

## **Project Update: August 2014**

I am very sorry for the lack of news and update, it has been a very hectic year but our blog (<http://conservingsanignaciolagooon.wordpress.com/>) contains all the information on activities and participation and I hope it can be somehow included into the RSG website.

As I said it has been a very hectic year, with a lot of activities, some issues, some bad weather but in general some very positive outcomes!

I am now in the process of compiling the scientific information we collected on turtles and I will soon send the final report because indeed our project has come to an end. We have some money still and we are planning to organise the 5th San Ignacio Lagoon Sea Turtle Festival and invite all the partners and friends that helped us during this year. The festival will likely take place in October or November 2014 (depending on weather forecast). I will of course inform you.

As for some highlights, here is a short summary:

- Creation of a marine turtle monitoring group in the southern lagoon: four fishermen have been trained on monitoring techniques and have been carrying out monthly surveys (except in June).
- 1 BSc student presented his thesis on "Ecotourism and Marine turtle monitoring in San Ignacio Lagoon, BCS, Mexico" (available in Spanish here: <http://conservingsanignaciolagooon.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/tesis-de-licenciatura-mario.pdf>)
- Monthly activities spanned from photography workshops to exploration of the islands with local scientists and field trips to see the grey whales.
- 4th San Ignacio Lagoon Sea Turtle Festival in December 2013.
- Integration of some educational activities in the school curriculum (and this is what we will be pushing for next year).
- More than 500 participants in all activities considered.