

Newsletter

Neotropical Primate Conservation



Neotropical Primate Conservation celebrated its 4th birthday on June 22nd! Thank you to all our friends and supporters over the years. We hope for many productive years to come.

Creation of new conservation Reserves

Thanks in part to NPC's hard work over the past years, this month the Peruvian ministry of the environment announced two resolutions, officially creating community run conservation areas. Both will be instrumental in protecting yellow tailed woolly monkeys and other endangered flora and fauna unique to Northeastern Peru.

The first resolution (Resolución Ministerial N°123-2011-MINAM) creates the Private Conservation Area "*Hierba Buena-Allpayacu*". This reserve covers an area of 2,282.12 hectares of cloud forests in the community of Corosha, Amazonas department. We began work in this area in 2007/8 and have been joined by other institutions, headed by The Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA) to help register the reserve.



Panoramic view of *Hierba Buena-Allpayacu*, photo Sam Shanee/ NPC

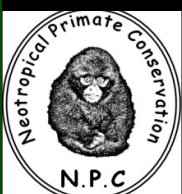
The reserve is home to two endemic primate species, the yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*) and the Peruvian night monkey (*Aotus miconax*) and many spectacular bird species including the long whiskered owl (*Xenoglaux loweryi*) and the Pale-billed Antpitta (*Grallaria carrikerii*). The reserve also protects other species of flora and fauna, preserves the communities water resources, which are also used as the source of hydroelectric energy as well as conserving the community's cultural heritage. This area is the first of a series of community run reserves NPC is working to create in the Northeastern Peru.

Visitors who wish to visit *Hierba Buena-Allpayacu* can contact us through our website to arrange for guides and accommodation. 100% of profits from tourism go directly to the members of the community.



The second resolution (Resolución Ministerial N°140-2011-MINAM) creates a private conservation area in Amazonas. Located in the community of Copallin, the protected area covers 11,549.21 ha of mountain forests and is home to many species including the yellow tailed and Peruvian night monkeys. NPC were pleased to help this project run by Peruvian NGO APECO (*Asociacion Peruana para la Conservacion de la Naturaleza*) with help from SPDA.

Panaoramic view of Copallin ACP. Photo Sam Shanee/NPC



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This month we officially filed a request for a new 440 ha Conservation Concession in an area of dry forest near the village of Delta, Amazonas department. The request is in the name of Senor Rosas Torres Guerrero, a local farmer who has been protecting the area for the last 10 years and has asked for NPC's help in gaining legal recognition. The area will be called "Iguahuana -Delta's Dry Forests". Iguahuana is the local name of an endemic tree species abundant in the area.

The forests in the area are classed as Dry Forest of the Marañon River Valley, and they suffer from extremely high rates of destruction. This will be the first protected area for this habitat type. We hope that the authorities will approve the request promptly. We wish to thank all the people that helped in the elaboration of this request.



Panoramic view of Delta dry forests. Photo Noga Shanee/NPC.

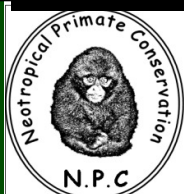
Research

Research at our La Esperanza site continues with studies on the yellow tailed woolly monkeys and Peruvian night monkeys continue. An international group of postgraduate researchers are currently making comparative studies of both species at our site and the *Cordillera de Colan* National Sanctuary. This is not only the first detailed study of these species in the National Sanctuary but will give the first comparable data for both species at different sites, an important step in saving these endangered primates from extinction.

We also had a lucky *Oncilla* (*Leopardus tigrinus*) sighting last February by Samuel Jones, who came to take part in one of our volunteer expeditions. As we have recently learnt, this represents the first confirmed sighting of this elusive wild cat species in the whole of northern Peru and a new opportunity to aid in its conservation and conservation of all the other remarkable species it shares these forests with.



Oncilla (*Leopardus tigrinus*). Photos Sam Jones.



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Education

Education volunteer Karla Ramirez from Lima has produced two short films about our work in Peru and conservation in general. These videos can be seen on our website at <http://neoprimate.org/archives/306/> and on YouTube. Both videos were produced during Karla's time at our Yellow Tailed Woolly Monkey Project site in La Esperanza, Peru and she will be returning to the site to continue her excellent work in environmental education.



Volunteer Karla Ramirez interviews children for her video.

We are also continuing our environmental education work with the University of Amazonas. A group of three final year student teachers are currently in the villages of La Florida and Progreso teaching daily classes to school children and making evening activities for parents. Both villages are in the buffer zones of new reserves we are helping to make and understanding the need for conservation is integral to the success of any protected area.

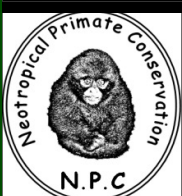


Join us on Facebook! NPC now has its own Facebook page. You can "like" NPC and share news and views and see what the NPC team are up to. Just sign into your Facebook account and go to Neotropical Primate Conservation page. Be sure to 'Like' us!



As always we thank everyone who has helped us over the last 4 years and hope that you will continue to support our work in the coming years. You can make donations through our website using Paypal or direct to our bank.

Go to <http://neoprimate.org/take-action/donations> to see how you can help and remember 100% of donations get spent on conservation: All NPC staff work voluntarily!!



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