

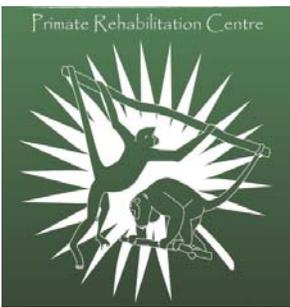


Wildtracks

Conservation, Education and Research

The Wildtracks Newsletter

Issue 05, 2017



Primate Rehabilitation Centre



Manatee Rehabilitation Centre

The Wildtracker



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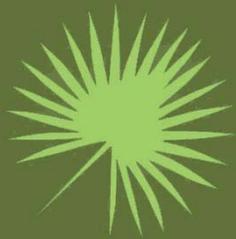
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Biodiversity Conservation



Outreach



Sustainable Development



Support



Welcome...

We are excited to be able to share with you the many wonderful things happening here at the Wildtracks Centre

A word about Wildtracks

Wildtracks is based in Belize, and has been active since 1990. It was registered as a Belize non-profit organization in 1996, and implements its activities through three primary Programme Areas:

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Outreach
- Sustainable Development

...supported by the fourth, the Support Programme, through volunteer work, environmental consultancies, grants and donations.

Under the Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Wildtracks hosts two of Belize's four officially recognized national wildlife rehabilitation programmes - one for primates, the other for manatees.

The Primate Rehabilitation Centre works with Belize Forest Department towards ending the illegal wildlife trade in endangered Yucatan black howler monkey and Geoffroy's spider monkey, and returning confiscated, surrendered and rescued primates to the wild.

The Manatee Rehabilitation Centre is also managed in partnership with the Belize Forest Department. It provides facilities and care for all injured manatees and orphaned manatee calves rescued in Belize's waters.

Both rehabilitation programmes are focused on returning animals to health, and releasing them back into the wild once they have gained the skills necessary to survive.

We would like to thank all of you - volunteers and donors alike - for becoming part of the Wildtracks network! Your support is an essential part of every success story!

Introducing the Wildtracks Outreach Programme

Conserving ecosystems and endangered species is not something that can be achieved by one strategy or one organization alone...

**The illegal pet trade can be stopped
Maintenance of forests can be balanced with development
Future generations will know the wildlife we benefit from today....
But only if everyone plays a role in good stewardship of Belize's environment and wildlife**

As part of its strategic planning, Wildtracks has set a clear goal of actively engaging and inspiring both the local and national community towards improved awareness and active stewardship of Belize's biodiversity, with a particular focus on Belize's two primate species, and manatees. The Wildtracks Outreach Programme raises awareness of the importance of these species to Belize and the issues surrounding them, increases knowledge about Belize's wildlife laws, and fosters stewardship of Belize's wildlife across the country.

As part of its Outreach Programme implementation, Wildtracks is facilitating the development of a National Wildlife Awareness Strategy, in partnership with the Forest Department. This will guide national wildlife awareness activities and key messages, based on addressing identified national priority threats through improved understanding and awareness.

The Wildtracks Outreach Team attends both local and national outreach events throughout the year, reaching people of all ages, in collaboration with our conservation partners.

Wildtracks and Education...

Through the Outreach Programme, Wildtracks hosts on-site Education Days, as well as presenting on conservation topics at schools. Focusing on one species or issue (such as the illegal trade in wildlife pets), the Outreach Team uses a variety of interactive games, presentations and learning exercises to encourage youths to become actively involved in conservation in Belize.



2018 Outreach Objectives **Building awareness to tackle the illegal trade in primates**

Wildtracks will be taking classroom-focused conservation-based creative projects and activities into schools in key primate poaching communities.





Vasco Jacke

A Glimpse at Outreach in 2017

MOVING FROM KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION! Between January and August, 2017, Wildtracks attended thirteen outreach events at both local and national level, as well as hosting ten education events at Wildtracks - already passing 2016's total of eighteen outreach and education events for the whole year. Wildtracks' primary focus for Outreach in 2017 is improving awareness of the illegal primate pet trade within Belize. The Team is reaching out to people and communities across Belize, encouraging them to care about the country's endangered primates and manatees, to be aware of the increasing threats to both species, and what steps - big and small - they can take to help.

Highlights...

