

CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION
183 Lakeshore Drive South, Lake Quivira, KS 66217
REPORT TO FRIENDS AND FELLOWS
September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009

Dear Friends,

This has been another banner year for the Conservation and Research Foundation despite the economic woes and environmental concerns for our precious planet. With the generous bequests from Dr. Richard H. Goodwin, Sr., our founder and long-time President and Trustee and from the Lucy Strayer Trust, our endowment has grown significantly. This enables the Foundation to provide more funds for important projects. It also makes it increasingly important that we seek annual contributions from our loyal supporters to maintain our status as a tax-exempt public foundation. Both the amount and the number of contributors are important to keep your gifts tax-deductible and our income tax-exempt.

The Conservation and Research Foundation has completed the 56th 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 twelve new and continuing projects at a total cost of \$33,200.

Population

Over the years, our Foundation has prioritized the problem of global overpopulation. The earth's precious resources including water and arable land are threatened causing unsustainable damage including pollution of our air, land and sea. One organization has stood out as being uniquely engaged in spreading information on family planning and AIDS awareness throughout the world through radio and television docudramas employing local actors speaking regional languages and depicting dramas based on local and ethnic scenarios. For the last ten years, our Foundation has provided continuing institutional support for Population Media Center under the able leadership of William Ryerson. In 2008, the Foundation provided an additional \$5,000 towards their work in 15 countries including the Eastern Caribbean, Central America, Brazil, Mexico, Vietnam, India and Africa. New initiatives this year have been based in Papua New Guinea and Sierra Leone.

Preservation of Ecosystems

The Western Lands Project based in Seattle, Washington received \$2,000 from our Foundation in 2008 in addition to funding in previous years. They continue to hold Congress, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service accountable for selling or trading government land to balance budgets or bestow political favors. Now in their thirteenth year, they continue to expose legislated land deals and the way these bills circumvent laws and policies intended to protect the public interest and the environment. They have just published a book, several years in the making, entitled “Carving Up the Commons: Congress and Our Public Lands”, which was supported in part by our donations. The new administration in Washington has provided some recent optimism regarding public land policy. Electronic copies of the book may be accessed free of charge at www.westernlands.org. Copies of the book have been distributed for free to members of Congress, legislative staff and media contacts.

Our Foundation has supported the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) with a small grant of \$500 in 2008 in addition to our prior year grants. This organization, headed by the dynamic Amory Lovins, Chairman and Chief Scientist, has grown to a multi-tasking environmental powerhouse with projects as diverse as retrofitting the Empire State Building and masterminding battery-powered vehicles. Their unique ability to find economically feasible means to improve efficiency and sustainability for everything from factory construction to battery powered vehicles, private enterprise to the US military, sets them apart as uniquely engaged in the rethinking and retooling of our lives. We salute their innovative approach to the challenges facing us.

A new project supported this past year is a documentary film for an organization called Growth Busters run by David Gardener. Our contribution of \$2,000 helped him to distribute this film detailing the poor outcome resulting from promoting uncontrolled economic growth leading to the destruction of arable land and the unsupportable consumption of water. He sets forth a sustainable paradigm for communities in this film based on a city in Colorado facing major water shortages.

Environmental Education

Our Foundation provided \$1,000 in 2008 to Prairie Biotic Research Inc. to aid their 2009 Small Grants Program. Their Scientific Advisors chose to fund 21 proposals for a total of \$20,494, the most proposals ever funded by this organization. Participants included 13 men and 11 women and projects ranging from Turtle terrestrial habitat to invertebrates and plants such as grasses and milkweeds.

The Connecticut College Arboretum received a grant of \$3,700 in 2008 for their Children’s Environmental Education Program entitled “Let’s Explore!...Nature Activities for Kids”. This funding enabled them to expand their program for Spring and Summer

2009 with seven classes in each session for children of New London residents from 4-12 years old, especially targeting minority and financially challenged families in the region. Classes were free of charge and included use of a map and compass, tree and wildflower identification, ocean currents and pond creatures.

Reports on Earlier Grants

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The Downeast Lakes Land Trust received a grant of \$1,000 in 2007 for their project to preserve the Machias River and Wabussus Lakes regions in Maine. They are pleased to report that they have completed their capital campaign for the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership, acquired the Wabussus Lake Tract and secured an option for the 21,700 acre West Grand Lakes Community Forest. They now have the opportunity to realize their vision of protecting the entire forest landscape surrounding the village of Grand Lake Stream with sustainable forest management.

The Institute for Conservation Leadership received \$1,000 in support from our Foundation in 2007. Their program entitled “Smart Growth for Environmental Organizations: Building Sustainability for Lasting Impact”, serves a diverse group of over 500 leaders and 1300 organizations. Their approach includes training sessions for leaders in the areas of organization, prioritizing objectives and fundraising, helping small conservation organizations nationwide to become more effective.

Dr. Stanley Cheren has celebrated the second anniversary of his Guatemalan project entitled “Nueva Salud”. Our Foundation helped his initial efforts with a grant of \$5,000 in 2007 to bring modern medicine and technology to a remote Guatemalan village as a pilot for improving health and well-being to remote areas of the country. His approach has included collaborative efforts with the government and the villagers to install latrines, more efficient wood-burning stoves, nutrition education and primary care services, access to hospital care when necessary, solar electricity and cell phone service. Next will be efforts to obtain cleaner water so tadpoles don’t come out of the faucets.

<u>Institutional Grants</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Adirondack Loon Conservation Program	Loon conservation	2008	\$4,000
Connecticut College Arboretum	Children's Environmental Education	2008	\$3,700
The Conservation Fund	Pat Noonan. Preservation of several tracts of New England wetlands	2008	\$2,000
David Greenburg	Sustainable agriculture in Thailand: Forest conservation in rural areas	2008	\$5,000
Growth Busters	David Gardner, Publicity and distribution of documentary on change to sustainable paradigm from economic growth	2008	\$2,000
Gund Institute for Ecological Economics	Lee Gross. Project in the Dominican Republic to study ecology and economics of shade grown coffee plantations	2008	\$4,000
Keeping Track	Citizen outreach to monitor the environment, analyze data	2008	\$2,000
Population Media Center	Institutional support to produce TV and radio broadcasts on family planning and AIDS in 50 countries	2008	\$5,000
Rocky Mountain Institute	General operating funds	2008	\$500
SANCCOB	Seabird rehabilitation in South Africa	2008	\$1,000
Save the Wild Chinchillas	Amy Dean, Restoration of site in North Central Chili with outreach	2008	\$1,000
Western Land Project	Additional support to promote Federal land exchange reform	2008	\$2,000
Total			<u>\$33,200</u>