

## Project Update: April 2013

We have completed the first two objectives successfully. We collected 283 faecal samples in Lima, Moquegua and Tacna. Despite the challenges we have encountered with isolating DNA from the faeces we have successfully obtained DNA all samples. We are currently genotyping the samples using eight microsatellite loci developed for otters. The genotyping should be completed in the later part of 2013 (~October).

In August 2012, we presented an educational workshop at the elementary school, Miguel Grau in Lima, with the non-profit organisation ProDelphinus. We also handed out educational material on marine otters and the marine ecosystem for the kids.

Finally, we have presented a poster “Latrine distribution and patterns of use by marine otters *Lontra felina*” at the Student Research Symposium at Texas Christian University on April 2013.



Left: Collecting samples from a boat in Lima. Right: Collecting samples in the artisanal fishing port Puerto Grau.



Left: Marine otter in Tacna. Right: Field assistant in Tacna.