

# Neotropical Primate Conservation

## Annual Report 2020





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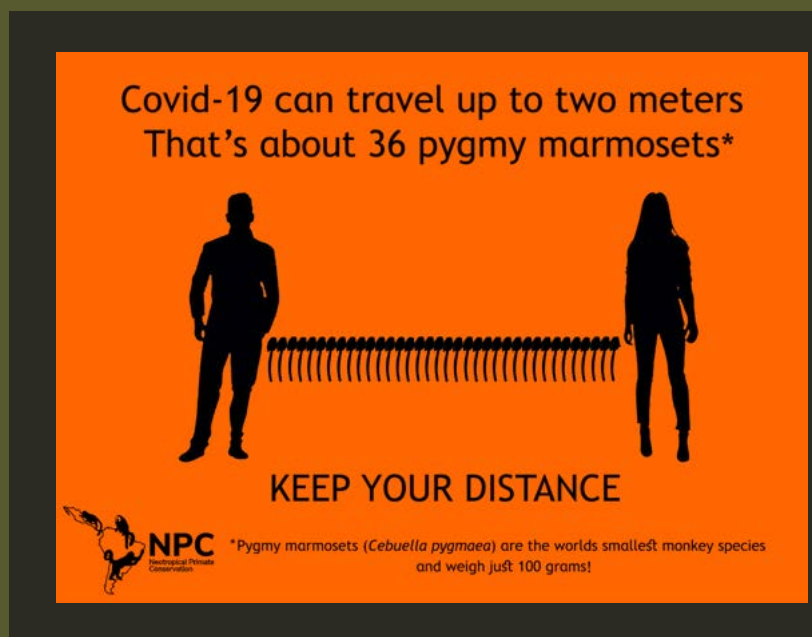
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# Introduction

Despite the many **obstacles** we have all **faced this year**, we have been able to **accomplish a lot** of our planned activities. The year **started normally** for us all and we quickly found ourselves involved in **rescuing wild animals** from the **illegal pet trade**, **planting trees** from the community tree nurseries, and continuing with our **field surveys** in Peru and Colombia. Then, in **March** everything came to standstill with the global impact of **SARS-CoV-2**. At the time that the measures were implemented in Peru our **volunteers** found themselves **unable to get home**, and we even had one **researcher** in the forest at the time, who found himself **trapped** in the field for months on end. Our community partners generally fared better. But in some cases, they were **not even able to get to their fields** and we had to send **emergency supplies**. As soon as it became clear that the measures were going to be long term, we began developing ways to work under the restrictions.

As we ourselves couldn't travel to the field sites we **began coordinating by phone** and **internet** with our partners, sometimes sending equipment so that they could carry out field activities. In this way we were able to **continue** with some of the most **urgent activities**, but were obviously restricted in other ways. We continue to be **affected** by some **quarantine** measures in Peru and Colombia, but are now able to carry out most our projects as planned.

The restrictions did have some **unforeseen negative outcomes**. Not only did it slow down a lot of the administrative work for the reserves, it also led to **increased deforestation** and **invasions of some reserves**. This meant that a lot of our time during the final months of the year was spent trying to catch up to where we left things before the pandemic started, or in dealing with new issues.



# Introduction

We hope that none of our **friends** and **supporters** have been too badly affected by the pandemic, and that **2021** will be a **better** year all round.

**From all of us** at **NPC** and our partners in conservation, we **thank you** for your continued support of our work and hope that you are pleased with what we have been able to accomplish this year.

*Neotropical Primate Conservation  
Team*



**NPC** | Peru



**NPC** | Colombia



**NPC**  
Neotropical Primate  
Conservation



Aerial view of the Pampa del Burro Private Conservation area, Yambrasbamba, Peru

# Reserves

At the start of the year, we were making advances with our work in several community reserves in Peru and Colombia, all of which had to be put on hold for most of the year. We were able to **pick up where we left off** and although much of the work has been **delayed**, it continues to advance. We **continue** to **help** many **local conservation reserves**, some of the main activities are detailed below:

## Jardines Angel del Sol Conservation Concession - Peru

The ~**7,500 ha** Jardines Angel del Sol Conservation Concession is run by our local conservation partners the '**Asociación de Productores Agropecuarios La Primavera**' (**APALP**). The area protects **pre-montane habitats** in the tropical Andes and is home to many species of **endemic** and **threatened species**, including the Endangered **white-bellied spider monkey** (*Ateles belzebuth*) and the **flagship** species for this area, the **royal sunangel hummingbird** (*Heliangelus regalis*).

