



# SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVANCY

*Annual Report 2009*

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## *Sacred sites and ancient legends – powerful forces for conservation*

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People have long associated snow leopards with the supernatural. Given the cats' harsh environment—the thin air, cold temperatures, steep slopes and fragile soils—it is perhaps not surprising that people, especially those who share their mountain habitat, have given the snow leopard mystical status.

In the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, snowstorms stranded the great Buddhist-saint, Milarepa, in a cave where he had gone for solitary meditation. Six months later, when the snows finally melted, his followers came to retrieve his body, only to find that he had survived by transforming himself into a snow leopard.

Edwin Bernbaum relates in his book, *The Way to Shambhala*, a story from Tengboche Monastery in Mount Everest National Park:

*A long time ago Guru Rimpoche set the gods to watch over the secret valley, Khembalung, and keep it hidden from the world. It's supposed to be a peaceful place, with food and everything you need for meditation. Only the true followers of Guru Rimpoche, the ones who really practice his teachings, can find it. There's a guidebook to Khembalung, but if the wrong kind of people try to follow it, snow leopards will attack them at the mountain passes and drive them away. . .*



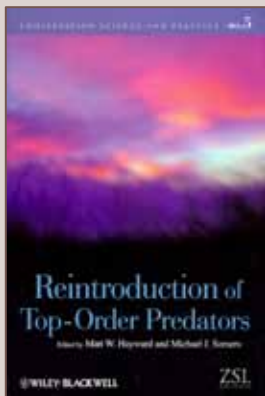
Anthropologist John Mock reports that the herders of the Pamir region in Northern Pakistan believe their pastures are the realm of spirits — pure beings who help the herders locate good hunting and grazing areas. These spirits often come to the aid of herders in the shape of an animal, the most powerful and revered of these being the snow leopard. Without the help of this cat, the locals believe that no hunter can ever succeed. They see the snow leopard as an equal being, worthy of respect and having a right to live, and their use of the snow leopard's territory to meet their subsistence needs is comparable to help from fellow humans in time of need.

The mystery of sacred sites and ancient legends, along with indigenous scientific practices, have been powerful forces for conservation. Wildlife is often protected *continued on page 2*

From the Director



## Conservation Science and Practice



Rodney Jackson and Som Ale wrote a chapter, *Snow Leopards: Is Reintroduction the Best Option?* for REINTRODUCTION OF TOP-ORDER PREDATORS, edited by Matt W. Hayward and Michael J. Somers. This volume, published by Wiley Blackwell, UK, in association with the Zoological Society of London, is the 5th in a series on Conservation Science and Practice.

### CNN International

Shafqat Hussain, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, appeared on CNN International in December, 2009. In the interview, Shafqat mentioned the Conservancy's support to *Project Snow Leopard*.



### Animals Make Us Human



"There is a need for more practical programs like yours and less rhetoric and ideology. I am interested in practical things that make real improvements in the field."

Temple Grandin, Ph.D., author of *Animals Make Us Human: Creating the Best Life for Animals*, in an email to Rodney

Jackson. The author of many books, Dr. Grandin is also Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University and a designer of livestock handling facilities. She cited the Conservancy in *Animals Make Us Human*, in her section on making animals economically valuable to local people.

### NPR

Ben Trefny, producer of KALW San Francisco's *Crosscurrents* radio news magazine, interviewed Rodney. You can listen to the interview. <http://kalwnews.org/audio/rodney-jackson-directing-snow-leopard-conservancy>

### Rolex Awards

The February, 2009, issue of the Rolex Awards journal had a one-page update on the Conservancy.

and more readily seen around monasteries and other sacred sites. Yet traditional conservation ethics can be eroded in times of challenge and hardship.

When we founded the Conservancy in 2000, we saw that many herders, even in Buddhist communities, would turn against the cats in retaliation for livestock raiding. In effect, an entire family's bank account could be wiped out when a snow leopard broke into their pen and killed or maimed every sheep and goat inside. But the herders lacked the materials to secure their pens. Since the Conservancy and its in-country partners stepped up to help, communities with predator-proofed corrals are once again living in greater harmony with snow leopards, and our example is being followed across the cats' range.

