
- Materials and transport for 15 predator-proof corrals;
- One year of salary for two experienced dog trainers in the Kyrgyz Republic, new dog kennel and vitamin supplements, dog vests and leashes;
- One year of in-country telephone and internet expenses.

US Fish and Wildlife Combating Wildlife Trafficking: £

- One refresher training and support for expansion of wildlife detection canine units.

The Global Alliance for Wild Cats: £

- Staff salaries

19b) Unsecured

Provide details of any co-financing where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include co-financing from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.

Date applied for	Donor organization	Amount	Comments
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19c) Justification

If you are not proposing co-financing, please explain why.

(max 150 words)
N/A

20. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with IWT funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

(Max 150 words)
We plan to purchase one project vehicle in the Kyrgyz Republic. At the end of the project, the vehicle will remain with Panthera Foundation Kyrgyzstan. Vehicles are the only method of travel between these communities. The terrain is rough and roads are unpaved or do not exist. The terrain requires a rugged, resilient vehicle, spare parts and tires, and regular maintenance.

21. Value for money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

(Max 250 words)
Our project has been designed to ensure good VFM based on efficient use of resources maximizing results for the greatest number of beneficiaries and establishing sound environmental practices. Our project is designed to be self-sufficient—financial benefits will result from proper wildlife conservation and tourism to incentivize local communities. Panthera will not use funding to pay conservancy members to work on establishing their conservancies, nor pay them for monitoring wildlife or anti-poaching work. Instead, their motivation comes from near-future income to be generated when communities host tourists on established conservancies.

As local capacity is critical to the success and sustainability of the project, a substantial part of the grant and its match is allocated to our in-country staff salaries. In our previous work, we have invested in training staff in wildlife monitoring, evaluation, and conservation techniques. Our project benefits from pre-existing relationships and the formal arrangements we have in place with our local partners and government. As a result, we can leverage their resources and experienced staff to execute our activities.

Finally, to maximize effectiveness, our project builds on our previous conflict mitigation work with community-based conservancies. For example, conservancies in Tajikistan are increasingly autonomous and financially viable, while predator-proofing of corrals has reduced conflict to zero in the areas of concern.

22. Ethics and human rights

Outline your approach to meeting the IWT’s key principles for ethics as outlined in the

guidance notes. Additionally, if there are any human rights and/or international humanitarian law risks in relation to your project? If there are, have you carried out an assessment of the impact of those risks, and of measures that may be taken in order to mitigate them?

(See Guidance Notes 5.4 and 6.1)

(Max 250 words)

Our project will meet all legal and ethical obligations of the UK, US, Tajikistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic. We will support legal, scientifically validated sustainable use of mountain ungulate species. We will provide training and oversight to prevent unethical hunting practices, and ensure that hunts and trophies have appropriate CITES export and import permits. We will promote sustainable principles of ecological tourism to prevent negative environmental impacts caused by tourism.

Given the community focus reflected in our partners, we will include members of the local conservancies in project planning and implementation. The traditional ecological knowledge of their constituencies—which we currently rely on to identify snow leopard and mountain ungulate pathways—will continue to play an important part as well as their hunting skills, which are critical in guiding successful trophy hunts and nature tours.

We will strive to safeguard the rights, privacy, and safety of people with whom we work. WWF-Traffic protocols are in place to protect informants. We have secured Prior Informed Consent (PIC) in the communities where we work. The health and safety of our staff and our partners is of utmost importance. We have safety and evacuation protocols that do not discriminate between international and local staff. As an organization known for cutting edge biological research, our research will maintain objectivity and integrity.

Finally, the research supported will be in the context of poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use.

23. Outputs of the project and Open Access

Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific costs you are seeking from the IWT Challenge Fund to fund this.

(See Guidance Note 5.5)

(Max 250 words)

Panthera will ensure that all project partners receive timely reports in English or Russian on project implementation and results. We will provide hard copies of reports to communities and stakeholders without access to digital media. Data generated by the project will be disseminated to all partner institutions and shared through ResearchGate, an online networking tool for scientists. As a result of the work supported through this grant, Panthera expects that peer-reviewed articles will be published along with reports of the work. Sharing lessons learned through this project through platforms such as the professional Snow Leopard Network listserv will inform other NGOs working in Central Asia regarding approaches to reduce human-snow leopard conflict, illegal wildlife trade, and develop a model for community-driven sustainable wildlife management.

