



INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO REWILDING & The Global Rewilding Alliance

1. About rewilding

Why do we need it?

Nature is wounded. Rewilding is the most powerful action we can take to help nature heal.

Most of our planet's lands and seas have been been vastly modified by humans, creating a world where climate change creates havoc within nature and human society; generates heat waves on land and in the sea; pushes the earth towards catastrophic ecological tipping points; and drives the extinction of species and destruction of their critical role in ecology and human health. We need new, bold and positive solutions – we need REWILDING!

«To restore stability to our planet, we must restore its biodiversity, the very thing that we've removed. It's the only way out of this crisis we've created – we must rewild the world»
Sir David Attenborough, "A Life on our Planet"

We must stay below a 1.5°C rise in average global temperature. Rewilding provides the most powerful nature-based climate solutions that remove from the atmosphere the surplus carbon generated by humans, and that rebuilds natural resilience against floods, droughts, wildfires and other threats.

Rewilding repairs broken ecological systems and thereby enhances species survival and reduces the threat of the 6th mass extinction. Rewilding even reduces the risks of pandemics.

Rewilding is about reversing the cycle of destruction and creating a virtuous cycle uniting biodiversity, health by giving nature a helping hand and giving it space to restore and manage itself. Nature is our ally to overcome some of today's most pressing ecological and socio-economic challenges. **It is time to rewild!**

What is it?

- Rewilding means helping nature heal itself. It is about conserving the most intact remaining, natural places on Earth at the same time as recovering the life-supporting functions of nature in connected land- and seascapes. It is about restoring the web

of life, from cities to the wildest places on the planet, by taking the long-term view and embracing natural solutions to environmental, social and economic challenges.

- Rewilding is about thinking creatively and shaping new opportunities for local livelihoods and the wider economy anchored in a more secure future with healthy nature and much higher climate resilience.
- Rewilding is also about the way we think. It is about understanding that we are one species among many, bound together in an intricate web of life that ties us to the atmosphere, the weather, the tide, the soils, the freshwater, the oceans, and all living creatures on the planet.
- Rewilding is about learning from the ecological and human history to shape the future, where nature again is allowed to form our ecological foundation.
- Rewilding is the recognition that human health is inextricably linked to ecological health.
- Rewilding is about the comeback of sea otters, bison, tapirs, whales, sharks, wolves, salmon, seed dispersing macaws and spider monkeys, and countless other species that shape our web of life and help to regulate the climate.
- Rewilding is about ecological justice and our relationship with nature.
- Rewilding is about positive change and creating a future in which both nature and people thrive.

2. About The Global Rewilding Alliance

Who we are:

The Global Rewilding Alliance was formed in 2020 and is currently a growing network of more than 115 practitioner and messenger organizations. Together, we work in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, North America and globally to rewild more than 100 million hectares of land and sea in more than 70 countries.

Our mission:

The Global Rewilding Alliance is mobilizing the power of people working together to rewild the Earth and stabilize the climate.

Our vision:

A world where restored wild lands and seas provide a secure future for people, nature and the planet.

Our approach:

We learn from each other and connect people working on rewilding in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, North America and globally. With respect and inclusion for age, gender, culture and origin, we work towards agreed targets and aim to assure that common messages are understood, practical actions undertaken, and results achieved.

We base our work on 12 guiding “Principles for Rewilding” outlined in our Global Charter for Rewilding the Earth – a product of the planning for the 11th World Wilderness Congress -- demonstrating that rewilding is best understood as a social/ecological movement for the benefit of all life on earth.

The Global Rewilding Alliance facilitates activities of its members to mainstream the idea, theory and practice of rewilding, and to insert the idea and approach into global processes, agendas and institutions. The Global Rewilding Alliance acts also as a platform for networking and knowledge exchange for its members so that we increase the area of land and sea that is restored and rewilded.

The Global Rewilding Alliance recognizes and works actively to strengthen the importance of Indigenous communities as stewards of their traditional homelands, and as key partners to protect, restore, and rewild our Earth.

For more information:

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