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Jim Torgerson Stoel Rives Dear Island Conservation Friends,

Thank you! As Island Conservation's new CEO, I'm thrilled to share the impact your partnership and support has enabled in 2024. Thanks to you, we've made incredible strides for nature and island communities worldwide.

One of our most inspiring achievements this year comes from Loosiep Island in Ulithi Atoll, where the community is seeing profound ecological recovery. With invasive rodents now gone, islanders have successfully started planting and harvesting bananas, sweet potatoes, and okra, all crops once ravaged by invasive species. Wildlife has also rebounded. For the first time in over fifty years, community elder Salestine Soholfal observed turtles hatching on the island—a powerful symbol of hope and renewal.

Biodiversity is the foundation of healthy, functioning ecosystems that provide climate resilience and support island communities. Across Chile, Puerto Rico, and French Polynesia, we also saw a remarkable return of threatened seabirds on islands where they haven't nested in decades, thanks to our avian social attraction techniques. These native birds bring important nutrients from the sea to the land through their guano. These nutrients enrich the soil, feed the plants, and run off to bolster the marine environment, resulting in more and larger fish, faster growing coral reefs, and greater resilience to warming temperatures. Everything is connected.

To that end, our Island-Ocean Connection Challenge campaign to restore 40 globally significant island-ocean ecosystems by 2030 welcomed 8 new projects this year – bringing the total projects to 17 and almost halfway to our goal! You may have noticed we look a little different these days. To better describe why we do our work and to represent the many benefits of restoring islands, we launched a refreshed strategic vision, brand, and website this year, positioning us to create an even greater impact.

Looking ahead, we're excited to tackle ambitious projects, like restoring Peru's Guano Islands where restoration is badly needed to recover important seabird populations and help local communities that depend on these islands and their birds. All this work is possible because of your support. By donating today, you bring us closer to a healthier, more resilient planet. Your generosity is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for your continued commitment to restoring islands for nature and people worldwide.

With gratitude,



**Dr. Penny Becker** CEO, Island Conservation

