



Point Blue
Conservation
Science



Ellie M. Cohen, Chief Executive Officer,
and Ed Sarti, Board Chair. *Point Blue*



Conservation Science for a Healthy Planet

The pioneering efforts of our 140 scientists and educators to reduce human-driven impacts on nature, building on our decades of bird ecology expertise, grew significantly in fiscal year 2012–13. Operating revenue increased by 11%, and our financial health is strong.

In recent months, the rapidly warming Arctic caused record-breaking drought and storms as well as unprecedented migrations (see cover photo), the continental U.S. experienced the warmest year on record, California saw its driest January–March, and atmospheric CO₂ exceeded 400 parts per million for the first time in human history.

To address these unprecedented challenges to birds, ecosystems, and people, we initiated a major new strategic focus on climate-smart conservation and nature-based solutions. As highlighted in this annual report, we:

- Led the charge to “re-water” over one million acres in California for nature and people in the face of increasing drought, by collaborating with ranchers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.C. Davis and others;

- Launched a new Sierra meadow restoration initiative;
- Expanded our Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) program;
- Worked with our NOAA partners and engaged shipping interests to reduce ship strikes on whales;
- Studied seabird use of California’s marine protected areas and identified ocean locations still in need of protection to sustain healthy ocean food webs;
- Helped over 200 California rice growers improve bird habitat on more than 100,000 acres, working with NRCS, Audubon California, and The Nature Conservancy;
- Led the Pacific Flyway Shorebird Survey with 20 partners in a dozen nations—from Canada to Latin America—to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats; and
- Increased Point Blue’s informatics capacity to store, manage, and interpret over 400 million bird and ecosystem observations across North America, and created new decision-support tools to improve conservation today given an uncertain future.

With all of our impressive accomplishments, this past year was also one of our most difficult, due to the passing of Rich Stallcup, naturalist extraordinaire, Point Reyes Bird Observatory co-founder, colleague, and dear friend. His inspiring legacy to protect “all things wild” lives on through each of us.

As we move forward, Point Blue’s Board of Directors continues to provide outstanding leadership. We are grateful to each of them and delighted to welcome new board member, Dr. Mary Power.

Thank you for your support of Point Blue’s uniquely effective conservation science. Together, we will sustain a healthy, blue planet teeming with life well into the future!

Ellie M. Cohen
President and Chief Executive Officer

Ed Sarti
Chair, Board of Directors

2012–13 Accomplishments

A focus on healthy ecosystems, indicated by populations of birds, is a hallmark of Point Blue's conservation science. *Rick Lewis*



Ross's Geese winter in Central Valley wetlands that include flooded agricultural fields.

Tom Grey/tgreybirds.com

Growing the Climate-Smart Approach.

Point Blue worked with several partners to develop and communicate “climate-smart” conservation: strategies and actions that specifically address climate change in concert with other environmental threats while promoting nature-based solutions to benefit wildlife and people. We influenced

key conservation partnerships, restoration practitioners, and natural resource agencies to adopt climate-smart conservation principles. We conducted climate-smart restoration designed to buffer ecosystems from extremes by planting species tolerant of drought and flooding as well as species that produce food throughout the year. We presented our pioneering approach at the first National Adaptation Forum, with 500 scientists, government planners, and tribal representatives from across North America. We also convened 33 scientists, led by Point Blue's prominent Science Advisory Committee, to identify ways to more readily measure water storage, carbon sequestration, and other ecosystem services that demonstrate climate-smart conservation benefits for nature and people.

“Re-watering” California's Rangelands.

Point Blue, partnering with the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), began work with 123 landowners across 60,000 acres of Sacramento Valley foothills to implement eco-friendly grazing practices and restore groundwater, get creeks flowing again, create healthy habitat for birds and other wildlife, sequester carbon, and secure economic benefits in the face of increased drought and development. We now have six Point Blue Partner

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Point Blue is helping shape a critical, forward-looking vision for how science can inform and inspire us to take climate-smart actions—asking not whether we can but what is the best way to meet conservation challenges. — Nadine Peterson, Deputy

Executive Officer, California Coastal Conservancy

Biologists working in NRCS field offices from Susanville to Mariposa, California. Over a five-year period, we will enhance 1.1 million acres of rangelands, increasing natural water retention by the equivalent of two Hetch Hetchy reservoirs. We also increased our work on privately owned meadows—for wildlife, water quality and storage, and livestock forage—on more than 50 meadows Sierra-wide to advance climate-smart meadow restoration and track long-term trends in meadow bird populations in the face of changing climatic conditions.

Climate-Smart Forest Management.