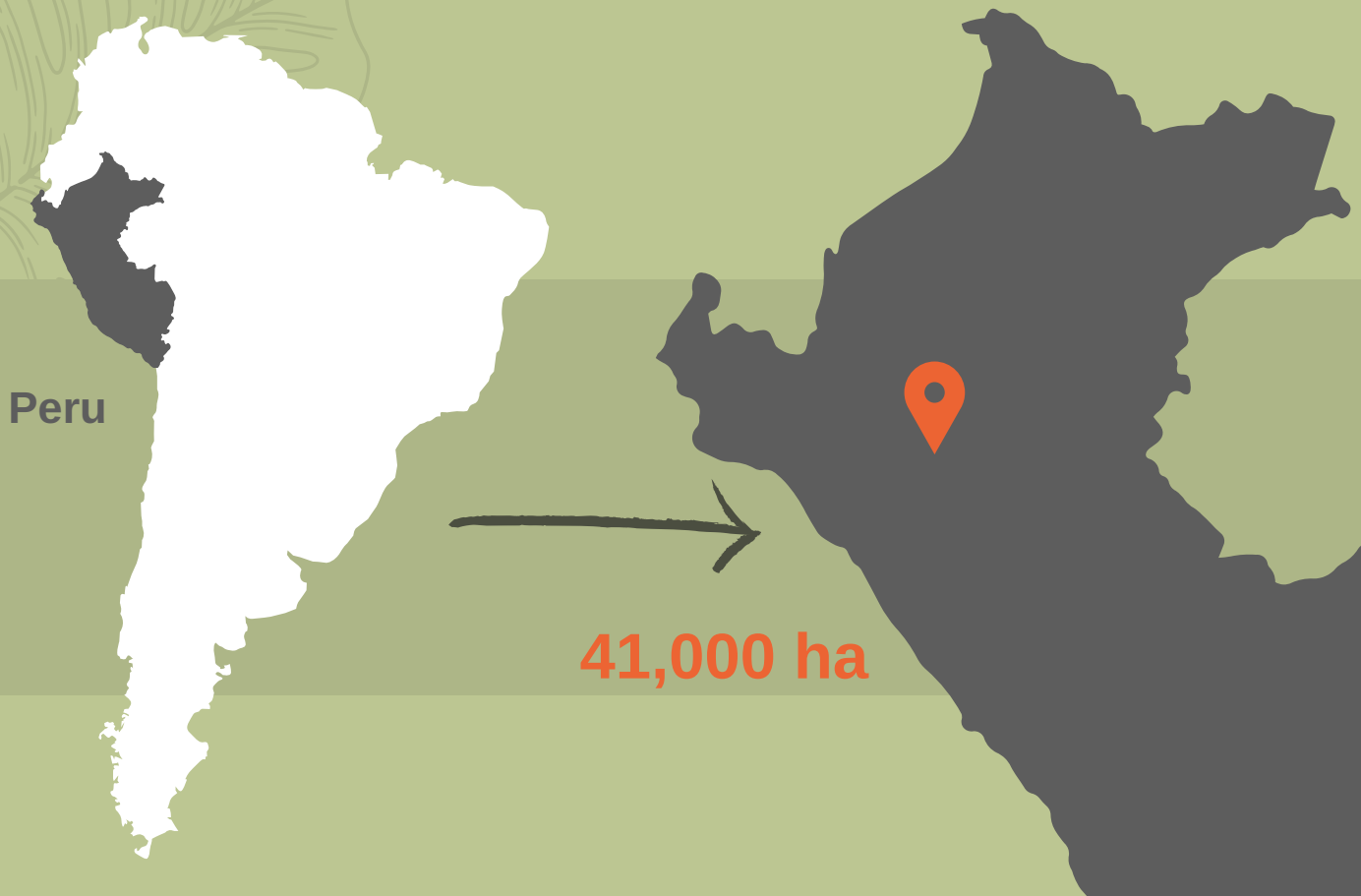
During 2020 APALP completed several **patrols** of the limits and interior of the reserve, as well as **monitoring** of the species it protects. We were also able to secure **funding** for the construction of a control post on the far side of the reserve.



# Reserves

## Gran Simacache Conservation Concession - Peru

Much of our activity in 2020 was concentrated in finding a solution to the **10-year conflict** faced by the Gran Simacache Conservation concession and its local managers the '**Asociación de Agricultores para la Conservación de Bosques Naturales del Simacache**' (ACBNS). This **41,000 ha** reserve protects **lowland and pre-montane forests** in San Martin, Peru, and has faced many problems over its history. The largest obstacle had been the **invasion by land traffickers** of a central area of the reserve. We spent many years trying to get the government to **help evict the illegal invaders**, but in the end decided to try and find a different solution to the issue as the authorities did not carry out the necessary operations. In **2017** we began **negotiating** with the **settlers** to see if we could work with them for the conservation of the area, and we would leave them some of the lands they had already claimed to farm. After many setbacks and false starts we finally began to see **movement in the right direction** at the end of **2019**.



# Reserves

At the start of **2020** we continued our **negotiations with the settlers** to form a new **action plan, reducing the size of the reserve** based on the individual family land parcels to be **farmed and co-management** of the surrounding part of the area with the **local conservationists**. We had programmed a large **meeting** with the whole **community** and the presence of **government authorities** for the 15th April, but this had to be **postponed**. In the intervening period we continued with the **mapping and paperwork** for the changes to the area, and **assigning the co-management zone**. Once the quarantine measures in Peru were eased, we immediately **convened a meeting** between ACBNS and the settlers to see how the situation stood after the long suspension of negotiations.

In December we were **finally** able to hold the meeting together with the **government authorities** and all the **local actors**. At this meeting we **presented the draft agreement** that we hope will be **signed** by the **settlers and ACBNS**, to finally bring the decade of conflict to a close. The meeting participants gave us their observations and we were able to **update the agreement draft** in real time, printing several copies of the **final draft** for the **settlers** to take back to their village and present to those who were not able to attend. Though the **process** has been **arduous** and taken even **longer** than expected, we will not know for sure until **later in January** but we are very hopeful.



Meeting between the local conservation association and settlers group

**As well as** trying to **resolve conflicts** in the area, **ACBNS** also carried out **patrol and monitoring work** in the reserve, and we were able to give them a **drone and training** on its use during patrols. **Unfortunately**, during the period of strictest quarantine restrictions in Peru, when no patrols were possible, some **people** from areas **neighbouring the reserve** began to **clear some forest and illegally extract timber**. Members of **ACBNS** have since been to **inspect these areas** and made **official reports** to the authorities. We are working to **solve these issues** at the same time as the conflict resolution work, and it will become priority as soon as we have formalized the agreement with the settlers.

