

An aerial photograph of a vast mountain range, likely the Canadian Rockies, showing rugged peaks, deep valleys, and dense forests. The mountains are layered, creating a sense of depth. The sky is clear and blue.

LIGHT**HAWK**

Flying to Save the Earth

Annual Report 2016



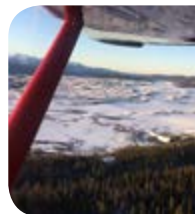
437

Planned
Flights



542

Hearts &
Minds Flown



1,103

Donated
Flight Hours



2016



316

Conservation
Flights



284

Awesome
Pilots

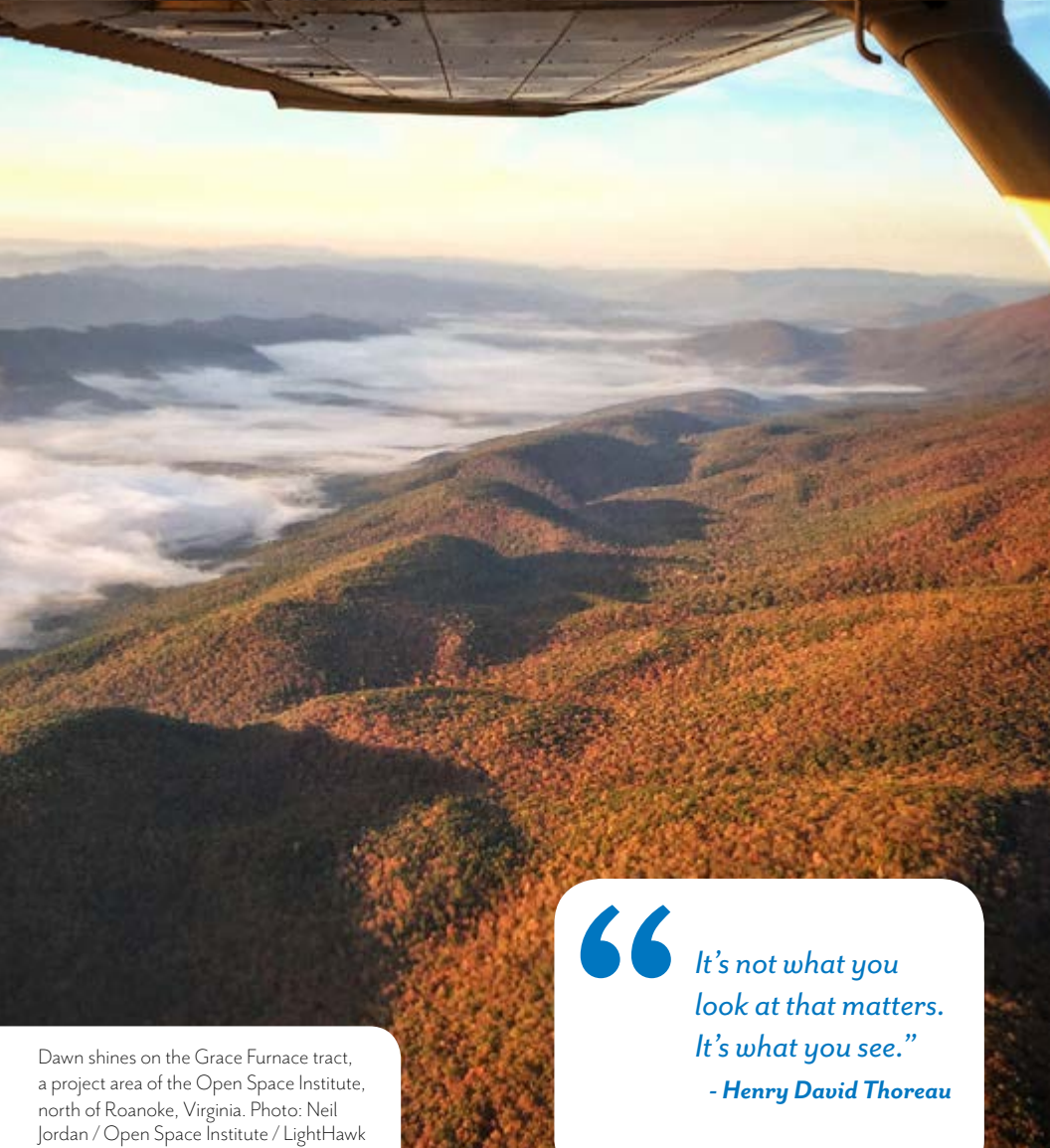


\$418,945

Total Volunteer Pilot
In-Kind Contribution



Credits (left to right, top to bottom):
Jerry Clark, James Kelly, Cory West,
Daniel Ellingwood, Bryan Bedrosain,
Phil Fischer, Tom Stienstra, Chris
Boyer, Karen Perry, Julie Ball, Tim
Peterson, Voortex Productions, Eric
Ian, Will Worthington.



Dawn shines on the Grace Furnace tract, a project area of the Open Space Institute, north of Roanoke, Virginia. Photo: Neil Jordan / Open Space Institute / LightHawk

“*It’s not what you look at that matters. It’s what you see.*”
- Henry David Thoreau

We fly to save the Earth.

Beautiful things are worth saving. We know that once people truly see the majesty of our planet, they’ll fight to protect it.

By removing the shackles of gravity, our carefully-crafted flights help people attain a higher perspective of conservation, find a deeper understanding of the natural world and reframe their role within it.



Lake Albert in the southern Oregon desert where we flew with our partner to raise awareness of this area's unique characteristics and management requirements. Photo: Jim Davis / ONDA / LightHawk

What We Protect

We ensure each flight has a distinct conservation outcome that fits into our bigger picture — called our Conservation Initiatives. These are five areas where aviation can create the biggest positive change for the environment.



**Conserving
Landscapes**



**Protecting
Oceans & Coasts**



**Ensuring
Species Survival**



**Safeguarding
Rivers**



**Guiding
Smart Growth**

How We Create Change

As a partner-focused, nonpartisan organization, our flight campaigns provide a platform for seeing the truth below. Passengers see the impact humans have on the environment and feel a renewed responsibility to our natural world. Here's how we do it.



Support

Our work begins with your support.



Outreach

We search for partners doing great work.



Evaluate

We educate on how flight can help them.



Partner

We create partnerships with them.



Recruit

We find the most qualified pilots.



Plan

We carefully craft effective flight campaigns.



Assign

We match the right pilot with the right flight.



Coordinate

We plan every detail of each mission.



Flight

We create an enlightening aviation experience.