La Ruta Maya

Every year in March, the country gathers to watch and celebrate La Ruta Maya, a four-day canoe race from San Ignacio to Belize City. At the end of each day, a fair is setup on the river bank, the ideal setting to target an audience not normally found at more conservation-orientated events. Wildtracks, along with the Belize Forest Department and other conservation partners, uses this as an opportunity to educate the public about Belize's endangered wildlife.

Coastal Awareness Week

The first annual Coastal Awareness Week event at Corozal Junior College (CJC) was hosted by Coastal Zone, focusing on conservation organizations working on and around Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. An extremely uplifting event for the Outreach Team, the students of CJC were extremely engaged, enthusiastic, and passionate about conservation.

Corozal Escuelas Mexico Junior College (CEMJC) Open Day

Wildtracks third year at the CEMJC Open Day, the event is an excellent opportunity for educating youths and their families about Belize's endangered primates, why it is illegal to keep them as pets, and to give people the opportunity to report illegal wildlife pets.

Easter Regatta

To celebrate Easter, Sarteneja Village hosts the Easter Regatta - a day of sun, booths, food, and of course, the sailing regatta, with traditional wooden sailing boats racing on the sea front of the village! A favourite outreach event each year, the Outreach Team is assisted by the entire volunteer team - giving everyone the opportunity to experience the regatta. This also provides Wildtracks the opportunity to show the work being done and foster local pride in the rehabilitation success achieved in their community.

The Outreach Team is looking forward to many more events this year, and is launching a strategic outreach campaign, in collaboration with the Forest Department's Forest 4 Life initiative, focused on key poaching communities.

Meet Emma Farlow, the Wildtracks Outreach Coordinator!



Between January and August 2017

Wildtracks participated in...

13 OUTREACH EVENTS

Reaching over

830 PEOPLE

Wildtracks hosted...

12 EDUCATIONAL VISITS

with over

520 PARTICIPANTS

E. Farlow



WILDLIFE AWARENESS IN BELIZE

Belize has committed to ensuring the continued viability of its biodiversity as a signatory of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Wildtracks contributes towards this, with a focus on three endangered species - the Yucatan black howler monkey, Geoffroy's spider monkey, and Antillean manatee. Human impacts on these species are increasing with the increasing human footprint.

While individual initiatives to reduce pressure on specific species are important (such as Wildtracks' efforts for Belize's primates and manatees, and Belize Bird Rescue, focusing on birds), it has been recognized that more strategic awareness and communications activities implemented through a strengthened collaboration between the Belize Forest Department and its NGO partners would increase effectiveness of all initiatives.



K. Traywick

Imagine a Belize without wildlife...

In 2016 /2017, under the Biodiversity Conservation Programme, Wildtracks facilitated a series of national wildlife awareness workshops, bringing together the Forest Department and key conservation NGOs from across Belize. This resulted in the draft National Wildlife Awareness Strategy, designed to provide a collaborative platform for raising awareness of, and combatting, wildlife issues in Belize. **Limited knowledge, cultural practices, ignorance, and fear** was identified as an over-arching driver of four high priority wildlife issues:

- Deforestation / ecosystem degradation / fragmentation
- Unsustainable hunting (legal and illegal) - game meat, pets, and animal products (e.g. jaguar teeth and skin)
- Poor tourism practices
- Human - wildlife conflict (e.g. jaguar and livestock)

Strategic objectives were identified for each issue, and activities to achieve these objectives, target audiences and key messages. The Plan is being integrated into the Forest Department National Wildlife Strategy, and into the National Forest Department Communication Strategy.

Wildlife Awareness and Wildtracks...

Illegal hunting of wildlife for the pet trade) and **poor tourism** practices (such as feeding wildlife and poor boating practices) are the two wildlife issues identified as most relevant to the wildlife rehabilitation work at Wildtracks. The Wildtracks Outreach Programme focuses primarily on addressing these threats:

Illegal hunting of primates for the illegal wildlife trade:

In Belize, both Geoffroy's spider monkey and Yucatan black howler monkey, are hunted for the illegal wildlife trade. Approximately 78% of the primates at Wildtracks have come in from the illegal wildlife trade. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) predicts that the Yucatan black howler monkey population will decline by 60% over 30 years if nothing is done to address current threats. Wildtracks Outreach Programme activities focus on increased awareness of the important role primates play in maintaining forest ecosystems, in supporting Belize's recognition as a wildlife-rich tourism destination, and of the Wildlife Protection Act and associated fines for keeping primates illegally as pets. All these contribute towards the national strategies for continued viability of these threatened species.

