



## BIGAL RIVER CONSERVATION PROJECT

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### News

The Houston Zoo organized a Spotlight on South America, an event designed to foster awareness and appreciation of some of our beautiful animals from that region. The proceeds earned from this event went to supporting two community based conservation projects that work tirelessly to ensure the survival of South American species in the wild. The first is the Bigal River Biological Reserve, in Ecuador and the second is the "Maned Wolf Conservation Project", which also combines research, conservation and education.



[HTTP://HOUSTONZOOBLOGS.ORG/WILDCONSERVATION/](http://HOUSTONZOOBLOGS.ORG/WILDCONSERVATION/)

### Activities

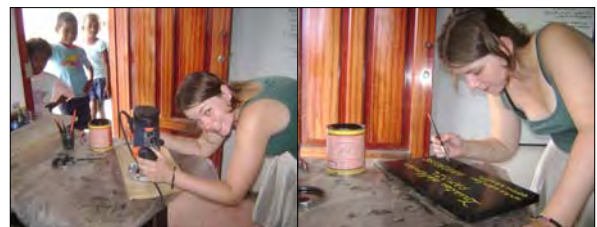
The Project's members are working to improve Camp, dining area and dry toilets for our visitors' commodity.



The Project welcomed its first volunteer, Violette Foubert, 21 old, from France, who studies Nature's Protection.

She volunteered with us from July the 11th through August the 20th of 2010 and did a great job.

Violette, made some interpretative signs for the Reserve, and studied the relation between some species and the flora to prepare a presentation for local communities.



## Activities

### Herpetological expedition

First expedition: June the 21st through June the 29th of 2010, BRBR

Second expedition: July the 2nd through July the 9th of 2010, BRBR

Third expedition: July the 26th through August the 1st of 2010, BRBR.



*Objective:* Teach taxonomy and monitoring techniques for reptiles and amphibians. Investigate the Reserve's fauna. A few species potentially new to Science were found during the three expeditions.

Thanks to Steve — Tim Christensen - Peter Shadix - Sam—Loreto Pintado—Morley Reed—Stephanie and Zane Bowman, Tanner Havrey for their visit and support. A special Thanks to Paul Hamilton from RAEI for choosing the BRBR as a reptiles and amphibians' study site.



## Activities

### Recycled paper's Workshop

July the 5th through July the 7th of 2010, Sumaco National Park Ranger Station, 8 de Diciembre.

14 participants.

*Objective:* Inform women and teenagers from the communities about the importance of recycling and introduce it as possible alternative income for all family members.

Instructors: Liveya y Christina Espinoza



### Tapir Conservation and monitoring Workshop

*First Workshop:* April 13th of 2010 - Loreto-18 participants.

*Second Workshop:* from April the 14th through April the 17th of 2010.

*Objective:* Inform community members about the importance of protecting Tapirs and train the Project's team on monitoring techniques of this species which happens to be endangered in our area.

Trainer: Luis Sandoval - Tapir Specialist Group



### Butterflies expedition

July the 20th through July the 26th of 2010, RBRB.

Keith Wilmott's "Lepidoptera Diversity and Biology in Ecuador" Florida University - EEUU - Mc Guire center.

*Objective:* Study butterflies species in RBRB, Sumaco Napo Galeras National Park, and other parts of Ecuador

Thanks to Jamie Radford - Emilie Hartley - Katie Buckland for their visit - Cambridge University - Inglaterra (139 specimens collected, 49 new for the Bigal River Biological Reserve).



### Tapir Conservation Workshop

May the 5th through May the 7th of 2010, Baños.

*Objectives:* Enhance Park Rangers' and communities leaders' knowledge on Tapir Monitoring. Demonstrate how helpful flag species can be when it comes to conserving an ecosystem.

Trainers: Andrés Tapia, Luis Sandoval - Tapir Specialist Group. Juan Pablo Reyes - Fundación Oscar Efrén Reyes. Orlando Vega— Zoológico San Martín



*The Eco-logical Corner*



**Recycling is easy!  
Use your imagination!**



**Use old bottles ...  
for festive tables!**



**Use old containers ...  
for unique chairs!**



**Use old bottles ...  
for cute shelters!**



**Use plastic junk...  
for surprising art!**



**Use old jugs...  
for unusual masks!**



**Use old tires ...  
for atypical pots!**



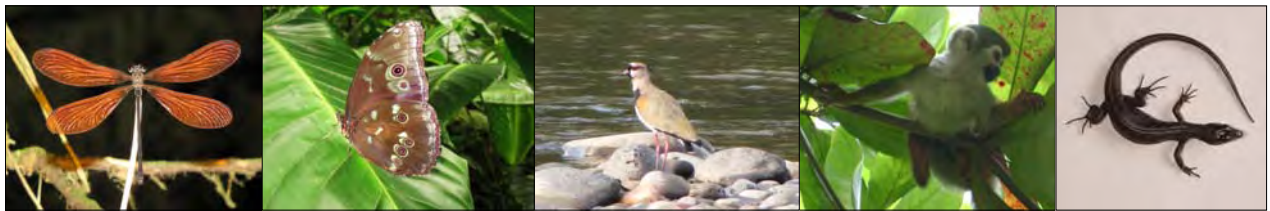
Centro Agrícola  
 Rosalino Olalla y Mateo Puraquilla  
 Loreto - Ecuador  
 Cel (porta): (00- 593) -(0) 89-306-988  
 (movi) : (00- 593) -(0) 87- 105-383  
 E-mail: [sumacmuyu@gmail.com](mailto:sumacmuyu@gmail.com)

**We're on the Web!**

<http://reservadelriobigal.googlepages.com>

**MEMBERS:**

You can join us  
 as a Institutional  
 or  
 Benefactor member,  
 Just contact us.



**More than 1500 species photos of the Reserve available on Flickr.com.**

Visit the following link and Help the BRBR:

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/bigal\\_river\\_conservation\\_project\\_ecuador/sets/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/bigal_river_conservation_project_ecuador/sets/)

## Thanks

We thank the following organizations for their generosity and support:



## Our Parters



Fundación Gustavo Orces

