

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Director's Note

Dear Friend,

2020 marked *fifteen years* for Paso Pacífico! In spite of all the challenges, thanks to partners like you, we reached this milestone. I am so grateful to everyone who has enabled this. You helped save critically endangered wildlife, and you helped us lead the way in community-based conservation in the dry tropical forest of Central America — even in 2020. Thank you for your support.

Like you, I started 2020 in a relatively ordinary way. In February, I visited El Salvador to scope out new projects and then, for the first time in two years, joyfully returned to Nicaragua. There, the team and I (above) enjoyed a meal and discussed our long-term vision and commitment to continuing the work to build connection with nature through wildlife corridors. Throughout the trip, I heard rumblings about a new virus. In the following weeks, COVID-19 transformed the world, and in June, it took from us a team member — brilliant young collaborating ornithologist, Luis Fernando Díaz Chávez. Losses like these hit hard in our small organization.

Yet, with our small size, we are able to stay nimble. As you'll read in this report, we pivoted to serve communities more while continuing to protect nature. We sent humanitarian aid to hundreds of families, adapted the Junior Ranger program for distance learning, visited our parrot conservation programs in El Salvador, continued our sea turtle work (above), continued habituation of a critically endangered Salvadoran spider monkey, and more.

Paso Pacífico was able to persist during this difficult year because of the outpouring of generosity of supporters like you, and it made a difference. **Thank you!**



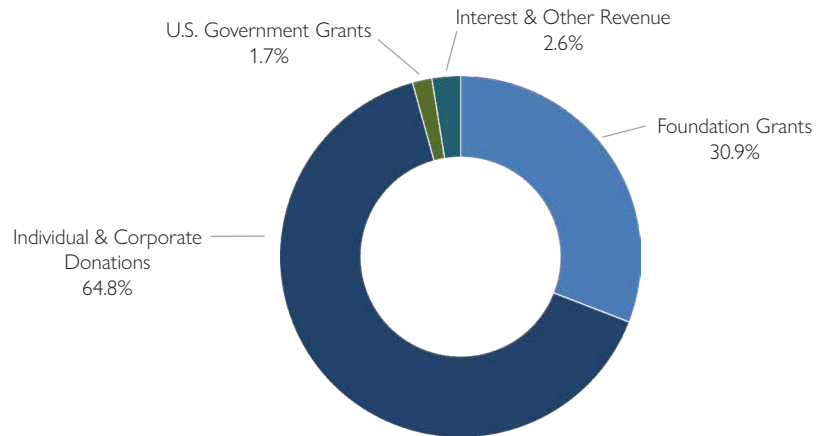
With gratitude,

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

2020 Financial Statement

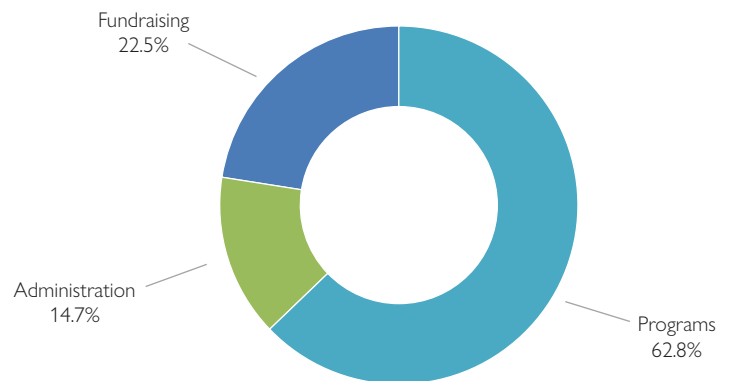
Annual Support & Revenue

Foundation Grants	\$246,980
Individual Donations	\$518,658
U.S. Government Grants	\$13,900
Interest & Other Revenue	\$20,400
Total	\$799,938



Annual Expenses

Programs	\$441,726
Administrative	\$103,175
Fundraising	\$158,298
Total	\$703,199



Board President's Note

Dear Friend,

Thank you for supporting communities and wildlife through Paso Pacífico in 2020 and (this applies to some of you) for the past fifteen years!

