

Dr. Thomas Kaplan
Founder and Chairman of the Board



Dr. Thomas S. Kaplan is a passionate environmentalist and supporter of wildlife conservation. Alongside his wife, Daphne Recanati Kaplan, they founded Panthera in 2006 to meet the global challenges of protecting the world's wild cats and their habitats. They subsequently endowed the Recanati-Kaplan Center at Oxford University's Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, or WILDCru, creating the leading university-based felid conservation program. The Kaplans also founded Orianne Society, named after their daughter, to preserve eastern Indigo snakes and their habitat, the long-leaf pine forests of the Southeastern United States.

Dr. Kaplan is active in community and family philanthropy. He is the President of the Board of Directors of the 92nd Street Y, a world-renowned, New York-based Jewish community and cultural center, and serves on the Advisory Board of New York's Mount Sinai Hospital Department of Internal Medicine. The Kaplans have also funded the Lillian Jean Kaplan Renal Transplantation Center at the University of Miami as well as a variety of prizes and grants for medical science research.

Thomas Kaplan holds Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate degrees in history from Oxford University. He presently serves as Chairman of the Electrum group of companies as well as Tigris Financial Group Ltd. and its affiliates, a New York City-based advisory and asset management group with a focus on natural resources investing.

[Read more about Dr. Thomas Kaplan](#)

Dr. Alan Rabinowitz
Chief Executive Officer of Panthera



Dr. Alan Rabinowitz is one of the world's leading big cat experts, and has been called 'The Indiana Jones of Wildlife Conservation' by TIME Magazine. Dr. Rabinowitz graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1981 with an M.S. in zoology and a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology and is currently the CEO of Panthera, a nonprofit organization devoted to saving the world's wild cat species. Prior to co-founding Panthera with the organization's Chairman, Dr. Thomas S. Kaplan, Rabinowitz served as the Executive Director of the Science and Exploration Division for the Wildlife Conservation Society for almost 30 years.

Dr. Rabinowitz has traveled the world on behalf of wildlife conservation and over the years has studied jaguars, clouded leopards, Asiatic leopards, tigers, Sumatran rhinos, bears, leopard cats, raccoons, and civets. His work in Belize resulted in the world's first jaguar sanctuary; his work in Taiwan resulted in the establishment of this country's largest protected area and last piece of intact lowland forest; his work in Thailand generated the first field research on Indochinese tigers, Asiatic leopards, and leopard cats, in what was to become the region's first World Heritage Site; and his work in Myanmar has led to the creation of five new protected areas, including the country's first marine national park, first and largest Himalayan national park, and the world's largest tiger reserve in the Hukaung Valley.

Dr. Rabinowitz has authored over one hundred scientific and popular articles and six books, including *Jaguar: One Man's Struggle to Establish the First Jaguar Preserve* (1986/ 2000), *Chasing the Dragon's Tail: The Struggle to Save Thailand's Wild Cats* (1991/ 2002), *Beyond the Last Village: A Journey of Discovery in Asia's Forbidden Wilderness* (2001), and, most recently, *Life in the Valley of Death: The Fight to Save Tigers in a Land of Guns, Gold, and Greed* (2008). He has been profiled in The New York Times, Scientific American, Audubon, Men's Journal, Newsweek, Outside, Explorer, The Jerusalem Report, and National Geographic Adventure Magazine, and is the subject of an acclaimed PBS/National Geographic television special, "In Search of the Jaguar" and will be featured in the upcoming BBC special "Lost Land of the Tiger" filmed in Bhutan in 2010.

Dr. Rabinowitz has dedicated his life to surveying the world's last wild places, with the goal of preserving wild habitats and securing homes, on a large scale, for some of the world's most endangered mammals. His focus on cats is based on conserving top predators, which affect entire ecosystems. By saving cats, the impacts are far reaching and conserve vast landscapes upon which many species depend, including humans. One of Dr. Rabinowitz's greatest achievements was the conceptualization and implementation of the Jaguar Corridor - a series of biological and genetic corridors for jaguars across their entire range from Mexico to Argentina. Dr. Rabinowitz also initiated Panthera's Tiger Corridor Initiative, an effort to identify and protect the world's last remaining large, interconnected tiger landscapes, with a primary focus on the remote and rugged Indo-Himalayan region of Asia.

[Read more about Dr. Alan Rabinowitz](#)



Dr. Luke Hunter
President of Panthera



Dr. Luke Hunter serves as Panthera's President where he oversees the direction and strategy of all of the organization's global wild cat conservation programs. Before joining Panthera, Dr. Hunter headed the Wildlife Conservation Society's Great Cats Program and taught wildlife ecology at several universities in Australia and South Africa.

