



A powerful perspective to inspire lasting stewardship

2007
Annual Report



“What we see, we can understand.
What we understand, we can love.
And what we truly love, we will protect.”

Forty years ago, lunar astronaut William Anders captured a photograph that forever redefined the way we see our planet. For the first time, we saw Earth in its entirety. Our home, so rich and abundant, suddenly appeared as a small bluish marble alone in the infinite blackness of space.

Closer to home, LightHawk makes this powerful perspective available to help affect on-the-ground environmental choices.

When decision-makers see the “big picture” from above, they seldom see the things that divide us: county, state, and national boundaries, voting districts, federal or private land boundaries. Instead, they recount the things that unite us: profound beauty and the connectedness of the features seen below.

Even when altered landscapes are not beautiful, the view is still hopeful, because hope comes from knowing what is worth protecting for future generations, and knowing that we can make a difference. What we see, we can understand. What we understand, we can love. And what we truly love, we will protect.

LightHawk’s role is to convert abstractions into reality. We know from experience that when we connect the view from above with peoples’ hearts and minds, it transcends differences, builds commitment, and inspires genuine stewardship.

Rudy

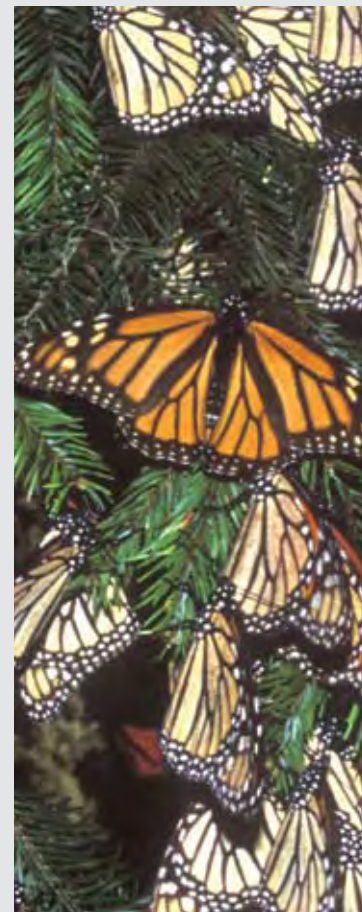
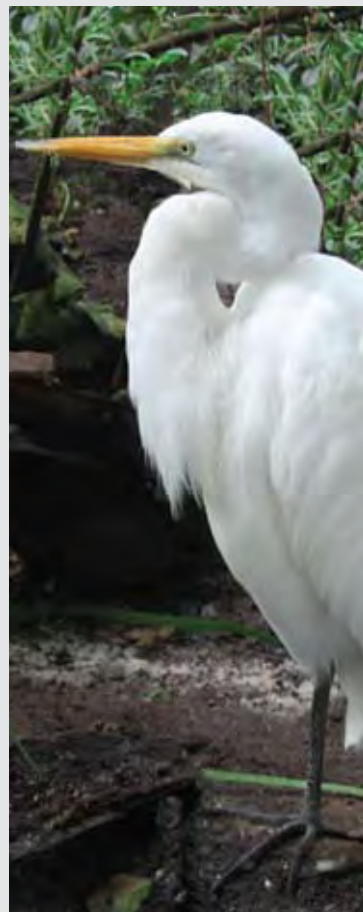
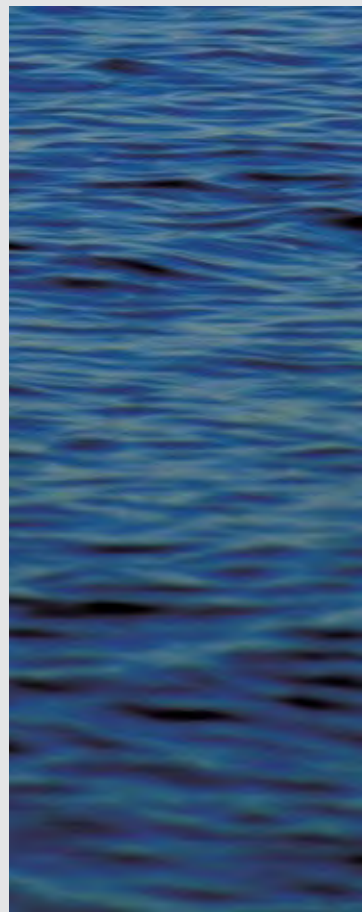
C. Rudy Engholm
Executive Director





Our Mission

To champion environmental protection through the unique perspective of flight.