Building on 16 years of monitoring birds as indicators of Sierra Nevada forest management, in partnership with the US Forest Service, Point Blue provided input into the Land and Resource Management Plans

that will guide six million acres of National Forest management over the next two decades.

Migratory Connections. We used miniature data tags to track the migration of Golden-crowned Sparrows that winter at our Palomarin Field Station (Point Reyes National Seashore) to their Gulf of Alaska coastal breeding grounds for the first time. We also tagged Swainson's Thrushes that breed along streams near the field station and found they winter together near Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. These results demonstrate that conservation of local California bird populations is tightly linked with climate and habitat changes more than 1,500 miles away to both the north and south. In another study, Point Blue ecologists found that 50% of Long-billed Dowitchers that travel through the Klamath Basin on the Oregon-California border will spend the winter in the Central Valley, and that seasonal availability of water is driving their movements. With 95% of Central Valley historic wetlands gone, these findings further support the



value of flooded agricultural lands, such as rice fields, in providing critical refuge for shorebirds during the late winter and early spring when other areas become dry.

Growing Food and Habitat. Working with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Audubon California, and The Nature Conservancy, Point Blue helped 226 rice growers secure over \$10 million in Farm Bill funds to implement bird-friendly practices on 112,500 acres of flooded agricultural lands, critical to the survival of many bird species.

Conservation Action for an Uncertain Future. Point Blue and the California Coastal Conservancy published a new step-by-step guide to scenario planning, a collaborative tool for addressing climate change in an uncertain future. Scenario planning engages multiple stakeholders and embraces uncertainty, rather than trying to reduce or eliminate it, to identify and prioritize management actions today. (See www.prbo.org/refs/files/12263_Moore2013.pdf.)



Left: Banded at the Palomarin Field Station, a Swainson's Thrush carries a tiny data recorder on its migration. *David Briggs/Point Reyes Light* **Above:** A Point Blue biologist records birds' uses of Central Valley habitats including agricultural lands. *Point Blue*



As we address how people interact with natural environments, Point Blue's science is leading the way toward creating a sustainable planet. — Mark Reynolds, Lead Scientist, Migratory Bird Initiative, The Nature Conservancy

Prioritizing Tidal Marsh Restoration as Sea Levels Rise.

In a ground-breaking study, we found that uncertainty about the future must not stop us from developing and implementing climate-smart conservation actions today to help ecosystems and people adapt to climate change. We prioritized current and future tidal marsh restoration projects across the San Francisco Estuary, using the full range of plausible future conditions, such as low to high amounts of sea-level rise, to achieve the greatest benefits for birds and other wildlife today and into the future. We provided our findings to decision-makers through multiple forums and helped scores of partners better understand sea-level rise impacts through our innovative Future Tidal Marshes Tool (<http://data.prbo.org/apps/sfbslr/>). Point Blue was also an invited leader in a new collaborative update of the Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals to specifically address climate change. This project of the Bay Area Ecosystems Climate Change Consortium (BAECCC) and the California Coastal Conservancy will guide conservation efforts for the next two decades to help ensure climate-smart investments with lasting conservation success.

Sustaining Tidal Marsh Birds. How can tidal marsh bird species survive with more high-water events—extreme tides and more intense storms—that flood nests and threaten long-term viability? We found that even a small reduction in nest predation, by reducing the number of predators or their access to nests, can counteract expected future population declines due to climate change, and that these management actions can also enhance the recovery of current marsh bird populations.

Seabirds as Indicators of Marine Protected Areas. Point Blue scientists study seabirds as indicators of how well California's growing network of marine protected areas (MPAs) are working. We found that fish and other marine wildlife are rebounding in many MPAs. However, at the Vandenberg State Marine Reserve, we documented that unprotected waters just south of that MPA are a key feeding area for seabirds, showing how reserve boundaries can be modified to better sustain our rich ocean food webs and wildlife.

Data Analytics for a Changing World. Point Blue's growing informatics team, trusted by agency and private partners to store, manage, and interpret bird and ecosystem data across North America, now manages more than 400 million bird

observations spanning over 40 years. As leaders in the national Avian Knowledge Network, Point Blue manages and hosts the California Avian Data Center, Avian Knowledge Northwest, the Midwest Avian Data Center, and the Southeast Avian Data Center.

