



# 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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## Peru Workshop Rallies Stakeholders to Protect Yellow-tailed Woolly Monkey

A workshop “Taller de Conservación Comunitaria Dirigida a las Especies Endémicas de Amazonas y San Martín” coordinated by Sam and Noga Shanee of Neotropical Primate Conservation was held in Chachapoya, Peru on July 15-16, 2009. It had three main goals: 1) training regional Peruvian non-governmental organizations on successful methods in community conservation, 2) bringing together NGOs and community based organizations (CBOs) working in the highland areas of northern Peru and 3) developing coordination between NGOs and CBOs focused on the conservation and protection of the endemic and endangered yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*).

The workshop with 45 partici-



Sam Shanee lectures workshop

pants began with a talk on the importance of the biodiversity of the cloud forests of the Amazonas and San Martín Departments in Peru, the main range of the yellow tailed woolly monkey. Much of the first morning was filled with lectures by CC Director, Dr. Robert Horwich on the general philosophy of community conser-



Group Discussion in Workshop

vation, steps in catalyzing community conservation projects, and a system for evaluating projects. These presentations were followed by a talk on categories of endangered flora and fauna by Ciro Mercado of ATFFS Amazonas and a talk on Rio Abiseo National Park and the Cortdillera Colan Reserve cloud forest by Cesar Bartra. The lectures were broken up by a group exercise in which each group was given a fictitious conservation problem to solve and the group representatives then discussed their results. The day ended with a presentation by a representative of CARI-TAS on the Catholic church and the environment.

The second day began with a presentation by Dr. Horwich on achieving regional effects through community conservation in Belize, India and Madagascar. This was followed by a series of presentations by Wagner Guzman of IIAP on the Ecological Zonification of the biodiversity of Amazonas, legal tools used in the conservation of private and communal projects by lawyer Lorena Durand of SPDA, ECOAN’s Conservation

programs in Amazonas by Wily Palamino, primate conservation in Alto Huayabamba by Cesar Flores of AMPA, wetlands conservation and development by Oscar Andres Gamarra Torres of UNIATA and conservation of the endemic titi monkey by Fernando Guera Vasquez of Proyecto Mono Tocon. Formal presentations were ended by a talk by Marcus Diaz of Rondas, an organization of campesinos who are vigilantes to protect the community where there are no other protectors.

The final day included a breakout session in groups to discuss the projects in relationship to the cloud forests and the yellow tailed woolly monkey. It ended with a full group discussion on how to unify participants to focus on the cloud forest and the creation of a collective map on protected areas and potential protected areas. This map would then be used to create corridors to connect all of the populations of the yellow tailed woolly monkey. Discussion followed on how to establish a unified group to protect the species and its cloud forest habitat.



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

## Kickapoo Community Sanctuary Study of Lower Watershed Lands

As part of a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) River Planning Grant, CC catalyzed the Kickapoo Initiative as part of the Kickapoo Community Sanctuary project. Under the coordination of Jennifer Nelson a CC ex-Board member, the program had 3 goals: 1) assess the biological resources of private lands of the lower Kickapoo watershed in Crawford County, 2) determine landowner attitudes and knowledge on sustainable management practices and voluntary protection and 3) develop strategies for landowner participation in management and environmental protection.

Three regions adjacent to protected areas were surveyed by rapid assessment teams in “smackdowns” on private lands adjacent to 3 DNR protected areas the Wauzeka Wetlands, the Bell Center Wetlands and the Hogback Prairie. All three surveyed bird species and a list of plants were noted in the northern lands near Bell Center. Teams of expert birders including Craig Thompson, Eric Epstein and Armund Bartz of the WDNR, Abbie Church of the Mississippi Valley Conservancy and Maggie Jones from Scott Township among others strengthened the team’s expertise.

The smackdown team and the accompanying landowners were very excited about the list of species observed indicating the important role private landowners can play in protecting our rare and endangered species. In the various areas the teams compiled 104, 67 and 88 avian species and 84 species of plants. About 22 avian species of concern were compiled including red-shouldered hawks, black and yellow-billed cuckoos, Arcadian, alder, willow and least flycatchers and a number of rare mi-

gratory warblers including cerulean, blue-winged, prothonotary, Kentucky, hooded, chestnut-sided and mourning warblers as well as common yellow throat and other woodland species such as wood thrush, ovenbird, Louisiana water thrush, and yellow-throated vireo. Some rare grassland species such as the bobolink, meadowlark, field sparrow and Henslow sparrow were noted.



Brian Pruka, founder of the Blue Mounds Project additionally used his expertise to survey the flora and fauna of the lower watershed properties.

To determine landowners attitudes, we randomly selected 59 landowners that were both in Crawford County and the Kickapoo watershed and sent them a letter of introduction plus a 17 question survey. All of the landowners responded to some of the questions. Of the three primary goals for their land, 87% used their property as their rural residence, 47% did some some farming along with recreation hunting and miscellaneous uses. Recreation was a primary goal for 47% and 44% used their home as a secondary residence. No renters were on 80% and 40% were interested in rotational grazing .

## Cloud Forest Reforestation in La Esperanza, Peru

The Yellow-tailed woolly monkey project has introduced reforestation to the villagers of La Esperanza which is within the geographic range of the species.

