



COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

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In order to promote global biodiversity and sustainable land use, Community Conservation catalyzes, facilitates and empowers local people to manage and conserve natural resources within the social, cultural and economic context of their communities.

CC Update
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Kickapoo Chautauqua Launches Kickapoo Community Sanctuary

Early talks between CC Director Rob Horwich and community actor/musician Carl Schlect came to fruition in 2009 with five presentations of the Kickapoo Chautauqua at locations



Davey Schmitz confronts bear (Kat Tigerman)

along the 90 mile Kickapoo River valley. Schlect and Davey Schmitz created a program of original skits and music which kept the collective audiences of over 500 valley residents laughing. Original music about the Stump Dodger, a railroad that brought the valley together in the first half of the 20th Century, the Kickapoo River flooding and the Community Sanctuary concept were a few of the songs that the audiences appreciated. Skits about prehistoric animals, Native Americans, French Voyageurs and some antics of modern valley residents kept everyone laughing.

The "Maple Syrup Opera" poked fun at the competition of humans and wildlife and a raucous view of old time dances at Bell Center featured lively music, dance and mock fights.

A humorous song about the habitual flooding of the Kickapoo River urged valley residents to laugh now that the seriousness has passed. In a grand finale, Carl Schlect sang an original song about neighbors helping each other during the flood. Many joined in an up swell of unity bringing the show to a positive close.

These shows are a way to introduce the "Kickapoo Community Sanctuary", a voluntary program to bring valley residents together to protect the Kickapoo Valley. CC Director Horwich gave a presentation and discussion on the concept. Many attendees signed a pledge to protect the valley area. The long range plan for the "Kickapoo Community Sanctuary" will entail a number of programs, such as monitoring of valley biota and water quality, potential community co-management of local protected areas and other conservation programs.

The "Kickapoo Community Sanctuary" arose from past CC experiences in working with communities abroad. Encouraging valley resi-

dents to identify with the watershed area, the project embodies a holistic conservation approach. During the training of Kickapoo Valley residents in 2008, a proposal was developed. Conservation tools proposed include: introduction of The Natural Step to villages and townships, developing landowner programs to create protected area buffer zones, conservation and sustainability education, appropriate development, encouraging conservation easements, community monitoring research programs, encouraging better waste management, and alternative energy and transportation programs.

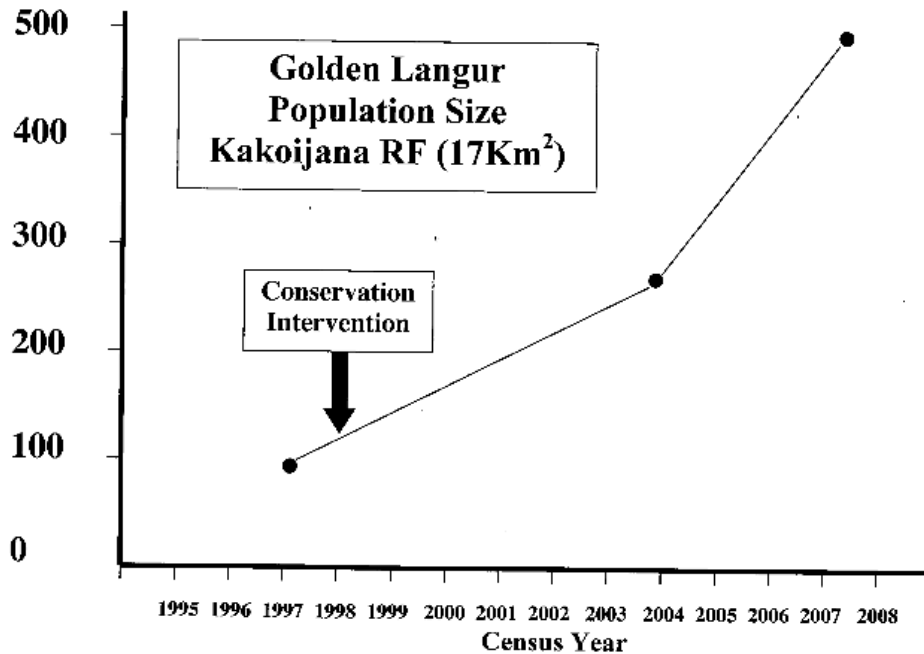
In addition to the Chautauqua to create valley-wide awareness we have also established a Natural Step Study group in the upper valley. There is also work on creating a buffer area with landowners around the Hogsback Prairie, a Nature Conservancy protected area, recently turned over to the DNR.



Chautauqua Finale Carl Schlect (center) with Sara Root and Jesse Downs

ACT LOCALLY: You, too, can become a community conservationist in your area!

Indian Golden Langur Population Increasing



In India, a recent census of the Indian Golden langur population by the Assam Forestry Department has conservatively estimated the Indian langur population at 2200 animals in 2008. This is up from estimations in 1997 of 500 animals and of 1500 estimated in 1999 by a survey of the Indo-US Primate Project. The 2008 estimate from a 2 week survey is conservative since it recorded only 30% of a known population of langurs in the 17km² Kakoijana Reserve Forest. Thus, the true total Indian population may be as high as 3500 langurs, an encouraging increase in a span of a few years.

