

## One Earth Conservation Annual Report 2015



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#### Thank You!

Thank you to the individuals and organizations that donated funds, time, and other resources to One Earth Conservation in 2015. We literally could not have achieved all we did this past year without your assistance and support.

We acknowledge the following major funders of our work:

**Lafeber Company** - for growing us and being there in the beginning, making all this possible!

St. Vincent Group (SVG), Dubai - for bringing the hope of parrot well-being to the Mideast and to their customers

**The Vincent J. Coates Foundation** - for jumping in and really making a difference to help our projects impact more people and parrots.



# Vincent J. Coates Foundation



#### **Executive Summary**

One Earth Conservation (One Earth) had a boom year in 2015 in a variety of areas. We increased our impact upon parrot conservation in Latin America, not only by taking on new projects, but by increasing the reach and depth of past projects due to greater funding and staffing resources. One Earth currently has projects in six countries working primarily with endangered macaws and amazon parrots. We are central to parrot conservation efforts with the yellow-headed amazon in Central America, the yellow-naped amazon in Guatemala and Nicaragua, and the growing parrot conservation effort in Paraguay. Our project budget expanded from \$18,537 in 2014 to \$27,449 in 2015, and to an expected expenditure of \$40,510 for projects in 2016. We support either financially or through capacity building support 18 organizations in Latin America, and financially compensate 40 conservation field technicians and five biologists throughout several countries, and two codirectors of the Rescue and Liberation Center in Honduras. We are the sole support of this Rescue Center, offering not just financial resources, but also solidarity and capacity building.

We also began our Nurture Nature Program by hosting workshops and developing materials that will go live on a new website in early 2016. Our efforts in the area of public presence increased, with more frequent and varied postings to social media sites, as well as initiating several media projects. Our organizational process also grew in capacity with the addition of working volunteers, and development of mission, vision, and social canvass documents. We now have a formal Board, an Advisory Board, a volunteer Executive Director/Development Finance Officer, and a volunteer Conservation Consultant, and are in the process of incorporating as a 501(c)(3).

The following report summarizes our activities and finances for 2015, and describes our planned goals and activities for 2016, including the development of a screenplay and a memoir, a public speaking tour to Dubai, and hundreds of parrots saved.

It is with deep gratitude that we compile this report, for it celebrates the tremendous work of our volunteers and partners, as well as our vision, which moves us all towards a more beautiful world.

With hope in and for all life,

Rev. Dr. LoraKim Joyner

Lora Kim Joyne

Founder, One Earth Conservation



#### One Earth's Mission, Goals, and Principles

#### **General Mission**

The mission of One Earth is building knowledge, motivation, resilience, and capacity in people, organizations, and communities in the United States and internationally so that they can better cherish and nurture themselves, nature, and other beings;

This mission is achieved by combining work directed outward toward nature and other beings with work directed inward toward one's own human nature, as outer well-being and inner well-being are inseparable and mutually beneficial.

#### Outer Work - Parrot Conservation Goals and Objectives

Goal: Improving the lives of parrots and people in the Americas

This mission is achieved by standing in solidarity and witness to threatened parrot populations and the marginalized human communities that protect them, and through consultation and capacity building, One Earth conservation aims to stabilize and recover parrots while contributing to the overall health of human individuals, organizations, and communities in Latin America.

#### Objectives:

- To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America.
- To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America
- To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America.
- To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas.

Needed areas are defined as:

- Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
- Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
- Where there are endangered birds
- Where we can have the most impact for our size
- Where there is little funding

#### Inner Work - Nurture Nature Program Goals and Objectives

<u>Goal:</u> Improving the capacity of human individuals, organizations, and societies to nurture and to nature for the benefit of the biotic community and the individuals within.

#### Objectives:

To witness to and stand in solidarity with biotic and human communities, and the individuals within, whose efforts resist the story of Harm and Separation that has wounded them, and promote the story of Interdependence, Beauty, and Worth.

To increase emotional, social, multispecies, ecological, and spiritual intelligences in those seeking to grow their capacity as nurturers and naturers, most specifically targeting:

- Animal advocates
- Climate activists
- Birders
- Scientists
- Nature/animal lovers
- Conservationists
- LOHAS (those seeking lifestyles of health and sustainability)

#### **Our Principles**

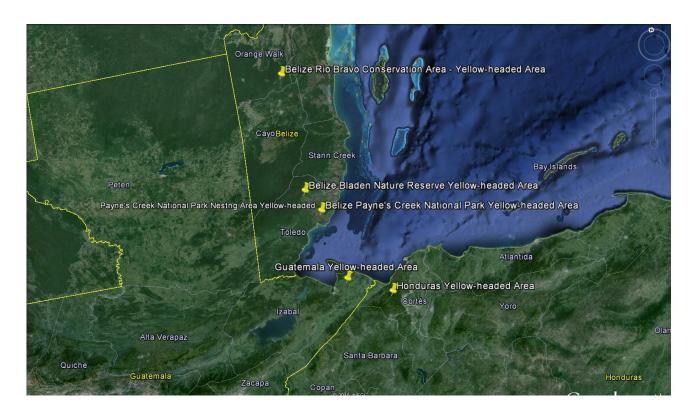
- 1. All individuals of all species have inherent worth and dignity (all bodies are beautiful, have worth, and matter).
- 2. All individuals of all species are connected to each other in worth and beauty.
- 3. We are also connected in harm, benefit, health, well-being, and existing. What is done to another, impacts us, and vice versa.
- 4. Embracing this reality, humans are embraced and nurtured, and can nurture in return.
- 5. This reality of "interbeing" makes us both powerful, and vulnerable. So we need each other, to grow and heal as much as possible.
- 6. Humans are a plastic species, and can change individually and as families, organizations, communities, and societies. We can become more effective and joyful nurturers (one who nurtures any aspect of the biotic community) and naturers (one who cherishes nature and seeks opportunities to do so). This is hard, deep, intentional, and takes a lifetime of work.
- 7. Our work in the world, then, is to build One Earth's capacity (as an organization and that of the individuals' within) to nurture and to nature so that we can lead others in nurturing and naturing through our organizing principles, programs, and individual modeling.

#### **Yellow-headed Amazon Conservation**

Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras

The yellow-headed amazon, *Amazona oratrix*, is considered globally endangered by IUCN and has suffered dramatic decreases in the last decades, mostly due to tremendous poaching pressure for the pet trade. In 2015, One Earth connected all the organizations working with the yellow-headed population in the four countries where it ranges to improve its status. To achieve this, One Earth worked with organizations in Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras and visited the region to conduct training and nest and population monitoring. One Earth worked with conservationists in Mexico to understand the status of the species there, and invited all organizations into a working group conducted via email. Currently, Mexico has no conservation program with this species, and seeks support for population and nest monitoring, as well as community education, awareness, and involvement projects.

#### Map of Project Yellow-headed Amazon Sites



#### **Belize Yellow-headed Parrot Conservation**

Checking up on the Chicks



#### **General Description and Activities**

In Belize, conservationists working with this species seek to understand the population status of these birds in the wild, as no national census has occurred. They also desire to understand the limiting factors impacting nesting success, and once this is understood, develop conservation strategies that address these limitations. One Earth in 2014 began working with conservationists

there to assist them in their goals. Specifically, One Earth has been working with the Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic, Belize Bird Rescue, TIDE (Toledo Institute for Development and Environment) and Scarlet Six Biomonitoring Team (Scarlet Six) who seek to support parrot conservation in Belize.

In 2014 Dr. Joyner visited Payne's Creek National Park, consulting with Scarlet Six and TIDE to grow capacity in nest



Dr. Joyner in Payne's Creek teaching chick health checks



Saving yellow-headed chicks at Payne's Creek

and chick assessment, as well as population monitoring. They were able to document over 200 yellow-headed parrots at one roost site. Wild chicks were temporarily removed from nests at Payne's Creek due to probable risk to them (as assessed by the Belize Wildlife Clinic), raised by Belize Bird Rescue, and released later in 2015 after the construction of a release cage. To further grow needed capacity in chick and nest health exams, rescue and release, and population



Trekking out to climb parrot nests

monitoring, Dr. Joyner returned to Payne's Creek in 2015 and provided needed training while examining nests in the areas of Deep Forest Reserve and Bladen Nature Reserve. Dr. Joyner also worked with the Rio Bravo Conservation area, teaching population monitoring and nest exams, which had not been conducted in what is likely the heaviest density of nesting yellow-headed parrots in Belize. They were able to identify a roost site during her short visit, hear stories of the high likelihood of poaching in the area, and assess the capacity of this area managed by Programme for Belize. Currently there are only two rangers working in the yellowheaded nesting area, and they must also do

other work and share their vehicle with other projects. There clearly aren't enough resources to monitor and protect this species in Rio Bravo. In total, eight rangers were trained at Payne's Creek and Rio Bravo, which will allow them to assess what limiting factors are impacting wild nesting success and best methods for manipulating the chicks and nests for maximum output.



**Current Partners:** 

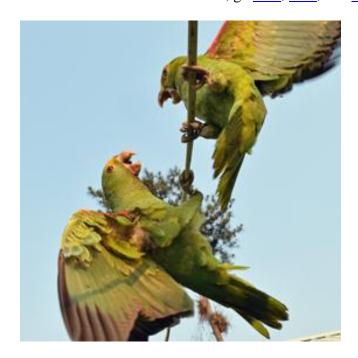
Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic
TIDE
Belize Bird Rescue
Programme for Belize

#### One Earth's Conservation Objectives Achieved in Belize

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

Wild chicks were removed at both Payne's Creek and Rio Bravo, and Dr. Joyner assisted in their removal, health assessment, and later laboratory diagnostic procedures by accompanying the chicks to Belize Bird Rescue. There she consulted with five staff members on rearing, release, general avian medicine, gathering biometric information, and laboratory procedures. Along with the staff, they collected blood samples from older yellow-headed parrots scheduled to be released, processed the blood and interpreted the results, and then prepared the samples to be shipped to Italy where they could be processed for infectious disease by the Camerino Veterinary School.

For a reflection on activities in Belize, go here, here, and here.



To address possible poaching, one must first document the poaching rate. In Payne's Creek they are able to monitor frequently enough to determine that there is some poaching, but many nests successfully fledge. They have not analyzed the data to determine their poaching rate. In Rio Bravo, they do not have a good idea of the poaching rate, although the rangers there report a high likelihood of rampant poaching. They do not have the transportation to determine nest success or poaching rates. One Earth assisted them by doing general consultation regarding the importance of documenting poaching rates, and then in nest monitoring and protection. We met with managers to determine their ability to develop their conservation efforts.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will fund volunteer rangers to monitor and protect the nests at the Rio Bravo Conservation area by working with the Scarlet Six Biomonitoring Team, which received a grant to promote population and nest monitoring of this species throughout Belize. We will then gather the data on nesting success and poaching rate to see how to further develop successful conservation strategies.



