

## **Project Update: August 2017**

In July 2017, with the collaboration of Dr Daniel Gonzalez-Socoloske it was possible to:

- (i) Optimise side-scan sonar installation and configuration in a way appropriate to Amazon River and lake characteristics.
- (ii) Conduct experiments about river dolphin (*Inia geoffrensis*) detection, since this species approaches the boat.
- (iii) Detect and delimit deeper areas in Amaná Lake where it is known by local ecological knowledge that manatees aggregate in the low water season.

It was possible to take 64 confirmed images of Amazon River dolphin under different environmental conditions. We are planning to describe in detail the sonar image of this animal for future reference and to discard as a false positive in manatee image identification. In 2017 dry season, we are planning to survey those aggregation areas in an attempt to detect and estimate the number of Amazonian manatees that take refuge in Amaná Lake in this period.