

Project Update: February 2015

Thanks to Rufford Small Grant the educational programme “Delfines del Río Negro” has reached 10,000 students and 1,000 teachers who were involved in school talks and conservation activities since the program were released in 2011.

From July to November 2014 we involved another 2,000 students and teachers from five cities nearby Río Negro Estuary attended our educational activities.

In each school we conducted discussions on how to help to protect the Franciscana and bottlenose dolphins and their habitat. A prominent topic in each talk was to highlight the need to create the Río Negro Estuary Natural Protected Area and the threats these two species of cetaceans face

As part of the programme, 537 student and 68 teachers from Viedma, El Cóndor and General Roca (Patagonia, Argentina) visited the Río Negro Estuary: a way to involve locals in conservation efforts to protect their cetaceans.

One of the main obstacles for the conservation of the Río Negro’s dolphins is the lack of knowledge of local community about dolphin’s main threats: incidental trapping in fishing nets and loss of habitats. “Delfines del Río Negro” is working to solve this problem. Recently a film crew of the Argentinean public TV was filming the first documentary about the Río Negro Estuary which include the Franciscana. It will be releases by mid-2015 at the public TV broadcast.

Additionally, on November 29th 2014 we organised jointly with local government and others institutions, the second annual beach cleanup campaign in Balneario El Cóndor where local people participated voluntarily in this activity.



San Francisco Primary School students and teachers visiting the Río Negro Estuary. Photo: Fundación Cethus.



A cameraman of the Argentinean Public TV filming the first documentary about the Río Negro Estuary. It is planning to be on air in mid-2015. Photo: Fundación Cethus.

The image is a composite. On the left is a photograph of two people, a man and a woman, on a sandy beach. They are both wearing light-colored jackets and are focused on filling a large black plastic bag with debris. The background shows a wide, flat beach area with some sparse vegetation in the distance. On the right is a poster for a beach cleanup campaign. The poster has a light blue and white background with a beach scene at the bottom. The text on the poster is in Spanish and includes the following information:

2º Campaña de limpieza costera del Balneario El Cóndor
Día de las costas limpias
¡Esperemos el verano con nuestras playas limpias!
Sumate voluntariamente

- ✓ Sábado 29 de noviembre de 2014
- ✓ Salimos a las 16hs desde la Oficina de Turismo del Cóndor
- ✓ Se entregarán bolsas y guantes

Convocan:

Logos for Fundación Cethus, WDC (World Development Council), Rufford, and Viedma are displayed at the bottom of the poster.

The second annual beach cleanup campaign in the Balneario El Cóndor. Photo: Municipalidad de Viedma.