Greetings,

On behalf of the Sky Island Alliance Board of Directors and staff, I am proud to share this report of the accomplishments and outcomes of our 20th anniversary year. The report details how we are practicing strategic conservation through our focus on core and corridor protection and landscape restoration across the entirety of the Sky Island region, developing and sharing new science especially in understudied biodiversity rincones of the region, and engaging the greater Sky Island community in all the work we do. In reflecting back on 2011, I realize what an exceptional year it has been.

2011 began with an unimaginable tragedy. It shook the foundation of our community with the loss of friend and colleague Gabriel Zimmerman, the attempted assassination of our Wilderness champion Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, the death of five neighbors simply engaged in the democratic process, and injuries to dozens more. We were devastated and stunned; we were moved to reflect on the fragility of life. Mostly we felt helpless. People from all walks of life came together as a community and chose civil engagement over divisiveness. As an organization, we recommitted ourselves to work for outcomes that would respect and affirm life. We recommitted ourselves to a public discourse that supports our founding commitment to engage collaboratively and be open to disparate viewpoints to find durable lasting solutions to our greatest conservation challenges — essentially to engage in good faith. Out of the tragedy that inaugurated this 20th anniversary year we were inspired by the community, by our partners and supporters, by the exceptional wild places that offer us refuge, solitude, contemplation and tranquility. And so we spent 2011 working to heal the landscape and our community.

In this 20th anniversary year we are proud to have documented the northernmost breeding population of ocelots (in northern Sonora); photographed a second male jaguar just 25 miles south of the border; completed five major Madrean Archipelago Biodiversity Assessment scientific expeditions; celebrated ten years of wildlife tracking; completed the removal of five miles of seven-strand barbed wire fencing at the international border; advanced the Arizona Climate Change Network with a two-day project development workshop; initiated a multi-year, cross-border, inter-jurisdictional watershed restoration effort; garnered over 12,000 hours of volunteer effort, including numerous scientific experts (an almost $400,000 value); and increased organizational capacity through the hire of two newly-envisioned positions: Development Director and Conservation Policy Director.

2011 truly was an exceptional year. We reflected on our beginnings and growth as an organization. We thanked those whose vision and hard work created a dedicated and effective organization, and we recommitted ourselves to our mission. I hope that as you read this report, you will discover meaningful and possibly new ways that we can work together to make the next 20 years just as outstanding!

Regards,

[Signature]

Melanie Emerson  Executive Director
Acasia Berry  Associate Director
Keri Dixon  Development Director
Jenny Neeley, JD  Conservation Policy Director & Legal Counsel
Sergio Avila  Northern Mexico Conservation Program Manager
Nick Deyo  MABA Project Coordinator
Trevor Hare  Landscape Restoration Program Manager
Jessica Lamberton  Wildlife Linkages Program Coordinator
Louise Misztal  Conservation Policy Program Coordinator
Rod Mondt  Protected Lands Program Coordinator
Christopher Morris  Conservation Assistant
Julie St. John  Newsletter Editor & Designer
Maggie Trinkle  Finance & Operations Associate
Tom Van Devender  MABA Project Manager
Sarah Williams  Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator

Board of Directors
Dick Krueger  President
Steve Marlatt  Vice President
Patricia Frederick  Secretary
Carol Cullen  Treasurer
Alberto Búrquez, Ana Córdova, Kevin Dahl, Howard Frederick, Kevin Gaither-Banchoff, Sadie Hadley, Adrian Quijada, Peter Warshall
Sky Island Alliance is dedicated to the long-term protection of the Sky Island mountains, desert grasslands, life-giving waterways, and the amazing diversity of plants and animals they host.

This region is globally important because of its rich biodiversity of species and habitats. Here roam well over half the bird species of North America as well as over 3,000 species of plants, and about 200 species of amphibians, reptiles, and mammals, including such magnificent predators as the Mexican wolf and the jaguar.