Decision-Support Tools. Point Blue collaboratively created several new tools to help decision-makers and managers improve conservation outcomes today and in an uncertain future. Working with the U.S. Geological Survey, NOAA, and the National Park Service, we produced an online map tool that allows users to easily view multiple future sea level rise and storm impact scenarios for the San Francisco Bay region at high resolution. The tool is now being used to assess future impacts on natural and human infrastructure to prepare today for a challenging future (see <http://data.prbo.org/apps/ocof>). Point Blue, working with the Klamath Bird Observatory and American Bird Conservancy, acquired nearly one million new bird observations from across the Pacific Northwest and developed projections of bird populations under different future climate scenarios to advance long-term conservation success (see <http://data.prbo.org/apps/nplcc>). We also

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We really depend on Point Blue bringing their science to the Sanctuaries and partnering with us to do activities that we couldn't do otherwise. — Maria Brown, Superintendent, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, NOAA

launched a new project with the Sonoran Joint Venture, Comisión Nacional De Áreas Naturales Protegidas in Mexico, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to assess bird population responses to future climate change across a large part of western North America.

Invaluable Long-term Data Sets. Point Blue's ongoing data collection encompasses uncommon time spans and provides the foundation for our innovative conservation efforts. We are grateful to our partners who make this possible (see page 8). Some 2012–13 landmarks:

- Farallon Islands – 43 years
- Bolinas Lagoon – 42 years
- Palomarin Field Station – 41 years
- Coastal Snowy Plovers – 35 years
- Mono Lake Gulls – 31 years
- Ross Island, Antarctica – 30 years
- Central Valley riparian – 20 years
- Sierra Nevada – 17 years
- San Francisco Bay tidal marsh – 17 years
- Northern Spotted Owls – 15 years
- Vandenberg A.F.B. – 14 years
- California/Arizona deserts – 11 years
- Gulf of the Farallones – 9 years
- TomKat Ranch Field Station—3 years

The Last Pristine Ocean. Point Blue's work with scientists internationally to protect the Ross Sea in Antarctica is gaining momentum. Citing its value as a "natural laboratory," U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry urged the 24-nation Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) to create a Marine Protected Area in what will be, in coming decades, the only remaining intact sea-ice ecosystem on the planet. Point Blue met with leaders in Korea and China, which are CCAMLR members, to communicate the significance of protecting the Ross Sea. We added new approaches to our long-term studies there: with the successful deployment of a remotely operated sea-glider, as well as satellite tags and time-depth recorders on penguins, we can assess the availability of fish and krill to the penguins and understand where they find food for feeding their chicks—to protect the food webs they depend upon.

Shorebirds Across the Americas.

Partnering with more than 20 organizations in ten countries, Point Blue launched the Migratory Shorebird Project, a ten-year research and outreach effort to enhance wetland conservation for birds and people in a rapidly changing environment. We conducted trainings and coordinated the

study of over one million shorebirds at more than 2,000 sites from Washington State to Colombia, in one of the largest surveys ever of wintering shorebirds on the Pacific Coast of the Americas.

Birds Under Pressure. Point Blue scientists published findings showing that increased housing development, expected in California's future, may have a



Right: Sierran meadows will be crucial in California's water budget. *Dennis Jongsomjit/Point Blue*

Below: Monitoring breeding colonies of California Gulls at Mono Lake. *Kristie Nelson/Point Blue*



greater impact on many bird species than climate change. Some species that may expand their distributions with climate change could actually lose ground as a result of future development. In related work, Point Blue and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife completed an innovative study about climate change impacts on 130 bird species of

concern. This first-of-its-kind assessment prioritizes which species are most at-risk from climate change in combination with other threats such as habitat loss. We found that 21 of the California's 29 threatened and endangered birds (72%) will be impacted by climate change, increasing their risk of extinction.

Central Valley Floodplain. Working closely with The Nature Conservancy, Point Blue used satellite imagery and identified where standing water is located across California's Central Valley (where most water is artificially managed for agricultural, urban, and other uses), to guide conservation of wetland-dependent bird species. In another study, with the National Aviary, we found that restoring floodplain forests in the Central Valley provides critical habitat that helps songbirds survive through the winter. Point Blue is also providing science leadership in a new partnership working to ensure that California's updated Central Valley flood protection plan results in ecological as well as economic and societal benefits.

Restoring the Farallones. Point Blue, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Island Conservation, prepared for the proposed eradication of non-native house mice at Southeast Farallon Island.

The invasive mice attract Burrowing Owls to the Refuge to feed, but when the mice numbers drop each year the owls prey on the already declining population of Ashy Storm-petrels. The Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed mouse removal effort will encompass some of the most comprehensive planning for an island-based rodent eradication in world history, and it draws from Point Blue's long-term expertise on the Farallones. Working with San Francisco and San Jose State Universities, we also expanded our Farallon studies on vegetation, insects, crickets, and endemic salamanders to assess ecosystem response to any restoration efforts as well as to climate change.

