

PASO PACÍFICO

MAKING CONNECTIONS FOR CONSERVATION

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Founded in 2005, Paso Pacífico'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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Cover: Consulting biologist Guillermo Funes helped us save a yellow-naped amazon parrot nest in northern El Salvador this past year. Photo by Pasha Whitmire.

Dear Friends,

When I reflect back on 2019, I consider all the challenges that we have overcome and the new opportunities that have been open to us because of support from donors and partners like you.

This past year, Paso Pacífico continued to adjust to new realities in Nicaragua. Political conflict slowed our ability to travel to some areas and forced us to scale back community meetings that could invite any kind of suspicion. Fortunately, our award-winning programs were allowed to move forward.

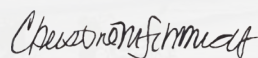
During this time, we also started replicating our conservation approaches in El Salvador. For example, we partnered with a landowner in the northern part of the country to protect one of that region's few known yellow-naped amazon parrot nests. We also launched a national alliance to protect the critically endangered yellow-naped amazon parrot, and agreed to partner with the Salvadoran government to begin designing a nationwide strategy to save this precious species from national extinction.

Further, we identified a Salvadoran wildlife corridor that we are calling the Paso del Golfo. This corridor will connect with our efforts in northern Nicaragua, and has the flagship species we already know well, such as the black-handed spider monkey and the hawksbill sea turtle. There are also a familiar range of local stakeholders, from tourism and hospitality businesses to small-scale farmers and fishers.

As I reflect, I also consider my own journey with Paso Pacífico. As an MPA in Nonprofit Administration, I met with executive director Sarah in 2004 to help her imagine the goals and mission of the organization. Then in 2005, the nonprofit was incorporated and recognized. Since that time, I've had the joy of watching the organization grow and fulfill its mission. Through my recent service as board president, I've felt pride in not only our donors, but also in this nimble nonprofit and its ability to navigate the tumultuous political and environmental situations in which it works.

In the coming years, I plan to continue my involvement in the organization as a donor. Paso Pacífico is fulfilling vital needs for our planet and the vulnerable communities that depend on healthy natural resources. I invite you to continue supporting this work with your generous donations. You can start giving monthly now at pasopacifico.org/canopy.

Gratefully,



Christine Schmidt
Outgoing Board President



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PATAGONIA SENDS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP PASO PACÍFICO

El Salvador is a biodiversity hot spot, in part due to its varied geography, volcanoes, high mountains, and coastal wetlands and freshwater lagoons. This year, with your support, we honed in on a special geography known by local tourism promoters as the *Oriente Salvaje*, or Wild East. This geography extends from the Gulf of Fonseca eastward to the mangroves of Jiquilisco.

Thanks to Patagonia, two volunteers set out to explore this region on our behalf and document its potential for long-term conservation. Natasha Woodward and Pasha Whitmire (left) traveled to El Salvador, photographing the world-class surf breaks and meeting with numerous community and tourism partners in the area. They also hiked the forests at the Caballito protected area and visited the Olomega Lagoon, where they met our two community rangers who are habituating primates in the forest, and they took a boat tour to see the numerous and diverse migratory birds that visit that lake. One major conclusion of this visit was that the portion of coast that is presently roadless should remain that way in order to more effectively protect its pristine condition.

The contributions of these two volunteers laid the groundwork for our application to designate the Wild Coast as a World Surfing Reserve. Our goal in proposing this reserve is to leverage surfing for conservation. We submitted an application for this reserve at the end of 2019.

Left: Natasha and Pasha look up at an endangered parrot nest where we successfully protected 3 parrot chicks. Photo by local landowner Silvia Figueroa of Fundación Enrique Lemus Figueroa.

IN SPECIAL GRATITUDE: MARY ANN O'CONNOR

Oftentimes, giving to Paso Pacífico becomes a family affair. Mary Ann O'Connor (left) is passionate about supporting programs that empower women and further environmental sustainability. After a career in academic and nonprofit administration, she now devotes her time to causes close to her heart. For example, Mary Ann is a founding member of the Ojai Women's Fund. She also is a patron of the arts and serves on the board of The Industry, an experimental opera company based in Los Angeles.

Mary Ann has been a steady supporter of Paso Pacífico for six years. She enjoyed visiting our projects in 2017. Mary Ann began giving monthly the year after, and in 2019 she doubled her monthly amount to help sustain our ongoing operational costs!

