



2009-2010

THE VIEW FROM ABOVE

A powerful perspective to inspire lasting stewardship





Local and international conservation groups worked together to establish Espiritu Santo Archipelago National Park in Baja California, Mexico.



Everything We Hold Dear

Following his historic Christmas Eve 1968 flight to the moon, astronaut Frank Borman spoke of "the most awe-inspiring moment of the flight ... coming over the lunar horizon was the earth... and everything that we held dear was back there."

I have been flying airplanes now for 23 years, and it is a rare flight where I fail to notice that everything I hold dear is passing beneath my wings. I'm often moved by what I see – both good and bad. A magical alchemy happens when you experience nature from above – not the 35,000 foot airliner view – but close enough to see both the big-picture interconnectedness of the landscape, and the rich details of forests, rivers and coastlines.

Every species, including us, lives among those "rich details." Yet, while our civilization runs up a noisy tab, the price many species pay as they quietly lose their homes goes unnoticed. LightHawk flights illuminate that running tab. Although hard to see from the ground, the impact of widespread deforestation, orange-colored runoff from mine tailings, and dredged estuaries are dramatic from the air.

LightHawk's elite volunteer pilots donate the flights, and our dedicated staff ensures that the passengers are people with the power to protect what we hold most dear. These flights equip caring people with the firsthand aerial insights, images and data they need to turn their resolve into fierce protection for, and peaceful coexistence with, wild nature.

For many people, nature is delivered to them by the Internet, TV and Google Earth. Yet we know from experience that when a LightHawk flight connects the view from above with hearts and minds, it transcends personal differences, builds commitment, and inspires genuine stewardship of our planet Earth. We invite you to join us in this important quest.

Rudy

C. Rudy Engholm
Executive Director

Gulf Restoration from 1,000' Up:

Before the BP oil rig explosion focused national attention on the Gulf States, LightHawk flights were empowering local restoration efforts. Along the Texas and Louisiana coast in 2009 and 2010, flights were helping slow the continuing loss of wetlands and land. In 2010, as oil lapped the shores of Louisiana's barrier islands, LightHawk provided scientists with real-time information to fight the encroaching menace. See our June 2010 WayPoint for more of the story at www.lighthawk.org



2010 HIGHLIGHTS



Protecting the Great Bear Rainforest:

LightHawk provided the aerial perspective to world-class conservation photographers to illuminate the controversy of a proposed 2,000 mile twin oil pipeline planned through British Columbia's pristine Great Bear Rainforest. If allowed to proceed, 220 large oil tankers each year could thread their way through the area's narrow fjords to provide overseas access to Canadian oil. Photographs from LightHawk flights were a key element in building regional support for preserving the Great Bear Rainforest and setting the stage to sway a national decision to reject the oil pipeline plan. Learn more about the Great Bear Rainforest at www.lighthawk.org

This publication serves as LightHawk's 2009 annual report and provides a highlight of our 2010 activities.

Top: Restore America's Estuaries & Daniel Beltrá Bottom: Ian McAllister & Cristina Mittermeier

OUR MISSION pro

When mountaintop removal coal mining threatened the Canadian portion of the Flathead River Valley in British Columbia, LightHawk provided the aerial perspective as part of an intense media and photography blitz. As a result, mining has been banned in the river valley that runs from BC into Montana.

tection

To champion environmental protection through the unique perspective of flight.



📷 Craig Downer

Volunteer Pilot Shane Gorman fuels his Citabria.



📷 Christian Ziegler/LCP/Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute with aerial support from LightHawk

Coiba Island, Panama



📷 April Noss

Our motivation.



📷 Julie Larsen Maher ©WCS

American flamingo (*Phoenicopterus Ruber*)



AREAS OF OPERATION



Loaner wings for rare fledglings:

Pilots flew rare orange-breasted falcons from the world's only successful breeding program in Wyoming to Belize to be effectively introduced into the wild. These birds, which are estimated to number less than 40 pairs in Belize and Guatemala, were flown to their new home in the Maya Mountains of Belize.



Fracking trickle-down: Flights illuminated the industrial scars left by water-intensive hydrofracking gas extraction over the Marcellus Shale. LightHawk missions helped show that the impact this controversial technology can have on freshwater rivers, their headwaters and forests, and the estuaries where they empty extends far beyond the 9000 foot channel driven into the earth.



Powerful images save a remote wilderness:

LightHawk flight missions over the Flathead River Valley in southern Canada helped iLCP photographers capture images of this wildland that forms the northern boundary of Glacier National Park on the U.S.-Canadian border. These iconic images ultimately led the province of British Columbia to ban mining and energy extraction development protecting the Flathead for future generations.



Undersea Marine Parks: Flights over California waters helped stakeholders, scientists, and policymakers transform static lines on a map into near shore marine sanctuaries. Since 2006, flight has been instrumental in building public support to create Marine Protected Areas off California.

witness the bea

One of the best ways to witness the beauty and grandeur of wild places is by looking out the window of a small plane. The view from above erases property lines and municipal boundaries and shows how wildlands are vulnerable to fragmentation and degradation.



