Project Update: December 2014

Observations

We have made observations on the Amazon River close to the city of Iquitos with nine outings in December 2014 (3rd, 6th, 11th, 13th, 16th, 20th, 23rd, 27th and 30th). A total of 13 different volunteers have participated with an average of three per outing. A total of 123 river dolphins were counted, 34 pink dolphins *Inia geoffrensis* and 89 grey dolphins *Sotalia fluviatilis* - much more than the previous month. The last outing of the year was on Tuesday 30/12 and we have seen a total of 24 river dolphins (10 pink and 14 grey)!

Education



No conferences in December 2014 because the schools are in the final examination period. Then a big holiday period is starting from Christmas to mid-March 2015.

<u>Meetings</u>

Two weekly meetings were organised, always on a Thursday. Not a lot of participants because the volunteers are very busy with their final





examination and thesis.

<u>Conferences</u>

No conference in December 2014 but we have replaced it with a presentation of the results of the year with a small after event party. All volunteers were invited (a total of 29), 22 did confirm their attendance but only 12 were present, again probably because of the exams.

<u>Others</u>

I was invited in Cartagena (Colombia) from 26th November to 6th December to participate to a congress of biology with more than 3000 specialists worldwide. On 3rd December I have made a 15 minute presentation about the



river dolphins in Peru, the conservation status and our



projects, +/- 150 participants were listening and it was a real chance to have such opportunity. On 5th December during an education event I have teach how to make an origami of river dolphins, the Brazilian colleagues were very interested.

On 18th December with some volunteers we have organised

an expo of photographs about river dolphins on the Boulevard of Iquitos, a famous location in the city. A lot of people were interested and did ask questions about dolphins, really a big success!