Through her involvement, she invited her three daughters to join in supporting the organization. All three donate to the organization, and her youngest daughter, Alice (right), worked as our development officer with care and dedication from late 2016 to midyear 2019. It's incredible to see the generosity that is catalyzed when one member of a family models giving to both charity and the community. Thank you, Mary Ann.



2019 HIGHLIGHTS



31

community members employed in 2 countries
as Forest and Sea Turtle Rangers

61

youth completing the Junior Ranger
program in Nicaragua



7

organizations brought together in an
alliance to save El Salvador's remaining
yellow-naped amazon parrots



1,400+

participants in beach, river
& mangrove clean-ups



2

women's oyster
cooperatives

32

young yellow-naped Amazon parrots
saved from poachers in 2 countries

9,828

sea turtles hatched
thanks to our protection



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\$5000 & Over

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Susan L. White
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Mitzi & Tom Vaughn**

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* multiple donations

** monthly donors

† staff

∞ board

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Eliza Woolley**†
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Trina Yen
Heather York*
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* multiple donations

** monthly donors

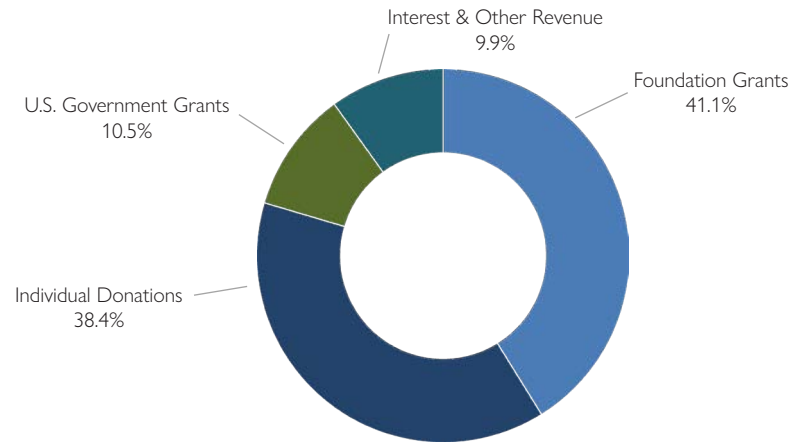
† staff

∞ board

2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

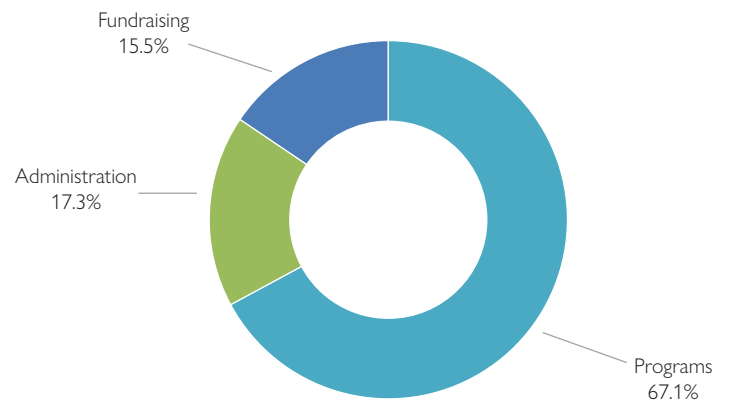
Annual Support & Revenue

Foundation Grants	\$192,022
Individual Donations	\$179,354
U.S. Government Grants	\$49,000
Interest & Other Revenue	\$46,345
Total	\$466,721