© Cristina Mittermeier



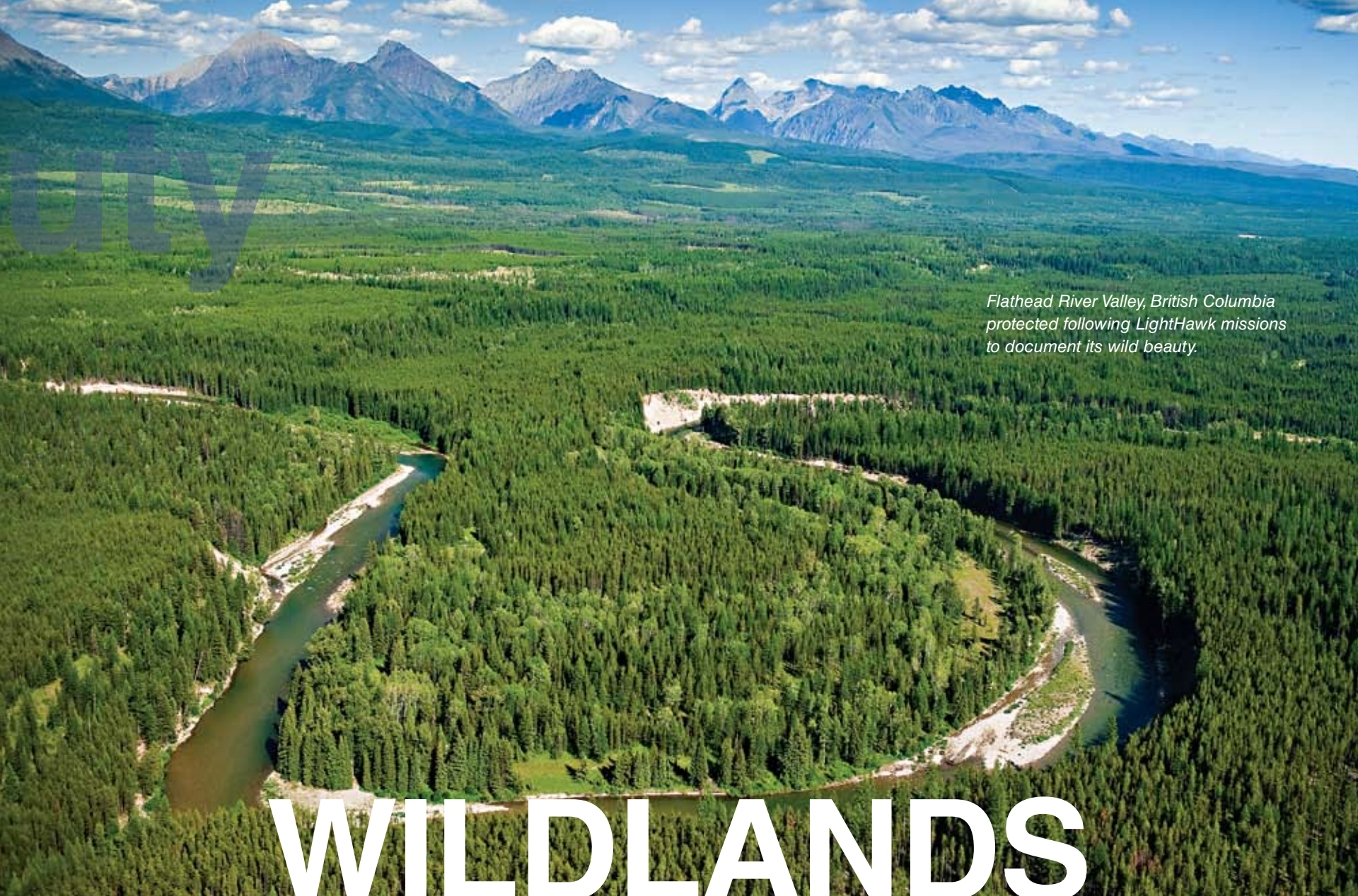
© Rudy Engholm

Clear-cut in the Pacific Northwest

The Flathead River Valley stands alone as the last undeveloped lowland valley in southeastern British Columbia. When it was eyed for mining, energy exploration and other industrialization, LightHawk flights provided a “wide-angle lens” to the International League of Conservation Photographers’ (iLCP) media blitz to publicize these threats. Shortly after that effort, Canada joined Montana in agreeing to protect the valley from mining, oil and gas development, and coalbed gas extraction.

In the East, LightHawk missions have bolstered efforts to save important pieces of the Northern Temperate Forest, considered by many to be America’s first wilderness. Today it retains enormous diversity and is replete with extensive designated wilderness areas, alpine environments, boreal wetlands and sustainable populations of black bear, moose, bobcat, fisher and hundreds of forest-dependant bird species. This swath of wildlands is accessible to over 75 million people within a day’s drive.

Donated flights also empowered authorities to monitor illegal land clearing in places like Panama’s Darien National Park and the aerial perspective helped determine the effectiveness of fire prevention in wildfire prone areas of California and Oregon. Flights showed those overseeing our nation’s forests the on-the-ground reality and consequences of their management decisions. Partnered once again with the renowned iLCP, LightHawk flew along the US/Mexico border from California to Texas to help illuminate the environmental consequences from the construction and presence of the border wall.



*Flathead River Valley, British Columbia
protected following LightHawk missions
to document its wild beauty.*

WILDLANDS

“When you trip the shutter and capture that image, there’s a feeling that if people see these images, they’re going to want to do the right thing.”

- Garth Lenz, International League of Conservation Photographers

WILDLIFE

“ The view from the air gives the big picture of the barriers and bottlenecks to wildlife movement. ”

- John Dillon, Vermont Public Radio, after a LightHawk flight.

