




LIGHT HAWK

2012-2013 Annual Report

An aerial photograph of a vast mountain range. The foreground shows steep, rocky slopes with some sparse vegetation. In the middle ground, several prominent, jagged mountain peaks rise sharply. The background consists of more distant, hazy mountain ranges under a clear sky. The lighting suggests it might be early morning or late afternoon, with long shadows and warm tones on the rock faces.

Photography flights showcase the importance of preserving Carter Mountain in Wyoming's Absaroka Range as summer grounds for grizzly bear, elk, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn.

Illuminate, Empower, Protect



I do not often cry, but an image actually brought me to tears. It was a photo of a man grasping a picture of his missing wife, presumed dead in the rubble of a collapsed garment factory behind him. This poignant photo taken 7,000 miles away in Bangladesh made me care about something far outside my daily experience.

LightHawk is built around that principle: seeing can lead to caring. Some flights create “aerial epiphanies” for key passengers whose single phone call can protect

or destroy nature. Other flights yield amazing photos that get people to care about places, communities, and wildlife beyond their daily routine.

Looking back over the past year, your support accomplished incredible things. We saw the final piece of California’s marine parks system established on the North Coast. In this close decision, we learned that LightHawk flights with media and stakeholders made a crucial difference helping create the marine sanctuaries that now run the length of the California coast.

A comprehensive series of survey flights in Belize proved that endangered manatees are making a comeback. In New England, LightHawk pilots transported rare sea turtles to distant rehab facilities when local aquariums were overwhelmed. An aerial image from a flight with photographer Dave Showalter helped make the case for protecting Wyoming’s Hoback Basin from becoming a spider web of oil and gas development.

For the parched Colorado River Delta, a landmark US/Mexico treaty will jumpstart growth by diverting some water back to nature. You have helped us fly dozens of missions over this dry landscape to illustrate why restoration can make the Delta bloom again for people and wildlife.

This year, we bring exciting new imagery capabilities to our partners, and our new National Geographic blog tells the stories behind the flights to a wider audience. Who knows, perhaps someone 7,000 miles away may be moved by a story we tell and inspired to take action.

You make LightHawk possible. Thank you for caring.

C. Rudy Engholm,
Executive Director
Cumberland Foreside, ME

2013 Highlights



Photographer and author Dave Showalter moments before making an image that would help preserve the Hoback Basin, Wyoming.

Chris Boyer

Flying Storytellers

Flight can provide context and understanding of environmental threats and opportunities. We want to cause people to care enough about what they witness from the air to stir them into action when they return to the ground. Flying storytellers: media, documentary filmmakers, and photographers creates a potent combination of compelling images and well-chosen words to make a difference, first causing people to care, and then inspiring them to act. In addition to engaging journalists and photographers to tell the stories of our flights, we are also publishing aerial images and conservation success stories on National Geographic NewsWatch online.



Volunteer pilots, like Chuck Schroll, have flown hundreds of hours to protect oceans and coastlines.

Lee Pagni

LightHawk: Oceans

Our blue planet faces many threats. LightHawk flights reveal these challenges in powerful ways to help find solutions. Flights document impacts of coastal development and the mangrove clearing which often accompanies it. The view from above identifies sources of pollution, surveys fishing activity in and around protected areas, and reveals the costs paid by marine ecosystems for oil infrastructure, tanker traffic and oil spills. LightHawk is also a critical resource to investigate damage from severe weather events and enables scientists to track the impacts of climate change.

This publication serves as LightHawk's 2012 annual report and provides a highlight of our 2013 activities.



Our Mission

Environmental Protection



Volunteer pilot Will Worthington (center) with passengers on 10-day expedition over Baja California to gather images and information to help enhance conservation efforts.

Opposite: LightHawk gives scientists a non-intrusive platform to study wildlife populations, like these flamingos in the Yucatán, Mexico. Flights can reveal threats to their ongoing survival and illuminate solutions to ensure a healthy future.

What we do

champion environmental protection through the unique perspective of flight.

