

Project Update: June 2021

During 2020, we continued with the passive acoustic monitoring of marsupial frogs in the three national parks of north-west Argentina. Despite the COVID situation, on this occasion the park rangers trained by our team were able to undertake the active searches for marsupial frogs as well as downloading data from automatic recorder devices and data loggers.

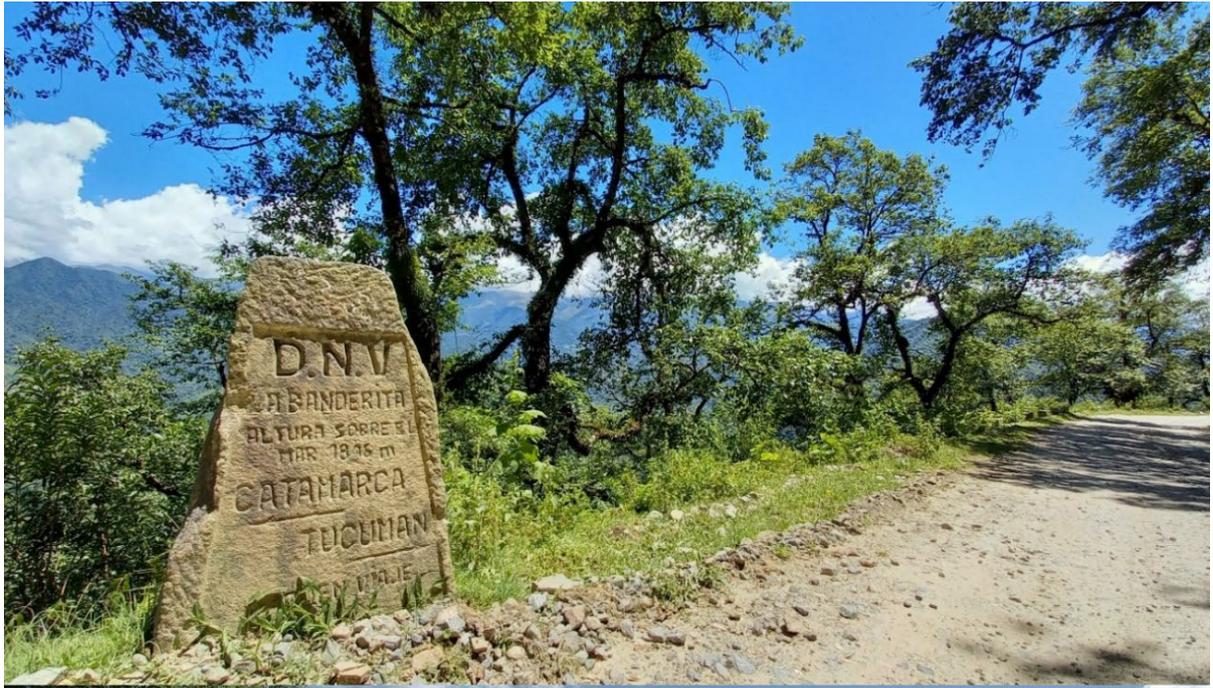
With the bioacoustics records obtained in the field we described the advertisement calls of *Gastrotheca chrysosticta*, which was published in a scientific journal. Park rangers from Baritú National Park detected a new population of *Gastrotheca* outside Baritú NP, Salta Province. This is a very important OVI for the programme because as a result of the received training the national park rangers were able to identify the advertisement calls of marsupial frogs in the field. After this record, they installed an automatic recorder to monitor this new population.

In January 2021, we made one field trip to Aconquija National Park and surveyed the rediscovered populations of *Gastrotheca gracilis*. In two of the surveyed sites, the populations of this endangered species seem stable despite the active threats still going on.

With the recordings of the automated recording devices we located a new population of *G. gracilis* at Laguna de la Tigra within Aconquija National Park. Also, we described for the first time the acoustic phenology for this species (Akmentins, in prep.)

With the results of our previous work at Calilegua National Park, we published a research paper evaluating the use of passive acoustic monitoring and active surveys of anuran species.

We made three field trips during 2020 to search the missing Calilegua's marsupial frog and to continue with the passive acoustic search programme in Calilegua National Park initiated in 2018. Unfortunately, we did not register this species.



Field Campaign to Aconquija National Park



Baritú National Park Rangers



Calilegua National Park Active Search



Aconquija National Park Rangers