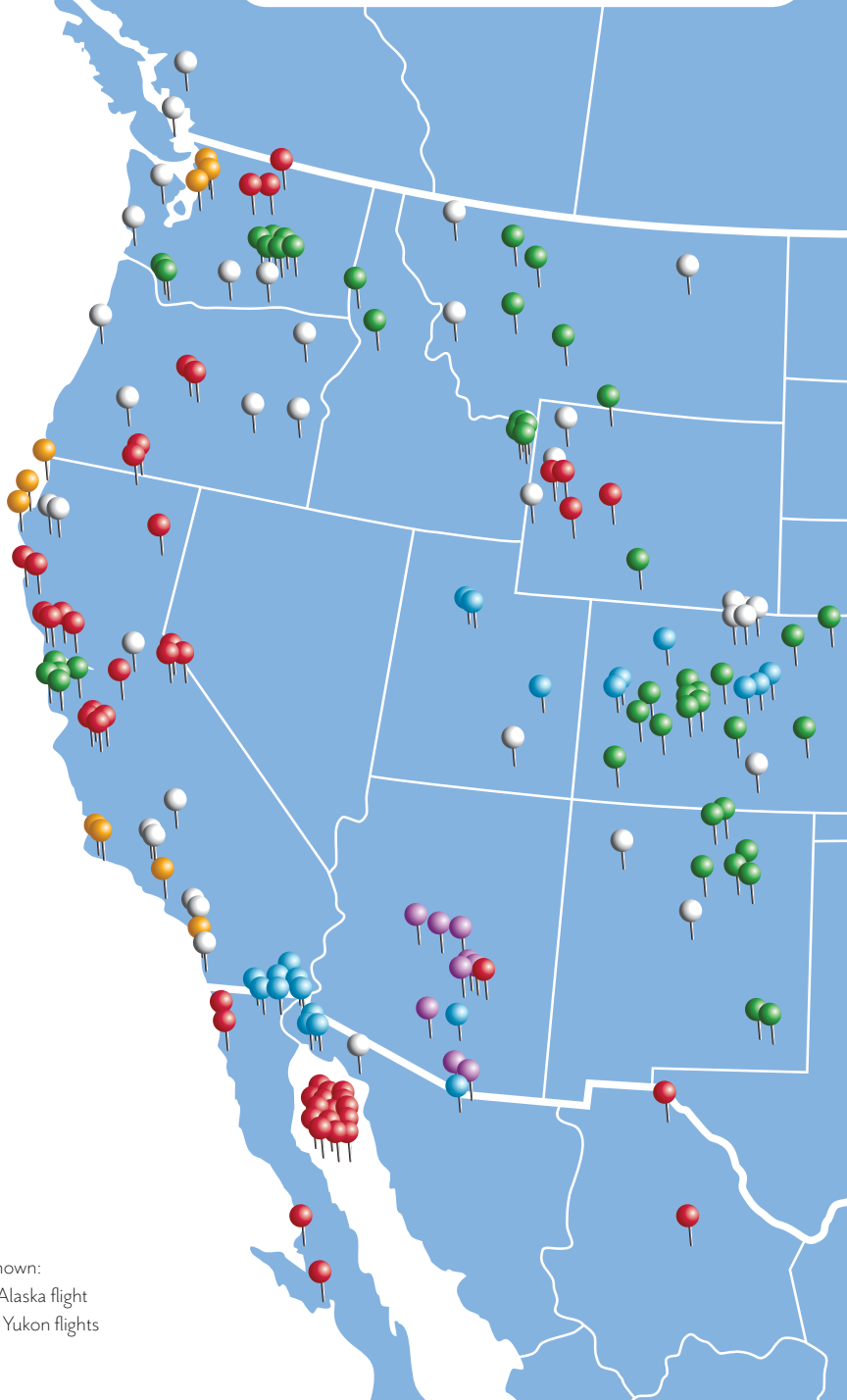


Results

Our extensive work prior to each flight ensures that each mission results in measurable immediate and long-term conservation outcomes.

2016 Flights

Planned & Completed



* Not shown:

- 1 Alaska flight
- 4 Yukon flights



Conserving Landscapes



Protecting Oceans & Coastlines



Ensuring Species Survival



Safeguarding Rivers



Guiding Smart Growth



Flights of Opportunity

** Exploratory flights for new projects or partners*



A recent LightHawk flight inspired the New England Forestry Foundation's board to conserve 10,000 acres near here, Maine's Saddleback Lake. Photo: Jonathan Milne/LightHawk

Conserving Landscapes

Healthy landscapes are crucial to our well-being and nature's ability to thrive.

We fly to conserve critical and sensitive landscapes, their ecosystems and the wildlife that call them home. We address threats that would cause damage, advocate for science-based land management, and seek to increase the amount of public and private land conserved to be enjoyed by future generations.

Flagship Projects

- Heart of the Rockies

Funders

- Smart Family Foundation
- Cedar Tree Foundation

Protecting a Climate Change Ally

The future is in the forests.

Forests are critical to our health and wellbeing. But forest cover across New England steadily declines each day as development and unsustainable forestry practices take a bite. More than 100,000 acres will be buzz-sawed for urban uses each year over the next three decades, reports say.

Forests conserved at the landscape level safeguard wildlife and the ecosystem, as well as human health with pure water, clean air and recreation. Forests are also a key ally in fighting the effects of climate change.

Those benefits, however, are sometimes at odds with the region's growth and the \$5 billion timber industry. Along with our partners, LightHawk is elevating the discussion in hopes of balancing a critical source of economy with an essential source of health for residents of one of America's fastest growing megaregions.



New England Forestry Foundation staff said the aerial perspective was “incredibly valuable” to put the conservation project in perspective with the larger landscape. Photo: Jonathan Milne / LightHawk

But tapping the full potential of forests is only possible by first ensuring they remain forests, unfragmented by development. In that quest, we partnered with the New England Forestry Foundation in western Maine on a series of flights to survey 10,000 acres, to orient their staff, and educate board members.

LightHawk flights were “crucial to inspiring the board to approve these projects,” allowing NEFF staff to secure funding to place the area under conservation easement, said Charlie Reinertsen, NEFF's communications manager.

“Walking the property, it is hard to get the full context of the landscape and the land-use history, including past harvests and existing roads or trails,” Reinertsen said. “This in-the-air view of the property was incredibly valuable because it was able to put the properties in the context of the greater landscape.”

We plan to expand our work across Western Maine in hopes of conserving even more critical forest habitat.



Photo flights during king tides along the California coast help illustrate what's at risk from climate change-caused sea rise — damage to key infrastructure. Photo: Robert Siegel / San Francisco Baykeeper / LightHawk



Protecting Oceans & Coasts

Thriving oceans and coastlines are home to incredible life and provide a bounty of food and wellness for humans.

We fly to protect our sensitive coastlines, estuaries, oceans and sea life. We monitor the health of marine protected areas, work to increase safeguards, show the potential impacts of climate change, and shine a light on pollution or other damage to these life-sustaining areas.

Flagship Projects

- Marine Protected Areas

Funders

- Resources Legacy Fund
- The Campbell Foundation

Empowering Coastal Communities to Prepare for Climate Change

Seeing is believing.

It's hard to show people the potential of how climate change will impact their daily lives.

But for the millions who make their home and livelihood on our nation's shores, the world's largest environmental threat is becoming real faster than ever with sea levels anticipated to rise up to three feet in the next 50 to 100 years.

LightHawk has flown 12 missions since 2014 to photograph king tides along the Pacific coast. These tides — the highest of the year when the sun, moon and Earth are aligned — can show us what our normal future tides may become.



In addition to raising awareness about the effects of climate change, king tide flights provide a window into the future for land managers to see what the “new normal” for wetlands in their charge may look like with sea level rise. Photo: Robert Siegel / San Francisco Baykeeper / LightHawk

These elevated water levels provide a snapshot of what's at risk — crippling damage to infrastructure such as roads, bridges, homes and utilities. Sea level rise will also impact the wetland and tidal area ecosystems our partners are charged with managing and protecting.

LightHawk flights help leaders understand how to prepare and adapt, spread the word, raise awareness and inform policy along coastal areas already under significant growth pressure.

“We learned a lot from our flights, including a better understanding of the efforts already underway to protect property from rising seas and the challenge we have ahead of us to ensure natural systems such as wetlands can adapt to rising sea levels,” said Ray Hiemstra, Associate Director of Programs for Orange County Coastkeeper.

We will continue working with our partners to document the impacts of rising sea levels and to raise climate change awareness.



Islas de Todos Santos in Baja California provide crucial habitat for several marine birds, such as the red knot. The aerial perspective allows scientists to discover habitat and migration stops of these threatened birds. Photo: Abril Heredia / LightHawk



Ensuring Species Survival

Protecting endangered animals from extinction is our enduring responsibility.

We fly to restore threatened and endangered species to sustainable populations. We allow scientists to gather data critical to their survival and support captive breeding programs.

Flagship Projects

- California Condor Recovery
- Salmon

Funders

- The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Beagle Charitable Foundation

Safeguarding Imperiled Shorebirds and their Sensitive Habitat

The red knot is an extraordinary flier.