Reducing Whale Strikes. Using long-term data collected in partnership with NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries—about where marine wildlife congregates and forages across years of plenty and scarcity—we recommended realigned shipping lanes to minimize whale strikes due to increased shipping traffic in vital feeding grounds off California's Central Coast. In spring 2013, the changes were adopted, and we demonstrated that the new lanes reduced vessel traffic in high-use whale habitat by 70%. Point Blue also initiated the collaborative development of a mobile device

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Working with STRAW reminds me why I chose teaching: together we are providing children with life experiences and knowledge to help them expand their horizons and realize their dreams.

— Katie Asami, public school teacher, Vallejo, California

application that will allow near real-time sharing of whale siting information to further decrease strikes.

Community-based Student Restoration.

Point Blue's award-winning Students and Teachers Restoring A Watershed (STRAW) project conducted 40 restorations with more than 3,500 students last winter—the most yet in a single year. A recent independent economic analysis estimated that every dollar invested in STRAW results in \$14 worth of storm-water treatment and riparian habitat benefits. STRAW launched

a major project with Sonoma Land Trust to create a wildlife corridor and public park connecting Tolay Creek, in the 1,700-acre Tolay Lake Regional Park, to San Pablo Bay. Point Blue is also a key partner in the historic Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project, led by the California Coastal Conservancy and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, helping restore nearly 2,600 acres of wetland habitat and engaging some 1,600 students and teachers in studies of wetlands, watersheds, and climate change. We also expanded our environmental science education to hundreds of underserved students and their teachers in the northern San Francisco Bay area.

Find more information on all of Point Blue's work at www.pointblue.org.

Emily Allen and Vanessa Wyant, restoration educators in Point Blue's STRAW program, introduce school children to streamside ecology. *Point Blue*



Peer-reviewed papers, selected reports, and Point Blue online tools

2012–13 Publications

To learn more about these resources or find our complete list of publications, please visit pointblue.org/annualreport/fy1213/citations/.

Abundance, species richness, and reproductive success of tidal marsh birds at China Camp State Park, Marin County, California. J. Wood, L. Liu, N. Nur, M. Herzog, and N. Warnock. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science*.

Assessing vulnerability of tidal marsh birds to climate change through the analysis of population dynamics and viability. N. Nur, L. Salas, S. Veloz, J. Wood, L. Liu, and G. Ballard. Report to the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative.

Between a rock and a hard place: The impacts of climate change and housing development on breeding birds in California. D. Jongsomjit, D. Stralberg, T. Gardali, L. Salas, and J. Wiens. *Landscape Ecology*.

Bird communities: Effects of fragmentation, disturbance, and sea level rise on population viability. J.Y. Takekawa, I. Woo, K.M. Thorne, K.J. Buffington, N. Nur, M.L. Casazza, and J.T. Ackerman. *In: A. Palaima (editor). Ecology, Conservation, and Restoration of Tidal Marshes: The San Francisco Estuary.* University of California Press.

Bird use of fields treated post-harvest with two types of flooding in Tulare Basin, California. J.P. Fleskes, D.A. Skalos, and M.A. Farinha. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management*.

Black-backed Woodpecker nest tree preference in burned forest of the Sierra Nevada, California. N.E. Seavy, R. Burnett, and P.J. Taillie. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*.

California Clapper Rail population monitoring: 2005–2011. L. Liu, J. Wood, N. Nur, L. Salas, and D. Jongsomjit. Technical Report to the California Department of Fish and Game.

With their focus on high-quality science that is understandable, available, and usable to managers, Point Blue is a critical player in achieving conservation in the face of climate change and other environmental stressors. — Diana Craig, Deputy Director for Ecosystem Services, USDA Forest Service, Region 5

Climate change winners: Receding ice fields facilitate colony expansion and altered dynamics in an Adélie Penguin metapopulation. M.A. LaRue, D.G. Ainley, M. Swanson, K.M. Dugger, P. O'B. Lyver, K. Barton, and G. Ballard. *PLoS ONE*.

Coastal Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability: A Technical Input to the 2012 National Climate Assessment. V.R. Burkett and M.A. Davidson (editors), with contributions by E.M. Cohen and G. Ballard. Cooperative Report to the 2013 National Climate Assessment.

Coexistence of mesopredators in an intact polar ocean ecosystem: The basis for defining a Ross Sea marine protected area. G. Ballard, D. Jongsomjit, S.D. Veloz, and D.G. Ainley. *Biological Conservation*.

Decadal trends in abundance, size and condition of Antarctic toothfish in McMurdo Sound, Antarctica, 1972–2011. D.G. Ainley, N. Nur, J.T. Eastman, G. Ballard, C.L. Parkinson, C.W. Evans, and A.L. Devries. *Fish and Fisheries*.