# Reserves

## Venado Verde Regional Protected Area - Colombia

At the start of the year the NPC Colombia team began **biological inventories** of **birds** and **mammals** in **Buenaventura**, Valle del Cauca department. The community of **'Venado Verde'** requested our help to **support** the creation of a **regional protected area**, which will be our **first** protected area in **Colombia!** The **community** are **worried** about a **proposal** to build a **garbage tip** in the hills above the village, which will **destroy** the **natural forests** of the area and **lead to** a lot of **contamination**. These hills are also the **source** of several **fresh water** springs. The **surveys** went well and we were able to **identify** several **priority primate species**, such as the very little-known **Panamanian night monkey** (*Aotus zonalis*), **Geoffroy's tamarins** (*Saguinus geoffroyi*), and most importantly, we confirmed the presence of the Critically Endangered **Colombian black spider monkey** (*Ateles fusciceps rufiventris*), our **flagship species** for conservation in the Colombian Pacific region. We **hope** that this confirmation means that there is a **larger population** in the area and that we will be able to **protect** its **habitat** by helping the community.



Colombia



Capacity building workshop with villagers in Colombia



# Reserves

## Iguahuana / Dry Forests of Delta Conservation Concession - Peru

The Iguahuana/Dry Forests of Delta Conservation Concession in Amazonas, celebrated its 8th anniversary in 2020. This reserve protects a small area of Marañon dry forest, in Amazonas department. It is one of only 2 protected areas in this habitat types. Because of travel restrictions we were not able to attend the celebrations in person, but NPC Peru president Nestor Allgas spoke by telephone, which was broadcast through a megaphone, at the celebrations. We were also able to send a donation of food to help the community. The Iguahuana reserve was originally registered in the name of one community member, but we are now in the process of transferring legal management of the area to a new local conservation association from the village of Delta. This is because the previous manager moved to live on the coast but the villagers continued to protect the area. The paperwork was handed to the government early in the year, but delays meant they were not processed for many months. We have now received the observations and are making the necessary amendments.



Nancy Ma's night monkey (*Aotus nancymae*)

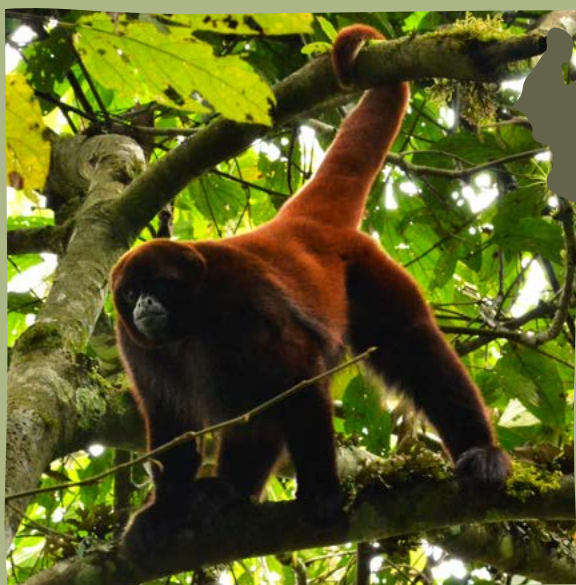


# Reserves

## Pampa del Burro Private Conservation Area - Peru

We had **exciting developments** at the **Pampa del Burro Private Conservation Area**, managed by the **Campesino Community of Yamborasbamba**, in Amazonas. This private reserve **protects** just **under 3,000 ha** of **primary cloud forests** and very **rare white-sand forests** in the **Andes**, and is **home** to **2** of our **conservation flagship species**, the Critically Endangered **yellow tailed woolly monkey** (*Lagothrix flavicauda*) and the Endangered **Peruvian night monkey** (*Aotus miconax*). **Thanks** to a **grant** from **Rainforest Trust** the **community** has been able to **employ 2 park guards** for **patrols** and carry out **demarcation** of the reserve limits on the ground.

We have held **several meetings** with the **community** in the village of **La Perla del Imaza**, coordinating the **activities** with the community. We are also **working** with them to **increase** the size of the **area**, incorporating **two land purchases** made by our **local allies**, and possibly **additional neighbouring areas**.



Critically Endangered yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Lagothrix flavicauda*).



# Investigation & Publications

Travel restrictions in Peru and Colombia meant that our field work has been severely restricted for most of the year. Even so, we have been able to continue with our main activities and have some exciting results to share:

## Colombian Black Spider Monkey (*Ateles fusciceps rufiventris*) & Panamanian night monkey (*Aotus zonalis*)

We **continued** our **surveys** for the Critically Endangered **Colombian black spider monkey** (*Ateles fusciceps rufiventris*) in **Colombia**. This included **field visits** to **sites** in three **departments** in the **pacific coastal lowlands**. We were able to confirm the **presence** of the **species** in several sites, and also observed several other primate species, including **white-faced capuchin monkeys** (*Cebus capucinus*), **Panamanian night monkey** (*Aotus zonalis*), **Geoffroy's tamarins** (*Saguinus geoffroyi*), and the **red howler monkey** (*Alouatta seniculus*). At one site, **Iscuandé**, we were **unable** to find **evidence** of any **large bodied primate** (we expected to find both *A. f. rufiventris* and *Alouatta palliata*), suggesting that **hunting** is a **problem** for these species.

