



Accelerating Conservation Success

2014-2015



© 2014 Steven DeWitt with aerial support from LightHawk

Images made during LightHawk flights of the Hunter-Fryingpan Wilderness and proposed Hunter Wilderness expansion area north of Aspen, Colorado are being used to promote informed decision-making in efforts led by US Senator Mark Udall and Colorado State Representative Jared Polis.



This first year with LightHawk has been one of the most inspiring and exciting years of my life. As I look back, I'm in awe of what we've done together.

Our flights brought Aplomado falcons back to the wild where they now thrive, and are helping save the near-extinct California condor. We also showed the world the Colorado River reuniting with the Gulf of California for the first time in decades. In Guatemala, our flights have helped preserve the largest swath of tropical forest north of the Amazon, the Maya Biosphere Reserve. In the Northeast, we help monitor and protect seagrass meadows, underrated workhorses of healthy marine ecosystems. I am honored to be part of these efforts.

We also strengthened our organization with a comprehensive and specific strategic plan. This roadmap empowers us to focus on projects where flight is critical to achieving success. We are building long-term relationships with our partners, and collaborating in planning conservation action. Coming from the for-profit world, I know that strategy and measurable action will result in clear, smart conservation results.

As we celebrated our 35th anniversary and the many conservation successes we've experienced, we salute our incredible cadre of volunteer pilots. These seasoned and committed aviators are at the heart of LightHawk - we owe them so much.

Our first 35 years have seen many successes and many lessons learned. This experience guides and energizes our work to make our planet a healthier and more sustainable place to live.

Thank you for your involvement and support.

John Pryor
Executive Director

LightHawk accelerates conservation success through the powerful perspective of flight



Adding Value to Conservation

We combine our unique aerial expertise and our network of highly skilled volunteer pilots to help our partners reach conservation outcomes more effectively and efficiently.



Focusing on Key Conservation Projects

We engage the power of flight in the most important conservation projects in North and Central America.



Unlocking a Powerful Perspective

We mobilize flights that foster dialogue and build consensus, promote informed decision-making, and improve the efficiency of our partners' work.





 Ralph Lee Hopkins/iLCP/LightHawk

The Sierra de la Giganta in Baja California is considered a wetlands habitat of international importance, and has been proposed for protection.

Conservation Outcome Highlights

1. Helped The Wetlands Conservancy capture images of extreme high tides – king tides –to foster dialogue and understanding about the potential impacts of sea level rise on coastal communities and estuaries.
2. Tracked migrating shorebirds with Point Blue Conservation Science yielding invaluable data which enables land managers to efficiently use water during times of drought to provide flooded habitat for migratory shorebirds.
3. Boosted the effectiveness of efforts to save California condors from extinction, story on page 16.
4. Completed five years of monthly aerial surveys with the Bay Foundation, promoting informed management of the new Marine Protected Area network.
5. Helped capture historic aerial photographs of glaciers and meadows in the Sierra Nevadas informing research on the impact of climate change with Alpine of the Americas Project.
6. After five years of partnership, LightHawk captured history in the making as the Colorado River joined Gulf of California waters for the first time in many years, read more on page 12.
7. Attained front-page news coverage of the White Tanks Conservancy and their work on the Sonoran Desert surrounding Phoenix.
8. Provided safe and speedy passage for Aplomado falcon chicks to restore the species to the wild in Texas and New Mexico, story on page 10.
9. Highlighted a conservation opportunity with an intact grassland for The Nature Conservancy Colorado resulting in a \$500,000 foundation investment.





10. Flew a reporter from *The New Yorker* magazine to inform a story about balancing water needs of people and nature in Colorado.
11. Located 53 moose using aerial telemetry for a University of New Hampshire population health study.
12. Promoted seagrass preservation, read more on page 8.
13. Helped demonstrate how new land acquisitions would connect all state parks in the region with Open Space Institute.
14. Built support for private land conservation with The Nature Conservancy.
15. Created powerful aerial imagery to advocate for clean water with Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan.
16. Showcased Chesapeake Bay preservation with flights for the Restore America's Estuaries Summit attended by 1,200 members of the coastal restoration and management community.
17. Continued 15 years of improving effectiveness of protection measures inside the Maya Biosphere Reserve, story on page 14.
18. Initiated the first regional aerial surveys of Antillean manatees in the Caribbean waters of Mexico, Belize, and Guatemala guiding cross-border conservation strategies for this population of endangered species.
19. Captured aerial images of Guatemala with CONAP enabling managers to create the first vegetation map of the area which will guide natural resource management.
20. Provided first-time access to areas of the Jaguar Corridor in Panama yielding new information which helps direct Panthera's ground efforts and fosters management strategies.



© Ilka Feller/Smithsonian Educational Research Center with aerial support from LightHawk

Seagrass, a primary indicator of overall coastal habitat health, is recovering in Indian River Lagoon along the Atlantic coast of Florida.

Seagrass

Small in size and just under the water, these marine plants are a big deal.

Among the many valuable services these grassy meadows provide, locking up ten times more carbon per acre than dense forests is just the beginning.

Seagrass provides cover in shallow waters for invertebrates and juvenile fish, including many species prized by commercial fisheries. These undersea grasslands also transfer nutrients from the seabed through their leaves into the water column. Manatees and sea turtles graze these seagrass meadows like a salad bar, and they're known as the "lungs of the sea" for generating ten liters of oxygen every day per square meter.

LightHawk works with scientists from Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies, University of New Hampshire, and the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries providing flights to preserve healthy seagrass. These flights monitor seagrass health and help assess innovative new boat moorings designed to minimize anchor damage to seagrass. From



 P.Lindgren/Wikimedia Commons

1,000 feet up, we witness a remarkable thing, where the smart moorings were installed, new seagrass is growing into the drag marks left behind by old block and chain moorings.

"It wasn't until I flew a mission with UNH," remarks LightHawk volunteer pilot and board member Tom Haas, "that we realized how diminished the seagrass beds were. I know the aerial perspective LightHawk provides helps focus the research and programs of UNH and other conservation players in the region so we can preserve these important marine meadows."

