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World Animal Day: A Rare look

Uncategorized — posted by mary anna gentleman on September, 23 2010 4:24 PM

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From the conservation organization Rare: Monday, Oct. 4, is **World Animal Day**. The holiday, set on the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment, began in Florence, Italy, in 1931 at a convention of ecologists. Its goal is to highlight the plight of endangered species. In 2009, more than 80 countries celebrated the holiday with a vast array of events and programs that took place all over the globe. This year, **Rare** will honor the holiday with pedicabs and postings throughout New York City that feature large ads with the theme, “Animals don’t need to evolve: We do.” The pedicabs and ads will continue throughout October, celebrated as World Animal Month. Other Rare-sponsored events around the world in October: **The third annual Ko’ko Road Race** will take place Oct. 17 in Guam, to highlight the plight of the country’s near-extinct territorial bird (the Guam Rail or Ko’ko). **A campaign in Mongolia** aims to help to save the Taimen (world’s largest salmon); the goal is to increase the number of fishers who catch and release taimen back into the river by 15 percent by October. **By October**, 90 percent of villagers in the Yunnan Province’s Baima will know that the Yunnan Golden Monkey is a precious species and fuelwood threatens the monkey. The residents will be enabled to adopt fuel-efficient solar water heaters, thus reducing the number of trees logged for firewood.

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