

# 2021

 One Earth  
Conservation



Celebrating  
the  
Indomitable  
Human  
and  
Parrot  
Spirit





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**Dear Friends and Supporters,**

In February 2020 Pedro Viteri was murdered protecting a yellow-naped amazon parrot nest in Guatemala on his ranch which is one of our conservation areas. If that was not bad enough, the chicks were taken and the nest tree fell in a storm a few months later. Suspects were arrested and two parrot chicks were confiscated, but the men remain at large and the chicks are still in cages. Those who knew him and his family hung their heads in their hands saying "it's just too much."

But conservationists are not defeated with these challenges, as evidenced by the family members of Pedro who later told me, "Whatever you need, we are here." Spirits get slammed down, fractured, and overwhelmed, however time and time again we see the miracle of healing and hope arise from those with whom we work. In these pages you will see amazing activities and outcomes in areas beset with poverty, oppression, violence, corruption, and extraction economies.

What keeps people like Pedro going are the incredible birds with and for whom we work. It's amazing that they survive, often in harsh conditions that are wrought by humankind, and survive with such beauty and stamina.

There are some worrisome data and trends. We grieve at the ever-present loss, which can be unbearably painful at times. However, when we mourn together, we are one more moment closer to the world we all wish to live in where spirits and parrots fly free.

With gratitude,  
*LoraKim Joppe* *Gail Koelln*

**With deepest condolences to the family of Pedro, and with a heart's hope of healing for them. His legacy motivates all of us to take better care of the parrots, wildlife, and ecosystems of Guatemala.**

**Pedro was killed protecting and cherishing the splendor of Guatemala. We thank him and his family for their work with COLORES, protecting the yellow-naped amazon.**



**Pedro Viteri Arriola  
1961 - February 19, 2021  
He will not be forgotten!**



"During the pandemic years (ever ongoing) I saw much loss come into the personal and professional lives of One Earth Conservation's team members. For example, Gail Koelln's family has been heavily impacted and normal routines continue to be disrupted. Despite all this, Gail finished and published her book, *What Would the Parrot Say?*, and is involved in all kinds of creative and productive endeavors for One Earth. She is the wind beneath our wings, and I thank her." - LoraKim



"LoraKim never fails to amaze me. Despite the risks of the COVID-19 pandemic, she was ready to go back into the field as soon as a country's borders reopened and she hit the ground running. Her unwavering commitment to One Earth Conservation's projects keeps all involved inspired to do their best and achieve great things under sometimes harrowing circumstances. She is the guiding light for all we do!" - Gail



**“We of the One Earth Conservation teams are creating a better world by empowering the people saving the planet.”**

One Earth Conservation’s mission is to engage people, communities and organizations in a unique manner that inspires them to contribute to their own well-being and the well-being of life on Earth. We achieve this by encouraging them to support and/or conduct parrot conservation in the Americas and to nurture themselves in nature.

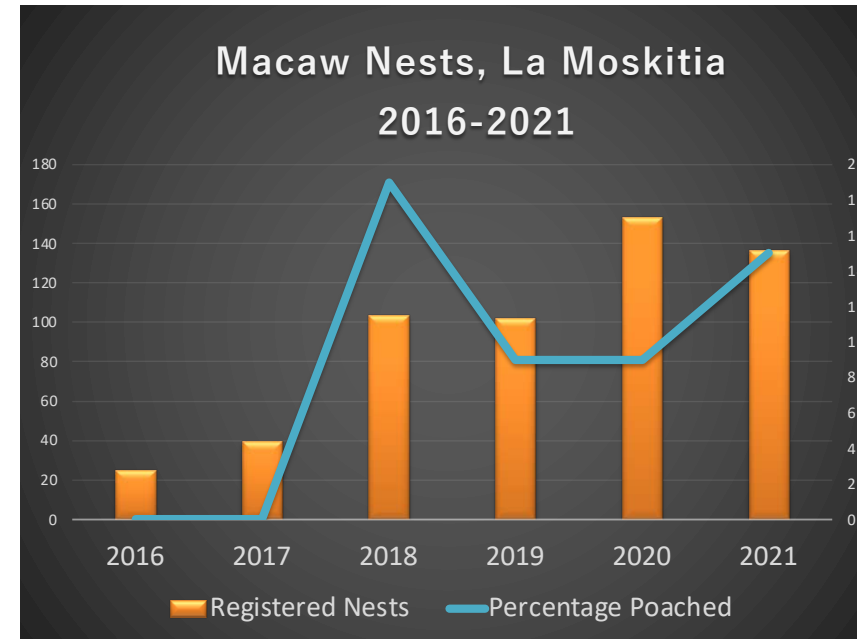
## 2021 Accomplishments (despite COVID-19!)

