



Wildlife Rescue

In April we took part in an operation in the Vado Market in Yurimaguas, organized by the Environmental Public Prosecutor of Alto Amazonas and the Ecological Police DIVMA of San Martin. During the operation we rescued a capuchin, two parrots and confiscated 10 kg of bush meat of various species.

The few species that we found in the market are a good indication that we are beginning to see a reduction in levels of trafficking, as opposed to previous operations wherein we found hundreds of animals each time. In addition to these kinds of operations, the Prosecutor is currently prosecuting three known wildlife traffickers in Yurimaguas. We are very happy to collaborate with these excellent authorities in the fight against wildlife traffic in Yurimaguas and we will continue visiting the city.

Overall we helped in the rescue, care and transport of 30 animals in the last three months including a Critically Endangered San Martin titi monkey, three Poeppig's woolly monkeys and a howler monkey.

NPC Awarded “Virginia McKenna Award for Compassionate Conservation”



Great news and recognition for NPC! We have been awarded this year's Virginia McKenna award for compassionate conservation by the Born Free Foundation in recognition of our efforts towards conservation through combining research, animal rescue, land protection and social development in Peru.

We believe that animal welfare and conservation need to be treated together and are not mutually exclusive. By working for the rescue and long term care of trafficked species we aim to minimize the effects of the illegal trade on endangered species, and by conserving forests we hope to provide a safe haven for animals where their capture and related suffering is prevented. We are very happy to be recognised for our efforts to use an ethical, inclusive, compassionate and passionate approach in all aspects of our work.



Capacity building workshop for wildlife authorities and rescue centres

On the 5th to the 7th of April we gave a 3 day workshop on the care of recently rescued fauna.

The workshop was given to the wildlife authorities, environmental police and rescue centres of San Martin region, Peru. Each day's activities were divided between theoretical and practical sessions focused on biosecurity, basic health care and nutrition for rescued animals. During practical sessions, the authorities learned how to handle rescued animals in the correct way; safest both for the animals and the handlers, and how to make a preliminary evaluation of the health of recently rescued animals and simple medical treatments for the most common issues that could easily save lives. The course took place in the Chuyachaqui rescue centre where we could work with the animals and at the same time check the health of and treat them.

The workshop was organized by the Regional Environmental Authorities of San Martin and NPC with classes given by NPC vets Patricia Mendoza and Yumi Matsuno and our project director Noga Shanee.

We owe a big thank you to Luis Mendo and Vladimir Palomino, to the Chuyachaqui rescue centre as well as to all the enthusiastic participants. It was great fun and a very important workshop.



Sterilisation of street dogs and cats

As part of our support for the community Yambrasbamba for their great efforts in conservation, we recently ran a first sterilization campaign of domestic pets in the community. During the campaign 8 dogs and 2 cats were sterilized and others received general veterinary care.

A good veterinary care and control population size of pets is exceptionally important in areas of high biodiversity, near forests, as these animals go into the woods to hunt frequently and can transmit diseases to wildlife which can result in risky epidemics for wildlife populations.

We are very grateful to vets Ana Priscila Aguilar Peralta, Giancarlo Inga, Patricia Mendoza and Kevin Diaz Pelaez Malpica who operated on the animals and kindly donated their time, equipment and materials.

This project is very important and earned lot of interest from people, so we want to continue to sterilize dogs and cats in the surrounding villages. So far we have not received any funds for sterilization and surgery expenses were covered by veterinarians, so please consider donating to this project.



Advancements in field research

Amanda Fegan and Tessy Espinal are two thesis students who are currently developing their research on yellow tailed woolly monkey behaviour and diet at our investigation base El Toro. Amanda is currently studying for her masters degree in Primate Behaviour, Biology, and Conservation from the University of Roehampton in England. For this, she is studying the types and prevalence of parasites in yellow tailed woolly monkeys and seeing whether ranging behaviour, percentage of feeding time, or frequency of geophagy (earth-eating) has any effect. Tessy is a biology student from the Federico Villa Real National University. She is doing her Final dissertation in behaviour and diet, and it would be complementary to other previous studies in this topic, completed in the same area.

Mary Brown is carrying out her Masters research at the Jardines Angel del Sol conservation concession in San Martin. Her investigation focuses on the differences in primate diversity, abundance and distribution in and around the reserve. It is probable that primate numbers increase the closer to the reserve, and conversely further away from villages. This information can be used for future monitoring of conservation impact in the area through measuring changes in primate presence over time as the activities of local conservationist's take effect.

In May we carried out a rapid census to estimate the population of the Critically Endangered San Martin titi monkey (*Plecturocebus oenanthe*) at the Pucunucho private conservation area owned by local NGO Amazonicos por la Amazonia (AMPA). This is the third survey of this type that we have carried out since 2011, and we hope to be able to monitor the local population of this species in this way.

Educational Programme

A three week education campaign took place between the 14th of April and the 6th of May 2016, led by Yeissy Sarmiento with help from our entire team. The objective of this education campaign was to support the conservation initiatives of locally run reserves and anti-trafficking work. This was done by raising awareness of conservation issues in schoolchildren in towns and villages neighbouring these initiatives. Classes on these issues were delivered through games, videos and storytelling, with adaptations being made to the program depending on the age of the children and class sizes.

We visited the villages El Pintor and Delta, La Esperanza, Buenos Aires, La Perla del Imaza, Santa Rosa, La Florida, Nueva Lima, Saposoa, Ricardo Palma, Alto el Sol and Sauce, reaching 1624 children and 145 adults. Our English teaching programme, run by Carmen Callejo, is still taking place in primary and secondary schools of the Yamborasbamba community, benefiting more than 300 children and youth. Learning is achieved through art, acting, singing presenting, playing, pairing children with pen pals on the other side of the globe to write to, and many more activities. The children show great progress and are having lots of fun.