In the course of its life, it may migrate farther than the distance to the moon. But it cannot out-fly the threats along its path.

The red knot and similar shorebirds are showing the most drastic declines of any group of birds. Human disruption, habitat loss and degradation, and climate change are among the top threats that put these birds at extreme risk. Already, populations across the Americas have shrunk by an estimated 70 percent, forcing researchers to warn that without action, some species might go extinct.



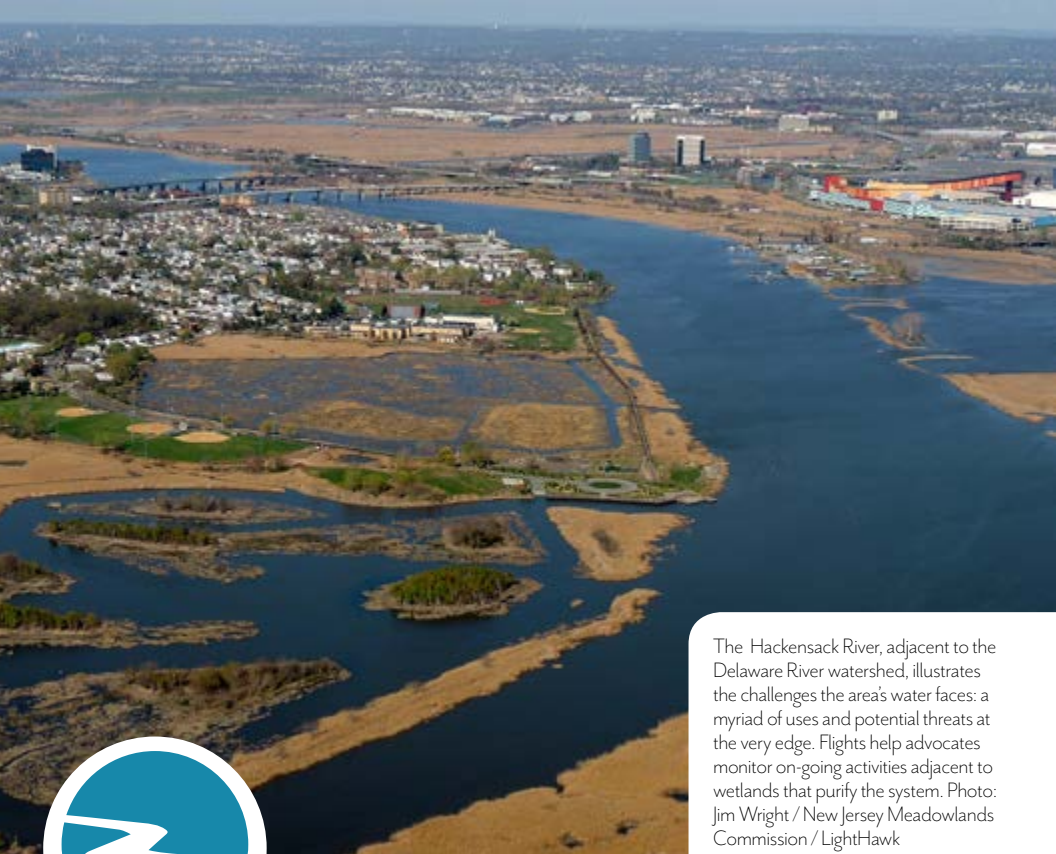
We've worked closely to fly with partners and locate habitat of the threatened red knot, American oystercatcher and other sensitive species of shorebirds throughout the northwest Mexican coastline. The area is a geographically-crucial wintering and migration stop, hosting more than one million shorebirds from 31 species.

Populations of shorebirds, like the red knot shown above, are declining faster than any other group of birds. Although they are prolific fliers, these birds can't out-fly the threats that meet them on their migration routes such as human development and habitat loss. LightHawk flights identify habitat and help advocates stop threats. Photo: USFWS

The best way to locate shorebird aggregations is through aerial surveys as many sites are not accessible by road, said Abril Heredia, graduate student with Dr. Eduardo Palacios of our partner Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, B.C. (CICESE). Our work with CICESE allowed scientists to count enough birds on a particular island to confirm its importance as a stopover site. That discovery allows CICESE to advocate for new, elevated protections.

"Many of these species are very vulnerable to changes in habitat, so knowing the health of the ecosystem is critical to be able to establish conservation strategies in the short and long term. This information would not have been possible without the help of LightHawk," said Jonathan Vargas, a graduate student working with Dr. Palacios at CICESE.

We will continue empowering scientists and helping decision makers understand and identify threats to shorebird habitat.



The Hackensack River, adjacent to the Delaware River watershed, illustrates the challenges the area's water faces: a myriad of uses and potential threats at the very edge. Flights help advocates monitor on-going activities adjacent to wetlands that purify the system. Photo: Jim Wright / New Jersey Meadowlands Commission / LightHawk



Safeguarding Rivers

Rivers and wetlands form a network of life that flows through our lands and communities.

We fly to keep those waters and their natural ecosystems healthy, and keep human communities thriving. We work to restore altered river systems to their native states, protect them from pollution, sedimentation and diversion, and safeguard the integrity of our drinking water.

Flagship Projects

- Everglades
- Delaware River Watershed

Funders

- The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
- William Penn Foundation

Restoring Clean Water to one of America's Most Burdened Rivers

The Delaware River carries a heavy load.

Each drop of this river is reused 20 times. And while its footprint is less than one percent of the nation's land, it provides drinking water to five percent of the nation's population — more than 15 million people.

The burden, however, was once much heavier — the river ranked as one of America's most polluted rivers. But the Delaware has made a scrappy comeback.

LightHawk flies extensively in this area — some of the nation's most restrictive airspace — in hopes of easing the load the river has to bear. The view from above has illustrated this complex watershed, and spurred long-term action to improve water quality.

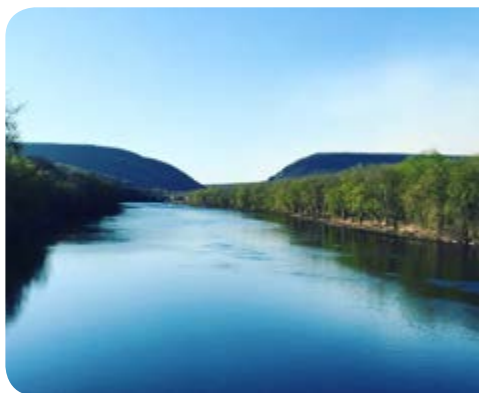
In the mountainous northern sections of the watershed, we focus on the land's ability to naturally and sustainably purify the whole watershed, working to increase forested buffers and create the conditions that allow wetlands to thrive.

In the tidal south, we help inform science of the critical balance of fresh and saline waters. This balance impacts the health of wetlands and thus the river's overall health, and its resilience to respond to sea level rise caused by climate change.

Flight is a great tool to illustrate the importance of on-the-ground work, said Sherri Albrecht, board member of The Land Conservancy of New Jersey, a partner who works to protect watersheds throughout New Jersey.

"We've preserved a lot of land, but there is so much more to do," Albrecht said. "The low flyover perspective is the best way to observe this, and will be a valuable opportunity for fundraising and education so we can continue to accomplish our mission."

We will continue to build extensive flight campaigns within critical watershed.



A view looking down the Delaware Water Gap. LightHawk flies with our partners to inform science, and advocate for conditions that improve the quality of this critical drinking water resource for 15 million people. Photo: Christi Rokicki / The Land Conservancy of New Jersey



LightHawk flights help partners in the Sun Corridor area navigate rapid growth in sensitive wildlife areas. We flew in support of this successful wildlife overpass north of Tucson with partners. Photo: Elizabeth Deupree/Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection / LightHawk

Guiding Smart Growth

Land use change is an unavoidable part of our society and future, yet it is our duty to do so in harmony with nature.