Poor tourism practices around manatees

In Belize, the biggest threat to the Antillean manatee is humans, in the form of boat strikes - with the highest number occurring in the Belize City area, known for its speeding tour boats and water taxis in no-wake zones. Increasing awareness of tour operators, tour guides, tourists, and boat captains of the risks facing Belize's endangered manatees from speeding boats is key to the long term viability of this species. Wildtracks encourages boat captains to "Go Slow" and respect No Wake Zones in high risk areas such as the Belize River mouth.

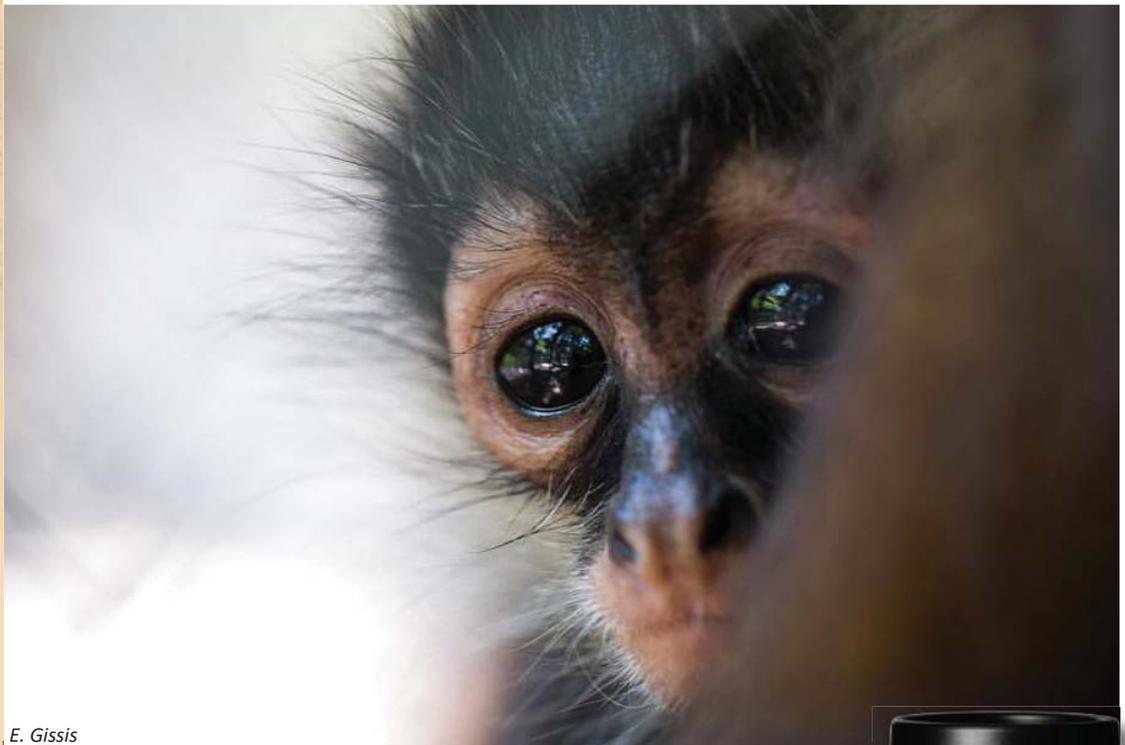
KEEP THE WILD
IN WILDLIFE!

I AM NOT A PET!

The Wildtracks Primate Rehabilitation Centre has worked closely with the Belize Forest Department since its establishment in 2010, providing a facility that accepts all primates confiscated from the illegal wildlife pet trade, or found injured / stranded. Where possible, Wildtracks rehabilitates them for return to the wild. With a facility that accepts all confiscated primates, the Belize Forest Department has been able to implement a zero-tolerance policy for illegal pet monkeys of both species. Wildtracks currently has 52 primates in rehabilitation, and another 57 that have been through rehabilitation and are now successfully released back into the wild. The number of primates being kept illegally as pets in Belize has declined by 90% since the 2010 baseline, and the goal of ending the illegal wildlife trade in primates in the next five years. This is a clear indication that the partnership between the Wildtracks Primate Rehabilitation Programme and the Belize Forest Department is doing exactly what it sets out to do - making an impact on the illegal pet trade in monkeys and increasing the long term survival of these species.