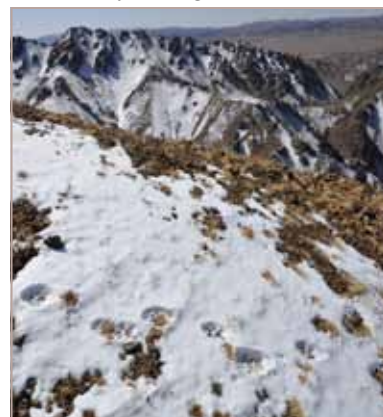
Like Khembalung, the Rolwaling Valley, part of our wildlife corridor study, is one of the hidden valleys of the Himalayan region. Som Ale's survey (see page 3) confirmed the rarity of snow leopards and wild prey, likely due to widespread poaching. Som was not surprised when many of the local people he interviewed complained about loss of livestock to snow leopards and other predators. The cats had been left with little other choice for their survival.

As we identify corridors linking protected areas, we will enlist villages willing to work with us in establishing safe enclaves where snow leopards and other wildlife will thrive. We expect that the most effective conservation actions will combine economic incentives like Homestays and Savings & Credit programs with efforts that reinvigorate mountain communities, build on their indigenous heritage and restore the snow leopard to its spiritual centrality in the life of the village.

On behalf of the range-country communities, individuals and organizations working with us toward healthy mountain habitats for snow leopards, we offer deep thanks to our donor-partners and volunteers for your significant role in the accomplishments within this report. We look forward to continued partnership with you, our snow leopard heroes.

Thank you,

Rodney Jackson, Founder-Director  
Snow Leopard Conservancy



Snow leopard tracks on Mongolian ridge

Jan Janecka



Rodney Jackson

Rodney has been short-listed for the Indianapolis Prize 2010. This is Rodney's second nomination for the award and also the second time he has been among the six nominees on the short list.

Snow Leopard Conservancy's partner, Ghulam Mohammed, General Manager, Baltistan Wildlife Conservation and Development Organization, speaks for all of us:

*It is great news to us that Dr. Rodney Jackson has been nominated for the prestigious Indianapolis Prize. This is due to his great efforts to protect the endangered snow leopard and for working for the poor rural communities. We congratulate Dr. Rodney and the Conservancy Team and would like to strengthen our collaboration, which will be higher than the Himalaya and Karakoram.*

# Collaborative Science for Conservation

## Wildlife Corridor Assessment: Nepal



Kamal Thapa and Purna Thapa setting camera traps

From Som Ale's field notes:

*The 8th day of our arduous search for snow leopards . . . We came across sign like feces and scrapes, but the elusive ghost did not leave behind its pugmarks. That day, we climbed several hundred meters up the rugged, moraine-hills, one after another, to reach Dudh Kunda, the sacred glacial milk lake. My altimeter read 4,600 meters. Lo and behold, a clear set of footprints along the beach! An adult snow leopard! Local herdsmen reported snow leopard pugmarks along Tashi Lapcha pass, at 5,700 meters, leading to Mt. Everest . . . The discovery in Dudh Kunda indicated something exciting — snow leopards may travel to and from Mt. Everest. Our Sherpa guide joked, “Serken (Sherpa name for snow leopards) go across the high-pass; they don’t suffer altitude-sickness as you lowlanders do.”*

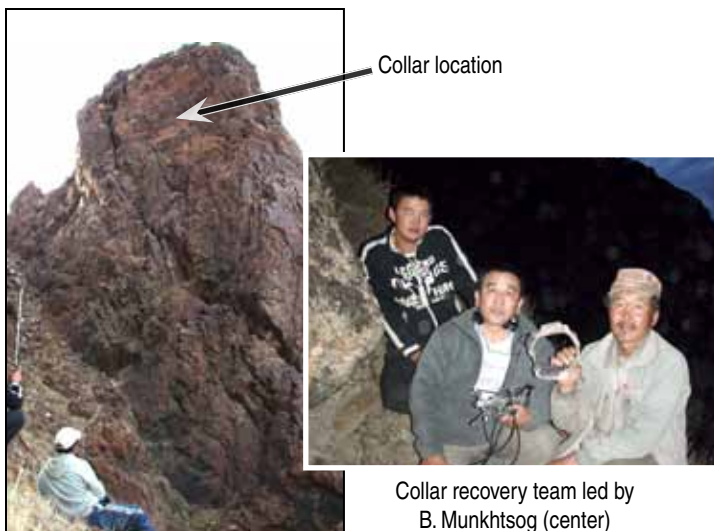


Kamal Thapa examining pugmarks

## Mongolia

### Retrieving Togoldor's Satellite Collar

We retrieved the GPS satellite collar from the male snow leopard, Togoldor, whose name means Amazing, Great, Incredible. As reported in the Annual Report 2008, the collar was programmed to drop off after a year. While Togoldor wore the collar, it recorded some 1,100 locations. Please see our website for an animated map showing his travels. This telemetry study is on hold pending agreements to relocate it to an alternative site.