All of the materials created as a result of this project will be made available in English and Russian through Panthera's website, which reaches an audience of 65,000 people per month, as well as the websites of our partners. The team also plans to highlight our work, especially those elements relevant to the implementation of CITES and CMS activities, at the forthcoming Conference of the Parties of CMS (2017) and CITES (2019) as well make available relevant reports and publications on the websites of the two Conventions.

Project monitoring and evaluation

Logical framework

IWT Challenge Fund projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected outputs and outcomes. This section sets out the expected outputs and outcomes of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

Annex B and Annex C in the Guidance Notes provides helpful guidance on completing a logical framework.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: To improve resilience of pastoralist livelihoods through managed ungulate hunting and nature tourism, and reduce trafficking of snow leopards and prey species in Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic.</p> <p>(Max 30 words)</p>			
<p>Outcome: Recovery of snow leopard and prey populations and improved livelihoods of subsistence pastoralists through adoption of sustainable, community-managed trophy hunting of mountain ungulates and nature tourism, reduction of snow leopard and prey poaching and IWT, and elimination of livestock-predator conflict.</p> <p>(Max 50 words)</p>	<p>0.1 By year 3, 100% increase in the income of 300 conservancy households from sustainable use of wildlife and nature tourism (from £40/month to £80/month)</p> <p>0.2 By year 3, presence of snow leopards recorded in pilot conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic (from a baseline of 0-1 cats)</p> <p>0.3 By year 3, 50% increase in density of representative ungulate species (for example in Tajikistan, the incentive of trophy hunting increased argali populations by 78% in less than 3 years)</p> <p>0.4 By year 3, 1200 women</p>	<p>0.1 Baseline and end of project (EOP) income surveys</p> <p>0.2 Baseline camera trap surveys of snow leopards carried out in year 1 and repeated in year 2</p> <p>0.3 Annual ungulate surveys to determine population density</p> <p>0.4 Surveys by PECTA and KCBTA documenting tourist satisfaction and accounting proficiency</p>	<p>The conservancies work constructively and in good faith towards the goal of establishing a hunting program (continued poaching would preclude higher community income from sustainable use)</p>

	trained in accounting fundamentals and tourism hosting (baseline = 0)		
Outputs: 1. Six Kyrgyz Republic wildlife community-based conservancies operating with governance structures in place, managing ibex and argali and launching nature tourism; and 4 wildlife community-based conservancies in Tajikistan strengthened	1.1 At least 3000 km ² of wildlife habitat protected from poachers as government recognized conservancies by year 1 (baseline = 0) in the Kyrgyz Republic 1.2 200 people, including 80 women, receive DFID-supported training in natural resources management and tourism, and leadership skills in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan (baseline = 0) 1.3 Over-exploitation (poaching) of ibex, argali and snow leopard reduced by 80% in the conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic by year 1 (baseline=100%)	1.1 At least 3000 km ² formally recognized as 'conservancy' by government, and management plans approved by the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry in the Kyrgyz Republic 1.2 Training course attendance reports and follow-up training to ensure knowledge retention in both countries 1.3 In both countries, annual ungulate surveys (to determine population size and trend, sex ratios, reproductive rates, and recruitment) and biannual snow leopard camera trap surveys done together with Panthera. Regular patrolling of conservancy lands by community rangers to reduce poaching and remove snares. Survey and patrol data documented in annual reports.	The relevant state authorities assign hunting quotas to the conservancies as agreed and the marketing of hunts is not hampered by factors outside the influence of the conservancies and the project
2. Income from hunts and nature tourism enhances local peoples' livelihoods through investments in community-selected health and education projects, impacting 30% of men, women, and children in engaged communities in Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan	2.1 Finalization of Business Plan detailing allocation of sustainable wildlife use revenue developed by year 1 of the project in Tajikistan and year 2 in the Kyrgyz Republic 2.2 Community livelihood improvement projects approved by	2.1 Copies of business plans and written evidence of approved community projects 2.2 Minutes from regular conservancy meetings capturing community voting and approval of improvement projects	Civil war and natural disasters (earthquakes, mudslides, floods) do not prevent access to the conservancies The conservancies comply with their management plans and invest their profits into community

