Staff

Development Associate	Ayca Akin
Forest Program Coordinator	Bryan Bird
Office Manager	Rosie Brandenberger
Program Assistant	Chris Brittenburg
Executive Director	John Horning
Accountant	Merrin Johnson
Restoration Coordinator & Program Assistant	Jim Matison
Desert & Grasslands Program Coordinator	Lauren McCain, PhD
Communications Director	Susan Morgan, PhD
Conservation Director	Nicole Rosmarino, PhD
Grazing Program Coordinator	Billy Stern, MS

Board of Directors

Vice President	Jess Alford
President	Doyne Farmer, PhD
Member	Karen Lawrence
Secretary	Cristina Mormoruni
Treasurer	Thomas H. Noble

Photography credits: Jess Alford, 2-page spread: landscape, inside: wetlands, logs, dam, major donors; Bureau of Land Management, 2-page spread: grouse; Stephen Capra, inside: oil and gas; Colorado Division of Wildlife, inside: lynx: Adriel Heisey, cover, inside: desert escarpment, Rio Grande; John Horning, inside: cows, ponderosa pines; Nicole Rosmarino, inside: swift fox; Robin Silver, back cover; SkyTruth, roaded landscape.

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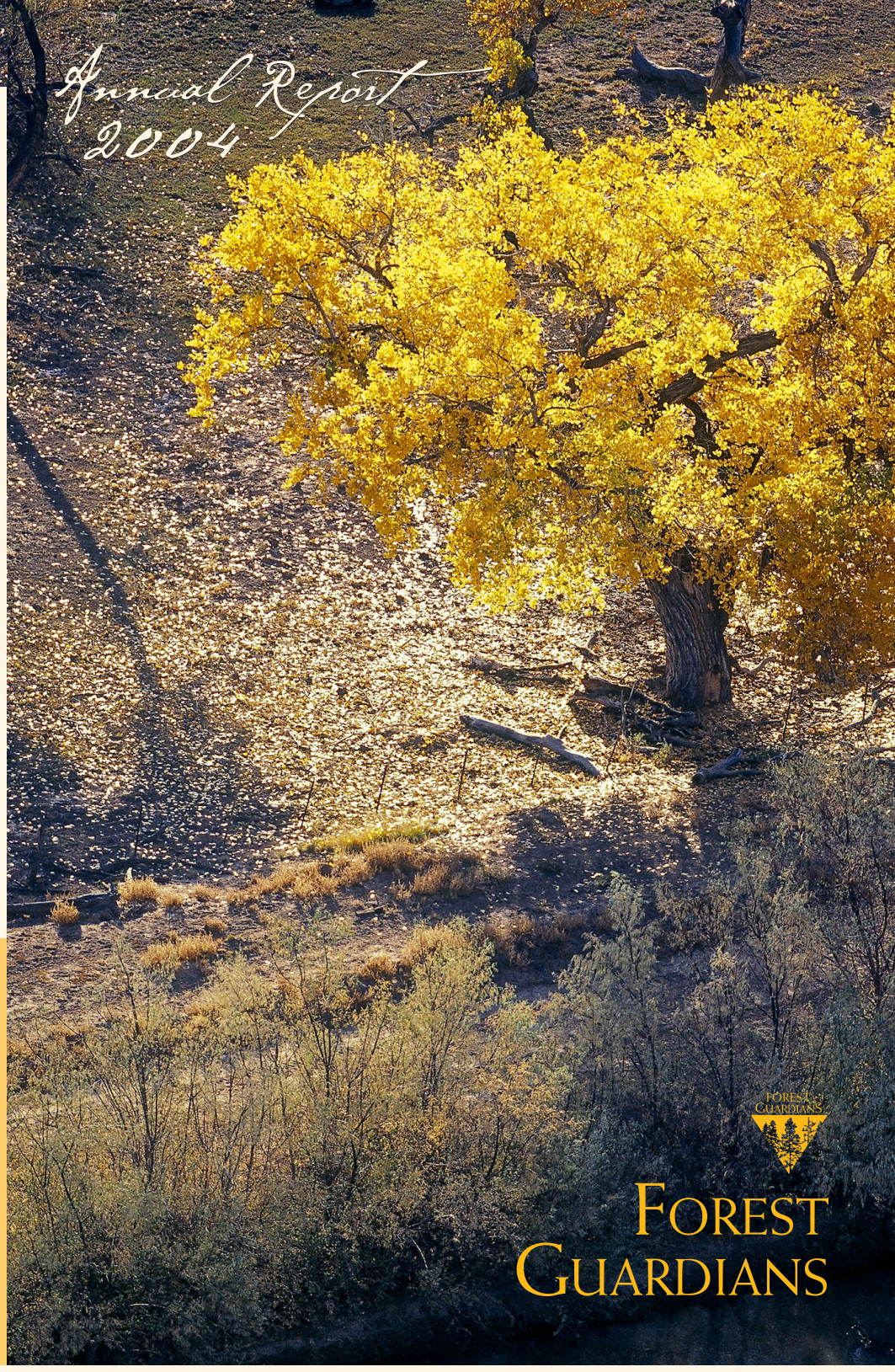
Mission Statement