Developing a riparian bird index to communicate restoration success in Marin County, California. N.E. Seavy and T. Gardali. *Ecological Restoration*.

Holding behavior of Chinook salmon and steelhead smolts, as influenced by habitat features of levee banks, in the highly modified lower Sacramento River, California. D. Zajanc, S. Kramer, N. Nur, and P. Nelson. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*.

Integrating avian habitat distribution models into a conservation planning framework for the San Joaquin River, California, USA. N.E. Seavy, T. Gardali, G.H. Golet, D. Jongsomjit, R. Kelsey, S. Matsumoto, S. Paine, and D. Stralberg. *Natural Areas Journal*.

Neotropical Birds of Prey: Biology and Ecology of a Forest Raptor Community. D.W. Whitacre (editor), with contributions by N.E. Seavy. Cornell University Press.

No-analogue climates and shifting realized niches during the late Quaternary: Implications for species distribution models. S.D. Veloz, J. Williams, J. Blois, F. He, Z. Liu, and B. Otto-Bliesner. *Global Change Biology*.

Penguins: Natural History and Conservation. G. Borboroglu and P. D. Boersma (editors), with contributions by G. Ballard. University of Washington Press.

Population dynamics of Hawaiian seabird colonies vulnerable to sea-level rise. J. Hatfield, M. Reynolds, N.E. Seavy, and C. Krause. *Conservation Biology*.

Population studies of tidal marsh breeding birds at Rush Ranch: A synthesis. H. Spautz, L. Liu, S. Estrella, and N. Nur. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science*.

Potential impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the San Francisco Bay Area. D.D. Ackerly, R.A. Ryals, W.K. Cornwell, S.R. Loarie, S. Veloz, K.D. Higgason, W.L. Silver, and T.E. Dawson. Report to the California Energy Commission.

Spatial distribution of nearshore foraging seabirds in relation to a coastal marine reserve. D.P. Robinette, N. Nur, A. Brown, and J. Howar. *Journal of Marine Ornithology*.

The Ice Age ecologist: Testing methods for reserve prioritization and biodiversity conservation during the last global warming. J. Williams, H. Kharouba, S.D. Veloz, J. McLachlan, M. Vellend, Z. Liu, B. Otto-Bliesner, and F. He. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*.

The nest predator assemblage for songbirds in Mono Lake Basin riparian habitats. Q.S. Latif, S.K. Heath, and G. Ballard. *Western North American Naturalist*.

Scenario planning for climate change adaptation: A guidance for resource managers. S.S. Moore, N.E. Seavy, and M. Gerhart. Point Blue Conservation Science and California Coastal Conservancy.

Species interactions and habitat influence the range-wide distribution of breeding Canada geese in northern Manitoba. M.E. Reiter and D.E. Andersen. *Waterbirds*.

Trophic interactions and population trends of killer whales in the Southern Ross Sea. D.G. Ainley and G. Ballard. *Aquatic Mammals*.

Use of data on avian demographics and site persistence during overwintering to assess quality of restored riparian habitat. S.C. Latta, C.A. Howell, M.D. Dettling, and R.L. Cormier. *Conservation Biology*.

Online Tools

Our Coast Our Future. Planning for sea-level rise and storm hazards in the San Francisco Bay Area. <http://data.prbo.org/apps/occf/>

Pacific Northwest climate change avian vulnerability tool. Projections of how climate change will affect birds and conservation priorities in the region. <http://data.prbo.org/apps/nplcc/>

Avian Knowledge Northwest data explorer tool. Discover scientific bird observation data from a new Pacific Northwest AKN partnership. <http://data.prbo.org/cadc/tools/multimap/aknw.php>

Whale Aware. Gathering real-time data on whales off the coast of California. <http://www.whaleaware.org>

We appreciate the hundreds of partners who make our work possible.

2012–13 Partnerships and Collaborations



The agencies and groups with which Point Blue collaborates or is affiliated with currently include the following.