Collar recovery team led by B. Munkhtsog (center)

### Continuing Genetics Study

The Conservancy's collaboration with Texas A&M University, the Mongolian Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Forestry Institute resulted in a paper on conducting fecal DNA surveys in China and Mongolia. Partners in Pakistan, India and Nepal have joined in this long term study, undertaking noninvasive surveys to determine population genetics across the snow leopard's range. Data from the surveys will help identify those areas where conservation initiatives are most needed or would be most cost-effective.



Collaborators Jan Janecka and B. Munkhtsog (behind Jan's right shoulder) in local gher

# Community-Based Conservation

## Pakistan

*The work of the Snow Leopard Conservancy's partners has expanded in 2009.*

### **Khunjerab Village Organization**

The Khunjerab Village Organization (KVO) is a coalition of seven villages in northern Pakistan, within the buffer zone of Khunjerab National Park. Since 2003 the Conservancy has worked with KVO on pasture improvement, livestock management and snow leopard conservation both within the buffer and the park, which is prime snow leopard habitat.

The community-managed shepherding program grew in its second year. For the fifth year, community members monitored snow leopard sign and blue sheep-ibex populations using sign transects and remote cameras.

- Two of the ten shepherds under contract have received paraveterinary training and gave vaccines and medicine to 2,800 sheep and goats. Shepherds selectively reduced the overpopulation of male sheep and goats by neutering all but the healthiest males. Unneutered males were kept separate from females to restrict lambing to once a year.
- Local coordinator Karim Ullah Khan held a four-day public awareness workshop for all KVO villages. The purpose, activities and goals of the KVO-SLC project were discussed, and a strategic plan was developed.
- Three new predator-proof livestock corrals were under construction as of August 2009.



Karim Ullah Khan (left) and a local shepherd evaluating pastures

KVO

### **Cross-border Collaboration with Afghanistan**

The KVO community was honored in 2008 to host a delegation of village leaders from the Wakhan District of Afghanistan, who wanted to learn about the construction of predator-proof corrals and the monitoring of snow leopards and their prey using camera-traps and other noninvasive techniques. In 2009, KVO's Conservancy-trained wildlife guide, Hussain Ali, went to Afghanistan to train community rangers in wildlife survey techniques. These study exchanges were supported by the Wildlife Conservation Society under a USAID project.

*... we trained the Kret rangers in camera trapping, our new data sheet, and GPS. We're focusing the camera trapping on snow leopards. Hussain Ali really knows his stuff with snow leopards, which is excellent. We found heaps of sign (pug marks, scrapes, scent sprays and dung) in the mountains. With luck we'll soon have some good pictures.*

Anthony Simms, Wildlife Conservation Society



Camera trap image above and those on page 1 courtesy of Wildlife Conservation Society

## India

- Both herders and snow leopards continue to benefit from secure livestock enclosures. From the simple measure of wire-meshing windows in household basement-barns, to roofing pens adjacent to homes, to constructing stand-alone community corrals, SLC-India has predator-proofed seventy-one enclosures in twenty-two communities in Ladakh, Zaskar and Nubra.
- From seventeen visitors hosted by four families in its first year, SLC-India's Himalayan Homestays program now has more than 80 host families in twenty-one villages. Homestay villages are located in or near prime snow leopard habitat in Hemis National Park, Sham and Zaskar regions. Host families are now averaging an income of \$230 per season, with more than \$19,000 generated from tourism activities over the past two years. The income and changed attitudes in Homestay villages have led to such conservation actions as the creation of a livestock-free grazing reserve for wild prey such as blue sheep and the threatened Tibetan argali.