“I wonder what will be left for our grandchildren and great grandchildren. I want to do whatever I can to help...”

- George Simchuk, Volunteer Pilot

Q&A with David Kunkel

Chairman, Board of Directors

Q: How does LightHawk work with conservation partners?

A: LightHawk accelerates the efforts of our partners through donated flights which are especially important because many of our partners would not be able to gain the powerful aerial perspective without us. We recruit the right pilot in the right aircraft with the right participants to provide a powerful perspective on their issue or area of concern.

Q: What's so special about the aerial perspective LightHawk provides?

A: Often, there's a conversion moment in flight - a light goes on in the passenger's head. And there's just no substitute for the view from a light aircraft. We have seen that this perspective influences people to be good stewards of the land.



David

David Kunkel
Chairman, Board of Directors

Q: What sets LightHawk apart from other conservation groups?

A: Well, LightHawk is not a traditional advocacy group. Rather, we provide an extraordinarily powerful tool to our partners. There are many success stories, many issues that have been won by our partners where LightHawk flights made all the difference.

Q: Who are your volunteer pilots?

A: They're an interesting, adventurous and passionate bunch. LightHawk pilots love to fly and if they can fly for a good cause, all the better. I've been a volunteer pilot for a number of years and I can tell you it's extremely gratifying to fly LightHawk missions.

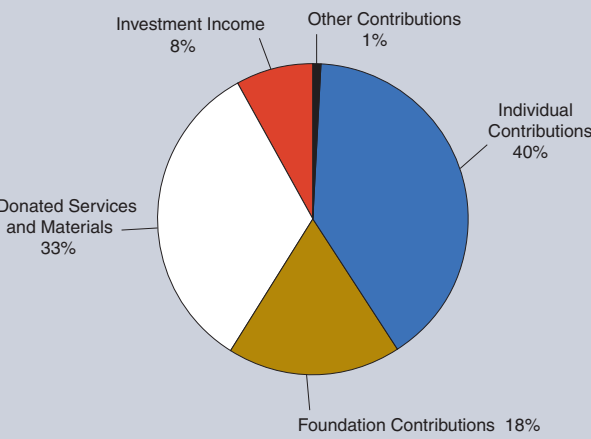
Q: How does LightHawk conduct its flight operations?

A: LightHawk covers much of the U.S., Mexico, and Central America with a small, highly-skilled, committed staff that reviews and/or initiates flight requests. Once we've decided to do a flight, we find a volunteer pilot, organize all logistics, coach groups on the best use of flight, and provide advice on everything from aerial photography to media event planning. Most staff have home offices, so we operate with very low overhead and as a result, we're a very nimble organization.



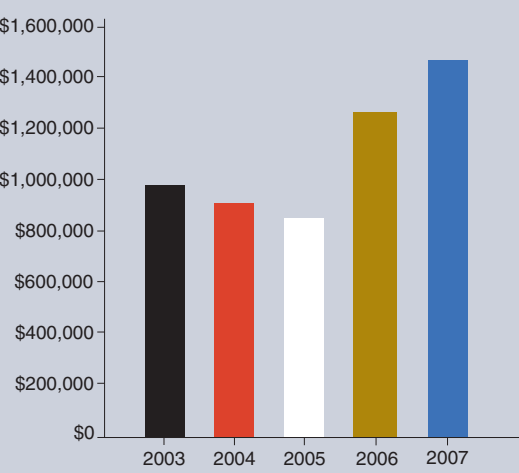
Purgatoire River canyon, Colorado. Wendy Shattil/Bob Rozinski/LightHawk

