Dear Friends,

Over the years, Paso Pacífico has used the slogan “Making Connections for Conservation” to describe our approach to conservation. Through your support, the relationships we are building are helping to connect forests and rivers to the coral reefs and sea grass beds of the nearby Pacific Ocean. You connect with us by giving us your support, expertise, and partnership, and we then use these contributions to build a better world. We thank you.

At Paso Pacífico, connections are both literal and figurative. Connections are between people across continents, donors who make personal investments in this cause, and experts who provide ideas and guidance in helping us to design effective programs. The connections are across communities and generations, community rangers mentoring local youth in our Junior Ranger program, and farmers teaching tree-growing techniques to other farmers from communities higher in the watershed. The trees we have planted grow, the branches reach up and out, and they eventually connect to create a forest canopy, creating new pathways for arboreal wildlife to travel.

In this report, you will see indicators that demonstrate our progress during 2014. Yet, our impact goes beyond numbers by creating a transformational change across the landscape. There are three aspects to our approach. First, we practice conservation using a “place-based” method which is grounded in the ecological and social context and which acknowledges that local people must be empowered to take the lead. Second, we design and test innovative projects that respond to local environmental and social needs. These projects often involve a new design or adapt time-tested conservation approaches. These might involve the use of incentives to reward community participation, or may include a technical fix such as the design of nest-boxes based on locally available construction materials. Finally, we embrace our organizational culture that values working at the grass-roots level and is equipped to be nimble in the face of shifting challenges. Presently, we are faced with the threat of an inter-oceanic canal being constructed along the northern end of the Paso del Istmo Biological Corridor. We are preparing for this challenge by focusing on acquiring and setting aside forests, core areas that will be protected from the impacts of increased commerce and human population.

Once again, we thank you for your connection to us and for your belief in the global importance of this work.

With Gratitude,

Sarah Otterstrom
Founder and Executive Director

Founded in 2005, Paso Pacifico’s mission is to restore and conserve the natural ecosystems of Central America’s Pacific slope by collaborating with landowners, local communities and involved organizations to promote ecosystem conservation.

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Front cover: The unique geography of the Paso del Istmo makes it one of the most biologically diverse regions in the world.
The forests along the narrow strip of land between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific Ocean have been subject to deforestation and degradation for decades – but are they still important? In spite of habitat loss, the Paso del Istmo retains some of the region’s largest remaining fragments of tropical dry forest, one of the world’s most endangered ecosystems. These forests are critical for rebuilding a corridor that will connect habitats for wildlife and create a healthy environment for local people. Without the Paso del Istmo Biological Corridor, unique dry forest plants and animals are unable to travel northward from the dry forests of Costa Rica, and rural farmers suffer when rivers go dry and soils go barren without the protection and nutrients provided by trees and wildlife.

The Paso del Istmo is a microcosm of the challenges throughout tropical Latin America where forests are fragmented and yet are biologically diverse and in need of protection. Conservation in a virgin forest is straightforward, but most of the tropical world now looks like the Paso del Istmo. By establishing core protected areas through public and private partnerships, we are addressing the habitat needs of threatened wildlife. Through inclusive activities such as our Junior Ranger program, we are strengthening community support. And by innovating and testing conservation strategies, we are finding new ways to help local people to develop productive and sustainable landscapes. It is challenging to work in this non-pristine landscape, but in doing so, we ensure that the solutions Paso Pacífico develops can be extended to threatened forests throughout the tropics.

We are extremely grateful to the Red de Reservas Silvestres Privadas de Nicaragua (The Nicaraguan Private Reserve Network) and its members for helping us to build our conservation movement. This group is made up of dozens of private landowners who have generously committed their properties for the purpose of biodiversity conservation. These individuals often forgo profits that could be made from intensive agriculture or infrastructure development in order to protect simple things like the beauty of the trees and the health of freshwater.

In 2014, Paso Pacífico worked shoulder-to-shoulder with many members of this network, reserve owners in the Paso del Istmo and beyond. We monitored birds, both migrants and parrots, at reserves including El Jaguar, La Guacamaya, El Aguacate, and Las Fincas. We worked closely with Quelantaro to protect almost 500 sea turtle nests including those of the highly endangered leatherback. We are protecting a very rare frog in collaboration with La Conga and learning about the diversity of bats at Escameca Grande. We are managing and supporting the growth of thousands of native trees planted in 2007 at La Tigra and La Guacamaya. Finally, we are protecting endangered primates and caring for thousands of planted trees at La Guacamaya and Las Fincas Reserves.

Through committed and generous landowners, and with the help of a leading organization like Nicaraguan Private Reserve Network, building corridors is possible.
2014

**2014 HIGHLIGHTS**

- **106** graduates in our Junior Ranger program
- **55** jobs provided in Nicaragua
- **20** artificial nests installed for yellow-naped Amazon parrots
- **21** native stingless beehives managed
- **35,000** native trees planted
- **38,928** hours that rangers protected forest and beaches from poachers
- **5** documented signs of jaguars
- **60** percent increase in spider monkey densities
- **73** community-focused educational workshops
- **9,916** sea turtle hatchlings released to the sea
We are working to build a wildlife corridor in the Paso del Istmo. This region of the world is critically important for conservation as it acts as a land bridge between North and South America. To learn more about this work visit: pasopacifico.org/where-we-work
2014 Financial Statement

Annual Support and Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>$372,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Government Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest and Other Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,407,632</strong></td>
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* This amount includes a $677,683 bequest

Annual Expenses

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,017,916</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Our Approach

Science 39%  Conservation 42%  Education 19%
2014 SUPPORTERS

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Tamara Adams
Brian Aikens
Margaret Allredge
Joan Anderson
Patricia K. Anderson
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We are grateful to the organizations, foundations, and businesses that generously supported Paso Pacífico in 2014.

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Bat Conservation International  Maree Noble/Elizabeth Stumpf-Memorial Foundation  The Raechel and Jackie Foundation
Café Las Flores  Mesoamerican Society for Biology-and Conservation  Rancho Santana
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Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Initiative  Municipalidad de San Juan del Sur  Surf Industry Manufacturers-Association
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Finca Isla Vista  Ocean Conservancy  Turtle Island Restoration-Network
Google  Ornithological Council  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Grupo Pellas  Parrots International  U.S.F.S., International Institute for-Tropical Forestry
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