We do this by

mobilizing highly qualified volunteer pilots and donating flights to selected leaders in conservation.

Our flights protect

- Wildlands
- Wildlife
- Oceans, Reefs & Coastlines
- Freshwater & Wetlands

Where We Fly

Eyes In the Sky: Coal Train



Kestrelaerial.com

See behind the scenes of the documentary "COAL" at <http://tinyurl.com/qb3yvk>

Journalists Ashley Ahearn and Katie Campbell (pictured) partnered with LightHawk for a multimedia series exploring the contentious subject of coal export through the Northwest for Seattle KCTS 9 and Northwest Public Radio. Taking to the skies over the Powder River Basin gave a firsthand look at the vast coal mines of northeastern Wyoming. Then they flew over the site of a coal export terminal proposed for the Washington coastline. Back on the ground, Ashley remarked, "Getting up in the air... was a key part of my reporting experience. There is nothing like seeing the coal mines from the air."



Christine Steele
Pacific Program Manager (Portland, OR)



Lee Pagni
Program Specialist (Sonora, CA)
**Independent Contractor*



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Atlantic Region Program Manager
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Ryan Boggs
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Armando Ubeda
Mesoamerica & Gulf of Mexico
Program Manager (Sarasota, FL)

A topographic map of North America, including Alaska, Canada, and Mexico, with a color gradient from green (low elevation) to brown (high elevation). Numerous purple dots are scattered across the map, representing mission locations. Some dots are accompanied by a small black icon of a radio tower with two signal waves. The dots are concentrated in the western United States, the central US, and the eastern US, with a few isolated dots in Alaska and northern Canada. The text '2012 Missions' is placed next to a purple dot in the Pacific Northwest.

● 2012 Missions

437 Flight Projects

221
Conservation Partners Served

223
Volunteer Pilot Corps



This image, made by Dave Showalter during a LightHawk flight, was used extensively by the Trust For Public Land in their successful campaign to purchase the gas leases in the Upper Hoback and retire them forever. "For me," said Dave, "this stands as one of the biggest conservation victories in the West."

Forever can be an inspiring and lofty concept, but a terrifying one as well.

Just ask a land trust manager who has promised to be a good caretaker to their entrusted lands in perpetuity. As they say in the land trust world, "forever is a mighty long time."

When private landowners partner with a land trust, they enter a union that even death will not break. Conservation easements live on with the land as a legal agreement that says the land must remain as it is, or better, forever. This is a key difference from public land, which can be parsed out for many uses, not always in the best interest of the land. LightHawk currently partners with 47 land trusts in 24 states, and we're actively increasing this work because flight transforms their planning, education and stewardship efforts, which results in more protected forests, farms, streams, and open spaces.

LightHawk flights help ease the burden on land trusts by accomplishing monitoring ten times faster than on-the-ground efforts. Conservation planning and land protection efforts come to life on a LightHawk flight. Maps and online images show the landscape captured at a certain point of time, but land use changes happen quickly and often go undetected in remote areas. Also, the true progress of restoration efforts can be difficult to assess from the ground.

With thousands of hours of monitoring flights in LightHawk's log books, we relish our collaboration with groups to implement flights for monitoring, conservation planning, educating staff and donors, and encouraging landowners to protect their land. Every year, Dan Grenier of The Nature Conservancy makes three or four flights with LightHawk to monitor hundreds of thousands of acres in Maine. Back on the ground after one flight he remarked, "LightHawk enables us to quickly cover a very large swath of territory. We accomplish in a two-hour flight what would take two weeks on the ground. We couldn't achieve our mission without LightHawk."





LightHawk flights enable groups like The Nature Conservancy to efficiently monitor and protect expansive and remote areas like Bog Pond, west of Jackman, Maine.



Wildlands



Photographer Tony Rath had flown with LightHawk in the past and when asked, agreed to donate his expertise to photograph the marine mammal survey flights. The resulting photographs, like this one showing an endangered manatee, caught the attention of National Geographic, Discovery News and The Huffington Post.