Colombian black spider monkey



*Ateles fusciceps rufiventris*

For surveys at 'Venado Verde' we teamed up with investigator **Sebastián Orozco Montilla**, from our good friend 'Fundación Proyecto Primates' and in the community of **Santa Cecilia** we have begun **installing transects** for **long term monitoring** and **census work** on primates in the **Amurrapá Special Management Area**.

# Investigation & Publications

## Yellow Tailed Woolly Monkeys (*Lagothrix flavicauda*)

In Peru we carried on with our collaboration with Elvis Charpentier, in search of new populations of yellow tailed woolly monkeys (*Lagothrix flavicauda*) in the far south of the species' distribution in Peru. We surveyed sites based on predictive GIS mapping we carried out in 2019. To date, we have surveyed 34 sites in the regions of Ayacucho, Cerro de Pasco, and Junín. In total, we recorded the presence of primates at 25 sites. These came from at least eight species. The most commonly encountered species were the Peruvian woolly monkey (*Lagothrix lagotricha tschudii*), found at 12 sites in Cerro de Pasco, and the Peruvian spider monkey (*Ateles chamek*), found at nine sites across the three regions.

We confirmed the presence of yellow tailed woolly monkeys at five sites in Junín, but were not able to find the species in Cerro de Pasco, where it appears to be replaced by *L. l. tschudii*. These sightings were ~300 km south of the previously known distribution for the species and another ~50 km further south of the only previous records in the region. These areas are rarely visited by researchers or conservationists as they are within the 'no go' part of Peru with many social and economic problems.



Yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Lagothrix flavicauda*).

# Investigation & Publications

## San Martin Titi Monkey (*Plecturocebus oenanthe*)

This year we began an exciting new research project surveying urban primate populations in Moyobamba, San Martin, Peru. These surveys focus on the Critically Endangered San Martin titi monkeys (*Plecturocebus oenanthe*) and sympatric species in remnant forest fragments within the city. This species is endemic to a very small area of northern Peru and is probably the country's most threatened primate species. Until recently, urban populations of this species were assumed to be stable. But starting in 2019, the municipality began plans to develop some of the city's green spaces, threatening their survival.

Apart from the months of strictest quarantine we have been able to make daily surveys, when it wasn't raining, triangulating the vocalizations of the species at dawn. Of 11 patches surveyed we have confirmed the species' presence in 9, with the up to 5 groups inhabiting a single patch. Preliminary results suggest there are 32 groups of this species within the city, meaning a total population size of ~130 animals. We will use these results to pressure the municipality to stop its destructive development plans for these green areas, and hopefully promote connectivity between them. These areas are also home to many large groups of Andean saddle-back tamarins (*Leontocebus leucogenys*), which can also be seen on occasion using telephone and electric cables to pass between different patches.



San Martin titi monkey (*Plecturocebus oenanthe*)



Aerial view of forest patches within the city of Moyobamba, San Martin, Peru

# Investigation & Publications

## Scientific Publications

The **highlight** of our **publications** this year was the **naming** of a **new species** of **Magnolia** from the **forests of La Esperanza**, where we work with **yellow tailed woolly monkeys**. When it is pronounced, the species name sounds like the letters NPC in Spanish, **M. enepeceana**. We also had the **results** of many of our **other studies** published this year. Below is a **list of our research** published this year, with links to the articles which are open access:

Shanee, S., Doolan, D., Allgas, N., Salazar, C. & Fack, V. (2020) Observations of diurnal activity in a 'strictly' nocturnal primate, the Peruvian night monkey (*Aotus miconax*), Yambrasbamba, Peru. *Neotropical Primates*. 26: 77-82.

<http://www.primate-sg.org/storage/pdf/NP26.1.pdf>

Fernandez-Hilario, R., Fack, V., Shanee, S., Vercauteren Drubbel, R., Vercauteren, M., Meunier, H. & Chuquituctom W. (2020) Plants eaten by the yellow-tailed woolly monkey. Field Museum, Chicago.

[https://fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org/sites/default/files/rapid-color-guides-pdfs/1290\\_peru\\_plants\\_eaten\\_yellowtailed\\_wollymonkey\\_0.pdf](https://fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org/sites/default/files/rapid-color-guides-pdfs/1290_peru_plants_eaten_yellowtailed_wollymonkey_0.pdf)

Shanee, S., Shanee, N., Lock, W. & Espejo-Urbe, M. J. (2020). The development and growth of non-governmental conservation in Peru: Privately and communally protected areas. *Human Ecology*.

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s10745-020-00188-8.pdf>

Shanee, S., Allgas, N., Ocampo-Carvajal, C. & Shanee, N. (2020). A high-diversity primate community in a mid-elevation flooded forest, the Jungla de los Monos community reserve, Peru. *Primates*. On-line early edition.

Fordham, G., Shanee, S. & Peck, M. (2020). Effect of river size on Amazonian primate community structure: A biogeographic analysis using updated taxonomic assessments. *American Journal of Primatology*. 82: e23136.

# Investigation & Publications

Fernandez-Hilario, R., Villanueva-Espinoza, R., Fack, V., Shanee, S. & Marcelo-Pena, J. L. (2020). Dos nuevas especies de Magnolia de los extremadamente amenazados bosques montaños del norte de Perú. *Britonia*.  
On-line early edition.

Fack, V., Shanee, S., Vercauteren Drubbel, R., Vercauteren, M. & Meunier, H. (2020). Geophagy in the yellow-tailed woolly monkey (*Lagothrix flavicauda*) at La Esperanza, Peru: site characterization and soil composition. *Primates*.  
On-line early edition.

