

**Clark R. Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Award  
2013 Recipients**

Name of Recipient	Country	Statement
David Higgins	Interpol	David Higgins has played a pivotal leadership role in building Interpol's Environmental Crime Programme. Through his leadership, Interpol has launched many of the international law enforcement projects such as Operations PREY, RAMP, and CAGE that have led to the apprehension of criminals and seizure of wildlife products in illegal trade. He has also pioneered partnerships for Interpol with other law enforcement agencies, scientific institutions, and conservation and animal welfare NGOs and created national task forced helping diverse national agencies to plan and conduct joint wildlife law enforcement operations.
Mohamed Osman Abdi, Bernark Mwakio, Adan Sheikh Mohamed, Seneu Ole Narankaik, Danial Njagi, Moses Lelesit, Gabriel Mghalu Malemba, Haron Kipyegon Langa, Koyati Parsaip, Bake Alio Adan, Florece Hadia Abae, Francis Otieno Ochieng, and Dismas Kimtai	Kenya	Since March 2010, Kenya has lost more than 56 of its rangers and other wildlife law enforcement staff. Today 13 of those who have died in the line of duty are being recognized, posthumously, with a Clark R. Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Award. Mohamed Osman Abdi, Bernark Mwakio, Adan Sheikh Mohamed, Seneu Ole Narankaik, Danial Njagi, Moses Lelesit, Gabriel Mghalu Malemba, Haron Kipyegon Langa, Koyati Parsaip, Bake Alio Adan, Florece Hadia Abae, Francis Otieno Ochieng, and Dismas Kimtai were all killed in the line of duty; most struck down by poachers bullets. Rangers Florence Hadia Abae was the first Kenya Wildlife Service female ranger killed in the line of duty. These recipients all paid the ultimate price for daring to protect Kenya's wildlife.
Marco Fiori	Italy	Since 1991, Marco Fiori has been engaged in enforcing CITES in Italy. He is the Chief Operational Officer at the National CITES Investigation Unit of the Corpo Forestale Dello Stato and serves as Italy's point person on Interpol's working group on crimes related to protected flora and fauna. During his career, Mr. Fiori has promoted collaborative efforts to enhance wildlife law enforcement efforts, the use of science to combatting wildlife crime, and coordinated a number operations resulting in, for example, the seizure of a variety of live wildlife and wildlife products. He has also provided training to countless forest guards, customs officials, and rangers in law enforcement and forensic techniques in Italy and internationally.
Samsundar Ramdeen	Trinidad & Tobago	Samsundar Ramdeen, a game warden in the Forestry Division in Trinidad and Tobago, was both an enforcement officer and prosecutor tasked with protecting his country's wildlife and its laws. Among his many accomplishments, he was instrumental in converting Trinidad and Tobago beaches from leatherback sea turtle slaughterhouses into protected areas now home to the second largest population of leatherbacks in the world. He played a key role in intercepting illegal shipments of wildlife originating in South America destined for the north. He was also actively involved in Interpol's wildlife crime program and in training future game wardens in his country. Now retired, Mr. Ramdeen's career advanced wildlife law enforcement in Trinidad and Tobago and has led to the country's first ever National Wildlife Policy.

Bonnie Yates	United States	Bonnie Yates of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service works at the Clark R. Bavin National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory. Ms. Yates is a pioneer as one of the first classically trained morphologists to apply science in a forensic setting to enhance wildlife law enforcement. Over two decades she has developed new scientific tools to combat wildlife crime. She has worked on over 2,000 forensic cases analyzing nearly 7,000 pieces of evidence and has published numerous scientific studies. Her efforts have enhanced protections for an ark full of animals while her work in the classroom has provided training to scores of US inspectors and agents and law enforcement personnel in other countries.
Zakaria Ibrahim, Brahim Khamis, Daoud Aldjouma, Djibrine Adoum Goudja, Idriss Adoum, Hassan Djibrine	Chad	In the dawn hours of September 3, 2012, Zakaria Ibrahim, Brahim Khamis, Daoud Aldjouma, Djibrine Adoum Goudja, Idriss Adoum, and Hassan Djibrine were gunned down by poachers during morning prayer. Five were killed and one is missing and presumed dead. These rangers were targeted due to their efforts to combat elephant poaching in Zakouma National Park where the elephant population has plummeted since 2005. As reported internationally, these rangers “were assassinated for protecting the last of the elephant herds found in the vast stretches between the Sahara Desert and the Congo forest.”
Dr. Karmele Llano Sánchez	Indonesia	Dr. Karmele Llano Sánchez is the Executive Director of International Animal Rescue Indonesia. Ms. Sánchez oversees this organization which provides sanctuary and rehabilitation for confiscated wildlife in Indonesia particularly the slow loris and orangutan. In addition, she and her staff engage in substantial public awareness campaigns to reduce demand for wildlife products, conduct training seminars for law enforcement officers and, in cooperation with those officers, conducts law enforcement operations within wildlife markets throughout Indonesia.
Uttarakhand Forestry and Police Departments	India	From April 2010 to August 2012 the Uttarakhand Forestry and Police Departments have undertaken nearly 100 seizures of illegally trafficked wildlife; a seizure rate higher than any of their counterparts in other Indian states. These seizures have included a variety of species protected by CITES including big cats, reptiles and amphibians, Asian elephants, bears, crocodiles and more. In the vast majority of these cases, the accused were successfully prosecuted and penalized. The collective efforts of these departments has raised the profile of wildlife crime law enforcement led to an increase in the deterrence of wildlife crime in Uttarakhand.
Jiangmen Customs District Office	China	In an 8 month investigation the Jiangmen Customs District Office exposed a massive case of tax fraud and the illegally laundering of 270 tons of shark fins by the Jiangmen seafood company in collusion with local shark fin processing businesses and companies located in Hong Kong and Taiwan. This was the largest seizure of illegally traded shark fins ever in China. The investigation has led to 9 arrests of individuals for illegal wildlife trade and tax crimes.
Kiattipong Khaosamang	Thailand	Police Major General Kiattipong Khaosamang of the Royal Thai Police Central Investigations Bureau has been waging a war on wildlife traffickers and corruption with success but at great risk to his own life. His efforts are reforming Thailand from a wildlife trade hub into a leader in wildlife conservation. Mr. Khaosamang and his team are making it more difficult for criminals to traffic wildlife through Thailand. He has led several successful wildlife law enforcement operations against international syndicates trading in tigers, ivory, and exotic animals. These and other cases dismantled powerful criminal networks and resulted in the seizure of tons of wildlife products, arrests, and successful prosecutions. His passion, skill and dedication for his work has positively influenced many of Thailand’s wildlife law enforcement officers.