Dr. Joyner feeding rescued chicks

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

Dr. Joyner consulted with eight rangers at two conservation sites, the lead of the Scarlet Six Biomonitoring Team (Charles Britt), and five staff members of Belize Bird Rescue. The capacity has grown in both medicine and general conservation in Belize, though it will take several years of partnering to develop all groups to their full potential.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will gather field reports and summaries, as well as keep in open communication with all partners in Belize to see how we can consult and support their efforts from afar.

#### 3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

Dr. Joyner offered general avian medicine and welfare training while working with wild and rescued flocks, but did not interact with the homed parrot population in Belize This falls under the goals and mission of Belize Bird Rescue, which is doing a wonderful job.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

Continue to share the materials developed at Belize Bird Rescue for improving the lives of homed parrots with other parrot conservation groups in Latin America.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding



Rescued juvenile chick now free flying

Dr. Joyner's work in parrot conservation with both the yellow-headed amazon and the scarlet macaw has generally contributed to the capacity of all partners with Belize, and helped them network within themselves and with other yellow-headed conservation efforts in Mexico, Honduras, and Guatemala.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

With the increased capacity of partners, it is unlikely that One Earth needs to continue working directly in Belize except for general support and funding from afar. Belize is more integrated into the conservation world and various partners have increased their funding, staffing, and knowledge resources.

#### **Guatemala Yellow-headed Amazon Conservation**

We Found Them, Now Let's Keep Them There



First yellow-headed amazons documented in Guatemala in nearly a decade

#### **General Description and Activities 2015**

The last time anyone counted the yellow-headed amazons in Guatemala was in 2001. At that time there were 70 individuals in a roost site near Punta Manabique in Guatemala. Dr. Joyner developed

contacts in the country and went on an expedition to see if the birds were still there in April 2014. She was able to find two pairs, one through audio identification and the other visually. This is disheartening news for the last area where this species occurs in Guatemala, but better than seeing none. The area has also experienced heavy deforestation and there are no current parrot conservation efforts in the area. We hope to not lose this species entirely



With so few parrots left, they are hard to find

from Guatemala, as it is an important bridge between the northern populations in Belize and the southern populations in Honduras. Conceivably parrots could fly between Belize and Guatemala, but it will be more difficult to connect the fragmented populations if we lose Guatemala.



Yellow-headed amazon parrots foraging near sunset

To encourage conservation of this species, Dr. Joyner invited members of Guatemala CONAP (Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas) and FUNDARY (Fundación Mario Dary), both of which lead conservation in this Guatemalan region, to a workshop in Honduras on yellow-headed conservation in February 2015. One from each organization attended the 4-day training in population monitoring, and left with plans to conduct a similar training and population survey led by One Earth in May of 2015. Abruptly CONAP cancelled the event due to violence in the area and the workshop had to be postponed until the area stabilized.

For reflections on this project, go here.

**Current Partners:** 

CONAP FUNDARY

#### One Earth Conservation's Objectives Achieved in Guatemala

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

We do not know the poaching rate in this region, nor the current population status. We need to do a general survey of the adult population looking for pairs, juveniles, and families to see if any nests are successfully fledging. We also need to identify current nests and their success and poaching rates. It could be that the adult population is too low and the poaching pressure and instability issues too great for conservation in this area, but we won't know until we accomplish further study.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will explore this area in March 2016 with CONAP and FUNDARY to get a general sense of the population and nesting locations. One Earth will offer capacity training for population monitoring, nest exams, and general avian conservation during a one-day workshop in Punta Barrios, and then four days training in the field. We will specifically look at the historical roost site (if we can safely gain access to it) to assess how the population might have decreased. We will not be able to determine poaching rates this year, but we can gather anecdotal information, establish relationships and contacts, and assess the resources needed for conservation in this area during this trip.

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

Objectives and Activities for 2016

(see #1 above)

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

This goal is not of primary importance regarding this species in Guatemala, and as there are so few representatives in captivity, this will not be emphasized in this project.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

During the exploratory trip in March 2016, Dr. Joyner will visit homed parrots, seeking information on the illegal wildlife trade, offering advice on improving the health and wellbeing of homed parrots, and delivering a conservation and anti-poaching message. This will be done in partnership with others on this trip, and will be an incidental activity, although important. Every chance for education and consciousness-raising is a chance to advance the conservation of this species.



A community of people and vultures living off garbage near the yellow-headed area

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding

This area is more isolated from the main efforts of Guatemala parrot conservation. It is isolated geographically, as well as politically, due to the presumed heavy influence of illegal activities centered on the use of the ocean for transporting goods along the north-south axis. Currently there is no parrot conservation in this region, which is a concern given that there may be very few yellow-headed amazons left in Guatemala in this area. The only funding they have is the general support of a vehicle, a boat, a research lodge in the area, and various staff members that desire training and more influence to positively impact parrots in their country.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will conduct a training and field survey in March 2016, and then assess, along with the leaders in Guatemala and the regional yellow-headed amazon working group, what next action steps are warranted.

#### **Honduras Yellow-headed Amazon Conservation** They've Been Found, Now Let's Keep Them There



#### **General Description and Activities**

In 2014 One Earth learned that the yellow-headed amazon was still in Honduras, and that no one had ever evaluated the species status in this area. Knowing that the species was in trouble in all four countries where it ranges, Dr. Joyner visited the area to see what might be done to conserve the bird. She worked with Cuerpos de Conservación -Omoa (CC-O) who is charged with managing the main protected area where the yellowheaded amazon was observed, Parque Nacional Cuyamel Omoa. Together they toured the area and then planned for a



In the field teaching for Guatemalans and Hondurans

more complete survey and training in 2015.

Funded by One Earth in February 2015, a workshop was held inviting parrot conservationists from all over Honduras, as well as in the neighboring region of Guatemala, where the yellow-headed parrot still exists. A total of 14 conservationists attended, learning about parrot conservation and population monitoring. Field training exercises were conducted simultaneously with fixed transect counts, suggesting that yellow-headed parrots were in the area.

CC-O was hit with financial limitations and could not grow the parrot conservation efforts until September 2015 when, through One Earth's funding, CC-O hosted another training for local community members, expanded their fixed transect counts, and began researching nesting and poaching rates. There were ten participants with a total of 115 distinct yellow-headed individuals counted in the area. This is a significant population and merits further conservation efforts.

For reflections on the expedition, go <u>here</u>. <u>here</u>, and <u>here</u>. A report on the status of the project can be found here.

#### **Current Partners:**

#### Cuerpos de Conservación - Omoa



Workshop participants

#### One Earth Conservation's Objectives Achieved in Honduras

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

To address possible poaching, one must first document the poaching rate. We do not know this for this area, as nest monitoring and protection strategies have yet to be implemented. But even before the poaching rate can be determined, we need a general idea of the presence of birds, and in what areas they likely nest, forage, and roost. We now know a great deal more about this than a year ago, and can begin the next steps in an overall conservation strategy - nest identification, monitoring, and protection, as well as education, conservation awareness, and community involvement.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Coordinate with CC-O to identify nests and to monitor their success, funding local community members to conduct this monitoring study.

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

General parrot conservation was taught at the workshop in February 2015 and will be repeated during a similar workshop in nearby Guatemala in March of 2016. Avian conservation medicine is not a goal for this species in this region.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Dr. Joyner will visit this region in March of 2016 to assist them in their nest monitoring program and offer general advice on parrot conservation.

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

This is not a primary goal for this project, although homed parrots are visited whenever Dr. Joyner visits the area.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None anticipated.



People's livelihood often comes from rural farms

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors

- Where there are endangered birds
- Where we can have the most impact for our size
- Where there is little funding

Honduras is the second-poorest country in Central America. With a population of approximately eight million people, poverty in Honduras affects roughly 60 percent of these individuals. Out of 187 countries, Honduras ranked 121 on the United Nations Development Program's 2011 Human Development Index. This index is a "comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education, and standards of living for countries worldwide." Un- and underemployment rates throughout Honduras are high at about 36% (2009 estimate, World Fact Book). One of the main obstacles to poverty reduction and sustainable development in Honduras is violence. In 2011, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime labeled Honduras the *Murder Capital of the World* with 82 homicides for every 100,000 inhabitants. The yellow-headed parrot area of Cuyamel-Omoa borders on the San Pedro Sula region, the most dangerous city in Honduras, and in 2014 the most dangerous city in the world.

There are no parrot conservation efforts in the area besides that initiated by One Earth with CC-O, and CC-O is the only conservation organization in the area. They have very limited funding, and nothing for parrots. To date, we have determined the approximate population of a very endangered parrot species in the region, developed relationships, and matured the capacity of local people to conserve their parrots. CC-O will need more support in terms of funding, training, and solidarity

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will continue to nurture the growing conservation effort in this area by inviting them to the workshop in Guatemala in March 2016, visiting the site during the same time period, and overseeing and funding a nest monitoring program.



The future of parrots is in our hands

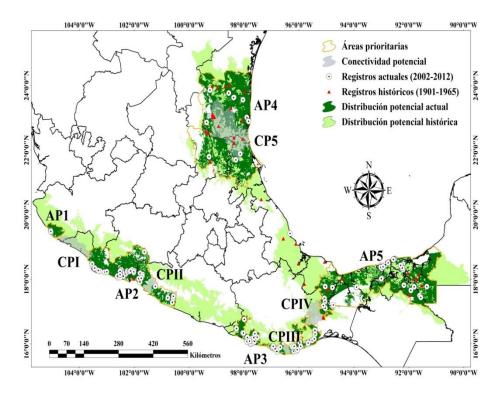
#### **Mexico Yellow-headed Amazon Conservation**

Networking for Success

As in other countries, we do not have a current estimate of the yellow-headed population in Mexico. Approximately 7,000 individuals were estimated to be in all four countries in 1994. Since then studies indicate that the species' range has decreased, as well as absolute numbers, earning it an *Endangered* rating. The species has not been thoroughly surveyed since 2007 and there are no current conservation projects with this species in Mexico.

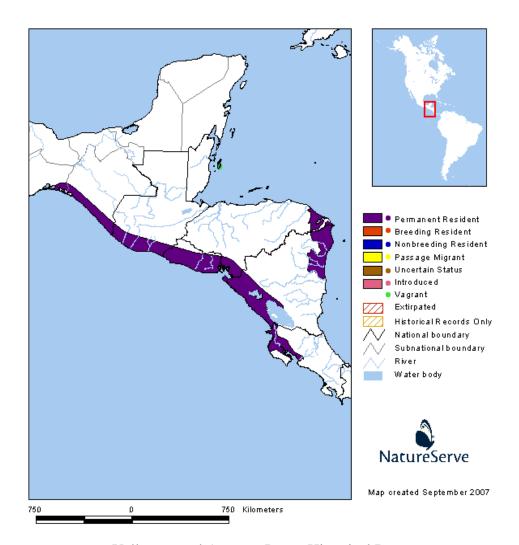
One Earth is in conversation with Dr. Tiberio Cesar Monterrubio Rico in the Biology Department at the University of Michoacán de San Nicolas de Hidalgo in Michoacán, Mexico. He has led surveys of this species in Mexico and reports that the species is in need of surveying given the recent shifts in the socioeconomic situation in this part of Mexico in response to drug cartel activity.