*Flights help document the pronghorn antelope (*Antilocapra americana*) migration, the longest land migration of any mammal in the lower 48.*



LightHawk's efforts to save wildlands inevitably benefits wildlife; migrating birds would suffer if their spring feeding grounds were damaged and larger roaming animals rely on oftentimes-narrow wildlife corridors for safe passage. And for some creatures, LightHawk takes a more hands-on approach.

Carrying passengers more wild than usual, LightHawk flew river otters from the Pacific Northwest to New Mexico and aplomado falcons from Boise, Idaho to release locations in southern New Mexico and West Texas. Donated flights also transported endangered Mexican wolves within the Species Survival Program to new homes days before Christmas.

Along Florida's Gulf Coast, monthly LightHawk missions with Mote Marine Laboratory allow researchers to better understand the movements and habitat needs of sharks and rays and have revealed previously unknown, unique congregations of species. Flights helped scientists better understand and protect common loons in the northeastern US, great egrets in the harbors of New York City, American flamingoes in Mexico and the Caribbean and a tiny migratory water bird, the eared grebe, in its fall staging grounds just outside Yosemite National Park.

With longtime partner, Selkirk Conservation Alliance, LightHawk missions continue to monitor Idaho's mountain caribou populations and identify illegal snowmobile incursions in caribou habitat. A suite of flights helped document the Path of the Pronghorn in Wyoming, the longest land mammal migration in the lower 48. Barriers to the pronghorn migration, including industrial-scale energy development, busy highways and barbed-wire fences, are readily apparent from the air.



Wildlife West Nature Park

Loading wolves into a Pilatus PC-12.



Jeff Hamilton

Young aplomado falcons (*Falcon femoralis*) flown by fast single-engine TBM turboprop to new homes.

understand & protect



Tom McMurray/Marine Ventures Foundation
with aerial support from LightHawk

The Colorado River Delta.



Mark Harrison

Freshwater rivers, lakes and wetlands refresh, nurture and sustain life. They can also alert us to harmful activities taking place upstream, over the hill or far below Earth's surface. LightHawk missions empower conservation partners to address issues at the water's edge and activities elsewhere that impact our precious freshwater resources.

One mission in Belize followed the three key watersheds within the Maya Mountain Marine Corridor from source to sea to illuminate how protecting freshwater protects marine life downstream. Following the course of the Golden Stream, Deep River, and Rio Grande from above helps monitor and manage land uses such as cattle ranching, citrus plantations and forestry. When these activities are located near freshwater, agricultural runoff can flow into the Port of Honduras Marine Reserve and eventually reach and harm the coral communities of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef.

In Wyoming and Idaho, LightHawk partners like Trout Unlimited and Marine Ventures Foundation are working on river restoration to improve habitat for native fish. Photos from a mission over the Greybull and Wood Rivers are being used to improve planning efforts and prioritize areas for restoration, with an emphasis on habitat for the Yellowstone cutthroat trout. And LightHawk flights from the headwaters of the great rivers of the East - the Delaware, Potomac, Hudson, Penobscot, Connecticut and Susquehanna - to the estuaries where they empty, help monitor and protect water quality that affects not only wildlife, but millions of people. LightHawk also helped author Jonathan Waterman and photographer Pete McBride to illustrate the numerous dams, reservoirs, irrigation ditches and other diversions to the Colorado River that result in a parched riverbed by the time it reaches the sea. These images of the iconic Colorado appear in McBride's book, *The Colorado River: Flowing Through Conflict*.

refresh, nurture

RIVERS, LAKES & WETLANDS



Phosphorus and sediment-heavy runoff pours into Lake Champlain from Vermont. This type of runoff can spur algae blooms, degrade drinking water, and compromise native freshwater plants and wildlife health.

& sustain

OCEANS, REEFS & COASTLINES

A Marine Protected Area off California's North Central coast.

living, b

Flying just offshore in a small plane brings coastal areas into focus and illuminates the interplay between what happens on land and how that affects oceans, reefs and coastlines. Without the aerial perspective, the ocean might appear limitless and unaffected by the activities of human beings.

Since 2006, LightHawk has logged close to 300 flight hours to help establish Marine Protected Areas in California. Photography flights captured iconic images of coastal landmarks and soon-to-be protected coastal waters. Stakeholders and decision-makers saw static lines on a map become living, blue expanses of ocean beneath them. Scientific survey flights provided invaluable data and established credibility in the effort. And media flights educated a wider audience about these proposed marine sanctuaries. In this high-profile process, LightHawk flights helped foster collaboration and build public support from 1,000 feet above the sea.

On the East Coast, LightHawk is active above the bays, craggy coastlines and estuaries of the northern Atlantic from Maine to Maryland. Dedicated volunteer pilots donate their time and skills to protect something small and humble, yet fundamental to clean water, healthy fish and shellfish stocks: eelgrass. Easily overlooked, until the damage of its absence is felt, eelgrass plays a keystone role in healthy marine ecosystems and protecting delicate shorelines. Flights in Florida and Central America also allow scientists to monitor and protect declining mangrove forests. Like eelgrass, mangrove is essential to its ecosystem. It cleans the water, supports organisms in its roots, provides a safe nursery for fish, crustaceans and shellfish, and its extensive root systems prevent coastal erosion and protect people during hurricanes. In Belize, Costa Rica, México, Nicaragua and Panama, LightHawk flight missions help monitor mangrove forests which are threatened by uncontrolled development.



Exploring a mangrove shoreline of South Water Caye, Belize.

© 2010 © Tony Rathonyrath.com



Dredging machinery in Baja California.

