



Fundación  
Temaikèn

Protecting Nature together

• APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023 •

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# Restoring Hope, Managing the Future

## Temaikèn Foundation Management Team

For more than 20 years we have been working tirelessly so that all living beings can coexist harmoniously on our planet. We seek to do so with excellence, with the highest standards that exist worldwide, involving and empowering local communities.

Temaikèn Foundation is convinced that, in order to restore and conserve biodiversity, we must do so collaboratively, with determination and perseverance. Meeting our goals and mitigating biodiversity problems require an inclusive outlook and action, generosity, a long-term vision, and a high degree of conviction and courage.

This year, we are working to recover more populations of wild species, with a special focus on those that are unique to our country and that are at a high risk of disappearing.

We develop efficient and innovative strategies to research and conserve biodiversity in the most diverse and challenging situations.

We rescue, rehabilitate and spread knowledge about unique and often unknown native species throughout our country. To achieve this, we promote the most effective synergies.

Together, we are managing conservation areas in the south of Misiones and deepening our work in the Paraná Delta, promoting a harmonious coexistence of communities with species and ecosystems. In addition, we continue to work for the conservation of Patagonian marine ecosystems and protected areas.

Hand in hand with great allies, we have developed proposals for capacity building involving key and diverse actors for designing efficient conservation strategies.

With comprehensive conservation education programs, we encourage everyone to be an environmentally responsible citizen and persevere in empowering new generations of conservation leaders.

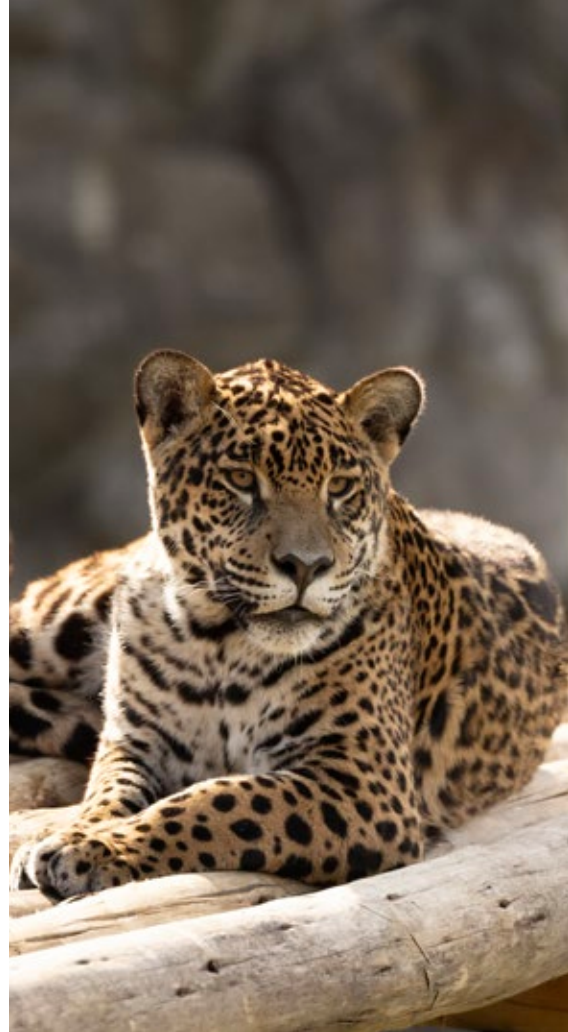
With prestigious organizations, we have generated synergies to influence public policies, create new conservation areas and collectively contribute to the fulfillment of global conservation goals.

Of course, the challenges are and have been enormous... And the problems to which we seek to provide solutions are continually getting worse. However, even in these times of turbulence in Argentina and the world, our goal is clear, we remain hopeful and we renew our commitment to protect nature together.

**Thank you for being part of this journey!**

Together we can build a better future.  
This is only possible through articulation efforts  
across all sectors of society, putting science,  
knowledge and innovation at the service of  
conservation.





### Our Vision

May all living beings coexist harmoniously on our planet.



### Our Mission

We protect nature together.



### Our Purpose

To conserve and restore biodiversity.

# Our Goals

## To recover threatened species

We reinforce wild species populations through the reintroduction of native fauna and flora recovered from environmental contingencies and illegal trafficking.

## To conserve and restore ecosystems.

We conserve biodiversity in our Osununú nature reserve and promote the creation and management of protected natural areas, prioritizing our area of influence.