We will continue to communicate with Mexico and the other countries as to the status of their birds and how we can collaborate to form active conservation strategies in the area.



Map of priority areas and potential Corridors to conserve Amazona oratrix (AP = Priority Areas, CP = Priority Corridors)

#### **Yellow-naped Amazon Conservation**



Yellow-naped Amazon Parrot Historical Range

Along with others, Dr. Joyner shared her perspective on the population decline with Bird Life International who assessed this species' status for the IUCN (International Union of Nature and Natural Resources) Red List of Threatened Species. With others, Dr. Joyner's contribution resulted in shifting the status of this species from *Least Concern* to *Vulnerable*, with a future categorization of *Endangered* possible. Because of this risk to the species, and because no one else is working with the yellow-naped amazon in Guatemala, on the islands of Lake Nicaragua, or in Honduras, One Earth supports and initiates projects in these areas.

#### **Guatemala Yellow-naped Amazon Conservation**

Saving the Yellow-naped Amazon



Just fledged yellow-naped amazon chick learning to eat

#### **General Description and Activities 2009-2015**



Yellow-naped chicks raised by liberated parents in an artificial nest box

Since 2009, One Earth Conservation has been interested in yellownaped amazon conservation in Guatemala. This stems from Dr. Joyner's leadership in the Guatemala Psittacine Project in the 1990's in the South Coast of Guatemala. During that time, the project documented nearly 95% poaching of successful nests. Beginning in 2009 One Earth financed a survey of a historical roost site where slightly more than 250 individuals roosted in the nonbreeding season. By 2013 only one pair spent the night in the roosting area, which not only has been subject to high rates of poaching, but also habitat loss as activities in the countryside are changing from cattle ranching to monoculture sugar cane production. This corresponds to anecdotal reports of a severe drop in the yellow-naped parrot population in Guatemala.



Workshop participants wear "Fly Free" wrist bands

Beginning in 2013, Dr. Joyner began visiting locations in Guatemala where landowners were interested in parrot conservation, and where the species might still exist in numbers to warrant conservation efforts. While visiting each location Dr. Joyner conducted counts of the species, taught population monitoring and general conservation, and encouraged landowners to continue

population monitoring, begin nest monitoring and protection, locate roost sites, work with local communities in education and conservation awareness activities, and consider strategies to protect nests. In total, Dr. Joyner and other members of the newly forming yellow-naped amazon working group visited 11 sites before 2015. One Earth, along with ARCAS, grew the working group, which since 2014 has been called COLORES (Corridor of Loros, Reserves, and Sanctuaries). Growth of COLORES was promoted through yearly working group meetings and presentations and development of an email list with periodic updates. Participating sites where parrots could be observed were amalgamated into a map entitled, "Parrot Pathway" (Ruta de Los Loros), to promote ecotourism and awareness. This interactive map highlights hot spots where birds are being protected and counted, and could draw revenue to these same reserves. In 2014 One Earth largely financed the placement of four anti-poaching signs along the EW road that stretches from Mexico to El Salvador.

One Earth Conservation financed the making of yellow-naped and yellow-headed wristbands in 2015, which display the yellow and green shades in both of these species and say, "Parrots Fly Free" (*Loros Vuelan Libre*). These wrist bands are distributed to all participants during on-site visits as well as during working group meetings. To date, approximately 2,000 wrist bands in macaw and amazon parrots' colors have been distributed throughout Latin and North America. The

bands come with an explanation that describes how many people are wearing the bands, and that by wearing the band we affirm that no one is alone in conservation work, as many are in solidarity with the hope that parrots can be both cherished and protected in their native ranges.



**COLORES** members at our booth at the Conservation Encounter

In 2015 One Earth grew its commitment to this species in this country through three in-country visits. Each of these visits strengthens and grows the working group, spreads conservation awareness of the species, trains biologists, students, veterinarians, and land custodians in parrot conservation, counts parrots, and grows the capacity and number of conservation areas to preserve their parrots. Three new areas were visited in 2015 (see attached report). including Las Magaritas

where confiscated parrots can be cared for and liberated, and where also the land owner is financing an educator to work in the Mazatenango area to promote parrot conservation in area schools. Dr. Joyner and other members of COLORES presented at the Conservation Encounter sponsored by the Association of Private Reserves in Guatemala City in June of 2015, and again at the working group meeting at the Valley University in Guatemala City in December of 2015.

Dr. Joyner trained the new COLROES project manager regarding parrot conservation for two weeks in December, concentrating on parrot population and nest identification, and participated in one secondary school education event. She also met with CONAP, the regulatory agency in charge of enforcing parrot protection laws in Guatemala.

To access the Parrot Pathway, go <u>here</u>, and for further information go <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, and <u>here</u>.

#### **Current Partners**

#### **ARCAS**

Avitourism Board of Guatemala

<u>Universidad de San Carlos Facultad de</u> Veterinaria

Asociación de Reservas Naturales Privadas de Guatemala

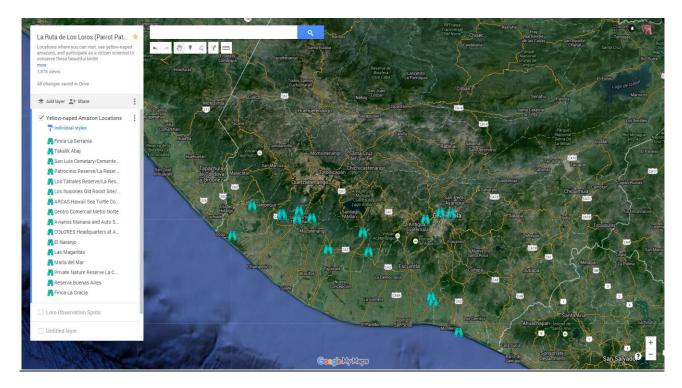
#### **CONAP**

Takalik Abaj archeological site.



Signs denouncing poaching of parrots

#### Map of Yellow-naped Amazon Sites (Parrot Pathway)



#### One Earth's Objectives Achieved in Guatemala

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

As in our other projects, to protect parrots from poaching we must know more about the poaching in general in the area, and its characteristics at specific sites, to be able to construct conservation strategies. At this point we don't know much about poaching here: the demographics of poachers, the prices, the trade routes, the impact on nesting success, and the effectiveness of various strategies. We must get this data to go forward.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

We will hire a quarter time project manager, Cristina Arrivillaga, who will train biology technicians, field workers, and guides at conservation areas to find and monitor nests. She will select a subset of yellow-naped amazon locations (n=4) for a study area that has the most nests and the greater likelihood of being able to be protected. She will confirm if a nest is active by developing and then applying protocols for making such a determination, and also assess when and how it failed.

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

Dr. Joyner spent 3 weeks in the field in 2015 training people regarding parrot population monitoring and general parrot conservation, visiting a total of eight locations. In addition, she co-organized a learning working group meeting where she also presented. Currently, One

Earth's emphasis is on parrot monitoring, nest identification, monitoring, and protecting, and education and awareness.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

The training at sites this year will be conducted by the project manager, whom Dr. Joyner will supervise and whom One Earth will fund at 50% of her salary.

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

Currently One Earth is only exchanging brief email contacts with the veterinarians at the School of Veterinary Medicine, San Carlos University in Guatemala City regarding a project in this area.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Dr. Joyner will monitor opportunities for networking and collaboration in this field, but no formal program exists to address this goal.

4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas.

Needed areas are defined as:

- Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
- Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
- Where there are endangered birds
- Where we can have the most impact for our size



Involving the children and youth in parrots in Guatemala



Juvenile that had been poached in poor feather condition

Guatemala is a challenging region in which to work. In 2014, the poorest 40 percent of the country's 15 million citizens lived on just \$1.50 per day, down from \$1.60 in 2003. It's the only country in Latin America where the poor have been getting even poorer. Much of the population in the South Coast works for the larger agricultural holdings. This means that the rural poor do not own their land, which places a significant pressure on conservation areas protected by individuals and families, and the local communities have no interest in the land and wildlife except as extraction resources.

Currently there are no other groups working with wild parrot conservation in the South Coast of Guatemala except for those groups who are part of COLORES, which One Earth co-leads with ARCAS. The South Coast is a huge territory, some 300km long and 50km wide. To survey it for viable areas for conservation, to protect it, and to apply a program of conservation awareness and education is a large undertaking. For that reason we are concentrating on small and specific possible conservation areas where the land stewards have the will and passion to protect their parrots. From this nucleus we plan to scale up efforts as we concentrate on enforcing the success of these smaller areas.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

We will continue to work with ARCAS in fundraising and grant writing so as to garner more attention and resources for this project.



We monitor all parrot species in the South Coast, including orange-fronted parakeets (above) and Pacific parakeets (below)



#### **Nicaragua Yellow-naped Amazon Conservation**

Islands of Hope (Ometepe and the Solentiname Archipelago)



#### **Activities 2015 Solentiname Archipelago**



Biologist Alfredo Figuero on ranch of family protecting the island

The Solentiname Archipelago in Lake Nicaragua (also known as Lake Cocibolca) was formed thousands of years ago by a violent volcanic eruption. Slowly then a mixture of dry and wet forest advanced with all the wondrous species of the mainland. Much more quickly however, people have deforested the islands and taken the parrots.

Fundación del Rio witnessed this devastation and to help reverse this trend, purchased nearly half the island of Mancarroncito, the last island in the chain. There they built a biology station, made some habitat corrections, and invited a local family to protect the yellow-naped parrot. Dr. Joyner visited there in 2014 and 2015 to do a quick survey of the yellow-naped population of the island, teach parrot monitoring techniques, survey nests, and begin education of the island's school age children.



Dr. Joyner counting parrots on Lake Nicaragua

On Mancarroncito Island, we found 76 distinct individuals, most of which are flying east to the other islands in the Solentiname Archipelago. There is a need to survey the entire Archipelago and develop a conservation plan, which includes nest protection, education, and awareness. We also heard that there are about 20 nests on Mancarroncito Island, five of which are protected by the family who works at the biology station.



**Teaching children on Mancarroncito Island** 

#### **Activities 2015 Ometepe Island**



The LOCOS

On a voluntary basis for the last several years, biologists have been counting parrots on one part of this twin volcano island in Nicaragua's Lake Cocibolca. As the yellow-naped parrot is endangered throughout Central America, Lafeber Conservation stepped up to lead the way for monitoring and conserving the parrots on the island. Dr. Joyner has been supervising a group of biologists (LOCOS - *Loreros Observando y Contando en Ometepe*) to count the birds since 2013, and began education

and awareness programs there in 2014. Island wide counts have now occurred twice in 2014 and once in 2015 and we have a strong estimate of the numbers and species of parrots on the island, ranging from a low of 710 and high of 923. In the latter part of 2015 the LOCOS spent time, along with Dr. Joyner, identifying and characterizing roost sites. The LOCOS also began looking for nests in November 2015. In December of 2015 several active nests were identified, and with the collaboration of tree



The ever present and needed education activity conducted by biologists on the island

climbers from Paso Pacifico, these nests were accessed and their chicks examined. This is a startling discovery and something we have suspected for the last several years on Ometepe: there is a unique early breeding subpopulation of yellow-naped parrots on Ometepe, the significance of which is unknown at this point.