Photos SLC-India



# Community-Based Conservation

## *Baltistan Wildlife Conservation and Development Organization*

Grobet Thierry, Rolex Awards for Enterprise



Dr. Shafqat Hussain in Baltistan

Our collaboration with Dr. Shafqat Hussain and the Baltistan Wildlife Conservation and Development Organization's Project Snow Leopard (PSL) involves corral predator-proofing, a community-operated insurance compensation program, exploring rural income enterprise initiatives and fostering environmental awareness in three program sites. The work is overseen by Ghulam Mohammed, local director of PSL, with Shafqat's technical support. Shafqat was named one of 10 National Geographic Emerging Explorers for 2009 for his work with snow leopards in northern Pakistan.



Basha Community Meeting

*Our program is still expanding. We don't have any grand visions or plans. We just want to see that large conservation projects understand that the approach of separating human society from the environment is not the answer.*

Dr. Hussain in an interview with the Yale Daily News

- Snow Leopard Conservation Committees are now operating in five communities in the Basha Valley.
- A water pipe system was provided to the 644 residents of Zill at a cost of under \$1,000. Since they no longer have to carry water from the old spring, accidents involving people as well as livestock have decreased.
- Nine corrals in five communities have now been predator-proofed, benefiting 405 households, protecting 1600 head of livestock and keeping snow leopards out of trouble.

## *Tajikistan*

The Conservancy completed its project in the Pamir Mountains of Tajikistan, *"Mountain Voices, Community Actions: Local Initiatives in Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihoods in Central Asia,"* funded by a two-year grant from The Christensen Fund. Highlights of some of the activities are illustrated here.

A Training of Trainers course for sixteen naturalist guides, Tourism Department officials and others was conducted by Renzino Lepcha, a community-based tourism specialist from Sikkim, India. One course participant commented, "This was my best seminar . . . due to the experience of the trainer."

Aslisho Qurboniev reported on activities in Batchor, a community of 34 households and recipient of one of two small grants that built upon training provided in the project's first phase. "Creating the maps of biodiversity was very interesting for villagers and they managed it well. . . villagers are very good at drawing such maps, because they have enough information about the wildlife and the nature of their valley." Aslisho collected local legends and stories, including the thoughts of an eighty-year-old man, "In the winter 1986 there was a lot of snow and many groups of ibexes were in the mountains close to our winter pastures. . . It is possible to raise the number of ibex in our mountains and watch them again and show them to the tourists."



Creating the maps of biodiversity organized Batchor villagers' knowledge about the wildlife and gave them a good overview.



Dr. Firuza Abdurahimova of the Nature Protection Team leading a workshop

The full report on this work is being posted on the Conservancy's website. Materials and workshop outputs are being translated into Russian and will be posted on our website for access by other development/conservation practitioners in the region.

### **Principal partners**

Local NGOs Nature Protection Team and Murghab Ecotourism Association, with support from Mountain Societies Development Support Programme.



PhotoVoice and other participatory exercises enable communities to discover, discuss and reflect on their valued assets.

# Community-Based Education

## Nepal

### Khumbu (Everest area) Environmental Camps

Meetings were held in two communities, involving all parents and local teachers, to discuss and approve environmental camps for school kids. These communities lack the international attention and support that other Sherpa villages have received. As in other parts of the snow leopard's range, children here have little experience of nature-oriented field trips.



Students at Thame are first in line for a new conservation education program.

### Upper Mustang

Pema Tsering was hired from a field of local applicants in the Upper Mustang region to coordinate education activities. Under the supervision of Som Ale and our partners, Nepal Trust for Nature Conservation/Annapurna Conservation Area Program, Pema will bring classroom-based interactive conservation education to schools in this remote part of Nepal.

## Baltistan, Pakistan

Parents in Seisko Village cannot afford uniforms, tuition fees and school supplies for their children. We provided a grant to cover the needs of 13 girls and 15 boys attending the school, and a committee has been established to oversee educational activities and management.



Seisko Village students in school uniforms

Ghulam Mohammed

### Education Outside Snow Leopard Range-Countries

Zoos educate the public about wild animals. Darla Hillard is working with several of them.

Our new active partners at the San Francisco Zoo have moved the male leopard, Rigel, and the female, Ming Wah, to an enclosure adjacent to the lion house. We initiated a collaborative effort to create an interpretive zone for the cats' new space.



Ming Wah courtesy of the San Francisco Zoo

## Ladakh, India

The Conservancy co-sponsored Sujatha Padmanabahn of Kalpavriksh, advisor to the Ladakh education program, to attend the 9th World Wilderness Congress in Merida, Mexico. In attendance were 1800 delegates from 50 countries, and online participants from 100 countries. Sujatha's talk focused on SLC-India's education work. Following the Mexico conference, she spoke at Ohio State University to members of the Agency for India's Development (AID), co-sponsor of the education program. AID is a non-profit volunteer movement that supports grass roots organizations in India.