By prioritizing and protecting public and private lands which provide the best quality habitat in the region, we ensure the long-term protection of “core areas” for native species. Wilderness, Wildlife Refuges, National Conservation Areas, private preserves and other protective designations, not only provide long-term protection of the land and its inhabitants, but also connect local people with their wild lands and improve the quality of life in the region.
INQUIRY
MABA’s fifth expedition:
A wealth of discoveries

About 200 miles south of Douglas, Arizona, the Sierra Bacadéhuachi is a relatively unexplored Sky Island mountain range close to the Sierra Madre Occidental. In late July a remarkable gathering of 45 scientists, university professors and students, agency biologists, and volunteers set up base camp at Rincón de Guadalupe, a cluster of historic white adobe buildings nestled in a deep, forested, stream canyon. The habitats explored during the expedition — lowland foothills thornscrub, desert grassland, oak woodland, and pine-oak forest — were also visited on a June scouting trip and in early September to include plant and insect observations from later in the rainy season.

Over 1,550 observations from the Bacadéhuachi were added to the MABA database (www.madrean.org) — 664 plant observations in approximately 300 species and 892 animal records, including 471 insect and 277 bird observations. Entomologist John Palting was very successful in attracting diverse moth species to his blacklights at night — many large, showy tropical moths were seen during the August visit; their caterpillars were found in September in addition to smaller moths, temperate species typical to the southwestern United States. Although amphibian and reptile finds were not numerous, they were unusual, with Sonoran Desert toad (Bufo alvarius), Sonoran lyresnake (Trimorphodon lambda), and green ratsnake (Senticolis triaspis) found in high-elevation pine-oak forest. Tarahumara barking frog (Craugaster tarahumaraensis) and Chihuahuan earth snake (Geophis dugesii) were the first records of Sierra Madrean species in a Sky Island range.

ENGAGEMENT
Online database at www.madrean.org:
Enriching cross-border collaborations

A powerful analytical tool, the MABA online database houses data collected on MABA expeditions in addition to thousands of other species records from herbaria, museums, and scientific literature. Through three presentations given in 2011 — a field workshop on amphibian monitoring and conservation at a Universidad de la Sierra herpetology conference and presentations given at two conferences in Hermosillo, Sonora — SIA staff generated a great deal of enthusiasm among university students and professors and we look forward to future collaborations applying the data to local and regional conservation efforts.
We protect connectivity across the borderlands by advocating for smart, science-based decision-making.

ADVOCACY INTO ACTION
Working together, making our borderlands safer for sensitive species

Working with rural landowners in southeastern Arizona’s San Bernardino Valley and southwestern New Mexico’s Animas Valley, we helped convince the Department of Homeland Security to minimize environmental impacts when constructing Forward Operating Bases on these fragile landscapes. We also worked with local, regional and national conservation partners to monitor legislation with the potential to impact sensitive border habitat and important cross-border linkages, and engaged members and the public to promote strong, conservation-based policies for the borderland region.

ADVOCACY INTO ACTION
Mapping the way to a better future

Our creation of compelling maps, integrating biological data and geographic information, continue to empower our advocacy and ensure it is grounded in science. This year we used satellite imagery to map Sky Island vegetation and connectivity in the Mexican portion of the region, producing four maps with oak woodland and other important habitat types delineated. Combined with MABA data and ongoing field work, these maps will help us better understand the most biologically important places in northern Mexico on which to focus our protection and restoration efforts. We also produced dozens of new maps analyzing sub-watersheds (left) to inform riparian restoration and data collected by volunteers in combination with important ecological and terrain features to identify roads for closure, important corridors for wildlife movement, and the potential harm caused by mining exploration.
ADVOCACY INTO ACTION

Turning up the heat on harmful mining proposals

Large-scale mining activities pose one of the gravest threats to the health of the Sky Island landscapes and its inhabitants, and in 2011 we saw a barrage of harmful mining proposals targeting two Sky Islands. The massive Rosemont Copper mine, proposed for the eastern slope of the Santa Rita Mountains along Scenic Highway 83, continues to be met with an unprecedented level of opposition across the region. Sky Island Alliance’s letter-writing workshops were key in educating community members about this harmful proposal and providing information and mechanisms for them to voice their opposition. We also responded to three separate mineral exploration proposals for the Patagonia Mountains, all of which threaten the watersheds, riparian areas, critical wildlife corridors, and big cat borderlands habitat found in this small Sky Island gem. After submitting extensive comments, we ultimately initiated litigation against the Coronado National Forest for approving one proposal in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act.

