

Project Update: September 2012

Among awareness-raising activities and dissemination, we made presentations about pampean dune environments within a meeting for Young Leaders in marine conservation, and for neighbours and tourists in the museum of Monte Hermoso. We organised a visit of dune biodiversity reconnaissance together with park-rangers and local technicians. A new article about pampean dunes conservation is in press and our web page was enriched with new factsheets on coastal biodiversity and nature reserves making information available for everyone. You can visit it!: www.fundacionazara.org.ar/Investigacion/Proyectos/Costas.htm (button "Fichas temáticas"). Together with specialists, we are elaborating a handbook for young children, regarding dune ecology.

Further monitoring of bird communities and plant associations is underway in the dune area of Dorrego, involving the Arroyo los Gauchos nature reserve. We surveyed the first private dune-field, and contacted the owners for future conservation proposals. A second field campaign is planned for October 2012 and work goes on!



Left: Daniel monitoring grassland birds in a coastal plain within the area of Arroyo los Gauchos. Middle: Native grassland in the dune area of Arroyo los Gauchos Nature Reserve. Right: *Spartonoica maluroides* grassland bird found in the vegetated dunes at Coronel Dorrego. Species is listed as vulnerable by national categorization.