



GALAPAGOS
CONSERVANCY

Saving one of the world's great treasures

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

www.galapagos.org



As I consider my almost 30-year career with Galapagos, I find myself searching for the single truth which defines our work and the spirit in which it is carried out. And I land on an abiding sense of optimism. While conservation and environmental protection carry with them complexities, some of which can be heartbreaking and supremely frustrating, optimism and a strong belief in “the long game” will always win out.

Many of the programs you have supported this year are defined by being rooted in decades of work. The wonderful successes that we can report this year were achieved by slow and steady engagement. Priorities change, governments change, leadership changes, but the fundamental responsibility that the staff of Galapagos Conservancy, and you as our strongest supporters, feel towards our role in making this world a better place, does not change. Perhaps now more than ever, the inter-generational responsibility to ensure that we leave the world better than we found it is felt more profoundly. Thank you to all our donors, friends, and partners for all you have done and continue to do to keep that promise for Galapagos — a small, yet uniquely remarkable, piece of our planet.

For Galapagos,

Johannah E. Barry, President



Who make up our Galapagos Conservancy Donor Community?

10,377 Total Members

FRIENDS, SUPPORTERS, ADVOCATES
& PROTECTORS

9,924 give \$25-\$999 annually

AMBASSADOR SOCIETY MEMBERS

453 give \$1,000+ annually

GALAPAGOS GUARDIAN SOCIETY MEMBERS

449 give monthly

GALAPAGOS LEGACY SOCIETY

49 have committed to making planned gifts

CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016

In 2016, our members' support helped us fill the gaps in the Galapagos National Park budget so that the park rangers could continue their urgent work to monitor and protect the Islands' native wildlife and ecosystems and to lead the ongoing fight against invasive species. We were also able to invest and support some of the most important and ambitious conservation endeavors in the Islands' history, including our ongoing, long-term Giant Tortoise Restoration Initiative, continued efforts to recover endangered waved albatross, a new citizen-science app to gather information on Galapagos' sharks, and more. We also joined with conservationists all over the world to celebrate the creation of a new marine sanctuary around Darwin and Wolf Islands!

San Cristóbal Tortoise Census Expedition

Seventy Galapagos National Park rangers and scientists trekked for two weeks over a 58-square mile area of San Cristóbal Island, collecting blood samples and counting tortoises. Almost 2,000 giant tortoises were marked, and from this sample size, the experts surmise that about 6,700 tortoises currently reside on the Island. This is a huge increase from the estimated low of 500–700 tortoises in the early 1970s.

Education for Sustainability

In the closing months of 2016, we wrapped up the first full year of our five-year program to transform K–12 education in Galapagos in ways that will strengthen long-term, locally-driven conservation. More than 300 Galapagos teachers received more than 100 hours of world-class professional development, strengthening their ability to teach core subjects in the context of local and global sustainability issues.

Land Bird Conservation

According to the Charles Darwin Foundation and scientists from various universities across the globe, 2016 proved to be a successful year for head-starting critically-endangered mangrove finch chicks, with 15 fledglings being reared in captivity and released back into the wild. Baseline data reveals, however, that the Small Tree Finch, the Warbler Finch, and the Vermilion Flycatcher continue to have a very low rate of reproduction and will be the focus of work in 2017.

Fortunately, a major breakthrough with fly-rearing techniques has helped keep research activities going in Galapagos and has allowed scientists to better understand the biology of *Philornis downsi*, the invasive bot fly that has devastated these bird populations. Studies suggest that a parasitic wasp may be a promising candidate for use as a biological control agent to combat *P. downsi*. Galapagos Conservancy has supported this work for many years, recognizing the cutting-edge scientific advances, as well as the importance of saving these vulnerable, endemic bird species.



Top to bottom:

- 1) The participants in the April 2016 Education Institute gather for a photo after a week of hard work.
© Jonathan Drake, T2TI
- 2) A trainer from the Galapagos Biosecurity Agency demonstrates how a sniffer dog locates Giant African Land Snails.
© Stefan Tucker
- 3) Park rangers record data and collect blood samples from giant tortoises in the highlands of San Cristóbal in November 2016.
© Galapagos National Park

Combating Invasive Species

Introduced species are arguably the biggest threat to Galapagos' native creatures. In 2016, working with the Galapagos Biosecurity Agency, GC continued support of a canine unit that was trained to detect invasive Giant African Land Snails on Santa Cruz Island. The dogs proved to be quite successful, eliminating nearly 70,000 snails since their arrival.

On a related note, the growing number of domestic animals in Galapagos can pose a threat to native species. GC supported the building of a sterilization and diagnostic clinic for pets, and funded a veterinarian from the US to train local vets in leading spay and neuter procedures that require fewer medicines and less recovery time than traditional methods. Also included was funding for a comprehensive program to educate the local community about responsible pet ownership.

MISSION

To advance and support the conservation of the unique biodiversity and ecosystems of Galapagos through directed research, conservation management, informed public policy, and building a sustainable society

VISION

Galapagos Conservancy works to ensure a balance between human society and nature that will protect and enhance the unique ecosystems of the Galapagos Archipelago. We value innovative science and conservation management that constantly strives to add knowledge and context to the world's understanding of biodiversity conservation. We envision a healthy and engaged society within Galapagos that actively cares for and respects the sustainable and thoughtful use of local resources.

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2016 BOARD MEETINGS

Fairfax, VA, January 28, 2016
Washington, DC, May 21, 2016
Washington, DC, Nov. 19, 2016

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GALAPAGOS CONSERVANCY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal year beginning April 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions & Membership	\$2,731,280
Sales	13,919
Investment Income	261,707
Total Revenue and Support:	3,006,906

EXPENSES

Grants Out:

Ecosystem Restoration	467,845
Sustainable Society	681,654
Strategic Partnerships	827,857
Allocated Program Costs	128,376
TOTAL Grants Out:	2,105,732

Costs of Goods Sold	4,589
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Support Services:

Management and General	150,527
Fundraising	<u>353,705</u>
TOTAL Support Expenses:	504,232

Total Operating Expenses:	2,614,553
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Operating (loss) Income	392,353
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TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$5,578,610
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OPERATING EXPENSES



We are grateful for the financial support provided by our 10,000+ members whose generosity is at the core of our conservation investments. Below, we recognize our Ambassadors, who made annual gifts of \$1,000 or more in 2016.

Legacy gifts are marked (L). Travel Partners are marked (TP). Corporate matching gift programs are indicated by MGP.

ISABELA SOCIETY (\$25,000+)

Anonymous
Edward Bass
The Bay and Paul Foundations
Celebrity Xpedition Fund (TP)
Elizabeth Earle (L)
Mary Forman (L)
Arnold Goldman (L)
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Kirke Lathrop
Lindblad-National Geographic Fund (TP)
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Oak Foundation
The Phileology Fund
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The Tinker Foundation
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Paul Weber (L)

FERNANDINA SOCIETY (\$10,000-\$24,999)

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