Fack, V., Shanee, S., Vercauteren Drubbel, R., Meunier, H., & Vercauteren, M. (2020). Geophagy in wild yellow-tailed woolly monkeys (*Lagothrix flavicauda*) is brief and rare. *International Journal of Primatology*. On-line early edition.

Pederson, K., Shanee, S. & Olivera Tarifeno, C.M. (2019\*). Evidence of opossum (*Didelphis* sp.) predation by white-throated capuchins (*Cebus yuracus*) in the Copallin Private Conservation Area, Perú. *Neotropical Primates*. 25: 54-57.  
[http://www.primatesg.org/storage/pdf/NP\\_25.1\\_Pedersen\\_et\\_al\\_C\\_yuracus\\_possum\\_predation\\_pp.54-57.pdf](http://www.primatesg.org/storage/pdf/NP_25.1_Pedersen_et_al_C_yuracus_possum_predation_pp.54-57.pdf)

Moscoso Rosero, P., Shanee, S., Burneo, S., Fuentes, N., Alfonso-Cortés, F., Obando, M. & Tirira, D.G. (2019\*). Prolonged inter-specific association between *Ateles fusciceps fusciceps* and *Alouatta palliata aequatorialis* (Atelidae) in a forest fragment in north Western Ecuador. *Neotropical Primates*. 25: 11-20.  
[http://www.primatesg.org/storage/pdf/NP\\_25.1\\_Rosero\\_et\\_al\\_Ateles\\_Alouatta\\_Forest\\_Fragments\\_pp.11-20.pdf](http://www.primatesg.org/storage/pdf/NP_25.1_Rosero_et_al_Ateles_Alouatta_Forest_Fragments_pp.11-20.pdf)

\*2019 edition, but published in 2020.

# Investigation & Publications

## Other Investigation News

During a visit to **Fundación Biodiversa Colombia's El Silencio nature reserve**, NPC Colombia's **Juan Millan** took advantage of his time to quickly **survey primates** in the area. In the short time available he was able to find **Critically Endangered brown spider monkeys** (*Ateles hybridus*), **Endangered varied white-faced capuchins** (*Cebus versicolor*), and many groups of **silvery-brown tamarins** (*Saguinus leucopus*), a species **endemic to Colombia**. He also saw **night monkeys** (*Aotus griseimembra*) and **red howler monkeys** (*Alouatta seniculus*). These sightings help **support** the reserve's importance for **primate conservation**.

In Peru a generous donation from **This-is-My-Earth.org** allowed us to install a number of **camera traps** at our main **La Esperanza** field site. We made a **preliminary** run for **2 weeks**, in which the traps **recorded** footage of **small mammals** and **birds**. We have now left the traps in place for a **longer period**.

Once travel restrictions were eased, we were also able to start some **short projects** in the **community of Yambrasbamba**, collecting **faecal samples** from **yellow tailed woolly monkeys** and **Peruvian night monkeys** for studies of **primate health** in wild populations, whilst also gathering **behavioural data** on groups of the night monkeys in **continuous** and **fragmented forest areas**.

In **Colombia** we made a **preliminary presentation** of proposed **research work** to the **indigenous community of Siapidaara in Timbiquí, Cauca**, to begin working together in **monitoring primate populations** in their territory and to carry out **environmental education**, primarily with **children and young people**.



Red Howler Monkey (*Alouatta seniculus*)



# Investigation & Publications

## Researcher Development

Continuing with our commitment to training of the next generation of conservationists and primatologists we have provided many opportunities to volunteers, and undergraduate students as well as masters and doctoral candidates, particularly from Peru and Latin America in general. This year we provided opportunities for 8 volunteers, and 3 undergraduate, 4 Masters, and 1 PhD researcher to young people from Costa Rica, Colombia, Spain, France, India as well as local and national students from Peru.

We also congratulate Dr Vinciane Fack who successfully completed her PhD at the University of Brussels. Dr Fack's research focused on geophagy, soil eating, in yellow tailed woolly monkeys and was carried out at our site. This is now the 3rd completed PhD from our project in Peru.



Volunteers and researcher of 2020



Dr Vinciane Fack graduated with her PhD from the University of Brussels

# Reforestation

This year's reforestation efforts were stopped by the quarantine measure in Peru. At the start of the year our partners at the Bosques del Sinaí and Gran Simacache Conservation Concessions in San Martin were managing the three nurseries that we helped fund and build in 2019. At the start of the year both nurseries were producing native trees to be used by local landowners, conservation groups and schools for reforestation, agroforestry and habitat recuperation activities. We were able to reach our goals of >10,000 trees planted from each nursery. Unfortunately, once the quarantine measures took hold, we were not able to give out any more trees and care work had to be postponed.

Nursery in Uchiza



Nursery in Saposoa



The local reforestation team outside the nursery in Saposana.

# Environmental Education

Our **educational activities** were probably the **most restricted** because of the pandemic. At the **start of 2020** we were **preparing a new syllabus** of **classes** to **begin environmental education campaigns** in the **towns** and **cities** of the **Alto Mayo region** of **northern Peru**, the **most deforested** area in **Peru** and **home** to the **Critically Endangered San Martin titi monkey** (*Plecturocebus oenanthe*). Because of the **restrictions** put in place the **schools** did **not open** after Easter, and **remained closed** for the most of the year and once they did **re-open**, we could **not carry out** the **planned activities** as we did not want to **put** the **pupils** **at risk** of contagion. This was the **same in other areas** of **Peru** and **Colombia** where we had also **planned educational activities**. As with our other projects, we looked for **opportunities** to carry on as best we could, **moving** a lot of **activities online**. These online activities did not reach the same audience as we had planned, but we are **waiting for schools** to properly re-open before beginning the other classes.

