



Staff Activities During 2005

- At the end of January, LBF sponsored and participated in the 7th annual Grupo Tortugero meeting in Loreto, which focused on all the regional efforts to conserve endangered sea turtle species and their habitat.
- In February, Mark represented the Foundation at a Baja California Conservation Summit. A day and a half were spent listening to presentations from conservation groups reporting on their work throughout Baja California and the Sea of Cortez. The two-day meeting closed with a retreat for funders-only to discuss their funding priorities and opportunities for collaboration.
- In March, Mark presented a paper on the Loreto Bay Foundation model at the “North American Marine Protected Areas Network: Symposium on financing and economic benefits of Marine Protected Areas” in Loreto. The North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation organized the Symposium and the presentation is available on their website.¹
- On March 15, Mark gave a similar presentation on the Loreto Bay Foundation to the entire staff of Loreto Bay Company (the developer/benefactor).
- Mark met with Brett Jenks of RARE to discuss potential support from the Loreto Bay Foundation for a “Pride Campaign” (locals protecting local ecosystems for the benefits of locals) in Loreto. RARE has established successful, award-winning Pride Campaigns in a wide array of other locations.
- In July, Mark met with Gustavo Alanis Ortega of CEMDA (the Mexican Center for Environmental Law) regarding its work on marine waters and beaches.
- In August, Mark represented the LBF at a meeting in Los Cabos regarding the creation of a trust fund, to be called “FONMAR” that will receive funds from sportfishing licenses and then make grants and investments intended for conservation.
- With financial support from the Packard Foundation, LBF commissioned a rapid assessment of the economic benefits of Marine Protected Areas from the Stanford University Center for Ecotourism and Sustainable Development.
- In September, LBF met with grantees, fund benefactors and Loreto community representatives (Loreto, BCS, Mexico).
- LBF began communicating with Banner Health regarding potential in-kind donations for the new hospital.
- Mark prepared a letter to Loreto Bay Company regarding opportunities to improve worker housing
- LBF continued to work with the Stanford University Center for Ecotourism and Sustainable Development on a rapid assessment of the benefits of Marine Protected Areas in generating direct and indirect income.
- In October, LBF was a participant at a donors’ round table meeting that was part of The Ocean Policy Summit 2005 in Lisbon, Portugal, which in turn was part of preparations for the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands meeting that took place in Paris in January 2006.
- LBF communicated with Environment Now! Foundation regarding establishment of water keeper alliance members in Baja California.
- Mark was interviewed by Saltwater Flyfishing Magazine regarding LBF support for the Loreto Bay National Marine Park.
- In October, LBF conducted site visits and meetings with NRDC, Wildcoast, ProNatura, and Pro Peninsula.
- In November, Mark met with Ocean Alliance (including LBF board member Iain Kerr) re outcomes of research from the Voyage of the Odyssey including threats to the Sea of Cortez.
- LBF completed three research projects:
 - Research regarding overfishing in the Loreto Bay National Marine Park
 - Research regarding micro-enterprise credit lending in Loreto
 - Research re best environmental practices for golf courses
- LBF finalized announcement of inaugural grants, websites, etc. for foundation launch.
- We continued work on special fundraising efforts related to a new hospital for Loreto.
- The Foundation reviewed grantee inquiries.
- December brought the official launch of LBF and its website (in English and Spanish).

¹ http://www.cec.org/files/PDF/BIODIVERSITY/Mark-Spalding_en.pdf