- Completed year-long *Parrot Conservation Corps* course for adults
- Continued to grow projects remotely despite the pandemic and then returned to several projects with in-person support since mid-April
- Finished parrot liberation cage in La Moskitia, Honduras and successfully released many wild parrots
- Published *What Would the Parrot Say?*, a children’s book about parrot conservation
- An interview with LoraKim was featured on the *Outside In Podcast* with Joel Krieger and Pavani Yalla
- Created and posted One Earth Conservation’s *Commitment to Decolonization Practice Statement* on our website
- The Foundation for Family and Community Healing published a *Nurture Nature (Wonder e’ Awe)* module on their website
- Co-hosted the *Mesoamerican Parrot Festival* from Mexico to Panama with our partners from Loros Sin Fronteras
- We supported a women-centered parrot ranger program in La Moskitia, Honduras, led by our NGO partner, INCEBIO
- Published a *River Transect Parrot Monitoring Guide* with our partners in Rewa Village, Guyana
- Published a *Parrot Activity Booklet* in English for children in Guyana with local partners and published another one in Spanish for children in Guatemala

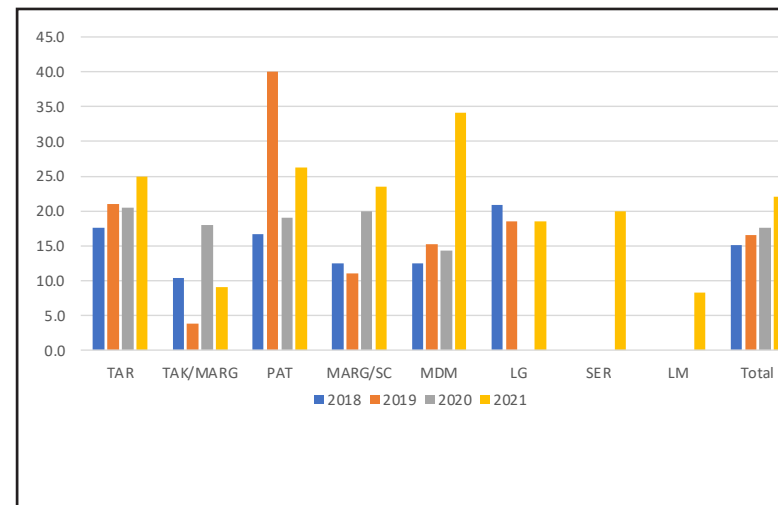
# Parrot Conservation Science

Along with our various partners, One Earth Conservation:

- Taught *Parrot Population Counting in Action* workshop during the first vinaceous amazon count in Limoy Reserve, Paraguay
- Verified rare successful fledging of hyacinth macaw chicks in Paraguay (first in decades!)
- Confirmed an increased poaching rate of macaw nests in Honduras
- Documented an increase in the population of yellow-naped amazons on Guanaja Island, Honduras
- Organized first binational count of yellow-headed amazons in Guatemala/Honduras
- Conducted second country-wide population count of sun parakeets in Guyana
- Increased the number of parrot nests monitored in Rewa Village, Guyana
- Participated in a study for a national parrot count in Suriname
- Implemented parrot population count targeting scarlet and great-green macaws in Honduras
- Finished first year-long monthly count of parrots on Ometepe Island, Nicaragua
- Validated the first successful fledging of the endangered yellow-headed amazon in Guatemala

