

Project Update: August 2014

Observations

We have made observations on the Amazon River close to the city of Iquitos with eight outings in July 2014 (6th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 20th, 22nd, 26th and 28th), a total of 55 river dolphins were counted, 38 pink dolphins *Inia geoffrensis* and only 17 grey dolphins *Sotalia fluviatilis*. A total of 15 different volunteers have participated with an average of four per outing. Three times we have identified the same pink dolphin with injuries and also a grey one that we have in photo last year, meaning some dolphins could be permanent resident at some occasions.

Education

We have organised seven presentations in one primary school (9 de Octubre), with levels 4, 5 and 6. A total of 213 children have received a diploma in August 2014.

Meetings

Weekly meetings were organised every Thursday with an average of five volunteers per session. The last meeting (28th August 2014) was cancelled due to travel.

Conferences

The conference was last minute cancelled by the speaker for personal reason (travel to Lima).

Volunteers

As from June 2014, the volunteers seem to be less present during the activities (conferences in schools and observations) but we have regularly new people. The problem is to make the people regular but most of them have obligations (thesis, family, etc.).

Expedition in the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve

In the last week of August 2014 I joined an expedition at the confluence of the Marañon and Samiria Rivers at the border of the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve. I have helped a French production team to make a documentary about river dolphins and local wildlife for the French Ushuaïa TV channel. I was interviewed about Solinia and river dolphins with our Rufford t-shirt.

September 2014

I tried to concentrate activities during the first two weeks as the third week I am participating to the Great Amazon Raft Race (190 km paddling on the Amazon River from 18th to 21st) and helped by the World Animal Protection we will make communication about river dolphins. And the last week I am preparing my church wedding (planned Saturday 27th September). Not sure the monthly conference will be organised.