Dr. Hunter has conducted fieldwork on large cats in Africa since 1992. His Ph.D. dissertation examined the behavior and ecology of

reintroduced cheetahs and lions in South Africa, and evaluated the effectiveness of reintroduction as a tool to re-establish large cat populations. Dr. Hunter's current projects include assessing the effects of sport hunting and illegal persecution on leopards outside protected areas, developing a conservation strategy for lions across their African range, and the first intensive study of Persian leopards and the last surviving Asiatic cheetahs in Iran. Dr. Hunter has contributed to over 80 scientific papers and popular articles, and has published six books, including his latest, *Carnivores of the World: A Field Guide*.

[Read more about Dr. Luke Hunter](#)

Dr. George Schaller
Vice President of Panthera



Known as one of the founding fathers of wildlife conservation, Dr. George Schaller now serves as the Vice President of Panthera. Born in Germany in 1933, Dr. Schaller received his undergraduate degree from the University of Alaska and completed his graduate work at the University of Wisconsin. In 1956, Dr. Schaller joined other conservationists on the Murie expedition to Northeastern Alaska, which resulted in the establishment of the world's largest wildlife preserve, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

From 1962 to 1963, he served as a Fellow within Stanford University's Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences before working as a Research Associate at Johns Hopkins University's Department of Pathobiology from 1963-1966. Dr. Schaller went on to work for the New York Zoological Society as a Research Associate and Zoologist from 1966 to 1979, after which he joined the Wildlife Conservation Society as Director of Wildlife Conservation International.

In addition to his position with Panthera, which he assumed in 2008, Dr. Schaller continues to serve as a Senior Conservationist with the Wildlife Conservation Society. Dr. Schaller has also worked as a Research Associate for the American Museum of Natural History and taught as an Adjunct Associate Professor at Rockefeller University, Shanghai's East China Normal University and Beijing's Peking University.

Spending most of his time in the field in Asia, Africa, and South America, he has led seminal studies on, and helped protect, some of the planet's most endangered and iconic animals ranging from the mountain gorilla in present Democratic Republic of the Congo, snow leopards in Mongolia, jaguars in Brazil, giant pandas in China, tigers in India, lions in Tanzania, wild sheep and goats of the Himalaya. These animals have been the basis for his scientific and popular writings, including 16 books, among them *The Year of the Gorilla*, *The Serengeti Lion*, *The Last Panda*, and *Tibet's Hidden Wilderness*.

In collaboration with Chinese and Tibetan scientists, Dr. Schaller has worked for nearly two decades studying and developing conservation initiatives for the snow leopard, Tibetan antelope, and wild yak, among other species. His most recent conservation projects have been based in Laos, Myanmar, Mongolia, Iran and Tajikistan. Over the years, he has accrued a variety of international wildlife conservation awards, including the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, Japan's International Cosmos Prize, the China Environmental Prize, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Geographic Society's *Adventure* magazine and the North American Nature Photography Association and the Indianapolis Animal Conservation Prize.

[Read more about Dr. George Schaller](#)

Andrea Heydlauff, MS

Vice President of Panthera



Andrea Heydlauff serves as Panthera’s Vice President, where she helps oversee the day to day operations of the organization. Since January 2010, she has managed Panthera’s Communications and Media programs, including the development of the organization’s website, media coverage, government relations, and independent films (‘My Pantanal’) for local and international audiences. Before coming to Panthera, Andrea served as the Tiger Program Coordinator for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), where she coordinated the Panthera-WCS *Tigers Forever* program, and was a researcher and author on the WCS, World Wildlife Fund, and Save the Tiger Fund Tiger Conservation Landscape project: *Setting Priorities for the*

Conservation and Recovery of Wild Tigers: 2005 – 2015.

Born in England, Andrea earned her B.A. in British Literature and M.Sc. in Wildlife Biology from the University of Arizona (2003). Her Master’s thesis focused on mitigating conflicts among humans, cattle and elk. Her interests lie heavily in human dimensions of conservation, community engagement, communications, and education – all of which are critical in conserving the world’s wild cats.

[Read more about Andrea Heydlauff](#)

Dr. Howard Quigley

Jaguar Program Executive Director for Panthera



Dr. Howard Quigley, Panthera’s Jaguar Program Executive Director, focuses on the conservation of jaguars range-wide and the conservation of cougars in California and Wyoming. He obtained his Bachelor’s degree from the University of California at Berkeley, his Master’s degree from the University of Tennessee, and his Doctorate from the University of Idaho. Before serving as President of the University of Idaho’s Hornocker Wildlife Institute, Dr. Quigley worked as an Assistant Professor for Frostburg State University within the University System of Maryland.