Did you know:

One acre of seagrass can support 40,000 fish, and 50 million small invertebrates. That same acre sequesters 10 times as much carbon as a forest. An acre produces 10 tons of leaves every year.

Pilots who helped bring 248 Aplomado falcons for release into the wild:

Gabrielle and Ken Adelman,
Andy Dunigan, Tom Haas,
Jeff Hamilton, Richard Hoover,
Zachary Huston, David Kunkel,
Jack Long, Randy Luskey,
Carl Mattson, David Miller,
Janice Newman

In the southern grasslands of the United States, Northern Aplomado falcons are back and thriving.

After a five-year collaboration with The Peregrine Fund, LightHawk flights were “instrumental,” says TPF biologist Brian Mutch, in “moving hundreds of young Aplomado falcons from Boise Idaho to release sites scattered across New Mexico, West Texas and coastal South Texas.”

Most LightHawk missions don’t reach a cruising altitude of 30,000 feet, but for these flights, volunteer pilots achieved longer distances, higher speeds and wilder passengers than normal. Several times each summer for five years, TPF biologists met LightHawk volunteer pilots at Gowen Field with planeloads of cardboard boxes. Inside each box was precious cargo: pairs of endangered Aplomado falcon chicks. The fast aircraft mobilized by LightHawk was a critical component in giving these fragile chicks their best chance of survival in the wild.

“Transporting them for up to 36 hours in a vehicle, compared to a four or five hour flight



Biologist Brian Mutch of TPF with a young falcon.

greatly reduced stress to these youngsters at a critical and delicate period in their life,” explained Mutch. “Chartering private flights to assist with this recovery effort was cost prohibitive as a single flight was typically in excess of \$5,000 and we often required six or seven flights each season.”

Mutch continues, “LightHawk is an invaluable partner to The Peregrine Fund, and to this important and very successful recovery effort of an endangered species.” The falcons are once again an important part of the dynamic and diverse wildlife community in the southwestern grasslands. Efforts are now focused on conserving important habitat for the falcons, and exploring new and innovative partnerships with private landowners and government agencies.



Aplomado Falcons

Ordinary moving boxes containing endangered Aplomado falcon chicks are loaded on a LightHawk flight for a highly efficient way to move young birds to wild release sites.



from the short film "Renewal" shot by Andy Quinn and Owen Bissell, for [Si and RaiseTheRiver.org](http://SiandRaiseTheRiver.org)

Enthusiastic celebrations sprung up along the Colorado River near Morelos Dam when the pulse flow water was released.

Colorado River Delta

“I’ve flown that route many times over the last four years,”

observed volunteer pilot Bob Allen, “but no flight was more inspiring than the day I saw the usually dry riverbed fill with life-giving water and begin to flow from Morelos Dam, near Yuma, AZ, along the US-Mexico border, and on to the Gulf of California.” In late March 2014, the Colorado River surged forward to mingle with the brackish waters of the Gulf of California for the first time in decades.

Since partnering with Sonoran Institute in 2009, LightHawk has provided almost a hundred flights as part of its campaign to support restoring the Colorado River Delta. With few roads and mile after mile of boot-sucking mud, the Delta is essentially inaccessible unless you have an airplane.

Flights enable decision-makers, media and community members to become educated about the Delta, and excited about opportunities to make a difference. The perspective of flight enables photographers to showcase the Delta’s vast expanses and stark beauty.

For scientists, flight offers an unparalleled understanding of the landscape. “From the air, it all starts to make sense,” says Francisco Zamora Arroyo, Director of Sonoran Institute’s Gulf Legacy Program. “Parcels of seemingly fragmented land miraculously stitch together. With the help of LightHawk, we are able to see the Colorado River Delta as a whole. While our projects cover many parts of this region, it is from the air that their connections are truly understood, and we are better able to direct and monitor restoration on the ground.”

LightHawk supports efforts to double the Delta’s wetlands

and secure a modest, reliable flow of sustaining water for the region. In a story of rebirth that spans ecosystems and borders, LightHawk is committed to the long-term restoration, and informing a comprehensive understanding of this remarkable natural system.



Francisco Zamora Arroyo/LightHawk

Colorado River (top) about to reach Gulf waters (bottom) during the pulse flow.

In 2014, LightHawk received an award from the Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Guatemala delivered by the

Vice President of Guatemala in recognition of 15 years of its contributions to protecting the Maya Biosphere Reserve.



The Maya Biosphere Reserve is a massive landscape the size of New Jersey.

Pumas and jaguars roam the deep forests, howler and spider monkeys swing from the branches above, and the canopy is alive with the calls of scarlet macaws, toucans and millions of migratory birds. Its size and location make it challenging for Guatemala's National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and their partners to survey the remote landscape, identify problem areas and devise creative conservation solutions.

LightHawk has worked with this team for more than fifteen years in order to help overcome these issues, using flight to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of protection efforts in the largest remaining contiguous swath of tropical forest in Central America. "LightHawk has helped achieve significant milestones in the developing history of the Maya Biosphere Reserve," explained Roan McNab of WCS from his office in Flores, Guatemala on the banks of Lake Peten Itza.

"This combination of ground and air surveys from LightHawk allows field conservation action to be guided with a much better understanding of the landscape," says McNab. "This can make a huge difference between defining strategies which end up being effective, and those which languish due to inadequate information."

Flights that take up governmental officials, donors, local NGOs and community leaders help foster dialogue, build consensus and promote informed decision-making among those tasked with protecting the incredible biodiversity of the MBR. Each year, tens of thousands of aerial images are captured which are then processed by the government's Center for Monitoring and Evaluation to monitor the overall state of the reserve and manage hotspots that need special attention.

"Over the last 6 years, LightHawk has assisted Guatemala in restoring over 130,000 hectares [321,237 acres] of land," says McNab. "This ranks as one of the most significant amounts of area undergoing ecological restoration in the entire Mesoamerican isthmus."



Maya Biosphere Reserve

In 2004, incursions discovered during flights over Laguna del Tigre National Park were publicized in the largest newspaper in Guatemala. This attention led to stronger protective measures for the area which hosts threatened scarlet macaw nesting areas.