Beginning in September, 2017, Wildtracks is launching an outreach project focused on four communities in western Belize that have been identified as key contributors to the illegal trade in primates for pets. The project is targeted at changing community perspectives from extraction to stewardship of Belize's endangered primates. Classroom activities will allow students to explore the role and benefits of primates to their communities, and engage them in protecting their wild neighbours. The students will also participate in fieldwork with Wildtracks, tracking wild monkeys in the local forest areas near their communities. Community open days, hosted by Wildtracks, the Forest Department and the students, will be designed to engage community leaders and the public in the students quest to protect their monkeys.

Since the 2010 baseline, the number of primates being kept illegally as pets in Belize has declined by 90%



E. Gissis

Thank you to

**LUSH
CHARITY POT**

<http://www.lushusa.com>

LUSH Charity Pots and Monkeys....

The Wildtracks Outreach Programme is achieving its strategic outreach objectives for improved primate stewardship with the support of LUSH USA and its charitable giving programme. Did you know that since its launch, LUSH Charity Pot has donated more than \$18,000,000 to 1400+ grassroots charities in 42 countries in support of the environment, sustainable development, and human rights ...

***Wildtracks is proud to be one of them!
Funding partners such as these support success!***



The Monkeys of Wildtracks

2017 Releases...

In June this year, 8 of the 59 monkeys in rehabilitation under the Primate Rehabilitation Programme (three Yucatan black howler monkey troops) were released into Fireburn Reserve. They have all come a long way!

Release Group One: Darwin and Sansa. Darwin and Sansa were both confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade. They were being kept together in a back garden, in a small refrigerator converted into a cage. Since their arrival at Wildtracks in November, 2014, they moved steadily through the rehabilitation process together, and are now back in the wild.

Release Group Two: Vikki, Innie, Finn, and Maggie. Vikki (named for the Forest Department Officer responsible for her confiscation) was only three months old when she arrived at Wildtracks in 2014. Innie was found on the forest floor near the border between Belize and Guatemala, with a broken arm - it is thought that his mother may have been shot in an attempt to catch him for the illegal pet trade. Finn was confiscated after his owners posted a picture of him on Facebook. Last but not least, is Maggie - she was hit by a vehicle and came in with concussion - her slightly crossed eyes in the early stages of rehabilitation gave her sense of perpetual confusion. She has, however, made a full recovery, and is now doing well in the wild.

Release Group Three: Kat and Balou. Kat was confiscated from a family that found her after burning their fields, and kept her. Balou was found running through a backyard in Orange Walk Town. As he was extremely tame, he is assumed to be an escaped pet. These two are now forging a new life in the wild.

Spider monkeys...

Wildtracks currently has 22 endangered Geoffroy's spider monkeys in rehabilitation. This species is considered difficult to release successfully back into the wild, so Wildtracks has taken the time to research and plan for its first year of releases. There are currently five troops of Geoffroy's spider monkeys at Wildtracks, with plans for the Satellite Two troop to be the first to be released. Known as the "teenagers", the troop is comprised of the younger, more adaptable monkeys - **Duma, Mattie, Penny, Mel, and Charlie**, an energetic and agile group assessed as having the greatest capacity to adapt to life in the high trees of the forest quickly.

Following a similar process used for the Yucatan black howler monkey releases, this first release troop will spend time in a specially designed Release Enclosure at the release site, located just south

of Fireburn Reserve in the North East Biological Corridor. Here they will become accustomed to the new sights, sounds and smells of the Fireburn forest, while still being fed on the regular rehabilitation schedule. Whilst the Yucatan black howler monkey troops require only three days in this stage to get used to their new forest environment, it is anticipated that spider monkeys will need longer to settle, and will spend three months in this stage. The release doors will then be opened and the spider monkeys will begin their life, wild and free. Post-release tracking will take place over the course of a year with tracking teams in the forest on rotation, giving the troop time to mentally map the fruiting trees both spatially and temporally.