Wildlife





Lighthawk donated 41 flights to enable the International Crane Foundation to keep a close eye on their nesting pairs at a Wisconsin wildlife reserve and rescue abandoned eggs when needed. "The crane flights were the highlight of my aviation life," recalls pilot Jamie Gamble.

Rick Durden learned two things quickly about flying Lighthawk missions in Belize.

Most of the runways are short, narrow and unforgiving, and fuel is everything. In addition to being expensive, aviation fuel was usually only available in one place.

But he returned year after year. "I became fascinated and enamored with the country and the flying," says Rick. "I loved the challenge of making my fuel stop at a 1700' strip with water on three sides. And the pristine nature of much of the rainforest, cays and mangrove coast grabbed me. I couldn't get enough of it."

In 2012, Rick helped scientists count the endangered Antillean manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) their first national survey in five years. The Oceanic Society and Belize's Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute had a list of more than 100 destinations to survey. But Rick knew there would be a problem, "we'd spend so much time flying level, going between the waypoints, we'd have to return for fuel before seeing what we came to see."

Rather than reduce their survey map, Rick pulled out his charts and plotted highly efficient routes to cover as much area as possible between fuel stops. In the end, he was able to fly nearly all the requested points and find 507 manatees, a record number for Belize. The researchers were also able to conduct the first-ever aerial survey of cetaceans in Belizean waters finding pods of dolphins and whales along with turtles and crocodiles.

The information from the survey flights increases understanding about the manatees' travel patterns and habitat use in Belize. As a result, protection efforts can be focused on where they live and raise their young.

Tom Ford has spent a lot of time in small planes looking for boats.

As Director of Marine Programs for Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation he's flown as a LightHawk passenger more than anyone else. We were curious what it was like to do all that flying with so many LightHawk volunteer pilots.

LightHawk: You've flown quite a bit with us over the past few years, why?

Tom Ford: For five years, we've been doing a long-term scientific monitoring program on California's marine protected areas. We flew so much because we had to account for [boat traffic] variations from one day to the next. This was important to generate solid data we could rely on about how Californians are responding and adapting to the new marine protected areas.

LH: So what's it like flying with so many pilots over the years? Did you pick up any aviation terminology? Do you know their safety briefings by heart?

Tom: Well, I can tell a Bonanza from a Cherokee and I know the ins and outs of the airspace we fly. All the pilots have been just great. They've contributed to our project a great deal not just in the air, but they also helped us refine our survey protocols for the best results.

LH: Any flight stand out to you?

Tom: There was a flight with pilot David Kunkel where we saw a pod of dolphins hunting together. Imagine a double helix tornado of dolphins swimming at high-speed and fishing as a group. I've been on the water since the mid '80s and I've never seen that before.

LH: What's next as you start winding down your survey flights in California?

Tom: Well (laughs) I'm already saving money for my own pilot lessons. I've become hooked. The perspective we've gained of the coastline because of these flights is something that'll stick with me forever. I want others to understand that the partnership between scientists and volunteer pilots is critical to building public support of marine protected areas. I think you'll see this type of collaboration happening again as marine protected areas are proposed for other states.



When fierce winter storms caused rare turtles to wash ashore from Cape Cod Bay, LightHawk pilots stepped in. They helped injured turtles - like this one rescued by volunteers - complete their migration. Our volunteer pilots flew turtles to rehab facilities when local ones were overwhelmed by record numbers of stranded animals.





A mix of pleasure, commercial and military boat traffic, as well as underwater ecosystems is revealed just off Point Loma Peninsula, San Diego. LightHawk has donated over a hundred flights and counting since 2008 giving scientists a valuable perspective to monitor California's newly-established network of marine protected areas.



Oceans, Reefs & Coastlines



Flights over the impenetrable reaches of the Colorado River Delta once showed an arid landscape in need of water. Recent flights revealed fledgling channels where freshwater from the Colorado River and salt water from the Sea of Cortez mingle and marine life is starting to return.

Freshwater & Wetlands





Flights study the Elwha River as it begins to run free for the first time in almost 100 years. Aerial images show what the free-flowing Elwha means for returning salmon and those downstream.