We fly to inform smart growth and minimize our impacts on the natural world. We assist community planners in gathering data, allowing them to see growth as they have never seen it before. We work to increase quality of life for citizens by helping them see the connection between their community and the natural world.

Flagship Projects

- Sun Corridor

Funders

- Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust

Balancing Rapid Growth with Delicate Desert Ecosystems

It's not just elbow room — it's a matter of survival.

Arizona's Sun Corridor will double in population by 2040. One of America's fastest growing areas is also one of its most environmentally-sensitive, increasing pressure on a North American gem — the Sonoran Desert.

The area has some of the greatest diversity of life of any North American desert and a landscape diversity rivaling all others. Smart growth is a life and death matter with wildlife and humanity sharing an arid, diverse and interconnected landscape.

LightHawk has worked extensively with a partner, the Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, to ease the many ways people impact the landscape and its wildlife.

LightHawk flights have saved staff days of work and hundreds of miles of driving, they say.

LightHawk also flew to support a new wildlife overpass and underpass north of Tucson. Before the project, 255 road kills were reported in four months. Since opening in March 2016, more than 1,000 animals from 13 different species have safely used the crossings.

Flights captured footage, raised public support, empowered staff and engaged the Coalition's supporters like Elizabeth Deupree.

Deupree said her LightHawk flight was “instrumental for me to see the staggering encroachment of humans and housing developments in and so close to natural watershed areas and migratory paths.” The flight inspired her to support a wildlife camera monitoring program and advocate for others to support the project as well.

“To start looking for funding and to raise three-fourths of our goal in a matter of two days has surpassed all expectation and we could not have done it without (LightHawk),” said Sarah Whelan, Coalition Program and Outreach Associate.

We will continue investing in this area to balance growth with conservation.



The aerial perspective helps partners in the Sun Corridor visualize growth, such as this development encroaching on Arizona's Catalina Mountains. Photo: Elizabeth Deupree/Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection

Flagship Projects & Partners

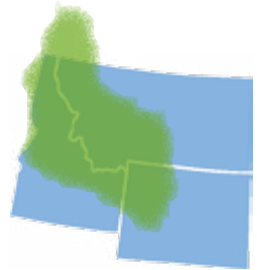
Within each of our Conservation Initiatives we have established one or more Flagship Projects — thoughtfully-chosen areas and issues where we're committed to making an impact for years to come with hand-picked partners.

Heart of the Rockies

We work to increase protected land, monitor easements, and illustrate to donors the importance of this place. Our flight campaigns here preserve wildlife corridors; protect clean water, agriculture and forests; and help create resilient communities.

2016 Partners:

- Heart of the Rockies Initiative
- Palouse Land Trust



Marine Protected Areas

We educate decision makers, support efforts to make the seas safer for migrating whales, and build community support for these biological refuges. We support these areas which buoy productivity, boost sea life diversity, and embody the beauty of California's iconic coastline and offshore areas.

2016 Partners:

- The Bay Foundation
- Northcoast Environmental Center
- Heal the Bay



Everglades

We're helping guide restoration here, which is one of the largest conservation projects in history. Agricultural impacts have taken a toll on this delicate ecosystem. We provide documentation, education to decision makers and assist scientists in this difficult-to-access area.

2016 Partners:

- Everglades Foundation
- Conservancy of Southwest Florida
- Audubon Florida

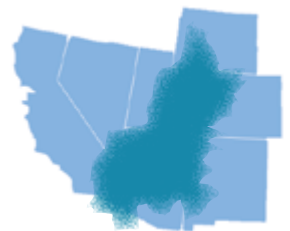


Colorado River

We work to safeguard this artery of the West, a watershed that supports \$1.4 trillion in annual economic activity. Efforts currently focused on restoring water and life to this river's delta will soon be expanded to the whole river basin.

2016 Partners:

- Sonoran Institute
- Rig to Flip
- Western Resource Advocates
- The Nature Conservancy
- Friends of the Yampa

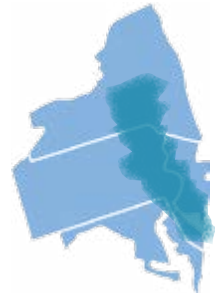


Delaware River Watershed

Over 15 million people rely on this watershed for drinking water. Educational and media flights convince key audiences to politically support and invest in wetland restoration, environmental threat mitigation and dam removal.

2016 Partners:

- The Nature Conservancy of NJ, PA, NY
- Pennsylvania Audubon
- Open Space Institute
- The Land Conservancy of New Jersey
- Delaware River Watershed Initiative

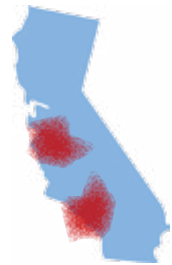


California Condor Recovery

We work diligently to help this threatened bird recover from near extinction. We employ aerial telemetry to find condors in remote areas, transport birds and eggs for treatment and to rebuild populations.

2016 Partners:

- Pinnacles National Park
- Santa Barbara Zoo

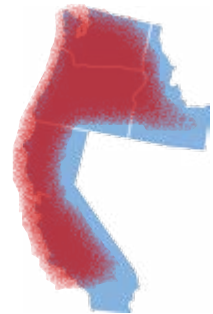


Salmon

We work to protect and restore Pacific salmon species to benefit forest ecosystems, communities and economies. Our flights inform science, empower outreach and create watershed-level protections.

2016 Partners:

- The Nature Conservancy
- Wild Salmon Center
- Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

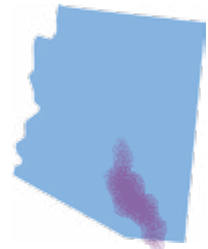


Sun Corridor

We work to help guide smart growth in Southern Arizona, one of the fastest-developing regions in the nation. We help leaders understand this vast and populous region and collect imagery and data to inform agencies of the environmental and economic impacts of their decisions.

2016 Partners:

- Sonoran Institute
- Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection



Pilot Awards

Each year we present awards at our annual Fly-In to the best and most dedicated volunteer pilots. Although we highlight the efforts of these pilots, each LightHawk pilot is crucial to our success.



Spirit of LightHawk Award

Rick Koril - A generous and dedicated volunteer, Rick personifies the spirit of LightHawk by representing the best qualities of our volunteer pilot corps.



Bill and Betty Rockwell Award

Lane Gormley - Lane embodies the spirit of this award's namesake, Bill Rockwell (1919-2000), as a pilot always willing to go above and beyond.



President's Award

Will Worthington - Will's dedication to LightHawk's mission shines through his contributions as a pilot, donor and board member.



Rookie of the Year Award

Sonny Lacey - Sonny provided extensive aerial support and his willingness to negotiate passage in very restrictive airspace is a blessing for LightHawk.



Carpenter Award

Roy Lewallen - Roy's willingness to fly the extra mile for LightHawk partners and their projects is remarkable. His generosity knows no bounds.