## To reconnect people with nature

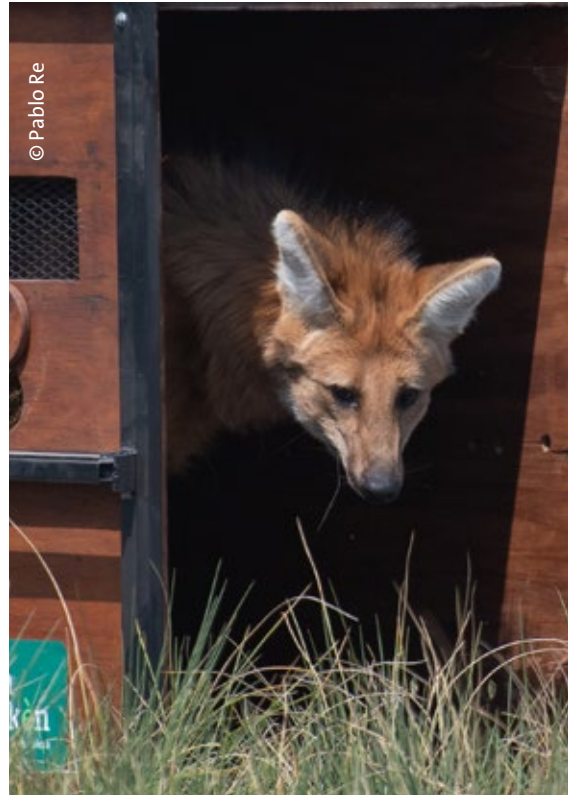
We create experiences that inspire people to respect animals and care for nature.

© Jerónimo Torresin



For the health of human beings, wild species and the environment.

# Strategic Lines



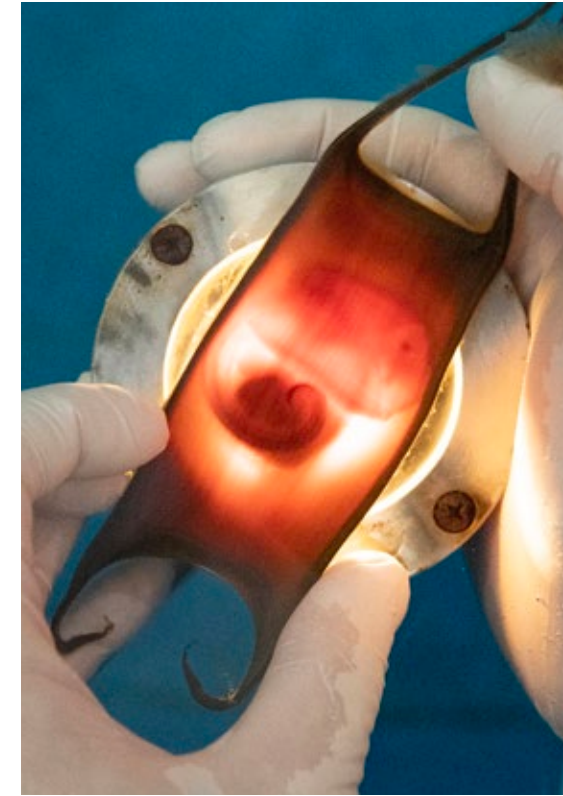
**STRENGTHEN** wildlife populations through the rescue, reintegration, and recovery of threatened species.



**CREATE** conservation areas and generate biological corridors that guarantee connectivity between environments and their ecological processes.



**BUILD** environmental citizenship to promote changes in attitudes and encourage the training of agents of change.



**GENERATE** knowledge that allows us to establish efficient and innovative strategies to conserve biodiversity.



**DEVELOP** installed capacity to cope with environmental challenges and generate sustainable alternatives.



**PROMOTE** public policies and intersectoral alliances, strengthening and scaling up actions that last over time and permeate society.

# Scope of Our Programs



# STRENGTHENING Wildlife Populations

Our experience in rescuing, rehabilitating, reproducing, breeding and reinserting into nature specimens of high conservation value allows us to strengthen and recover threatened populations, and contributes to restoring the ecosystems they inhabit.

There are more and more cases in which fauna and flora are affected by environmental contingencies or anthropogenic actions. Invasive alien species, habitat loss and destruction, overexploitation, wildlife trafficking, pollution and climate change are all responsible for this biodiversity loss.

The Temaikèn Species Recovery Centre (CRET) responds to natural or man-made events that affect wildlife and is one of our most efficient conservation tools.

**776** WILD ANIMALS HAVE BEEN CARED FOR IN THE LAST YEAR.

**CRET** CENTRO DE RECUPERACIÓN DE ESPECIES

**1,200** SPECIMENS OF 40 SPECIES WERE REPRODUCED IN THE OSUNUNÚ NURSERY GARDEN, INCLUDING 6 ENDEMIC ONES.

**OSUNUNÚ**  
reserva natural

## CONSERVING ENDANGERED SPECIES

They are important in themselves, because of their role in the ecosystems they inhabit and also because they allow us to highlight and address broader conservation problems that affect countless species and ecosystems on a global scale.

### OUR WORK AT TEMAIKÈN FOUNDATION

We strengthen wild populations of threatened species through the reinsertion of high-value individuals, both flora and fauna.

We rehabilitate them, ensure their well-being and increase their chances of survival, so that we can return them to their natural habitat. We contribute to the restoration of the environment or incorporate them into *ex situ* conservation projects.

We carry out cooperative breeding of species





\* Its population in the province of Buenos Aires (MAYDS, 2019)

**MARSH DEER (*Blastocerus dichotomus*)**  
Its most endangered population

This year, we responded to numerous calls for marsh deer in emergency situations in the Paraná Delta. Such was the case of Curupí, a male who had a life-threatening lesion at the base of his right horn. After his care and recovery at the CRET, he was returned to the wild on the Caaby forestry-livestock farm, with a satellite transmitter for monitoring.

