



## **WINGS WorldQuest Awards Flag Carrier Grant to Silvia Schrötter**

### ***Conservationist Seeks Methods to Reduce Overexploitation of the Bengal Tiger***

New York, NY (November 1, 2017) — WINGS WorldQuest today announced that it has awarded a Flag Carrier grant to conservationist Silvia Schrötter, a Master's student at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Schrötter is currently on a five-month expedition in India researching methods to help reduce the overexploitation of the Bengal tiger in Manas National Park.

Schrötter, who will return home in December, is studying the poaching, overgrazing by cattle, and collection of thatch, food, and wood fuel by the local people, which have contributed to the dwindling tiger population. As part of her expedition, she is collecting data about homestead gardens and will create communications in both the Bodo and Assamese languages to share information about how these gardens can provide alternative fuel and income to local communities.

#### **About Silvia Schrötter**

Silvia Schrötter is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Tropical Ecology and Natural Resource Management at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, and completed her Bachelor's Degree in Biology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in her home country Germany. Silvia's ambition is to conduct a PhD Degree subsequently to her current studies and therefore contribute to the research of applied conservation and development.

#### **About WINGS WorldQuest's Flag Carrier Program**

WINGS WorldQuest Flag Carriers are women leading original field research or documentation that focuses on investigating questions about the nature of our world and advancing conservation efforts on land, air and water through science and advocacy.

As part of their expeditions, all accepted Flag Carriers plan to write reports, make films, or otherwise formally share information about the findings and discoveries with the scientific community and the public. WINGS WorldQuest Flag Carriers are not associated with tourist trips or paying participants on tours.

WINGS Flag Carriers must submit a formal report, complete with high-resolution images, to

WINGS so that the expedition findings can be shared with the greater public. These reports are posted on the WINGS website and published elsewhere as appropriate.

Since 2005, more than 50 women have flown the WINGS WorldQuest flag during expeditions across over 35 countries and all of the world's continents as they pursue groundbreaking discoveries.

The WINGS WorldQuest flag is recognized as a symbol of excellence in discovery and knowledge, and certifies the significance of its carrier's endeavor.

### **About WINGS WorldQuest™**

WINGS WorldQuest™ is a registered nonprofit organization founded in 2003 to recognize and support extraordinary women in science and exploration. It is the only organization of its kind, awarding unrestricted funding to women in scientific field endeavors. WINGS' support knows no boundaries—women of all races, nationalities, ages, and cultures who show initiative, passion, and promise toward future scientific advancement have been granted funds that are often critical to seeing their ambitious ideas through. In return, they have become part of the WINGS community, and strengthen the organization's mission to inspire the next generation of intrepid explorers and global problem-solvers through various outreach programs. For more information, visit [www.wingsworldquest.org](http://www.wingsworldquest.org).

###