Noga Shanee a co-coordinator of the project and founder of Neotropical Primate Conservation has organized women’s groups for craft sales and reforestation. The women have collected seeds and plantlets of about a dozen species of trees to reforest areas around the village. This is the first step of involving the women in conservation practices. One of the plants, a native vine, may become economically important due to its high level of Omega fatty acids which may be marketable as a nutraceutical.



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## Chiponshila Villagers Arrested for Protecting Forests

Federations of 28 villages have brought back the decimated Kakoi-jana Reserve Forest to 70% canopy and 500 golden langurs.

Several months ago, Chiponshila villagers were disturbed to find encroachers coming into the forest in the evening to carry out illegal logs by morning. The Chiponshila group decided to camp in the forest to confront the encroachers and make citizen arrests. Several log poachers, thinking they had been captured by ULFA, a terrorist organization in Assam, panicked and escaped, spreading the word that ULFA was in Kakoi-jana. Police, politicians and civil authorities wanting political points in an election year surrounded Kakoi-jana and arrested 25 Chiponshila men and took them to the police station. Almost 1000 villagers came to support their allies, confusing and intimidating the police who released 20 men but kept 5 young men. Despite community distrust, the police convinced them that the 5 men would not be harmed. In the morning the 5 men were released when the facts were discovered that they were not from ULFA. So it seemed the case was closed!



Horwich with Chiponshila villagers

However, 2 months later the police filed a court suit against the Chiponshilans. Even though the politicians, civil authorities and police took the side of the poachers, the protectors were advised by Natures Foster and Assam Forestry to attend the trial. The female judge on hearing the situation, dismissed the charges against the protectors and complimented them on the good work they were doing protecting the forest.

CC Director and community organizer Arnab Bose attended a celebration of the court victory with the Chiponshila forest protectors in Kakoi-jana forest where they received copies of the court transcript and replacement of the knives that they had lost.



## Community Researchers Study Ring-tailed Lemurs

Eight village researchers carried out the first experimental research on four groups of ring-tailed lemurs (*Lemur catta*) in the St Augustin area of a proposed community reserve south of Tulear in southwest Madagascar. Under the direction of University of Tulear graduate student, Tsibara Mbohoahy, the community researchers gathered data on the home ranges, population and ecology of four troops living in a dwarf, dry, spiny forest.

The group sizes were 8, 14, 18 and 6 for a total of 46 lemurs living in this very dry habitat. The first two groups are actually subgroups sharing a 34 hectare home range and often roosting together in a cave. However, they may forage separately and may eventually form two separate troops. The other troops use smaller 3 and 14 hectare home ranges.

The species feed on the fruits of 19 plant species including two agricultural species, switch potatoes and tomatoes. They also feed on tamarind and zizufus fruits which they share with humans. They also depend on two species of figs which are nourished with underground water which lemurs also access in caves due to water scarcity on the surface.

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



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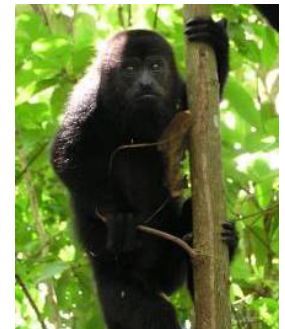
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## CC's Horwich Presents Golden Langur Conservation in Symposium Honoring Dr. Charles Southwick

A Symposium in honor of Dr. Chuck Southwick entitled “Primate Populations: the Ends of the Spectrum. A Tribute to Charles Southwick: Celebrating 50+ Years of Primate Field Work” was organized by his former student Dr. Randy Kyes who is President of the American Society of Primatologists. Others presenting included Juan Carlos Serio-Silva on primate research in Tabasco, long-tailed macaque interactions in Singapore, Lois Lippold on long-term studies of the douc rhesus macaques in Vietnam, Mukesh Chalise on langur in Vietnam, S.K. Sahoo on the Indo-US Primate population assessment of the Sulawesi rhesus macaques in north India. Dr. Southwick ended the symposium with a talk on his long-term studies of rhesus monkeys in India.



Heather and Charles Southwick left center, Horwich right

Horwich's Golden Langur first association with Dr. advice on India before he left Smithsonian Institution in In- gaged Horwich to return to In- Indo-US Primate Project as an

Horwich's presentation leagues and their community almost the entire Indian range of the golden langur. He noted that as a result of their collective efforts the total Indian population of golden langurs had increased from 1500 langurs in 1999 to 5,586 langurs in 2009. These phenomenal results were financially conservative as well at the cost of about \$50 per golden langur while also saving the forests and other wildlife including elephants, tigers, clouded leopards and hundreds of other species.

Mexico, Michael Gumert on human tions in Singapore, Lois Lippold on langur in Vietnam, Mukesh Chalise on S.K. Sahoo on the Indo-US Primate population assessment of the Sulawesi rhesus macaques in north India. Dr. Southwick talk on his long-term studies of rhesus

Conservation Project started with his Southwick in 1967 when he sought for a post-doctoral position with the dia. Over the years Southwick encour- dia and in 1997 invited him to join the informal advisor.

noted the successes that his Indian col- leagues had achieved in protecting