Sujatha Padmanabahn at OSU

Agency for India's Development

We sponsored Tsering Angmo, SLC-India's Education Coordinator for Ladakh, to attend a course at Amravati University in India, "Education as a Tool for Species Conservation." The 19-day course was sponsored by the Satpuda Foundation, Environmental Education and Conservation Global, Nature Conservation Society-Amravati, and S.G.B. Amravati University. Course participants gained the knowledge, skills and experience needed to build effective education campaigns that focus on a specific environmental issue or species of concern.



Tsering Angmo

Gurum Batek

*I feel very happy and I learned lots of things in this course for my work in Ladakh. We did field trips in Tadoba National Park where we saw leopard, tiger and wild dog.*

Tsering Angmo

The Education Program is now reaching 15 schools in Ladakh and Zanskar. The positive feedback from students and teachers led to the creation of *Ri Gyancha: a biodiversity resource kit for educators in Ladakh*. *Ri Gyancha* means Jewels of the Mountains. The resource kit, with a foreword by the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, is aimed at expanding the number of public and private schools that can teach conservation education.

Darla assisted the Tallinn Zoo in Estonia in the development of interpretive materials for their new snow leopard exhibit. 2009 was the zoo's 70th anniversary.

# Measures of Success

## Improving Livestock Husbandry

*Livestock represents much of the wealth of local communities. The Conservancy supports programs for healthy, well-protected and well-managed herds, which in turn lead to improved pasture lands. Improved pastures also support wild ungulates and the snow leopards that feed on them. Our partners in India and Pakistan report on their continuing success.*

### India

- Immunized livestock are healthier. All livestock in Ulley were immunized with help from the Department of Animal Husbandry, Ladakh, J&K, India, under the collaborative village program.
- Ulley decided to use their Conservation Fund (10% of Homestay proceeds) to pay shepherds for guarding services. They devoted their livestock insurance fees to cover young, vulnerable yaks. Only two yaks were lost, and herders Tsewang Norboo and Rigzin Namgyal received a settlement covering 80-percent of the animals' value.

### Pakistan, KVO

- The livestock are generally healthier due to vaccinations and sufficient fodder.
- The Village Livestock Management Committees are effectively communicating with villagers and managing livestock.
- The communities are highly supportive of the activities with 97% participation. Only 3% or 6 of the 203 households with livestock in KVO are not yet participating.
- The shepherds reduced predation — only 17 animals were lost in 2009 compared to 180 in 2007 and 105 in 2008.
- The condition of the grass in the high pastures has improved due to the new grazing timetable.
- The change in milking from twice to once a day has increased the weight of kids born in spring 2009.



Tsewang Norboo with insurance settlement check

SLC-India

## Homestay Program

Trekkers continue to benefit the local people by participating in the popular Homestay Program and by stopping at the parachute cafés along the trekking routes. Join us for a special snow leopard trip including Homestays. Visit: [www.karmaquests.com](http://www.karmaquests.com)

The Homestay Program has attracted international media attention:



Parachute café, Ladakh

Wendy Lama

- In May, Australia television's ABC Foreign Correspondent featured SLC-India. <http://www.abc.net.au/foreign/content/2009/s2562298.htm>

- Adrian Phillips reported in the Independent Newspaper (UK). <http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/asia/on-the-trail-of-snow-leopards-in-in->

[dia-1834834.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/travel/asia/on-the-trail-of-snow-leopards-in-in-dia-1834834.html)

- The February 11, 2009 issue of the German magazine Der Standard published an article by Kurt de Swaaf on snow leopards. The article highlighted work done by the Conservancy in northern India.
- National Geographic Traveler magazine in September, 2009, highlighted the Conservancy's work in their article, Himalayan Homestays Help Protect Snow Leopards.

In July, 2009, staff of the Wildlife Conservation Network (WCN) conducted a site visit and evaluation. Their report affirmed the importance of SLC-India's conservation and educational activities targeting snow leopards and local communities.