The first time parrot chicks have been studied on Ometepe Island - with the discovery of an early breeding subpopulation

A workshop in October 2015 was held for 30 people where theory and techniques of parrot conservation were presented to biologists, ecotourist guides, and various non-profit and governmental organizations, all of which will be part of the developing conservation plan.

For reflections, go here, here, and here.

<u>Current Partners:</u> <u>Fundación del Rio</u> <u>Flora and Fauna International</u> Paso Pacifico



**Workshop participants** 

#### Map of Project Sites



### One Earth Conservation's Objectives Achieved in Solentiname and Ometepe, Nicaragua 2013-2015

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

Our activities in Lake Nicaragua to date have impacted anti-poaching efforts by first understanding the nature of the parrot population. We need to know how many birds there are, and if family groups are visible (indicating that not all the nests are poached). We now have a strong baseline population estimate on Ometepe, but not in Solentiname, except for Mancarroncito Island.

LOCOS on Ometepe Island has visited the area schools closest to the densest parrot populations, but do not have materials or staff hours to extend and sustain their efforts for the one to two generations it requires to shift a culture.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

We will conduct a survey of the Solentiname Archipelago for all parrot species there.

We will hold a joint workshop for Solentiname and Ometepe biologists on Ometepe Island, and then move the entire crew to Solentiname to hold an archipelago wide survey. One Earth will also produce a report of all past findings and host a workshop for current and potential partners so as to develop a conservation plan for the Lake. On Ometepe, major information is yet unknown about nesting locations, nesting success, and poaching rates. We will fund the LOCOS to do the work of locating and protecting nests on Ometepe.

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America.

The group of biologists called LOCOS on Ometepe can now conduct counts on their own, as well as look for nests and roost sites. Local guides and staff of organizations on Ometepe have had a brief workshop and field experience in conducting parrot monitoring.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

We will continue capacity building for parrot monitoring techniques and increase interisland collaboration by having the Ometepe biologists (LOCOS) train the Solentiname biologists, and also assist them in their survey of the islands.

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

No work has been done in this area, except during the limited school visits in 2014 and 2015.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

We will continue correspondence with the veterinary schools on the mainland, meet with them, and take steps to hold a workshop on avian conservation medicine.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding

Previous to our project, there was no parrot conservation work occurring on Ometepe Island, and now there is considerable knowledge and organization for doing the work. We are the sole funders and drivers at this time, although we are slowly growing organizational partnerships. On Solentiname, there is no parrot conservation efforts, except when Dr. Joyner initiates it. There is no outside funding for it either, although Fundación del Rio has the local knowledge, a boat to use, and a research station on Mancarroncito Island. Communities are low income in this region and isolated from conservation efforts on the mainland.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

We will continue capacity building regarding parrot monitoring techniques and increase inter-island collaboration by having the Ometepe biologists (LOCOS) train the Solentiname biologists, and also assist them in their survey of the islands.

# **Nicaragua Scarlet Macaw Conservation**

Another Lap for the Lapas at Cosiguina Volcano



**Nests on Cosiguina Volcano** 

#### **General Description and Activities**

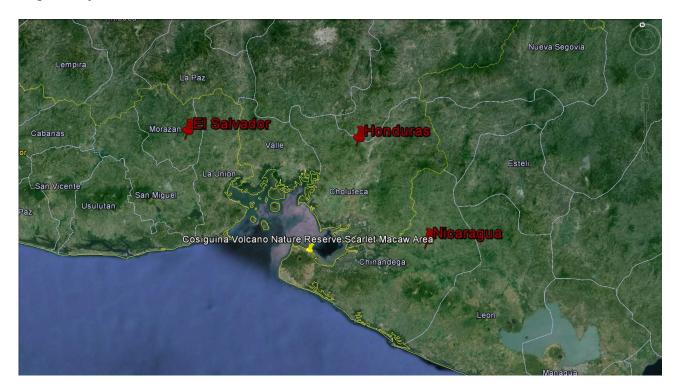
Nature Reserve Volcano Cosiguina is the last area on the Pacific Slope of Central America where this subspecies of scarlet macaws exists, which is overall greatly threatened in the other countries where it is found (Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, Costa Rica). In 2013 there were no firm numbers as to the population numbers or if active nests existed in this region. To find out more, One Earth donated funds in 2013 and again in 2014 so that this project could advance. Now there is a regular population and nest monitoring and protecting program, as well as concentrated education efforts (see attached report). A dedicated group of volunteer biologists have explored this steep terrain, studying the habitat health for macaw foraging and nesting. They confirmed scarlet macaw (*lapa roja*) nests, estimated the population at 16 individuals, and confirmed that poaching does exist. To combat poaching and the illegal logging in the park, the biologists teamed up with a coalition of partners and received funding from other sources for education programs in the surrounding communities. They also have funds for patrols that protected the nests in 2015, to which One Earth contributed.

An update of this project can be found here, and for the most recent report, here.

#### **Current Partners**

Cooperativa de Servicios Turisticos Cosiguina

#### Map of Project Site



# One Earth Conservation's Objectives Achieved in Nicaragua

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

One Earth funded parrot patrols for much of 2015 and no poaching was documented, although it could have been present due to the difficulty of the terrain and limited staffing of the monitoring patrols.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None planned:

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

One Earth visited the area in 2013, teaching parrot conservation at a local workshop. Dr. Joyner continues to consult and support networking via electronic communications.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Continue to network and seek opportunities for collaboration.

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

This goal has not been addressed in this project.

#### Goals and Activities for 2016

None planned.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding

In 2013, when One Earth began supporting this project, we were the only ones funding the very basic biology expeditions into the area. We believe that we were the organizational nucleus that initiated the more formal aspects of this project. In 2014 and 2015, grants were awarded from Cooperativa de Servicios Turisticos Cosiguina o support this project, along with One Earth. We are hopeful that our initial support has set the foundation for this coalition of conservationists to continue and grow their efforts.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Continue monitoring the coalition's progress and success.



**Looking for macaws on Cosiguina** 

# Nicaragua Great-Green and Scarlet Macaw Conservation

Partnering with People Protecting Their Parrots in Rio San Juan



Great green macaw in April 2014 flying near the nest protected by ranch owner Tomas and his family

#### **General Description and Activities**

Dr. Joyner visited the Rio San Juan region in 2014 to see how One Earth could contribute to the macaw conservation work in this area that borders with Costa Rica. Though many nests have been lost due to poaching and habitat loss in the past, our partner, Fundación del Rio, has worked

diligently for 25 years with the communities there to protect the remaining nests. They have found a way for the extant nests to be protected by ranch owners. We supported this conservation work in 2014 and 2015 by providing a stipend for a community leader in the area who monitors the nests and provided environmental and conservation education to the schools there. We also encourage population monitoring by visiting two locations in the area, conducting counts, and training staff at Fundación del Rio. We had hoped to sponsor ecotours to help raise awareness



Teaching macaw conservation in Bartola, Nicaragua

in the area and provide cash income to improve the economic realities of the people there who have the consciousness to protect their birds. However, we were unable to find enough participants to make a tour viable.

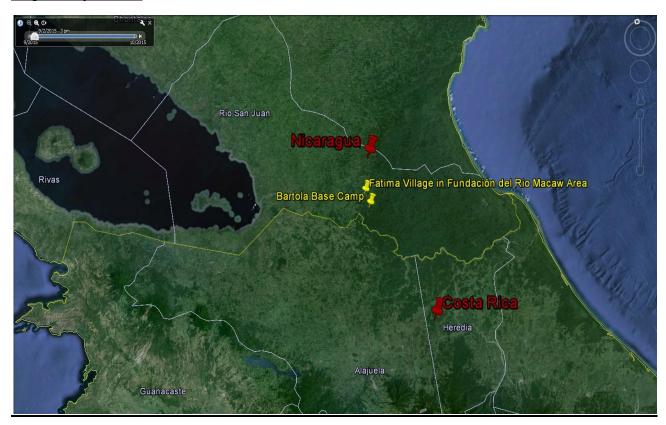
Dr. Joyner presented a mini-workshop on the Human Dimensions of Conservation to Fundación del Rio in 2014.

Information on this project can be found <u>here</u>, and <u>here</u>, and reports of the work we helped fund can be found <u>here</u>, and here.

#### **Current Partners:**

#### Fundación del Rio

## Map of Project Sites



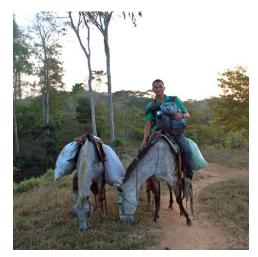
## One Earth Conservation's Goals Achieved in Nicaragua

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

By funding their community leader, we were able to help Fundación del Rio (FDR) document the success of the nests in their communities and the poaching rate (none were poached), as well as provide educational events for the community's schools. FDR does not have funds to supplement the income for their community leader, who had to leave the area for several months to procure employment in Costa Rica.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

We are considering funding the community leader for half the year.





Community leader Marcia on his way to monitor macaw nests (left) and teaching children (right)

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America Currently Fundación del Rio does not have plans to expand their efforts in parrot conservation to more communities because of funding restrictions. One Earth does not have the funds at this time to help them expand. We will continue to encourage them to document their adult

population (they have no population estimates or yearly summaries of the adult population), and to investigate what, if any, reproductive limiting factors to nesting success might exist. We can offer capacity support in both of these areas if they seek to grow in this way.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None planned.

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America



Dr. Joyner going up Bartola river to look for macaws

This project does not address these goals.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None planned.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors

- Where there are endangered birds
- Where we can have the most impact for our size
- Where there is little funding

Fundación del Rio has been doing great work with macaw conservation in the last decades. They have been able to preserve and protect their population and nests in their core community areas. Their funding sources recently diminished, and it is not clear how successful their efforts will continue to be without funding, and if socioeconomic factors shift in the area putting habitats and nests at risk due to invasion of migrants from other locales.

# Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will continue to monitor their success and efforts, and support them through communication and networking.



Green heron hunting along the polluted San Juan rive (above) and overlook at Bartola Basecamp (below)



#### **Honduras Parrot Conservation**

Disease Screening, Protection, and Capacity Building for Liberation



Dr. Joyner teaching health examination of wild chicks to villagers of Mabita

# General Description and Activities

This is the sixth year that One Earth Conservation has been working within Honduras. Our primary aims are the restoration of the scarlet macaw population in the Miskito region and support of the indigenous communities there. In 2015 we extended this care to the yellow-naped parrot. We still have not been able to study and protect the great green macaw due to the instability of the area where they are found.