(Above) Fig enjoys a patch of sunshine

(Left) Mel and Mattie relax in a hammock together



F. Tricone



J. Wanderer



E. Gissis

The Monkeys of Wildtracks...

Babies at Wildtracks...

We are pleased to be able to announce the birth of **Nero**, a Yucatan black howler monkey born to **Kenya**, who arrived at Wildtracks in 2014. Kenya was confiscated from the illegal primate pet trade, but despite this start in life, she is a great mother. It is always amazing, whether in Fireburn Reserve or at Wildtracks, to see monkeys who, after being taken from their mothers by hunters, are still able to become completely confident and capable mothers themselves.

Nero is rapidly growing in both size and personality, increasingly adventuring independently from his mother, and the two are often seen playing gently together.

(Right) Nero



A new spider monkey troop...

Ellie, our youngest spider monkey, has recently completed her move from the Nursery Unit to the Forest Enclosures. She is now successfully integrated with **Daisy**, another young spider monkey of a similar age, who arrived at Wildtracks recently after being surrendered by her owners. After completing the mandatory thirty-day quarantine, the integration “play dates” between the youngsters began and the two quickly became the best of friends. They now spend their days playing together with wild enthusiasm and their nights snuggled up in their hammock.

Ellie and Daisy have now started integrations with their neighbours, **Cas** and **Kamal**, the other two juvenile spider monkeys at Wildtracks. The pairs are currently in adjoining enclosures and spend the time chirping and chest-chuckling at each other - a good sign for their upcoming integrations!

(Left) Ellie



V. Jacke

A new enclosure...

Nikki, the white-faced capuchin, will soon be getting a new enclosure!

Nikki was smuggled into Belize illegally as part of the illegal wildlife trade (this species does not occur in Belize), before being confiscated by the Forest Department. Unfortunately, this means that she can never be released into the forests of Belize, so she will have to spend her life in care at Wildtracks as a sanctuary animal. Plans have been made for a new, permanent enclosure that integrates the twisty, gnarled limbs of the mangroves into a playground for Nikki.

As a sanctuary animal, Nikki has increased human contact and enrichment, including painting with Primate Programme Manager, Alysha. Nikki's colourful and unique paintings will be raffled as a fundraiser for her new enclosure.



B. Kovitz



Painting by Nikki

The Manatees of Wildtracks...

There are currently five Antillean manatees in rehabilitation at Wildtracks, of which four are in the final stages of rehabilitation.

Khaleesi and Twiggy are currently in Soft-Release, spending their days exploring the lagoon together. The two are inseparable, always side by side as they move from seagrass patch to seagrass patch. We are able to keep track of their movements using satellite trackers, and can use the information to assess which areas of the lagoon are important to them. This can help inform future soft-releases.

Lucky and Mitch are waiting for the arrival of two new GPS trackers before beginning their Soft-Release in the lagoon this summer. Once they are weighed, measured, and fitted with their trackers, the two will be led into the lagoon by Manatee Programme Manager Jaimy and her team to begin the process of learning the location of seagrass patches in the lagoon.

Hope is now in the Large Pool, weighing in at a remarkable 150lbs - 125lbs heavier than when she arrived a year ago! Though still not fully weaned (manatee calves wean at between 18 months and two years) she has become extremely keen on her seagrass frames, easily eating a bucket of seagrass during the day. As she is not yet ready to be integrated with the older manatees, Hope has more interaction with her carers to ensure that she remains active, inquisitive. She and her carers enjoy daily swims together, and she has shown that she has a surprisingly big personality for such a small manatee.



Eventually, once she is large enough, Hope will be moved into the Lagoon Enclosure, joining Mitch and Lucky. Here, she will begin to learn important skills such as socializing with other manatees and navigating a more natural environment.

Meet Jamilee Cruz, the Wildtracks Manatee Programme Manager!



One of the reasons that we are able to rehabilitate Antillean manatees so successfully in Belize is because of the support of our partners - **Save the Manatee Club**, and of the SMC members. Each year, Save the Manatee Club promotes a Wildtracks wishlist on Amazon.com, covering equipment and manatee milk. This year, 540 lbs of milk were donated - enough to feed the orphaned manatees currently in rehabilitation for a year! Thermometers, vitamin supplements, shade tarpaulins, storage shelves... Save the Manatee members donated over US\$10,500 of milk and supplies in 2016, keeping our manatees happy for 2017.....



