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.
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

©Dave Showalter, LightHawk Aerial Support

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.

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

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

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.
Eyes In the Sky: Coal Train

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.”

See behind the scenes of the documentary “COAL” at http://tinyurl.com/qb3yvkc
437 Flight Projects
221 Conservation Partners Served
223 Volunteer Pilot Corps

2012 Missions
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.
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.
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.
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
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 damned. 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

**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

**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

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

**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)
- Kanahau
- La Fundación para la Protección de Lancetilla, Punta Sal y Texiguat
- Panthera
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<td>Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust</td>
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“Getting people up in the air to share the magnificence of the sky to 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.”

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

2012 Supporters

**True North ($100,000+)**
- Anonymous*
- Appleby Foundation
- Thomas W. Haas Foundation
- David and Gale Kunkel*
- Suzanne U D Parish in honor of Will Parish*
- RBC Foundation*

**Tailwind ($50,000 - 99,999)**
- Resources Legacy Fund Foundation*

**Wild Blue Yonder ($25,000 - 49,999)**
- Anonymous*
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Marisla Foundation
- Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation*
- Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation
- Wiancko Charitable Foundation
- Wolf Creek Charitable Foundation
- Wyncote Foundation NW at The Seattle Foundation

**Hero ($10,000 - 24,999)**
- Elinor Patterson Baker Trust
- Benedict Family Foundation
- John and Elaine French Family Foundation
- James Gamble
- Jeff and Martha Hamilton*
- Island Foundation
- George B. Storer Foundation
- Celia P. Taylor

**Cloud Nine ($5,000 - 9,999)**
- Anonymous
- The Beagle Foundation, an advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Bellwether Foundation
- Frederick J. Colby
- Patrick Andrew Dunigan
- Dennis Fitzpatrick
- Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel in honor of Jack Hood Vaughn
- Elmina B. Sewall Foundation

**Blue Sky ($1,000 - 4,999)**
- Anonymous
- Ralph Britton
- Barbara L. Brown
- Butler Conservation Fund and Graham O. Harrison
- Jitze and Nancy Couperus
- David Eidelman in honor of Rudy Engholm
- Jon and Karen Engle
- Mark and Willow Follett
- Good Works Foundation
- Eugene and Emily Grant Family Foundation
- Carl Haefling
- Josh and Becky Marvil
- Cornelius and Alice McCarthy
- Bruce and Suzanne McGregor
- Josephine Nixon in honor of Chuck Schroll
- Will and Julie Parish
- Michael and Susan Powell
- Steve and Lisa Robertson
- Merry Schroeder
- Ayres and C.C. Stockly
- WELWE Foundation
- Brian Williams*
- Will and Sandy Worthington

**Sky Chief ($500 - 999)**
- Catherine H. Anderson
- Anonymous
- David M. Armstrong in honor of Laura Armstrong, Emma and Riley
- Greg Bedinger and Jan Mulder
- Richard P. Bowen
- Allan and Marilyn Brown Fund, an advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Christensen Family Foundation
- Robert and Susan Crenshaw
- Richard and Karen Durden
- John and Paula Foy
- Katherine Gould-Martin and Robert Martin
- The Hitchcock Bowart Daterra Family Foundation
- Catherine Houghton
- Keller Family Fund, a donor advised fund of the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties
- Sal and Carol G. Lalani in memory of Shane Lalani
- David and Patricia Miller
- Rees W. Morrison and Anne L. Kennedy in honor of Rudy Engholm
- Gurnee Munn III in honor of Sharon Matola and Belize Zoo
- Jane and Bill Nicolai
- Nathaniel O. Owings
- William and Deborah Roach
- Stephen and Sheryl Saucier
- Jochen Spengler
- Tracey Weisberg in honor of Helene Grimaud

