

Project Update: December 2014

From April to November 2014, woolly monkeys had a seasonal variation in the use of food, where the consumption of ripe fruit was reduced in the dry season, particularly during the greatest period of fruit scarcity (July and August) where they relied heavily on young foliage. More than 50 species of plants were consumed; the three top ranking families were Fabaceae, Moraceae and Sapotaceae.

We carried out floristic composition of the three forest types (selectively logged, partially cleared and completely cleared now regenerating forest) through Gentry transects, in order to document the way in which resource availability changes over time, and examined how feeding ecology and pattern of movement of woolly monkeys were adjusted to changing ecological conditions.

Educational workshops were conducted at the Manu Learning Centre (MLC), for students of Salvation schools and tourism students from Andina University of Cusco, and every month for groups of volunteers who come to MLC.



Left: Adult male woolly monkey. © Eleanor Foster. Right: Pressing plants samples collected from Gentry transect. © Ruthmery Pillco. Middle: Workshop with students from Salvation at Manu Learning Centre. © Jennifer Serrano.