© Ralph Lee Hopkins

blue expanses



© Rob Palmer/The Peregrine Fund

Bill Heinrich releases a peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus) on the Texas coast.

A CONVERSATION WITH BILL HEINRICH AND MARTA CURTI, Species Restoration Manager and Biologist for The Peregrine Fund.

What do LightHawk donated flights do for The Peregrine Fund?

“Over the past few years, we have conducted several flights per season in Central America, and have located new areas that contain orange-breasted falcon pairs. In addition, this year, LightHawk helped us transport five captive-bred orange-breasted falcons from Wyoming to the release site in Belize. The transfer of the falcons at no cost to The Peregrine Fund helped to make this year’s release a reality.”

How would your efforts be different if LightHawk were not supporting your conservation work?

“The flights and the transfer of birds between countries are both very costly endeavors. Without the assistance of LightHawk, it is quite possible that some of our flights would have not been carried out, and we would not have had the opportunity to discover new nesting pairs in the region, or these discoveries would have taken us much longer to achieve. Because LightHawk has flown the aplomado falcons to New Mexico and West Texas in a fast and efficient manner the last two years, the birds arrived in great condition. Previously, they suffered from stress and often had broken feathers after the 48-hour drive.”

How has working with LightHawk changed the way you approach your conservation activities?

“Being able to rely on the generous donations from LightHawk and their pilots, we are able to approach many of our conservation activities head on that otherwise might not be possible. We are able to carry on our aplomado falcon releases more efficiently by being able to transport large numbers of young falcons to their release sites in a minimum amount of time.”

How would you characterize LightHawk’s contribution to The Peregrine Fund?

“There are many different ways to donate to an organization and to support its work. Through in-kind donations of providing flight time, whether to conduct aerial searches for new potential nesting sites, or to transport captive-bred birds to their new home in the wild, LightHawk contributes directly to our conservation efforts in a hands-on, practical way.”

supporting something that m

DONOR



Mary Ellen Bates of Longmont, Colorado has made LightHawk part of her charitable giving for the past decade.

MARY ELLEN BATES

How did you find out about LightHawk and why did you choose to support it?

“I learned about LightHawk while visiting friends in Wyoming after a backpacking trip in the Wind Rivers... I was immediately hooked. LightHawk is driven by the many volunteer pilots who are so generous with their time and resources. It's a lean organization and it does things that have a tangible impact on policy- and decision-makers. I really appreciate knowing that I'm supporting something that makes a difference.”

Why do you think LightHawk makes such a difference to conservation and environmental protection efforts?

“LightHawk makes conservation and environmental protection tangible, instead of abstract principles. You can talk about the damage a factory or a logging operation has on an area, but it's entirely different to get people up in the air to both literally and figuratively get a high-level perspective. Letting them see that impact counteracts 1,000 pages of policy talk or 50 Astroturf campaigns.”

VOLUNTEER PILOT

WILL WORTHINGTON

LightHawk Volunteer Pilot and Crew Chief of LightHawk's Cessna 206

A West Point graduate, Will spent 13 years as an officer with the Army Corps of Engineers with many challenging assignments all over the world, including 2 years in Vietnam. He supervised the design of a \$4.5 billion water project for the Bureau of Reclamation. He has 4500 hours as pilot in command and holds commercial pilot and flight instructor certificates. He is also a registered professional engineer in Arizona and California.

Why do you donate flights to LightHawk?

“My professional career as a civil engineer has given me an unusual opportunity to study the environment and to realize the impacts of projects. In so many instances there are actions taken without a good appreciation of the impacts by the decision makers. LightHawk affords me the opportunity to help stakeholders see a conservation issue and get a better understanding of the consequences of their decision. I also have a passion for flying and enjoy using my skills for a worthy purpose, while sharing the joy of flight with others.”

Why do you think it's important to utilize flight for conservation?

“In many cases there is simply, absolutely no other way to get a good perspective on an issue. The international border with México is a case in point: you can't drive or realistically hike to some of those areas . . . not only due to the land use restrictions and remoteness, but due to personal security and safety as well. In many cases the LightHawk flight gives the stakeholders a unique opportunity to discuss the issue among themselves on the intercom as we look at the landscape, and to ask for another pass over a feature so they can see it and discuss it further. It is not unusual for a passenger to exclaim, 'I had no idea . . . until this flight.' ”



makes a difference



Julie Larsen Maher/WCS with aerial support from LightHawk

PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

In 2009, synchronized American flamingo survey flights occurred in the Bahamas, México and the Turks and Caicos Islands. LightHawk flights helped estimate species population size in most of the flamingo's Caribbean haunts; something that has never been done. Getting a precise population estimate was urgently needed to understand the extent and pattern of movements among sites and habitat selection criteria. This information is critical to successful strategies to protect the American flamingo and their habitats.