**High Flier ($250 - 499)**
- Karen Adams Living Trust
- Robert and Debra Andrews
- Brownnell Bailey
- Matthew Berman
- Lyman B. Brainerd
- Joyce and Les Coleman
- Mary Kathleen Collins
- Sharky Cornell
- The Fanwood Foundation
- William Faulkner
- Marlene and Steve Ishii in honor of Jo Duffy
- Sue Liane in memory of Ann Armstrong
- Don and Pamela Lichy
- Allen Low and Berta Codoner Low
- James F. Noss in honor of Armando Ubeda
- Ginny Paul in memory of Steve Paul
- Bruce Ray
- Patricia C. Stein
- Michael Sutton
- Linda Tabor-Beck

**Aviator/Aviatrix ($100 - 249)**
- Alex Agnew
- Ethan D. Alyea, Jr.
- Anonymous
- Laura Armstrong in honor of Emma and Riley Stone
- Daniel Ballin
- Scott Allen Barber in honor of Polly Ross
- Bruce and Elizabeth Bell in honor of Jane Nicolai
- Elizabeth Blackwell
- Ronald and Jean Bourque
- Louise T. Chow and Thomas R. Broker
- Tom Budlong
- Craig Butchenhart in memory of Edmund Hamilton Sears III
- Jim Carlson in memory of Kay Carlson
- Juliana Cohen in memory of Steve Paul
- William and Barbara Coleman
- Diane Davidson
- Abigail Faulkner
- Richard and Marilyn Fay
- Scott Fernandez
- Elizabeth Fleming
- Henry and Susan Flint
- Ed Friedman
- Sara Funk
- Deborah Garber and John Tielsh
- Becky Garland in memory of Cecil Garland
- Philip Garofalo
- Joseph Gerberg
- Douglas Gerleman
- Norissa Giangola
- Gordon Glover and Lynn Lewis Glover
- Jackie Graese in memory of Steve Paul
- Fay C. Graning
- P. Hawk Greenberg
- Peter and Joanne Griesinger
- Tom and Sue Tuxill
- Emily V. Wade
- Joanna Winship in memory of Elizabeth Winship
Co-Pilot
(Up to $100)
Mercedes Agonino
Ethan and Alice Allen
Victor and Janice Anderson
Jim Astin
Ernst Bachofner
Lee James Best, Jr.
Wendy Ross Beye
Penny L. Blubaugh
Gail Bohnhoff-Hlavacek
Steven Brodie in memory of
Steve Paul
Lincoln P. Brower
Eileen J. Carney
Larry Cazier
Thomas R. Crum
Hume Davenport in honor of
2012 LightHawk Staff, especially
Sama Blackwell
Lou Anna Denison
Benjamin Drummond
David Evans
Joan Ewing in honor of VP Tom Haas
Gail Factor
Charles S. Faulkner II
Stephen and Dawn Ford
Alan and Anita Frank
W. Phelps Freeborn
Mary Ann Frey
Beverly Gabe in honor of Rory
and Jordy Pigeon
Daniel J. Gare
Lydia Garvey
Patricia Gerrard
James Thompson in honor of
Steve Knaebel
Walter Tingle in honor of
Hunter Tingle
Kevin and Sara Tolman
Christopher Topik
Margot B. Unkel
David Wild
John Wylde
Cyrus and Lucia Young
Robert and Lynn Young

Elaine R. Goldman
Patrick Donovan Goldsworthy
Clive Grainger
Thomas Hall
Robert and Sharon Handelsman
David and Vivien Hanson
Christina Heine
Julie Dorfman and Jerry Herst
Judith Herzfeld
Milton and Louise Hollander
Kirsten R. Holmquist
Sara Jane Johnson
Paula R. Katz
Gene A. Kent
Peg and Larry Keyes
Patricia M. Kincaid
Karen Anne Kolling in honor of
Operation Migration
H. Robert Kreat in memory of
Dr. Olaus J. Murie
Donald and Barbara Kusler
Thomas Ledig
Jacopo Lenzi
David Magney
Philip Margolis
Nancy B. Marsh
James Matthews in memory of
Edmund Hamilton Sears III
Joelle R. Mauthe
James A. McClure
Ruth McCorrison and Steven
Odendahl
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
Scoot and Marilyn Miller
Jonathan Milne in honor of
Jonathan’s father and brother
Glenn C. Muhr
Myers-Ball Foundation
Joel Myerson
John and Lani Ochs
Canton O’Donnell in memory of
Steve Paul
Geri Oster
Lavonne Painter
Louise and William Pape in honor of
Jamey Stillings
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 Noelle 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
Laurie Sedgwick
Tracy C. Thompson
Kelley Tucker
Armando J. Ubeda and April V.
Niss in honor of Kai and Ren Ubeda
John and Estelle Ursu
Robert Vadas in memory of
Bart Madison
Mark Wahl
Steve Wallace
Ric Watkins