It is estimated that the current population is around 800 individuals in the lower Paraná Delta.

**MAIN THREATS:** poaching, environmental changes imposed by cattle ranching and forest production, illegal tenure and injuries caused by feral dogs.

**ALLIANCE:** Marsh Deer Scientific-Technical Committee



\* Globally (UICN, 2015)

**LEOPARD SHARK (*Notorynchus cepedianus*)**  
Know to protect

We began to study the reproductive cycle of this species, also called spotted shark, based on hormonal and ultrasound studies. This will allow us to obtain valuable data on specimens under human care.

Due to the fact that information on calving areas is still scarce, it is essential to know this cycle for proper management and action on the future of this species in the South Atlantic.

**MAIN THREATS:** non-directed commercial (artisanal and industrial) fishing and unregulated directed sport fishing.

**WE WORK WITH:** CONICET, Mundo Marino Foundation, Aquarium Mar del Plata.

**YELLOW CARDINAL (*Gubernatrix cristata*)**  
Return to the Espinal

We reinserted 44 individuals in three different events: two in Buenos Aires (we reached 101 animals released in this province) and one in Entre Ríos. This was possible thanks to the articulation with both provincial wildlife authorities and through the application of the “alliance” management model in which other non-governmental organizations also participate. In Entre Ríos, this restoration action was carried out within the framework of work in the territory for the formation of the future Selva de Montiel National Park, which will have the yellow cardinal and its delicate environment as a conservation priority.

During this period, the CRET received 43 confiscated yellow cardinals.

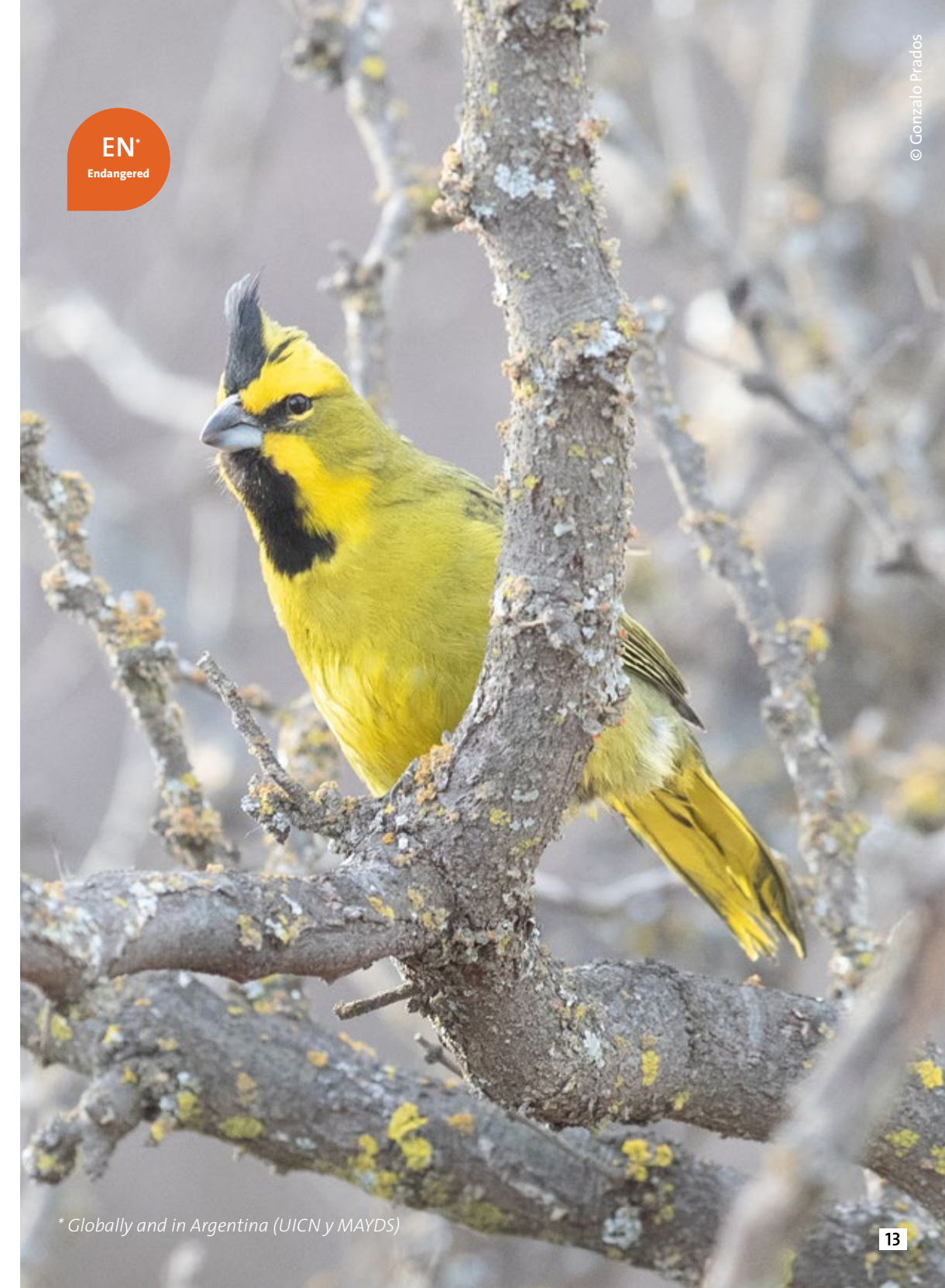
It is one of the species that suffers the most from trafficking, it is estimated that there are only 2000 mature individuals left in its entire area distribution.