Yellow-naped parrots feeding directly above newly constructed Research Station funded by One Earth Conservation



Villagers gaining more and more capacity to care for their macaws

To help these species we provide consultation and funds for food and supplies for the confiscated birds that the government brings to the village of Mabita for care and liberation. Unable to get to the area during the breeding seasons of 2012 and 2013, year 2014 was a deep disappointment, as no wild nests were successful. In addition, six of the released parrots acutely sickened, and five died. Based on interviews it appears to have been some sort of ingested toxin.

Our goals for 2015 were to improve the health of the birds cared for by the villagers, both the rescued and wild

flocks. We instituted a parrot monitoring and protection program to see if we could keep the nests from being poached. We also needed to investigate the health and management of birds released around the village, so as to diminish the possibility of future

illness and death in this demographic of birds.

Dr. Joyner assembled a full field-ready diagnostic laboratory and clinic to monitor the health of released, homed, and wild parrots. In addition she instructed and collaborated with a graduate student in genetics who was designing a program for evaluating the genetic vigor of this population. During the two weeks in the field, Dr. Joyner was able to teach health exams so that by the end of her two-week stay in Mabita, the villagers were performing and recording full physical exams. Of the 25 active nests of this year, 11 were poached, two had their chicks pulled to the Rescue Center because of the risk of poaching, two failed for other reasons, and one failed at fledging (chicks discovered on the ground). In total nine wild nests fledged on their own. Though this poaching rate seems high, nest protection did not start until mid-May when many nests had already been poached. Of the 11 nests that were active in May and were part of the nest protection program, only one was poached (one nest failed at fledging). These results suggest that parrot protection teams can be highly successful in protecting nests, especially if the protection starts in March at the beginning of the breeding season.



Villagers feeding starving chicks recently rescued from poachers



Field laboratory in village of Mabita

While Dr. Joyner was in the village area, a total of seven chicks were rescued from poachers or the threat of poaching. Later in May and June another seven were rescued. It was fortuitous that in early May 2015 One Earth Conservation committed to paying for salaries, food, and supplies for one year to support the Rescue and Liberation Center, for without this commitment, the villagers would not have had the means to take care of these birds and would not have had successful results. Currently 21 scarlet macaws are under the care of the Rescue Center, though 20 of them are now



Rescued birds are now flying free in Mabita

free flying and only come to eat. Between the Rescue Center and the wild nests, 26 scarlet macaws were saved from poaching. This is a tremendous success in a very challenging area with limited resources.

To curtail poaching and to address the poor welfare of homed parrots, Dr. Joyner invited collaborators into a new program called "Welfare Brigades." The plan is to train veterinary and biology students to form brigades and then visit homes to improve

the health of parrots, and then also to deliver a strong conservation and anti-poaching message. To initiate the program Dr. Joyner taught at the National University in Tegucigalpa and the veterinary school at the National University in Catacamas. The veterinary school organized their first Welfare Brigade, which has been visiting homes and taking care of the birds at the Rescue Center in Catacamas. Students in Tegucigalpa plan on visiting homes to distribute toys and advise on enrichment, health, and conservation. Students at both universities were enthusiastic and self motivated.



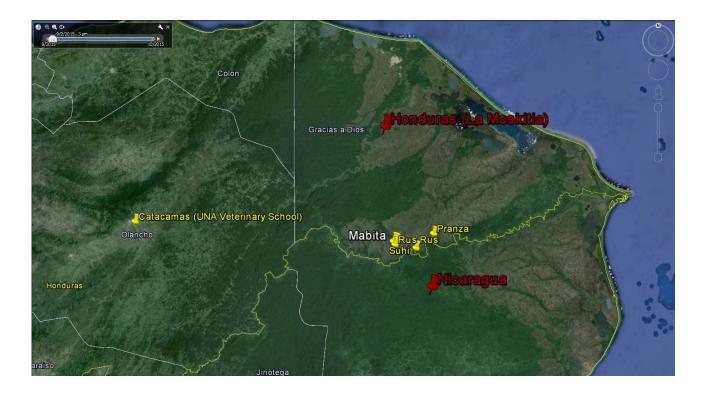
Dr. Joyner teaching veterinary students who will lead Welfare Brigades

For reflections on some of these activities in 2015, go here, here, and here.

## **Current Partners:**

Hector Portillo Reyes of INCIBIO Alianza Apu Pauni (Scarlet Macaw Alliance) ICF (Forestry Service of Honduras) Universidad Nacional Autónomo de Honduras Universidad Agricultura de Honduras villages of Rus, Rus and Mabita, La Moskitia

# Map of Project Sites



## One Earth Conservation's Objectives Achieved in Honduras 2010-2015

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

We have been able to curtail poaching in 2015, and that to a significant degree. In previous years we could not significantly address poaching because of limited funding and various other challenges at the site. Deepening relationships with the villagers and in-country partners, an improvement of overall bio-security and stabilization in the area, and increased funding for the years 2013-2015 have aided in this effort. The most significant impact, though, has come through the parrot patrols.

We have yet to achieve a permanent culture shift in the demographics that poach, or to incorporate effective government involvement, again due to lack of funding and commitment of in-country partners. Additionally, it takes about one to two human generations to achieve a permanent shift. For this reason, parrot patrols to protect the area need to continue for at least the next five years and extend beyond the village of Mabita so as to make concentric rings of protection, with Mabita at the center with 100% nest success and decreasing success levels as we extend out further and further to neighboring villages and in the Moskitia region as a whole.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

Last year the parrot patrols ran from May - July 2015 and they were able to protect almost all of the nests, and rescued several nests as well. They had funding from the Programme Development Fund of the United Nations to do this. The United Nations will not fund these patrols in 2016, so we plan on doing so. We will need to hire four villagers in Mabita for six months to protect and monitor the nests. Additionally, we would like to hire two villagers from Rus Rus, Pranza, and Suhi to locate and protect nests. In total we could protect 50 nests, which would secure the successful fledging of 75 macaw chicks to be incorporated into the wild flock instead of disappearing into the illegal wildlife trade that extends both domestically and internationally. There is an even greater need for parrot patrols in 2016 because of the recent influx of Miskito refugees from Nicaragua fleeing violence and the confiscation of their land by nefarious elements. Though the Honduran refugees welcome their indigenous kin, they know they represent a threat to the ecosystem and the wildlife.

Fully funding the Rescue and Liberation Center in Mabita will also contribute to reducing poaching by having a secure and reliable location for authorities and villagers to bring rescued and confiscated birds. It also serves as a center of inspiration, education, and networking for the entirety of Honduras, influencing parrot conservation and anti-poaching efforts in other locations.

Education and awareness activities are needed in the core villages surrounding Mabita. So far, there has been no formal program, and as of 2015, no significant funding has been obtained even though multiple grants have been written. Regardless, we will train the members of the parrot patrols in education and awareness activities, and support their travel to the surrounding villages.



Dr. Joyner with university students wearing "Fly Free" bands

#### 2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America



Before 2010 there was very little parrot conservation in Honduras. Macaw Mountain, a center of parrot conservation efforts in Northwestern Honduras, was beginning to breed and release scarlet macaws, and scarlet macaws had been rescued and released in the Gulf of Fonseca. There was only one veterinarian in the entire country who saw parrots with any level of expertise. Dr. Joyner provided avian conservation training to this veterinarian, as well as to the staff of the National Zoo, area veterinarians, and veterinary, biology, and education students. In total, about 400 people have received direct training from Dr. Joyner. Every year more parrot projects emerge in Honduras, and all of them have been impacted by Dr. Joyner's efforts through

teaching and on-site consultation. In addition, a scarlet macaw alliance was formed in Honduras, with One Earth Conservation along with Lafeber Conservation, a major supporter of One Earth's efforts in Honduras, serving as a core and influential contributor to this alliance.

In the village of Mabita, where the scarlet macaw conservation effort has been concentrated, the villagers now have the capacity on their own to run their Rescue and Liberation Center, monitor and protect nests, conduct population counts, perform wild chick health checks, and make informed decisions on how to preserve their parrots.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Dr. Joyner will visit the field site for a longer period this year. Instead of two weeks, she will spend two months, from April to June. This longer stay will allow her to study the health of the nests in greater detail, support the nest protection plan, and continue training personnel for the Rescue and Liberation Center. We also need to determine the cause and extent of other limiting factors in reproduction, such as malnutrition and parasites, and possibly infectious diseases.



Rosa, shown here very ill and weak, had both wings and legs broken when she was taken from her wild nest as a chick. Through the care of One Earth and the villagers, Rosa now can even fly a little.



education efforts, reliable transportation is needed. Vehicles in the past have been borrowed by ICF and the United Nations, neither of which will be lending their trucks in 2016. Renting vehicles with gas costs about \$300 a week. We believe it would be more economical and far more effective to have a project truck which will allow us to extend our influence, do more extensive nest monitoring and health checks, and transport research teams to the nests (which are alternatively done with motorbikes and horses when trucks are not available). We plan on renting a truck for an extended period in 2016 so as to set up the infrastructure needed to support a project owned truck in 2017.

For this work, as well as for the parrot patrols and

Playing liberated scarlet macaw in Mabita

#### 3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

Though we have not had any metrics to discern the level of improvement in the health of homed parrots, through Dr. Joyner's teaching there is more capacity and awareness within the veterinary and conservation community. In addition, Dr. Joyner began the Welfare Brigades program in 2015. The hope was to secure significant funding for this project, which would measure improved health of homed parrots over a period of one year due to the attention of Welfare Brigade participants who would visit homes in Catacamas, Tegucigalpa, La Ceiba, and Pt. Lempira. Currently no funding has been garnered, although the enthusiasm of the veterinary school is significant, including the lead professor and some 50 students in the Welfare Brigade.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

Because of the intense enthusiasm of the participants, the possibility of widespread improvement in the health of homed parrots, and the opportunity to deliver a conservation message to decrease poaching, Dr. Joyner will grow this program in 2016. She will return to the veterinary school to teach the students and have them help her design a course that they can use to travel throughout Honduras to organize new Brigades. Pamphlets, posters, t-shirts, caps, decals, and wristbands will be produced



Villagers staff their own fire brigades - protecting their land and their parrots

to deliver to the homes. A health and attitude survey will be formulated and incorporated into the Brigade home visits.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding

La Moskitia continues to be one of the most vulnerable, marginalized and isolated regions in all of Central America. Bordering with Nicaragua, it is also susceptible to the volatile political and criminal activities in this other country that impact community and ecological life in the shared ecosystem. Miskito refugees from Nicaragua have been migrating to the Honduras side of the border, and this has added stress and risk for the parrots and ecosystems. For this reason, our efforts will not only continue here, but also expand out to other communities around Mabita, and one day into Nicaragua itself.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

Dr. Joyner plans to stay in the area for two consecutive months in 2016. One reason for doing so is to broaden the education and awareness impact regarding the needs of parrot conservation beyond the village of Mabita. Dr. Joyner will work with the Parrot Patrols to visit other villages and their schools. In addition, Dr. Joyner will interview Nicaragua refugees to better understand their situation and if possible, visit communities near Mabita in Nicaragua.



