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28/07/2025

**Letter of commendation for Craig Bennett's candidacy as IUCN Councillor for the West Europe region**

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, as the IUCN state member for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I am pleased to commend Craig Bennett for the position of IUCN Councillor for the West Europe region.

Throughout a distinguished 25-year career, including in his current role as Chief Executive of the Wildlife Trusts, Craig has demonstrated extensive relevant expertise across a range of sustainability issues. This includes a strong track record for leadership and delivery at every level – from local to international – and with experience ranging from field research to complex organisational strategy.

Craig also brings a strong commitment to IUCN, and the organisation's important role in the global conservation landscape. He is an Elected Member of the IUCN National Committee for the UK, and participated proactively in the last World Conservation Congress and all three IUCN Leaders Forums.

In short, Craig's experience, abilities, and commitment to sustainability make him ideally suited for election as an IUCN Councillor for the West Europe region.

I hope you will join me in supporting Craig Bennett's candidacy, including in the voting at World Conservation Congress in October.

Yours sincerely,

Jamie Rendell  
Deputy Director, International Biodiversity & Wildlife  
International Biodiversity and Climate Directorate  
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