

### **Project Update: July 2009**

To foster public ecological understanding our team has now prepared and given several conferences and also prepared an educational DVD with seven local and international videos. Local institutions may request conferences and educational DVDs for free. Our conferences incorporate concepts taken from Jarred Diamond book *Collapse* together with local and international scientific research to convincingly argue why we need to preserve our ecosystems, reduce consumption and population growth. Our team has also been very active lobbying for a forest protection act – a process initiated by Greenpeace Argentina and to which thousands of Argentines contributed. We used RSG funds to organize a workshop with all involved parties in the locality of Río Ceballos – and a second workshop is due on September 17-19 (see [www.reforestacion.com.ar](http://www.reforestacion.com.ar)), several smaller workshops have been held in other localities. As usual, we continue with our forest restoration volunteer programme, though most of our volunteers are local, international volunteers are welcome. Forest restoration courses have been particularly successful and in the future will be held in August and December 2009, January and February 2010, enquiries by prospective students are welcome.



Polylepis australis forest in central Argentina.