

After an **extensive fieldwork campaign at the Canal de la Patria water canal** (northern Santiago del Estero province), carried out both with the Rufford Small Grant no. 39927-2, and with the Rufford Booster Grant no. 44634-B, and our ongoing collaboration with Argentinian NGOs, we concluded that **an estimation of thousands of individuals of dozens of wildlife species** (including domestic ones) **have drowned in the canal in these two years**; additionally, the effects of habitat fragmentation add to these mortality events and are likely **devastating this region of the Gran Chaco biome**.

Therefore, **we have convinced three Argentinian NGOs** (Aves Argentinas, Fundación Vida Silvestre and Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales) **to file a complaint to the Argentinian National Court** after the ecocide that is happening at the Canal de la Patria water canal. These organizations are **requiring the authorities to solve this issue immediately**, if not by covering and/or burying the canal, then by means of mitigation measures, and an intensive monitoring program. Additionally, they are requesting the Court to compel the regional authorities to carry out ecological compensation activities.

The case is nowadays under scrutiny by the Court, and we hope to have news in the following months, but it is a milestone in environmental law, in a country where cases like these are few.

<https://www.avesargentinas.org.ar/noticia/organizaciones-ambientales-demandan-ante-la-corte-suprema-al-gobierno-por-el-dano-ambiental>

<https://farn.org.ar/demanda-corte-suprema-canal-de-la-patria/>

<https://www.vidasilvestre.org.ar/?29360/demanda-canal-de-la-patria>