2007 Revenue Sources



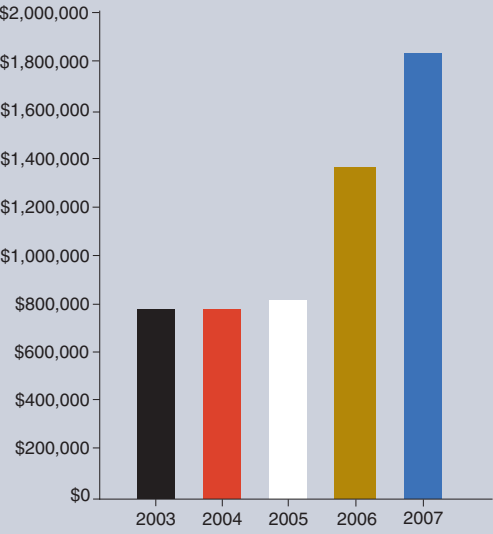
Individual contributions made up 73% of our total revenue in 2007.

5 Year Revenue Growth



LightHawk’s annual revenues have increased by 50% since 2003. This has enabled us to begin building a one year operating reserve.

Net Asset Growth



LightHawk’s net asset value has increased by over \$1M or 138% in five years. The increase includes one aircraft donated in 2007, growth in our endowment investments, and the establishment of an operating reserve with a balance of over \$500K at YE2007. LightHawk has \$100K in long term debt, less than 5% of our asset value.

Statement of Financial Position

Year Ended December 31, 2007

Support and Revenue

Individual Contributions.....	\$582,489
Foundation Contributions	\$270,600
Donated Services and Materials.....	\$482,533
Other Contributions	\$10,135
Other Revenue, Interest and Dividends.....	\$64,078
Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments.....	\$56,947

Total Revenue and Support..... 1,466,782

Expenses

Program- LightHawk Costs.....	\$459,269
Program- Volunteer Pilot Donated Flights.....	\$282,533
Fundraising and Membership.....	\$143,259
General and Administration	\$89,836

Total Expense..... \$974,897

Change in Net Assets

Net Assets (deficit), beginning of year	\$1,358,522
Net assets (deficit), end of year.....	\$1,850,407

Audited Financial Statement and IRS form 990 may be obtained by writing LightHawk, 304 Main Street, Suite 14, PO Box 653, Lander, WY 82520 or eryl@lighthawk.org

Balance Sheet

Year Ended December 31, 2007

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$748,964
Unconditional Promises to Give.....	\$136,000
Prepaid Expenses	\$3,568
Investments	\$755,255
Property and Equipment	\$352,528

Total Assets \$1,996,315

Liabilities

Accounts Payable.....	\$45,908
Long-term Debt	\$100,000

Total Liabilities..... \$145,908

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$958,918
Temporarily Restricted	\$132,378
Permanently Restricted.....	\$759,111

Total Net Assets..... \$1,850,407

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$1,996,315



Mesoamerica

Tracking Jaguars in Guatemala

In 2007, we continued our work with jaguar researchers from Unidos para la Conservación A.C. and Defensores de la Naturaleza in Laguna del Tigre National Park, Guatemala. The researchers tracked nine collared jaguars and are using aerial observations to monitor the state of the jaguar's habitat. Forest fires, deforestation, illegal logging, and wildlife poaching are constant threats to the jaguars and their forest habitat. With few resources and millions of acres to protect across eight different countries, our partners rely on LightHawk overflights to efficiently monitor and respond to the myriad of illegal activities that threaten jaguars and the other unique species of Mesoamerica.

Mesoamerica Program Region: Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

“The information we gathered on the location of the jaguars...is vital for us. Without the aerial surveys our work would be much harder. Thank you!”

- Duane Azuara-Santiago, Unidos para la Conservación



An aerial photograph taken from the perspective of someone inside a LightHawk aircraft, looking out over the central California coastline. The image shows a vast expanse of green, forested hills and mountains that slope down to a sandy beach and the ocean. The water is a deep blue, and the sky is a pale, hazy blue. The aircraft's wing and part of its fuselage are visible in the upper right corner, framing the view.