After the Hornocker Wildlife Institute merged with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Dr. Quigley directed the WCS’s Global Carnivore Program. In 2002, he took on the role of Executive Director of Craighead Beringia South, a wildlife research and conservation organization based in Wyoming. Later, in 2009, Dr. Quigley joined Panthera in his current position.

Dr. Quigley’s work with carnivores has included field studies of giant pandas in China, Siberian tigers in the Russian Far East, cougars in central Idaho, and jaguars in the Brazilian Pantanal. Currently, Dr. Quigley heads the Teton Cougar Project in the southern Yellowstone ecosystem, a program that focuses on predator-prey interactions, cougar population dynamics, and cougar interactions with other large carnivores. In the latter aspect of his work, he coordinates with other scientists to examine the interactions of wolves, grizzly bears, cougars, and black bears. These data will be used to improve our understanding of carnivore “guilds” and to inform and develop long-term conservation and management plans for large carnivores. Dr. Quigley is also conducting a review and evaluation of cougar science and conservation efforts in the state of California.

In the 1970’s, Dr. Quigley and Dr. George Schaller, Panthera’s Vice President, began the world’s first comprehensive and ecological study of wild jaguars in the Brazilian Pantanal. Today, working from the bottom up with local communities and top down with political leaders and heads of national environmental agencies, Dr. Quigley now manages the world’s largest team of jaguar experts, with conservation projects in 13 of the 18 jaguar range states.

Dr. Quigley is a member of the I.U.C.N. Cat Specialist Group and consults on a variety of carnivore issues, including jaguar recovery in the U.S., cougar-human interactions, and jaguar-rancher conflicts in Latin America. Through his involvement with graduate committees at five universities, Dr. Quigley has helped graduate more than twenty graduate level students. In addition, Dr. Quigley is the author of more than thirty scientific publications and popular articles.

[Read more about Dr. Howard Quigley](#)

Dr. Tom McCarthy

Snow Leopard Program Executive Director for Panthera



Dr. Tom McCarthy, Panthera's Executive Director of Snow Leopard Programs, began his conservation career studying brown bears, black bears, mountain goats and caribou in Alaska in the early 1980s. A strong interest in international conservation led him to Mongolia in 1992, where, under the guidance of Dr. George Schaller, he took over the management of a long-term snow leopard research project. This six year study was the basis for his Ph.D. dissertation, completed at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and made him the first biologist to use satellite radio-collars on snow leopards.

Along with snow leopards, Dr. McCarthy has conducted ground-breaking research on wild camels and Gobi

brown bears, two of Mongolia's rarest animals. After a short stint in the Caribbean helping the island nation of Anguilla develop a protected area system, McCarthy became the Science and Conservation Director of the Snow Leopard Trust in 2000 and has since led their extensive science and community-based conservation programs across much of snow leopard range in Asia. Dr. McCarthy has established snow leopard conservation projects in Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, and Pakistan. In addition, his personal efforts have catalyzed national snow leopard conservation plans in Mongolia and Pakistan, and he has contributed to similar efforts in Bhutan, India and Uzbekistan.

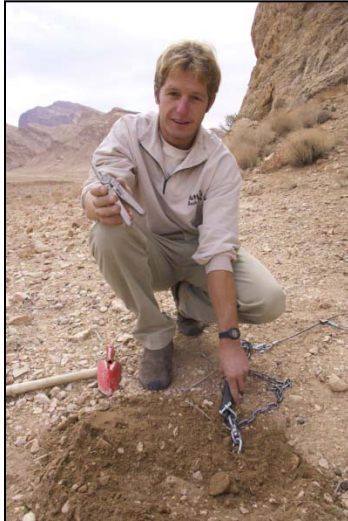
From 2002-2009, Dr. McCarthy served as Executive Director of the Snow Leopard Network, a global consortium of more than 200 professionals involved in snow leopard research and conservation. Within the past few years, his research has focused on the development of genetic methods for monitoring wild snow leopard populations and the initiation of a new generation of snow leopard research in Pakistan using state-of-the-art satellite GPS collars. In collaboration with the Snow Leopard Trust, Dr. McCarthy and Dr. George Schaller have most recently chosen another snow leopard research site within Mongolia, continuing the first ever long-term intensive study of this wild cat.

Dr. McCarthy joined Panthera in July 2008 and in addition to the GPS-collaring program in Pakistan, he is now leading two new Panthera initiatives. The first is a range-wide assessment of snow leopard genetics that seeks to identify movement corridors which are critical to maintaining the health and genetic diversity of the species. The second is a revision of methods by which snow leopard populations can be monitored over time, including such novel non-invasive approaches as fecal genetics, camera trapping and statistical modeling based on sign surveys.