	<p>year 1 in Tajikistan and year 3 for the conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic (baseline = 16)</p> <p>2.3 Community livelihood improvement project implemented by year 1 in Tajikistan and year 3 in the Kyrgyz Republic (baseline = 16)</p> <p>2.4 30% more sustainable use and nature tourism dependent jobs, of which at least half are held by women. This includes 10 women able to safely guide groups of clients on mountain itineraries for several days and joining the pool of guides that PECTA offers to international tour operators and individual tourists as well as the pool of local guides who can accompany tourists for trophy hunting (baseline = 12)</p>	<p>2.3 Photographs and conservancy reports of completed livelihood improvement projects</p> <p>2.4 Employment survey conducted at regular conservancy meetings; data disaggregated by gender</p>	<p>projects</p> <p>Community projects are implemented by the communities themselves in partnership with local private businesses</p> <p>International and national tour operators continue to work in good faith conservancies</p>
<p>3. Conflict with snow leopards reduced across the wider Pamir-Alai region, positively impacting 80% of concerned pastoralists (of which 40% are women)</p>	<p>3.1 Twenty predator-proof corrals built by year 2 of the project in 5 communities in Tajikistan. The corrals will be supervised primarily by women, and will protect 14,000 sheep and goats of 28 households (baseline = 130)</p> <p>3.2 By year 1, reduction of snow leopard retaliatory killings from 7-8 cats per year—with an average of 50 livestock killed in each commu-</p>	<p>3.1 Photographs of completed corrals</p> <p>3.2 No documented/reported cases of retaliatory killing of snow leopards and camera trapping indicates stable or increasing snow leopard population</p>	<p>Local communities want to protect their livestock and thereby reduce conflicts with snow leopards</p> <p>Communities properly utilize and maintain the corrals during and after the project</p>

	<p>nity—to zero cats killed in communities with predator-proofed corrals and no livestock lost at night.</p>		
<p>4. Illegal trade in wildlife reduced by 80% in and through Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic via canine units at 4 critical border posts</p>	<p>4.1 Transboundary anti-poaching local informant network in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan built around the conservancies and communities with predator-proofed corrals established by year 2 of the project involving 240 people (baseline=120)</p> <p>4.2 Wildlife detection dog units (4 dogs and 4 handlers) additionally trained to detect saiga and saker falcon are operational by year 1 at the Bordobo and Torugart border posts with Tajikistan and China (baseline=0)</p> <p>4.3 Two new wildlife detection dog units trained by year 2 to deploy at 2 additional border posts with Tajikistan and China (baseline=4)</p> <p>4.4 Law enforcement, including customs and border officials, members of the community-based conservancies, and inspectors from the Department on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources of the State Agency on Environment and Forestry, trained in the Standard Enforcement Trainings for</p>	<p>4.1 Written and securely stored documentation of meetings (including a source register kept separate and password protected with access restricted to the informant handler) of the established anti-poaching local informant network, including intelligence gathered and intelligence data used in law enforcement operations resulting in arrests and prosecutions</p> <p>4.2 Canine teams are deployed full-time at all border posts with handlers recording their searches daily (deployment is on 10-day cycles for each of 2 handlers and dogs), and canine trainers visit posts every 2 months to maintain expertise</p> <p>4.3 Training excursions to the conservancies: in combination with trainer visits to border posts, conduct field trips to the conservancies to develop relationships in order to encourage locals to contact Customs for inspections when they receive intelligence about poaching</p>	<p>Villagers are incentivized to report poaching activities due to the development of community-based conservancies, workshop education, and peer pressure</p> <p>Kyrgyz Customs Service is committed to development, deployment, and maintenance of the dog/handler unit</p> <p>Safety of informants ensured by creating separate source register, password protected with access restricted to the informant handler per TRAFFIC protocols</p>