ENGAGEMENT / INQUIRY

Bringing climate change to the forefront of regional natural resource management

Sky Island Alliance continued its leadership role on this crucial issue by convening Between a Rock and a Hot Place, the second workshop in our climate change adaptation series, and establishing the Arizona Climate Change Network. This network of informed and engaged managers, researchers and conservationists is developing actionable strategies to build resilience in Madrean forest, grassland, desert and riparian ecosystems. With support from the Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative, Sky Island Alliance is initiating work with key landowners and agencies to inventory, assess, and, ultimately, improve protection of crucial seeps and springs — the lifeblood habitat for many native plants and endemic species that are extremely susceptible to a warming climate.

ENGAGEMENT

Moving Wilderness forward

The Protected Lands Program made considerable tracks in 2011 — increasing awareness and support for protected areas and special designations — although we keenly felt the void created from the attempted assassination of our Congressional champion, Gabrielle Giffords. We gathered new support for Wilderness, engaged untraditional partners such as Ft. Huachuca, and continued our work in and advocacy for decommissioning roads as part of the Coronado Forest’s Travel Management Plan process.

ENGAGEMENT

Achieving protection for Rancho El Aribabi is a win-win for borderland species

Sky Island Alliance is proud to be a partner with private landowners, scientists, conservationists and government agencies working towards protection of high biodiversity areas on both sides of the border. In March, the Mexican National Commission of Natural Protected Areas announced the certification of “Rancho El Aribabi” as a Private Natural Preserve, under the category of Voluntary Land Conservation. This certification covers 10,000 acres of oak woodland forests, Sonoran Desert and riparian habitats. The area hosts a wide array of protected species of plants and animals, including jaguars and the northernmost breeding population of Sonoran ocelots.
Open, permeable, healthy wildlife corridors are essential in linking isolated mountain ranges and establishing habitat connectivity.

In the face of climate change, connecting corridors is key for the survival of populations.

These “linkages” allow wildlife to disperse and migrate in order to find new territories, feeding areas or mates.

Restoring and protecting corridors is a key approach to achieving whole, healthy landscapes.

Gila Wilderness (left) was the site of our 17th tracking workshop. Courtesy Sergio Avila. Mexican Gray Wolf track in the Blue Range (above). Courtesy Sky Jacobs.
Amazing progress linking volunteers to science and advocacy

This year marks ten years of tracking and a decade of citizen science, monitoring at-risk wildlife corridors throughout southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. In this time we have trained and engaged volunteers in the monitoring of 50 transects (1.5 mile long routes) within seven priority linkage areas. We have conducted over 1,000 track count surveys and documented over 4,000 records for more than 40 different animal species in the region — this year for the first time documenting opossum tracks!

Sky Island Alliance has successfully applied survey results to land use policy and land conservation, and this year we took a leadership role in wildlife linkage planning for Pima and Cochise Counties. Tracking data from the Catalina–Tortolita Mountain linkage contributed to the approval of two expanded wildlife underpasses and one wildlife overpass project (the second in the state) on Arizona State Route 77 (SR77). Working with residents in Sun City and Rancho Vistoso, volunteers document black bear tracks in golf course sand traps, photograph badgers and bobcat kittens on remote cameras, and effectively engage neighbors in the process.