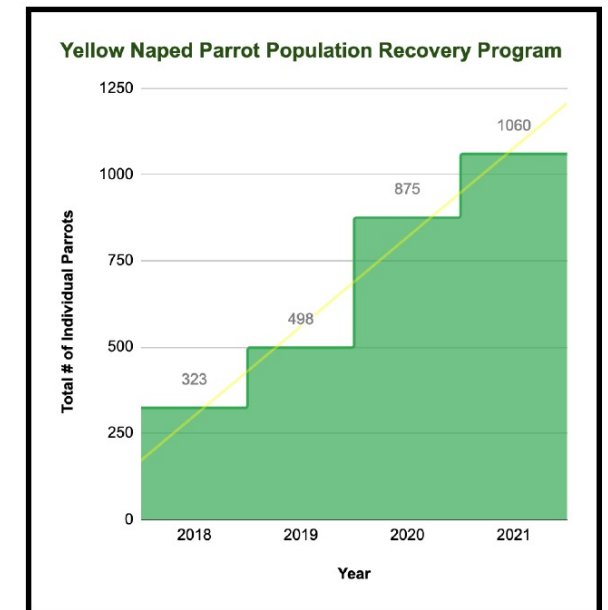


*In 2014, 100% of nests in La Moskitia, Honduras were poached. Higher numbers were poached after 2017 due to the presence of criminal international buyers and increased territory patrolled.*

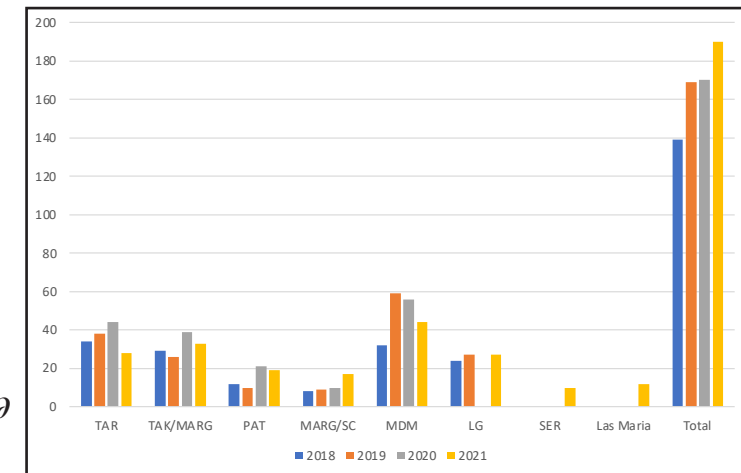


*During our annual counts in June in Guatemala, we calculated the percentage of recently fledged birds or juveniles out of the total number of birds. This graph (above) shows us that the percentage is increasing, which could indicate that more nests are successfully fledging.*

*This data (right), also from Guatemala, shows that the number of yellow-naped amazons counted in some sites is increasing, and that the numbers are increasing overall because we are adding new conservation sites to monitor and protect.*



*Our partners on Guanaja Island, Honduras, Green Island Challenge, are doing a remarkable job of recovering the critically endangered yellow-naped amazon parrot.*



# Highlighted Conservation Project: Guatemala/Honduras Atlantic Coast Yellow-headed amazons (endangered)



*In February 2021, recovery efforts were still underway after back-to-back hurricanes hit Honduras and Guatemala in November 2020.*



*Evelyn (center above) bravely rescued a yellow-headed amazon nest from poachers in May 2021.*



*Counting wild parrots is necessary, and often physically demanding, work. It helps to monitor the status of local populations over time. Here parrot rangers and CONAP officials remove a boat from a swamp during the annual count in Guatemala.*



*Enforcement officials from CONAP with parrot rangers patrol nests in Guatemala.*

*Education and public outreach are important components of any parrot conservation effort.*



*A precious yellow-headed amazon mother sitting on eggs in her nest.*



In July 2021, One Earth Conservation teamed up with its partners – Cuerpo de Conservación (Honduras) and CONAP, a local finca, and Community Quineles (Guatemala) – to conduct the first bi-national parrot population count in this Atlantic coast region. It involved over 25 people! Our target species is the endangered yellow-headed amazon parrot, but we counted all parrot species, because illegal trapping for the pet trade is high and all parrot populations in this area are under threat. We do this even knowing that counting parrots is notoriously imprecise. With training and repeated counts, we can improve

precision and grow our ability to analyze trends over the years, which would let us know if we are having success or not. One Earth Conservation also supported the government in Guatemala to conduct bi-monthly patrols of nesting areas for 4.5 months between February and June 2021. During this time a total of 16 additional people from Honduras and Guatemala were hired to protect nests. We emphasize parrot monitoring to grow the chances for success, to see if we are having success, and to see if we need to change our activities to decrease harm and increase benefit.

