

## Leave an Environmental Legacy to Future Generations

Through Wildlife Media, there are many ways to make a lasting contribution to wildlife and our planet's wildest places. They include a financial commitment to Wildlife Media via your will, living trust, and other investments. Because estate planning can be complex, it is important that your attorney and/or financial advisor help structure your estate plans to ensure your charitable gifts meet your personal and financial goals. The following information will help guide you when working with your advisor(s).

### **Giving Through Your Will or Trust**

You can remember Wildlife Media in your will or living trust through three different kinds of bequests:

***Specific Bequest:*** This type of bequest allows you to leave a stated sum of money or percentage of your estate, usually in the form of a cash distribution. To make a specific bequest, have your attorney review and include the following wording in your will:

“I give, devise, and bequeath to Wildlife Media, a Washington state nonprofit corporation located at 1208 Bay St., Ste. 202, Bellingham WA 98225, tax identification number 20-8802794, the sum of \$ (insert amount or percentage here) to be used for its general purposes.”

***Residuary Bequest:*** This type of bequest allows you to leave a remainder or a percentage of the remainder of your estate once all specific bequests have been satisfied. Have your attorney review and use this wording to leave a residuary bequest:

“I give, devise, and bequeath to Wildlife Media, a Washington state nonprofit corporation located at 1208 Bay St., Ste. 202, Bellingham WA 98225, tax identification number 20-8802794, all (or insert percentage here) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to be used for its general purposes.”

***Contingency Bequest:*** This type of bequest allows you to make your gift contingent on other circumstances. It is important to name a contingent beneficiary to receive assets in case your named beneficiaries do not survive you. To leave a contingency bequest, have your attorney review and include this paragraph:

“If any of the above-named beneficiaries should predecease me, I hereby bequeath his or her share to Wildlife Media, a Washington state nonprofit corporation located at 1208 Bay St., Ste. 202, Bellingham WA 98225, tax identification number 20-8802794, to be used for its general purposes.”

**To reduce or avoid estate or inheritance taxes on your gift, have your attorney review and include the following language in your will:**

“I direct that no estate or inheritance tax be paid from the share of any property devised or bequeathed to Wildlife Media.”

If you already have a will, you can use the suggested wording to make a codicil (short legal note) that names Wildlife Media as a beneficiary of your estate. Your attorney can help you do this.

### **Giving Through Your Life Insurance Policy**

You can name Wildlife Media as a direct beneficiary of all or part of your life insurance policy, or as a contingent beneficiary. You would still own the policy.

- You can donate your paid-up life insurance policy directly to Wildlife Media.
- If you have a new or non-paid-up policy, you can name Wildlife Media as both the owner and beneficiary of this policy. You would still be responsible for paying the premiums.

You should discuss the tax benefits of a life insurance donation with your attorney or other financial advisor. Different estate-tax savings apply depending on whether Wildlife Media is the beneficiary of a policy, owner, or named as a new owner of a policy.

### **Giving Through Your Retirement Plan**

Retirement plans (including 401(k), 403(b), SEP, or other retirement plans with tax-sheltered investments) may incur considerable taxation to your estate and your heirs. So a gift of some or all of these assets may be the most tax-wise way of leaving a legacy. You can name Wildlife Media as a direct or contingent beneficiary of a stated percentage or the entire amount of your retirement plan.

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For legal purposes, Wildlife Media is an IRS-approved 501(c)(3), non-profit, charitable organization. Our tax-exempt Employer Identification Number is 20-8802794.

We welcome the opportunity to show you the potential benefits of making a gift to support our work. Personal discussions, visits, or written presentations incur no obligation on your part and, of course, all information discussed is confidential. Contact us for assistance.

Thank you for considering a gift to Wildlife Media.