*... Jigmet set up his spotting scope and Norbu began scanning the mountains while Jigmet told us about the predator-proofed enclosure. We heard a commotion over by the scope. We realized the villagers had spotted a snow leopard. The amazing thing about the sighting was how excited they all were. They kept saying how lucky the sighting was even though Jigmet said it was likely that the snow leopard had killed one of their yaks. It was a testament to SLC and its work in Ulley that the snow leopard was considered a lucky sighting and not a nuisance.*

**It was a testament to SLC that the snow leopard was considered a lucky sighting.**

WCN Report

Marmots are an important food source for snow leopards, especially young cats practicing their hunting skills. Weighing in at ten or more pounds, a grown marmot is a good meal!



Marmots, Ladakh

Eve Schaeffer, WCN

# Behind the Scenes

## Presentations

At the 8th Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation (ZACC) conference, held in Houston Texas in January, 2009, Rodney described the Conservancy's work in a presentation titled, *Building Sustainable Community Stewardship Programs for Snow Leopards*. Nearly 200 attendees, representing 135 organization from 27 countries, participated in this conference.

At the Defenders of Wildlife Carnivores 2009 conference in Denver, Rodney presented *Noninvasive Camera-trapping & Genetic Techniques for Estimating Snow Leopard Population Size in Tost Uul, South Gobi, Mongolia*. He moderated the Asian carnivore session at that conference, which was attended by more than 500 scientists, environmentalists and activists.

## Kudos

Congratulations to Som Ale on receiving a Rufford Small Grant (RSG) for Nature Conservation, in support of our collaborative wildlife corridor conservation work. Over the past eight years, RSGs have supported more than 900 projects in over 95 countries.

[http://www.ruffordsmallgrants.org/rsg/projects/som\\_ale](http://www.ruffordsmallgrants.org/rsg/projects/som_ale)

Congratulations to Rodney Jackson on being elected a Fellow of the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

## Publications

Camera-trapping snow leopards in the Tost Uul region of Mongolia, co-authored with B. Munkhtsog, David Mallon, Galsandorj Naranbaatar and Khurlee Gerelmaa, in the Autumn 2009 issue of CAT NEWS, publication of the Cat Specialist Group, World Conservation Union.

Som Ale published a number of scientific papers in 2009. Notably:

- Lovari, S., Boesi, R., Minder, I., Mucci, M., Randi, E., Dematteis, A., and Ale, S. B. 2009. *Restoring a keystone predator may endanger a prey species in a human-altered ecosystem: the return of the snow leopard to Sagarmatha National Park*. *Animal Conservation* 12: 559-570.
- Wolf, M. and Ale, S. B. 2009. Signs at the top: *Habitat and snow leopard activity in Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal*. *Journal of Mammalogy* 90: 604-611.
- Morris, D., Kotler, B., Brown, J. S., Sundararaj, V. and Ale, S. B. 2009. *Behavioral Indicators for Conserving Mammal Diversity*. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 1162: 334-356.



KVO Community members taking measurements for an improved corral

KVO



Marking territory

SLC-India

## Thank You for Your Support

### How You Can Help

- \$25 allows Angmo, SLC-India's Education Coordinator, to rent pack horses to carry educational materials for one school visit in Ladakh or Zaskar, India.
- \$50 buys stationery for a school in Pakistan.
- \$100 covers the cost of one village-based conservationist to collect and deliver snow leopard scats for one season.
- \$200 sends a Nepalese child to Environmental Camp.
- \$400 funds Urdu translation of teachers' manual of snow leopard conservation activities in Pakistan.
- \$1000 predator-proofs a community corral in Rolwaling.
- **Matching Donations:** Does your employer make matching donations? Some donations have been matched by Bank of America, Harder + Company and Microsoft.

# Donors

## \$25,000 or greater

Anonymous/Islands Fund, Caroline Gabel, Shared Earth Foundation, Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund

## \$10,000 to \$24,000

Australian Himalayan Foundation, Eleanor Bookwalter, Larry Bowman, The Tapeats Fund

## \$5,000 to \$9,999

Nancy Abraham & Arnold Moss, Calgary Zoological Society, Victoria Hunter & Ian Hart, Omidyar Foundation