**MAIN THREATS:** Capture as a cage bird. This constant exploitation, added to the transformation of its habitat for agricultural and livestock production, has led to a rapid decline in the wild population in recent years.

**YELLOW CARDINAL ALLIANCE PROVINCE OF BUENOS AIRES:** Directorate of Flora and Fauna (Ministry of Agrarian Development) and Directorate of Biodiversity (Ministry of Environment) of the Province of Buenos Aires, UBA-CONICET, CICVyA – INTA, Ecoparque, La Plata Aviary, Aves Argentinas, Azara Foundation.

**ALLIES IN ENTRE RÍOS:** Directorate of Protected Natural Areas (Secretary of the Environment), General Directorate of Inspection (Secretary of Production), Directorate of Natural Resources (Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock) of the Province of Entre Ríos, Municipality of Federal, CICYTTP ( CONICET-Entre Ríos-UADER), Aves Argentinas and El Potrero Reserve. Working hand in hand with the National Ministry of Environment, through the Environmental Control Brigade.

During this period, we also worked in collaboration with the National Wildlife Directorates and the provinces of Entre Ríos and San Luis



\* Globally and in Argentina (UICN y MAYDS)





**EX\***  
Extinct

\*In Argentina (MADS Y AA 2017)

### — SCARLET MACAW (*Ara chloropterus*) Repopulating the Iberá

We contribute to the cooperative breeding of the species through animals born in the CRET, either with parental care or with assisted rearing. Once independent, they move to the Aguará Ecological Complex in the province of Corrientes, where they are consolidated into healthy groups so that they can be incorporated into the environment.

In this period, we referred two macaws and another three continue to progress at Temaikèn Foundation.



**MAIN THREATS:** capture for illegal trade, the loss of forests and the advance of the agricultural frontier were the main causes of its disappearance.

**ALLIANCES:** Directorate of Natural Resources of Corrientes, the Directorate of Parks and Reserves, CONICET and Rewilding Argentina.Foundation.



**EN\***  
Endangered

\*In Argentina (MAYDS, 2017)

### — ANDEAN CONDOR (*Vultur gryphus*) We work as a network for its conservation

During the period, there were six condors undergoing rehabilitation at the Temaikèn Species Recovery Center.

In constant work within the Andean Condor Conservation Program, assistance was provided to a specimen in emergency that was transferred from Catamarca. Upon checking it, we confirmed the presence of lead pellets in its body. The specimen underwent chelation treatment, regained its appetite and after two and a half months, it was reintegrated into its home province.

In addition, two specimens that were under care at the CRET were referred to Sierras de Pailemán (Río Negro province) to begin habituation for their reinsertion.

Three other condors, with no possibility of reintegration, were housed while waiting to be referred to other rescue centers. There they will participate in different breeding and reintroduction programs of the species.



**MAIN THREATS:** hunting, injuries caused by traps and poisoning by ingestion of lead bullets used to kill the animals on which they feed, collision with high voltage cables, alteration of the natural habitat and reduction of populations of species, such as guanaco or deer, that are part of their diet.

**ALLIANCES:** Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation, Directorate of Flora and Fauna of the Province of Buenos Aires, Provincial Directorate of Biodiversity and Protected Natural Areas of the Province of Catamarca, Secretariat of Environment and Climate Change of Río Negro, Bioandina Foundation , Buenos Aires Ecopark.

### — MANED WOLF (*Chrysocyon brachyurus*) An international cooperative program

We conducted the behavioral rehabilitation process of a female maned wolf that had been rescued two years ago, when it was barely one month old, by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of the Province of Santa Fe.

During its stay, we encouraged behaviors typical of the species. We recorded the process, which was fundamental for deciding on the specimen's aptitude to return to the wild. In a joint effort with the authorities, we were able to reinsert it in Santa Fe with a satellite-transmitter collar that provides valuable information to continue learning more about this species in the wild. These data, along with those of other aguarás, serve as a basis for establishing efficient conservation strategies.



**MAIN THREATS:** hunting, roadkill, mascotism, habitat modification and fragmentation, and disease spread by domestic canids.