Forest Guardians seeks to preserve and restore native wildlands and wildlife in the American Southwest through fundamental reform of public policies and practices.



2004: Our 15th Anniversary

This year included a celebration of our past and a reaffirmation of our biocentric values, including our belief in the inherent value of beauty and diversity—all of which gives us reason for hope for the future. As the annual report shows, we challenge destruction and protect beauty. Our excellent team of scientists, policy experts, and advocates continues to implement our vision of healthy southwestern wildlands and wildlife.

Forest Guardians' Highlights from 2004:

FORESTS

- Prevailed in two separate lawsuits that halted logging, protecting ancient forest habitat on the Santa Fe and San Juan National Forests in New Mexico and Colorado.
- Initiated a comprehensive review of Management Indicator Species and wildlife monitoring programs on the national forests of the Four Corners states.
- Joined a broad coalition of conservation organizations participating in the revision of land management plans for the Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal National Forests in Utah, and proposed a citizen's alternative to be considered by the agency.

GRAZING

- Continued a multi-year campaign to enforce grazing restrictions on 21 million acres of southwestern national forests by filing a court challenge to a flawed plan that allows grazing to continue, harming endangered wildlife.
- Through our Watershed Guardians program, trained dozens of volunteers to monitor and photograph streams and rivers throughout New Mexico and Arizona.
- Released a major report "Grazing out of Control: Failed Grazing Management on The National Forests of New Mexico and Arizona – 1999-2003."
- Hosted "RangeNet 2004: Envisioning Wild Landscapes: Momentum for Change," a conference for public lands grazing activists in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

DESERTS AND GRASSLANDS

- Released a comprehensive report critiquing the BLM's management of hundreds of "Areas of Critical Environmental Concern" scattered across millions of acres in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona.
- Challenged oil and gas leasing by the Bureau of Land Management on over 180,000 acres of land, including Otero Mesa, lands with sensitive wildlife habitat, and BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