# **Paraguay Parrot Conservation**

Finding Parrots and the People to Protect Them



Vinaceous-breasted amazon at an Itapúa reserve

#### **General Description and Activities 2014 and 2015**

Very little is known about the status of parrots in Paraguay. They still have the endangered vinaceous-breasted amazon (*Amazona vinacea*), which may have only 100 left in Paraguay, 250 in Argentina, and approximately 1,500 in Brazil. Paraguay also has the yellow-faced amazon (*Alipiopsitta xanthops*), which was only documented in 2013 as being present in this country. Its population status there is unknown, although it is considered near-threatened in Brazil and Bolivia. Paraguay also has the some larger macaw species that are highly prized by the pet trade, including the hyacinth (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*), the red and green (*Ara clopterus*) and the blue-and-yellow macaw (*Ara araruna*). The hyacinth species is vulnerable, and the other two are less vulnerable, although their populations are decreasing. Because of the unknown status of these birds



Black-hooded parakeets with Quaker parakeets - we count them all!

in Paraguay and the absence of parrot conservation, One Earth investigated if it could be of support.

Starting in 2013, One Earth Conservation has been in contact with parrot conservationists in the organization Guyra Paraguay (Guyra). They wish to help the parrots in their country, especially the vinaceousbreasted amazon. Guyra graciously hosted Dr. Joyner in 2014 and together they planned to do teaching and chick/nest surveys in the field, but recent violence kept this expedition



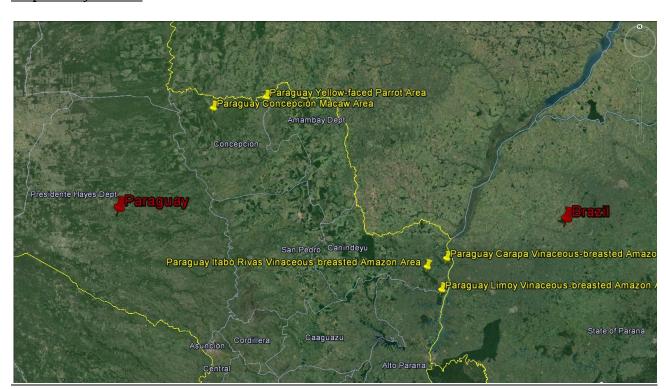
Dr. Andres examining a poached red-and-green macaw

from entering the target area. Instead, the team was able to train on monitoring and nest behavior evaluation in a reserve with vinaceous amazons, and later in an area with black-hooded parakeets and bluefronted parrots. While there, Dr. Joyner also taught at a veterinary symposium, a photography symposium, a university and the zoo. Returning in 2015 Dr. Joyner accompanied Guyra to conduct parrot counts at two reserves, Itabó Rivas and Limoy, in Canindeyu. While conducting these counts Dr. Joyner also consulted on parrot conservation and monitoring. Also in 2015 Dr. Joyner, joined by Dr. Andres Alvarez, a wildlife veterinarian, did a brief survey of parrots in the departments of Concepción and Amambay to determine next steps for conservation and to seek partners. During this visit they observed thirteen parrot species, and another two different species in homes. Anecdotal reports depict that there is heavy poaching of macaw species, with the hyacinth and blue-and-yellow macaw no longer breeding in Paraguay, though they still visit in low numbers to forage.

For reflections on this project, go <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>and here</u>.

**Current Partners:** Guyra

# Map of Project Sites





Dr. Joyner with a very sick red-and-green macaw chick that had been poached

#### One Earth's Objectives Achieved in Paraguay

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

As with many of our other projects, to stop the negative impact of poaching we must first know the level of poaching, and its characteristics. As parrot conservation is just beginning in Paraguay through the efforts of Guyra and Dr. Alvarez, we need to continue to study the parrot populations to determine their status, and then study the nesting success of the various threatened species. We begin with population monitoring, capacity and relationship building, and small studies to develop the data we need.

Having been guided by poachers in the Concepcion and Amambay area, we have firsthand knowledge of the poaching efforts in these areas, reported to be very high for the great green macaw, and less so for the amazon species. We do not have a population estimate for any of the parrot species in Paraguay, except for the vinaceous-breasted amazon. Guyra will visit the area in 2016 to research reports of nesting success.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

We need to continue to develop networks and partners in the Concepción area to see how we might understand and address the poaching issue. This will take time and funds to accomplish even the most basic population and nest monitoring activities. Our objectives for this year are to work in collaboration with Guyra in both the Concepción and vinaceous-breasted amazon areas. Proposed activities include studying the population status and nesting success of the parrots, and initiating community involvement, education, and awareness programs. We will also develop the infrastructure needed to rescue and liberate confiscated parrots. Guyra has begun to train the law enforcement agencies in Paraguay. One Earth will work with Guyra



White-tailed kites soaring as we count parrots

to write grant proposals to raise the funds needed for these projects.

In lieu of significant funding, Dr. Joyner will visit Guyra in mid-2016 to continue capacity and relationship building, as well as to survey adult populations of parrots in Concepción and Amambay. We will also conduct a small nesting success study with the yellow-faced amazon, which is reportedly not being poached. This will contribute to understanding the dynamics of poaching in the area, and help build infrastructure and relationships for a larger conservation project.



Nesting female turquoise-fronted amazon parrot

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

In 2014 and 2015 One Earth had contact with approximately 150 people who were exposed to the principles of parrot conservation and avian conservation medicine. Dr. Joyner taught population monitoring and conservation techniques at conferences and in the field. She also located the first vinaceous-breasted amazon nest in Paraguay during a field expedition.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

Dr. Joyner will continue to teach conservation, both in formal presentations and fieldwork during 2016. Because no nests have been studied, Dr. Joyner has not had the

chance to teach nest and chick health assessment, as well as rescue and liberation techniques. The goal is to begin teaching this by studying the yellow-faced amazon.

3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

This has not been a goal of this project.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None planned.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size

#### • Where there is little funding

One Earth Conservation chose Paraguay in which to work because of their low capacity and awareness of parrot conservation. Paraguay is one of the poorest countries in South America, with over 60% of the population living in poverty. Exacerbating this situation is the large divide between the small percentage of people owning the most land and the rest of the population, and widespread corruption, smuggling, money laundering, and organized crime. Violence also surfaces through the activities of the Paraguayan People's Army, a rebel group operating in the area of Concepción. The commercialization of agriculture, population growth, and forest clearances have led to a dramatic increase in the number of landless families, as well as widespread environmental degradation.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

Because of the urgent need for parrot conservation in the region, and Paraguay's challenges to protect their birds and people, One Earth Conservation will support Guerra's efforts from afar and in person, looking for ways to collaborate and develop the capacity of Paraguay to cherish and protect their parrots.



Red-and-green macaws foraging

# Mesoamerican Wild Psittacine Health Collaboratory



Dr. Joyner in Honduras using mobile field laboratory in Honduras

#### **General Description and Activities**

Throughout Mesoamerica there are many wild psittacine populations in peril. Little is known about the health status of these populations in terms of population stability and in risks to the adult population and recruitment of juveniles into the breeding population. Clearly, habitat loss and poaching play the most significant roles. In populations under stress, other factors not normally of



Dr. Joyner in Belize

high significance may threaten the remaining birds, such as genetic weaknesses, predation, infectious disease, chick disease, and climate change. We promote investigation of the risk factors to these populations, including a survey of parasitic and infectious diseases, as well as genetic analysis. For this aim, collaborative relationships have formed among One Earth Conservation, the American Museum of Natural History Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, the School of

Veterinary Medicine at the University of Camerino in Italy, and a variety of in-country partners. This research project seeks to provide data that informs conservation management strategies, with a close look at what infectious agents birds might introduce from one population into another. It also provides training and capacity building for in-country partners.

In 2011 and 2013 One Earth brought a full field laboratory to Guatemala to teach field laboratory diagnostics for the scarlet macaw project led by the Wildlife Conservation Society. We processed the samples for plasma biochemistry and hematological factors in-country and collected samples for

genetic analysis. In 2014 and 2015, this project collected and sent all samples to Italy without the need for One Earth's...

In 2014 and 2015 One Earth brought a full field laboratory to the village of Mabita, Honduras to teach field laboratory diagnostics for the scarlet macaw project led by One Earth. We taught local villagers, one veterinary intern from Universidad Nacional Agricultura de Honduras (UNA), one genetic graduate student from Universidad Nacional Autónomo de Honduras (UNAH), and several biologists. We processed hematologic and parasitic samples in the field for both years. In 2014 we collected samples to be



Dr. Joyner in Belize

sent to Italy for disease screening and to the Natural History Museum for genetic testing. These samples are still awaiting export permits. In 2015 we helped UNAH collect blood samples for genetic analysis and are still awaiting results. In addition, laboratory diagnostics (sampling and processing) was taught at the veterinary school at UNA.



Dr. Joyner packed in with veterinarians and laboratory equipment

In 2014 we processed hematological and parasitic samples and provided training in Honduras, and we also worked with Guatemala, Belize, and Paraguay to prepare for samples to be collected there.

In 2015 One Earth took a full field laboratory to Belize to teach laboratory field diagnostics and to collect samples from wild scarlet macaw chicks and those removed from wild nests awaiting release. Hematological and parasitic samples were processed in the field, and the remaining

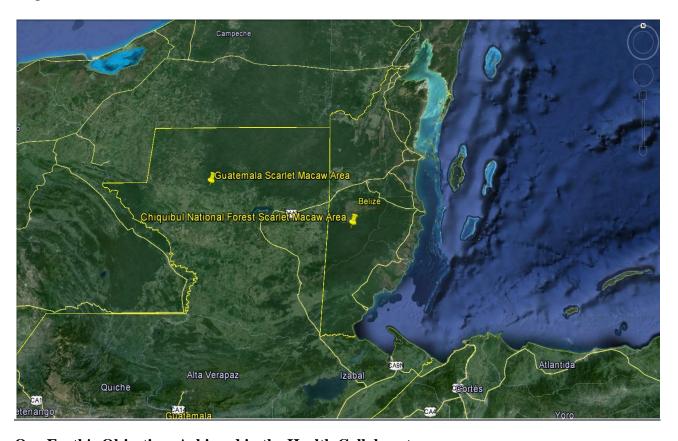
samples are awaiting export to Italy for disease screening. One Earth also visited

Belize Bird Rescue to teach laboratory diagnostics and to process yellow-headed amazon samples. Hematological and parasitic samples were processed in the field, and the remaining samples are awaiting export to Italy for disease screening.

#### **Current Partners**

<u>Universidad Nacional Autónomo de Honduras</u> (UNAH)
<u>Universidad Nacional Agricultura de Honduras</u>, (UNA)
<u>American Museum of Natural History, Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics</u>
School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Camerino

# Map of Belize and Guatemala Macaw Sites



# One Earth's Objectives Achieved in the Health Collaboratory

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

This is not an aspect of this project.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None anticipated.

