

Project Update: August 2014

During the first 5 months of the project, we start training local stakeholder about araucaria conservation problems and teach them the methods and technical tools available to estimate cone production and to evaluate fire effects on seeding trees. During a 2-day workshop we trained 36 people in the field, including national and provincial park rangers, technicians from different government agencies, NGO members and mapuche indigenous settlers that lives on araucaria forest. I visited the region in search of burned araucaria forest to be chosen for further evaluations during the next step of the project. Before winter, we start the surveys in one of the araucaria forest, burned in 2009. At this place, we estimated fire severity and tree survivorship and cone production. In spring we will start monitoring non-native mammal's granivores to evaluate if they visit more the burned forests and feed more araucaria seeds than unburned sites.



Left: One of the recently burned araucaria forest that was selected for the project. Right: Training a group of stakeholders how to count araucaria cones on seeding trees