**Before** the **pandemic** started, we visited **Colombia's pacific coast** where we gave **classes in schools** and **ran other activities** in **villages** in the **municipality of Iscuandé** in **Nariño department**. After the measures set in, we gave **online classes on wildlife trafficking** and its **consequences** on **natural habitats**, the role that **tourism** plays in **wildlife trafficking** and the **ethical management problems** caused by introduced **populations of hippopotami** (A problem in parts of Colombia) to **college students** in **Medellin**. And in **October** we **organised a conservation education workshop** with the **children** of the "Venado Verde" community.

In **Peru** we formed an **alliance with the National University of San Martin** where we **gave a semester long course**, between **July and October**, on **primatology** and **primate conservation** to **undergraduate students**. The course included classes on **environmental services**, **ecosystem restoration**, **taxonomy**, **biogeography**, **field methods**, **illegal wildlife trafficking**, **environmental education** and **Project design**. Classes were given by **NPC staff** and **specialists** from around **Peru**, and led by **Nestor Allgas** and **Lorena Fernandez**. The course was **fully on-line** and a **great success**, which we hope to be able to make a **permanent part** of the **undergraduate curriculum** at the **university**.

# Environmental Education

## Online talks and Presentations

During the year we also gave many **on-line talks** at **various events** and **seminar series**. In **Peru** we were **invited** to many events including **workshops** on **volunteering** for the **'Somos Jurcuna'** student group's 7th anniversary, and on the **principal threats** to neotropical primates, **wildlife trafficking** and the **increased risk of zoonotic disease transmission** associated with the **consumption and keeping of wildlife**, and a **discussion panel** on the **current state of primatological knowledge in Peru** for the **'Equipo Primates Peru'**, classes on **human ecology** for the **Cayetano Heredia university** in **Lima**, a round table **discussion** on **zoonotic disease transmission** for the **Peruvian Primatological association**, and **community conservation** for the **National Agrarian University** in **Lima**. In **Colombia**, NPC's **Catalina Orrego** gave a **free workshop** on **drawing and painting primates** for the **Colombian Primatological Association** and **@artysteps**, and we were invited to **speak** about **conservation of primates** in **Risaralda**, at the **Botanical Gardens of Pereira University**. And in **Brazil**, NPC's **Catalina Ocampo** helped **organize Biology Studies Week (XVI SEBio)**, for the **Biological Sciences faculty** of the **Universidad de Pará**, during which she taught a **mini-course** on **illegal wildlife trafficking**.



**PRIMATOLOGÍA EN CASA**

**VIDEOCONFERENCIA**  
TRAS EL RASTRO DEL MONO ARAÑA NEGRO (Ateles fusciceps)

**DÍA: VIERNES 8 DE MAYO**  
**HORA: 5:00 p.m.**

**A cargo de: ALMA HERNÁNDEZ**

**ASOCIACIÓN PRIMATOLÓGICA COLOMBIANA APC**

CRÉDITOS: SAM SHANEE



*Lagothrix flavicauda*

**CURSO DE FORMACIÓN PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE FAUNA SILVESTRE**

**21 de julio - 01 de octubre**

**Temario:**  
Servicios ambientales y restauración de ecosistemas, identificación de fauna silvestre, métodos de censo, tráfico ilegal y enfermedades zoonóticas, taxonomía, etología y distribución de primates, senderos interpretativos, educación ambiental y planificación de proyectos de investigación.

**UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE SAN MARTÍN**

**NPC | Peru**

# Environmental Education

Some of our other **talks** and **presentations** are still **available** to see online (In Spanish), including:

**Alma Hernandez** - NPC Colombia: Experiences working in Peru with the Critically Endangered yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Lagothrix flavicauda*).

Spotify: <https://spoti.fi/2zH3tj5> - Youtube: <https://youtu.be/AW8knpOtZKI> - Soundcloud: <https://bit.ly/2zQ7UYL>

**Alma Hernandez** – NPC Colombia: Tras el Rastro del Mono Araña Negro (*Ateles Fusciceps*). <https://bit.ly/3fezUoh>

**Catalina Orrego** – NPC Colombia: Comunidades, conservación, y el mono arana del Chocó.

<https://www.facebook.com/fundacion.cunaguaro/videos/903729940056208/>

**Catalina Orrego** - NPC Colombia: Conservando primates en el Chocó biogeográfico Risaraldense. <https://fb.watch/2Uku-ikLkH/>

**Sam Shanee** – NPC UK/Peru: Community Conservation for Peruvian primates. <http://tiny.cc/isdysz>

## Other Videos to Watch

New Peruvian NGO, **ComunaCiencia**, focused on **Environmental Education**, invited **NPC** Colombia's Alma Hernandez, and NPC founder **Sam Shanee** to give **short video talks** for young **audiences** interested in **biology** and **conservation**, you can see both here: **Alma Hernandez** - <https://fb.watch/2Qm4IX0bsO/> **Sam Shanee** - <https://fb.watch/2QmaOjqaSm/>

Also, together with **ComunCiencia** we participated in the '**Reto Tropical**' (tropical Challenge), posting a **series of videos** of our **focal primate species**. These and others can be see here:

[https://www.facebook.com/comunaciencia/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/comunaciencia/videos/?ref=page_internal)

# Environmental Education

At NPC Colombia we produced a **series of online audio stories** about conservation. We invite you to listen to the complete series here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P4V8NGmT8YA>

NPC Peru volunteers made an educational video for World Environment Day, which you can watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhWia2YBiNI&t=5s>

**We also published several videos from our camera traps, drones and general investigation work:**

Sounds of the San Martin titi monkey: <https://fb.watch/2QmTJAnmFk/>

Colombian howler monkeys: <https://fb.watch/2QmSlrvvmX/>

Canopy camera traps in Santa Cecilia: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHUBpp7BcXY>

Drone footage of El Toro field site: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qw359IcLp3U&t=5s>



# Animal Rescue & Trafficking

NPC continues to be one of the most **active NGOs** in on-the-ground **anti-trafficking work**, and as always, we have been very **active in working against the illegal wildlife trade in Peru**, helping authorities **identify and seize animals from the pet trade**, informing about **illicit activities in markets**, including the **sale of bushmeat**, caring for **rescued animals** and **transporting them to suitable rescue centres for rehabilitation or lifetime care**.