“I want to thank LightHawk for providing me with the chance to appreciate how the ocean meets California’s Central coast from an amazing 2000-foot-high view”

-Farida Jhabvala, Program Assistant, Resource Media

Pacific

Marine Protected Areas

Until recently, California’s extraordinary coastal and marine ecosystems were largely unprotected and in decline. The diving community was witness to a drop-off in marine life, the fishing industries experienced starkly reduced catches from historic levels over two decades, and surfers and families repeatedly found themselves shut out of their favorite beaches because of dangerous bacteria levels in the water.

After years of work, the state of California established a network of 29 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) along the central coast, designed to protect and restore marine life and ecosystems from threats ranging from coastal development to unsustainable fishing practices, while enhancing recreational and ocean research opportunities. LightHawk flights played a critical role in establishing these MPAs by allowing local stakeholders and members of the public to experience firsthand the deep undersea canyons, rich kelp forests, rocky reefs, and other underwater habitats visible from the air and vital to healthy marine habitats and abundant fish and wildlife populations.

Pacific Program Region: California, Oregon and Washington with limited operations in Alaska, British Columbia and Baja California.

Eastern

Protecting the Maine Woods

LightHawk pilots brought new understanding to the hotly disputed proposal for a sprawling resort and luxury home development on Maine's Moosehead Lake. Multiple flights allowed the Natural Resources Council of Maine and Maine Audubon to gather information to hone their argument against the developer's original plans. The groups seek not to halt development but to ensure that development is supportive of existing communities and balanced by meaningful conservation in this spectacular region.

LightHawk has a long-standing dedication to protecting the northern temperate forest of the eastern United States and Canada. The Maine Woods is a keystone of this once contiguous expanse of forest ecosystems running from New Brunswick through the Allegheny Highlands of northern Pennsylvania. While development may be coming, LightHawk resources can assist in creating balanced solutions to challenges posed by such growth.

Eastern Program Region: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont.

“This flight provided a view of the most remote and threatened areas...that cannot be truly appreciated driving around the logging roads.”

- Ann M. Freeman, Norman, Hanson & DeTroy, LLC Legal Counsel



Rockies

Protecting “America’s Outback”

When Biodiversity Conservation Alliance (BCA) needed flights to familiarize Wyoming’s Environmental Quality Council with Adobe Town in the Red Desert, LightHawk provided eye-opening educational tours over this spectacular, but little-known area. BCA and seven other groups had petitioned the Council to designate Adobe Town as “Very Rare and Uncommon,” which would help avoid oil and gas leasing there by land managers. Adobe Town is often described as having National Park-caliber scenery and boasts the state’s largest wild horse herd. LightHawk and our partners believed that if Council members could see this area for themselves, it would lead to protection efforts. Sure enough, Adobe Town received this designation after our flights, and four of the five members who voted in favor of the designation had been LightHawk passengers.

Rockies Program Region: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming with limited operations in Alberta.



“...the flyover certainly was the most effective way of showing the Commission the true nature of the place.

- Carmi McLean, Community Outreach Director, Biodiversity Conservation Alliance



Emerging Regions: Great Lakes

Watching over the Water

Protecting the water quality of the Great Lakes and its watersheds is essential to ecological and human health in the region. The lakes house 22% of the world's fresh water supply which supports an array of wildlife and supplies drinking water to tens of millions of people. LightHawk flights with the Environmentally Concerned

Citizens of South Central Michigan and Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter are invaluable to their efforts to curtail damage to local waterways by industrial dairy operations. The groups are asking for a moratorium on all industrial facility expansion and for effective environmental regulation, currently lacking, of the industry. Aerial images increased public and media awareness of these oversized dairy operations and resulted in numerous state agency penalties over the past two years for ongoing, flagrant pollution of waterways.

In LightHawk's Emerging Regions, flight requests are accepted and managed as they are in our core regions, but in these areas volunteer pilot recruitment and strategic outreach to conservation partners is not actively conducted at this time. Our work in the Midwest, Florida, and Caribbean grows each year through networking and the willingness of many of our volunteer pilots to travel far from home to further LightHawk's mission.

“A picture from the air can quickly point out dangerous and uncontrolled pollution and allows us to give the enforcement agencies what they need to begin investigating the worst polluters.”