# Guatemala South Coast

## Yellow-naped amazons



We are still mourning the loss of Pedro Viteri Arriola a year after his untimely death. He was attacked by poachers as he tried to protect the nest of a pair of yellow-naped amazons located on his ranch. His family is totally committed to continuing his work into the future.



*Sign (immediate left) outside Viteri Ranch letting the world know that people are still working to conserve wild parrots in Guatemala despite the loss of Pedro Viteri (far left).*



*At a local luncheon (above), we honored Pedro's life with with COLORES, a Guatemala Amazon Parrot Coalition and Working Group. Although there was much sadness, we were also glad to be with one another.*



*This teacher parrot conservation workshop was part of a larger celebration of parrots organized throughout Mesoamerica through One Earth Conservation's involvement with Loros Sin Fronteras.*

# Guyana

## Sun parakeets

One Earth Conservation was away from our projects in Karasabai and Rewa in Guyana for a year, but returned to work with our partners in spring 2021. Even though their crops were flooded from excessive rain, the local people kept doing the work to save their sun parakeets. Plans are being made to hire more women as parrot rangers and to grow the eco-lodge in Rewa, now that tourists have started to return.



*LoraKim presenting our partners with a banner they are now proudly displaying at the eco-lodge in Rewa that explains the science and work they are doing to save their parrots.*



*Counting parrots is always the foundation of our projects.*

*A sun parakeet flying free. The spirit of these birds inspire us all!*

*Installing nest boxes to encourage parrots to nest and raise more chicks.*





# La Moskitia, Honduras

Scarlet macaws, great-green macaws, yellow-naped amazons

There was more loss of life, this time in our project in La Moskitia. One of our parrot rangers, Narciso Montoya, was murdered in 2021 and, also, poaching of nests increased. Despite these tragedies, the people advocated to stop the construction of an illegal logging road (and won!) and continued to protect their forest. The local women remained strong and committed to our project despite their own suffering, like the mother macaw who renested after her first clutch of eggs was poached (unfortunately, her second was also poached).



*Parrot rangers continue to patrol despite the risks with help here from governmental authorities.*

*The women rangers came together for a training in November 2021.*



*Paz y esperanza a la familia de Narciso Montoya. Le agradecemos sus años de servicio en Proyecto Apu Pauni. Fallecimiento: 15 de marzo de 2021*

*We mourn the loss of parrot ranger Narciso Montoya (above) in March 2021*

*Anayda and helpers taking care of an amazon parrot at the Rescue Center (right). Released scarlett macaws return for a snack at the Center (left and below).*

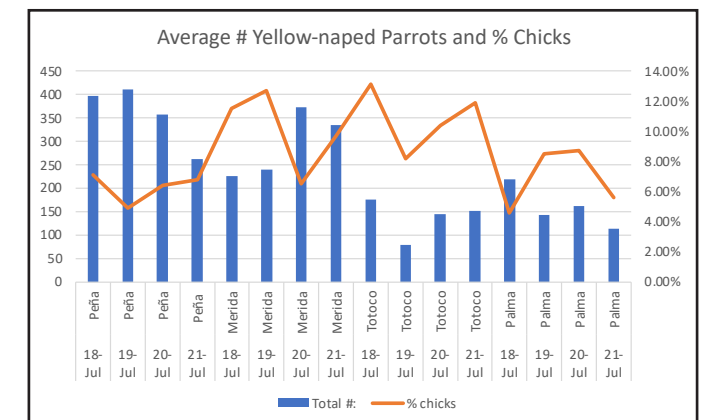


# Nicaragua

Yellow-naped amazons



Despite their unstable government and the continued threat of COVID-19, our team members on Ometepe Island, Nicaragua kept up their parrot counts, patrols, and the installation of nest boxes in 2021.