LightHawk volunteer pilot Mike Hart flies his Cessna 180 over Montana's Madison Valley.
Photo: Eric Bendick

Our Volunteer Pilots

David Acker
Ken Adelman
Gabrielle Adelman **15+**
Jim Afinowich **✈**
Bob Allen **✈**
Steve Allsop
Eric Anderson
John Anson
Paul Armstrong
Jim Averett
Dan Barley **✈**
Courtney Barnhorst
Michael Baum **✈**
Greg Bedinger **15+** **✈**
Rob Bender **✈**
Milton Bennett **20+**
Jon Berman
Wendy Beye **20+**

Dan Birch **✈**
Brent Blue
Blair Bouchier
Steve Bowser **✈**
Chris Boyer **✈**
Scott Brewster **✈**
Bill Brine
Ralph Britton **✈**
Jason Brooks **✈**
Phil Brown
Steve Brown
Tom Bryant
James Buck
Eileen Burger
Greg Burnett
Jim Cameron
Jim Carlson **✈**
Tony Carson **✈**
Larry Cazier
Linda Chism
John Chlopek
Scott Cianchette **✈**
Tuck Colby
David Cole
Peter Coltman **20+**
Dave Comarow **✈**
Wayne Connor **✈**
Mike Conway
Denise Corcoran
Richard Costello

Chuck Crinnian
Warren Dean **✈**
Matt Debski
Edward DeCastro
Claudette DeCourley*
Thomas Dillon **✈**
Tim Drager **15+**
Andy Dunigan
Rick Durden **20+** **✈**
Joe DuRousseau **✈**
C. Rudy Engholm **20+**
Jon Engle
Dan Evans
Bill Faulkner **✈**
John Feagin
Les Filler
Dick Filson **✈**
Joe Fischetti
Dennis Fitzpatrick
Charles Fligel
Eric Fogelin
Larry Forney
Ken Foster **✈**
John French
Jamie Gamble **✈**
Mark Gaponoff **✈**
Bette Gardner
Steven Garman **15+**
Bernard Gateau
Pete Geiler

Lee Gerstein **✈**
Cliff Gill
Bob Gill **20+**
Bob Glorioso
Reg Goodwin **20+** **✈**
Shane Gorman
Lane Gormley **✈**
Kelly Gottlieb **15+**
Jim Grady **✈**
Eric Grant
Ney Grant
Rich Greenawald
Tom Haas
Jeff Hamilton
Hunter Handsfield
Doug Harford **✈**
Barry Harper **20+**
David Harris
Rusty Harrison **✈**
Jack Hart
Mike Hart **✈**
Hal Hayden **✈**
Jeff Hazlett
Pat Healy **✈**
Tim Hendricks
Randy Henry*
Chuck Heywood **15+** **✈**
Jeff Hinkle
Jerry Hoogerwerf **20+**

Continued on Page 22 >

We are thankful for the dedication of all our volunteer pilots. Pilots listed here are active or standby as of June 1, 2017.

✈ = Donated Flight

***** = Retired

15+ = Years of Service

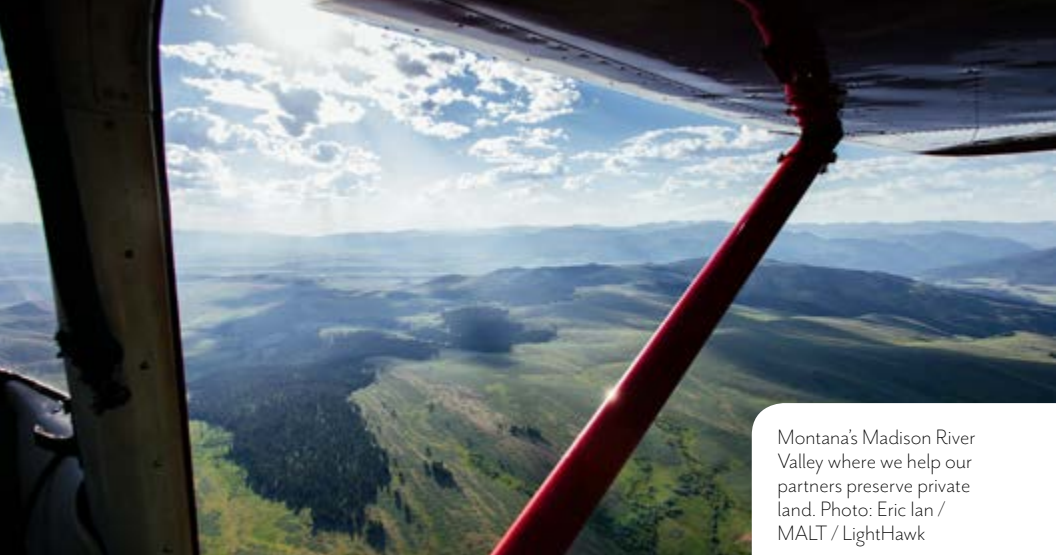
20+ = Years of Service

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Richard Hoover* ✈ | Douglas Lumgair | Ross Rice | Zach Thomas ✈ |
| Sue Hostler | Ryan Lunde | Jim Richards ✈ | Dan Thompson |
| Jim Houser | Matt Machen | Pat Riley | Art Thompson 20+ |
| Joe Howley | Brian MacNamara ✈ | Kevin Roache 20+ | Mac Tichenor |
| Rick Hunt | Jeanne MacPherson | Steve Robbins | Tom Tillman |
| Arthur Hussey III 15+ ✈ | John Mahany | Leon Robert | Tim Timmons |
| Steve Isom | Miguel Marin | Lisa Robertson 15+ | Tim Toal ✈ |
| Richard Jacobs | Dan Marks | Steve Robertson 15+ | Val Tollefson |
| Mike Jesch ✈ | Carl Mattson ✈ | Jim Robinson | Lanny Tonning ✈ |
| Dean Johnson | Paul Mattson ✈ | Dick Rodgers ✈ | Marijke Unger |
| Kirk Johnson 20+ | Michael Maya | Jane Rosevelt 20+ ✈ | Mike Venturino ✈ |
| Mel Jordan | Charles | Eric Ross | Matt Verdieck |
| John Kamburoff | Mike McBride 20+ | Rob Ross | Varlin Vissepo |
| Sid Karin | Bruce McLean 15+ ✈ | Polly Ross 20+ | Phil Walker |
| Jerry Karlsberg ✈ | Mike McNamara 15+ | Jimmy Roswell | Dick Walker 20+ ✈ |
| Joe Keeton | Mark Merrill | Bill Rush ✈ | Charles Walling |
| Chris Keithley | Jack Merritt | Mel Rushton | Keith Ward |
| Bob Keller 20+ ✈ | Wolfgang Meyn | George Ryan | David Warner ✈ |
| Steve Kent ✈ | David Miller | Scott Ryan | Terri Watson 20+ |
| Alan Kinback ✈ | Doug Monger | Nathan Rydman ✈ | Jeffrey Weiss |
| John King | Tony Moradian | John Sandvig ✈ | Pete Welles |
| Martha King | Fred Moskol ✈ | Michael Schaffer | Stephanie Wells ✈ |
| Steve Knaebel* | Wayne Munson ✈ | Elmer Schettler 20+ | Randy Wells |
| Jim Knowles ✈ | Russ Munson | Mike Schroeder | Cory West ✈ |
| Rick Koril ✈ | David Murphy | Merry Schroeder 20+ | Mike White ✈ |
| Alice Kottmyer | Arlene Myers ✈ | Chuck Schroll 15+ | Pete White* |
| Dave Krahn | Ken Newbury ✈ | Jerry Seckler | Gerry Whitley ✈ |
| David Kunkel 15+ ✈ | Janice Newman | Donna Shannon | Jud Wickwire |
| Nathan Kurth | Bill Nicolai | Ken Shapiro | Rhon Williams ✈ |
| Paul Kutler | Jane Nicolai 20+ ✈ | Bud Sittig ✈ | Steve Williams ✈ |
| Hubert Lacey ✈ | Pete Niewieroski ✈ | Skip Slyfield 20+ | Brian Williams |
| Fred Lagno | Gerold Noyes | Chris Snideman | John Wilson |
| Bob Lange ✈ | Geoff Nye ✈ | Richard Spencer | Brent Witters 20+ |
| Tim Lapage 15+ | David Osher | Jochen Spengler | Will Worthington ✈ |
| Andreas Lauschke ✈ | Steve Parker | Jay Steffenhagen ✈ | Chuck Yanke |
| Tom LeCompte ✈ | Greg Paulin | Ed Steinman 15+ | Scott Young |
| Michael Lee 15+ ✈ | Carl Pesce* | Bob Stoecker | Andy Young |
| Ray Lee 15+ ✈ | Larry Petro | Eric Stoltz | Mark Zaller |
| Ted Leenerts | Steve Phillabaum | Dick Stone | |
| Roy Lewallen ✈ | Ben Pierce 15+ | Jim Stover | |
| Gary Lickle ✈ | John Plaza | Joe Stringer | |
| Rob Lober | Geoff Pope 15+ ✈ | Mike Sutton 15+ | |
| Brian Locascio | Steve Powell | Larry Swanson 20+ | |
| Jack Long ✈ | John Pryor | Bill Tarmey | |
| Allen Low 20+ ✈ | Bill Psaledakis | Tim Taylor | |
| Pavel Lukes | Sandy Quillen | Bob Thomas ✈ | |

Flown West

Gene Steffen
In memory

Please contact us at
info@lighthawk.org to
correct any inadvertent
errors or omissions.