Mary Speer Grote in memory of
Edmund Hamilton Sears III
Dick and Suzanne Gunther in memory of
Edmund Hamilton Sears III
Ginger Harmon
David Hipshman
Richard Horvitz
Keith Katz in honor of Randy Henry
Ronald Labrecque
Valerie Langer
Garrison Lickle
Jason and Linda Lillegraven
Robert Linck and Leanne Klyza
Linck
Theodore Lyman
Bernice C. Maertz
Melissa Kae Mason - MoonCat!
F. Warren and Karen McFarlan in memory of
Edmund Hamilton Sears III
Hallie Metzger in memory of Celia Daniels
Dan and Diane Meyer
Kevin Moore and Pingya Li Moore
Jay and Louise Noyes
Elaine Charkowski and Edward Oberweiser
Mose and Maren Orion
Oppenheimer
Lee Pagni in honor of Zach and Elizabeth
Robert and Anita Peterson
Damon R. Phillips
Kathlyn Phillips
Kathleen Pinard
John Plaza
George and Nancy Purvis
Edward J. Pushich
Frank Robey
Shannon and Rick Rochelle
Betty J. Rockwell
Emilie Ryan and Clayton Fraser
Christine Sakach
Andrew Satter
Richard and Linda Sedgwick
Timothy Strand
W. Michael Tanksley

Heartfelt thanks to our growing membership of legacy donors who have included LightHawk in their estate planning.
Ralph Lee Hopkins with aerial support by LightHawk

"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
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
Everett “Ev” Cassagneres
Catherine “Kitty” Houghton

Joris Naiman
Robert Ovanin
Steve Phillabaum

Carl Pesce
Bob Peterson
Chester Peterson Jr.

Courtney Pickett
Ben Pierce
John Plaza

Sandy Quillen
Mark Zaller

Joe TESpilot

Dan Thompson
Art Thompson

Tom Tillman
G. Val Tollefson

Mariana Unger
Michael Venturino

Matt Verdieck
Armando Vilches

Varlin Vissaro
Park Walker

Richard Walker
Keith Ward

Terri Watson
Jeffrey Weiss

Peter Welles
Stephanie Wells

Pete White
Judston Wickwire

Brian Williams
Steve Williams

John Wilson
Sarah Wilson

Brent Witters
William Worthington

Will Worthington
Andy Young

Mark Zaller

Volunteer Pilot Roster as of Aug 12th, 2013
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.

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.

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.

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.

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

* includes all in-kind expenses
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 ................................................ $2,563,225

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):

Officers:
Josh Marvil, Chairman (Yarmouth, ME)
Jon Engle, Vice Chair (Charleston, SC)
Will Worthington, Treasurer (Carefree, AZ)
Tuck Colby, Secretary (Sarasota, FL)
C. Rudy Engholm, Executive Director (Cumberland Foreside, ME)

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Jeff Hamilton (Spokane, WA)
Steve Knaebel (Mexico City, MX)
David Kunkel (Meeker, CO)
Jane Nicolai (Vancouver, WA)
Brian Williams (Charlotte, NC)

Visit our website to find out more about the LightHawk Board of Directors
You Make LightHawk Fly

**Pilots**

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**

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**

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.

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