The Kakoijana population has been continuously censused by members of Natures Foster and members of the 28 communities surrounding the Kakoijana forest. That population of Golden Langurs has increased from under 100 in 1997 to almost 500 in 2008 due to a direct protection program of the 28 communities forming the Pateswari Golden Langur Green Conservation Federation. Through a model reforestation and patrolling protection system this federation has directly caused an increase in forest canopy from 5% in 1998 to 70% in

2008. Additionally, other communities surrounding other nearby Reserve Forests are trying to begin similar programs. These areas may benefit from the Kakoijana langur population since a fringe langur group has migrated in a corridor looking for a home in nearby forests. This gives us some idea of existing corridors for future conservation efforts to focus on. An effort can be made to connect isolated forests in the southern range of the species. Within the main Indian range in the Manas Biosphere Reserve along the Bhutan border, we expect increases in langurs and other wildlife such as elephants. This 200,000 hectare area is now almost fully protected by 10 community groups financially supported by the Bodoland Territorial Council and the US Fish and Wildlife Service grants.

These 10 groups, led by President Rajen Islari of Green Forest Conservation, have been meeting together to share their experiences and strengthen their protection programs. CC has submitted a proposal to Shri Kampa Borgoyari of the Bodoland Territorial Council to create a co-management group of these organizations to manage the Manas Biosphere Reserve.

CC Training on Catalyzing Successful Community Conservation Projects

In October 2005, the CC Board felt it important to share CC's expertise and directed CC Director, Horwich to create a short course to help activist conservationists catalyze successful community conservation projects. Since then, CC has been offering short courses to conservationists on what it has learned in the past 25 years developing on-going successful community conservation projects.

The first course in 2006 for the Society of Conservation Biologists was coordinated by Horwich and Board member Scott Bernstein. In 2008, with a grant from Sea World & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund, Horwich and CC Associate Dr. Jon Lyon coordinated a 3 day course in SW Madagascar for members of WWF, the Madagascar Park staff and regional NGOs. In 2009 another course workshop was coordinated with Mark Fenn for Fanamby a Madagascar NGO. A fourth course was given in Washington DC for the National Council of Science and the Environment. In 2009, Horwich also led a course for the Assoc. of Mexican Primatologists in Villahermosa and will lead a workshop in Peru in 2009.

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Madagascar Community Lemur Research Initiated

With grants from Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation and Primate Conservation International, CC has begun a project for community monitoring of ring tailed lemurs in the Tulear South Community Protected Area. The main goal of the research is the protection of the low density population of lemurs in the very dry spiny forest. It is being facilitated



under the supervision of Tsibara Mbohoahy who trained 8 villagers to follow and take data on 4 lemur groups in the area. The population was first surveyed by Tsibara and a group of students from England and Madagascar. The low population is the result of the pet trade. The community monitoring will help protect the growing population and it will be one way of assessing success of the project. The community training focused on initial goals and jobs of the research assistants including field work, tagging trees and mapping paths the villagers will use to locate

the lemur groups. Later, Tsibara will return with a GPS unit, to map the location of the marked trees. In time, the home ranges of the lemur groups



Tsibara Mbohoahy Trains Village Researchers

will be determined. The training also entailed helping the villagers to recognize data sheet symbols for their work.



Villagers Map the Forest With Mbohoahy

CC Lecture in Mexico

Horwich was invited to give a Plenary talk to the IV Congreso Mexicano de Primatología in Villahermosa, Mexico. He addressed the Congress on Community Conservation: A Powerful Solution for Primate Protection. Other Plenary speakers included Dr. Randy Kyes, President of the American Society of Primatologists on his international training program, Dr. Carolyn Ehardt, the researcher who discovered a new primate in Tanzania, Dr. Juan Carlos Serio Silva, a leading Mexican primatologist and Dr. Gabriel Ramos Fernandez who discussed the spider monkey social system from his research in Punta Laguna, a project helped by CC. As a part of CC's mission, Horwich also conducted a workshop on Catalyzing Successful Community Conservation Projects, attended by 19 participants. Later he visited field sites in Balancan, near the Guatemala border with Gilberto Pozo-Montuy and Magali Bonilla Sánchez, two researchers interested in initiating a community conservation project to protect the black howler monkey, the species protected in Belize at the Community Baboon Sanctuary. Balancan centers on a changing landscape of working lands where howlers are dying from attacks from humans and dogs because of the fragmentation of the environment, forcing them to come to the ground.

Join us as we work in villages around the world to promote community-based conservation of wildlife and rare habitat.



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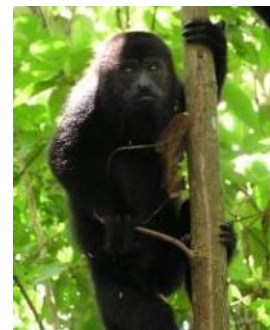
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In Memorium: Fallet Young of the Community Baboon Sanctuary, Belize

Fallet Young, Manager of the Community Baboon Sanctuary passed away on April 9, 2009. Fallett played an instrumental role in the formation of the Community Baboon Sanctuary in 1985, the first community conservation project of CC . Fallett helped in the critical task of initiating community contacts in CC's first community effort in Belize in 1985. He recruited landowners to sign voluntary pledges and to carry out management plans for their lands.

Fallet worked with the Belize Audubon Sanctuary that administered the Community Baboon Sanctuary. His interactions with the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary staff led to the formal acceptance of the Community Baboon Sanctuary as a Protected Area in the Belize Protected Areas System. Future Policy Development by the Government of Belize incorporated Community Co-Management as part of the Protected Areas System.

Fallett collected data on plant phenology, howler behavior and ecology and assisted in the translocation of howlers from the Community Baboon Sanctuary into the Cockscomb Basin. Those founder howlers have developed into a viable population of over 200 howlers at Cockscomb. Survived by his sons and daughters and other relatives, his conservation achievements are being continued by his wife Jesse and son Dr. Colin Young who teaches at Galen College in Belize. He will be greatly missed by his friends and family.



Fallett Young Teaching in 1980s

