



The Institute of Greatly Endangered and Rare Species



www.MyrtleBeachSafari.com - P.O. Box 31210, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588 - www.RareSpeciesFund.org

PRESS RELEASE:

Mobile Community Health Clinic Helping Uganda Gorillas



Dominant silverback gorilla from the Mubare family in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

The Rare Species Fund has provided tents to help create a mobile health clinic for our partner, Conservation Through Public Health, in western Uganda. By monitoring the health of villagers living near the national parks, their livestock, and the health of the gorillas, CTPH is able to mitigate the transmission of diseases between these groups.



New tent for the CTPH Mobile Health Clinic being set up for the first time.



Smaller tents work perfectly in the field when doctors need to see patients with a modicum of privacy.

Mountain gorillas are highly endangered. They only exist in the wild and just over 900 mountains remain. Mountain gorillas are found in a small region of central Africa in Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Currently the biggest threat to mountain gorilla survival is no longer poaching, but rather their susceptibility to human diseases. Due to biological similarities, and the fact that they are living in one of the poorest regions of the world, mountain gorillas often contract diseases from villagers surrounding the national parks as well as their livestock.



Dr. Robert Johnson of the RSF collecting gorilla scat samples in the forest with CTPH founder, Dr. Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka.



Dr. Stephen Rubanga preparing gorilla fecal slides on new lab benches provided by the RSF.

The RSF has been working for a number of years with CTPH to help study the problems and implement projects that help increase the welfare and hygiene of local peoples and improve farming techniques, which in turn reduces the rate at which mountain gorillas are contracting human and livestock born illnesses. By providing CTPH with the necessary equipment and resources to address this challenge head-on, the RSF is helping to protect an endangered species and helping a brighter and more sustainable future to local people sharing a territory with these amazing animals.



CTPH and RSF logos have been placed on all of the tents to illustrate our ongoing partnership.



Vali the chimpanzee poses with some equipment he has helped purchase for wild chimpanzee and gorilla conservation in central Africa.

The animals of Doc Antle's Myrtle Beach Safari are not only important ambassadors for their species, they inspire individuals to become proactive in conservation and take responsibility for the impact of their own daily choices. In addition, funding raised from the animal encounters at the Myrtle Beach Safari goes directly to help support the conservation of the world's most vulnerable biological hotspots. To date, more than \$1 million has gone directly from wildlife interactions to help support gorillas, chimpanzees, elephants, rhinos, tigers and orangutans in their natural habitats.



Some of the equipment and funding provided to CTPH by the Rare Species Fund.

Supplemental 360Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhjr3kBuc20>