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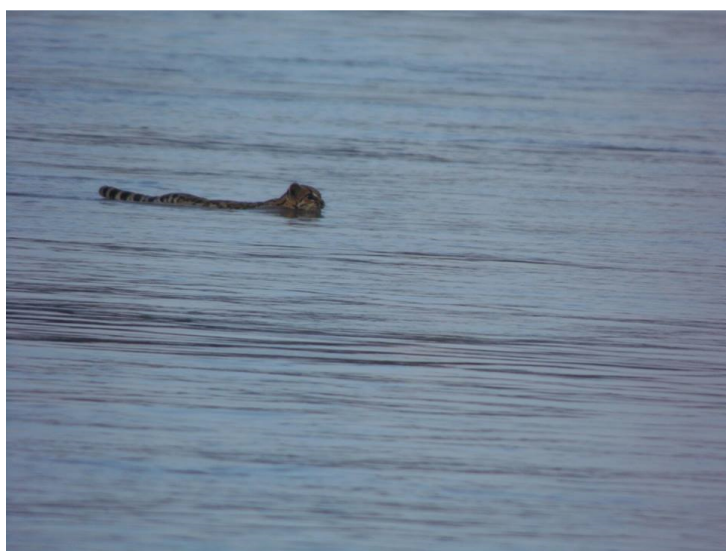
After such an exciting month last month we were hoping for a quiet October but as usual many things happened and we were constantly dealing with new situations!

One of the many things that happened was the sighting of two ocelots in the area. The first we saw in the area around Rachel's bungalow. Something we like doing every now and then is placing the sensor cameras in and around Taricaya itself so that we can see the animals in the area during the day and night. On these cameras we have seen agoutis, pacas, jaguars and several types of bird and reptile, and the latest footage sported an ocelot walking around at night right inside the camp!

Project Updates

Animal Rescue Centre

Another great sighting we had this month was of an ocelot trying to cross the river! We came across it during our journey back from Puerto Maldonado one Sunday. Knowing that the other side of the river is a lot more populated with hunters and farmers, we decided to try to capture or divert the ocelot so that it would come back to our side. We managed to do so successfully and now we hope that it will stay where it will be safe and live a long life. Perhaps it's even the same ocelot we saw under Rachel's room!



A very rare sighting, a small cat and even more rare seeing one cross a river!

After so many years of working with animals in the rescue centre we have only ever reproduced one species – tapirs - which we were happy about even though it was not intentional. A few months ago though we found two eggs inside the curassow's enclosure! Birds are very hard to breed in any situation and we thought that it would be especially hard for two animals that have had such hard lives (being captured young and raised in captivity meant that they lost out on many chances to learn from their parents). However they laid their eggs and we began the long wait to see if they would be cared for properly or if they would simply be left to perish. At the beginning of this month we found a small chick walking around with the mother! It's now been several weeks and the chick is doing very well and is already changing its feathers to the standard black and white that we are used to seeing.

Unfortunately the second egg didn't hatch but this is fairly common in many large bird species as they require a lot of care and attention from the mothers in the early months.

The 2nd Species born in Taricaya!



Continuing on the subject of curassows, during a recent trip to Lima we were given a chance to take two new birds from a zoo in Lima to the rescue centre. We are now looking into the possibility of breeding more of these birds so that we can begin releasing more animals into the wild and help to increase the overall population in the area. As these animals were already in a protected environment we didn't need to process them through the standard quarantine procedures so they went straight into the enclosure with the male that we managed to save from the ocelot that attacked his mate. The two new females should begin to settle in quickly and we hope to breed when the season is right.



Our two new curassows getting settled in.

Turtle Project

The turtle project has seen another very exciting month. October is the start of the hatching season for all of the eggs that we gathered in previous months. It hasn't been easy though - this year has been especially difficult because of attacks from ants and wasps infesting the beaches and causing many of the eggs to not develop at all. However, we worked hard to

clean out the ants and protect the eggs from any more attacks and we managed to save a large amount of them from this horrible fate. During the first days of cleaning, several of the eggs were in the process of hatching, which meant that we had pre-mature turtles on our hands and no information on how best to care for them. The first to hatch, nick-named Dallas, was cared for as best as we possibly could and survived without any real troubles! Dallas and those first few have survived and are doing very well in the turtle house. During the last few weeks we have also had many more turtles hatch without any problems at all and we now have around 300 ready for release. We try to keep them for the shortest time possible before taking them back to the wild to avoid changing their behaviour. One of the things that needs to be done before they are released is marking them for future reference. In the years during which we have been releasing turtles we have always marked them on different scales so that we know which turtle is from which year. This is important as it helps us to see which turtles from which year are in each location and what size they have managed to reach over the time since their release.

Baby Dallas, the first turtle to be born in 2013



Unfortunately during this key time we have had to make some major modifications to the turtle house where the babies were being located. The entire structure became unstable after some high winds broke the key supports. After concluding that replacing these supports would be difficult and time consuming we decided to create separate smaller enclosures on top of each pool. We removed the entire damaged structure quickly enough and then erected the smaller enclosed netting areas over the pools that were already in use. We hope that this will be enough to protect the turtles until the rains ease off again so that we can rebuild the entire turtle house with our new, improved and more permanent methods.

And Finally

Finally, we had a strange visitor from another lodge at the end of this month - one of the managers from Wasai lodge, which is a very prestigious lodge located many miles from us. The manager was hosting a film crew from national geographic who were doing a show on the development of nature studies in the area. They couldn't find any small mammals who could pose as pets. As Taricaya's rescue centre is gaining such a good reputation we were the first on their list of places to find suitable animals. Normally we wouldn't go in for

anything like this but we do have a few young monkeys that need constant attention and love being fussed over! So Buckley took a long trip with Wendy as his carer and will soon appear on American TV. Unfortunately we don't have the name of the show yet but as soon as we do we will let you know!

Hi,

If you would just like to send a note, we would love to hear from any of you who have volunteered at Taricaya, it doesn't matter how long you were here for or how long ago, we're always interested in what you're doing or where you are now.

We welcome your feedback on the newsletter as well, what would you like to see or hear about here every month.

Also, if you have any queries about the rainforest (or Peru), we have a number of qualified biologists on the team who would be very happy to answer any of your questions.

For quick updates or information about Taricaya, check out our website at www.volunteer-conservation-peru.org, or you can reach us through the Projects Abroad website at www.projects-abroad.net.

Have a good month, and we look forward to hearing from you.

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