

CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION
183 Lakeshore Drive South, Lake Quivira, KS 66217
REPORT TO FRIENDS AND FELLOWS
September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2008

Dear Friends,

The Conservation and Research Foundation is pleased to report that our endowment has grown significantly thanks to generous bequests from its founder, Dr. Richard H. Goodwin Sr.. The Foundation now has an additional \$730,000, the income from which will be used in support of our many projects. This gift comes with increased responsibilities for our Trustees and donors, as it necessitates a renewed effort to increase both the number of donors and total annual donations in order to maintain our tax-exempt status which enables us to maximize the amount we are able to fund to worthy projects. This year we are especially grateful for donations from 36 donors who have contributed a total of \$16,644.00 to the Foundation.

The Conservation and Research Foundation has proudly completed the 55th year since its founding, operating on minimal overhead thanks to the generous donation of time and expertise by its Trustees and Officers. Our only significant expense has been the bookkeeping and tax preparation fees involved in maintaining the Foundation. The remaining Trust income and donations have been spent supporting projects deemed of significance to the biological sciences and the environment. We often fund new projects with seed money to help them obtain additional funding as well as support projects which are unable to secure funding from more conventional sources. This past year we have funded thirteen new and continuing projects at a total cost of \$32,000.

Population

Population Media Center (PMC) continues to work in numerous countries worldwide to help stem the problem of overpopulation and promote women's rights by producing TV and radio programs which encourage wise reproductive choices and emphasize the danger of AIDS transmission. They do this using sophisticated soap opera programming with local ethnic actors and topics. Once the programs are launched and deemed successful in each area, they can be turned over to local organizers and commercial backers in each country. These serial dramas have been found to be highly successful in terms of audience loyalty and in fostering changes in attitude towards family planning. One of their most recent projects is located in Vietnam where family planning and conservation values will be emphasized. The Eastern Caribbean is also a recent focal point in collaboration with Rare Radio. Nine island nations include Anguilla, Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent, Grenadines, St. Lucia, Tortola, St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat are receiving their radio broadcast services. Jamaica has also benefited from a new 155-episode radio drama directed towards teens. The Foundation gave a

donation of \$5,000 to this organization in 2007 to continue and expand its important work.

Preservation of Ecosystems

The Western Lands Project asked us to support further work which they have been involved in since 1997 to monitor federal land exchanges and promote reform in related federal policies. This project has been successful in greatly raising public awareness of land exchange issues and has succeeded in motivating changes in administrative policies in the US Forest Service and accomplished reform of the Bureau of Land Management appraisal practices. There are now a myriad of efforts underway to privatize public lands. The Western Lands Project is trying to protect public lands not just from ill-conceived land trades, but from virtually any form of privatization. They monitor federal land exchanges, sales, and giveaways as well as any project that would cede public control of land to non-federal entities. In furthering this mission, they will work to protect the environmental values of the forests and wilderness which comprise the majority of our public lands. Our Foundation granted \$4,000 to further their work in 2007.

The Rocky Mountain Institute celebrated its 25th anniversary this year with symposia featuring its many accomplishments in environmental education and innovative technology. Their funding has increased over the years, enabling them to add highly trained staff as well as encourage younger volunteers to join their innovative programs. One of its ongoing programs initiated in 2004 entitled “Winning the Oil Endgame” seeks solutions to our country’s dependence on oil. They have worked with many private companies as well as the military to find practical and cost-effective solutions to energy needs. These solutions including plug-in hybrid technology as well as improvements in energy efficiency. Our Foundation supported these efforts with a grant of \$500 this year.

The Vermont Chapter of The Nature Conservancy received two grants of \$2,000 each to support a North Pawlet land purchase and a Clayplain forest restoration project.

Amigos Bravos Friends of the Wild Rivers received \$2,000 in 2007 to support their efforts to preserve New Mexico’s rivers including the 100,000 acre Valle Vidal which has now received permanent Congressional protection. Challenges for this group include preventing nuclear contamination from Los Alamos National Laboratory, energy development and extractive industries, water contamination by pharmaceuticals, uncontrolled development and water distribution decisions.