*In October 2022, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) incorporated the maned wolf into the Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) Program. AZA-SAFE, based in the United States, facilitates the allocation of resources and knowledge between zoological organizations and field actions with species of conservation value.*

*The SAFE Maned wolf is co-led by the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group and the Temaikèn Foundation. Its goal is to increase the population throughout its range of South America, especially in Argentina.*

*In addition, work is carried out at the national level within the framework of the Argentine Maned wolf Group.*



**VU\***  
Vulnerable



\* In Argentina (MAYDS, 2019)



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**ENDEMIC FLORA OF SAN IGNACIO**  
Working to reverse the red

For the first time, we obtained seeds of *Oxypetalum teyucuaensis*. It is an endangered species, which is only found in the province of Misiones. In nature, there are only thirteen specimens. The seeds were sown and germinated in the nursery of the Osununu Nature Reserve.

Another highly endangered species is the “mentita campera” (*Hedeoma teyucuaensis*), of which only three are preserved in the wild. In this period, we obtained hundreds of seeds from specimens and they were planted with different strategies and substrates to restore the population in the wild.

**OUR ALLIES:** Ministry of Ecology, Missionary Institute of Biodiversity, Fundación Hábitat y Desarrollo.



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# New Projects

**HUEMUL (*Hippocamelus bisulcus*)**  
Saving the “ghost of the Andes”

We began working on the Shoonem Rehabilitation and Rearing Station, consisting of 110 hectares in Chubut, where the founding herd of five huemuls from the region of Lakes Fontana and La Plata was established. The station has a diversity of vegetation and geography that allows the animals to have access to food, shelter and cover all the needs of the species.

For the first time in Argentina, the station offers the possibility of collecting scientific information for the conservation of the huemul. The research allows us to know the particularities about its biology, ecology and health problems. We are carrying out studies related to dietary conditions as well as deficiencies and diseases to which they are exposed, mouth infections, absence of teeth, chronic sinusitis, lack of minerals, behavioral and nutritional issues, among others.

In November 2022, the first calf was born. Its name is Shehuen, which in the Tehuelche language means “source of light,” alluding to the hope that its birth will contribute to the recovery of the species.

In Argentina, it is estimated that there are between 350 and 500 huemuls distributed in 50 different groups.



**MAIN THREATS:** hunting, habitat loss, dietary conditions and deficiencies, introduction of exotic species and their management, as well as domestic livestock and dogs.

**ALLIANCES:** Directorate of Wild Flora and Fauna of Chubut and Shoonem Foundation.



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\* Globally (IUCN, 2015). Argentina (MAYDS, 2019)



\* Globally (IUCN 2000)

**APIPÉ SNAILS (*Aylacostoma chloroticum*)**  
Safeguarding populations to reverse extinction

We started working on a new conservation project with Apipé snails (*Aylacostoma chloroticum*), a species that was only found in the rapids of Apipé, on the Paraná River.

More than 200 specimens were transferred from the Argentine Museum of Natural Sciences “Bernardino Rivadavia” (MACN) to a specially equipped space in the aquarium of the Temaikèn Biopark. The goal of the project is to increase the number and size of snail populations as a safe stock and source for future reintroductions.



**MAIN THREATS:** The modification of its original habitat (the change in water levels, depth and purity of the water) negatively impacted the distribution of the species and led to its disappearance.

**ALLIANCES:** Argentine Museum of Natural Sciences “Bernardino Rivadavia” (MACN), Juana Peso (Dr. in Natural Resources from UNNe, specialist in the species of the Research Group in the study of Planktonic and Benthic Communities. IBS-UNaM-CONICET)



\* Globally (IUCN 2019).

**PATAGONIAN FROG (*Atelognathus patagonicus*)**  
The last of their kind

Within the framework of the project “Towards the return of the Patagonian frog (*Atelognathus patagonicus*) to the Laguna Blanca”, we signed an agreement with the National Parks Administration (APN) to reintroduce the species into its natural environment.

We began working to rescue specimens from temporary lagoons in desiccation (associated with climate change) and to develop a breeding program in the Biopark. The goal is to create a new reproductive nucleus so that they will soon return to the wild and thus significantly reduce the risk of extinction.

Currently, the Temaikèn Aquarium is the only establishment in the world that maintains a healthy population of this amphibian under human care.



**MAIN THREATS:** The introduction of exotic and invasive fish, livestock (overtrampling and degradation of the terrestrial environment due to overgrazing) and climate change.

**ALLIANCES:** National Parks Administration (APN), the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Museum of the National University of La Plata and CONICET.



\* In Argentina (MAYDS, 2019)

**JAGUAR (*Panthera onca*)**  
Education for conservation

The jaguar (*Panthera onca*) is the most endangered feline in Argentina. Formerly, its area of coverage spanned across the entire center and north of the country. However, its distribution has declined drastically. The jaguar population in Argentina is estimated to be between 200 and 300 individuals.

In response to the Directorate of Flora and Fauna of the Province of Buenos Aires, work began on the cooperative management of three specimens (two males and one female), derived from the Ecological Complex of America. The goal is to work together in developing a management plan for the species under human care. This can improve the animal welfare standards that are currently carried out in other institutions. In addition, we research, raise awareness and educate about the species and the problems in its natural environment.



**MAIN THREATS:** Its main threats are poaching, the destruction and degradation of their habitat, the scarcity of natural prey, roadkill, among others.