- Anne Woiwode, State Director, Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter

Volunteer Pilot Corps

✕ Gabrielle Adelman	✕ David Downey	A.C. Jayne	✕ Jane Nicolai	James Seith
✕ Robert Andrews	Timothy Drager	Kirk Johnson	✕ Steve Nicoll	Michael Sharp
Richard Arnold	✕ Rick Durden	✕ Robert Keller, Jr.	James Noyes	✕ Mark Shelley
Richard Axelrod	C. Rudy Engholm	✕ John W. Keys III, <i>In Memoriam</i>	✕ Malcolm Ohl	Allan Silverstein
Michael Baum	Jon Engle	✕ Richard Kimball	Robert Ovanin	George Simchuck
✕ Greg Bedinger	Gary Engler	Alan Kinback	David Palmer	Frederick J. Slyfield, II
✕ Milton Bennett	✕ Daniel Evans	Paul Kinzelman	Alan Parnass	✕ Gene Steffen
<i>Anissa Berry-Frick</i>	Frank Farwell	Steve Knaebel	Stephen Paul	✕ Edward Steinman
Grant Besley	John Feagin	✕ David Kunkel	<i>Woodward Payne</i>	David Stern
Wendy Ross Beye	✕ Joseph Fischetti	John Kusianovich	Chester Peterson, Jr.	Michael Sullivan
Stan Bialek	Charles Fligel	Timothy Lapage	✕ Robert Peterson	✕ Michael Sutton
Richard Bicknell	✕ Eric Fogelin	Jim Leachman	Benjamin C. Pierce	✕ Larry Swanson
Donald Boccaccio	✕ Steven Garman	John Michael Lee	William Pinkus	Art Thompson
Jeff Bonneville	✕ Bob Gill	✕ Raymond Lee	Geoff Pope	✕ G. Val Tollefson
Jon Galt Bowman	✕ Reginald Goodwin	<i>Richard Lippner</i>	Ric Quisenberry	Thomas G. Tuxill
✕ Christopher Boyer	Kelly Gottlieb	Carl Lincoln	Rick Ray	Nick Ulman
Edgar Boyles	✕ James Grady	Ruthmary Lovitt	✕ Fred Reimers	Matt Verdieck
Ralph Britton	William Green	Allen Low	✕ George Ritter	✕ Richard Walker
Gregory Burnett	Stephen Greenway	Alan Lukas	✕ Kevin Roache	Terri Watson
Jeremiah Burns	✕ Jeff Hamilton	✕ Tom Maurer	✕ Lisa Robertson	R. Shelton “Doc” White
Jim Cameron	James Barry Harper	Michael McBride	Steve Robertson	Pritchard White
James Carlson	Patrick Healy	✕ David McConnell	Ted Robinson	✕ Brian Williams
Everett Cassagneres	Richard H. Hendrickson	Bruce McGregor	Glenn Rogers	✕ Stephen Williams
✕ Saul Chaikin	William J. Hewett	✕ Bruce McLean	✕ James A. Rollins	John Wilson
Ed Coffman	Charles Heywood	✕ Mike McNamara	Jane Rosevelt	Brent Witters
F. Jordan Colby	Kemp Hiatt	✕ Dan Meyer	Pauline Ross	Helen Woods
Peter Coltman	Gerald Hoogerwerf	Andrew Moffat	Robert Ross	✕ Will Worthington
Duane Cornell	Richard Hoover	Douglas J. Monger	✕ Scott Ryan	Ken Wyrick
Dean Cully	✕ Hugh Horning	James Moore	Elmer Schettler	✕ Andy Young
James M. Cunningham	Dan Hubert	✕ David Murphy	✕ Merry Schroeder	Bradley Zeve
<i>Frank Davis</i>	✕ Bruce Huester	Larry Musarra, <i>In Memoriam</i>	✕ Chuck Schroll	
Robert Dismukes	Arthur Hussey III	Joris Naiman		
Tom Dittmar	Luther Irwin	Lewis Nash		

✕ Volunteer Pilots flying missions in 2007
Retired from the Volunteer Pilot Corps 2007



“For me, it’s really a way to use the airplane and my flying skills for a good purpose. I love hiking and canoeing in Maine and New Hampshire. By flying for LightHawk I can help conservation groups ensure that these opportunities will continue to be available to everyone in the future.”

