

# SUSTAINAFEST ANNOUNCES TWO NEW EXCITING PARTNERSHIPS



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## Press Release

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### *United States Fish and Wildlife Service and Mountainfilm in Telluride Partner With SustainaFest to Drive Sustainability Education & Action*

Annapolis, MD - SustainaFest's recent Friend-Raiser was highlighted by the announcement of two partnerships to enhance the organization's efforts to drive sustainability-related education and action in the Chesapeake Bay region. Michael Slattery, Chesapeake Bay Coordinator for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and Henry Lystad, Tour Stop Director of Mountainfilm in Telluride, both took the opportunity to describe the importance of SustainaFest's innovative approach and highlight their excitement in being able to join forces.

Mike Slattery explained the USFWS mission of connecting people with nature to ensure the future of conservation. He described their capacity and successes in their efforts to protect and enhance the nation's wildlife resources but noted that the Service's biggest challenge is to connect its wildlife mission with people's everyday lives. It is at that intersection that the organizations converge to better reach individuals through SustainaFest's innovative approach of using arts and entertainment to educate and drive action on a local level. Mike explained, "We are extremely pleased about the partnership. We believe that conservation is a critical component of the sustainability movement and we look forward to teaming with SustainaFest to more effectively bring wildlife and wild places into the conversation."

Henry Lystad provided powerful examples of how Mountainfilm is dedicated to educating and inspiring audiences about issues that matter, cultures worth exploring, environments worth preserving and conversations worth sustaining. Noting their strong interest in becoming further involved with educators, Henry explained that the organizations are ideal partners, bringing together diverse resources designed to spread the sustainability word and create impactful activities to grow the economy, restore our environment and improve quality of life. "George and I have shared a vision from our first conversation," noted Henry. "We see unlimited opportunities in working together to leverage film in schools and other venues around the country. The coming years will see a growing suite of activities and even more powerful collaborations between our organizations."

Join the celebration - and ongoing conversation - on what we can all do to create a healthier, more prosperous, and sustainable Chesapeake Bay region. To learn more about SustainaFest, our events and activities, please visit [www.sustainafest.org](http://www.sustainafest.org) or email us at [info@sustainafest.org](mailto:info@sustainafest.org)