THANK YOU!

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/?ie=UTF8&cid=A3CAG6LI8WJM56>

In Memory of the Duchess and L.C...

This January, we said goodbye to both **the Duchess** and **L.C.** **The Duchess**, an elderly manatee, passed away in early January as a result of a pulmonary embolism... We were glad to have been able to make her comfortable and well fed in her last months.

L.C., from Punta Gorda, was admitted in January 2016 with severe injuries from a boat strike (a broken rib and collapsed lung). Although her condition improved and she ate her way through vast quantities of seagrass, her collapsed lung did not respond to treatment as hoped. Wildtracks was fortunate enough to be able to invite Dr. Ray Ball, a specialist manatee vet from the US, to Belize to examine L.C. He established that the lung damage was in the airway rather than the lung tissue, and as it hadn't healed with the treatment given, it would not do so. Without hope of release back into the wild, or even a good quality of life, the hard decision was made to euthanize L.C. - not easy, but the right thing to do. With the assistance of a vet, the Team bid L.C a sad farewell.



Nursery Update...

The Nursery Unit continues to be a busy place, especially following the arrival of four young howler monkeys all under four months old, within a single month. These join the six youngsters already in rehabilitation. The sounds of chuckling, wrestling, eating, and purring fill the air – along with the sounds of mopping and scrubbing as the carers keep the area spotless, despite the monkeys best attempts to the contrary!

The youngest monkeys, **Prim**, **Piper**, **Ernie**, and **Tuli**, require considerably more hands-on care than the older groups, with carers providing support from sunrise to sunset. Piper and Tuli are the youngest and currently the most attached to their carers (their “surrogate moms”). Prim may sound like a delicate lady but she is, in fact, anything but - barreling around the troops’ play enclosure like an excited sumo wrestler. Last but not least is Ernie, the only male in the troop. Ernie is generally the most relaxed, but from time to time, can also show his overly exuberant side! All four love to eat their fresh browse (foliage) and flowers – and in fact, Prim (Primrose), Piper, and Tuli (Tulipan, the local name for hibiscus), are all named after plants!



Puck and **Jade** arrived at Wildtracks at the beginning of 2017. Jade, who arrived first, is very shy, quietly winning over her carers with her sweet personality and gentle playing. Puck, on the other hand, is rambunctious and bubbly, completely fearless despite arriving at Wildtracks with severe injuries sustained during his capture for the pet trade, including an air rifle pellet lodged in his skull. After surgery he made a quick recovery and was integrated with Jade. The two are now the best of friends, navigating their nursery enclosure with enthusiasm and ease throughout the day, snuggling in their hammock together each evening.

Max, **Maya**, **Sean**, and **Ivy** are well established as a group and live together with only minimal support from carers. Max and Maya are currently the butterballs of the four, eating fruit and browse to their hearts content, and growing well. In the upcoming months, the group will begin the process of moving to the Forest Enclosures, where they will continue to improve their communication and climbing skills, before moving on to pre-release and eventually on to release.

Nursery Milk Drive...

A huge thank you to Colette Kase and Rebecca Coutant for organizing a milk drive in San Pedro, Belize, for the nursery monkeys here at Wildtracks!!!

We are incredibly lucky to have received a significant donation of milk for the nursery monkeys from people in San Pedro. Thank you to all who donated funds or cans of milk, and particular thanks to Rebecca Coutant and Colette Kase for organizing the milk drive!

We had the pleasure of hosting Rebecca, Colette, and their partners at the Primate Rehabilitation Centre, and were able to show them the Nursery Unit, where the milk is used. Thank you again to all for the amazing milk donations! For more information on the visit...

<http://www.sanpedrocoop.com/2017/04/manatees-monkeys-baby-wildtracks-volunteers-sarteneja-belize.html>



Other News...

Wildtracks is currently implementing three key projects under the Primate Conservation Programme.

PROJECT ONE

“Improving long-term viability of endangered primate species in Belize through effective conservation planning and action at the national level” is a two-year project (2017 - 2018) that focuses on increasing collaboration between relevant wildlife partners for successful primate conservation resulting in healthier, better protected, and increased primate populations in Belize.