In December 2011, ten years after tracking volunteers first put feet to the ground, a new project proposed by the Tohono O’odham Nation and supported by data from the Arizona Wildlife Linkages Assessment gained final approval for Regional Transportation Authority funding on State Route 86 near Kitt Peak. This project will also include two wildlife underpasses and a wildlife overpass, and is the first indication that the SR77 wildlife crossing project, scheduled to break ground in 2013, is serving as a model for similar projects in the rest of the region.

17 wildlife tracking workshops
233 trained citizen scientists
50 transects monitored
1,000+ track count surveys
4,000+ records of more than 40 species
The Wildlife Linkages program helps people make the connection that everything is connected and we’re all connected, too!

**ENGAGEMENT**

**Building enthusiasm for our Sky Islands**

In March, at the annual Tucson Festival of Books on The University of Arizona campus, the Sky Island Alliance tent buzzed with activity as hundreds of people stopped in to check out our program posters, learn about volunteer opportunities, handle wildlife track samples, and purchase books, maps and t-shirts. Regional authors Ken Lamberton, Jefferson Carter, Frank Rose, and Linda Brewer were in our tent, talking about their books and sharing their love of the Sky Island region. In October, staff and a team of volunteers “stepped up” to run and gather signatures for Wilderness support at the Bisbee 1000 Stair Climb.

SIA ensured a big presence at the 2011 BioBlitz — hosted by Saguaro National Park and the National Geographic Society — leading nature walks, making presentations, and playing interactive “Biodiversity University” games at our booth. Our volunteer trackers led tracking surveys, conducted after-dark black-light insect inventories, and led 77 middle and high school students to check remote cameras, set track plates and look for animal sign. Over 5,500 people attended and more than 900 species were documented — including 400 species new to the park and a microscopic critter that may be new to science.

**ENGAGEMENT**

**Spreading the word to broader audiences**

Sergio Avila, Program Manager of our Northern Mexico Conservation Program, attracted national attention in 2011. The National Geographic Education website published “Real-World Geography” describing Sergio’s beginnings as a scientist, and his work and accomplishments at SIA, while The Wilderness Society magazine’s “Building an Army of Young Conservation Leaders,” specifically addressed Sergio’s efforts in Northern Mexico.
INQUIRY

Ocelots, volunteers and amazing news!
Thanks to one volunteer who catalogued all our ocelot photos taken since 2007, we were able to identify individual ocelots photographed and confirm the location of the northernmost breeding population of ocelots on the continent — the Sierra Azul Mountains of Sonora. Shown above are an adult female (left) and her kitten (middle). Our remote camera also corroborated the presence of a second jaguar (right) 30 miles south of the border in the Sonoran Sky Islands. Our 2010 jaguar photo appeared with “In Southern Arizona, Rare Sightings of Ocelots and Jaguars Send Shivers,” (New York Times, 12/4/11), and with “The Jaguar Returns to the Southwest” (Encyclopedia Britannica Advocacy website, 12/26/11).

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Documenting impacts from border barriers
We continued mapping border barriers and other tactical infrastructure through photo-flights, field visits and GIS analyses. In conjunction with a graduate student in Geographic Information Systems at The University of Arizona, we took photographs, geographically referenced types of infrastructure, and recorded evidence of the barriers’ impacts on protected lands, wildlife habitats, and transboundary water courses. We conducted site evaluations along almost the entire border within the Sky Island region including the Buenos Aires and San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges, and the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area.

BORDERLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY RESULTS:
92% favored spending money at Ports of Entry vs. extending border infrastructure in remote areas; 64% opposed waiving environmental laws for the purpose of building infrastructure; and 52% opposed extending the border wall after learning about the costs associated and the problems caused by the lack of regulatory oversight.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Reconnecting wildlife linkages seven strands of barbed wire at a time
SIA staff led three field days supporting the Bureau of Land Management’s removal of close to five miles of redundant fencing along the border in the San Bernardino Valley. Over 35 volunteers, in concert with agency personnel, removed almost 3,000 pounds of wire, allowing for improved movement of wildlife in this sensitive, critical linkage.
This was a watershed year for restoration with rain filling the newly-restored Cloverdale Ciénega and riparian surveys and eradication of invasive species conducted across the region.