Environmental Education

Our Foundation supported the Institute for Conservation Leadership with a grant of \$1,000 to promote their program designed to aid organizations with small to mid-sized staff and a volunteer board. They help organizations develop management skills

including: planning, budgeting, accounting, fundraising and program development. They provide counseling and a workbook for improving performance and monitoring progress toward organizational goals.

The Foundation provided a seed grant to Nueva Salud operated by Dr. Stanley Cheren in a remote village in Guatemala. This organization has provided the first 40 latrines and a healthcare clinic to this village and is in the process of installing stoves in the residences to replace open fires which produce smoke which causes lung disease. The stoves also burn wood much more sparingly helping to save the surrounding forests. The clinics will provide health care and medicines as well as information on hygiene, nutrition and family planning. Nueva Salud has now raised an additional \$17,500 from two additional foundations and they hope to expand their operations to neighboring villages in Guatemala.

The organization “Keeping Track” received \$3,000 from the Foundation in 2007 for their mission of wildlife and habitat stewardship. This group’s Monitoring Program is a citizen science program devoted to conducting a track and sign survey of select, wide-ranging mammals in all four seasons. To date 1,300 people in over 100 communities in the U.S. and Canada have become active stewards in this project. Team members include amateur naturalists, professional land planners and natural resources personnel, teachers, hikers, hunters, farmers, foresters and businesspeople. The goal is to facilitate sound conservation planning, wildlife management, and land acquisition efforts. Keeping Track is in the process of bringing their model to a larger audience nationwide.

Reports on Earlier Grants

— Our grant to the Harvard Forest in 2004 resulted in the publication of its important proposal entitled *Wildlands and Woodlands*. This publication put forth “a bold vision to add approximately 1.5 million acres to the state’s existing protected land base of one million acres – half the state of Massachusetts”. It has been enthusiastically received and has spawned a whole series of conservation activities. New public interest in forest conservation efforts is strong and diverse with hundreds of landowners declaring their desire to protect their forest lands from development. A consortium of nearly 50 people are currently engaged in a project to protect approximately 21,000 acres in Western Massachusetts. Other participants of the Wildlands and Woodlands Partnership (30 organizations) are acting to promote statewide conservation.

In 2002, our Foundation provided \$4,700 to Dr. Charles Anderson for a study of manta rays in the Maldives. Dr. Anderson has completed this research, presenting his findings to a meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society this July in Montreal as well as producing two papers including one on the seasonal distribution of Mantas within the Maldives. A second paper demonstrates a significant economic value of manta rays to ecotourism in the Maldives.

GRANTS: September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008

<u>Institutional Grants</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Alaska Conservation Foundation	Support for environmentally friendly stewardship in Alaska	2007	\$1,000
Amigos Bravos: Friends of the Wild Rivers	Permanent protection of 100,000 acre Valle Vidal in New Mexico	2007	\$2,000
Keeping Track	Citizen outreach to monitor the environment	2007	\$3,000
Massachusetts Audubon	Inventory of ant populations in Massachusetts in collaboration with the Harvard Forest	2007	\$5,000
The Nature Conservancy, Vermont Chapter	North Pawlet land purchase	2007	\$2,000
The Nature Conservancy, Vermont Chapter	Clayplain forest restoration	2007	\$2,000
Nueva Salud	Project to improve health of indigenous tribes in Guatemala	2007	\$5,000
Population Media Center	Institutional support to produce TV and radio broadcasts on family planning worldwide	2007	\$5,000
Rocky Mountain Institute	General operating funds	2007	\$500
Western Land Project	Additional support to promote Federal land exchange reform	2007	\$4,000
The Wildlands and Wetlands of the Rocky Mountains	Defending critical wildlife habitat in the Rockies	2007	\$500
Downeast Lake Land Trust	Machias River and Wabassus Lake land preservation in Maine	2007	\$1,000
Institute for Conservation Leadership	Provides training for leaders in conservation	2007	\$1,000
		Total	<u>\$32,000</u>