*Below left and right: Human and amazon parrot youngsters on Ometepe Island.*



*Above: By comparing 4 years of data in 4 communities, we confirmed that in the area of Peña we had the most nest failures and in the community of Palma we had the most poaching.*



## Paraguay Various species



One of the most amazing examples of parrot fortitude and strength in 2021 featured a two-week-old red-and-green macaw chick in Paraguay. She was having a hard time in her nest with excessive mites, and was thin. LoraKim and other veterinarians on the team were treating her and she was improving when a cold front came in. One day they were in shorts and sandals and the next day they were wearing wool hats and layers of clothes. When they went to check on the chick, she was on her back, nearly dead, cold to the touch with profound hypothermia, and breathing very infrequently. The team quickly

removed her from the nest, injected warm fluids into her at the nest site, and then sped towards the ranch house with her warming up against LoraKim's bare abdomen. Once at the ranch, they placed her next to the kitchen wood fire and tended her throughout the night. She revived and is now a rowdy juvenile awaiting her chance to be liberated and fly free once again with her parents and relatives. LoraKim could not believe she survived, and was amazed by her veterinary conservation colleagues who lost so much sleep to keep this chick alive.



*In 2021, there were not many nests in Paraguay and we aren't sure why. The silver lining is that we protected an active hyacinth macaw nest with chicks that fledged!*



*In 2021 we formed a working group of parrot conservationists in Paraguay. This group has been very active in efforts such as research, public awareness campaigns, and advocacy. The photo above shows us working with the team from Itaipu.*

## Suriname Various species

Suriname is our newest project location, but it is a hard place to work because it is still legal to take parrots and other birds from the wild and there are so few ways for local people to support themselves. A working group has been set up in the country to address the trade in wild birds.



*"For too long our people have turned their backs on nature, and instead they have gone after money. I was raised to think like that, and I don't want to live that way anymore. So, I empty my mind of all stories and turn towards the jungle. There is the truth and there is everything you need to know." - Steve Oldenstam (a.k.a. Steveo)*

# Nurture Nature Program

So, 2021 was a hybrid one for One Earth Conservation's Nurture Nature Program. Although most activities continued to be offered online, we were also able to offer two in-person *Birding for Life* walks, one in New York City's Central Park and one at the Marshlands Conservancy in Westchester, NY. We so enjoyed being able to be with each other in person, while still following COVID-19 safety protocols. And a good time was had by all!

LoraKim also engaged in the following online activities in 2021:

- Offered multiple presentations at the *Mindful Conservation Conference*
- *Liberating Wings* presentation was offered at the *Columbia Bird Fair*
- Presented at *Festival de Loros* as a member of *Loros Sin Fronteras*
- Led a workshop on counting parrots for our partners in Paraguay
- Presented *Human Dimensions of Conservation* for the Tropical Conservation Institute
- Led multiple presentations as part of the *Suriname Parrot Working Group Workshop*
- Gave a presentation to the Forest Service Department (ICF) in Honduras
- Served as a lecturer for the National Agriculture University of Honduras (UNA)
- Led two *Transformative Conservation* webinars
- Produced and presented the weekly *Nurture Nature Show* in the winter/spring on One Earth Conservation's Facebook page and Youtube Channel
- Led a *Birding for Life* Webinar in December
- Served as a guest lecturer at the University of Florida School of Veterinary Medicine
- Preached on nature and multi-species intelligence for three Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations in Indiana and also led a two-part adult religious education class on *Birding for Life* for one other UU congregation



LoraKim leading a *Birding for Life* Walk in Central Park in September 2021.



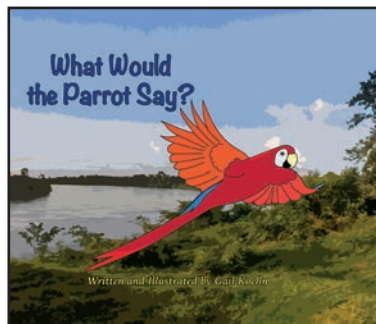
# Organization and Finances

## Board of Directors

- LoraKim Joyner, DVM, MPVM, MDiv/Board President; Co-director, One Earth Conservation
- Gail Koelln, MS/Board Vice President and Secretary; Co-director, One Earth Conservation and President, GK Grant Writing
- Meredith Garmon, PhD, MA, MA/Board Member; Minister, Community, Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains
- Joyce Hoffman/Board Member; Consultant/Contract Engineer, Aviation Partners Boeing
- Eric Kreuter, PhD, CPA, CGMA, CFE/Board Member; Partner, Marks Paneth
- Hector Orlando Portillo Reyes, MS/Board Member; Wildlife Biologist, Instituto de Ciencias para el Estudio y Conservación de la Biodiversidad/ INCEBIO (Honduras)
- Aimee White, Board Member; Business Consultant, Ellis-Webb Management Group