Across the board — in coordination with partners, in funding applications, and in engaging volunteers through our on-the-ground work — we advocate for coordinated and robust management of the landscape while working tirelessly to lower road densities, repair upland erosion, restore riparian areas and aquatic ecosystems, reintroduce rare species and eradicate harmful invasive species, and celebrate the revival of our magnificent Sky Island landscape.

Grasslands and volunteers working on grasslands restoration at Las Ciénegas National Conservation Area. Courtesy Sarah Williams.
ENGAGEMENT / ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Two cross-border riparian restoration projects come to fruition

In 2011, SIA conducted surveys to assess and collect baseline data on the health of the Greater Huachuca Grasslands Complex and Las Nutrias Headwaters Watershed as it flows into Sonora. In concert with our partners and engaging landowners on both sides of the border, we have begun development of a comprehensive restoration plan — a coordinated eradication of invasive species and restoration of riparian areas — to be implemented in 2012-2013.

We kicked off our Restoration of Priority Habitats for Neotropical Migratory Birds in the Madrean Sky Islands Region project with a visit to two sites that Ejido Miguel Hidalgo members have been working to restore — one along the Rio Santa Cruz and one in Arroyo Milpillas, a tributary to the Rio Cocóspera. This project combines ecological research, outreach to landowners and communities, and our innovative restoration methods. In total, we are assessing and restoring up to 20 miles of Sonoran creeks in three or four focal areas including the Rio Santa Cruz and the Rio and Ciénega Saracachi. As we implement the planning and restoration work, we are engaging volunteers from both the U.S. and Mexico, as well as local community members, ranchers and ranch hands, and state and federal land and wildlife managers. We are excited to share landscape restoration methods with our partners in Sonora and the Mexican Sky Islands!

ENGAGEMENT / INQUIRY

Sharing induced meandering and erosion control methods with regional practitioners

Sky Island Alliance, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management, brought watershed restoration expert Bill Zeedyk and two of his students to Las Ciénegas National Conservation Area to lead a seven-day intensive training for twenty participants including staff from Sky Island Alliance, National Park Service, BLM, conservation organizations, local landowners, biological consulting firms, and college students. Through this hands-on training, participants learned how to collect information for in-depth analysis of incised channels, from past causes to current and future impacts; short-term cures like check dams, gabion baskets, streambank armoring, and gully plugs, and their potential long-term negative consequences; and, how to critically evaluate potential designs for success.

Restoration Accomplished!

50,000 acres of habitat assessed
1,000 acres of habitat restored
100 stock tanks and 50 miles in 10 drainages surveyed for native and non-native frogs
100 miles of roads surveyed
5 miles of fence removed along the border wall
3 sites rid of bullfrogs; all three are being recolonized by native frogs
2 drainages restored and 15 large structures built with 60 tons of rock
2 sites readied for Chiricahua leopard frog reintroduction (bullfrog eradication, fencing, and building the pond)
ENGAGEMENT / INQUIRY

Cloverdale: A ciénega returns

Sky Island Alliance’s efforts in the Cloverdale Valley — protecting and restoring one of the largest and healthiest ciénega and creek systems in the region — continued in 2011 as we monitored the work we completed in Phase One (2010) while planning and designing for Phase Two (2012). We had been waiting through two monsoon seasons for a flood event to engage the restoration works we had built in Phase One (inset), and finally on December 16, 2011, over three inches of rain fell in one day in addition to the 3 inches which had fallen since Thanksgiving. The rain and subsequent flood event did exactly what we had hoped (above)— the water was diverted out of the manmade gully and flooded the drying ciénega! We look forward to more flood events and the conversion of the dried wetland and degraded creek back to their original form and function."
Sky Island Alliance volunteers put the “fun” in protecting, connecting, and restoring functioning landscapes.