Something churned up the water below the airplane.

Looking out the windows, the passengers could scarcely believe what they saw in the channel where the Colorado River connects with the Gulf of California: dolphins.

The mighty river that once carved the Grand Canyon and fueled economic growth across the West had been diverted, siphoned and dammed. As a result, 90% of the Colorado River Delta had dried out and wetlands disappeared. By 1998, the river failed to reach the sea and it no longer fed the estuary, which shelters young totoaba, shrimp and corvina. This was bad news for fishermen, farmers, nature guides, and indigenous tribes on both sides of the border.

LightHawk partners with Sonoran Institute and Pronatura-Noroeste who are bringing the Delta back to life one native tree at a time. Last year, they planted 80,000 trees, all raised from cuttings, to replace the tenacious invasive plants that took over when the water stopped flowing. Now mesquite, cottonwood and willow flourish in green ribbons stretching along the riparian corridors where restoration is happening. The songs of local and migratory birds fill the air in this avian hotspot on the Pacific Flyway.

Over the past four years, LightHawk has provided a dramatic perspective on this restoration work, the scale of which is only truly visible from the air. From above, ever-expanding restoration sites are beacons of green, showing what can happen when just a little water is given back to nature. Flights are critical in demonstrating what is possible in the Delta and providing hope in the arid landscape and muddy channels where porpoises have returned.

In November 2012, Mexico and the U.S. signed a treaty that will give some water back to the Delta. Starting in April 2014, water for the channel will be released, followed by a pulse flow to mimic natural floods that jumpstart new growth. New channels have already reunited the Colorado with the sea and, as LightHawk passengers saw during a recent flight, porpoises are once again swimming in the Delta.



“LightHawk flights help put what we do in context. When you're working on a restoration project, you go to one little spot and you don't see how that area fits with the rest of the wetland. With the aerial perspective, you see the whole picture.”

- Jeff Benoit
Restore America's Estuaries

Flight Recipients for 2012

Mesoamerica Partners

Belize

Ambergris Caye Citizens for Sustainable Development
American Crocodile Education Sanctuary
Belize Audubon Society
Belize Defense Force
Belize Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development
Centro Agronómico Tropical para Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE)
Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute
Friends for Conservation and Development
Green Reef
James Cook University
Oak Foundation
Oceanic Society
Panthera
Programme for Belize
San Pedro Sun Newspaper
Sarstoon Temash Institute for Indigenous Management
Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
The Peregrine Fund
Tony Rath Photography
University of Belize
Wildtracks
Ya'axché Conservation Trust

Costa Rica

Ministerio de Ambiente, Energía y Telecomunicaciones
Nectandra Institute
Organization for Tropical Studies
Panthera
Universidad Estatal a Distancia

Guatemala

Arbol Verde
Asociación Balam
Centro de Estudios Conservacionistas de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala
Centro de Monitoreo y Evaluación del Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas
Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Guatemala
Defensores de la Naturaleza
German Agency for International Cooperation
Guatemalan Government
Instituto de Antropología e Historia de Guatemala
Organización Manejo y Conservación
Panthera
Parque Nacional Tikal
Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala
US Agency for International Development
Wildlife Conservation Society

Honduras

Bay Islands Conservation Association
Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Forestales
Fundación Cuero y Salado
Fundación Islas de la Bahía
Fundación Parque Nacional Pico Bonito
Instituto Nacional de Conservación y Desarrollo Forestal, Áreas Protegidas y Vida Silvestre (ICF)
Kanhau
La Fundación para la Protección de Lancetilla, Punta Sal y Texiguat
Panthera

México

CauseCentric Productions
Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas
Ecosystem Economics
El Colegio de La Frontera Sur
Environmental Defense Fund
Instituto Nacional de Pesca
Mexican Wolf Species Survival Plan
Mote Marine Laboratory
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Niños y Crías
Oceanus, A.C.
Pronatura
Sonoran Institute
The Nature Conservancy Mexico
Wild Productions

