

Project Update: May 2018

Here you can see the results of the field campaign held from late October to late December 2017 from which we could work thanks to the grant you trusted in us. Within this time we held a training course, analysed data to prepare a scientific paper on reproductive biology and held meetings with the province and local NGOs to continue our work.

In June 2018, we are taking part in a conservation symposium in the Corrientes BirdFair held in Iberá Wetlands "main gate" Colonia Carlos Pellegrini to outreach the outcomes of the project so far to local communities, park rangers, national and state governments and NGOs.

As we are already travelling within their grounds we will take the opportunity to search for wintering flocks – unknown for the species- and search for banded individuals. We believe that this might help in identifying possible threats that might be unknown until now considering that their feeding sources might be different to those during the reproductive season.

We are also organising a training programme for the park rangers of the Directory of Nature Resources from the Government of Corrientes that work within the state reserves in the province to raise awareness on the saffron-cowled blackbird, teach them how to keep data on flocks and what to consider when finding them. In this way, during next season we will be able to rely on more "eyes" within each reserve in Iberá Wetlands that can work to protect breeding colonies as well as attend any poaching activity. We are hoping to achieve this course in June 2018 after the BirdFair. All the work is done by me through Aves Argentinas and Florencia Pucheta a doctorate student from our National Research Centre (CONICET) whom I copied in this email.

Training Course to Public Teachers

In March 2018 we assisted the BirdFair organized by the province of Entre Rios (Ave Encuentro) held from the 17th to 19th of March. In this event we prepared a stand with all the information regarding the project and the institutions' (Aves Argentinas) work against wildlife trafficking.

We offered a training course for public teachers and professors to outreach knowledge and skills on native wildlife and their conservation project. It was also aimed not only to raise awareness amongst children at school but also provide skills to teachers whenever they are exposed to poaching or trafficking mainly of birds. This course was delivered to 40 teachers and professors in a four hour modality within the BirdFair activities and with previous enrolment.



In June (7th, 8th and 10th) we are giving a symposium in the BirdFair of Corrientes province (Feria de Aves de Iberá). Here we are going to extend the campaigns results to national NGOs, local and national governments, landowners and park rangers.