

CBSG Brasil Activities

Unfortunately since the last annual meeting CBSG-Brasil convener Arnaud Desbiez suffered some serious health problems, which limited the number of activities our network participated in this year. However, we have some exciting news from different fronts and many activities planned for the end of the year and for 2010.

Announcements

CBSG-Brasil Facilitator Leandro Jerusalinsky has recently been promoted Director of the Center for the Protection of Brazilian Primates (CPB, part of Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade – ICMBio from the Brazilian Environment Ministry). One of the actions Leandro will be promoting as the new director of the center is the undertaking of Population Viability Analysis for the top endangered primate species of Brazil.

CBSG-Brasil Facilitator Patrícia Medici is now a member of the Steering Committee of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC). Also, Patrícia is now part of the Zoos & Aquariums Committing to Conservation (ZACC) Conference Steering Committee.

The CBSG-Brasil team has been invited to participate in several of the IUCN/SSC Specialist Groups. Between the three of them they are members of 6 Specialist Groups: Deer, Iguana, Peccary, Primate, Tapir and Wildlife Health.

Meetings and Conferences

CBSG-Brasil Facilitator Leandro Jerusalinsky attended the Workshop "Seminário de Apresentação da Ferramenta GLOBIO" (Seminar for the Presentation of GLOBIO Tools / GLOBIO) at the Jardim Botânico do Rio de

Janeiro, between March 24 and 26, 2009. The event was organized by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment. Over 50 participants from federal institutions (EMBRAPA, INPE, IBGE etc), universities (UFRGS, UFG etc), various members from departments of the Ministry of the Environment (IBAMA, ICMBio, JBRJ) as well as participants from a Dutch environment evaluation agency (PBL) and from the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) attended. Leandro participated in a round-table entitled "Modeling Experiences in Brazil" and gave a presentation entitled "Population Modeling using Vortex as a Tool for Species Conservation: Experiences in Brazil". His presentation generated a lot of interest and discussions.

Leandro Jerusalinsky attended the International Mammalogical Congress in Mendoza, Argentina, between the 11th and the 14th of August. He presented a poster about CBSG and discussed CBSG activities with many conservationists, researchers and members of IUCN/SSC Specialist Groups.

Arnaud Desbiez and Patricia Medici attended an IUCN Red List Training Workshop between the 18th and the 21st of August, 2009, in Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil. This Training Workshop was organized by the SSC Red List Unit as a response to a request from the ICMBio - Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade - the department of the Brazilian Federal Agency of Natural Resources that is in charge of wildlife conservation and protected areas. ICMBio generously invited Patricia and Arnaud to participate. Species Conservation Strategies were discussed on the last day of the workshop. Arnaud made a presentation about CBSG and Patricia used tapirs as an example of how PHVAs can be organized and held, and how action plans can be implemented. The Species Conservation Planning Task Force (SCPTF) handbook for Species Conservation Planning and CBSG's Population Habitat Viability Assessment Workshop (PHVA) were discussed.



Red list assessment participants

Future Workshops

National Action Plan for Jaguars in Brazil (November 2009)

A National Action Plan for Jaguars in Brazil is being planned by CENAP (Centro Nacional de Pesquisas para a Conservação dos Predadores Naturais, the governmental research center responsible for all aspects related to carnivore conservation, research and policy-making in Brazil) and Pró-Carnívoros (a Brazilian NGO). They have asked CBSG-Brazil to help facilitate and develop this Action Plan. The Jaguar Action Planning Workshop will be an adaptation of IUCN's Species Survival Commission Species Conservation Planning Task Force (SCPTF) handbook for Species Conservation Planning, CBSG's classic Population Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) Workshop, while formatting the report in the ICMBio's (Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade) new format for species action plans. The workshop will take place between the 9th and 13th of November, 2009.



Conservation Medicine Workshop (December 2009)

Since 2001, conservation medicine has been growing in Brazil. There are now quite a few Brazilian veterinarians accumulating valuable data and information on various species. At the moment, however, it is still a descriptive science and lacks coordination. In the workshops CBSG-Brasil has been conducting so far, infectious diseases have often been discussed as major or unknown threat. We find it difficult to discuss disease and epidemics as knowledge is often lacking. CBSG-Brasil is organizing a 3-day Conservation Medicine Workshop to be held in early December. The main goal of this workshop will be to bring together field veterinarians to discuss the impact of disease on wildlife conservation and introduce them to CBSG tools, VORTEX and Outbreak. During the workshop we will compile information, identify gaps in knowledge and make sure that these veterinarians know about the CBSG tools so they can make the necessary adjustments in their future data collection. The final result of this workshop will be a report on wildlife disease modeling that we will continue adding to as research progresses and that defines how these diseases can be translated into CBSG modeling tools, or improve their use. Also, we will use this workshop to discuss and prepare the scientific basis for a Conservation Medicine Training Course to be organized and held by the Conservation Biology Training Center of IPÊ - Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas in Brazil.

Lear's Macaw PHVA (May 2010)

The Institute Chico Mendes for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio) and CMAVE (National Research Center for the Conservation of Wild Birds) has asked CBSG Brasil to help them organise and run a PHVA for Lear's Macaw (*Anodorhynchus leari*). Lear's Macaw is a rare Brazilian parrot with a highly restricted range. For over a century after it had been described, the whereabouts of the wild population was unknown. It was eventually rediscovered in 1978. The Lear's Macaw lives in stands of Licuri palm (*Syagrus coronata*), the nuts of which form a prominent part of its diet. This habitat, while never plentiful, is currently estimated to be around 1.6% of its original cover. Various conservation organizations along with local ranchers and other independent organizations are working to help conserve the species. The workshop is currently planned for May-June 2010.



Lear's Macaw feeding on fruits from the Licuri Palm, Bahia, Brazil