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

In both Belize and Guatemala, One Earth's efforts have led to the projects with scarlet macaws being able to collect and process laboratory samples without our support. Belize Bird Rescue has had a turnover in staff, so more training and support is needed there. In Honduras, the field site is remote and the new Rescue and Liberation Center does not have the capacity to take and process laboratory samples. More training is needed at the veterinary school at UNA in Honduras. We have a huge challenge in this collaborative project in that in-country testing doesn't exist for psittacine diseases and the export and import permits are very difficult and time consuming to procure. Shipping to Italy is probably not sustainable, and though it is a valuable resource to try for a couple of years, more long-term solutions are needed.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

Dr. Joyner will take a full field laboratory to the Rescue and Liberation Center of Mabita, Honduras and train two veterinary students while there.

One Earth will continue to support via electronic communications the shipment and analysis of samples sent to Italy from Belize.

# 3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

This is not an aspect of this project, although a capacity to process laboratory samples of wild parrots will impact the ability to do the same for homed parrots.

Objectives and Activities for 2016

None anticipated.



Dr. Joyner in field laboratory in Guatemala



Lole, a 2 month old yellow-naped poached chick, nearly died from multiple issues, including severe tapeword infestation, malnutrition, and stunting. Her family (right) didn't have the awareness, information, or resources to care for her.





Field conservationists, including Dr. Joyner, discovered that the villagers also had parasites. They found a nurse so the whole village could receive anti-parasitic medications, especially the children who had never received any.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding

Central America outside of Costa Rica remains isolated in terms of supporting psittacine health through diagnostic testing and research. The laboratory, technical, and financial resources are scant, if not impossible to acquire. One Earth does not have the resources to solve this problem, except by working through collaboration with laboratories that easily acquire permits and who can offer stipends to offset the cost of shipping and processing of samples, such as in the case of Italy.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will offer a presentation, and then meet with project leaders and conservationists at the Mesoamerican Society of Biology and Conservation to creatively engage in possible solutions and next steps.

# **Nurture Nature Program**



Nurturing through food at our first Nurture Nature workshop

#### **Description**

One Earth Conservation's Nurture Nature Program aims to inspire, motivate, educate, and support people to take care of themselves, their organizations, other individuals of all species, and the biotic community as a whole by developing their awareness and understanding of nature, especially human nature as it relates to all of nature. Participants will then be able to leverage this awareness and understanding to nurture themselves and others, leading to the growth of more efficient and resilient nurturers (one who nurtures any aspect of the biotic community) and "naturers" (one who cherishes nature and seeks opportunity to do so) for the benefit of all life.

There is no final arriving, for nurturing and naturing exists along a continuum. No matter where you are or under which circumstances you were born or developed, you can move along the continuum, ever growing your capacity and resilience to be nourished, and to nurture nature. Nurturing nature is a lifetime practice ever refining and more greatly embodying the understanding that all beings are interconnected to each other in beauty, worth, and well-being.

This program invites people into this vision and practice of *interbeing*, which is based on these tenets:

1. All individuals of all species have inherent worth and dignity (all bodies are beautiful, have worth, and matter)

- 2. All individuals of all species are connected to each other in worth and beauty
- 3. We are also connected in harm, benefit, health, well-being, and existence. What is done to another, is done to all of us.
- 4. Embracing this reality, humans grow in belonging to this wondrous planet and the life upon it, and so embraced and nurtured, can nurture in return
- 5. This reality of *interbeing* makes us both powerful and vulnerable, therefore, we need each other to grow and to heal as much as possible.
- 6. Humans are a plastic species, and can change individually and as families, organizations, communities, and societies. We can become more effective and joyful nurturers and naturers. This is hard, deep, intentional, and takes a lifetime of work.

To begin, renew, or strengthen this life's work, participants begin by obtaining One Earth's Nurture Nature Guide and attending an introductory workshop. Following this participants can further engage in the Nurture Nature Program which offers learning, community, support, relationships, and practice to grow through nurturing our Emotional, Social, Multispecies, Ecological, and Spiritual Natures, which is offered in five distinct modules consisting of two webinars covering each module. After completing these modules, Nurturer Naturers can enter an intensive and deepening process, becoming facilitators in the Nurture Nature Program, growing themselves, others, the vision, and the practice of a beloved biotic community.

#### **Activities for 2015**

The main activity for this year was the development and trial of Nurture Nature workshops at four different locations, as well as the development of draft publications and webinars. We also began a Nurture Nature television show, and highlighted Nurture Nature program materials on One Earth's websites and Meetup groups (see Public Presence for more information).

*Nurture Nature Workshops (45 participants)* 

- 2-hour Nurture Nature workshop, Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church July 2015
- 2-hour Nurture Nature workshop, Riverdale-Yonkers Society for Ethical Culture
- 3-hour Nurture Nature workshop, Wainwright House, Rye, NY October 2015
- 5-hour Nurture Nature workshop, Unitarian Universalist Church of Peoria, Illinois November 2015

One Earth also developed a business plan based on these initial programs.

#### One Earth's Objectives Achieved in the Nurture Nature Program

To witness to and stand in solidarity with biotic and human communities, and the individuals within, whose efforts resist the story of Harm and Separation that has wounded them, and promote the story of Interdependence, Beauty, and Worth.

To increase emotional, social, multispecies, ecological, and spiritual intelligences in those seeking to grow their capacity as nurturers and naturers, most specifically targeting:

- Animal advocates
- Climate activists
- Birders
- Scientists
- Nature/animal lovers
- Conservationists
- LOHAS (those seeking lifestyles of health and sustainability)

We are in the beginning development stage for the Nurture Nature program, and as such, have not reached a large number of people. Our efforts have been in developing trial materials, and organizing this development according to entrepreneurial principles, including the solicitation of feedback so we can tailor the program to meet people's needs where they are (see attached Social Canvass).

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016

One Earth will continue to record, air, and promote the television show, "Nurture Nature." We will increase our efforts to promote the program through an advertising campaign.

We will initiate an online learning academy for the Nurture Nature Program by offering a free Nurture Nature guide, a free introductory webinar, and 10 webinars that guide participants through the 5 natural intelligences.

We will develop a yearlong intensive course to begin in January 2017.

We will heavily advertise and seek feedback for the online academy.

We will promote and deliver live Nurture Nature workshops (a shorter introductory workshop or presentation, as well as a longer multiple hour workshop). We do this to invite more people into our online academy as well as to solicit feedback and refine our program.



Nurturing ourselves through bird walks, warming ourselves through companionship with all species

#### **Public Presence**

One Earth's public presence occurs through the Lafeber Conservation websites, One Earth Conservation's websites, Meetup Groups, a television show, public lectures and presentations, workshops, sermons, webinars, tabling, a newsletter, and bird walks.

#### **Lafeber Conservation Online**



One Earth Conservation's online presence relies heavily on Lafeber Conservation (www.lafeber.com/conservation) where regular news is posted about conservation efforts in the field. The Lafeber Conservation website moved from an independent WordPress.com site in early 2014 to a new url in March of 2014, as it joined the main Lafeber Company website. We began to track the analytics with more precision in late 2014. Here is what we currently know about Lafeber Conservation's website and Facebook status:

There are about 1833 page views per month (as of the end of October 2015) on lafeber.com/conservation, a 625% increase from 253 a year ago.

Traffic from Facebook is about 4,583 views a month, a 1,200% increase from a maximum of 350 a year ago.

We now have 747 fans, a 39% increase from 539 a year ago.

For 2015 there were 37 blog posts on the webpage compared to 47 in 2014.

There were 40 posts on the Facebook page.

In summary, both the Lafeber website and Facebook have increased traffic, and the trend is towards increasing traffic for future months.

To determine how we might improve upon the Lafeber Conservation website, we initiated a survey in March 2015 using Survey Monkey. The survey asked what people thought of the website. This

survey was advertised on Lafeber.com and Lafeber.com/conservation, as well as all our Facebook pages and through Lafeber Vet. We had a total of 128 people respond, the majority of which answered in April (92 responses). We closed the survey in October 2015. Detailed results of the survey are available upon request (and are included in an email attachment with this report).

Of the 128 responses, 100 were previous Lafeber customers and 28 had never bought a Lafeber product. There was a difference between the two groups, as seen in Table 1. The biggest difference is that Lafeber customers were more likely to read future blog posts, were more interested in conservation, were more likely to donate to conservation, and more likely to say that Lafeber Conservations efforts in the field very much mattered. Another key response is that Lafeber customers are only slightly less likely to not know about the Lafeber Conservation website than non-customers (71% versus 79%).

There were also many questions regarding what they'd like from the Lafeber Conservation website, and the responses were widely varying. Basically they'd like everything they could get from the website, including information, motivation, hope, and structured ways to contribute. Also we asked what they'd like Lafeber Conservation to do as a whole, and again, they'd like us "to do everything."



**Table 1. Responses to Certain Questions on 2015 Conservation Survey** 

Question	Response	All Responses	Lafeber Customers	Non Customers
How many times have you been to this website? -	Never	73%	71%	79%
How likely are you to read a blog post in the future?	Moderate to Very Likely	51%	58%	21%
Please rate your interest level in conservation	Very High	68%	73%	50%
How many times have you donated to any conservation effort?	Never	17%	12%	38%
	11->50 times	33%	37%	17%
Does it matter to you that Lafeber Company donates funds and resources to support Lafeber Conservation, which works in 5 countries with over 10 projects?	Not at all	11%	9%	17%
	Somewhat	5%	4%	8%
	Moderately	17%	17%	21%
	Very much matters	65%	69%	46%

#### **One Earth Conservation Online**



One Earth Conservation also maintains a Facebook page

(www.facebook.com/oneearthconservation/), a website (www.oneearthconservation.org), a Twitter account (@LoraKimJoyner) and an Instagram account (oneearthcons). Both the Twitter and Instagram accounts are relatively new, and began to post regularly several times a week beginning in August, as did the main One Earth Conservation website. Blog posts also started on the main website, aiming for one per week beginning in the fall. While traveling, Dr. Joyner utilized cell phone mobile technology to post regularly from the field in the latter part of 2015. We also started a Nurture Nature Community Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/521725441313494/) for those who have participated in Nurture Nature workshops and events, as well as a Conservation Photography page (https://www.facebook.com/avianconservationphotography/). Dr. Joyner also has a Youtube channel (https://www.youtube.com/user/amoloros).

The One Earth Facebook page has 236 likes (up from 151 in July 2015).

The Nurture Nature Community Facebook page has 6 members.

The Avian Conservation Medicine and Biology Photography Facebook page has 27 likes.