Due to our cadre of steadfast volunteers, sharing thousands of hours of time and expertise, SIA has numerous accomplishments to brag about... thank you! *(Names in orange contributed 100 hours or more in 2011!)*

Anurag Agrawal
Isabel Amoros
John Anderson
Jundari Armstrong
Howard “Chip” Arnberg
Humberto Arriola
Michael Austin
Bill Azevedo
Richard A.
Bailowitz
Frank Baker
Tina Baker
Dinah Bear
Robert Behrstock
Lauren Berka
Acasia Berry
**Meagan Bethel**
Bill Bethel
Alan Binnie
Michael Bissontz
Rebecca Blancher
Nick Bleser
Benjamin Blonder
Marge Blum
Lee Borzick
Cheri Boucher
Curt Bradley
Rebecca Brinker
Kristin Brinkman
Jim Brock
Hank Brodkin
Precilla Brodkin
Wynne Brown
Margaret Bruning
Elizabeth
Buchoeder-Webb
Rachel Burke
Mike Burman
David Bygott
Richard Callahan
Kacey Carleton
**Jefferson Carter**
Kerry Caruthers
Scott Casterlin
Aida Castillo-Flores
Andrea Chapell
Jerry Chapell
Dyna Chin
Jim Chumbley
Joe Cicero
Shane Clark
Tyler Clark
Van Clothier
Augustino
Concolino
Constantino
Concolino
Paul Condon
Steven Condon
Jeff Conn
Charlotte Cook
**Tim Cook**
Kathy Cooper
Carlos Corneol
Zelenia Corenol-Lara
Bonnie Corrigan
Dagmar Cushing
Nick Czaplewski
Deryn Davidson
Don Davis
Gail Dawkings
**Maria de la Paz Montañez-Armenta**
Tom Deacon
Virgina Dean
Dana Deeds
Marcia Devere
Kathy Dixon
Ellen Dorn
Britt Dougherty
Sandy Doumas
Jennifer Dreyer
Dave Eerkes
Joan Eerkes
Frances Emerick
Erik F. Enderson
Richard England
Martin Esqueda-Valle
Kim Etherington
**Dave Evans**
Michael Fadel
George Farmer
Joe Fazekas
Cody Ferguson
**George Ferguson**
Pat Figuli
Juan Fimbres
Mark Fishbein
Sarah Forrester
Warren Forrey
Kim A. Franklin
Nico Franz
Howard Frederick
Pat Frederick
Debbie Friesen
Roberto Fuentes
Glenn Furnier
Carol
Gawrychowski
Ed Gilbert
Enrique Gil-Montaño
Emily
Gindlesparger
Carlos González
Sandy Goodall
Lane Greer
Jennifer Gremer
Joann Griffiths
Rich Griffiths
Linda Guinter
Manuel Omar
Gutiérrez-Castro
Steve Hale
Edward Haley
Samantha
Hammer
Jeannette Hanby
**Jonathan Hanson Roseann Hanson**
Mike Headrick
**Chip Hedgcock**
Erika Heist
Sandy Heunisch
Bruce Hilpert
Jeff Holt
Charlie Hoskins
John Hoskins
Elizabeth
Hospodarsky
Pat Hux
Mike Ingram
Bernice Isaacs
Gene Isaacs
Jana Jackson
Morgan Jackson
**Sky Jacobs**
Linda Jakse
Gayle Jandrey
Bethany
Johannesson
Kaarol Johansen
Terry Johansen
Jan Johnson
Valerie Johnson
Juan Jorguera
Dan Kent
Ashley Kerna
Dick Krueger
Bill Kurtz
Ellie Kurtz
Ernesto Laborin-Servín
Karen Lamberton
Ken Lambert
Robyn Landis
Jack Lasseter
William Lattea
**Dennis LeBlond**
SooRang Lee
James Little
Karen Lowery
Felicia Lowery
Beatriz E. Loyola-Reina
Russell Lyon
Mary Ann Marazzi-Hassan
Jackie Marcus
Amy Markstein
Chris Marzonia
Susan Mast
Danielle Mathieu
Jacques Mauger
Richard Maxwell
Pat McGowan
Malcom McGregor
Shelly McMahon
Hung Meekin
Trent Meekin
Joe Meenach
Pat Merrill
Norma Miller
Barbara Miller
Chuck Minckley
Tom Minckley
Dennis Moore
Beth Morgan
Axhel Muñoz
Jeff Nekola
Karen Nickey
Robert Nixon
Michael Nommert
Jeff Nordgren
Matt Nordgren
Vicky Nordness
Francisco Isaías
Ochoa-Guetiérrez
Tiffany Odern
Jennifer Oliver
Carl Olson
Jonny Paklaian
**John Palting**
Theo Palting
**Caroline Patrick**
Pat Phelan
Barbara Phillips
Ethan Pierson
Scott Pipken
Rudy Poe
Betty Poteet
Brian Powell
Cynthia
Prendergast
Stephen
Prendergast
William Radke
Kim Rego
Sande Rego-Ross
**Ana Lilia Reina-Guerrero**
Martín Reyes-Juárez
Marilyn Ringland
Mayra Rios-Madero
Kelly Robertson
Graiciela Robinson
Chris Roll
Jim Rolabaugh
Bob Ross
Phil Rosen
Morgan Ross
Stanley Ross
Marianne Rowe
Andrew Salwary
Beth Sanders
Zach Scallate
Annamarie
Schaecher
Dieter Schaefer
Krista Schmidt
Marjanne Schnarr
Dug Schoelkopf
Leslie Schupp
Leslie Sellgren
Ron Serviss
Dan Shein
Hugo Silva-Kurumiya
Tom Skinner
Aaron Smith
**Alex Smith**
Nicholas Smith
Jordan Soet
Julie St. John
Christine St. Onge
Birdie Stabel
John Stansberry
Patty Stern
Michael Stock
Kristina Stramler
Chí Talley
Frog Tinker
Carl Tomoff
Roberto Torres-Garcia
Eduardo Trinidad
Dennis Turner
Martin Turner
**Dale Turner**
Melissa Valenzuela-Yanez
Evie Van de Bogart
Anna Van Devender
Tim Van Devender
**Robert Villa**
Martin Villa-Andrade
Eric Wallace
Mary Walsh
Carrie Warman
Norm Watson
Kelly Watters
Dave Weeks
Niles White
Susan White
Tom Witey
Cynthia Wolf
Brandon Worden
**Gertrudis Yanes-Arvayo**
George Yatskievych
John Yerger
**Enrique Yescas**
Chang You