RIVERS

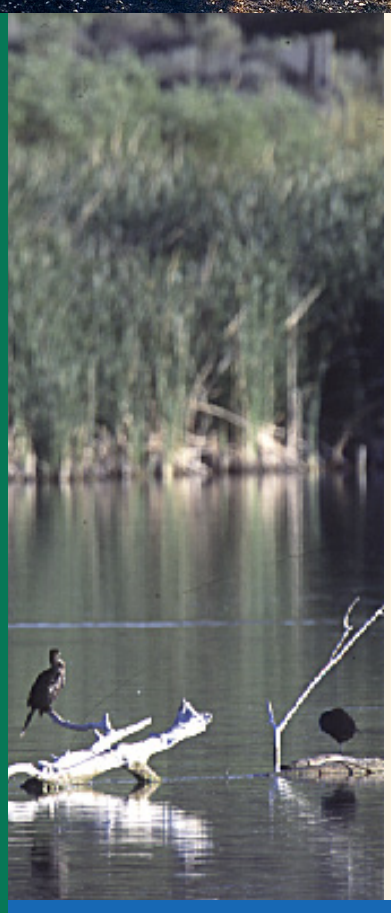
- Initiated discussions with the City of Albuquerque and other municipalities along the Rio Grande to devise new mechanisms to ensure the river would have rights to its own water, thereby helping to protect endangered fish and wildlife.
- Joined a national coalition formally asking the Environmental Protection Agency to prohibit the dumping of waste from coal fired power plants, including New Mexico's San Juan generating station near Farmington.

RESTORATION

- Completed a major phase of restoration on the Santa Fe River Preserve by removing a small levee and more than 4,000 non-native trees and by planting cottonwoods, willows, and native trees with the help of local schools and hundreds of volunteers.
- Continued restoration of the Rio Puerco Preserve by removing non-native trees and planting thousands of cottonwoods and willows with the help of hundreds of volunteers.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

- Filed scientific petitions, initiated numerous legal actions, and engaged citizens in efforts to protect four species of prairie dogs, including the Utah, Gunnison's, black-tailed, and white-tailed, whose habitats cover a seven-state region from Canada to Mexico.
- Initiated our Western Grouse Campaign, linking efforts to protect the critically imperiled desert dwelling lesser prairie chicken, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, and the greater sage grouse.
- Participated in congressional hearings and state planning processes in New Mexico and Colorado to advocate for full implementation of the federal Endangered Species Act and greater protection of species under state wildlife protection laws.



Support & Revenue

GRANTS & DONATIONS

Grants	$398,247
Memberships and Donations	$265,875
Total Public Support	$664,122

REVENUE

Workshops	$ 4,680
Investment Income	$ 13,560
Reimbursed Expenses	$ 8,700
Special Events Income	$ 35,252
Total Revenue	$ 62,192
Total 2004 Income	**$726,314**

Expenses

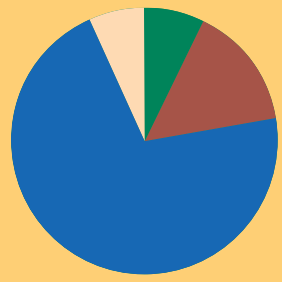
PROGRAM SERVICES

Conservation Programs	$421,702
Education	$ 54,000
Total Program Services	$475,702

SUPPORTING SERVICES

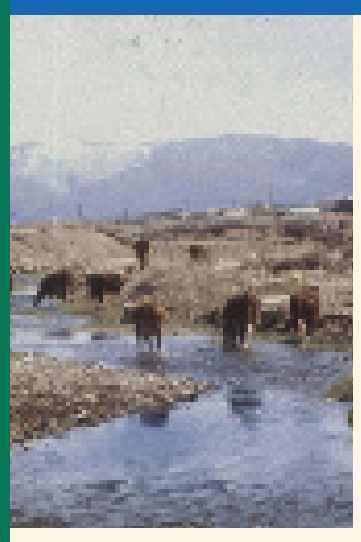
Administration	$ 69,900
Fundraising	$ 73,640
Total Supporting Services	$143,540
Total Expenses	**$619,242**
Net Assets, 12/31/03	$333,268
Net Assets, 12/31/04	$432,900
Endowment, 12/31/03	$152,498
Endowment, 12/31/04	$203,026

