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NATIONAL PARKS ADMINISTRATION OF ARGENTINA

RANGERS: HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

*"On World Ranger Day it is good to remember that we are just a few people from all around the world working to protect biodiversity that is life".*

I have been a ranger for 11 years, for the last 6 years I've been working at Quebrada del Condorito National Park, in the province of Córdoba. I am in charge of the Achala Operative Center, the main tourist area of the park.

Quebrada del Condorito National Park is situated on top of Cordoba Big Mountain. It is a large upland plain covered by grassland, with woodland at the bottom of the canyons. The main reason for the park is to protect the head of the water catchment as it provides drinking water to almost the entire population of Córdoba. Additionally it is for the protection of this unique environment called Pampa de Achal, a place where several eco regions of Argentina meet, so we have species from different places living together, such as the Andean Cónдор which is the main tourist attraction.

I was studying biological sciences at the university & realised that I'd like to change my way & do something more practical, so I visited the National Park Central Office in Buenos Aires & started volunteering & that is how I met my first National Park & the work of a ranger, I had no doubt, I wanted to do that for the rest of my life. I felt the vocation of protecting nature & wild life & could live always in contact with wildness.

My main responsibility is to organise the activities & do the planning within my area. I also run the educational program with local schools. Most of the park employees live inside the park, so we are a very close team & we all do a little of everything.

Well, my biggest challenge is this ranger exchange I am doing now in Australia. It started only as a wish. Rangers usually live in isolated places, even in their own countries, & the big distances make it difficult to meet & share experiences. So, I think the opportunity of travelling, meeting & learning about different protected areas has great value.

I aspire to everybody who believes in what they are doing & making positive small things.



*"I wish there would be no further rangers killed, so the Thin Green Line could use its funds for happier reasons rather than helping the families of killed rangers".*



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