

**Project Update: January 2013**

We have started our long needed survey work to elucidate the current population status of the Chacoan peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*). So far we have surveyed most of the central and northern Chaco, until now we have not encountered live Chacoan peccaries. However, we have found fresh tracks and according to our interviews with locals, small groups are often seen near national parks or on local paths with little traffic. On the other hand, we have found fresh remains of recently hunted Chacoan peccaries as well as, a great variety of hunted wildlife remains. Similarly, the trend of new settlements seems to not stop, significantly increasing pristine Chaco forest deforestation, traffic and hunting pressure in the region.

In the remaining of the survey we hope to find more signs of Chacoan peccaries, however, the fastness in which the region is developing gives us little hope of finding big healthy populations.



Two Chacoan peccaries hide left behind by hunters in the northern Chaco.



Young Chacoan peccary skull found on a roadside abandoned worker camp in the northern Chaco



Newly cleared Chaco forest, sadly even the wood is burned to the ground later.