Montana's Madison River Valley where we help our partners preserve private land. Photo: Eric Ian / MALT / LightHawk

Thank You for Helping Us Soar

INDIVIDUAL DONORS, OUR GENEROUS FRIENDS

\$100,000 and Above

Anonymous
John and Adrienne Mars

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Ralph Britton
James Gamble
David and Gale Kunkel

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Josh and Becky Marvil
Merry Schroeder
Sarah Werner

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Amy and Judd Klement
Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel
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Celia P. Taylor

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Barbara L. Brown
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John Feagin & Marty Head
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Peter Swift
Mariana Tupper
Philip Walker
Terri Watson & Kimi Harrison
Barbara J. Wilhite
Sandy & Will Worthington
Susan P. Young

\$500 to \$999

Anonymous
Catherine H. Anderson
Mary Ellen Bates
Martin & MaryAnn Baumrind
Matthew Berman
Brent Blue

Laura & Arch Brown
Geoffrey Clark
Kitty Collins
Jitze & Nancy Couperus
Christopher & Bonnie Covington
Robert & Susan Crenshaw
Rudy & Grace Engholm
Eric & Jodi Fogelin
Meredith B. Glover Walker
Christopher & Amy Gulick
Christina Heinle
Karen Holmgren
Steve & Leslie Isom
Robert & Carol Keller via Keller Family Fund, a donor advised fund of the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties
Garrison Lickle
Katherine Gould-Martin & Robert Martin
Ingrid Overgard & Steve Ginsberg
Lollie Benz Plank
Don Post
William & Deborah Roach
Barbara Sweet
Jim & Mary Winn
Chuck Yanke



Our family believes in paying it forward ... giving back. We have a soft spot for animal transport. Someone has to help these little buggers out, and we support helping these animals in any way we can. We are thankful that ensuring species survival is one of LightHawk's top priorities."

— Chuck Yanke, volunteer pilot & supporter

\$250 to \$499

Kerry Albright
Lisa Kunkel & Marcelo Asprilla
James Atkinson
Lyman B. Brainerd
Allan Code
Thomas R. Crum
Joel Cutler & Lucinda Wegener
John Darby
Nancy Debevoise
Ann W. Dittmar
Emilie Ryan & Clayton Fraser
Philip Garofalo
Kelly & Michael Gottlieb
Susan Hostler
James Paul Houser, Jr.
Tom LeCompte
Roy Lewallen
Don & Pamela Lichty
Jason & Linda Lillegraven
Dan Marks
Christina & Douglas McVie
Dan & Diane Meyer
Peter & Nancy Mickelsen
David & Patricia Miller
Jane & Bill Nicolai
Jay & Louise Noyes
Mary Kaye O'Neill
Damon R. Phillips

Clif Purkiser
Bruce Ray - Wild Hare
Computer Systems
Christine Sakach
Stephanie Wells

\$100 to \$249

Anonymous
Martin & Peggy Albert
Bob Allen
Leslie Allen
Victor & Janice Anderson
Laurie Archer
Courtney & Andy Barnhorst
John Bartholow
Elizabeth Bartlett
Reinier & Nancy Beeuwkes
Gretchen Benjamin
Bruce Berger
Peter Berquist
Eleanor Bookwalter
Joseph Bower
Louise T. Chow & Thomas R. Broker
Lincoln P. Brower
Lynette Cardoch
The Carter Family
Gerald & Jane Clark
Joyce & Les Coleman
David Comarow
Sharky Cornell
Seth Cothrun
Robert Dismukes & Barbara Burian
Richard & Karen Durden
Stan & Carol Eilers
Judith S. Engelberg
Garrett Farwell
Charles S. Faulkner II
Henry & Susan Flint
John & Paula Foy
Mary Ann Frye
Peggy Fujita
Daniel Gelbaum
Joseph Gerberg
Douglas Gerleman
Robert Glorioso
Lisa Gordon
P. Hawk Greenberg
Peter & Joanne Griesinger
Michael Herz
Milton & Louise Hollander
Richard & Sandi Hoover
Ralph Lee Hopkins

Richard A. Horvitz
Luther Irwin
Sara Jane Johnson
Maria & Michael Ketterling
Patricia M. Kincaid
Ronald Labrecque
Andy Lee
Ray Lee
Robert & Jeannine Leeper
Robert Linck & Leanne Klyza
Linck
Linda Lux
Theodore Lyman
Dwight & Elizabeth Madison
Tony Malmel
Hallie Metzger
Kevin Moore & Pingya Li Moore
Robert Most
Peter O'Connor
John & Pamela Olivas
Gordon Orians
Lavonne Painter
Robert & Anita Peterson
Bev & Kathleen Pigeon
George & Nancy Purvis
Edward J. Pushich
Robert & Janet Quinn
Mirla & Zohar Raz
Hadley Roberts
Shannon & Rick Rochelle
Betty J. Rockwell
Polly Ross
Tara Rowe
Dick & Jan Scar
Chuck Schroll
Nancy Schultz
Randall Siebert
Brian Smith
David Soules
Christine Steele
Patricia C. Stein
John & Melody Taft
W. Michael Tanksley
Lida Teneva
James Thompson
Deborah Garber & John Tielsch
Kevin & Sara Tolman
Tom & Sue Tuxill
Margot B. Unkel
Peter & Lynn Wendell
David Wild
Marcella Wildes
Joanna Winship
John & Jill Winter

Up to \$100

Anonymous
Mercedes Agogino
Edwin Ahrens
Ethan & Alice Allen
Jim Astin
Jan & Steve Babits
George & Joanne Barnes
John R. Bentley
George & Anita Berlacher
Lee James Best Jr.
Wendy Ross Beye
Richard & Bette Ann Bicknell
Penny L. Blubaugh
Gail Bohnhoff-Hlavacek & Bill
Hlavacek
Steven Brodie
Joyce & Raymond Brown
Eileen Burger
Merry Camhi
Jim Carlson
Eileen J. Carney
Stephen & Deborah Ann Carroll
Margaret & Ron Claypool
Juliana Cohen
Del & Linda Coolidge
Laura Cotts
Mindi Crabb
Lou Anna Denison
Mark Easton
Nan E. Elliot
Jerry & Jeanne Fiorito
Philip Fischer
Ronald French
Lydia Garvey
Sharon Gaskill
Mark M. Giese
Elaine R. Goldman
Diane Gorski
Peter & Caroline Gynn
Thomas Hall



A LightHawk flight helped capture footage of critical salmon spawning habitat in the Pacific Northwest, allowing our partners to advocate for its continued conservation. Photo: Greg Mares / UCSRB / LightHawk

Robert & Tina Hyduke
Bruce & Karen Joffe
L. Christine Judson
Paula Katz
Gene A. Kent
Jacopo Lenzi
William & Louise Lidicker, Jr.
Lucy MacLeitch
John Mahany
Joseph Mandell
Philip Margolis
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Jonathan & Julia Milne
Glenn C. Muhr
Kristie Nelson
Mary Kaye O'Neill
John & Lani Ochs
David & Terri Pagni
Wayne Persons
V. Sidney Raines
David G. Rich
Kevin Roache
Janet Rollin
Jared Rossman
Dorinna Ruh
Howard C. Russell
Henry Lyman & Noele Sandoz
Pierre F. Schlemel
Paul & Linda Schutt
Susan Selbin
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Helen Shoup
Charles Simenstad
Susan Sirkus
Jeffrey A. Soots
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Sandy Steers
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Larry & Ann Sullivan
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Tracy C. Thompson
John & Estelle Ursu
Mark Wahl
Ric Watkins
Richard & Kathleen Westcott
Winston Wheeler
Larry & Mary White
William Whitley
Claudia Whitnah
Karen Wilkinson
Page & Gail Williamson
Donald & Eleanor Wolf
James A. Wood
Jim Wright
Bryan L. Wyberg
Claire Zugmeyer

Other Supporters

Josephine Nixon

Wings of LightHawk

These monthly donors provide reliable year-round support that keeps us soaring higher.