[Read more about Dr. Tom McCarthy](#)

Dr. Guy Balme

Lion Program Director for Panthera



Dr. Guy Balme is the Director of Panthera’s Lion Program in Africa and is a leading field scientist for Panthera’s [Munyawana Leopard Project](#). Guy is the first recipient of Panthera’s Kaplan Graduate Awards Program, the world’s only scholarship program devoted to supporting outstanding young biologists in the field of cat conservation. In 2009, through the Kaplan Awards Program, Guy completed his doctorate on the conservation biology of a nominally protected leopard population in northern KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. He was instrumental in impacting new legislation that regulates trophy hunting of leopards in KwaZulu-Natal, and helped to revise the provincial protocol for managing damage-causing leopards outside protected wildlife areas. These efforts have led to a dramatic recovery of the region’s leopard population and are currently being tested in other countries home

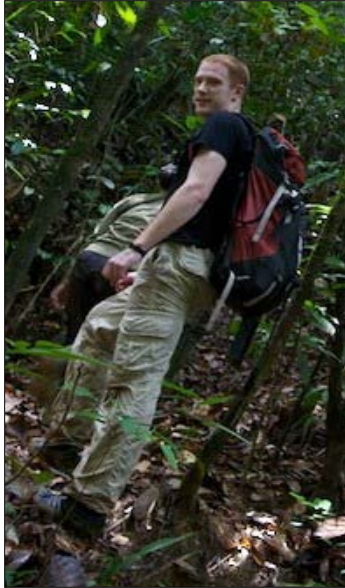
to African leopards. (Read Guy’s *Africa Geographic* [“Return of the Leopard”](#) article to learn more about leopard sport hunting laws.)

In his capacity as a field researcher, Guy has developed an adept knowledge of the capture and immobilization techniques used on large carnivores. He has also worked broadly with the different sampling methods used to estimate carnivore abundance. In addition to his studies in Africa on lions and leopards, Guy has worked extensively in Brazil implementing jaguar conservation initiatives, in Mongolia studying snow leopards and in Iran monitoring Asiatic cheetahs and Persian leopards. Guy has contributed to eight scientific papers and numerous popular articles on carnivore ecology and conservation.

[Read more about Dr. Guy Balme](#)

Dr. Joe Smith

Tiger Program Director for Panthera



Currently based in Sumatra, Indonesia, Joe Smith serves as Panthera's Tiger Program Director. Joe is working on Panthera's Tigers Forever Program, currently a joint program with the Wildlife Conservation Society that aims to increase tiger populations in key sites by at least 50% over the next ten years. Joe's work also currently involves the protection of tiger landscapes in the montane forests of northern and western Sumatra.

Originally from Cambridge, England, Joe's fascination with natural history encouraged him to study Zoology at the University of Reading before moving to South America to run commercial expeditions and biodiversity surveys in Peru and Ecuador's lowland and cloud forests. Later, he returned to school to receive his Master's degree in Wild Animal Biology at the Royal Veterinary College and Institute of Zoology in London. This year, through Panthera's Kaplan Graduate Awards Program, Joe completed his

Ph.D. at London's Imperial College, where his doctoral research examined the mammalian diversity of human-dominated landscapes and the distribution of tigers and their prey in Asia.

[Read more about Dr. Joe Smith](#)

Steve Winter

Media Director for Panthera



Steve Winter is the Director of Media for Panthera and has been a National Geographic photographer for almost two decades. Growing up in *Indiana farm country*, Steve dreamt of becoming a photographer after receiving a camera for his seventh birthday. Over the next few years, Steve's father taught him the basics of photography and cultivated his artistic interest in the field. After graduating from the Academy of Art and University of San Francisco, Steve's childhood dream became a reality when he began his career as a photojournalist for Black Star Photo Agency. Since then, he has gone on to produce stories for GEO, National Geographic, Time, Newsweek, Fortune, Natural History, Audubon, Business Week, Scientific American, and Stern, among other publications. He has also photographed for non-profits and commercial clients including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Merck Pharmaceuticals, Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, and many others. Winter became a National Geographic Society Photographer in 1991, covering a multitude of subjects for the magazine, including Cuba, Russia's giant Kamchatka bears, tigers in Myanmar's Hukaung Valley, life along Myanmar's Irrawaddy River, jaguars in Latin America, and snow leopards in Ladakh, India.

In 2008 Steve was crowned **BBC's Wildlife Photographer of the Year** for his photograph of a snow leopard taken in Ladakh. One of the images captured on this trip was recently selected as one of the "Top 40 Nature Photos of All Time" by the International League of Conservation Photographers. To learn more about Steve's journey into India's snow leopard land, watch the National Geographic video "[Searching for the Snow Leopard.](#)"

[Read more about Steve Winter](#)