© Tim Huntington, webneta.com

Faced with budget and staff constraints, condor biologists found flight an efficient way to conduct high priority monitoring to aid wild condor recovery. Volunteers locate missing birds quickly through aerial telemetry, this enables biologists to treat sick birds and determine the cause of death in deceased birds.

California Condors

Imagine instead of juggling a laptop and bag of toiletries through airport security, **you're carrying an endangered California condor egg**

and it's about to hatch. Until recently, this was the only option for condor biologists.

California condors nearly went extinct thirty years ago, and in order to help their populations bounce back, condor biologists sometimes have to physically move eggs, as well as chicks and adults, from one site to another. This serves to maintain genetic diversity, which is a key component of saving the California condor.

LightHawk flights have helped to make these transfers much smoother and safer for condors. Using commercial aircraft and dealing with security checkpoints can add major challenges, as Chandra David, Lead Condor Keeper for LA Zoo explains, “we keep our eggs in clean environments to prevent bacterial infection to the egg; having TSA agents investigating a brooder can introduce bacteria to the egg's environment.”

Aerial monitoring via radio telemetry has also greatly increased efficiency and speed in collecting information from the tagged wild population in the vicinity of Pinnacles National Park. This supports and enhances the tireless work of field crews tracking the birds on the ground. Regular flights help find ‘missing’ birds, and increase the chance of finding sick or dead birds in time to provide aid or document the cause of death.

“LightHawk's work in central California has been recognized by condor recovery partners as a major benefit to the species' conservation,” says Rachel Wolstenholme, Condor Program Manager, Pinnacles National Park. “Our ultimate long-term goal is to see the California condor thrive in the wild and soar across our landscapes for all to enjoy.”



Chandra David/LightHawk

Actively hatching condor eggs in a temperature controlled brooder box are quickly, and without intrusion, transported by private aircraft. These LightHawk wildlife survival flights help promote genetic diversity and strengthen the condor population.



“I’ve been a student of water use, storage, and transportation for decades, but have never seen the water projects from the air. The scale is impressive, while I have tons of experience driving through these landscapes, there’s nothing like seeing it from the air!”

- Jennifer Pitt, Colorado River Project Director
for Environmental Defense Fund

2014 Conservation Partners

Central America and Mexico

Bahamas

Conservian

Belize

American Crocodile Education
Sanctuary
Belize Audubon Society
Belize Zoo
Cornell Lab of Ornithology
Friends for Conservation
and Development
Oak Foundation Belize
Oceanic Society
Panthera
Programme for Belize
Sarstoon Temash Institute for
Indigenous Management
Wildlife Conservation Society
Wildtracks
Ya’axché Conservation Trust

Costa Rica

Leatherback Trust
MarViva
Nectandra Institute
Panthera
Sylvia Earle Alliance - Mission Blue
White Hawk Project

Guatemala

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
(CEMEC)
Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas
de Guatemala (CONAP)
Defensores de la Naturaleza
Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y
la Conservación
Georgia Southern University
Healthy Reefs
Instituto de Antropología e Historia
de Guatemala
Parque Nacional Tikal
Rainforest Alliance
The Nature Conservancy
Universidad Andrés Bello
Universidad del Valle
Wildlife Conservation Society
Guatemala

Honduras

Panthera

Mexico

Ch’ooj Ajauil A.C.
ECOSUR
El Colegio de la Frontera Sur
Elle est pas belle la vie
International League of
Conservation Photographers
Mexican Fund for Conservation
of Nature (FMCN)
National Geographic Magazine
Niños y Crias
Pronatura Yucatan
Pronatura Veracruz
Protección de la Fauna
Mexicana, A.C.
Sonoran Institute
Sustainable Fisheries Partnership
The Nature Conservancy
Universidad de Quintana Roo

Panama

Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente
Panthera
Rainforest Foundation
Smithsonian Tropical Research
Institute

United States and Canada

Alpine of the Americas Project	FracTracker	New Jersey Meadowlands Commission	Steep Rock Association, Inc.
American Prairie Reserve	Friends of Penobscot Bay	New Mexico Wilderness Alliance	Steven DeWitt Photography
American Rivers	Friends of the Gualala River	North American Land Trust	Suncoast Waterkeeper
Arizona Land and Water Trust	Future West	North Carolina Zoological Society	The Bay Foundation
Aspen Valley Land Trust	Governor's Salmon Recovery Office-Washington	Northcoast Environmental Center	The Land Conservancy of New Jersey
Audubon Wyoming	Greater Yellowstone Coalition	Ocean Conservancy	The Last Pack
Blue Water Baltimore	Guardians of the Everglades	Open Space Institute	The Nature Conservancy-Colorado
Bruce Farnsworth Photography	Heal the Bay	Oregon Natural Desert Association	The Nature Conservancy-Maine
Centennial Valley Association	High Country News	Oregon Zoo	The Nature Conservancy-Montana
Center for Large Landscape Conservation	Hudson Highlands Land Trust	Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center	The Nature Conservancy-New York
Citizen Engagement Lab	Idaho Conservation League	Palmer Land Trust	The Nature Conservancy-Washington
Coal Ash Chronicles	Idaho Rivers United	Panthera	The Nature Conservancy-Wyoming
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana	International League of Conservation Photographers	Penobscot River Restoration Trust	The Wetlands Conservancy
Coastal Watershed Institute	J Henry Fair, Photographer	People and Carnivores	The Wilderness Society
Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust	Jesica Johnston, Environmental Scientist	Pinnacles National Park	Third Channel
Colorado Open Lands	Legacy Land Trust	Point Blue Conservation Science	Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
Columbia Land Conservancy	Los Angeles Waterkeeper	Powder River Basin Resource Council	University of New Hampshire, Dept Natural Resources and Environment
Dakota Resource Council	Los Angeles Zoo & Botanical Gardens	Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies	USFWS-Black-footed Ferret Conservation Center
Dave Showalter Nature Photography	Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust	Resource Media	Utah Open Lands
EarthCorps	MaineRivers	Restore America's Estuaries	Wahoo Films
Ecosystem Economics	Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries	San Juan Preservation Trust	Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition
Eloika Lake Association	Matt Black Photography	Save The Bay (San Francisco Bay)	West Marin Environmental Action Committee
Environmental Defense Fund	Maura Axelrod Productions	Sierra Foothill Conservancy	Western Rivers Conservancy
Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan	Mono Lake Committee	Sky Island Alliance	Western Watersheds Project
Erik Goldstein Photography	Montezuma Land Conservancy	Sonoran Institute	Wildlife Conservation Society
Everglades Foundation	Nadel Photo	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust
Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics	National Geographic Magazine	South Yuba River Citizens League	
ForestEthics	New England Aquarium	SRAP (Socially Responsible Agricultural Project)	
	New England Forestry Foundation		