As Board President, I am so proud of the Paso Pacífico team and their efforts to care for the communities we serve during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, in March, the Junior Rangers' teachers pivoted to share handwashing methods and distribute soap. Later, they taught environmental lessons to families via cell phones and visited homes to pick up the children's homework. These efforts show their resourcefulness and commitment to the Junior Rangers and to the natural world we seek to protect.

Donors like you made it possible for us to keep everyone employed. Despite the crisis, our wildlife

teams continued to work, monitoring endangered species outdoors. With strict border controls, they saw wildlife poaching decrease. Through donors' help, they were able to protect the most parrot nests ever in the history of our program!

In addition, our community rangers and partner organizations helped distribute food aid to the most needy families in communities in Nicaragua and El Salvador. This people-first approach is part of who we are and why you support our work. Thank you again for coming on this journey with us.



With gratitude,

Christy Reich
Board President

Thank You to Our 2020 Supporters!



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Key

* multiple donations
 ** monthly donors
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What You Helped Achieve in 2020

41,728 pieces (2,901 lbs)

of trash picked up during the International Coastal Cleanup in Nicaragua

Over 90 Junior Rangers

participated in activities

276 bird species observed during citizen science bird counts

31 rangers from local communities employed year round

1 nest of cyanoptera macaws saved

39 critically endangered baby parrots saved in **12 nests**

960 hours of habituating black-handed spider monkeys across **five sites in El Salvador**

2543 baby sea turtles saved

70 families received bags of fresh oysters grown by **two women's oyster farming cooperatives**



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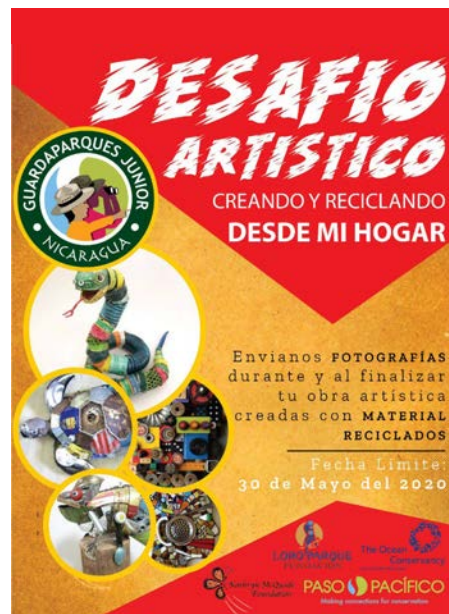
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Spotlight: Humanitarian Aid

Once COVID-19 gripped the world, vulnerable families in rural Central America also struggled with soaring food prices. But givers helped us spring into action. Generous donations helped hundreds of families in three countries—Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

- Our rangers delivered food packages to 270 particularly vulnerable families in Nicaragua’s Paso del Istmo. The American Nicaraguan Foundation and Fundación Nica France helped the food packages stretch for up to six months! Moreover, partnering with the PRBB Foundation, we included oysters in the first round of food packages. These fresh oysters, produced by local women’s oyster farming cooperatives, provided vital protein to recipients and much-anticipated income to the oyster women.

- Our staff also delivered 3D-printed face shields to public hospitals and rural medical clinics in Nicaragua. A California student group called STEMbassadors produced 200 shields, and a donor covered shipping costs.

- In El Salvador, we worked with ADETCO to dis-

“What you do for yourself dies with you when you leave this world, what you do for others lives on forever.”

— Ken Robinson

tribute food aid to coastal communities. We also assisted with a local art contest whose prizes included gift certificates to grocery stores.

- New donors Richard and Laura Thielscher helped expand our reach to *Guatemala!* With Parroquia la Natividad, we are now sharing childhood nutrition monitoring, gardening supplies, and monthly food packages with approximately 450 families.

These partnerships demonstrate the power of collective action to save lives. Generous donors, mindful foundations, and clever students all came together to assist Mesoamerican communities during a challenging time. Thank you to all who helped.



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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.

El Salvador

C/o FUNZEL
 Resd. Altos de la Cima, Calle #2
 Casa No. 21, Antiguo Cuscatlan

USA

P.O. Box 1244
 Ventura, CA 93002-1244
 Phone: +1-805-643-7044

Nicaragua

Carretera a Masaya Km 12.4
 Residencial Villas del Prado
 Casa No. 7
 Managua
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