

News

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the only primate sighted during the survey and although troops were not habituated every attempt was made to gather data. Tamarins were followed for anywhere from 15 minutes to up to five hours. Tamarins used all levels of the forest, from the ground to the canopy (0–50m) and were seen foraging in both primary and secondary forest as well as along the main road that runs through the reserve (even crossing the road on the ground). Our preliminary data indicate that there are at least three troops, but there may be up to six. Average troop size was four individuals. Several intertroop encounters were observed and consisted of continuous loud chattering vocalizations lasting over 30 minutes in one instance. A number of calls were recorded and will be analyzed in the future. Foraging data gathered indicate that like most other tamarins, the individuals at this site have a mixed diet. Individuals were seen foraging on the flowers of *Inga* sp. and *Mucuna elliptica*, fruit of *Pourouma cecropiifolia* and an unknown liana, and palm exudates. During the study period a dead juvenile male was discovered with few marks. The specimen was measured (HB = 23 cm, T = 32.5 cm, HF = 6.5 cm, E = 2.4 cm) and deposited at Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador in Quito. Although cause of death could not be determined, potential predators at the site include margays, tayras and several raptor species. In addition to the tamarins, four other species of primates have been observed in the reserve: *Aotus vociferans*, *Ateles belzebuth*, *Cebus albifrons*, and *Alouatta seniculus*. Although not in the reserve Woolly monkeys (*Lagothrix lagotricha*) do reside in the nearby Sumaco Galeras National Park. Researchers will continue to monitor primates at the site and more behavioral data will be collected in the future. The Wildsumaco Biological Field Station, a joint venture between the preserve, Francis Marion University and University of North Carolina Wilmington, will open in July 2011 and facilitate future primate studies in the area. For more information on primate studies at Wildsumaco please contact Natasha Vanderhoff (nvander4@ju.edu) or visit the website (<http://www.riopucunofoundation.org/>).

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NEWS

CURSO MÉTODOS DE CAMPO Y ESTRATEGIAS DE CONSERVACIÓN

La Asociación Colombiana de Primatología en coordinación con la Universidad de Los Andes y el Laboratorio de Ecología de Bosques Tropicales y Primatología, los invitan a participar en el Primer Curso de Métodos de Campo y Estrategias de Conservación en Primatología del 10 al 22 de Julio de 2011, en el Parque Nacional Natural Cueva de Los Guácharos, Colombia. Para mayores informes entrar a <http://cursoprimatologia2011.webs.com/>

PRIMATE ETHOLOGY AND ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

The Institute of Tropical Ecology and Conservation offers the field course "Primate ethology and animal behavior" at the Bocas del Toro Biological Station, Panama. The purpose of this course is to give the student a foundation in primate ecology, primate behavior, field techniques and analytical tools in a tropical setting. The material covered is equivalent to a university upper level course in primate ecology. The course is available to college students, post-bachs, graduate students or faculty. Registration deadline: November 20th, 2011. For more information go to: <http://www.itec-edu.org/index.html>

MPhil IN CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP

The MPhil in Conservation Leadership at University of Cambridge's Department of Geography, is a full-time, one-year, masters course, aimed at graduates of leadership potential with at least three to five years of relevant experience. The unique features of this course are its delivery by a partnership between several university departments and conservation organizations based around Cambridge, and its focus on issues of management and leadership. A key aim of the course is to build the capacity of conservation leaders from tropical countries. For more information visit: <http://www.geog.cam.ac.uk/graduate/mphil/conservation/>