Samantha Campbell, President of
The Keith Campbell Foundation

“We were so pleased to read LightHawk’s strategic plan, and we can’t tell you how happy we were that it wasn’t an overdone fifty page document that does exactly the opposite of what you set out to do - focus and streamline.

Your plan is concise and organized and will guide the organization well for the coming years, and we hope our grant will help kick off its implementation. Here’s to a successful 2015 and beyond!”

The Keith Campbell Foundation made an unsolicited second grant to LightHawk after receiving a copy of our strategic plan.

2014 Supporters

True North (\$100,000+)

Anonymous
Appleby Foundation
Thomas W. Haas Foundation
David and Gale Kunkel ★
John and Adrienne Mars ★

Tailwind (\$50,000 - 99,999)

Anonymous ★
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
Smart Family Foundation

Wild Blue Yonder (\$25,000 - 49,999)

The Keith Campbell Foundation ★
Jack and Carolyn Long
Marisla Foundation
Resources Legacy Fund Foundation
Wiancko Charitable Foundation
Wyncote Foundation NW at The Seattle Foundation

Hero (\$10,000 - 24,999)

The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
John and Elaine French Family Foundation
James Gamble
Thomas W. Haas
International Community Foundation
Island Foundation
Stephen and Evelyn Knaebel
Merry Schroeder
Celia P. Taylor

Cloud Nine (\$5,000 - 9,999)

Butler Conservation Fund and Graham O. Harrison
Josh and Becky Marvil
Gilman and Marge Ordway
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation

Blue Sky (\$1,000 - 4,999)

Anonymous
Richard Arnold and Marshall Whiting
Barry Baker
Greg Bedinger and Jan Mulder in memory of Carol Bedinger

Benedict Family Foundation
Ralph Britton
Barbara L. Brown
Allan and Marilyn Brown Fund, an advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Charles Clapp
Geoff Clark
Bonnie Cohen
Christopher and Bonnie Covington
Patrick Andrew Dunigan
David Eidelman in honor of Rudy Engholm
Eugene and Emily Grant Family Foundation
John Feagin and Marty Head in honor of Dr. Richard Sugden
Mark and Willow Follett
Meredith B. Glover in memory of Richard K. Glover
Jeff and Martha Hamilton ★
Hamill Family Foundation
Richard and Sandi Hoover
Richard and Charlotte Jorgensen
Kaleidoscope Foundation
Robert and Carol Keller
Amy and Judd Klement
Peggy O’Shea via the Joan B. & William F. O’Shea Family Fund, a donor advised fund of the Community Foundation in memory of William F. O’Shea
John and Thalia Pryor
Christine Ra in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi
Lisa and Steve Robertson
Lawrence and Fran Sittig
Tor and Jennifer Solberg
Barbara and Cyrus Sweet III
The Brainerd Foundation
WELWE Foundation
William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation
Amy Woodworth in honor of David Kunkel
Sandy and Will Worthington

Sky Chief (\$500 - 999)

Matthew Berman
Blue Cloud Spatial
Richard P. Bowen

Mary Kathleen Collins
Jitze and Nancy Couperus
Robert and Susan Crenshaw
Rudy and Grace Engholm
The Fanwood Foundation
William Faulkner
Norissa Giangola
Steve and Leslie Isom
Michael Melford
David and Patricia Miller
Gurnee Munn, III
Will Murray
Jane and Bill Nicolai
James F. Noss in honor of Armando Ubeda
Nathaniel O. Owings
P.E.A.C.E. Awareness Foundation
Genny Smith
Tom and Sue Tuxill
Stephen Williams

High Flier (\$250 - 499)

Bob Allen
Ethan D. Alyea, Jr.
Brownell Bailey
Reinier and Nancy Beeuwkes
Dan Birch
Lyman B. Brainerd
Michelle Carter and Michael Venturino
David Comarow
Joel Cutler and Lucinda Wegener
Jon and Karen Engle
Deb Evans
J Henry Fair
Eric Fogelin
María José González in memory of Patrick Rockstroh
High Country News
James Paul Houser, Jr.
Thomas Jordan
Don and Pamela Lichty
Dan and Diane Meyer
Peter and Nancy Mickelsen
Robert and Anita Peterson
Damon R. Phillips
Geoff Pope
Shannon and Rick Rochelle
Santa Fe Garden Club

Abby Sarmac and Matt Clark 🏹
 Patricia C. Stein
 Ayres and C.C. Stockly
 Mariana Tupper
 Emily V. Wade
 Philip Walker

Aviator/Aviatrix (\$100 - 249)

Anonymous
 Eric Anderson
 Pat and Debra Andrews
 Laura Armstrong in honor of Emma and Riley Stone 🏹
 Scott Allen Barber in honor of Polly Ross
 John Bartholow
 Michael and Vera Baum
 Richard and Bette Ann Bicknell
 Ronald and Jean Bourque
 Joseph Bower
 Jon and Ann Bowman
 Henry Brightwell in honor of John Pryor
 Lynette Cardoch
 The Carter Family in honor of Ali and AJ Carter 🏹
 William and Katharine Coghill in honor of Jane Nicolai
 Joyce and Les Coleman
 Mike and Jane Conlin
 Sharky Cornell
 Judith Davidson
 Paul Dayton
 Pat Epps
 Henry and Susan Flint
 John and Paula Foy in honor of Rudy Engholm
 Ronald French
 Ed Friedman
 Mary Ann Frye
 Ben and Peggy Fujita
 Beverly Gabe 🏹
 Deborah Garber and John Tielsch
 Philip Garofalo
 Joseph Gerberg
 Douglas Gerleman
 Katherine Gould-Martin and