	Wildlife by year 1 (baseline=14)	4.4 Documentation (video, photo, affidavit) of wildlife detection dogs contributing to seizures, and details of illegal wildlife products confiscated at border	
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>Activity 1.1 Conduct initial community meetings in Kyrgyz Republic to discuss process of establishing 6th conservancy.</p> <p>Activity 1.2 Conduct a training workshop in snow leopard camera trap survey techniques, fecal collection for DNA analysis, and ungulate survey techniques in 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic.</p> <p>Activity 1.2 Conduct a training workshop in natural resource management in the 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and the 4 in Tajikistan.</p> <p>Activity 1.3 Conduct baseline ungulate, snow leopard camera trap, and fecal DNA surveys in 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic.</p> <p>Activity 1.4 Conduct repeat ungulate, snow leopard camera trap, and fecal DNA surveys in 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and the 4 in Tajikistan.</p> <p>Activity 1.5 Conduct 4 exchange meetings on leadership, governance, and gender awareness with the executive committees, inclusive of women, of the 6 Kyrgyz Republic conservancies with support from staff and Burgut Community-based Conservancy in Tajikistan.</p> <p>Activity 1.6 Draft the management plans for each conservancy in the Kyrgyz Republic.</p> <p>Activity 1.7 Using strong science and applying principles of sustainable use, support the communities in negotiations with the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry on ibex and argali hunting quotas in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan.</p> <p>Activity 1.8 Together with H&CAT, develop marketing materials for international hunting outfitters through “book your hunt” portal (Accessible: https://www.bookyourhunt.com/), and, together with PECTA and KCBTA, tourism brochures for tour operators in Europe and the US.</p> <p>Activity 1.9 Together with PECTA and KCBTA and Panthera staff, conduct tourism management and accounting training skills for women in the 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and the 4 conservancies in Tajikistan.</p> <p>Activity 1.10 Support the development of non-consumptive nature tourism programs and the marketing of such services in the conservancies with support from KCBTA and PECTA.</p> <p>Activity 2.1 Through existing participatory process, finalize and adopt business plans identifying percentage of hunt profits that will be invested in the conservancy and for community development and prioritize development projects.</p> <p>Activity 2.2 Support hunts in at least 2 of the Kyrgyz Republic conservancies by year 2 and in the 4 conservancies in Tajikistan by year 1.</p> <p>Activity 2.3 Support hunts in at least 3 of the Kyrgyz Republic conservancies by year 3.</p> <p>Activity 2.4 Conduct community surveys of men and women to assess their level of satisfaction with the investment of profits from the hunts.</p> <p>Activity 2.5 Conduct information campaign to inform women about the opportunity to participate in an initiation trek by year 1.</p>			

Activity 2.6 Conduct a 3-day initiation trek organized by Women Rock'in Pamirs (WRP) by year 1 for 6-8 women per conservancy. This initiation trek is the opportunity for local women to go out in the mountains outside of their daily duties, and to gain a new vision of what the mountains can represent for tourists.

Activity 2.7 A trekking guide training session will be conducted by year 2. The training session will last 21 days, combining theory and practical experiences (including short treks and a longer multiple day trek) in one of the conservancies, with an emphasis on wildlife spotting and sustainable hunting practices. The group will be accompanied by a local hunter who can explain the life of wildlife up in the mountains and the main hunting practices.

Activity 2.8 An additional 21-day training session will be conducted by year 3 to deepen specific topics such as sustainable hunting practices and wildlife spotting and tracking, as well as to discover new skills such as alpinism and climbing.

Activity 3.1 Build 20 predator-proof corrals (with locals providing free labour) in villages where snow leopard conflict has occurred in Tajikistan to protect 14,000 sheep and goats.

Activity 3.2 Designate a conflict mitigation coordinator in each of the villages where predator-proof corrals are built, to respond to conflict and oversee building of corrals as well as their proper use and maintenance.

Activity 3.3 Introduce environmental curriculum developed by in-country Panthera staff in at least 8 schools in the conservancies and surrounding areas to sensitize at least 1000 children to wildlife conservation.

Activity 4.1 Develop canine unit support teams led by Panthera together with Working Dogs for Conservation. The units, posted at the Bordobo and Torugart posts, will act as a deterrent against poaching between Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic and China.

Activity 4.2. Conduct on-site refresher trainings for dogs and their handlers in detecting wildlife products.

Activity 4.3 Conduct off-site support for dogs and their handlers.

Activity 4.4 Facilitate 5 community meetings in the villages where the corrals are being built in Tajikistan to expand existing informal anti-poaching network by linking in these new villages; the network is tasked with both addressing conflict with snow leopards and trade in snow leopards, their parts, and poaching of prey species.

Activity 4.5 Strengthen transboundary anti-poaching network which already includes 120 members by holding 4 additional community meetings between representatives from informal networks in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, including representatives of the 6th conservancy in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Activity 4.6 Hold 2, 2-week Standard Enforcement Training courses. The first will be for 40 rangers of the local conservancies in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic who are all members of the informant network, and the second will be for 20 Tajik and Kyrgyz customs and border officers. The purpose of the trainings is to establish collaboration and communication protocols that allow for the intelligence from the informant network on illegal trade and poaching to be effectively communicated and used by the customs and border officers working at the supported border post between Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and China.

Activity 4.7 Establish first National Environmental Security Task Force (NEST) in Kyrgyz Republic in cooperation with Kyrgyz government and

GSLEP Secretariat.

Activity 4.8 Establish first National Environmental Security Task Force (NEST) in Tajikistan in cooperation with Tajik government and GSLEP Secretariat.

