

## **Project Update: September 2023**

From August 21 to September 16 2023, we performed our first field campaign regarding the project "Expanding our Chaco eagle outreach, research and conservation campaign towards new areas in the Dry Chaco ecoregion". For 4 weeks, we traversed more than 6000 km in Santiago del Estero province, covering 12 departments (Capital, Banda, Jiménez, Figueroa, Copo, Alberdi, Moreno, Juan Felipe Ibarra, Avellaneda, Sarmiento, Atamisqui and Ojo de Agua) in our outreach campaign.

For 4 weeks, we gave 33 educational talks in elementary (20 centres, 1196 alumni) and secondary (13 centres, 1071 alumni) schools across Santiago del Estero province, reaching a total of 2267 students reached from 5 to 18 years old. In these talks, we also had 136 teachers and 106 parents attending. Additionally, we also gave speeches at four tertiary/university centres (18 to 30 years old), with a total of 162 attendees.

Concerning the meetings with producers: (1) we gave a talk at The Annual Quichua Meeting in Bandera Bajada village (Figueroa department), with more than 150 attendees, (2) we visited a group of 21 rural inhabitants of Paraje Palermo (Copo department), (3) we organised two meetings with Rural Associations of Producers in Copo department (Los Pirpintos, 14 producers; Pampa de los Guanacos, 23 producers), (4) we were invited to give a speech at the anniversary of the Rural Association of Quimili (Moreno department), with more than 80 livestock breeders and farmers of the area, and (5) we organised a meeting with firefighters in Villa Ojo de Agua (Ojo de Agua department, 10 firefighters), two reunions with park rangers in Isca Yacu (Jiménez department, 15 park rangers) and in Los Pirpintos (Copo department, 10 park rangers), and an institutional meeting with the Direction of Forests and Wildlife of Santiago del Estero province (30 people). In total, we reached more than 353 settlers, inhabitants, rural workers and producers of Santiago del Estero province.

Last but not least, our project has already appeared in two regional newspapers, a local TV channel and two radio programmes.

To sum up, our outreach campaign has directly reached almost 2,800 inhabitants of Santiago del Estero province, proving that outreach is key to starting any conservation project in the world!

During this time, we have gathered valuable information on the local knowledge and perception of the people about the Chaco eagle and its conservation status. In fact, very few (less than 5%) of our surveyed population in Santiago del Estero province could recognise this eagle before we appeared in the province. Now, all of them are helpers of our conservation cause!

We again thank The Rufford Foundation for the opportunity to launch a Chaco eagle outreach, research and conservation project in Santiago del Estero province, northern Argentina. Here are a few pictures of this campaign!









DECLARACION DE RESPONSABILIDAD DEL PARTICIPANTE  
Yo, el/la participante, declaro que he leído y comprendido el contenido del presente documento y que he aceptado las condiciones de uso de los servicios de Internet que se detallan a continuación.  
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