



Dear Friend,

I want to wish you a Happy New Year.

We had high expectations for 2020, especially when it comes to biodiversity, but things went rogue and a global pandemic – a result of our unhealthy relationship with nature, shook us to the core.

Despite these unprecedented challenges, our work never stopped and IFAW achieved some [great successes](#) in 2020. We also witnessed positive developments at the European level with the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030, the agreement on the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for 2021-2027, and the recognition of the need for a Marine Action Plan to restore marine ecosystems.

We are now looking forward with hope and ready to make this year a strong stepping-stone for sustainable and meaningful change.

Nature will not allow us another decade of failures, so let's get to work!

Staci McLennan

Director, European Union Office



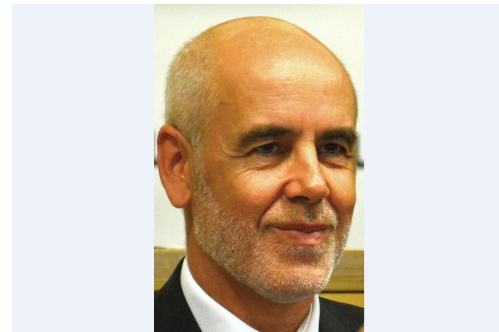
2021 will be the year of reckoning

2020 was meant to be the 'Super Year of Biodiversity' but things went sideways, though some sparks of hope occurred. It is time to look forward and spur a transformational change in how we interact on this planet. [Read more.](#)



press briefing on saving Europe's biodiversity starts in the ocean

IFAW and several other NGOs published a [joint paper](#) detailing 10 recommended actions on marine biodiversity in response to the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 to ensure the long-term health of our ocean. [See the briefing](#)



three questions to... Humberto Delgado Rosa

We interview the Director for Natural Capital in DG Environment, Humberto Delgado Rosa, to discuss the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the role of the EU ahead of the next CBD CoP in China. [Read the interview.](#)



EU-US lobster deal threatens North Atlantic right whales

The European Institutions have incentivised one of the main threats to the [critically endangered](#) North Atlantic right whale by eliminating taxes on the import of lobster from the east coast of the US. [Learn more.](#)



a break for mako sharks in the EU?

Considered Endangered by the IUCN Red List, shortfin mako shark populations have declined significantly worldwide, driven by international demand for their fins and meat. But there is hope for some relief to this species. [Read more.](#)

Entangled North Atlantic right whale © Nick Hawkins, Team Lioness © Will Swanson / IFAW, Mako shark © Steve De Neef

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