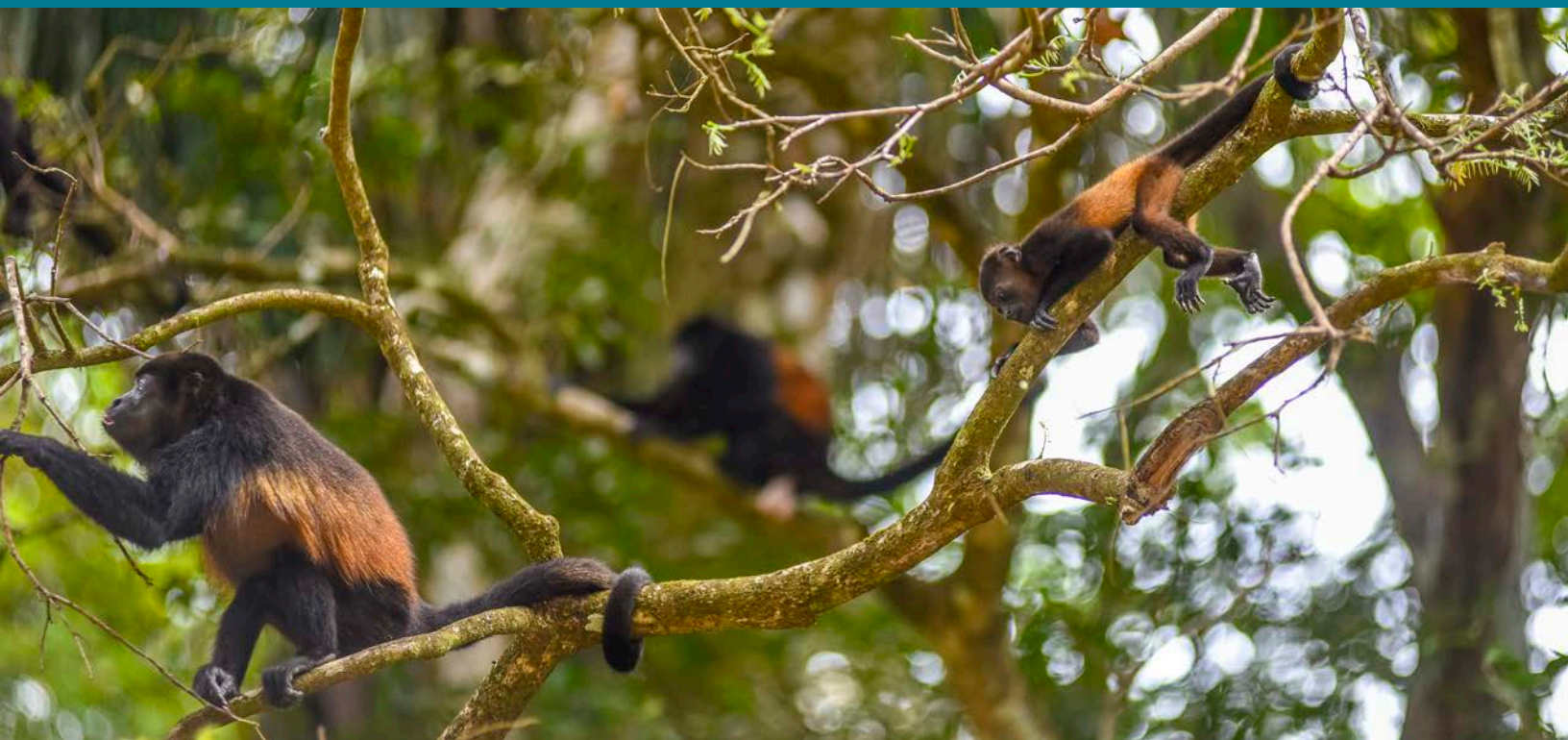


Annual Expenses

Program	\$400,908
Administrative	\$103,509
Fundraising	\$92,859
Total	\$597,276



THANK YOU! ¡GRACIAS!



USA

P. O. Box 1244 • Ventura, CA 93002-1244
Phone: +1-805-643-7044
Email: info@pasopacifico.org
Web: www.pasopacifico.org

NICARAGUA

Carretera a Masaya Km 12.4
Residencial Villas del Prado, Casa No. 7
Managua, Nicaragua
Phone: +505-2279-7072



EL SALVADOR

C/o FUNZEL
Resd. Altos de la Cima, Calle #2
Casa No. 21, Antiguo Cuscatlán
La Libertad, El Salvador
Phone: +503-2566-6148

We are grateful to the organizations, foundations, and businesses
that generously supported Paso Pacífico in 2019.

Albright Lab at the University of Nevada, Reno
American Bird Conservancy
Asociación Sociedad Salvaje
Big Cat Rescue
Brandywine Zoo
CASCO Safety
Coca-Cola FEMSA
Fundación Enrique Figueroa Lemus
Fundación Zoológica Salvadoreña (FUNZEL)
Google
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I+M Naturkosmetiks
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Loro Parque Fundación
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Maree Noble/Elizabeth Stumpf Memorial
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Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation
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National Geographic
New England Biolabs Foundation

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
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Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act
Wildlife Without Borders
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