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project. Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

Activity	No of Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1		x	x			x	x										
1.1 Conduct a training workshop in snow leopard camera trap survey techniques, fecal collection for DNA analysis, and ungulate survey techniques in 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic.	4																
1.2 Conduct a training workshop in natural resource management in the 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and the 4 in Tajikistan.	3			x	x	x	x										
1.3 Conduct baseline ungulate, snow leopard camera trap, and fecal DNA surveys in 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic.	3			x	x												
Activity 1.4 Conduct re-	12			x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x				

peat ungulate, snow leopard camera trap and fecal DNA surveys in 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and the 4 in Tajikistan.																	
Activity 1.5 Conduct 4 exchange meetings on leadership, governance, and gender awareness with the executive committees, inclusive of women, of the 6 Kyrgyz Republic conservancies with support from staff and Burgut Community-based Conservancy in Tajikistan.	2			x	x					x	x						
Activity 1.6 Draft the management plans for each conservancy in the Kyrgyz Republic.	2			x	x	x	x										
Activity 1.7 Using strong science and applying principles of sustainable use, support the communities in negotiations with the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry on ibex and argali hunting quotas in	2		x	x			x	x			x	x					

the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan.																	
Activity 1.8 Together with H&CAT, develop marketing materials for international hunting outfitters through “book your hunt” portal (https://www.bookyourhunt.com/), and, together with PECTA and KCBTA, tourism brochures for tour operators in Europe and the US.	4		x	x			x	x			x	x					
Activity 1.9 Together with PECTA and KCBTA and Panthera staff, conduct tourism management and accounting training skills for women in the 6 conservancies in the Kyrgyz Republic and the 4 conservancies in Tajikistan.	4		x	x			x	x		x	x						
Activity 1.10 Support the development of non-consumptive nature tourism programs and the marketing of such services in the conservancies with support from KCBTA and PECTA	3		x	x			x	x	x	x							

Output 2																	
2.1 Through existing participatory process, finalize and adopt business plans identifying percentage of hunt profits that will be invested in the conservancy and for community development and prioritize development projects.	2					x	x					x	x				
2.2 Support hunts in at least 2 of the Kyrgyz Republic conservancies by year 2 and in the 4 conservancies in Tajikistan by year 1.	2				x							x	x				
2.3 Support hunts in at least 3 of the Kyrgyz Republic conservancies by year 3.	2											x	x	x			
2.4 Conduct community surveys of men and women to assess their level of satisfaction with the investment of profits from the hunts.	3				x	x	x	x							x		
2.5 Conduct information campaign to inform women about the opportunity to participate in an initiation trek by year 1.	1	x															
2.6 Conduct a 3-day initiation trek organized by	1		x														

Women Rock'in Pamirs (WRP) by year 1 for 6-8 women per conservancy. This initiation trek is the opportunity for local women to go out in the mountains outside of their daily duties, and to gain a new vision of what the mountains can represent for tourists.																	
2.7 A trekking guide training session will be conducted by year 2. The training session will last 21 days, combining theory and practical experiences (including short treks and a longer multiple day trek) in one of the conservancies, with an emphasis on wildlife spotting and sustainable hunting practices. The group will be accompanied by a local hunter who can explain the life of wildlife up in the mountains and the main hunting practices.	2						x	x									
2.8 An additional 21-day training session will be conducted by year 3 to deepen specific topics	2									x	x						

such as sustainable hunting practices and wildlife spotting and tracking, as well as to discover new skills such as alpinism and climbing.																	
Output 3																	
3.1 Build 20 predator-proof corrals (with locals providing free labour) in villages where snow leopard conflict has occurred in Tajikistan to protect 14,000 sheep and goats.	4	x	x			x	x										
3.2 Designate a conflict mitigation coordinator in each of the villages where predator-proof corrals are built, to respond to conflict and oversee building of corrals as well as their proper use and maintenance.	2	x				x											
3.3 Introduce environmental curriculum developed by in-country Panthera staff in at least 8 schools in the conservancies and surrounding areas to sensitize at least 1000 children to wildlife conservation.	4				x				x								