**ALLIANCES:** We are part of the Management Committee of the National Plan for the Conservation of the Yaguareté Natural Monument and we work in alliance with the Directorate of Flora and Fauna of the Province of Buenos Aires

**ARGENTINA SPECIES SURVIVAL CENTER**  
(Center for Species Survival - CSS Argentina)

Based in Argentina, for all of Latin America, CSS-ARGENTINA is an alliance between the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Temaikèn Foundation.

Under the One Plan Approach and working to Reverse the Red of species and ecosystems, CSS-ARGENTINA interacts with a wide network of scientists, civil society organizations, governments and other conservation institutions.

In this exercise, we carried out high-impact actions related to the axis of work in positioning *ex situ* conservation according to the guidelines of the IUCN Strategic Plan 2021-2025.

We worked on the design of Flagship Species Projects, under the methodology of the Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG). This approach makes it possible to save threatened species, increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts across the country and the region by producing practical recommendations for decision-making.



Centro de Supervivencia de Especies



**RESCUE AND REINTEGRATION  
OF NATIVE WILDLIFE**

**Species Recovery  
Center in Numbers**

Referrals, seizures and rescues where Temaikèn Foundation was involved.

**776**

ADMITTED



**219**

REINSERTED



**155**

REFERRED



**167**

REHABILITATED



Among the representatives of native species, there were some of high conservation value such as the yellow cardinal, the marsh deer, the maned wor, the Andean condor, the scarlet macaw, the red-footed tortoise, among others.



**— MITIGATING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING**

In Latin America, wildlife trafficking is one of the main threats to biodiversity. This business, the fourth illegal market worldwide, is mostly represented by live individuals. In collaboration with enforcement authorities and courts, the animals are referred to the Temaikèn Foundation. The Foundation handles the accommodation, feeding, veterinary care and rehabilitation of the specimens until the reintroduction of those who are in a position to return to the wild.



**— EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**Federal Network for Assistance to Marine Fauna Strandings – River Node:**

- Rescued eight South American fur seals
- Rescued an elephant seal and redirected another adult elephant seal

**Rehabilitation of animals affected by the fires in the Cervo de los Pantanos National Park.**

## TEMAIKÈN FOUNDATION IN THE MEDIA

# World Animal Day, Protecting Wildlife Through a Network

By Pablo Dovico, Officer of the TEMAIKÈN Foundation's Species Survival Center.  
Published in Gerencia Ambiental

**What do a marsh deer wounded by a bullet crossing the Delta, a howler monkey found in a house in Buenos Aires, and a maned wolf discovered many kilometers from their natural habitat have in common? All these cases are part of the same problem: the lack of respectful coexistence between human beings and wild animals.**

The conservation of animal life is a challenge that affects not only the organizations dedicated to this task but all the actors that inhabit the planet. Beyond living together - and getting closer and closer - a healthy balance is necessary for the well-being of all. What does this mean? If there is a missing or failing link in this biodiversity network, the impact is felt by all of us.

That is why today, April 29, in addition to commemorating World Animal Day and remembering Ignacio Lucas Albarracín, a key person in the fight for animal welfare, we have an opportunity to review where we are in terms of wildlife conservation. And most importantly, to know what we can do.



## Networks in Action

One of the most efficient ways to protect and conserve animal species are actions carried out through strategic alliances that involve various key actors. These conservation actions can be of two types: *"in-situ"*, meaning in the territory, and *"ex-situ"* or outside the territories.

The creation of protected natural areas and the strengthening of the capacities of local actors are examples of *in-situ* actions. *Ex-situ* conservation actions are the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife affected by human and/or environmental causes, research applied to conservation (e.g., physiology, animal behavior, management under human care, etc.), assisted reproduction and breeding to strengthen wild populations, and environmental education actions, among others. In *ex-situ* latter activities, the contribution of cutting-edge zoological organizations, such as bioparks and rescue centers, is particularly important.

## The Largest Network in the World, with a Strong Presence in Argentina

Different networks house different sectors. An example of a strategic alliance is the agreement signed in 2020 between the TEMAIKÈN Foundation and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This agreement created the Argentine Species Survival Center (CSE) in order to identify and strengthen conservation actions, and implement action plans for the conservation of biodiversity in Argentina and Latin America. Another type of alliance is one that includes the private sector, those companies that support efforts and contribute additional resources for the conservation of species and areas, and education.

The work of TEMAIKÈN Foundation includes strengthening populations of wild species through the rescue, reinsertion and recovery of endangered species; strengthening of conservation areas and the generation of biological corridors that ensure connectivity between environments and their ecological processes; developing citizenship, promoting changes in attitudes and encouraging education among agents of change; spreading knowledge to contribute to the design of efficient and innovative strategies to conserve biodiversity; developing installed capacity to overcome environmental challenges and generate sustainable alternatives, and promoting public policies and intersectoral alliances.

Animals and biodiversity depend on the actions we take as a society. By joining forces and creating multidisciplinary alliances, we will be able to generate valuable tools to face two major challenges: the extinction of species and the loss of biodiversity.



