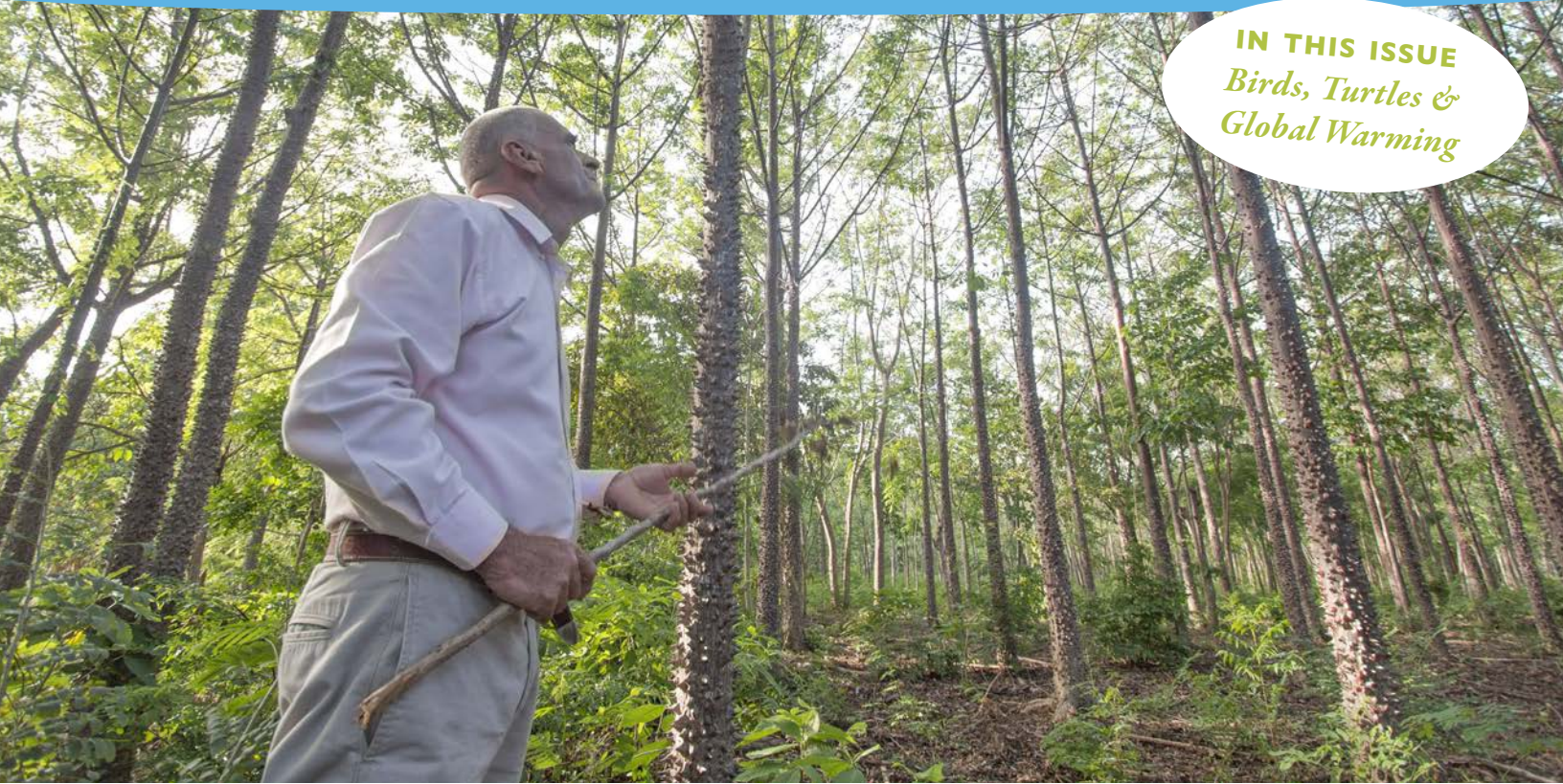


IN THIS ISSUE
*Birds, Turtles &
Global Warming*



From Nursery to Forest, You Fought Climate Change

It's the rainy season in Central America, which means that plants are growing like crazy. Your gifts made a better forest possible! In 2006 in southwestern Nicaragua, rivers and hillsides had many barren areas, which made them vulnerable to floods and made rivers prone to dry up during seasonal droughts. **But thanks to donors like you, local people started planting native trees.** We reached out to former ranchers first, and later welcomed small-scale farmers (above) who wanted to protect their rivers and grow valuable timber and fruit trees.

Over time, donors like you have helped revive forest corridors that make it possible for wildlife to move safely and naturally around the region. These wild pathways helped wildlife flourish. For example, our camera traps just documented a pair of greater grison (*Galictis vittata*, right), a rare and elusive carnivore from the weasel family. This was



Your generosity restored rich habitats for rare animals like the greater grison!