Patti Carter
Thomas R. Crum
Bob & Rose Francella
Hal & Cat Hayden
Christina Heinle
Andy Lee
Bev and Kathleen Pigeon
Emilie Ryan & Clayton Fraser
Brian Smith
Christine Steele
Lida Teneva
Walter Tingle
Terri Watson & Kimi Harrison
William Whitley

Bequests

Catherine H. "Cat" Anderson
(1923-2016)

**Our donors average 12 years
of support to LightHawk,
and a surprising number
have given for 20, 30 years
or more!**

Robert & Sharon Handelsman
Joyce Harris
Richard Harris
Judith Herzfeld
Kirsten R. Holmquist
Phillip Huffman

Tribute Gifts

- Scott Allen Barber In Honor Of Polly Ross
- Martin and MaryAnn Baumrind In Honor Of Will Worthington
- Laura and Arch Brown In Honor Of Montezuma Land Conservancy
- Jennifer Beadles In Honor Of David and Amy Carson
- Patti and Jim Carter In Honor Of Ali and AJ Carter
- Allan Code In Honor Of Gerry Whitley
- John Darby In Honor Of Josh Marvil
- Nancy Debevoise In Honor of Tom Bell
- John A. Feagin In Honor Of Dr. Richard Sugden
- Kelly and Michael Gottlieb In Honor Of Enid and Louis Rogow
- Kelly and Michael Gottlieb In Honor Of Wilma and Charles Mooney
- Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel In Honor of Chuck Schroll
- Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel In Honor Of Jane Nicolai
- Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel In Honor Of Gisele & Leila Knaebel
- Sergio Knaebel and Aneema Van Groenou In Honor Of Steve Knaebel
- Lisa Kunkel and Marcelo Asprilla In Honor Of David Kunkel
- Jonathan Milne In Honor Of All LightHawk Pilots
- Kristie Nelson In Honor Of Geoff Pope
- John and Pamela Olivas In Honor Of New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
- Robert and Janet Quinn In Honor Of Bob Keller
- Helen Shoup In Honor Of Jen Peil
- Brian Smith In Honor of Thomas & Ferne Smith
- Lida Teneva In Honor Of Michael Sutton
- James Thompson In Honor Of Steve Knaebel
- Page and Gail Williamson In Honor Of Chris Boyer



I have decided to make a monthly contribution to LightHawk because they provide people with a new way to see our environment, from above. It is a profound, visceral experience flying above ecosystems, and LightHawk gives people a new way to fall in love with wildlife and wild places, a new very effective way to inspire conservation of nature.”

—Lida Teneva, LightHawk Donor

Foundation Support

- AmazonSmile Foundation
- Appleby Foundation
- Arete Foundation
- Beagle Charitable Foundation
- Benedict Family Foundation
- Bright Futures Philanthropic Fund
- Buehler Aviation Research Foundation, Inc.
- Cedar Tree Foundation
- EarthShare
- Eucalyptus Foundation
- Evolve Foundation
- Foundation Beyond Belief
- John and Elaine French Family Foundation
- EarthShare
- Hamill Family Foundation
- Kingfisher Fund
- Marisla Foundation
- Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
- Norcross Wildlife Foundation
- P.E.A.C.E. Awareness Foundation
- Resources Legacy Fund
- Smart Family Foundation
- The Allan Silverstein Family Foundation
- The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
- The Campbell Foundation
- The Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation
- The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- The Eucalyptus Foundation
- The Fanwood Foundation
- The GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program
- The Good Works Foundation
- The Wildlife Forever Fund
- Tinker Foundation
- WELWE Foundation
- Western Resource Advocates
- William B. Wiener, Jr. Foundation
- William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation
- William Penn Foundation
- Wyncote Foundation Northwest

Corporate Support

- Anonymous
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
- Alaska Airlines
- American Bonanza Society
- Baja Bush Pilots
- B-Kool Portable Cooling Systems
- Conklin & de Decker Associates, Inc.
- ForeFlight
- Google, Inc.
- Helicopter Association International
- King Air Magazine
- National Association of Flight Instructors
- National Business Aviation Association
- Pilatus Owners and Pilots Association
- Salesforce Foundation
- Spitfire Strategies
- Steve Knaebel Executive Coaching
- Trade-A-Plane

Financially-Supportive Partners

THESE CONSERVATION PARTNERS SUPPORT OUR MISSION FINANCIALLY

- Colo. Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Colorado Open Lands
- Columbia Land Conservancy
- Evansville Zoological Society
- Instituto de Ecología - UNAM
- J Henry Fair, Photographer
- Sonoran Institute
- The Nature Conservancy - Wisconsin

Our Legacy Society

FUTURE GIFTS TO LEAVE OUR WORLD A BETTER PLACE

LightHawk's Legacy Society honors those who have decided to make the world a better place through a future gift to LightHawk in their will or by other means.

- Greg Bedinger & Jan Mulder
- Chris Boyer
- Robert & Susan Crenshaw
- C. Rudy & Grace Engholm
- Bob Francella
- Jeff Hamilton
- James & Louise Noyes
- Ginny Paul
- Lisa & Steve Robertson
- Polly Ross
- Beverly Steveson
- Terri Watson
- Brian Williams

** Setting up a future gift is easier than you might think. Gifts made through wills, life insurance, real estate, bank accounts, personal property, appreciated securities or retirement plans are just a few examples. Many friends choose to make annual and planned gifts from Donor Advised Funds. To learn more, or if you would like to add your name to this list, please visit lighthawk.org/legacy.*

Board & Staff Who Served in 2016

BOARD

Barry Baker, Ph.D, Tuck Colby,
Russ Cowart, Norissa Giangola,
Maria Jose Gonzalez, Aaron Hirsh, Ph.D,
Hal Hayden, Steve Knaebel,
David Kunkel, Josh Marvil,
Bud Sittig, Phil Walker,
Stephanie Wells, Will Worthington

STAFF

Greg Bedinger, Ryan Boggs, Patti Carter,
Bob Francella, Michael Kontos,
Erin Lord, Jonathan Milne, Lee Pagni,
Bev Gabe Pigeon, Emilie Ryan,
Tara Rowe, Brian Smith,
Christine Steele, Yendra Tencza,
Armando Ubeda, Terri Watson