Robert Martin
 James Grady
 Fay C. Graning
 P. Hawk Greenberg
 Peter and Joanne Griesinger
 Joan and Jim Harkins
 Michael Herz
 Richard A. Horvitz
 Luther Irwin
 Patricia M. Kincaid in honor of Jess' friend Andre
 Barbara Krizek 🏹
 Ronald Labrecque
 Ray Lee
 Robert and Jeannine Leeper 🏹
 Roy Lewallen
 Garrison Lickle
 Jason and Linda Lillegraven
 Michael Lorden
 Theodore Lyman
 Joseph Mandell
 Robert and Cynthia Martin in honor of John Pryor
 MB and Chuck McAfee
 Rowene and Roy Medina
 Hallie Metzger
 Wolfgang Meyn
 Kevin Moore and Pingya Li Moore 🏹
 Jay and Louise Noyes
 Peter O'Connor
 John Olivas in honor of John and Amiree Olivas
 Gordon and Elizabeth Orians
 Lee Pagni
 Lavonne Painter
 Brian Petula
 Kathleen Pinard 🏹
 Lollie Benz Plank
 George and Nancy Purvis
 Edward J. Pushich
 Leon Robert
 Frank Robey
 Betty J. Rockwell in memory of Bill Rockwell
 Emilie Ryan and Clayton Fraser 🏹
 Christine Sakach
 Sam Shine Foundation

Erica Sayers in honor of Stephen Sayers
 Gene Steffen
 Timothy Strand
 Michael Sutton
 Walter Tingle 🏹
 Kevin and Sara Tolman
 Margot B. Unkel
 William Whitley
 Bruce Ray/Wild Hare Computer Systems
 David Wild
 Barbara J. Wilhite in memory of Donald Wilhite
 Jim Winn
 Joanna Winship
 John and Jill Winter
 Rachel Wolstenholme

Co-Pilot (Up to \$100)

Mercedes Agogino
 Ethan and Alice Allen
 Anonymous
 Ann Armstrong
 George and Anita Berlacher
 Lee James Best Jr.
 Wendy Ross Beye
 Gail Bohnhoff-Hlavacek and Bill Hlavacek
 Lincoln P. Brower
 Tom Budlong
 Louise T. Chow and Thomas R. Broker
 Juliana Cohen in memory of Steve Paul
 Laura Cotts
 Thomas R. Crum
 Denise Dethlefsen
 Robert Dismukes and Barbara Burian
 Benjamin Drummond
 EarthShare
 Jane Farrar
 Abigail Faulkner
 Charles S. Faulkner II
 Daniel J. Gare
 Lydia Garvey
 Sharon Gaskill
 Mark M. Giese
 Elaine R. Goldman
 Thomas Hall

★ Multi-year pledge commitment

Robert and Sharon Handelsman
 Charles Heywood
 Milton and Louise Hollander
 Kirsten R. Holmquist
 Ralph Lee Hopkins
 Susan Hostler
 Paula R. Katz
 Gene A. Kent
 Donald and Barbara Kusler
 Thomas Ledig
 Jacopo Lenzi
 Ron Lockwood
 Bernice C. Maertz
 Philip Margolis
 Nancy B. Marsh
 Martha Gabe
 Karen A. McDonough in memory of Hazel Moschetti
 Jonathan and Julia Milne in honor of all those who protect our environment
 Georgia Minser
 Daniel Mooney
 William and Terry Moore
 Joel Myerson
 Network for Good
 Elaine Charkowski and Edward Oberweiser
 Louise and Will Pape
 V. Sidney Raines
 David G. Rich
 Janet Rollin
 Polly Ross
 Nathan Rydman
 Henry Lyman and Noele Sandoz
 Pierre F. Schlemel
 Daniel and Joanne Shively
 Helen Shoup in honor of Jen Piel
 Randall Siebert
 Frederick J. Slyfield
 Jeffrey A. Soots
 Bob Stoecker
 Donna Stone
 Larry and Ann Sullivan
 Warren Taylor in memory of Laura Sedgwick
 Tracy C. Thompson in memory of Phoenix - the cat
 Ric Watkins

🏹 Wings of LightHawk monthly donor

Stephanie Wells
 Richard and Kathleen Westcott
 Page and Gail Williamson in honor of Chris Boyer
 Donald and Eleanor Wolf
 James A. Wood
 Bryan L. Wyberg
 Claire Zugmeyer

Conservation Partner Donors

Aspen Valley Land Trust
 Atlantic Salmon Federation
 Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
 Colorado Open Lands
 Columbia Land Conservancy
 Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch
 Elle Est Pas Belle la Vie LPBV
 Friends of the Gualala River
 New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
 Palmer Land Trust
 Sonoran Institute
 Universidad del Valle
 Wildlife Conservation Society, Guatemala
 Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust

Corporate Donors and Matching Gifts

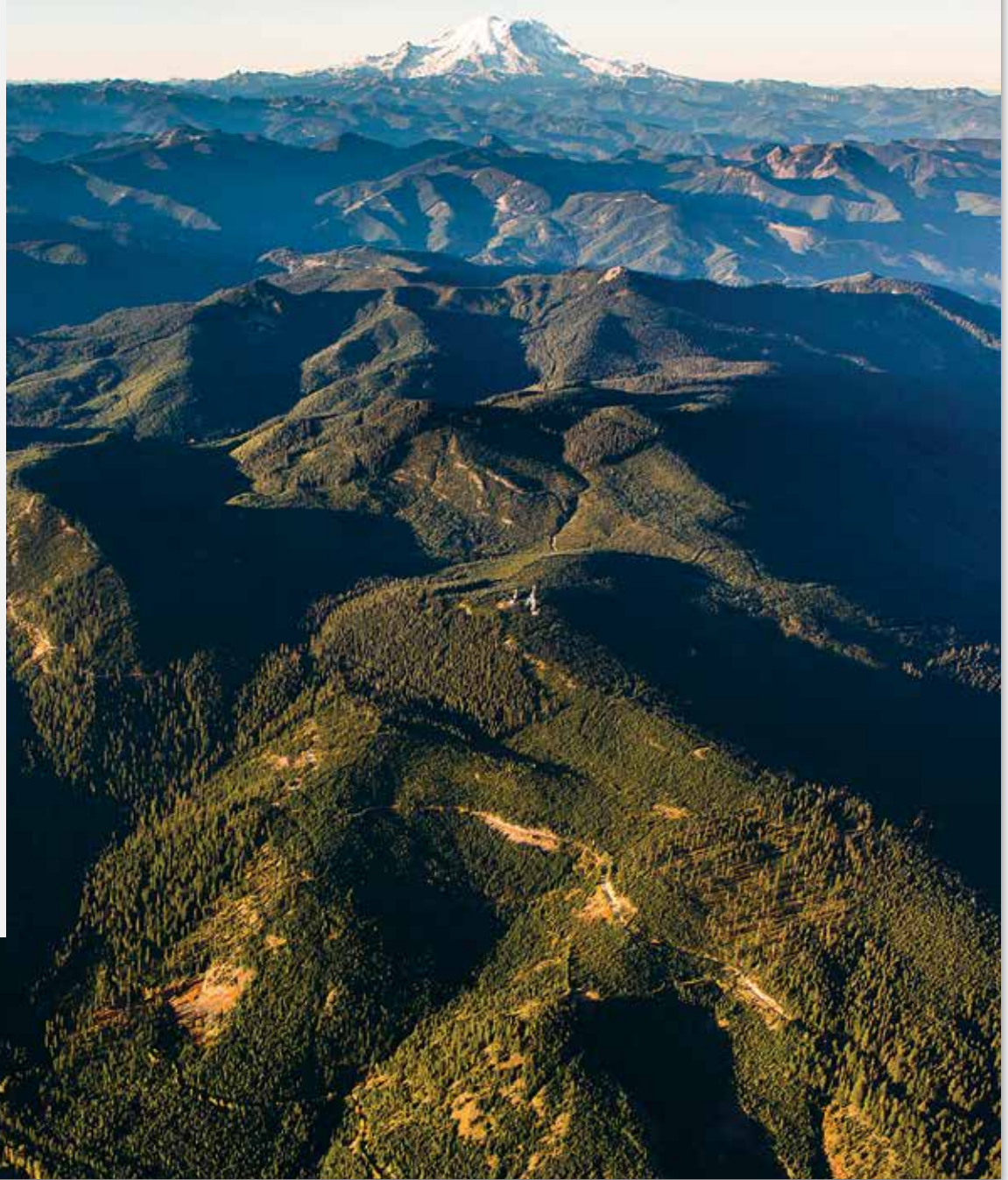
Advantage Aviation
 AmazonSmile Foundation
 Arthur J. Gallagher & Company
 Aviation Supplies & Academics
 Conklin & de Decker Associates, Inc.
 ForeFlight
 Google, Inc.
 Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
 Salesforce Foundation
 Sennheiser Aviation
 Steep Rock Association, Inc.
www.Certify.com

The Spirit of LightHawk award recognizes a pilot who flew a superlative amount of hours for LightHawk, is an outstanding collaborator, and represents the best of the Volunteer Pilot Corps.



“Flying in Central America has become near and dear to my heart, I find it hugely rewarding and full of interesting and exciting experiences. In 2014 I was honored to do two cycles in Guatemala and have become quite comfortable with the flying, the country and its people. Receiving this award is particularly special and meaningful to me.”

- Stephanie Wells, 2014 Spirit of LightHawk Award winner



✈ Pilot-donated flight hours in their own aircraft ✈ Pilot flight hours in LightHawk-owned aircraft

David Acker
 Gabrielle Adelman ✈4
 Kenneth Adelman ✈4
 Bob Allen ✈63
 Eric Anderson
 John Anson
 Richard Arnold*
 James Averett
 Daniel Ballin
 Courtney Barnhorst
 Michael Baum ✈23
 Greg Bedinger ✈50
 John Bell
 Rob Bender
 Milton Bennett ✈4
 Jeff Berg
 Jon Berman ✈3
 Wendy Beya
 Stan Bialek
 Dan Birch ✈3
 Brent Blue
 Don Boccaccio
 Jeff Bonneville
 Steve Bowser ✈3
 Christopher Boyer ✈25
 Scott Brewster ✈5
 William Brine
 Ralph Britton ✈9
 Jason Brooks
 Phil Brown
 Tom Bryant ✈2
 James Buck
 Eileen Burger
 Gregory Burnett ✈5
 Thomas Buttgenbach
 Jim Cameron
 Jim Carlson
 Anthony Carson ✈4
 Larry Cazier
 Linda Chism ✈5
 John Chlopek
 Jeff Clarke
 Frederick Colby

David Cole ✈2
 David Comarow ✈2
 Wayne Connor ✈3
 Michael Conway ✈6
 Denise Corcoran
 Sharky Cornell
 Robert Costello
 Charles Crinnian
 Douglas Dahl
 Edward DeCastro ✈4
 Claudette DeCourley
 Andy Dunigan
 Rick Durden
 Joseph DuRousseau ✈5
 C. Rudy Engholm
 Jon Engle
 Daniel Evans
 William Faulkner ✈3
 John Feagin
 Les Filler
 Richard Filson
 Joseph Fischetti
 Dennis Fitzpatrick
 Eric Fogelin
 John French ✈2
 Jamie Gamble ✈23
 Mark Gaponoff
 Steven Garman ✈6
 Bernard Gateau ✈5
 Peter Geiler
 Lee Gerstein
 Bob Gill
 Clifford Gilland
 Robert Glorioso
 Reg Goodwin ✈9
 Shane Gorman
 Lane Gormley
 Kelly Gottlieb
 Jim Grady ✈29
 Eric Grant ✈4
 Ney Grant ✈4
 Richard Greenawald
 Hawk Greenway