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| AECOM | Bolinas Lagoon Technical Advisory Committee | City of Petaluma | Great Lakes Commission | Migratory Bird Conservation Partnership |
| Almanor Basin Watershed Advisory Committee | Big Sur Land Trust | City of Santa Rosa | Grupo de Aves del Noroeste de México | Mission Blue / Sylvia Earle Alliance |
| American Bird Conservancy | Cache Creek Conservancy | Clear Creek Technical Work Group | Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary | Mono Basin Science Council |
| American Rivers | California Association of Winegrape Growers | Comisión Nacional De Áreas Naturales Protegidas (Mexico) | Hawaii Pacific University | Mono Lake Committee |
| Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition | California Coastal Conservancy | Cordell Bank Sanctuary Advisory Council | H.T. Harvey & Associates | Monterey Bay Aquarium |
| Antarctic Ocean Alliance | California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife | Cosumnes Research Group | Imperial Irrigation District | MWH Americas, Inc. |
| Army Corps of Engineers | California Dept. of Parks and Recreation | County of Marin Wind Energy Advisory Group | Information Center for the Environment (U.C. Davis) | National Audubon Society and local chapters |
| Asociación Calidris | California Dept. of Water Resources | Copper River International | Institute for Fisheries Resources | National Coalition for Marine Conservation |
| Association of Bay Area Governments | California Landscape Conservation Cooperative | Migratory Bird Initiative | Institute for Bird Populations | National Fish and Wildlife Foundation |
| Audubon California | California NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee | Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary | Intermountain West Joint Venture | National Park Service and National Parks |
| Audubon Canyon Ranch | California Partners in Flight | Cordell Marine Sanctuary Foundation | Island Conservation | National Science Foundation |
| Aves y Conservacion, Birdlife in Ecuador | California Rangeland Conservation Coalition | Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology | Klamath Bird Observatory | Natural Resources Defense Council |
| Avian Knowledge Alliance | California Resource Conservation Districts | Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology | Laguna de Santa Rosa Biodiversity Advisory Committee / Foundation | Noble Consulting |
| Avian Knowledge Network | California Rice Commission | County of Napa | Landbird Monitoring Network of the Americas | NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service |
| Avocet Research Associates | California State Parks Vehicular Recreation Areas (OHV) Review Panel | Defenders of Wildlife | Landcare Research, New Zealand | NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries |
| Ayuda Management Corporation | California State Universities | Delta Conservancy | Literacy for Environmental Justice | North American Banding Council |
| Bank Swallow Technical Advisory Committee | Canada–U.S. Shorebird Monitoring and Assessment Committee | Deltas | ManTech SRS Technologies, Inc. | North American Bird Conservation Initiative |
| Bay Area Ecosystems Climate Change Consortium | Canal Family Support Program | Ducks Unlimited | Marin County Board of Supervisors | North Bay Watershed Association |
| Bay Area Joint Policy Committee | CEMEX | East Bay Regional Park District | Marin County Dept. of Parks & Open Space | North Marin Water District |
| Bay Area Watershed Network | Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration | Environmental Defense Fund | Marin Dept of Public Works | North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative |
| Bay Delta Conservation Plan Science Advisory Panel | Central Valley Flood Management Program | Environmental Education Council of Marin | Marin Agricultural Land Trust | Oikonos |
| Bay-Delta Science Consortium | Central Valley Joint Venture | ERT, Inc. | Marin Municipal Water District | Oiled Wildlife Care Network |
| Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Technical Update for Climate Change—Steering Committee | Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (France) | ESA PWA | Marine and Coastal Conservation Spatial Planning Center. | Olofson Environmental, Inc. |
| Bird Conservation Alliance | Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada | Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association | Marine Fish Conservation Network | Oregon State University |
| Bird Conservation Funding Coalition | City of American Canyon | Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group | McEvoy Ranch | Pacific Coast Ocean Observing System (NOAA) |
| Bird Education Alliance for Conservation | | Filmmakers Collaborative | Midwest Coordinated Bird Monitoring Partnership | |
| Bird Studies Canada | | Friends of the Tuolumne, Inc. | | |
| BirdLife International | | Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy | | |
| Bodega Marine Laboratory | | Golden Gate National Recreation Area | | |
| | | Grassland Water District | | |
| | | Great Basin Bird Observatory | | |

Above: Adélie Penguins enter the Ross Sea to forage. Point Blue is co-leading efforts to win protection for this vital marine ecosystem (see page 4). *Viola Toniolo/Point Blue*

Having Point Blue biologists out in the field, working directly with landowners, has been extremely successful. This partnership provides us with clear indications of how to make changes on the landscape for the better. — Alan Forkey, Assistant State Conservationist for the California NRCS

Pacific Coast Joint Venture
Panamá Audubon
Parques Nacionales de Peru
Partners in Flight
Pepperwood Preserve
Petaluma Wetlands Alliance
PEW Charitable Trust
PG&E
Pomona College
Point Reyes National Seashore
Prince William Sound Science Center
Private Landowners
Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring
Prunuske Chatham Inc.
Resources Legacy Fund
Riparian Habitat Joint Venture
River Partners
Romberg Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies
Sacramento River Riparian Sanctuary Technical Advisory Committee
San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory
San Francisco Bay Joint Venture
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
San Francisco Bay Upland Habitat Goals Steering Committee
San Francisco Bay Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program
San Francisco Estuary Institute
San Francisco Estuary Project
San Francisco Science Collaborative
San Joaquin River Partnership