3.4																		
Output 4																		
Activity 4.1 Develop canine unit support teams led by Panthera together with Working Dogs for Conservation. The units, posted at the Bordobo and Torugart posts, will act as a deterrent against poaching between Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic and China.	3			x	X													
Activity 4.2 Conduct on-site refresher trainings for dogs and their handlers in detecting wildlife products.	1			x	x													
Activity 4.3 Conduct off-site support for dogs and their handlers.	4		x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
Activity 4.4 Facilitate 5 community meetings in the villages where the corrals are being built in Tajikistan to expand existing informal anti-poaching network by linking in these new villages; the network is tasked with both addressing conflict with snow leopards and trade in snow leop-	3			x	x	x	x											

ards, their parts, and poaching of prey species.																		
Activity 4.5 Strengthen transboundary anti-poaching network which already includes 120 members by holding 4 additional community meetings between representatives from informal networks in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, including representatives of 6th conservancy in the Kyrgyz Republic.	4	x	x	x	x	x	x											
Activity 4.6 Hold 2, 2-week Standard Enforcement Training courses. The first will be for 40 rangers of the local conservancies in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic who are all members of the informant network, and the second will be for 20 Tajik and Kyrgyz customs and border officers. The purpose of the trainings is to establish collaboration and communication protocols that allow for the intelligence from the informant	3		x				x											

network on illegal trade and poaching to be effectively communicated and used by the customs and border officers working at the supported border post between Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and China.																	
Activity 4.7 Establish first National Environmental Security Task Force (NEST) in Kyrgyz Republic in cooperation with Kyrgyz government and GSLEP Secretariat.	3				X		X	X									
Activity 4.8 Establish first National Environmental Security Task Force (NEST) in Tajikistan in cooperation with Tajik government and GSLEP Secretariat.	4							X	X	X							

24. Monitoring and evaluation plan (M&E)

Describe, referring to the indicators above, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the projects M&E. IWT Challenge Fund projects will need to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see "Financial Information for IWT")

(Max 250 words)

We are a science-based organization relying on adaptive management in the field to modify programs as needed if evidence reveals initial ideas for change are not working as anticipated. Consequently, monitoring and evaluation are built into the proposed project.

A project steering committee, consisting of the Project Team Leader and one representative from each partner organization, will hold biannual meetings to evaluate progress towards indicators in terms of impact, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability, adjusting the programs as needed. Communications will be kept with monthly meetings and communications via email and internet video conference between Panthera headquarters in the US, and field teams in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. Completion of milestones will be monitored through monthly reports.

Dr. Howard Quigley, Executive Director of Panthera's Jaguar Program, will oversee the Monitoring component, assessing the project's progress biannually against the defined indicators via a biannual report submitted by the Project Team Leader. Additionally Dr. Quigley will share findings with Panthera's Cat Advisory Council, an international team of 11 leading cat conservation experts, for peer-review at the end of each project year.

Dr. Quigley will advise the Project Team Leader whether adjustments are required. Should there be negative developments in the execution of the project, including unexpected incremental funding demands, the Project Team Leader will promptly consult with Dr. Quigley and discuss options to ensure the successful execution of the project.

Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	£
Number of days planned for M&E	5 days/year
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	%

25. FCO notifications

Please put an X in the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the IWT Fund in the host country.

Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

No

26. Certification

On behalf of the trustees of Panthera,
I apply for a grant of £ 310,000 in respect of **all expenditure** to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates specified in the above application.

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful. *(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)*

I enclose CVs for project principals and letters of support.

Our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Name (block capitals)	Thomas M. McCarthy
Position in the organisation	Executive Director – Snow Leopard Program

Signed

Date:

4 December 2016

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected. You must provide a real (not typed) signature. You may include a pdf of the signature page for security reasons if you wish. Please write PDF in the signature section above if you do so.

Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you read the Guidance Notes (guidance for applicants, financial information, schedule of terms and conditions)?	X
Have you read, and can you meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund?	X
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	X
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	X
Have you checked that your budget is complete , correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	X
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable, but not the use of a script font)	X
Have you included a 1 page CV for all the Project Staff identified at Question 10, including the Project Leader?	X
Have you included a letter of support from the main partner(s) organisations identified at Question 9?	X
Have you included a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation?	X
Have you checked the IWT website on GOV.UK immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	X

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on Monday 12 December 2016 to IWT-Fund@LTSI.co.uk using the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (e.g. whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc.). You are not required to send a hard copy.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be shared between the Department and LTS for administration, evaluation and monitoring purposes. Some information, but not personal data, may be used by the Department when publicising the IWT Challenge Fund including project details (usually title, lead organisation, location and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites. Personal data may be used by the Department and/or LTS to maintain and update the IWT Challenge Fund mailing list and to provide information to British Embassies and High Commissions so they are aware of UK Government-funded projects being undertaken in the countries where they are located.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004 and the FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: Information (including personal data) relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998.



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