## Honorary Avian Board

- Dusty the cockatiel
- Pluto the Meyer's parrot
- Rosa the scarlet macaw (In Memoriam)
- Hector (a.k.a. Time Bomb) the yellow-naped amazon



In 2021, One Earth Conservation took some time to reassess where we are and where we would like to go. We engaged in a strategic planning process where we consulted with multiple friends, colleagues, donors, and other stakeholders to receive their questions and feedback. As a result, we developed a strategic plan for the next year that emphasizes nurturing our existing programs and projects in the hopes of increasing their sustainability. We are also seeking to collaborate with more other organizations and groups.

We were also lucky to gain the expert help of former *Parrot Conservation Corps* participant and



now Communications Volunteer, Josh Craig Anderson (pictured below), who has already helped to raise our profile on multiple social media platforms. Thank you, Josh!

Importantly, we also drafted and the Board approved a *Commitment to Decolonization Statement* (right) that we are using as a guide for our work and will review on a regular basis to assess how we are doing.

We also celebrate the publication of Gail Koelln's new book for children, *What Would the Parrot Say?*, which teaches children 8 to 12 years old about the status of wild parrots and how kids can help them.

In 2022, One Earth Conservation will train and lead from afar a National Parrot Count in Paraguay, build the first ever community parrot conservation project in Suriname, lead a tree climbing and nest monitoring workshop in Guyana, and publish LoraKim's next book, *Birding for Life*.

*Thanks, Josh!*

**One Earth Conservation - Commitment to Decolonization**

*Being in solidarity and seeking coliberation with people and all species where they are, from where we are*

- Aware that colonization has caused great harm to indigenous peoples, to other historically oppressed peoples, to ecosystems, and to wildlife;
- Aware that colonization has and continues to affect all people, whether colonized or colonizer, and it instills the colonialist presumption that only one culture's way is the natural and right way for humans to live;
- Aware that colonization continues in the forms of extraction economies and business, institutional, and governmental practices that perpetuate domination, and that ongoing colonialism results in dispossession of territory, harm to the health, economy, and cultural integrity of historically oppressed people, and damage to ecosystems;
- Aware that current conservation practices and organizational structures are interwoven with unchallenged colonial attitudes, and that conservation organizations have not adequately confronted colonial structures and attitudes;
- Aware that One Earth Conservation (OEC) is enmeshed in colonialization as are all conservation organizations, and that, as a conservation organization founded by people of European descent, based in the USA, and funded in substantial part by wealth extracted from colonized communities, OEC is implicated;
- And aware that conservation without decolonizing fails to address the foundations of harm to life on earth;

*One Earth Conservation seeks to reduce and repair harm and promote the flourishing of people, species, and ecosystems; and One Earth Conservation is committed to decolonization and decolonizing its operating practices. Accordingly, One Earth Conservation commits itself to:*

- Engage in social analysis of the impacts of oppression, domination, and colonialism within the communities and organizations with whom we work, within our own organization, and within ourselves;
- Ally with indigenous and other historically oppressed communities, organizations, and individuals to bring about social change and reparations;
- Attend carefully to the needs of indigenous communities, other historically oppressed people, and other species, listening well to what they tell us, so that they can guide our work;
- Structure our conservation projects and practices with the aim of being guided by the leadership and capacity of colonized communities;
- Orient our financial giving and receiving so as align with the above purposes;
- Support one another and our partners so that we take the risks to disrupt the colonialism while in loving and caring relationship with all;
- Periodically update and review our detailed and concrete, internal documents that guide our decolonization practices.