Nicaragua

Ministerio del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales
Panthera

United States and Canada Partners



70 degrees west
Adirondack Council
Adirondack Mountain Club
American Rivers
Amy McCoy, videographer
Assateague Coastal Trust
Audubon of Florida's Tavernier
Science Center
Battle Creek Alliance
Big Hole Watershed Committee
Blue Hill Heritage Trust
Brian Powell, photographer
Bullitt Foundation
Carl Johnson Photography
Center for Land Use
Interpretation
Citizens for Portland's Water
Cloud Foundation
Coalition to Restore Coastal
Louisiana
Colorado Natural Heritage
Program
Colorado Open Lands
Colorado State University
Columbia Land Conservancy
Community Foundation of
Northern Colorado
Confederate Tribes of the Goshute
Indian Reservation
Conservation Law Foundation
Cordillera Productions
Cornell Lab of Ornithology
Damascus Citizens for
Sustainability
Dave Showalter Nature
Photography
Defenders of Wildlife
Desert Protective Council
Desert Tortoise Preserve
Committee

Earth Economics
Earthjustice
Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Integrity Project
Environmental Law and Policy
Center
Erie Rising
Everglades Foundation
Fiege Films
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
ForestEthics Advocacy
Friends of Great Salt Lake
Friends of the Clearwater
Future West
Google Earth Outreach
Grand Canyon Trust
Groundwork Strategies
Idaho Conservation League
International Crane Foundation
International League of
Conservation Photographers
J Henry Fair, photographer
Janet McMahon, ecologist
Jed Weingarten Photography
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust
KCTS9 Public TV Seattle
Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust
Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands
Center
KUOW Public Radio Seattle
Legacy Land Trust
Lenz Photography
Lincoln Park Zoo
Living Web Films
Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Los Padres ForestWatch
Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Marine Life Studies Whale
Entanglement Team
Matilda Essig, artist
Mexican Wolf Species
Survival Plan
Mono Lake Committee
Montana Wilderness Association
Mote Marine Laboratory
National Geographic Magazine
National Outdoor Leadership
School
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Council
of Maine
New England Aquarium
New Jersey Audubon Society
New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
New York City Audubon
Northeastern Wisconsin Zoo
Northern Rockies Conservation
Cooperative
Northwest Fisheries Science
Center
NY/NJ Baykeeper
Ocean Conservancy
Open Space Institute
Oregon Clean Water Action
Project
Oregon Natural Desert
Association
Penobscot River Restoration Trust
Pioneer Mountain Group
Provincetown Center for Coastal
Studies
Raritan Riverkeeper
Restore America's Estuaries
RESTORE: The North Woods
Rio Grande Restoration
Riverbank Media
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

Rogue Riverkeeper
Round River Conservation Studies
Salmon Valley Stewardship
Santa Clarita Organization for
Planning and the Environment
Santa Fe Conservation Trust
Santa Monica Bay Restoration
Foundation
Save The Bay
Save The Bay (San Francisco Bay)
Sierra Club, Rocky Mountain
Chapter
Sierra Club, Utah Chapter
SkyTruth
Sonoran Institute
Southwest Environmental Center
Southwest Wildlife Conservation
Center
Students of the World
Surfrider Foundation USA
Tahoe-Baikal Institute
Tampa Bay Watch
The Last Pack
The Nature Conservancy-Arizona
The Nature Conservancy-
California
The Nature Conservancy - Central
and Western New York
The Nature Conservancy-
Colorado
The Nature Conservancy - Maine
The Nature Conservancy-
New Mexico
The Nature Conservancy -
New York
The Nature Conservancy -
Pennsylvania
The Otter Project
The Peregrine Fund
The Wilderness Society

TreeFight
Trees, Water & People
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
Unearthed Motion Pictures
University of Houston
University of New Hampshire,
Dept Natural Resources and
Environment
US Fish and Wildlife Service-
Black-footed Ferret Conservation
Center
USGS - Columbia River Research
Laboratory
Utah Open Lands
Utah State University
Ventura Coastkeeper
Western Watersheds Project
Wild Love Preserve
Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
Wildlife Conservation Society
Willamette Riverkeeper
Wings Over Watersheds
Winter Wildlands Alliance
Wolf Conservation Center
Wolf Creek Charitable Foundation
Wyoming Outdoor Council
Wyoming Stock Growers Land
Trust
Yakima/Klickitat Fisheries Project



Lisa Robertson is a volunteer pilot and founding supporter of LightHawk:Oceans.