San Luis National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Santa Lucia Conservancy
Science Applications International Corporation
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Shorebird Research Group of the Americas
Simon Fraser University
Smithsonian Institution
Society for Northwest Vertebrate Biology
Solano County Farmlands & Open Space Foundation
Sonoma County Regional Parks
Sonoma County Water Agency
Sonoma Ecology Center
Sonoma Land Trust
Sonoran Joint Venture
Stanford University
Stillwater Science 5
Sustainable Conservation
Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee
Tejon Ranch
Tetra Tech, Inc.
Thank You Ocean
The Amargosa Conservancy
The Bay Institute
The Nature Conservancy
The Presidio Trust
Thomas Reid Associates
Tomales Bay Watershed Council
TomKat Ranch
Tricolored Blackbird Working Group
Trout Unlimited
Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners

United Anglers of Southern California
U.S. Army
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USDA Forest Service
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Wildlife Refuges
USFWS Bird Inventory and Monitoring Team
USFWS Birder's Team
U.S. Shorebird Conservation Council
U.S. Geological Survey

University of California, various campuses
UC Agricultural Extension
University of Illinois
University of New Hampshire
University of New Orleans
University of San Francisco
University of South Florida
University of Southern Mississippi
University of Victoria, B.C.
University of Washington, Seattle
URS Corporation
Vandenberg Air Force Base
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Wak Ka Koneke Indigenous Association

Washington State University at Vancouver
Waterbirds of the Americas
Western Bird Banding Association
Western Hemisphere Shorebird Group
Western Hummingbird Partnership—Executive Committee
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District
Western Snowy Plover Working Groups—Regions 4 and 5
Wetlands & Water Resources
World Wildlife Fund
Yellow-billed Cuckoo Working Group

Right: In rangelands flanking the great Central Valley, partnering with landowners is key to “rewatering California” (see page 1). *Point Blue*



Point Blue is deeply grateful to our individual, foundation, and corporate donors.

2012–13 Friends of Point Blue

Gifts received between April 1, 2012, and March 31, 2013.

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TomKat Charitable Trust

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Edward and Michelle Sarti
The Biz and Livia Stone Foundation
Sylvia Earle Alliance

\$25,000 to \$49,999

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The Rich Stallcup Memorial Fund

Thank you to 178 donors who have generously donated \$31,920 to the Rich Stallcup Memorial Fund. The fund supports education and related programs to continue Rich's remarkable legacy of teaching and inspiring students of all ages about birds, nature, and conservation.



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Above left: Point Blue teaches future generations of conservation scientists. At the Palomarin Field Station, Geoff Geupel performs an annual review of interns' findings on nesting birds. *Point Blue*
Right: Anna's Hummingbird. *Mike Baird/bairdphotos.com*



Conservation Science Legacy

Tern Society

Tern Society members are individuals who have notified us that Point Blue is included in their estates.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Janet W. and Bruce Allen | Totton and Joanne Heffelfinger |
| Robert E. and Gertrude Allen | Estate of Shirley Hicklin |
| Gail Anderson and King | Aaron Holmes |
| McPherson | Estate of William S. & Vivienne |
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| John and Sara Donnelly | Walker Macdonald |
| Ted and Pat Eliot | Estate of Roderick Macpherson |
| Linda Fisher | Sara Mathews |
| Geoff Geupel and Janet Kjelmryr | Mary V. Mayer |
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| Doris Grau | Leah Norwood |
| Dean and Nancy Hanson | Estate of Judith B. Nadai |
| Jack and Deyea Harper | Linda O'Neill |
| Estate of Dorothy A. Harvey | Doris Panzer |
| Jim and Karen Havlena | Carolyn Pendery |

For information about creating a legacy at Point Blue, and becoming a member of the Tern Society, please contact Kerri Beeker, Planned Gifts Officer, at 707.781.2547 or email legacy@pointblue.org.

Planned gifts will continue to be accepted under PRBO, PRBO Conservation Science, or Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

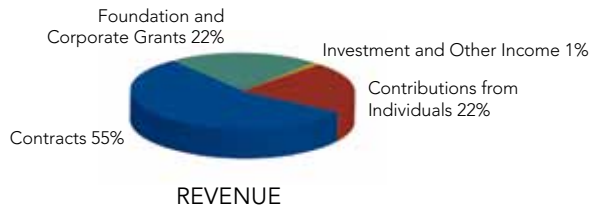
Farallon Patrol

The volunteer skippers of the Farallon Patrol provide year-round boat transportation for Point Blue and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to our field station on Southeast Farallon Island. We thank all Patrol members, including the following skippers who served actively this past year.