- James A. Rollins, Volunteer Pilot

Above Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula.
Erin Kunkel Photography/LightHawk

Partners in Conservation

2007 Missions

Marty Anderson/MCHT/LightHawk

Mesoamerica Region

Belize

- Aguacaliente Management Team (AMT)
- Banana Growers Association
- Belize Audubon Society (BAS)
- Belize Forest Department
- Belize Foundation for Research and Environmental Education (BFREE)
- The Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center (TBZ)
- Bladen Management Consortium
- Ducks Unlimited
- Forest And Marine Reserves Association of Caye Caulker (FAMRACC)
- Friends for Conservation and Development
- Friends of Nature
- Oceanic Society
- The Peregrine Fund
- Programme for Belize
- Rio Blanco Mayan Association
- Sarstoon Temash Institute for Indigenous Management (SATIIM)
- The Siwa-ban Foundation
- Smithsonian Institution
- Toledo Association for Sustainable Tourism and Empowerment (TASTE)
- University of Arizona
- University of Belize
- Wildlife Care Center
- Wildlife Trust

Costa Rica

- Asociación de Comunidades Ecologistas Usuarias del Golfo de Nicoya (CEUS del Golfo)
- Centro Científico Tropical
- Conservation International
- Ducks Unlimited
- Fund for Costa Rica
- Fundación Ecológica del Cornelio de Acosta (FUNDECOA)
- Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía (MINAE)
- Rainforest Alliance
- Sistema de Áreas de Conservación Nacional (SINAC)
- Universidad Nacional

El Salvador

- Ducks Unlimited

Guatemala

- Asociación Balam
- Centro de Monitoreo y Evaluación del CONAP- CEMEC
- Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (CONAP)
- Defensores de la Naturaleza
- Ducks Unlimited
- Instituto de Antropología e Historia
- Prensa Libre
- ProPetén
- Trópico Verde
- University of Florida
- USAID
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Yale University

Honduras

- Ducks Unlimited
- Fundación Parque Nacional Pico Bonito
- Loma Linda University
- USAID/MIRA

Mexico

- Amigos de Sian Ka'an
- Greenpeace México
- Instituto Nacional de Ecología
- Sweetbriar College, Dr. Lincoln Brower
- Universidad Veracruzana

Nicaragua

- Ducks Unlimited

Eastern Region

- Allegheny Defense Project
- Assateague Coastal Trust
- Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks
- Bioscape Initiative, Wildlife Trust
- Blue Hills Heritage Trust
- Boothbay Regional Land Trust
- Central and Western New York Chapter of The Nature Conservancy
- Downeast Lakes Land Trust
- Forest Watch
- Janet McMahon, *ecologist*
- Maine Audubon
- Maine Coast Heritage Trust
- Mote Marine Lab, Center for Shark Research
- Natural Resources Council of Maine
- NY Bioscape Initiative
- Open Space Institute
- Presque Isle Audubon Society
- Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
- RESTORE: The North Woods
- Save The Bay, Narragansett Bay
- Scot Miller, photograp
- Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association
- Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance
- Sierra Club Adirondack Committee
- The Adirondack Council
- The Nature Conservancy, Maine
- The Nature Conservancy, Northern New Hampshire Project Office
- Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
- Vermont Natural Resources Council
- Wildlife Trust

Pacific Region

- Alan Bauer Photography
- American Rivers
- Aqua Permanente
- Audubon Canyon Ranch
- California Native Plant Society

- California Wilderness Coalition
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Cascadia Wildlands Project
- Center for Biological Diversity
- Colville Indian Environmental Protection Alliance
- Colville Tribe
- Conservation Northwest
- Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch
- Erin Kunkel Photography
- Forest Ethics
- Friends for the Wetlands of Issaquah Northfork
- Friends of Mount Adams
- Friends of the Gualala River
- Friends of the River
- Gifford Pinchot Task Force
- Kachemak Heritage Land Trust
- Kip Evans Photography
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- National Geographic
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Oceanic Society
- Oregon Wild
- Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
- Partnership for Rural King County
- Pilchuck Audubon Society
- Resource Media
- Rob Badger Photography
- San Bruno Mountain Watch
- Save the Bay
- Save the Wild Rogue
- Sierra Club, Cascade Chapter
- SnoPORCH
- Snowlands Network
- Stanford Law Clinic
- Sustainable Northwest
- Thalassa Consulting
- The Ocean Conservancy
- The Otter Project
- Trout Unlimited Alaska
- Water Watch of Oregon
- WildCoast