LightHawk: Oceans

“Seeing the ocean from an airplane “takes you there”, to a different place than when you are on a boat or under water diving,” explains Lisa Robertson. “Getting people up in the air to share the magnificence of the ocean can raise awareness of our deep blue planet and our need to protect it. So if I can use my wings and lend my support to Lighthawk to do this, I will.”

2012 Supporters

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Joan Ewing in honor of VP Tom Haas
Gail Factor
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Dr. Olaus J. Murie
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Thomas Ledig
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James A. McClure
Ruth McCarrison and Steven
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Karen A. McDonough
Christina and Douglas McVie
Rebecca Mervis in memory of
Edmund Hamilton Sears III
Susan Messina
Sally Metcalf in honor of David
Kunkel
Scot and Marilyn Miller
Jonathan Milne in honor of
Jonathan's father and brother
Glenn C. Muhr
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Canton O'Donnell in memory
of Steve Paul
Geri Oster
Lavonne Painter
Louise and William Pape in honor
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Robert Perez
Alice R. Pierson
V. Sidney Raines
David G. Rich
Field Rider
Hadley Roberts
Dale Rogerson and Sarah Stanley
Janet Rollin
Polly Ross
Jared Rossman
Howard and Candace Russell
Henry Lyman and Noele Sandoz
Pierre F. Schlemel
Daniel and Joanne Shively
Helen Shoup
Mark Shuler
Randall Siebert
Richard Sloan
Randall Smith
Jeffrey A. Soots
Greg Speer
Lee Sprague in memory of
Edmund Hamilton Sears III
Krista Stanley 
Christine Steele 
Erika Stimac
Donna Stone
Larry and Ann Sullivan
Marilyn H. Tam
Warren Lee Taylor in memory
of Laura Sedgwick
Tracy C. Thompson
Kelley Tucker 
Armando J. Ubeda and April V. 
Noss in honor of Kai and Ren Ubeda
John and Estelle Ursu
Robert Vadas in memory of
Bart Madison
Mark Wahl
Steve Wallace
Ric Watkins

* Multi-year pledge commitment

 Wings of LightHawk monthly donor

Ann Weingartner in honor of
Paul Carmichael
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*Heartfelt thanks to our growing
membership of legacy donors who
have included LightHawk in their
estate planning.*

Volunteer Pilot Corps



“For me, flying is a refreshing and awe-inspiring interaction with the sky. When you think about it, it’s spiritual really. It’s only natural for me to share it with others, and LightHawk lets me do that.”