Even though **Peru** has had some of the **strictest emergency and quarantine measures**, and has **suffered** among the highest mortality rates in the world, we were appalled to **find the continued sale of wildlife and bushmeat in markets**. A **collaborator** sent us **evidence of the sale of these items in Pucallpa**, with which we made **official complaints to the authorities** and a **press release to local media outlets to pressure the regional and national governments to act**. Unfortunately, because of the **quarantine measures** we could **not get to Pucallpa to stop these activities**.

Similarly, we were **involved in many actions against the illegal pet trade**. Since **January** we have led or **helped in the rescue of 23 animals**, **5 of which are Threatened** with extinction and **1 Near Threatened**. These rescues included a number of **primates**, which very sadly included **yellow tailed woolly monkeys** and **San Martin titi monkeys**, both of which are **Critically Endangered** and can **only be found in Peru!**



# Animal Rescue & Trafficking

Species	Common Name	Number	IUCN Status
<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	Ocelot	1	LC
<i>Eira barbara</i>	Tayra	1	LC
<i>Sapajus apella</i>	Black-capped capuchin	1	LC
<i>Ateles Chamek</i>	Peruvian Spider Monkey	2	EN
<i>Lagothrix flavicauda</i>	Yellow tailed woolly Monkey	1	CR
<i>Plecturocebus oenanthe</i>	San Martin Titi Monkey	1	CR
<i>Megascops watsonii</i>	Tawny-bellied screech-owl	1	LC
<i>Lagothrix lagotricha</i>	Common Woolly Monkey	1	VU
-	Guacharo	1	-
<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	Ocelot	1	LC
<i>Cyclopes didactylus</i>	Silky Anteater	1	LC
<i>Aotus sp.</i>	Night Monkey	1	-
-	Parrots and Parakeets	7	-
<i>Aotus sp.</i>	Night Monkey	1	-
<i>Saimiri sp.</i>	Squirrel Monkey	1	-
<i>Cebus yuracus</i>	White-fronted Capuchin	1	NT
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>5 (+1 NT)</b>

Animals rescued in 2020



# Animal Rescue & Trafficking

The inappropriate use of **primates in movies, TV shows, and on social media** helps **drive the trade**, putting many **species at risk**. During **2020 NPC Colombia** made several **official complaints** to the **authorities** about the **promotion of pet wildlife** by a **famous Colombian “influencer”** on social networks. The authorities **responded** by **ordering the removal** of the **videos** from **social media**. They also **gave** the ‘owner’ **guidelines** on the **proper captive care** of the animals during quarantine, and will **seize** them for placement in recognized **rescue centres** once the quarantine is over.

If you would like to **take action** in pressuring governments worldwide to **stop illegal wildlife trafficking**, then please sign the End the trade petition; we have!  
<https://endthetrade.com/>

## Other Activities

### IUCN Redlist

The **IUCN Redlist of threatened species** continues to be **updated** with the latest species assessment. The last 2 rounds of **updates** included the **new evaluations** of our **3 focal species in Peru**. The **yellow tailed woolly monkey** remains **Critically Endangered**, as does the **San Martin titi monkey**, and we are both **pleased** and **saddened** to see that the **Peruvian night monkey** is now listed as **Endangered**. This is an **increase** from **Vulnerable**. In large part, this and the **other assessments** are based on the **results of our field surveys and conservation activities**.

**NPC Peru**

### Andean night monkey

*Aotus miconax*

Endangered species according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature **EN**

Diet: Fruits, flowers, leaves, buds, insects, spiders, seeds, and maybe small vertebrates

Lives in premontane and cloud forests, in primary and secondary forest and forest fragments, between 800 and 3,100 masl

Average length: 50 cm including the tail  
Average weight: 950 g

**Threats to the Species:**

- Habitat loss and modification
- Deforestation and fragmentation
- Logging
- Cattle ranching
- Mining
- Agricultural expansion
- Infrastructure
- Road building
- Introduction of exotic species
- Hunting for the pet trade

**Protected Areas where *A. miconax* is found:**

- Parque Nacional Río Abiseo
- Bosque de Protección Alto Mayo
- Santuario Nacional Cordillera de Colán
- Zona Reservada Río Nieva
- Área de Conservación Regional Bosques de Shunte y Mishollo
- Área de Conservación Privada Berlin
- Concesión para Conservación Bosques del Sinal
- Concesión para Conservación Alto Huaybamba
- Área de Conservación Privada Pampa del Burro

# Other Activities

**Yellow tailed woolly monkey** - <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/39924/17924112>

**San Martin titi monkey** - <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/3553/17975319>

**Peruvian night monkey** - <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/1802/164046186>

## Media Features

Ex-NPC volunteer and good friend and supporter **Cesar Aguila** Published his book "**Biólogo en Salsa Verde: Viaje a los Bosques nublados de Perú**" covering **stories** about **his time** with **us** in **La Esperanza** and at **other sites** (<https://bit.ly/38OH28I>). He also published an **article** in the **Spanish Quercus magazine** "**Perú: cuando la conservacion comienza desde la base**" (Peru: when conservation starts at the bottom) recounting his experiences **visiting** different **community conservation projects** in **Peru**:

<https://www.revistaquercus.es/noticia/7777/internacional/peru:-cuando-la-conservacion-comienza-desde-labase.html>

**NPC Colombia's president** Alma Hernandez was **featured** in "**Wildlife World**" magazine, **published** by the **People's Trust for Endangered Species**. The article covered our **community-based conservation** and **research work** on the **Critically Endangered Colombian black spider monkey**.

