

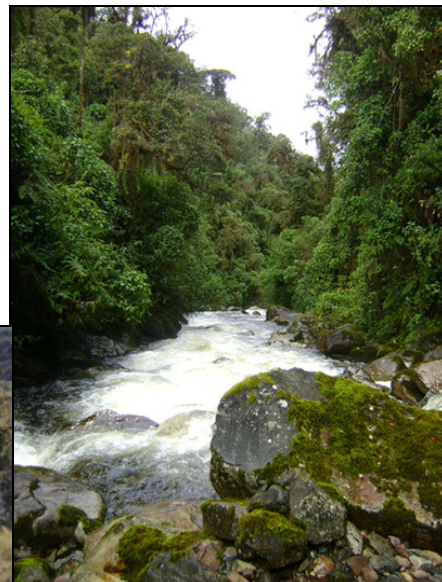
Newsletter

Neotropical Primate Conservation



Research

This September, NPC's Sam Shanee led a team of biologists from San Marcos University, Trujillo University and Peruvian NGO *Amazónicos por la Amazonía* (AMPA) on an expedition deep into the mountains to carry out the first biological inventory since the creation of the new conservation concession "El Breo". The research area was so remote that it took four days of walking through rugged terrain and deep forest just to get there! Although the information gathered is still being analysed, many exciting species were found and there is the possibility that some of these will be new to science.



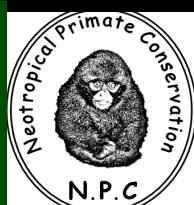
The way to El Breo. Photos: Sam Shanee



Peruvian night monkey. Photo Andrew Walmsley

We continue with our commitment to conservation based on results of scientific studies. In July and August, Peruvian veterinarian Jessica Sanchez Larrañaga carried out a study on common intestinal parasites found in the both yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*) and Peruvian night monkey (*Aotus miconax*), to assess the differences in health of primates living in primary forests and those in secondary forests in La Esperanza.

Also this summer, a team of students from Oxford Brookes University's Primate Conservation Masters program completed studies which will add to our growing knowledge of the ecology of yellow tailed woolly monkeys and Peruvian night monkeys. The results from these and other studies will be published soon, thus allowing other conservationists access to valuable information.



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Environmental Education

Our environmental cinema program is now finished but we would like to thank biology student Karla Ramirez from Lima for her great work in organizing these events at our headquarters in La Esperanza, Peru. The cinema ran every Sunday for 4 months. Fun films with environmental messages were shown in addition to custom-made short works dealing with conservation issues specific to the region. These films have helped to strengthen the children's knowledge about and pride in their environment. The series finished with a special party which included 'pin the tail on the monkey' and other games.

Party in La Esperanza and environmental education.
Photos: Patricia Neyra

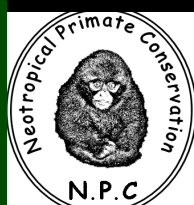


During the month of August we conducted environmental education workshops with children in elementary schools from Yamborasbamba, Vilcaniza, Agua Dulce and Shucayacu villages. The workshops were conducted by Jessica Sanchez Larrañaga and Patricia Vera Tudela. Children learned about the environment and its importance for humanity. Together with the children, we raised and discussed ideas of how to protect the forests from clear cutting and the hunting of wild animals such as yellow-tailed woolly monkey.

The University *Toribio Rodriguez de Mendoza de Amazonas* has renewed its contract with us and will continue to send final year students to our project sites to carry out their research projects and practical exams in Education, Forestry and Environmental Engineering. We celebrated the new agreement with a seminar held at the University where we presented our work and advances in the project as well as the results of a parasitological study conducted by NPC and University staff.

June 9th saw the first "Monkeys, Roots and Music" festival at the Koko Kinto cultural bar in the centre of Lima. Organised by volunteer Karla Ramirez, in coordination with the collective "Aloardi", the festival involved art installations, music and of course monkey pictures. NPC donated several photos to the event. Other works were shown by Alejandro Parodi and Patricia Neyra. Videos of the venue and installations can be seen at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hro70VvgEq8>.



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Helping the Alto Mayo Protected Forest

NPC took part in a meeting between the management committee of the the Alto Mayo Protected Forest (BPAM), members of the neighbouring Chisquilla community and the district municipality. During this meeting members of the Chisquilla community presented their own initiative for a communal reserve which they are conserving on the border of BPAM and for which they would like to obtain legal protection. We offered our support and expertise on the process of registering the reserve, as well as conducting presentations and workshops on environmental education. The meeting finished with the formation of a committee that will organize and try to fund these issues. NPC is a member of the board of this new committee.

To help strengthen environmental awareness in Chisquilla and encourage further conservation initiatives we are supporting two students teachers doing their practical work in the community's primary school, focusing on environmental education, local fauna and flora and practical ways in which children can help conservation.



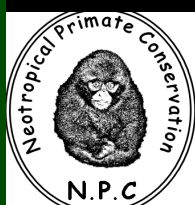
Forests of BPAM. Photo: Noga Shanee

Volunteer Expeditions

There are still a few spaces left for 2012 volunteers! We need people to help us collect data on the Critically Endangered yellow-tailed woolly monkey, to participate in habitat restoration and reforestation, and to assist in improving local awareness of environmental issues through education activities in schools.

Two 6-week-long expeditions starting January 2012 and mid February 2012 are available.

For more information see www.neoprimate.org/volunteering, or contact Nina Poletti, nina.poletti@gmail.com



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