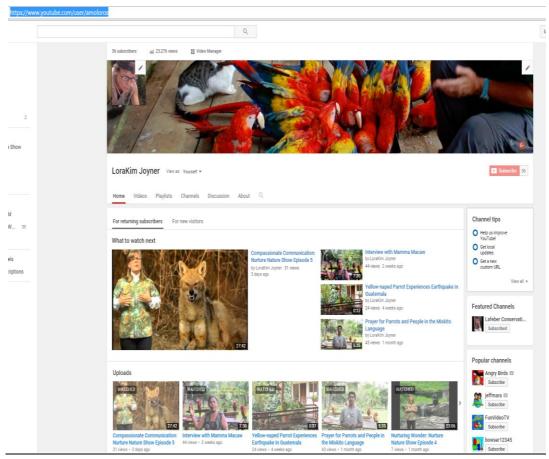
The One Earth main webpage has:

566 views for the month of December (up from 271 views for December 2014).

The Twitter account has 61 followers.

The Instagram account has 16 followers.

The Youtube channel has 36 subscribers and 23,27



Dr. Joyner's Youtube channel

#### Public Speaking and Workshops (all led by Dr. Joyner)

*General Conservation and Medicine (250 participants)* 

Shelter Medicine and Human Dimensions in Conservation - Tufts Veterinary School Symposium on Avian Shelter Medicine. March 2015

Avian Medicine and Conservation - 3 day course at Universidad Nacional Agricola - Catacamas, Honduras. June 2015

Avian Medicine and Conservation - 2 hour workshop, Universidad Nacional Autónomo Honduras. June 2015

Avian and Human Welfare: Insights from the Field - Compassionate Conservation Symposium in Vancouver, BC. July 2015

Keeping the Parrots of Latin American Flying Free - Central Westchester Audubon. November 2015.

*Nurture Nature and Multispecies Workshops (106 participants)* 

3-hour First Principle Project Workshop (transspecies relationships) - UU Congregation of Danbury. March 2015

75-minute First Principle Project Workshop (transspecies relationships) - UU General

Assembly. June 2014

- 2-hour Nurture Nature workshop Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church. July 2015
- 2-hour Nurture Nature workshop Riverdale-Yonkers Society for Ethical Culture, October 2015
  - 3-hour Nurture Nature workshop Wainwright House, Rye, NY. October 2015
  - 5-hour Nurture Nature workshop Unitarian Universalist Church of Peoria, Illinois. November 2015

Compassionate Communication and Restorative Practices Workshops (170 participants)

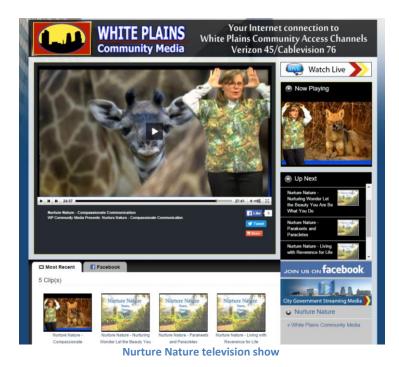
- 4.5-hour workshop UU Congregation at Shelter Rock. February 2015
- 3-hour workshop UU Fellowship of Poughkeepsie. March 2015
- 3-hour workshop UU Metro NY District. May 2015
- 1.5-hour workshop UU General Assembly. June 2015
- 5.5-hour workshop UU Fellowship of Murfreesboro
- 1.5-hour webinar UU Central Eastern Region Group, September 2015
- 1.5-hour webinar UU Central Eastern Region Group, November 2015

Bird Walks: 9 led (60 participants)

*Unitarian Universalist Sermons:* 10 presented (950 participants)

Nurture Nature Show on Local Access Cable: 4 shows aired from August - December.

- Episode 4: *Nurturing Wonder* had 35 views (29th most popular of all cable TV shows on the local station in 2015)
- Episode 3: *Paracletes and Parakeets* had 37 views. (27th most popular)
- Episode 2: *Living-Reverence for Life* 32 views
- Episode 1: Reverence for Life 25 views



#### **Tabling Events: 12 in total (all but two coincided with other public appearances)**

# **Meetup Groups**

These Meet Up groups continue to attract new members nearly every week, though few attend our in –person activities, which are mostly bird walks in White Plains.

*The Conservationist's Way - A Nurture Nature Group* (156 members). We hosted one indoor activity screening the movie "Virunga" and hosting a discussion afterwards.

*Nature as Spiritual Practice* - (431 members).

#### Other Media

The movie, "Free Flight" highlighting the project with scarlet macaws in Honduras played at two film festivals in 2015: Alexandria Film Festival and Festival 2015: Green Unplugged

A writer began a fictionalized screenplay based on Dr. Joyner's life.

Dr. Joyner began to rewrite and expand her memoir.

One Earth began an electronic newsletter to be delivered every two months. Two issues were published in 2015, reaching the 100 people on the One Earth email list, and even more as the links were shared through social media.

#### One Earth Conservation's Objectives Met Through Public Presence

#### Outer Work

1. To stop the negative impact of poaching on individual parrots and species in Latin America

Most of our public presence is conducted in the United States, although there is a following on our Facebook Pages and website of people in Latin America. We do spread the awareness of regional and local impacts of poaching through these venues, as well as in the public appearances when Dr. Joyner is in Latin America. These activities contribute to the general public's understanding, as well as to the understanding of Latin American conservationist and governmental organizations that might not know much about poaching in their areas. Also, the blog is a source of information that organizations in Latin America use for their work and reports. We don't know our impact, as we have no metrics to measure this, and as most of our public presence is conducted in the United States.

2. To grow capacity in avian conservation medicine and parrot conservation in Latin America

This goal is influenced similarly to the explanation given in Objective #1 above.

#### 3. To improve the lives of homed parrots in Latin America

This goal is influenced similarly to the explanation given in Objective #1 above.

- 4. To instigate and then initially support parrot conservation projects in the most needed areas. Needed areas are defined as:
  - Where there is very little to no parrot conservation efforts or capacity
  - Where communities are marginalized due to socioeconomic factors
  - Where there are endangered birds
  - Where we can have the most impact for our size
  - Where there is little funding

As these areas are often those furthest from Internet or educational opportunities, we may have less impact with the conservation projects through our public presence than with other methods. There is a certain about of solidarity and witnessing that we do through our public work that motivates and supports the efforts of organizations and communities in Latin America, as reported by colleagues who work and live in these areas. Our online presence also raises funds for these projects in Latin America, most notably this year through our crowdfunding campaign for the Rescue and Liberation Center of Mabita, Honduras. Through this campaign, we raised \$7,562. With all our funds raised we were able to support either financially or through capacity building 18 organizations in Latin America, and financially compensate 40 conservation field technicians, 5 biologists, and 2 co-directors of the Rescue and Liberation Center in Honduras. We are the sole support of this Rescue Center, offering not just financial support, but also solidarity and capacity building.

#### Inner Work

To witness to and stand in solidarity with biotic and human communities, and the individuals within, whose efforts resist the Story of Harm and Separation that has wounded them, and promote the Story of Interdependence, Beauty, and Worth.

To increase emotional, social, multispecies, ecological, and spiritual intelligences in those seeking to grow their capacity as nurturers and naturers, most specifically targeting:

- Animal advocates
- Climate activists
- Birders
- Scientists
- Nature/animal lovers
- Conservationists
- LOHAS (those seeking lifestyles of health and sustainability)

We reach a much larger audience in the primary English speaking regions of the world, most notably North America.



Dr. Joyner leading a bird walk in Brooklyn, NY

The blogs and Facebook entries aim not just to spread conservation news from the field, but also address general support and information on the five intelligences. Our growth in Facebook and interactions on the website indicate that we are meeting some needs as the site's popularity grows. Engagement through our Lafeber webpage has also increased, and along with our survey results, it appears that we meet needs in this area.

#### Objectives and Activities for 2016 Public Presence

We will continue our increased Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and main website presence, posting 5 days at week when Internet and cell phone connections allow.

We will grow our mailing list with more obvious ways to link to the newsletter on our websites and also by offering a free Nurture Nature guide.

We will start a Nurture Nature website in early 2016 to mostly highlight the Nurture Nature Program. Most of our public presence efforts will be directed through the Nurture Nature Program.

We will investigate a restructuring of our main One Earth Conservation website to make it more easy to navigate and for it to have more of an impactful visual presence.

The screenplay and memoir will be finished this year, and producers and publishers will be solicited.

Dr. Joyner will visit Dubai in the fall of 2016 for a public speaking tour to raise the consciousness of parrot conservation in the area.

The movie "Free Flight" will play at the Colorado Environmental Film Festival.

# **Organizational Process**

This was a busy year for expanding the One Earth organization. Supporting this expansion is Dr. Joyner's involvement in a two-year Entrepreneurial Ministry program offered jointly by the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association and the Unitarian Universalist Association. This program includes twice yearly long weekend retreats, monthly support video conferencing, and various projects, consultation, and reading.

In response to this consultation, Dr. Joyner began seeking greater support and feedback by inviting friends and colleagues to be part of an Advisory Board, which met four times in 2015 via video conferencing. Dr. Joyner also met with subsets of this Board as they developed program and materials together. Gail Koelln joined Dr. Joyner as volunteer partners committed to developing One Earth Conservation, and began the incorporation of One Earth Conservation into a 501(c)(3) in the fall of 2015. This included creating a formal Board of Directors (that overlaps with the Advisory Board),



Thanks to Gail Koelln for all her hard work and love for animals

which includes Dr. Joyner, Gail Koelln, Rev. Meredith Garmon, and Hector Orland Portillo Reyes, who is a wildlife biologist who lives and works in Honduras. Together Gail and LoraKim developed draft Social Canvass models, as well as mission and vision statements, reviewed and developed



with the help of the Advisory Board. Through the Advisory Board, we were able to get more feedback on our online and published materials, which helped us to improve them.

Gail Koelln also worked as a volunteer Development Director, leading the way in the submission of several grants and many letters of intent. We did not receive any funds through these methods, but we did significantly increase our financial resources through private donations and funders. In the fall of 2015, we undertook an online crowdfunding program to raise funds for the Rescue and Liberation Center of Mabita, Honduras, raising a total of \$7,562.

# Objectives and Activities for 2016 Organizational Process

We will finish incorporating, which includes setting up policies, bylaws, an accounting system, and banking. We will also apply for and complete the process to obtain One Earth's 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS. In early 2016 we will formulate a development plan for 2016-2018. We will hold quarterly board meetings through video conferencing. Throughout the year we will infuse throughout our organizational processes the theory, practice, and hope of Compassionate Communication and Teal Organizational Practices and incorporate this into a One Earth Organizational Guide.

# **Finance Report 2015**

# <u>Income:</u>

Beginning Cash Reserves 2015:	\$ 4,402
Individual Donations Received 2015:	\$11,755
Large Grants Received 2015: Lafeber Company Saint Vincent Group The Vincent Coates Foundation	\$7,499 \$9,965 \$10,025
Total Income 2015:	\$39,244
Total Expenses 2015:	\$27,449
Surplus:	\$11,795
Beginning Cash Reserves for 2016:	\$16,196

# **Appendices**

(Just click on them to see the report, or to print them. Hard or electronic copies available upon request)

**Honduras Yellow-headed Parrot Report** 

**Guatemala Yellow-naped Amazon December 2015 Report** 

**Cosiguina Scarlet Macaw Report**