12,020
Total hours for 2011

5,520
MABA Project

3,017
Wildlife Linkages

2,305
Landscape Restoration

608
Office/data entry

316
Wilderness

254
Outreach

2011 Volunteer of the Year, Dennis LeBlond. Courtesy Melanie Emerson.
2011 was a year of milestones as Sky Island Alliance celebrated 20 years of protecting and restoring our treasured landscapes.

We marked the anniversary with events throughout the year, celebrating everything that’s been accomplished, remembering those who’ve made all the successes possible, and visioning where we’re headed. Thank you to everyone who shared in the celebrations. We are looking forward to your involvement in another 20 years of critical conservation work!

SIA kicked off the celebration by hosting an open house in January, shared a day of fun and evening under the stars with SIA members at the Labor Day Campout, brought the community together for a five-part Speakers Series in September, celebrated the accomplishments of our amazing volunteer corps at the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in October, and concluded the year-long celebration with a Wrap Party in December.

We launched the Nancy Z Memorial Fund, and highlighted the accomplishments of several exceptional individuals: Dale Turner (Founder, 20-year Board member, and Board President); Sky Jacobs (longtime SIA staffer); Dennis LeBlond, 2011 Volunteer of...
A special benefit concert was held in November, featuring the world’s premier performer of the Native American flute, R. Carlos Nakai, and award-winning classical guitarist Gabriel Ayala, where new friends joined current members and donors to support the future of Sky Island Alliance’s endeavors. A huge thank-you goes to both amazing performers for sharing their time and exceptional talents in furthering SIA’s conservation mission and message. Courtesy Chip Hedgcock.


