

# HOW TO FULFILL YOUR PROMISE

Below are several ways you can fulfill your promise to take action on the bushmeat crisis. We hope you will find an action (or several actions) that fits your individual time, financial resources and personality.

Remember, every little bit helps!

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## IF YOU LIVE IN A STATE WHERE BUSHMEAT IS CONSUMED, YOU CAN...

### *BECOME AWARE!*

- ✓ Congratulations! By taking the time to sign the Bushmeat Promise you have already begun to raise your awareness of the **bushmeat** issue.
- ✓ **Learn** about endangered species in your country and **advocate** the laws that protect these animals from being hunted, harmed, eaten or kept as pets.
- ✓ **Ask** vendors, chop houses and restaurants what type of meat they are serving and **do not** eat meat of endangered and threatened species.
- ✓ **Sign up** to receive more bushmeat information from BCTF at [promise@bushmeat.org](mailto:promise@bushmeat.org)
- ✓ **Learn** about endangered and threatened wildlife through your Department of Wildlife and local, national and international NGOs, including the Bushmeat Crisis Task Force ([www.bushmeat.org](http://www.bushmeat.org)).

### *SPREAD THE WORD!*

- ✓ **Encourage** others not to eat the meat of endangered species and to protect endangered species.
- ✓ **Share** what you have learned with your friends, family, and colleagues.
- ✓ **Encourage** local conservation organizations to conduct outreach and education on the bushmeat crisis. Fact sheets and other educational materials are available from BCTF ([www.bushmeat.org](http://www.bushmeat.org)) and BCTF Supporting Members at [www.bushmeat.org/support.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/support.html) (including World Wide Fund for Nature, Wildlife Conservation Society, Conservation International and many others).
- ✓ If you are a student, focus on the bushmeat crisis for a class project and **educate** your classmates.

### *TAKE ACTION!*

#### Consumer Action

- ✓ Do not consume, hunt, trade or transport illegally hunted bushmeat (i.e. endangered species)
- ✓ Think before you buy - **ask** vendors, chop houses and restaurants what type of meat they are serving and choose not to eat endangered or threatened species.
- ✓ **Ask** corporations to protect wildlife in Africa
- ✓ When traveling, **do not buy** products from endangered or threatened species. Refer to the World Conservation Union's TRAFFIC list of products to avoid at [www.traffic.org/25/guide.htm](http://www.traffic.org/25/guide.htm)

#### Support

- ✓ **Volunteer** your time with or **donate resources** to a local conservation organization. To find organizations near you, check [www.bushmeat.org/support.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/support.html)
- ✓ **Support** a wildlife refuge, sanctuary or field program in Africa. Visit [www.bushmeat.org/partner.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/partner.html) to learn more.
- ✓ Encourage humanitarian organizations to include bushmeat as one of their priorities. The following organizations may be of interest: [www.oxfam.org](http://www.oxfam.org), [www.africanhunger.org](http://www.africanhunger.org), [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org) and [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).

#### Political Action

- ✓ **Write** letters, postcards, and/or emails to your local, state, and national representatives expressing your concern about this issue and encouraging them to promote solutions to this crisis.

## IF YOU LIVE IN A STATE WHERE BUSHMEAT IS NOT CONSUMED, YOU CAN...

### *BECOME AWARE!*

- ✓ Congratulations! By taking the time to sign the Bushmeat Promise you have already begun to raise your awareness of the bushmeat issue.
- ✓ Sign up to receive more bushmeat information from BCTF at [promise@bushmeat.org](mailto:promise@bushmeat.org)
- ✓ Learn about Africa, its wildlife, and its people. Visit [www.bushmeat.org](http://www.bushmeat.org) or [www.allafrica.com](http://www.allafrica.com)

### *SPREAD THE WORD!*

- ✓ **Share** what you have learned with your friends, family, and colleagues.
- ✓ **Encourage** your local conservation organization to conduct outreach and education on the bushmeat crisis. Fact sheets and other educational materials are available from [www.bushmeat.org](http://www.bushmeat.org) and BCTF Supporting Members at [www.bushmeat.org/support.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/support.html)
- ✓ If you are a student, focus on the bushmeat crisis for a class project and **educate** your classmates.

### *TAKE ACTION!*

#### Support

- ✓ **Contact** [promise@bushmeat.org](mailto:promise@bushmeat.org) to find out what initiatives you can support.
- ✓ **Volunteer** your time with or **donate resources** to conservation organizations working in Africa. To find organizations near you, check [www.bushmeat.org/support.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/support.html).
- ✓ **Support** a wildlife refuge, sanctuary or field program in Africa. Visit [www.bushmeat.org/partner.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/partner.html) to learn more.
- ✓ **Encourage** humanitarian organizations to include bushmeat as one of their priorities. The following organizations may be of interest: [www.oxfam.org](http://www.oxfam.org), [www.africanhunger.org](http://www.africanhunger.org), [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org) and [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).

#### Political Action

- ✓ **Sign up** for an "Action E-list" that will email you updates with actions you can take to protect wildlife around the world. The Jane Goodall Institute ([www.janegoodall.org](http://www.janegoodall.org)), the Wildlife Conservation Society ([www.wcs.org](http://www.wcs.org)), the World Wildlife Fund ([www.worldwildlife.org](http://www.worldwildlife.org)), the African Wildlife Foundation ([www.awf.org](http://www.awf.org)), and others maintain action lists.
- ✓ **Write** letters, postcards, and/or emails to your local, state, and national representatives expressing your concern about this issue and encouraging them to promote solutions to this crisis. To find your representative check [www.house.gov/writerep/](http://www.house.gov/writerep/) or [www.senate.gov/contacting/index.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/contacting/index.cfm)
- ✓ **Support** policies and legislation that will promote solutions to the bushmeat crisis. Go to <http://thomas.loc.gov> and search for "Africa" and/or "wildlife" to find legislation.

#### Consumer Action

- ✓ **Choose wisely** when buying seafood, wood and other natural products. Use both national and regional seafood watch card available from [www.audubon.org/campaign/lo/seafood/seafood](http://www.audubon.org/campaign/lo/seafood/seafood) and [www.montereybayaquarium.com/cr/seafoodwatch.asp](http://www.montereybayaquarium.com/cr/seafoodwatch.asp).
- ✓ **Encourage** corporate social responsibility by **purchasing** from companies who incorporate sound wildlife management and conservation into their practices in developing countries. Refer to BCTF Supporting Members at [www.bushmeat.org/partner.html](http://www.bushmeat.org/partner.html)
- ✓ **Ask** corporations to protect wildlife in Africa.
- ✓ **Encourage** your local lumberyard & home improvement stores to carry Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certified lumber and wood products.
- ✓ When traveling, do not buy products that have negative impacts on wildlife and the environment. Refer to the World Conservation Union's TRAFFIC list of products to avoid at [www.traffic.org/25/guide.htm](http://www.traffic.org/25/guide.htm)