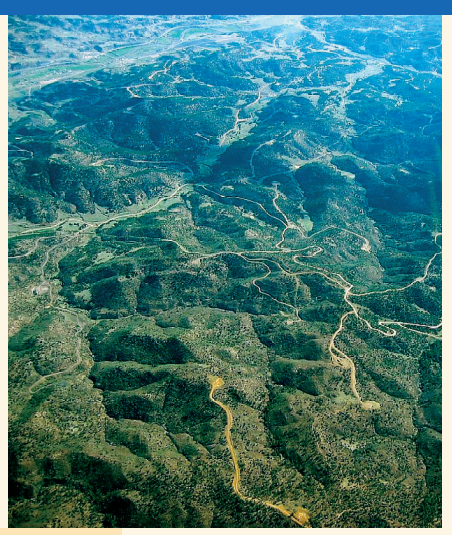
2004 Expenses by Program



Conservation	68%
Education	9%
Fundraising	12%
Administration	11%

Challenging Destruction





Doyne Farmer & Letty Belin

To Doyne Farmer and Letty Belin, the Southwest is the most beautiful place in the world. Doyne, who grew up in Silver City and spent his childhood hiking through the Gila, met Letty in Massachusetts and brought her to New Mexico. They have lived in Santa Fe for 21 years where Doyne is currently McKinsey Professor at the Santa Fe Institute and is Forest Guardians' board president. Letty is an environmental attorney who has worked with Forest Guardians since its inception and is proud of the organization's development in recent years toward a more collaborative strategy. She has been involved in a variety of issues but believes all conservation in the Southwest begins and ends with water. Doyne admires Forest Guardians' "lean and mean" effectiveness and likes making contributions to important projects, such as grazing reform and river protection, while working with people he likes, trusts, and respects. In January 2003, Doyne and Letty created the Eli Farmer Endowment to honor the spirit of their eldest son. Since then their generous gift has enhanced Forest Guardians financial stability.

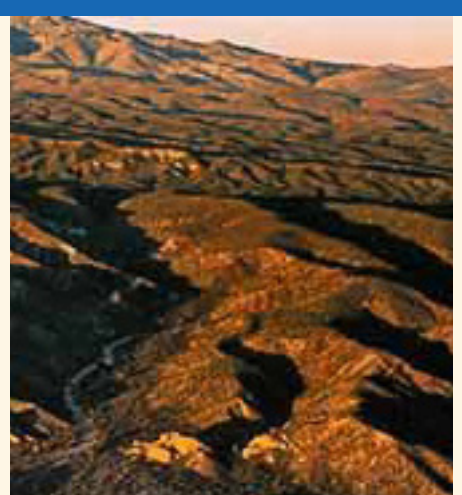
Ways to Give

Forest Guardians is grateful for the generosity of friends, foundations and businesses. You can provide support in a variety of ways for our programs that protect and restore the Southwest you love. Make a pledge or contribution; join our *Keystone Guardians monthly giving*; join our *Aldo Leopold Society* by giving $1,000 or more; honor your loved ones through our Memorial Tree Planting Program; donate goods, services, or appreciated stock; make a bequest; or volunteer your time. The diversified base of support that you provide, as with the diversity of all life, is vital to our health and growth. For more information on these giving options, please visit our website at www.fguardians.org.

Annual Operating Income

O'Dea Family: Kim, Sean, Janet

Thirteen years ago, Gary O'Dea and his wife, Kim, fell in love with New Mexico. They kayaked the Rio Grande, camped at Fenton Lake, and hiked the Sandia Mountains well before moving to Corrales. In New Mexico, Gary followed his passion by legally defending clean water, clean air, and endangered species, particularly the silvery minnow, which he felt represented life along the Rio Grande. Kim taught English as a second language, and together they raised their son, Sean, and worked to give back to their community.

After Gary died suddenly in 2004, Kim and Sean and Gary's mother, Janet, joined Forest Guardians. Gary represented Forest Guardians' legal initiatives over the years, and now his family has made a lifetime pledge to donate monthly and asked for donations in his memory. They are proud and happy to be a part of the Rio Puerco restoration planting each year. His family's relationship with Forest Guardians allows them to continue celebrating Gary's life and to carry forward the spirit of his commitment to protect precious creatures and landscapes in the Southwest.

Protecting Beauty