Great food, great people, great music — must be another Sky Island Alliance Volunteer Appreciation Picnic! Courtesy Melanie Emerson.

The 20th Anniversary Founders Fund campaign, concluded in 2011, was a year-long effort to raise $100,000. The campaign was a rousing success thanks to over 200 members, including two donors who challenged others to help by offering matching gifts. Gifts ranged from $10 to $10,000 and all together, our broad base of supporters contributed over $106,000 to shore up critical programs and help Sky Island Alliance launch its next decade of outstanding conservation, restoration and advocacy work.

September


October

November

Legacy Giving

We are honored by the following donors and wish to acknowledge their long-term commitment to conservation in the Sky Islands. The following people have let us know they intend to leave a legacy gift to Sky Island Alliance:

Carianne Sienna Funicelli Campbell  Trudy Christopher
Elizabeth Hospodarsky  Robert Huebsch  Richard Krueger

We also wish to extend our sincere thanks to our anonymous donors who have made the same charitable pledge through a will, retirement or other estate plan. If you would like to disclose your intent to join our growing list of legacy donors, please contact Development Director, Keri Dixon at 520.624.7080 x15.
Thank you supporters. Your generosity makes our work possible. We appreciate your dedication to protecting and restoring the Sky Islands we all treasure. Sky Island Alliance is committed to making the most of every gift.

**Major Project Support**
- Bureau of Land Management
- The Kresge Foundation
- The MET Foundation
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
- The PEW Charitable Trusts
- Summerlee Foundation
- Turner Foundation
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Veolia Environment
- The REI Foundation
- The PEW Charitable Trusts
- Wilburforce Foundation

**$5,000+**
- Anonymous
- Bob Sanderson
- Dale Turner & Julia Fonseca
- Robert Zierenberg
- Chris Roll
- Dana Backer
- Jennifer Becker
- Don Davis & Diana Wheeler
- Lyle & Vera Dethlefson
- David G. Ebert
- Paul Hirt & Linda Jakse*
- Bonnie Kay
- Dick & Sue Krueger
- Ellie & Bill Kurtz
- Jim Malusa & Sonya Norman
- Billy Moore
- Bill & Alice Roe, Jade Tree Foundation
- Audrey & Arthur Emerson
- Dianne Engleke*
- Elizabeth Farkas
- Peter Ffolliott*
- Neil Goodwin
- Samantha & Timothy Hammer
- Bill & Gayle Hartmann
- Gilbert & Alice Homstad
- Mike & Susan Ingram
- Mari Jensen & Karl Flessa
- Carol Keck & David Rupleys*
- Karolyn Kendricks & Peter Schmidt
- Beth Lang
- Felicia Lowery
- Steve Marlayt*
- Rob Marshall
- Patrick McGowan
- Barbara & Floyd Miller
- John Mondt
- Beth Murfey & Dino DeConcini
- Caroline Patrick
- Richard & Laura Reilly*
- Doug & Arlene Ripley
- Randy Sarraglio & Louise Missetal
- Alan Timmerman
- Michael Torres
- Herb Trossman
- Martin Turner
- Tom Van Devender & Ana Lilia Reina-Guerrero
- Nick Van Kleeck*
- Jim Watson & Anne Berry
- Matt Wheat*
- Robert Witzeman
- Wanda Wynne & Craig Markens

**$1,000+**
- Anonymous
- Briggs & Pat Ackert
- Anonymous
- Diana Barnes-Freshwater & David Freshwater
- Jack Bartley
- Kathleen & William Bethel
- Ben Blackman
- Nancy Bower & Lindsey Quisenberry
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- Miscellaneous Income 1%
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- Outreach 9%
- Protected Lands 7%
- Wildland & Watershed Restoration 18%
- Wildlife Linkages 7%
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