CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2025 To 31st December 2025

Charity name: Conservation Optimism

Charity registration number: 1198033

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To enhance the awareness of the public of the conservation, protection, and improvement of the physical and natural environment primarily through increasing individual and collective knowledge and understanding of the environmental challenges the planet is currently facing through outreach, highlighting the ways that everyone can make a difference, and supporting conservationists and the public to feel hope and empowerment to conserve the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	□ Sharing stories of conservation success from around the world □ Sharing interviews with inspiring conservationists □ Raising the voices of key groups, particularly young people □ Being the nucleus for a community of optimistic conservation organisations called ConservationNOW □ Catalysing lesson learning through knowledge-sharing webinars □ Supporting a community of optimistic people around the world □ Sharing locally relevant content through Regional Hubs □ Delivering direct impact by providing resources and training in positive and strategic communications for conservation □ Holding key events such as an annual Film Festival
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Conservation Optimism's global team is comprised almost entirely of volunteers based around the world, many early-career conservationists, who contribute their time, commitment and great talent to this vital conservation mission.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Main achievements in 2025: Held a 'Good Natured Film Festival', initially in Oxford in July, and subsequently virtually at many other venues and events Shared stories of hope and inspiration through social media and blogs with ~30,000 followers globally Delivered two training sessions to students Attended key conferences and events in UK and Europe, raising awareness of Conservation Optimism and delivering training in strategic communications for conservation

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Conservation Optimism ended the year in a healthy position with a carried forward cash balance of £4523.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£4523
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The charity's principal source of funding is in-kind support from University of Oxford.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		N/A
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Charitable Foundation Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	(1) Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. (2) In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Conservation Optimism
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1198033
Charity's principal address	The Garden Cottage Park Corner Nettlebed Henley-On-Thames RG9 6DR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Professor Dame E.J. Milner-Gulland	Chair		
2	Dr Mike Burgass	Hon. Treasurer		
3	Dr Caleb Ofori Boateng			
4	Ms Savita Wilmott			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Professor Dame E.J. Milner-Gulland	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	9th October 2026	