Partners Aloft in 2009

Mesoamerica Region

Belize

Ambergris Caye Citizens for Sustainable Development
Belize Audubon Society
Belize Forest Department
Belize Foundation for Research and Environmental Education
Belize Zoo
Friends for Conservation and Development
Hol Chan Marine Reserve
Programme for Belize
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
The Peregrine Fund
Toledo Healthy Forest Initiative
U.S. Agency for International Development
University of Belize
University of Central Florida
World Wildlife Fund
Ya'axché Conservation Trust

Costa Rica

Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza
Instituto Nectandra
New Mexico State University
Ministerio de Ambiente, Energía y Telecomunicaciones
Panthera
Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservación
Unidad de Control y Protección de Costa Rica
University for International Cooperation
University of Vermont
World Wildlife Fund

Guatemala

Asociación Balam
Asociación de Comunidades Forestales de Petén
Centro de Acción Legal Ambiental y Social de Guatemala
Centro de Estudios Conservacionistas de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala
Centro de Monitoreo y Evaluación del Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas
Concesionarios Este Reserva Biosfera Maya
Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Guatemala
Cooperativa Carmelita
Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza

Instituto Nacional de Bosques
Parque Nacional Tikal
Parque Nacional Yaxha
Policía Nacional de Guatemala
Sitio de Conservación la Amistad
The Nature Conservancy
Wildlife Conservation Society

Honduras

Bay Islands Conservation Association
Bay Islands Foundation
Iguana Station
Proyecto Corazon - SERNA
The Nature Conservancy
Wildlife Conservation Society

México

Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste
Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas
Duke University
Instituto Nacional de Ecología
International League of Conservation Photographers
Niños y Crias
Platte River Whooping Crane Maintenance Trust
Pronatura Sur
Tierra Nativa A.C.
Universidad Juárez Autónoma de Tabasco
World Wildlife Fund

Nicaragua

Fondo Natura
Fundación Amigos del Río San Juan
Ministerio del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
The Nature Conservancy

Panama

Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente
Sitio de Conservación la Amistad
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
The Nature Conservancy
Universidad de Puerto Rico
University of Florida
University of Nottingham
USAID

Eastern Region

Adirondack Council
Assateague Coastal Trust
Blue Hill Heritage Trust
Catskill Mountainkeeper
Center for Biological Diversity
Choptank Riverkeeper
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana
Columbia Land Conservancy
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability
Environmental Advocates of New York
Foundation for Deep Ecology
Galveston Bay Foundation
Galveston Baykeeper
International Wow Company
J Henry Fair, Photographer
Maine Audubon
Mexican Wolf Species Survival Plan
Monadnock Conservancy
Mote Marine Laboratory
Narragansett Bay Research Reserve
National Aquarium of Baltimore
National Zoological Park
New Jersey Audubon
New York City Audubon
Northeast Wilderness Trust
Open Space Institute
Peconic BayKeeper
Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
Riverkeeper
Save The Bay
Sierra Club
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce
Stewards of the Lower Susquehanna
The Nature Conservancy
Urban Design Lab, Earth Institute at Columbia University
Vermont Natural Resources Council
Waterkeeper Alliance

Emerging Regions

Bahamas National Trust
Bowling Green State University

Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan
Illinois Citizens for Clean Air and Water
John Coleman
Northern Illinois University
Sierra Club
Western Organization of Resource Councils
Wildlife Conservation Society
Wood County Ohio Health Department

Pacific Region

Bristlecone Media
Compton Foundation
Conservation Northwest
Coyote Films
De Anza College
Ducks Unlimited
Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch
Environmental Protection Information Center
Facing Climate Change
Friends of the Inyo
Heal the Bay
I-90 Wildlife Bridges Coalition
Interfaze Educational Productions
International League of Conservation Photographers
Karuk Tribe
Kevin Schafer Photography
Kip Evans Photography
Klamath Forest Alliance
Klamath Riverkeeper
Laguna Ocean Foundation
Mono Lake Committee
NarrativeLab Communications
Ocean Conservancy
Orange County Coastkeeper
Oregon Natural Desert Association
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
PC Trask & Associates
People for Puget Sound
Puget Sound Partnership
Resource Media
San Diego Coastkeeper
San Juan Preservation Trust
Santa Monica Baykeeper
Sierra Club

Sierra People's Forest Service
Skagit Conservation Education Alliance
Skagit Land Trust
Sustainable Northwest
The Baum Foundation
The Lands Council
The Nature Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve
Trust for Public Land
Western Rivers Conservancy
Wings Over Watersheds

Rockies Region

Arizona Wilderness Coalition
BBC Radio
Big Hole Watershed Committee
Biodiversity Conservation Alliance
Bitterroot River Protection Association
Boulder-White Clouds Council
Brett Van Ort
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Native Ecosystems
Center for Sonoran Desert Protection
City of Golden
Clark Fork Coalition
Clearwater Collaborative
Colorado Conservation Trust
Colorado Open Lands
Earthjustice
Friends of Sonoran Desert National Monument
Friends of the Great Salt Lake
Gallatin Valley Land Trust
Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy
Henry's Fork Foundation
High Country News
Hooked on the Fly
Idaho Conservation League
International League of Conservation Photographers
Jeff Foott
Joe Riis Photography
Jonathan Waterman
Josh King

Lava Lake Institute for Science and Conservation
Lazar Foundation
Marine Ventures Foundation
Michael Forsberg Photography
Montana Audubon
Montana Land Reliance
National Conservation System Foundation
National Geographic
National Geographic Wild Chronicles
New Mexico Friends of the River Otter
New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
New Mexico Wildlife Federation
Newsweek Magazine
New West Communications
Pete McBride
Red Rock Forests
Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance
Santa Fe Conservation Trust
Save the Poudre Coalition
Secesh Wildlands Coalition
Selkirk Conservation Alliance
Sky Island Alliance
Sonoran Institute
Southwest Land Alliance
Spirit Riders Foundation
Sun Ranch Institute
Sweetwater County, Wyoming
The Nature Conservancy
The Peregrine Fund
The Story Group
The Wilderness Society
Trout Unlimited
University of Wyoming
Upper Green River Valley Coalition
Utah Open Lands
Valley Advocates for Responsible Development
Western Energy Project
Western Resource Advocates
Western Watersheds Project
Wildlife Conservation Society
Winter Wildlands Alliance
World Wildlife Fund
Wyoming Outdoor Council
Wyoming Wilderness Association

2009 SUPPORTERS

With Sincere Appreciation

LightHawk is tremendously grateful to you, our supporters. Your commitment and dedication to our work in 2009 has helped bring an aerial perspective to efforts to conserve land, water and wildlife in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America.

