Project Update: June 2009

We obtained data to estimate the size of 5 Magellanic penguin colonies along two Provinces in northern Patagonia. Harsh weather conditions prohibited us from accessing Leones Island, strong waves breaking into the boats forced us to come back to the mainland and move to another colony. At three of these colonies, breeding success and body condition of fledgling chicks was estimated. We searched 36,000 left flippers looking for any of the 55,000 penguins that have been banded at Punta Tombo since 1983.

We have submitted our results to the government through technical reports and we have organized a Symposium with 5 speakers to present and update the available ecological Information about Magellanic penguins. We invited the government, academic institutions, NGOs, travel agents, tour guides and general public.

We are participating in the Punta Tombo Advisory Commission meeting to facilitate the implementation of its Management Plan.
Left: Field work team at San Lorenzo Penguin Colony, Peninsula Valdes. Right: Magellanic penguin adult at nest.