*Greg Bedinger, Pilot Outreach Manager,
Bainbridge Island, WA*

Gabrielle Adelman	✈ Michael Conway	Georgia Griffiths	✈ Timothy Lapage	✈ Carl Pesce	David Stern
Kenneth Adelman	Denise Corcoran	Todd Guelich	✈ John Lawton	✈ Bob Peterson	✈ Bob Stoecker
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Richard Arnold	Douglas Dahl	Barry Harper	✈ Ray Lee	Ben Pierce	Bill Tarmey
Daniel Ballin	✈ Edward DeCastro	John Hart	Robert Lober	John Plaza	Joe TESTpilot
✈ Michael Baum	Claudette DeCourley	✈ Hal Hayden	Paul Loch	✈ Geoff Pope	✈ Dan Thompson
✈ Greg Bedinger	David Downey*	Jeffrey Hazlett	✈ Jack Long	✈ Sandy Quillen	Art Thompson
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Milton Bennett	Timothy Drager	✈ Timothy Hendricks	Alan Lukas	Kevin Roache	G. Val Tollefson
Jeff Berg	✈ Jo Duffy	✈ Richard Hendrickson	Pavel Lukes	Leon Robert	Marijke Unger
Wendy Beye	Andy Dunigan	✈ Randy Henry	Noel Luneau	✈ Lisa Robertson	Michael Venturino
✈ Stan Bialek	✈ Rick Durden	Bill Hewett	Randy Luskey	Steve Robertson	Matt Verdieck
Dan Birch	Rudy Engholm	✈ Chuck Heywood	✈ John Mahany	James Robinson	Armando Vilches
Brent Blue	Jon Engle	Jerry Hoogerwerf	Miguel Marin	Ted Robinson	Varlin Vissepo
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✈ Linda Chism	✈ Shane Gorman	John King	✈ Jane Nicolai	Skip Slyfield	Mark Zaller
John Chlopek	Kelly Gottlieb*	Steve Knaebel	Malcolm Ohl	Chris Snideman	
Tuck Colby	✈ Jim Grady	✈ Jim Knowles	✈ Stephen Parker	✈ Richard Spencer	
✈ David Cole	Richard Greenawald	✈ David Kunkel	Alan Parnass	✈ Jochen Spengler	
✈ Wayne Connor	Hawk Greenway	✈ Paul Kutler	Alejandro Parra	Edward Steinman	

**Volunteer Pilot
Roster as of
Aug 12th, 2013**

✈ Volunteer Pilots flying missions in 2012

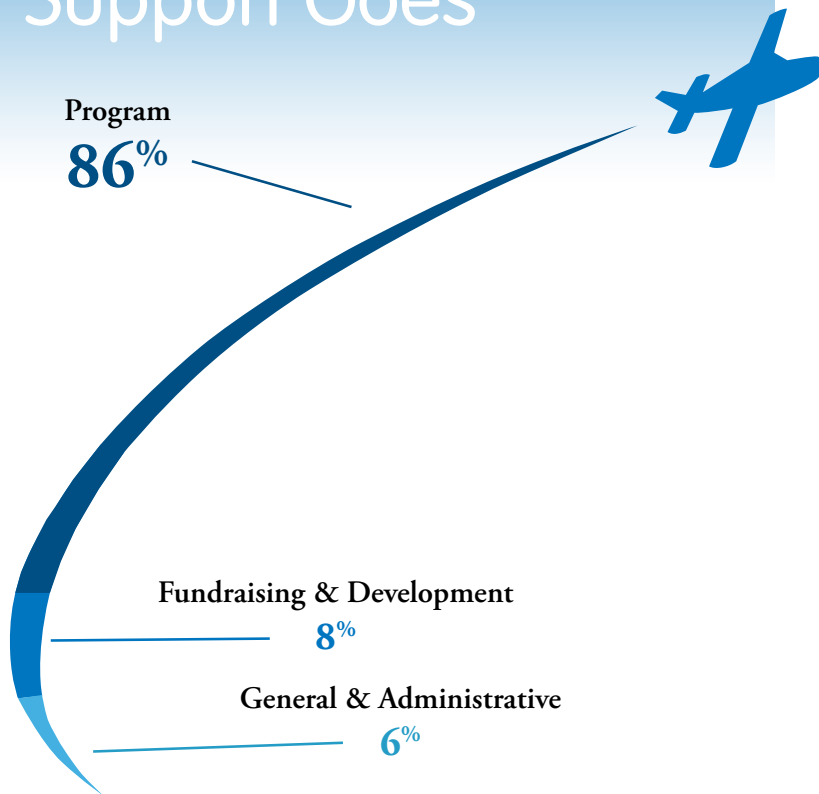
* Retired as of 8/12/13

**We remember our fellow LightHawk volunteer pilots who
passed away recently. We are better for having known you.**

David Brock	Joris Naiman
Everett "Ev" Cassagneres	Robert Ovanin
Catherine "Kitty" Houghton	Steve Paul



Where Your Support Goes



For 2012, 86% of LightHawk's annual in-kind and cash expenses were attributed to program delivery.*

* includes all in-kind expenses



*Director of
Giving*

Laura Armstrong (Fort Collins, CO)

LightHawk provides the big picture view of conservation across the continent. In my role, I enjoy thinking about the big picture view of LightHawk. This perspective helps me give our supporters the best opportunities to get involved in LightHawk's remarkable work.