We sincerely thank our wonderful donors for helping us soar in 2009:

Wild Blue Yonder (\$10,000+)

Anonymous (2)
Tuck Colby
Thomas W. Haas
Jeff and Martha Hamilton
David and Gale Kunkel
John and Adrienne Mars
Suzanne Parish (deceased), in
honor of Will Parish*

Hero (\$5,000 – 9,999)

Larry and Nancy Beach
Chris and Rebekah Bunting
Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel
Josh and Becky Marvil
Gil and Marge Ordway

Cloud Nine (\$2,000 – 4,999)

Brent Blue
Allan and Marilyn Brown
Rudy and Grace Engholm
Mark and Willow Follett, in honor
of Steve and Jennine Follett
Theo Gund
Jim and Joan Harkins
Graham Harrison
Kelly Malone
Leslie Knee Pickering
John and Merry Schroeder
Jason Snavlin

Blue Sky (\$1,000 – 1,999)

Mary Ellen Bates, in memory
of Pete and Flo Bates
Reinier and Nancy Beeuwkes
Jon and Karen Engle
Michael and Kelly Gottlieb
Richard and Sandi Hoover
Gregory and Somjit Kunkel
Bruce and Suzanne McGregor
Rees Morrison and Anne Kennedy,
in honor of Rudy Engholm
Bill and Jane Nicolai
Steve and Lisa Robertson
Sam Shine
Ayres and CC Stockly
Diana Tremaine

Sky Chief (\$500 – 999)

Catherine Anderson
Anonymous
Bruce and Betty Bell, in honor
of Jane Nicolai
Jitze and Nancy Couperus
Chris and Bonnie Covington
Robert and Susan Crenshaw
David Eidelman, in honor of
Rudy Engholm
John and Paula Foy
Al and Nancy Jubitz
Bob and Carol Keller
James F. Noss, in honor of
Armando J. Ubeda
William and Julie Parish
William and Deborah Roach

Allan Silverstein
Patricia C. Stein
Peri Taylor
Brian Williams
Eleanor Wootten

High Flier (\$250 – \$499)

Alex Agnew
Greg Bedinger and Jan Mulder
Lyman B. Brainerd
Barbara L. Brown
Elaine B. Charkowski and Edward
M. Oberweiser, in honor of
Hilda Whitehead
Charles R. Conn III and
Beverley Robertson
Sharky Cornell
Robert & Susan Crenshaw
Judith S. Engelberg, in memory
of Susan B. Jordan
Nydia Goode
Michael J. Herz
Robert Martin and Katherine
Gould-Martin
Michael Melford
Steve and Sheryl Phillabaum
Genny Smith

Aviator/Aviatrix (\$100 – \$249)

Sandra Anderson, in honor
of Jane Nicolai
David M. Armstrong
John W. Bacon

Scott Allen Barber, in honor
of Polly Ross
Richard Barr and Betsy Armstrong
Ronald and Jean Bourque
Richard Bowen
Elliot and Arlene Brandwein
Ralph and Betty Britton
Tom and Tamara Bryant
Jere and Abby Burns
Saul Chaikin
Nancy M. Chapman, in honor
of Jane Nicolai
Kent and Kine Dickinson
Robert Dismukes and
Barbara Burian
William Dismukes
Frank Farwell III
Abigail Faulkner
Richard and Louise Fay
Philip Garofalo
Joseph Gerberg
Dick and Meredith Glover
Peter and Joanne Griesinger
Richard Horvitz
Ronald Labrecque
Don and Pam Lichty
Bernice C. Maertz
Michael and Diane McBride, in
honor of Galen and Barbara Rowell
James and Louise Noyes
Steve and Ginny Paul
Robert and Anita Peterson
Benjamin and Penelope Pierce
George and Nancy Purvis
Edward J. Pushich

Bruce Ray
 Tom and Sue Richards
 Shannon Rochelle
 Betty J. Rockwell
 Richard Russell
 Eric Sanford
 Joanne Schuler
 Jennifer Sokolove
 G. Val and Mary Ann Tollefson
 Thomas Tuxill, M.D., in honor
 of John D. Tuxill
 Margot B. Unkel
 Emily Wade
 Winston W. Wheeler
 David Wild
 Barbara J. Wilhite, in memory
 of Donald Wilhite
 Joanna Winship
 John Wylde

Co-Pilot (Under \$100)

Anonymous, in honor of
 Kimberly Day
 Mercedes Agogino
 Martin P. Albert
 Philip Allen, in honor of
 Jane Nicolai
 Ethan D. Alyea, Jr.
 Greta Anderson
 Victor and Janice Anderson
 Jim Astin
 Bonnie Beebe
 John R. Bentley
 George and Anita Berlacher
 Lee James Best Jr.
 Joseph Bower
 Thomas R. Broker and
 Louise T. Chow
 Lincoln Brower
 Eileen Carney
 Leonard and Else Cobb, in
 honor of Jane Nicolai