Rockies Region

- American Wildlands
- Amigos Bravos
- Biodiversity Conservation Alliance
- Bitterroot River Protection Association
- Bitterrooters for Planning
- Cabinet Resource Group
- Center for Biological Diversity
- Clark Fork Coalition
- Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Colorado Environmental Coalition
- Colorado Open Lands
- Colorado Trout Unlimited
- Colorado Wild
- Eagle County Government
- Earthjustice
- Felt Soul Media
- Four Corners Media
- Friends of Lolo Peak
- Friends of the Bitterroot
- Friends of the Clearwater
- Friends of the Santa Cruz River
- Great Burn Study Group
- Greater Yellowstone Coalition
- Headwaters Economics
- Jack Dykinga Photography
- Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance
- Montana Wilderness Association
- National Geographic Magazine
- National Wildlife Federation, Northern Rockies Office
- New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Selkirk Conservation Alliance
- Shattil/Rozinski Photography
- Sonoran Institute
- Southern Rockies Conservation Alliance
- The Nature Conservancy, Phoenix Conservation Center
- The Nature Conservancy, Verde River Program
- The Nature Conservancy of Colorado

- The Wilderness Society, Four Corners Regional Office
- The Wilderness Society, Central Rockies Office
- Western Watersheds Project
- Wilderness Workshop
- Wyoming Environmental Quality Council

Emerging Regions

- Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan
- Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter
- The Peregrine Fund

Foundation Support

- Appleby Foundation
- Beagle Charitable Foundation
- Blue Foundation, Inc.
- Allan and Marilyn Brown Fund
- Bunting Family Foundation
- Butler Conservation Fund
- Christensen Family Foundation
- Compton Foundation Inc.
- Environmental Grantmakers Association
- Phoebe W. Haas Charitable Trust B
- Roy A. Hunt Foundation
- Island Foundation
- Keller Family Fund
- Monterey Bay Aquarium Foundation
- Myers-Ball Foundation, Inc
- Oak Foundation USA
- Resources Legacy Fund Foundation
- Sandler Family Supporting Foundation
- Allan Silverstein Family Foundation
- Stanley Family Fund (2)
- Wiancko Charitable Foundation
- William B. Wiener, Jr. Foundation



Gund Family

A Winged Tribute

When the family of the late Greg Gund sought a way to honor his adventurous spirit and carry on his passion for conservation in Costa Rica, they turned to LightHawk. By gifting Greg’s beloved Cessna 207 airplane to LightHawk, the Gunds found a way for Greg’s legacy to take flight and help LightHawk’s mission to protect the environment in Central America through the unique perspective of flight. Now, as it did under his watch, Greg’s plane continues to fly over landscapes he held close to his heart. And a family’s tribute takes wing to help LightHawk preserve and nurture the health and beauty of the Mesoamerican environment.

With Sincere Appreciation

LightHawk is tremendously grateful to you, our supporters. Without the continued commitment of the many individuals and organizations listed below, our work would not be possible.

We hope you will take pride in all we have accomplished together in 2007.

Patrons (\$10,000+)

Anonymous (2)
Peter and Jane Carpenter
Jeff and Martha Hamilton
David and Gale Kunkel
John and Merry Schroeder

Contributors (\$1,000 – 9,999)

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“You folks have no idea how much I love what you’re doing
and how much I love you for doing it. Thank you so much
on our behalf and on behalf of our future generations.”

- Arnetta Crossman of Fall River Mills, CA

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. A paved road runs along the top of a steep, forested cliff. Below the cliff, the ocean is a vibrant turquoise color, with white waves crashing against dark, rocky shorelines. The water transitions to a deeper blue further out. The overall scene is one of natural beauty and coastal wilderness.

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

LightHawk

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