# CREATING Conservation Areas and Generating Biological Corridors

## JUNGLE AND GRASSLAND PROGRAM

Its purpose is to conserve the biodiversity of the southwest of Misiones and support lines of sustainable use of resources, integrating and supporting local communities.

Our efforts covered an area of 102,993 ha from our Osununú Nature Reserve, in San Ignacio, to the Urutaú Nature Reserve, in the town of Candelaria.

It comprises portions of the ecoregions of Selva Paranaense or Bosque Atlántico and Campos y Malezales. The latter has only 0.7% of the national surface and is home to about 40% of Argentina's species. And only 1.37% of its surface area is protected within a national or provincial system of protected areas.

### Osununú Nature Reserve

In addition to protecting unique species, this natural area in Misiones has great historical and cultural importance.

We safeguard one of the most biodiverse areas in the world, contributing to the research and conservation of its flora and fauna.

**OSUNUNÚ**  
reserva natural

## By the Numbers

**839**



EXOTIC VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES:  
**38** species of conservation value.  
Only **4%** of exotic vascular plant species:  
Recorded in **13** identified environments.

**9**

ENDEMIC FLORA SPECIES:



**1** in Osununú and **8** in the sandstone grasslands around Osununú.

**24**

AMPHIBIAN SPECIES:



**40%** of the mentioned species for Misiones.

**23**

REPTILE SPECIES:



**16%** of the mentioned species for Misiones.  
**6** threatened and **1** insufficiently known.

**357**

DIURNAL BUTTERFLY SPECIES.



**255**



BIRD SPECIES IN AND AROUND THE RESERVE.

**60**

MAMMAL SPECIES:



**5** species of felines (jaguarundi, ocelot, puma, margay and tirica), **3** of them threatened.

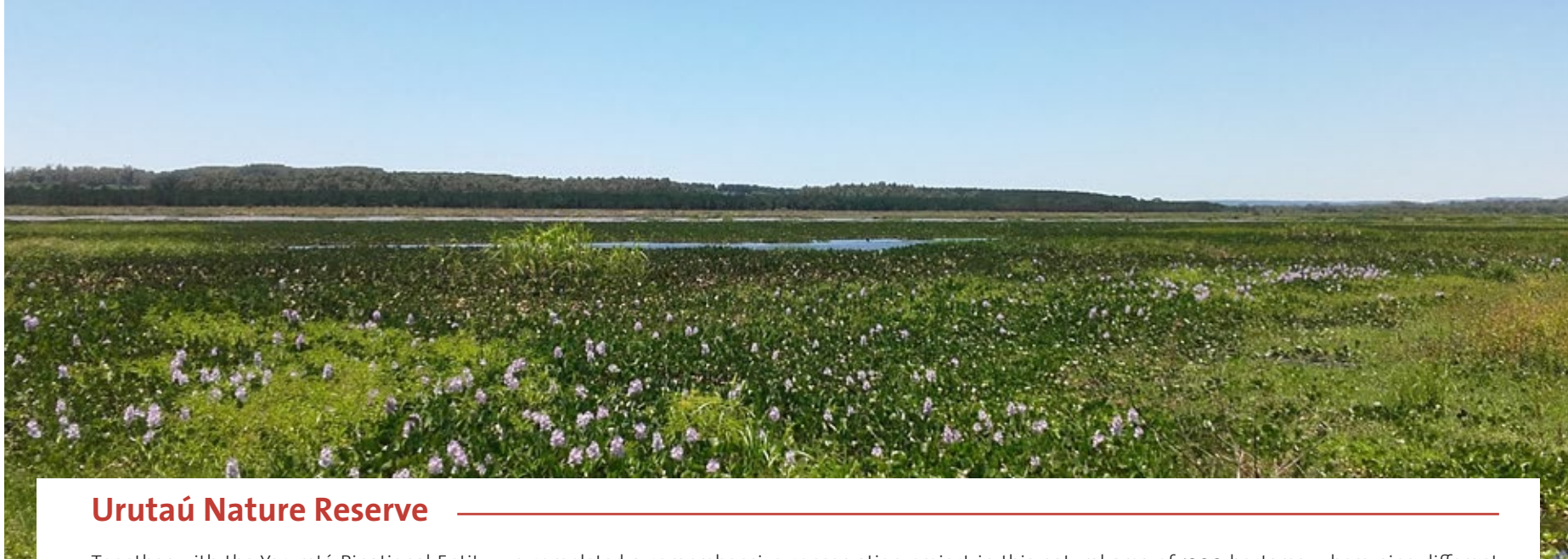
**18**



SPECIES OF BATS:

**4** of them threatened.

Osununú is considered an Area of Importance for the Bat Conservation (AICOM site) since 2013.



## Urutaú Nature Reserve

Together with the Yacyretá Binational Entity, we completed a comprehensive conservation project in this natural area of 1200 hectares, where nine different environments coexist, including grasslands, wetlands, gallery jungles and waterfalls.

## By the numbers

**1144** SPECIES OF FLORA 

A new nucleus of the plant species *Isoetes candelariensis* was identified.

