

Project Update: July 2014

Observations

We have made observations on the Amazon River close to the city of Iquitos with seven outings in July 2014 (8th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th and 30th) - a total of 69 river dolphins were counted, 40 pink dolphins *Inia geoffrensis* and only 29 grey dolphins *Sotalia fluviatilis*. A total of 12 different volunteers have participated with an average of four per outing. On top of this we have started a collaboration with a group of biologists interested in birds and we invite them to join some outings to make an inventory of the species living around Iquitos. Also twice we had the opportunity to observe iguanas, on 18th July 2014 a coloured one (green body and red head) was crossing (swimming) the Amazon River and on 30th July 2014 a green one sleeping in the sun on a beach.

Education

We have organised nine presentations in four primary schools (Cesar Vallejo, Kairos San Juan, Benedicto Arevalo Rodriguez, 9 de Octubre), with levels 4, 5 and 6. A total of 478 children have received a diploma in July 2014. The conferences in the school "Benedicto Arevalo Rodriguez" was on request of the Municipality of Maynas (city of Iquitos). The first 2 weeks of August is a holiday period in Peru, we will continue the conferences in the school "9 de Octubre" as from mid-August 2014 with levels 4 to 6 but in the afternoon (total of seven classes).

Meetings

Weekly meetings were organised every Thursday with an average of seven volunteers per session. The last meeting (31st July 2014) was cancelled due to illness. On 29th July 2014 we organised a visit of the Rescue Center and Butterfly Farm (Pilpintuwasi) in the Padre Cocha village near Iquitos - nine volunteers were present.

Conferences

On 25th July 2014 at 7:30pm, Susana Cubas Poclin de Saboya (Peru), bird specialist with the PCBC (Peruvian Center for Biodiversity and Conservation), talked about "Diversidad e importancia ecologica de las Aves en la Ciudad de Iquitos y Aves asociadas an ecosistemas acuaticos". With a total of 18 participants and the idea to start a collaboration with Susana and her group of volunteers to make some research (inventory) and events related to birds.

Volunteers

As from end of July 2014, all our volunteers are back from their temporary mission with a lot of motivation to continue their collaboration with Solinia.

