News from Napo

August 2009

The President of Ecuador Visits Napo!

On Saturday 15th August, Mr Rafael Correa, President of Ecuador visited our community! During his visit he was introduced to the sound environmental practices at the Napo Wildlife Center, as well as to the quality of the community administration. He was also able to enjoy the biodiversity of Yasuni National Park, the home of our community.

This is the first time a president has visited a Kichwa community in the Amazon! We welcomed the President and honored his visit with a special event, including performances of traditional dance and presentation of gifts and crafts. The children, teenagers, men and women of the Añangu Kichwa Community all participated!

A productive dialogue developed between the Community and Mr. Rafael Correa, in which the President pledged to support and improve health and education through the "Education of the Millennium" initiative. Representatives of Añangu Kichwa Community informed the President of the work of FEPTCE (Federación Plurinacional de Turismo Comunitario del Ecuador), in creating workshops and training on leadership and community-based ecotourism.

Thanks to this visit, we intend to make our project known to national and international audiences. We hope that many more people will discover the magical world of the Amazon and the success of the Añangu Kichwa Community .

...Napo Wildlife Center´s environmental standards get a great review from www.treehuggers.com, a leading media outlet dedicated to driving sustainability mainstream..Take a look at their article about Napo - there are loads of fascinating...

Thinking of travelling to Ecuador again?? Did you recommend it to your friends?

Following on from the success of the Napo Wildlife Center, the community have set up their own tour agency - **Amazanga Expeditions.**

Amazanga means the power of the forest in Kichwa.

Amazanga will specialize in responsible and eco-tourism holidays in Ecuador. The website will be going live any day now!

www.amazangaexpeditions.com

New baby at NWC!

You will be pleased to hear that one of our top guides, Miguel Carrera, and his wife have a new arrival - a big welcome to baby Gerardo !!

Camera Trap Project - Black Jaguar Snapped!

Have you heard about our Camera Trap Project? It´s our pioneering project! We have 25 heat and motion sensitive cameras strategically situated in the reserve. The purpose of the cameras is to survey the large mammals and birds in a range of habitats and to monitor their patterns of activity.

The information collected will be used for scientific studies of populations, animal density, behavior and use of specific habitats... but of course it produces some great pictures too! So far, we have fantastic images of ocelots, pumas, jaguars, coatis, tapirs, peccaries, porcupines, rodents, pigeons, tinamous, hawks and more ... You can take a look at the pictures by visiting... www.napowildlifecenter.com/trap_project.html We are particularly excited about recent pictures of a Black Jaguar. To find out more about the Jaguar visit the link above.

It is our intention to run the project for 10 years in order to generate a significant quantity of data that will make a real contribution to our understanding of these species, some of which are in danger of extinction or threatened due to the loss of habitat.

Are you able to make a donation to allow us to continue with this project? Become part of this dream!!! For donations and inquiries please e-mail projects@napowildlifecenter.com. Thank you in advance for supporting the Añangu Kichwa Community and the survival of Yasunì National Park!