## \$1,000 to \$4,999

Adelman Foundation, Penny Andrews, Betsy Ballenger & Chris Beale, Beagle Foundation, Mary Bookwalter, CGMK Foundation, Crushpad Winery, Doug & Pat Donaldson, Walli Finch, Kathy Gervais, Michael Hackett & David Hale, Cathryn & Carl Hilker/Angel Fund of the Cincinnati Zoo, Charles Knowles & Stephanie Kruse, John & Kellie Lehr, Glenn Nash & Cheryl Kendall, Howe Ng & Aaron Hyland, Marjorie Parker, Joyce L. Robinson, San Francisco Zoological Society, Beverly Spector & Ken Lipson, Linda Tabor-Beck, Michelangelo Volpi & Toni Cupal, Chuck & Judy Wheatley, Wild Cat Education & Conservation Fund, Wildlife Conservation Network, John & Cathy Yee

## \$500 to \$999

J. Yasmin Alexander, Anonymous (1), Bank of America Matching Grants, Dr. Georges Barth, Jim Codington, Hiroko Crispin, Stuart During & Yoshiko Kurihara, Steve Flaherty, Pawel & Lou Fludzinski, Steve Gold & Lynn Befera, Joel Isaacson & Wendy King, Rodney Jackson, Craig & Pamela Jones, Michael Linvill, Kent & Gloria Marshall, John Merjianian, Michael Meyers & Judith Brown, Greg Miller, The H & J Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, Liz Rigali, David & Linda Rosen, Susan Sakmar, Barry & Erin Sharaf, Ed & Sally Supplee, Chris & Tina Van Wolbeck

## Up to \$499

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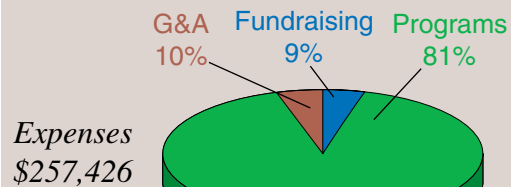
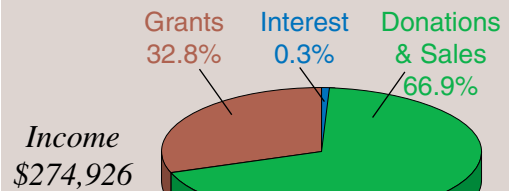
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## Donations of Equipment

ESRI for computers and GIS software  
Harold Poehlmann for Mac Mini

## Donations of Professional Services

Robert Freeman for computer maintenance  
Charleen Gavette for expertise in GIS technology and mapping  
Steve Gulick, Jerry Roe, Steve Gold and Chris Van Wolbeck for remote camera traps  
Tom & Mary Herrmann for graphic design and proposal writing  
Terrell Hillard for Conservancy website maintenance  
Jagraj Singh Jamwal and Riju Raj Jamwal for technical assistance to SLC-India  
Janet Klein for translation  
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## Event Donations from Organizations

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Betsy Ballenger & Chris Beale made a Year End donation in honor of: Irene Ballenger, Terri Capone, Maude Davis, Liza Felder, Carol & David Fulbert, Karen Leegard & Abe Claude, Anne Long, Anna & Paul Ong, Trika Smith-Burke, Pam & Dick Stevenson and Lyn Traverse.

Riam & Eric Dury asked their guests to make a gift to the Conservancy in lieu of wedding presents.

Rob & Barbara Dicyly asked friends to make a gift to the Conservancy in lieu of wedding anniversary presents.



# Snow Leopard Conservancy

18030 Comstock Avenue

Sonoma, CA 95476

Phone (707) 935-3851

Fax (707) 933-9816

[www.SnowLeopardConservancy.org](http://www.SnowLeopardConservancy.org)

A Program of the Cat Action Treasury

([www.felidae.org](http://www.felidae.org))

*The Snow Leopard Conservancy puts community-based stewardship into action through grass roots conservation initiatives, range-country environmental education, training of herders in wildlife monitoring and collaborative research blending traditional knowledge and modern science.*

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Jan Janecka

Snow leopard habitat, Mongolia.

*For a sense of scale, note the van in the bottom-left of the photo.*

## Volunteers

*Our amazing crew of volunteers put in over 730 hours to create two fundraisers and enable our participation in the Sonoma-based Katmandu Festival. Professional-quality catering for over 200 guests, auction compilation and design, guest registration and sales are among the many tasks for which volunteer assistance is crucial.*

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The Country Vet, Novato  
Nancy Kay, Sebastopol  
Mission Pet Hospital, San Francisco

Montclair Vet Hosp, Oakland  
Pets Unlimited, San Francisco  
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Park

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