You can see the article here:

[https://ptes.org/get-informed/publications/magazines/latest-wildlife-world-magazine/?fbclid=IwAR22ZtiHHB1qO1vcZ3MhiBkB8dkzqYxWgjo\\_UCI2nSyVuufnaJCCs32LOc](https://ptes.org/get-informed/publications/magazines/latest-wildlife-world-magazine/?fbclid=IwAR22ZtiHHB1qO1vcZ3MhiBkB8dkzqYxWgjo_UCI2nSyVuufnaJCCs32LOc)

The '**New Big 5**', an **initiative** to find **alternatives** to the traditional **big 5 African game species** and **promote wildlife photography** for conservation, included **NPC Peru's Nestor Allgas** and the list of his **5 favourite animals** to **photograph** in the **Amazon**, which of course included **primates**, but also **other species** - <https://www.newbig5.com/nestor-allgas/>

# Other Activities

We were also **featured** in a very interesting project "**Extinction Room**", a **touring art installation** that **visited various places in Europe** throughout **2019** and **2020**. The **features** of the **exhibition** have been **converted** to an Album "**Extinction Stories**", which couples **recordings** of **extinct** and **endangered animals** with **scientific narratives** and **myths**. Among the featured species are the **San Martin titi** and the **yellow-tailed woolly monkey**. **Profits** from album **sales** are **donated** to different **conservation organizations**, including **NPC**, on a rotating basis. The album can be purchased through **BandCamp** -

<https://extinctionroom.bandcamp.com/album/extinction-stories>



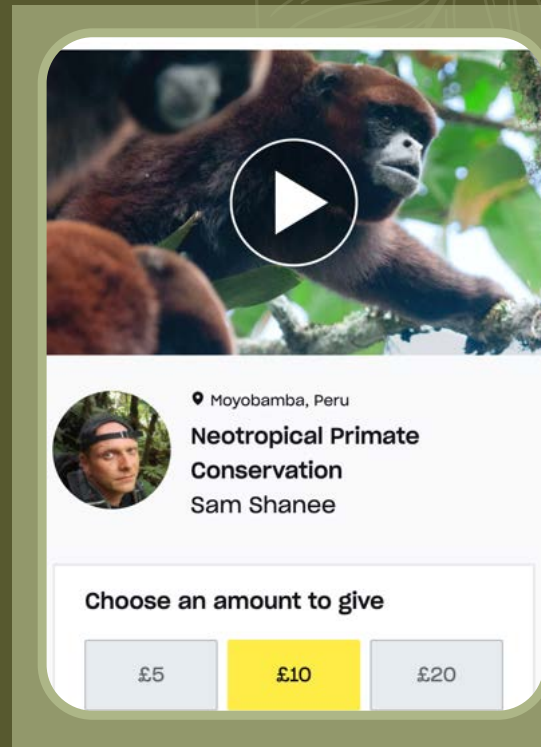
Album cover of Extinction Room.

## Latin American Primatological Society

We are **very pleased** to announce the **election results** for the **next board of directors** of the **Latin American Primatological Society** (Sociedad Latino Americana de Primatología) for **2021-2024**. The new board includes an **A-list** of **Latin American primatologists** and primate conservationists including **Liliana Cortés-Ortiz** – President, **Luciana Oklander** – Secretary, and **Stella de la Torre** – Treasurer, as well as **Leandro Jerusalinsky** and NPC's own **Sam Shanee** forming the committee for oversight. Other members included **representatives** for each **major region** of **Latin America**.

# New Ways to Support Us

As well as all the **usual ways** we **fundraise** (and the ways you support us) we are really **happy** to **announce 2 new ways** you can **donate**. During 2020 we officially announced our **collaboration** with the **Milkywire crowdfunding** platform for **grassroots NGOs**. We post **exclusive photo and video updates** about our **work** to the platform which can be **seen by our followers** and **supporters**. The **App** is **free** to **download** and **easy to use**, why not become a **follower** and **regular donator**?



You can see us on Milkywire here - <https://www.milkywire.com/impacters/sam>

We have also been given the opportunity by the new platform "**Conservation Allies**" which provides a **tax-deductible donation** platform in the **US** for **small and medium sized NGOs**. One limitation we have had in the **past** is that some **US organizations** and **donors** prefer to **give tax deductible donations**, which we have **not** been able to offer (we can to supporters in the UK, and other countries). There is a **donation page** for NPC on the site which includes a unique "**Donate**" button and **100% of funds** received **go to fund our projects** (No administration or overhead costs are taken by Conservation Allies).

You can **see our page** and make a donation here:  
<https://conservationallies.org/neotropical-primate-conservation/>

# Thank you

As always, we would like to thank all our supporters and donors from the bottom of our hearts, thanks to you your help, no matter how small, we are able to carry on with our important work. This year we received grants for our various projects in Peru and Colombia from:

