



CBSG MEXICO ANNUAL REPORT 2007 - 2008

Conducted Workshops

Lowland Tapir Conservation Workshop: Population and Habitat Viability Assessment. Sorocaba, São Paulo, Brasil, April 15-20, 2007.

Luis Carrillo was invited by CBSG Brazil as part of the facilitators' team for this workshop. More than 60 persons of countries from all over the natural distribution of the species attended this workshop. Workshop objective was to develop a conservation plan for the species all over its range.

This was the last of a series of 4 workshops for each of the tapir species of the world.

Prey Availability Estimation for the Mexican Wolf and Social Perception toward the Reintroduction of the Species. Ciudad de México, México, October 1-2, 2007.

More than 20 years after the extirpation of the Mexican wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*), the Mexican government is working with CBSG México to create a plan to reintroduce the species in its former range. An initial workshop identified possible release sites, but these sites needed further evaluation to understand the impact that prey availability and social perceptions would have on the possible reintroduction of wolves in different regions. CBSG México was invited by the Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP) to conduct a second workshop to address the issues of prey availability and the social perception of local communities toward the species.

Ocelot Translocation Project: Initial Partners Meeting.

Gladys Porter Zoo, Brownsville, Texas, USA. August 12 – 14, 2008.

Less than two hundred wild Ocelots (*Leopardus pardalis*) are left in the US mainly due to brush habitat destruction. In an attempt to save the species from extinction, experts both from México and the US are evaluating translocations as possible measure to mitigate both the low numbers of animals and the loss of genetic variability in the US populations. CBSG México was invited by members from the Ocelot Recovery Team (although not an official Recovery Team meeting) to facilitate this workshop.

The First National Congress for the Preservation of Aruba's Wildlife. Aruba. August 27-29, 2008.

Luis Carrillo as part of the CBSG team lead by Bob Lacy helped in the facilitation of this workshop. Using CBSG tools and processes designed specifically for this type of conservation problem, the workshop brought together a diverse group of 65 stakeholders including biologists, representatives from governmental and non governmental organizations, teachers, zoo professionals, and naturalists, from Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Holland, Venezuela, and the USA. The goal of this workshop was to develop a plan to preserve the island's natural heritage for present and future generations of island residents and visitors

Training

Vortex Training Course. Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Facultad de Ciencias, Bogotá, Colombia. November 6-10, 2008.

The Science Faculty of the Javeriana University in Bogotá, Colombia, invited CBSG México to teach an introductory vortex course for undergraduate and grad students working with conservation of Colombian endangered species in the field. A total of 20 students attended the course.

The course was so successful and there were so many students on waiting list that the Faculty is exploring the possibility to have this course once a year.

Venezuelan Amphibian Biology and Management Course.

Valencia, Venezuela. November 19 – 23, 2008

Luis Carrillo was invited to teach part of the ABM course held in Venezuela last November. More than 50 students attended this course, which hopefully will lead to the establishment of *ex situ* conservation programs for endangered amphibians in Venezuela.

Response to Amphibian Crisis

Amphibian Prioritization Workshops

As part of CBSG México's support to Aark and the 2008 Year of the Frog campaign and activities, Luis Carrillo facilitated, using some of the CBSG tools and techniques, Amphibian Prioritization workshops for Colombia, Venezuela, México and Perú. During the workshops, experts and scientists evaluated their own native amphibian to assess which of them are in need of *ex situ* support in order to avoid their extinction. Final scores provide the *ex situ*, *in situ* and government communities with a prioritized list of species needing assistance. These prioritization workshops are just the phase I in selecting species for *ex situ* conservation, other phases include government support and permit and institutions assess to evaluate their own capacity to run a long term *ex situ* conservation program.

Colombian Amphibian Prioritization Workshop. Bogotá, Colombia.

November 12-14, 2007 - Fourteen persons representing 7 institutions attended this workshop.

Venezuelan Amphibian Prioritization Workshop. Maracay, Venezuela.

November 16-18, 2007 - Twenty persons representing 12 institutions attended this workshop.

Mexican Amphibian Prioritization Workshop. Ciudad de México, México.

February 18-20, 2008 - Twelve persons representing 8 institutions attended this workshop.

Peruvian Amphibian Prioritization Workshop. Lima, Perú. September 11-13, 2008 – More than 15 persons representing 10 institutions attended this workshop.

Other activities

CBSG México has continued its work both among scientific community and general public about the 2008 Year of the Frog campaign. Activities that have been done include:

- Presentations at universities and schools
- Development of a puppet show for children
- Presentations at the Mexican Zoos and Aquariums Association
- Presentations at the Latin-American Zoos and Aquariums Association
- Survey within the Mexican Zoos and Aquariums Association to assess the status of amphibian collections in Mexican zoos and aquariums
- Producción de material educativo/informativo y distribución

Publications

Carrillo, L. et al. Análisis de Viabilidad de Poblaciones y del Hábitat del Jaguar, en: *Conservación y manejo del Jaguar en México: estudios de caso y perspectivas*. 2007. Conabio - Alianza WWF/Telcel – Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.