McDowell Sonoran Conservancy
2012 Annual Report
Thanks to the combined efforts of our Stewards, donors, Board of Directors, staff, and research associates, the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy had another successful year ending in 2012. As you can see by the accompanying numbers and charts, we ended the year with assets of $1.23 million, up $196,041 from 2011. Our income, which includes contributed hours and services, was $1.29 million, up $72,136 from the previous year. A copy of our full, audited 2012 financial statements can be obtained by contacting Mike Nolan.

To see how MSC has flourished in our mission to provide stewardship for Scottsdale’s McDowell Sonoran Preserve, however, we need to look beyond the financial numbers. The Preserve continues to grow; during our fiscal year ending 2012 Scottsdale added 4,410 acres to the Preserve and further added 6,393 by the end of calendar 2012, an increase of 63% in just 12 months.

Our Stewards are supported by sophisticated training and continuing education programs that provide the knowledge they need to serve the Preserve. This year the Stewards gave nearly 30,000 hours of their time, increasing the value of donated services we provide by more than 10% over the previous year, to $627,535. They devoted thousands of hours to patrolling trails, repairing damaged trails, and providing a welcoming presence, answering questions and conducting many, many outreach programs and other key activities.

Working with scientists and institutional partners of our McDowell Sonoran Field Institute, Stewards as citizen-scientists helped complete the second year of a biological inventory of the Preserve’s flora and fauna, launched efforts to monitor human impacts along trails and along boundaries with urban development, and helped rediscover the forgotten route of the 150-year-old Stoneman military road.

Looking forward, MSC will have another high-growth year as we continue to assist our partners at the City in stewarding the existing 27,800 acres of the Preserve and the 2,365 acres of new land Scottsdale hopes to add to the Preserve in the coming year. We currently steward about 60 miles of trails and three major trailheads with a plan to add some 150 miles of trails and a fourth major trailhead in the not very distant future. We will have more science and knowledge at our fingertips through the growth and development of the Field Institute to help us do a better and better job. We thank all of our supporters; those who donate their hours and those who donate their dollars. It is because of them that we are able to accomplish our mission to steward the Preserve for this and future generations.

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