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Keith Sedwick, <i>Commodore</i> | Jim Ellis |
| Harry Andrews | Jody Harris |
| Don Bauer | Sam Lavanaway |
| Jim Bewley | Rob MacFarlane |
| Laurie Chaikin | Warren Sankey |
| Tom Charron | Clifford Shaw |
| Henry Corning | Harmon Shragge |
| Paul Dines | John Wade |
| Al diVittorio | Alan Weaver |

Above: Forster's Tern. *Tom Grey*
Below: Humpback whales and other species congregate in food-rich ocean waters just outside San Francisco Bay. Point Blue's science has helped reduce the chances of ships striking whales here (see page 5). *Sophie Webb*





2012-13 Financials

Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2013 and 2012

| | 2013 | 2012 |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 1,868,113 | 2,146,961 |
| Certificates of deposit | 483,456 | 627,002 |
| Contracts receivable | 1,426,836 | 1,158,226 |
| Contributions, grants and bequest receivable | 704,661 | 109,552 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 54,962 | 67,666 |
| Total current assets | <u>4,538,028</u> | <u>4,109,407</u> |
| Non-current assets: | | |
| Long-term grant receivable | 626,471 | |
| Endowment fund | 150,026 | 138,655 |
| Property, net of accumulated depreciation | 5,485,943 | 5,502,696 |
| Total non-current assets | <u>6,262,440</u> | <u>5,641,351</u> |
| Total Assets | <u>10,800,468</u> | <u>9,750,758</u> |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | 262,625 | 217,956 |
| Accrued vacation | 246,541 | 263,319 |
| Deferred revenue | 324,509 | 348,728 |
| Total current liabilities | <u>833,675</u> | <u>830,003</u> |
| Net assets: | | |
| Unrestricted | | |
| Board-designated funds | 1,671,048 | 1,857,822 |
| Other | 5,761,052 | 5,742,407 |
| Total unrestricted | <u>7,432,100</u> | <u>7,600,229</u> |
| Temporarily restricted | 2,534,693 | 1,320,526 |
| Total Net Assets | <u>9,966,793</u> | <u>8,920,755</u> |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | <u>\$10,800,468</u> | <u>\$9,750,758</u> |

Statement of Activities for the Years Ended March 31, 2013 and 2012

| | 2013 | 2012 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Changes in unrestricted net assets: | | |
| Revenue and Support: | | |
| Government and other contracts | \$ 4,975,058 | 4,398,666 |
| Contributions from individuals | 603,488 | 521,311 |
| Foundation and corporate grants | 113,296 | 14,704 |
| Investment and other income | 84,905 | 88,010 |
| Net assets released from restrictions: | | |
| Contributions from individuals | 1,340,962 | 1,164,162 |
| Foundation and corporate grants | 1,827,982 | 1,848,132 |
| Total revenue and support | <u>8,945,691</u> | <u>8,034,985</u> |
| Expenses: | | |
| Program services | 7,403,205 | 6,665,969 |
| Management and general | 1,130,677 | 1,138,259 |
| Fundraising and member services | 579,938 | 483,937 |
| Total expenses | <u>9,113,820</u> | <u>8,288,165</u> |
| Change in unrestricted net assets* | (168,129) | (253,180) |
| Changes in temporarily restricted funds: | | |
| Contributions from individuals | 1,066,745 | 1,155,014 |
| Foundation and corporate grants | 3,316,366 | 1,686,886 |
| Net assets released from restrictions | <u>(3,168,944)</u> | <u>(3,012,294)</u> |
| Change in temporarily restricted net assets | 1,214,167 | (170,394) |
| Change in net assets | 1,046,038 | (423,574) |
| Net assets at beginning of year | <u>8,920,755</u> | <u>9,344,329</u> |
| Net assets at end of year | <u>\$ 9,966,793</u> | <u>\$ 8,920,755</u> |

*NOTE: The 2013 change in unrestricted net assets was due to a planned allocation of net asset reserve funds to high-priority programs.

The condensed financial statements presented above reflect Point Blue's complete set of financial statements for 2012 and 2013 which have been audited by Perotti

& Carrade, Certified Public Accountants, and on which they have rendered an unqualified opinion dated July 10, 2013. The organization's complete audited financial

statements and the independent auditor's report can be found at www.pointblue.org/2012-13auditreport.

Laurie Talcott
Chief Financial Officer



Point Blue

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for a healthy planet.

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In June 2013, we changed our name to Point Blue Conservation Science as we directly address climate change, together with other environmental threats, at this pivotal moment in the history of life as we know it. Please visit pointblue.org for a video introduction and additional information about Point Blue's collaborative conservation science for a healthy planet.