Our Conservation Partners

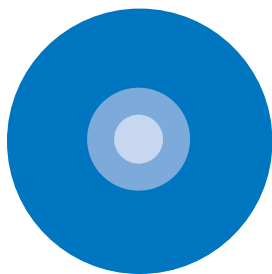
- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- Audubon Pennsylvania
- Audubon's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary
- Barbary Coast Productions
- Black Canyon Regional Land Trust
- Carlton Ward Photography
- Central Colorado Conservancy
- Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, B.C.
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Choptank Riverkeeper
- Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection
- Coalition for the Deschutes
- Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Colorado Open Lands
- Columbia Land Conservancy
- Columbia Land Trust
- Columbia Riverkeeper
- Community Risk Network
- Conservancy of Southwest Florida
- Conservation Law Foundation
- Conservation Law Foundation - Maine
- Conservation Northwest
- Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Crested Butte Land Trust
- Delaware Riverkeeper Network
- Everglades Foundation
- Forterra
- FracTracker
- Friends of Great Salt Lake
- Friends of the Bitterroot
- Friends of the Clearwater
- Friends of the Yampa
- Grand Canyon Trust
- Greater Farallones Association
- Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
- Greater Hells Canyon Council
- Greater Hells Canyon Council
- Heart of the Rockies Initiative
- Humboldt State University
- Instituto de Ecología
- Interior Alaska Land Trust
- International League of Conservation Photographers
- J Henry Fair, Photographer
- James Hawkings, Biologist
- Jessica Johnston, Environmental Scientist
- Lenz Photography
- Leslie Lagier, Filmmaker
- Los Padres ForestWatch
- Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
- Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust
- Maine Lakes Society
- Medomak Valley Land Trust
- Mexican Fund for the Conservation of Nature (FMCN)
- Mexican Wolf Species Survival Plan
- Mono Lake Committee
- Montana Association of Land Trusts
- Montana Wilderness Association
- Montezuma Land Conservancy
- National Park Service, Chaco Cultural National Historical Park
- Natural Resources Council of Maine
- New England Forestry Foundation
- New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
- NMFS Protected Resources Division
- North American Land Trust
- Northcoast Environmental Center
- Oakland Zoo
- Ocean Defenders Alliance
- Oceana
- OCEARCH
- Open Space Institute
- Orange County Coastkeeper
- Orange County Land Trust
- Oregon Zoo
- Palouse Land Trust
- Pinnacles National Park
- Point Blue Conservation Science
- Pronatura Noroeste
- Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
- Resource Media
- Rig to Flip
- Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust
- San Francisco Baykeeper
- Santa Barbara Zoo
- Save The Bay
- Sempervirens Fund
- Sierra Club
- Skagit Watershed Council
- Sonoran Institute
- Squam Lakes Association
- SRAP (Socially Responsible Agricultural Project)
- Strategic Earth Consulting
- Suncoast Waterkeeper
- Sustainable Fisheries Partnership
- Taos Land Trust
- Teton Raptor Center
- The Bay Foundation
- The Ground Truth Project
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Nature Conservancy - California
- The Nature Conservancy - Colorado
- The Nature Conservancy - Maine
- The Nature Conservancy - New Jersey
- The Nature Conservancy - New York
- The Nature Conservancy - Pennsylvania
- The Nature Conservancy - Vermont
- The Nature Conservancy - Washington
- The Nature Conservancy - Wisconsin
- The Wetlands Conservancy
- The Wilderness Society
- The Wildlands Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
- University of New Hampshire, Department of Natural Resources and the Environment
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
- Urban Design Lab, Earth Institute at Columbia University
- USDA Forest Service
- Weanting Heritage Land Trust, Inc.
- Western Rivers Conservancy
- Wild Lens, Inc
- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Will Goldenberg, Cinematographer
- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust
- Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative US



Grand Teton National Park where we fly to protect wildlife migration corridors around the park. Photo: LightHawk VP Cory West.

Finances

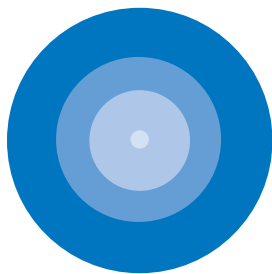
One of LightHawk's fundamental principles is that every expense is evaluated and must help us achieve our mission. Less than one-fourth of our expenses are used to build our core through administration, fundraising and communications. That core is fundamental to the success of our conservation program.



Uses of Funds

- **Program — 77%**
- **Fundraising & Donor Communication — 13%**
- **General & Administrative — 10%**

Most of our funding comes from the generosity of individual donors, and one-third of all our support is a result of our volunteer pilots donating their plane, fuel and time. Foundations provided about one-fifth of our support.



Sources of Funds

- **Individual Donors — 46%**
- **Donated Flights & Services — 33%**
- **Foundation & Partner Grants — 17%**
- **Other — 4%**

Activities

* Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2017



We received a 4-star charity rating for 2015, our second in a row. Just 26% of charities in America have earned this rating twice in a row, according to Charity Navigator.

During 2016, we changed our fiscal year to better align with our operational calendar. These financials reflect the new fiscal year dates of April 1, 2016 thru March 31, 2017.

Our complete set of audited financial statements, related notes and IRS form 990 are available on our website at www.lighthawk.org/who-we-are/financials

Support and Revenue

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Individual Contributions | \$774,974 |
| Organizational Contributions | \$291,542 |
| Donated Services and Materials | \$552,140 |
| Other Revenue, Interest and Dividends | \$8,800 |
| Gain on Sale of Assets | \$55,116 |
| Realized & Unrealized Gain on Investments | \$99,740 |
| Total Support and Revenue | \$1,782,312 |

Expenses

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Program | \$894,021 |
| Program - Volunteer Pilot Donated Flights | \$418,945 |
| Fundraising and Donor Communications | \$217,772 |
| General and Administration | \$168,889 |
| Total Expenses | \$1,699,626 |

Change in Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Net Assets, beginning of year | \$1,908,529 |
| Net Assets, end of year | \$1,991,215 |

Financial Position

* Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2017

Assets

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | \$1,005,333 |
| Unconditional Promises to Give | \$114,165 |
| Prepaid Expenses | \$31,861 |
| Investments | \$893,642 |
| Property and Equipment | \$4,343 |
| Total Assets | \$2,049,344 |

Liabilities

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Accounts Payable | \$33,129 |
| Long Term Debt | \$25,000 |
| Total Liabilities | \$58,129 |

Net Assets

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$900,053 |
| Temporarily Restricted | \$557,042 |
| Permanently Restricted | \$534,120 |
| Total Net Assets | \$1,991,215 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | \$2,049,344 |

Magic From the Air



Terri Watson

Chief Executive Officer

Magic is the best word to describe it.

When I was a kid, I loved flying in the “puddle jumper” between our home in Wyoming and Denver.

From that plane, I vividly remember the sensation of watching the place I love so much come into full focus. From the geology to hydrology — It gave a 6-year-old me an intuitive and amazingly accurate understanding of how things fit in the big picture. It was — and still is — just plain magic.

LightHawk is unique. We provide an immersive and irreplaceable education borne of aerial experience. We give each passenger the same quality of illumination I had high over rural Wyoming, to create that same kind of magic.

It’s been the effort of this report to relay just how we do this. It ain’t easy; it takes a lot of visioning, planning and persistence. But more importantly, it takes you.

Our community of volunteer pilots, foundations, advocates, partners and donors fuels the powerful magic of every conservation flight.

As an important member of LightHawk’s team, here’s how you can help. Please share this report with those who might find value in our work — your friends and family, pilots you know and your favorite conservation group.

Consider making a monthly or one-time gift. Several of our volunteer pilots who donate both flights and funds have said it best, ‘When you donate to LightHawk, you’re investing in a conservation portfolio of hundreds of partners and projects at once.’

Thank you for all that you do to make us soar. We are honored to turn your investments into results. Together, we will continue creating magic.

Fair winds and blue skies.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terri Watson". The script is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.



*This report is made
from 100% post
consumer waste.*

The headwaters of Washington's Methow River, shown here, are currently threatened by a large-scale, open-pit copper mine. LightHawk is working with The Methow Headwaters Campaign to ensure this area is permanently protected from industrial-scale mining. Photo: Benjamin Drummond / Methow Headwaters Campaign / LightHawk

Mail Service: PO Box 2710, Telluride, CO 81435

LightHawk is headquartered in beautiful Fort Collins, Colorado.

Questions? Want more copies of this report? Email us at info@lighthawk.org