

Project Update: June 2007

News and updates.

The first months of 2007 we carried out a wide spectrum of activities.

On summer, we performed the 4th annual field work season of dolphin surveys in northern golfo San Jorge. A total of 15 sightings of Peale's dolphins, Commerson's dolphins and killer whales were made. At the moment we have 200h surveyed and 80 sightings made.

In addition we worked intensely in:

- Promoting the approval and implementation of the Punta Tombo Management Plan, and helping the government in several issues related with the Protected Area.
- Cooperate with decisions makers in defining the limits of the Marine National Park of Northern Golfo San Jorge.
- Being part of the Commission to produce the new Whale Watching Law for Chubut.
- To be a founder member of the first virtual forum on Marine Protected Areas in Argentina (www.amp-patagonia.org.ar), in coalition with other marine conservation project leaders. This forum, integrated by decision makers, conservationists and scientists, are discussing issues and thinking strategies to create MPAs in Argentina.
- Participate in the first network for the integrated management of the Patagonian coast, promoted by Fundación Patagonia Natural.
- Design, produce and initiate the distribution of 3,000 leaflets and 1,500 posters on marine wildlife of Central Patagonia. This material was distributed at Camarones, during the National Festival of the Salmón, and at Comodoro Rivadavia.
- Present communications for Congresses, sharing our ideas on strategies for successful marine conservation in Argentina (International Penguin Conference (Tasmania), Latin American Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas (Bariloche, Argentina), Meeting of Science, Technology and Society III (Uruguay), III Binational Meeting of Ecology (Chile).
- Offer talks on marine conservation at schools and at University students.
- Produce newspaper articles on marine conservation issues.