- National primate survey – presence / absence, population trends, health, community attitudes and perceptions
- National primate conservation plan
- National primate outreach campaign
- Engagement of key tourism and community stakeholders for development of a network of informed primate champions/ stewards



PROJECT TWO “Strengthening in-country capacity for assessing health of Belize’s two endangered primate species”, a one year project being implemented in association with the Auckland Zoo Conservation Fund.



Meet Primate Programme Manager, Alysha McGrattan! Alysha has recently completed her International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council certification in parasitology, and has been strengthening her capacity and knowledge of primate parasites with the assistance of Dr. Isabelle Paquet-Durand (Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic), and with invaluable input from Diomar Salazar (Medical Laboratory Technician - University of Belize), and Dr. Ray Ball (Lowry Park Zoo).

Alysha is assessing primate faecal samples from across Belize for parasites, comparing those in wild populations to the primates currently in rehabilitation. Though the project has just begun, she has already discovered several patterns – such as a fluke found almost exclusively in wild populations, and a parasite that is more frequent in illegal pet monkeys living in close contact with humans and dogs. This can help identify whether a lone monkey found in a populated area is an escaped pet or a wild individual, trapped and isolated by decreasing forest. It has also provided insight into natural parasitic levels in wild monkeys, moving the parasite treatment for primates in rehabilitation from parasite eradication to parasite management.



PROJECT THREE

Combating Wildlife Issues in Belize to Address Wildlife Crime and Improve Wildlife Security focuses on strengthening national strategies for addressing the illegal wildlife trade, focused on building multi-agency capacity for surveillance and enforcement and national awareness of wildlife and the role it plays in maintaining the socio-economic health of Belize.

- Development of National Threatened Species list of prioritised species
- Strengthening of enforcement capacity – training of Forest Officers
- Increasing enforcement footprint – engaging agencies and building capacity in increased recognition of enforcement for wildlife crime
- National wildlife trade awareness campaign

Right: Successful confiscations by the Wildlife Officers of the Forest Department have successfully reduced the number of monkeys kept as illegal pets in Belize



The Wildtracks Support Programme...

So how does Wildtracks fund its activities?

To fund the many projects and activities - including the Manatee and Primate Rehabilitation Programmes – Wildtracks has developed a number of financial sustainability mechanisms. In 2016, approximately 30% of Wildtracks income came from conservation planning consultancy work in Belize's marine and terrestrial protected areas - conservation planning projects that align with the Wildtracks focus on Landscapes / Seascaples (including effective protected areas), Climate change adaptation and Species Conservation (primarily primates and manatees).

Conservation planning is an intensive and fascinating process that not only helps protected areas achieve their goals, but allows Wildtracks to continue working towards its' vision of continued and thriving biodiversity within Belize. Wildtracks also provides facilitation and planning free for both small and large scale projects and organizations that help in meeting the organizational objectives.

The remaining 70% was achieved through donations and grants from Wildtracks supporters and funding partners (thank you!) – these provide critical funds for specific projects, through social media fundraising appeals (such as for the construction of the second large manatee pool in 2016), and for the purchase of supplies – particularly milk and fruit. Private donations have also enabled Wildtracks to establish an Endowment Fund - a foundation for future financial sustainability.



A huge thank you to Laura Rack, a valued member of the Conservation Planning Team who recently returned to the USA to continue her education

The Volunteer Programme...

Also under the Wildtracks Support Programme is the Volunteer Programme - providing the “on the ground” support for both the Manatee and Primate Rehabilitation Programmes, and for the post-release tracking of monkeys at Fireburn. The Programme was established to provide people with a cost effective way of gaining experience, particularly in early career, whilst ensuring the work at Wildtracks benefits from enthusiastic, committed workforce. The volunteers are the people who make the day to day running of Wildtracks possible - from feeding the monkeys and manatees to collecting seagrass, scrubbing pools, washing papayas and trekking through tropical forest watching monkeys. If you are interested in volunteering with Wildtracks, you can find our application at

www.wildtracksbelize.org.

And to everyone who has volunteered with us, past and present...

Thank you!



Thank you to photographers: Tony Rath, Emma Farlow, Eran Gissis, Jen Kristin Traywick, Fanny Tricone, Jess Weirich