Thomas Haas ✈9
 Jeff Hamilton
 Hunter Handsfield ✈2
 Douglas Harford
 Barry Harper ✈9
 John Hart
 Hal Hayden ✈2
 Jeffrey Hazlett
 Pat Healy ✈7
 Timothy Hendricks
Richard Hendrickson
 Randy Henry
 Bill Hewett
 Charles Heywood ✈38
 Jerry Hoogerwerf
 Richard Hoover
 Jim Houser ✈11
 Joe Howley
 Bruce Huester
 Arthur Hussey III
 Luther Irwin
 Stephen Isom ✈1
 Richard Jacobs
 Michael Jesch ✈3
 Dean Johnson
 Kirk Johnson
 Thomas Jordan ✈12
 John Kamburoff
 Jerry Karlsberg
 Neil Kaye
 Robert Keller ✈50 ✈8
 Alan Kinback ✈14
 Martha King
 John King
 Steve Knaebel
 Jim Knowles ✈30
 Rick Koril
 David Kunkel ✈5
 Paul Kutler ✈4
 Fred Lagno
 Timothy Lapage
 Tom LeCompte ✈4
 Andy Lee

John-Michael Lee ✈18
 Ray Lee ✈4
 Ted Leenerts
 Roy Lewallen ✈21
 Gary Lickle
 Robert Lober
 Brian Locascio
 Paul Loch
 Jack Long ✈30
 Samuel Long
 Allen Low
 Alan Lukas
 Pavel Lukes ✈1
 Douglas Lumgair
 Noel Luneau
 Randy Luskey
 Jeanne MacPherson
 John Mahany
 Miguel Marin
 John Martin
 Carl Mattson ✈5
 Michael Maya Charles ✈3
 Michael McBride
 Bruce McLean
 Mike McNamara ✈11
 Charles Meili
 Jack Merritt
 Wolfgang Meyn ✈6
 David Miller
 Kevin Moore
 Tony Moradian ✈5
 Fredric Moskol ✈3
 Russell Munson
 Wayne Munson
 David Murphy
 Arlene Myers ✈5
 Ken Newbury
 Janice Newman
 Bill Nicolai ✈5
 Jane Nicolai ✈7
 Peter Niewieroski ✈14
 Gerold Noyes
 Geoffrey Nye

Stephen Parker
 Alejandro Parra
 Carl Pesce
 Bob Peterson ✈5
 Larry Petro
 Steve Phillabaum
 Cynthia Pickett
 Ben Pierce
 John Plaza
 Geoff Pope ✈6 ✈51
 John Pryor ✈2
 Sandy Quillen
 Jim Richards
 Patrick Riley
 Stephen Robbins
 Leon Robert
 Lisa Robertson ✈2
 Stephen H. Robertson ✈2
 James Robinson
 Al Rollins*
 Jane Roosevelt ✈4
 Eric Ross ✈4
 Polly Ross
 Rob Ross ✈2
 Jimmy Roswell ✈30
 Bill Rush ✈36 ✈89
 Mel Rushton
 George Ryan
 Scott Ryan
 Nathan Rydman
 Michael Schaffer ✈3
 Elmer Schettler
 Merry Schroeder ✈5
 Chuck Schroll ✈33
 Richard Sedgwick
 Ken Shapiro
 Alan Sheiness
 Allan Silverstein
 Bud Sittig ✈2 ✈80
 Skip Slyfield
 Chris Snideman
 Richard Spencer
 Jochen Spengler

Bob Stoecker
 Dick Stone
 James Stover
 Michael Sutton ✈10
 Larry Swanson ✈13
 Bill Tarmey
 Robert Thomas
 Zachary Thomas
 Art Thompson
 Dan Thompson
 McHenry Tichenor
 Tom Tillman
 G. Val Tollefson
 Lanny Tønning
 David Trilling*
 Marijke Unger
 Michael Venturino ✈24
 Matt Verdieck
 Armando Vilches
 Varlin Vissepo
 Philip Walker ✈11
 Richard Walker
 Charles Walling
 Daniel Ward
 Keith Ward
 Terri Watson
 Jeffrey Weiss
 Peter Welles
 Stephanie Wells ✈4 ✈106
 Cory West
 Pete White
 Gerry Whitley
 Judston Wickwire
 Brian Williams
 Rhon Williams ✈2
 Steve Williams
 John Wilson
 Sarah Wilson
 Brent Witters
 Aaron Woolsey
 Will Worthington ✈62
 Andy Young ✈4
 Mark Zaller ✈3

VP Aircraft— 796 hours

LightHawk Aircraft— 443 hours

* Retired
 Deceased

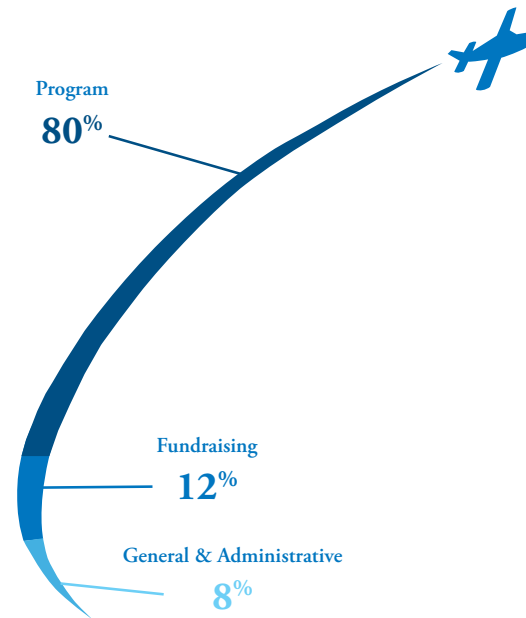
Volunteer Pilot Roster as of April 7, 2015



“The flight reinforced my understanding of land connectivity, how much activity is currently underway and where the values may exist. This information can greatly assist the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust in our discussions about how and where to invest.”