Continued inside



You Gave Safe Havens to Migrating Birds

With global warming, a migrating bird has a more perilous journey. **But you helped preserve safe havens that birds in need visited year after year!**

These days, a migrating bird must endure more parched landscapes and navigate fiercer tropical storms. As it approaches its winter home, the bird is famished and weary, and sorely needs a safe, nourishing place to rest. Sometimes, it finds only burned-out wastelands or sterile crops when it is desperate to rest and eat.

But your donations protected 274 acres of rich forest in the “migratory superhighway” of Central America! *Thousands* of birds, including painted buntings (*Passerina ciris*, below) found rest and safety under your care. And the birds remember: our rangers have recognized individual wood thrushes, yellow warblers, Louisiana waterthrushes, and more who returned again and again to the reserves we manage with your support. **Thank you very much for protecting habitats that sheltered and fed migrating birds in need.**

Director’s Note to You

Dear Friend,

Winter is approaching. Now is a time when many of the birds in our backyards have departed southward to Latin America. When I noticed the western tanagers passing through my yard in early October, my heart filled with gratitude to think of people, like you, who formed a figurative net of care for these sweet birds with flame-colored heads. Each gift you made directly resulted in an action, led by local men, women, and youth, to protect the birds’ wintering habitat.

Your support for Paso Pacifico’s programs demonstrated your deep understanding of the connection between nature and our society’s well-being. As you read this newsletter, I hope you will see how small actions, like planting trees with farmers, can lead to big changes for our planet. Tree planting is just one of the locally-led and tangible things your gifts made possible. From community rangers protecting endangered species to local entrepreneurs taking up sustainable tourism and aquaculture, your investments in our step-by-step approach are transforming the future, over landscapes and across generations.

Your gifts made a difference. I wish you all a beautiful fall and winter season. Thank you so much!



In gratitude,

Sarah M. Otterstrom, Ph.D.
Founder & Executive Director





Continued from front

the first time that a pair has been photographed in western Nicaragua, and your help made it happen.

In the last four years, contributions like yours enabled our focus on core habitats in vital watersheds in the Paso del Istmo, Nicaragua. These core habitats are forest areas that can give animals sanctuary, where they are protected from hunting, harvest and the worst natural disasters. At the Mono Bayo Reserve, community rangers like Jarinton García (left) secured the forest along the river and tended to trees that you helped plant on the mountainside. For example, the rangers made fire breaks and then cut back weeds and vines to allow young trees to grow and secure the soil. And during the last rainy season, rangers strengthened the borders of the Mono Bayo and Quelantero reserves to make them safer for wildlife and provide better jobs to local people. Your support made all this possible.

With each tree you nurtured, you advanced our long-term mission of a healthy wildlife corridor: a landscape dotted with rich forests, vibrant rivers, and sustainable farms. **Thank you for nurturing new trees and expanding the Paso del Istmo wildlife corridor. We are deeply grateful to you!**

You Buffered Baby Sea Turtles from Storms & Rising Temperatures

Global warming is a significant threat to sea turtles. With increasingly ferocious tropical storms, more turtle nests (and hatcheries) are being washed away. For the nests that survive, higher temperatures cause many of the babies to be the same sex, which makes it harder for the species to reproduce.

You made it possible to avoid these disastrous scenarios for the turtles along our coast. Because of

your gifts, turtle nests were moved from flood-prone areas to safer ground. And the Playa El Coco hatchery has flooded several times, but your funds helped us dismantle it and rebuild it further inland.

Both hatcheries have one additional feature: sun shades! These will help ensure even sex distribution among the hatchlings. **Thank you for buffering our local sea turtles from global warming!**





Here's a BIG Idea:

Help Farmers Grow Enough Trees to Save the Planet!

Climate change threatens life on this planet. To fight it, humanity needs easy ways to plant trees, ways that are cheap and include people all over the world. We have a big idea! But this idea can *only* mature and help save our planet through *your* assistance.

You can help grow billions (literally) of new trees by including tropical farmers en masse. In the tropics, many farmers already plant “living fences” and nurture the trees they want, using just their machetes. With your help, 1000 farmers in Central America could create and pilot a compensated system (with an app) to plant trees. These 1000 farmers would grow 20,000 trees with just machetes and simple instructions — no expensive equipment or nurseries needed. Their system could spread across the world, leading to more rural jobs and billions of new trees that remove carbon from the atmosphere and help save our planet.

This big, bold, scalable idea could literally save the planet and our descendants. Will you please make a gift to help rural farmers pilot a BIG idea with *world-saving potential*?

YES! I want to help rural farmers pilot a BIG idea!

Yes! Please use my gift to help rural farmers pilot a big idea that could lead to planet-wide reforestation that *stops climate change*!

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$25 to help rural farmers try out a world-saving idea
- \$50 to help rural farmers pilot a world-saving idea
- \$75 to help rural farmers implement a world-saving idea
- \$_____ to support farmers and the forest as much as I can!



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