*Communications
Manager*

Bev Gabe (Gorham, ME)

I have the best job in the world because I hear the stories of our incredible volunteer pilots and the conservation partners whose work is strengthened by these donated flights.



*Development
Associate
(through July 2013)*

Kate Pinard (Biddeford, ME)

I've been deeply inspired by the LightHawk community's generosity of spirit and your thoughtful, creative commitment to conservation. Whenever I hear a small plane flying overhead, I look up and think of you all.



*Chief Financial
Officer*

Emilie Ryan (Loveland, CO)

Our donors mean the world to us. I have a unique vantage point, as CFO, to see the creativity of our program team whose hard work turns every donated dollar and every donated flight into a powerful resource to advance conservation.

Financial Statements

Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2012

Support and Revenue 2012

Individual Contributions.....	\$679,295
Organizational Contributions	\$296,191
Donated Services and Materials (in-kind).....	\$820,685
Other Revenue, Interest and Dividends.....	\$3,907
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments.....	\$101,700
Gain on Sale of Assets	\$120,270

Total Support and Revenue..... \$2,022,048

Expenses

Program - LightHawk Costs.....	\$945,864
Program - Volunteer Pilot Donated Flights (in-kind).....	\$617,897
Program - Volunteer Pilot Donated Fuel (in-kind)	\$167,093
Fundraising and Donor Communications	\$168,630
General and Administration	\$115,880

Total Expenses \$2,015,364

Change in Net Assets \$6,684

Net Assets, beginning of year..... \$2,556,541

Net Assets, end of year

Financial Position

December 31, 2012

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,159,536
Unconditional Promises to Give.....	\$453,169
Prepaid Expenses.....	\$85,704
Investments	\$736,373
Property and Equipment	\$245,965

Total Assets \$2,680,747

Liabilities

Accounts Payable.....	\$42,522
Long-term Debt	\$75,000

Total Liabilities..... \$117,522

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$1,337,745
Temporarily Restricted	\$691,360
Permanently Restricted.....	\$534,120

Total Net Assets..... \$2,563,225

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$2,680,747

Audited Financial Statement and IRS form 990 may be obtained by writing LightHawk, PO Box 653, Lander, WY 82520 or eryan@lighthawk.org

Expert Oversight

LightHawk's board of directors (as of August 2013):

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Brian Williams (Charlotte, NC)

*Visit our website to find out more about
the LightHawk Board of Directors*

You Make LightHawk Fly



Pilots



© Kestrelaerial.com

You are the best of the best.

With at least 1000 hours of pilot-in-command time, LightHawk volunteer pilots fulfill the highest standard for any volunteer pilots. You are avid private pilots, commercial and ex-military pilots. A spirit of volunteerism, professionalism, and a commitment to improving environmental conditions unites the LightHawk Volunteer Pilot Corps.



Supporters



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You are the individuals, foundations and organizations who support LightHawk's operations and believe in protecting and preserving land, water and wildlife. Your gifts enable the valuable, and often unattainable, resource of flight to be available to more than 200 conservation groups each year. Thank you.



Partners



© Ralph Lee Hopkins

You are the reason we fly.

LightHawk donated flights support your conservation efforts. You are the ocean champions, jaguar protectors, land savers, freshwater advocates, storytellers, endangered animals, restorers of wetlands, indigenous peoples, and much more. For those who dedicate their talent, energy and passion to conservation, LightHawk puts aviation to work for you.

LightHawk donates flights in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America to help conservation groups achieve their goals. We invite your support and involvement. Please visit our website www.lighthawk.org to learn how to get started.



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307-332-3242
www.lighthawk.org

LightHawk is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization. FEIN 84-0852104