## 2020

Beginning Cash Reserves 2020:	\$121,086
Income:	
Earned Income:	\$ 5,506
Individual Donations :	\$ 12,289
Government Grants	\$ 32,000
Other Grants & Corporate Contributions:	\$171,983
Other Income:	\$ 505
Total Income 2020:	\$222,283
Total Expenses 2020:	\$159,220
2020 Balance:	\$ 63,056

Ending Cash Reserves for 2021: \$184,183

## 2021

Beginning Cash Reserves 2021:	\$184,183
Income:	
Earned Income:	\$ 1,978
Individual Donations:	\$ 36,683
Government Grants:	\$140,138
Other Grants & Corporate Contributions:	\$ 72,656
Other Income:	\$ 284
Total Income 2020:	\$251,739
Total Expenses 2020:	\$184,410
2021 Balance:	\$ 67,329

Ending Cash Reserves for 2022: \$253,178

# Thank You!

## Major Donors

### ORGANIZATIONS (\$1,000 to \$71,000)

Wildlife Conservation Society  
Harrison's Bird Foods/Greg and Linda Harrison  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Vincent J. Coates Foundation  
Coypu Foundation  
Alfred and Harriet Feinman Foundation  
Healthier, Greener, Kinder Foundation  
Foster Parrots  
Northeast Avian Rescue

### INDIVIDUALS (\$500 to \$6,000)

Rev. Drs. LoraKim Joyner and  
Meredith Garmon  
Rev. Dr. Valerie Forstman  
Mary Van Hoomissen  
Mark Hagen  
Leslie Lewit Milner, Jacob Lewit and  
Lawrence Milner  
Juana Ham  
Michael Gruteke  
Dr. Patricia J. Latas  
Mark Brook  
Christiana Martynowski  
Elaine and Jim Peters

A special thank you to Karen Windsor, Marc Johnson and Foster Parrots, Ltd. for partnering with One Earth in Guyana and with our None are Free Until All are Free Campaign; the Wildlife Conservation Society for providing funding and partnership in the field; the US Fish and Wildlife Service for its support for our Guayana project and our program partner, INCEBIO, in Mabita, Honduras; all of our Major Donors; and to all who volunteered their time to assist with our strategic planning process in 2021. Your generosity is most appreciated!



## Other Donors

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Christine Turner  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
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Simona Wagner  
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Susan Walsh  
Elaine Wanderer  
Aimee White  
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Rachel Zampino  
Dr. Paul Zuckerman

## Partners

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 Asociación de Reservas Naturales Privadas de Guatemala  
 Biometepe (Nicaragua)  
 Club Auropalliata (Honduras)  
 Community Playa de Santa Domingo (Nicaragua)  
 Community Quineles (Guatemala)  
 CONAP (Guatemala)  
 Conservation International (Suriname)  
 Cuerpo de Conservación - Omoa (Honduras)  
 Fincas/Ranches: Buenas Aires Private Reserve, Las Margaritas, Maria del Mar, San Carlos, Serranía (Guatemala)  
 Flora and Fauna International (Nicaragua)  
 Foster Parrots (United States)  
 Fundación en Ciencia para el Estudio y Conservación de la Biodiversidad (INCEBIO) (Honduras)  
 Green Island Challenge (Honduras)  
 Guyra (Paraguay)  
 Instituto Nacional de Conservación y Desarrollo Forestal, Áreas Protegidas y Vida Silvestre (ICF) (Honduras)  
 Loros Sin Fronteras (coalition of many organizations)  
 Los Tarrales Private Reserve, Patrocinio Private Reserve, and Patrocinio Ecoreserve (Guatemala)  
 Northeast Avian Rescue (United States)  
 School of Veterinary Medicine - National University of Asuncion (Paraguay)  
 School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Camerino (Italy)

SOS Gua'a (Paraguay)  
 TakalikAbaj archeological site (Guatemala)  
 Universidad Nacional Agricultura de Honduras, (UNA)  
 Villages of Auca, Coco, Corinta, Mabita, Mocoron, Pranza, Rus Rus, Sirsirtara, Suhi, Wahabispan, Wisplini, (Honduras)  
 Villages of Rewa and Karasabai (Guyana)  
 US Fish and Wildlife Service (United States)  
 Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission (Guyana)  
 Wildlife Conservation Society (United States)  
  
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 Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, White Plains/CUUC (United States)  
 Foundation for Family & Community Healing (United States)  
 NVC Academy (United States)  
 Rare Species Conservatory Foundation/Dr. Paul Reillo (United States)  
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