William and Barbara Coleman
 Thomas Raymond Crum, in
 memory of Esther Dither
 Louise W. Devine
 Mark Drake
 Lee and Phoebe Driscoll
 Glenda Lehman Ervin, in
 honor of Jane Nicolai
 Joan Ewing
 Lindsay Foot
 Aaron Foster
 Alan and Anita Frank
 W. Phelps Freeborn
 Robert French and Dorit Netzer
 Mary Ann Frye
 Ben and Peggy Fujita
 Daniel J. Gare
 Lydia Garvey
 Peter Geiler
 Martin and Patricia Gerrard
 Elaine Goldman
 Patrick Donovan Goldsworthy
 Reg and Sandra Goodwin
 Fay C. Graning
 Thomas Hall
 Robert and Sharon Handelsman
 Jerry Herst and Julie Dorfman
 Milton and Louise Hollander
 Dorit Netzer Horton
 Ted Huston and Rosemary Rader
 Robert and Tina Hyduke
 Richard Jali
 L. Christine Judson
 Patricia M. Kincaid
 H. Robert Krear, in honor of
 Dr. Olaus Murie
 Donald and Barbara Kusler
 Thomas Ledig
 Jacopo Lenzi
 Jason and Linda Lillegraven
 Bob Linck and Leanne
 Klyza Linck

Henry Lyman and Noele Sandoz
 Theodore Lyman
 Joseph Mandell
 Philip Margolis
 Tamara Marks
 Joel Myerson
 John and Lani Ochs
 Geri Oster
 Lee Pagni
 Lavonne M. Painter
 Will and Louise Pape
 Robert Persurance
 Lawrence K. Peterson
 Rici Peterson
 Damon R. Phillips
 V. Sidney Raines
 Pat Redding, in honor of
 Jane Nicolai
 Fred A. Reimers
 Frank Robey
 Dale Rogerson and Sarah Stanley
 Janet Rollin
 Polly Ross
 Helen Rudie
 Chuck and Candace Russell
 Daniel C. Scheall, Sr.
 Pierre Schlemel
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 Henry and Elsie Sorgenfrei
 Gene Steffen
 John and Donna Stone
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 John and Estelle Ursu
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Terri Watson
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 Richard and Kathleen Westcott
 Claudia Whitnah
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 Earl Wood
 James Wood

Conservation Partner Donors

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 Columbia Land Conservancy, Inc.
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** Multi-year pledge commitment*

Support

Jeremy Point, outer Cape Cod, a potential staging ground for endangered roseate terns and their cousins the Common tern.

VOLUNTEER PILOT CORPS



Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)

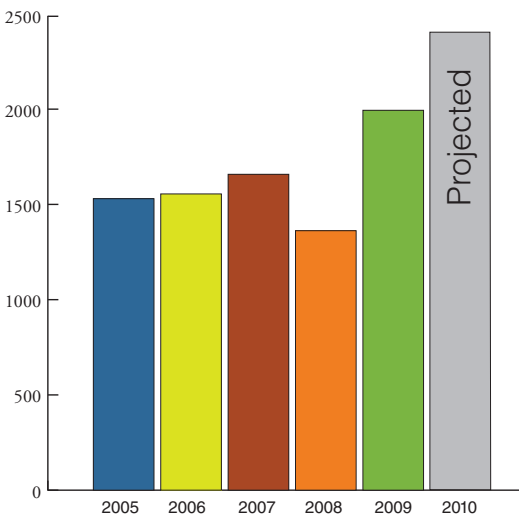
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 Katie Blake with aerial support from LightHawk

✧ Gabrielle Adelman	Key Dismukes	Kemp Hiatt	✧ Dan Meyer	Scott Ryan
Ken Adelman	Tom Dittmar	✧ Jerry Hoogerwerf	Andy Moffat	Elmer Schettler
✧ Eric Anderson	David Downey	✧ Richard Hoover	Doug Monger	✧ Merry Schroeder
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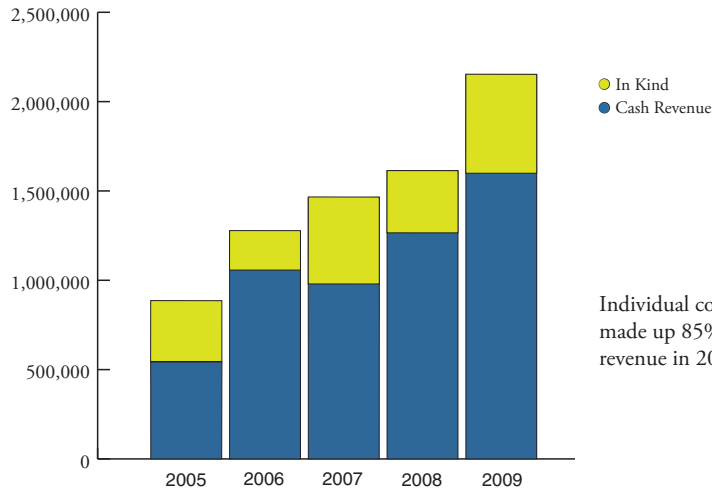
PASSENGER HOURS



During 2009, LightHawk flew almost 2,000 passenger hours in support of our conservation partners. The direct economic value of these donated flights was over \$570,000.