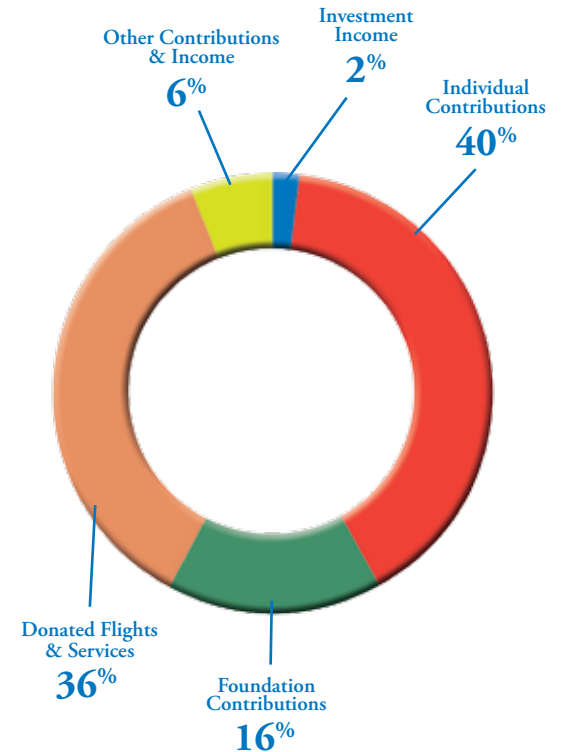
Bob Berger of Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust was part of a mission with LightHawk and Sonoran Institute exploring smart renewable energy generation and transmission siting in Arizona.

Where Your Support Goes



For 2014, 80% of LightHawk’s annual in-kind and cash expenses were attributed to program delivery.

Revenue Sources



Individual cash and inkind donations made up 76% of our total revenue in 2014

Financial Statements

Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2014

Support and Revenue

Individual Contributions.....	\$730,913
Organizational Contributions	\$289,006
Donated Flight and Misc. Service and Materials.....	\$656,188
Other Revenue, Interest and Dividends.....	\$122,338
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments.....	\$31,288
Total Support and Revenue.....	\$1,829,733

Expenses

Program - LightHawk Costs.....	\$1,096,348
Program - Volunteer Pilot Donated Flights....	\$467,763
Program - Volunteer Pilot Donated Fuel	\$122,928
Fundraising and Donor Communications.....	\$255,769
General and Administration	\$157,877
Total Expenses	\$2,100,685

Change in Net Assets (\$270,952)

Net Assets, beginning of year.....	\$2,773,874
Net Assets, end of year	\$2,502,922

Financial Position

December 31, 2014

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$914,185
Unconditional Promises to Give.....	\$558,084
Prepaid Expenses.....	\$79,518
Investments	\$842,647
Property and Equipment	\$182,375
Total Assets	\$2,576,809

Liabilities

Accounts Payable.....	\$73,887
Total Liabilities	\$73,887

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$1,039,707
Temporarily Restricted	\$929,095
Permanently Restricted.....	\$534,120
Total Net Assets.....	\$2,502,922

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$2,576,809



From an operational standpoint, 2014 was a year of transition and renewed focus for LightHawk. New leadership brought an opportunity to turn our attention to conservation strategy and align our staff with the new strategic plan. Our revenues slowed a bit during this transitional year leading to a net asset decrease of \$270K. However, I believe LightHawk is well poised for 2015 with a strong balance sheet reflecting nearly 8 months of operating reserves and over \$500K pledged donations receivable during the year.

– Emilie Ryan, Chief Financial Officer

Audited Financial Statement and IRS form 990 may be obtained on our website www.lighthawk.org or by contacting eryan@lighthawk.org.

Advisory Group



Brent Blue
Jackson, Wyoming



Tom McMurray
Jackson, Wyoming



Sally Ranney
Colorado and
Patagonia



Michael Sutton
Carmel Valley,
California



Terri Watson
Kailua, Hawaii



Brian Williams
Abu Dhabi,
United Arab Emirates

Staff



Greg Bedinger
Pilot Outreach Manager



Ryan Boggs
Chief Program Officer



Patti Carter
Development Assistant



Bev Gabe
*Communications
Manager*



Jonathan Milne
*Atlantic Region
Program Manager*



Lee Pagni
Program Specialist



John Pryor
Executive Director



Tara Rowe
Flight Coordinator



Emilie Ryan
*Chief Financial
Officer*



Christine Steele
*Pacific Region
Program Manager*



Yendra Ruiz Tencza
*Mesoamerica Flight
Coordinator*



Armando J. Ubeda
*Mesoamerica and
Gulf of Mexico
Program Manager*

Board of Directors

Officers



Josh Marvil
Chairman
Yarmouth, Maine



Jon Engle
Vice Chair
Charleston, SC



Will Worthington
Treasurer
Carefree, Arizona



Tuck Colby
Secretary
Sarasota, Florida



Barry Baker, Ph.D.
Fort Collins,
Colorado



Russ Cowart
Fort Collins, CO



Norissa Giangola
Washington, DC



María José González
Bogotá, Colombia



Tom Haas
Durham, NH



Steve Knaebel
Mexico City, Mexico



David Kunkel
Boulder, Colorado



**Lawrence A. "Bud"
Sittig**
Centennial, Colorado



Phil Walker
Bethesda, MD



How LightHawk Accelerates Conservation Success



Our Volunteer Pilots

bring their skill and dedication to provide the powerful perspective of flight to our conservation partners.



Our Supporters

provide the financial lift to mobilize LightHawk's conservation program.



Our Conservation Partners

rely upon LightHawk to accelerate conservation outcomes through flights that

1. foster dialogue and build consensus.
2. promote informed decision-making.
3. improve the efficiency and effectiveness of conservation action.



📷 Volunteer Pilots: VP Jim Grady image by Stephen DeWitt/Lodgepole Project, Partners: Belize marine mammal survey partners and VP Rick Durden image by Tony Rath/tonyrath.com, Supporters: Audrey Benedict image by Wendy Shattil

Front cover: LightHawk and photographer Michael Melford flew over the Owyhee River near the Idaho/Oregon border for this image appearing in National Geographic Magazine's feature on Wild and Scenic Rivers in America. "Getting the big picture is so important to telling the story," remarked Melford, "LightHawk made that possible."



PO Box 2710
Telluride, CO 81435
970-797-9355
www.lighthawk.org

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