



ST JAMES'S PALACE

It is my great honour to acknowledge the brave and tireless work of the world's Park Rangers on the frontline of conservation on the occasion of World Ranger Day.

I am aware from personal experience just how important the work of Park Rangers is: to protect landscapes and species from poaching and illegal logging and forest clearing, to spot bushfires and the early signs of disease, and to encourage visitors to explore some of the world's most stunning areas. Without you, the world would be a very different place.

Many Park Rangers risk and sometimes lose their lives in their brave efforts to protect our world's most special and endangered places and animals. In fact, over 1,000 Park Rangers have paid the ultimate price during the last 10 years. The staggering sacrifice that you and your colleagues have paid underlines just how dangerous - and how critical - your work is. You are the frontline, the thin green line of the planet's critical conservation battle.

I have been pleased to learn about the work of the International Ranger Federation and the work of charities such as the Thin Green Line to celebrate all you do and to support you and your families and communities. On this World Ranger Day, please know that my thoughts are with you and that I, along with so many others, are in awe of your selfless brave work - you have my total admiration.

Happy World Ranger Day.