

## Distribution and conservation ecology of an Endangered spider monkey: *Ateles fusciceps* in Colombia (Update)

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We were able to initiate field work and conduct some community meetings, as well as workshops with children. Between March and August 2024, 12 sites were visited to verify the presence of *Ateles fusciceps rufiventris* and other primate species, and in 3 other sites transects were established to carry out censuses of primate population densities (Figure 1).

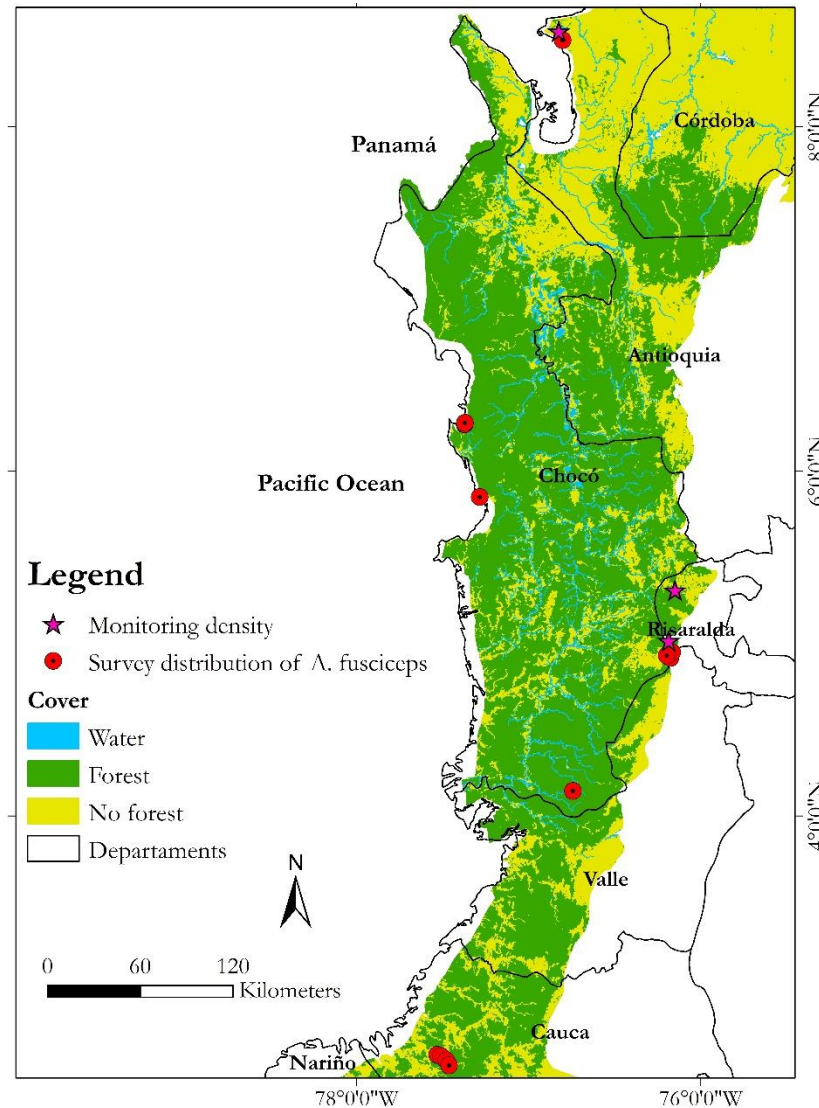


Figure 1. Detail of search areas for *Ateles fusciceps* and establishment of primate density monitoring platforms.

During field visits, we surveyed forested areas for at least 8 hours per day, for a maximum of 3 days at each site. Informal interviews with different community authorities were also conducted, as well as with other key informants and local villagers. The main threats in these areas were identified through these participatory methods, as well as through direct observations during our field surveys.

In this period, we visited 12 sites. We found, or were shown, evidence of the presence of *A. f. rufiventris* at 8 of these sites (Table 1). Other primate species we found were: *Alouatta seniculus*, *Aotus* sp., *Cebus*

*capucinus*, *Oedipomidas geoffroyi*, and *O. oedipus*. The main threats identified at the sites visited during this period were deforestation for livestock, construction of roads and ports for commercial purposes.

**Table 1.** Sites visited and primate species registered in this period

Departament	Municipality	Locality	Direct	Indirect	Comments
			registration Species	registration Species	
Antioquia	Necoclí	Ciénaga el Salado	<i>Alouatta seniculus</i> <i>Cebus capucinus</i> <i>Oedipomidas Oedipus</i>		
Cauca	Timbiquí	Realito		<i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
		Piandero	<i>C. capucinus</i>	<i>A. palliata</i>	Community Information
		Camilo	<i>A. palliata</i>	<i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
		El Briso	<i>A. palliata</i>	<i>A. fusciceps</i>	Community Information
Chocó	San José del Palmar	Cruces		<i>A. fusciceps</i> <i>A. palliata</i> <i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
		La Esperanza	<i>A. palliata</i> <i>A. fusciceps</i>	<i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
		La Selva	<i>A. palliata</i> <i>A. fusciceps</i>	<i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
	Bahía Solano	Mecana	<i>O. geoffroyi</i>	<i>A. fusciceps</i> <i>Aotus</i> sp. <i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
		Chule	<i>A. palliata</i> <i>A. fusciceps</i> <i>C. capucinus</i>	<i>O. geoffroyi</i>	Community Information
	Nuquí	Jurubirá	<i>A. palliata</i> <i>O. geoffroyi</i>	<i>A. fusciceps</i> , <i>C. capucinus</i>	Community Information
Valle del Cauca	Buenaventura	Cabeceras		<i>A. fusciceps</i> <i>A. palliata</i> <i>C. capucinus</i> <i>O. geoffroyi</i>	Community Information

In the selected sites (Figure 1) we established 6 line transects between March and April. After conducting small workshops with the local population knowledgeable about the area that will participate in this research, we initiated walks to be able to estimate primate densities. At the moment, we have a sampling effort between 70-120 km and we expect that with 6 more months of sampling we will be able to estimate the density of *A. fusciceps* and other primate species (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Sampling effort and number of transects per site.

Department	Locality	Number of transects	Sampling effort(km)
Antioquia	Ciénaga Marimonda	7	70
Choco	San José del Palmar	6	120
Risaralda	Amurrapá	6	120

At all sites visited during field surveys, we held at least one Environmental Education workshop with children about biodiversity, mainly focused on bird and primate species, and their importance for conservation. Activities included games, storytelling, origami and drawings, all with biodiversity and conservation as central themes. The main objective was for the children to learn while having fun and for us to identify the main gaps and aspects to work on in future projects.