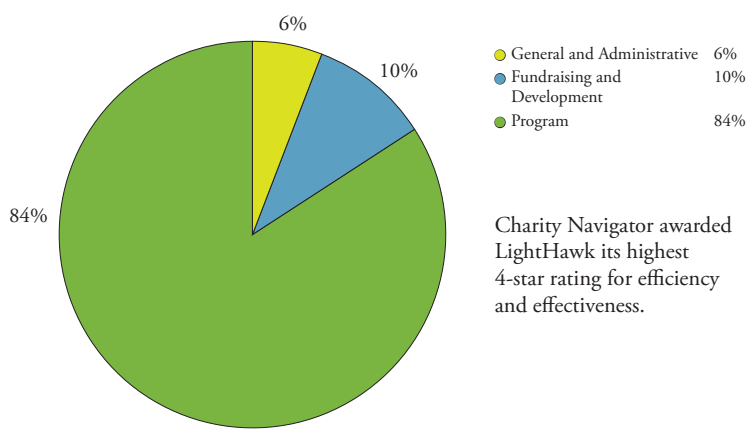
Number of passengers x mission flight hours.

REVENUE GROWTH



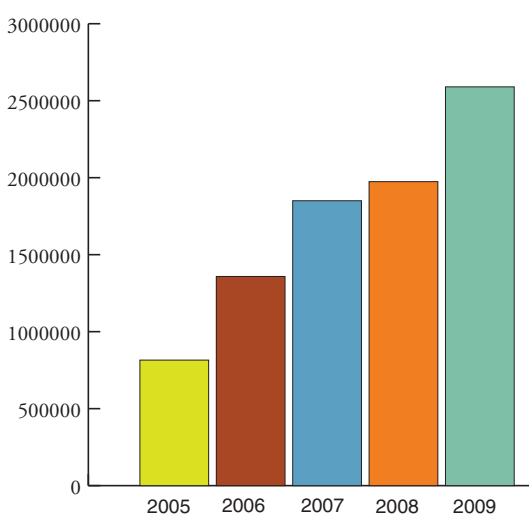
Individual contributions made up 85% of our total revenue in 2009.

PROGRAMMATIC EFFICIENCY



Charity Navigator awarded LightHawk its highest 4-star rating for efficiency and effectiveness.

NET ASSET GROWTH



Net assets grew by \$615K in 2009 due to a combination of endowment investment gain and successful fundraising efforts. LightHawk's 12/31/2009 balance sheet included nearly \$800K in pledges for future year donations and grants.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2009

Support and Revenue

Individual Contributions.....	\$1,167,489
Foundation Contributions	\$283,700
Donated Services and Materials.....	\$572,194
Other Contributions	\$6,435
Other Revenue, Interest and Dividends.....	\$19,430
Realized and Unrealized Loss on Investments	\$100,540

Total Support and Revenue..... 2,149,788

Expenses

Program- LightHawk Costs.....	\$735,777
Program- Volunteer Pilot Donated Flights.....	\$467,751
Program- Volunteer Pilot Donated Fuel	\$83,427
Fundraising and Membership.....	\$160,806
General and Administration	\$86,359

Total Expenses \$1,534,120

Change in Net Assets \$615,668

Net Assets (<i>deficit</i>), beginning of year	\$1,974,383
Net Assets (<i>deficit</i>), end of year	\$2,590,051

Financial Position

December 31, 2009

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$801,877
Unconditional Promises to Give.....	\$777,800
Prepaid Expenses	\$41,564
Investments	\$647,931
Property and Equipment	\$477,062
Total Assets	\$2,746,234

Liabilities

Accounts Payable.....	\$56,183
Long-term Debt	\$100,000

Total Liabilities \$156,183

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$991,376
Temporarily Restricted	\$999,886
Permanently Restricted.....	\$598,789

Total Net Assets..... \$2,590,051

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$2,746,234



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Sarasota, Florida



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President
Spokane, Washington



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Arlington, Virginia



Ben Pierce
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Retired 5/09



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Board 6/10*

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*Retired from the
Board 6/10*

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Terri Watson
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*Retired from the
Board 6/10*

Sally Ranney
Aspen, Colorado

*Current as of Fall 2010, showing all board members who served terms during 2009.
For biographical information, see www.lighthouse.org*

STAFF



Greg Bedinger
Pilot Outreach Manager
Bainbridge Island,
Washington



Bev Gabe
Communications Manager
Portland, Maine



Shannon Rochelle
*Northern Rockies
Program Manager*
Lander, Wyoming



Laura Stone
*Southern Rockies Program
Manager/ Foundation
Relations Manager*
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Sama Blackwell
Director of Programs
Boulder, Colorado



Lee Pagni
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Emilie Ryan
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Kelley Tucker
*Eastern Region Program
Manager*
Upper Jay, New York



C. Rudy Engholm,
Executive Director
Portland, Maine



Kate Pinard
Executive Assistant
Biddeford, Maine



Christine Steele
*Pacific Region Program
Manager*
Portland, Oregon



Armando J. Ubada
*Mesoamerica Program
Manager*
Sarasota, Florida

Current as of Fall 2010. For biographical information, see www.lighthawk.org



Laughing Bird Caye Marine Park, Belize.

LightHawk provides donated flights in the United States, Canada and Mesoamerica to accelerate the efforts of our conservation partners. LightHawk is supported by individuals, organizations and foundations who believe the aerial perspective can be a powerful tool to protect and preserve habitat and wildlife. We invite your support and involvement.

This publication serves as LightHawk's 2009 annual report and provides a highlight of our 2010 activities.



304 Main Street, Suite 14,
PO Box 653, Lander, WY 82520
307-332-3242
www.lighthawk.org

LightHawk is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization and has been given Charity Navigator's highest 4-star rating. FEIN 84-0852104