**316** BIRD SPECIES 

Two new registrations this year: lemon gold (*Pseudocolopteryx citreola*) and bluish dove (*Claravis pretiosa*).

**2** NEW REPTILE RECORDS 

The blind snake (*Epictia munoai*) and the *Apostolepis dimidiata*, which had not been previously recorded.



For the first time, research on macrophytes (aquatic plants) and lepidoptera was carried out in the area. New floristic findings and a new record for Misiones (*Euphorbia pedersenii*).



Observatorio Nacional de la Degradación de Tierras y Desertificación

Together with other provincial and national institutions, we joined the National Observatory on Land Degradation and Desertification and became one of the 24 pilot sites in Argentina for the monitoring of desertification and environmental quality. We participate in surveys of five points identified in the south of Misiones, we measure the quality of water, soil, native flora and fauna unique to each site.

## PARANÁ DELTA PROGRAM

The Paraná Delta is one of the most important wetland systems in Argentina, with a great diversity of associated natural and cultural values.

With an area equivalent to 80 times the size of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, it provides key ecosystem services for the local population.

The main threats facing this region are the transformation and fragmentation of the wetland, the filling of flood-prone areas, the introduction of exotic species and the illegal hunting of wild animals such as marsh deer.

The program promotes the conservation of the Delta through the strengthening and creation of new protected areas, giving rise to biological corridors that connect the different reserves and help to recover biodiversity through the reintroduction of native fauna and flora. At the same time, we implement different community and environmental education strategies to foster appreciation for this ecosystem in the communities that inhabit it.



### — PARANÁ DELTA BIOSPHERE RESERVE (SAN FERNANDO)

We participated in the workshops and made contributions to the review and updating of the Biosphere Reserve Management Plan, convened by the municipality of San Fernando.

### — SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

We continue to work with the Wetlands Foundation, coordinating the management of a pilot test of sustainable livestock in a private field located in the buffer zone of the Ciervo de Los Pantanos National Park, in the town of Loma Verde, Escobar District.

### — WILDLIFE REINTEGRATION ACTIONS

As technical advisors, we manage the reinsertion of different species from rescues and seizures in the following reserves in the area: El Talar de Belén, Pilar Municipal Reserve, Arauco Forest Property, San Fernando Biosphere Reserve, La Larga Private Field (Loma Verde), Monte Blanco Reserve (Tigre), Ing. Maschwitz Educational Nature Reserve

### — RESTORATION PROJECT FOR MINI FORESTS OF THE PARANÁ DELTA

We monitored the 5 mini forests planted in the previous period in Arroyo Escobar, Río Luján and Río Paraná, composed of 240 trees of 20 different species. At the same time, we are making progress in the planning of 5 more mini forests for the next period in the districts of Escobar, Tigre and San Fernando.



## PATAGONIA PROGRAM

This program promotes the conservation and restoration of marine and terrestrial ecosystems in Argentine Patagonia.

This is carried out through the creation of protected areas, along with research and conservation initiatives on species that inhabit Patagonian ecosystems. To achieve this, Temaikèn Foundation works in a network with government agencies, civil society and the academia, joining forces to promote the conservation of emblematic species of the region and the environment. In addition to the research work carried out on the spotted shark, we work on the conservation of the huemul in the province of Chubut and the Patagonian frog, an endemic species in the province of Neuquén.



## Argentine Network of Private Nature Reserves

One of our main lines of work is the promotion of Private Nature Reserves, which are essential for the achievement of global objectives for the protection of natural areas. We are a co-founding organization of the Argentine Network of Private Nature Reserves (RARNAP) and currently actively participate in the NEA and Buenos Aires Nodes.



## We joined the ConservAR 30x30 campaign

More than 20 organizations and 250 scientists in the country seek to achieve Argentina's support for the global agreement that commits to the 30x30 goal: **the protection of 30% of the planet's sea and land.**

For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.conservar30x30.org.ar/>



# Protected Natural Areas Day, a Challenge for Conservation and the Best Quality of Life for Animal Populations



By Jerónimo Torresin, coordinator of the Temaikèn Foundation Forest and Grassland Program.  
Published in La Nación

**Protected areas are important for people's well-being and sustainable development in the region. 14.5% of the Argentine land is covered under this category, but this is still far from the target.**

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a protected area is a geographical space defined, recognized, dedicated and managed to achieve the conservation of nature with its associated ecosystem services and cultural values. Today, Natural Protected Areas Day in Latin America and the Caribbean, we seek to put these topics on the agenda, as they represent a fundamental strategy for the long-term conservation of biological and cultural diversity, providing essential ecosystem goods and services for society and life in general.

This translates into the conservation of areas with high biological and cultural value, of high regional and global importance. The creation and/or management of these protected areas can be done by the State as well as by private and Civil Society Organizations, and it can even be a mixed management effort. For example, Temaikèn Foundation carries out this work through the Osununú nature reserve, south of Misiones, and also in the Urutaú Nature Reserve, which belongs to the Yacretá Binational Entity, where we are in charge of management and planning.

In addition to working towards knowing and conserving the natural and cultural heritage in these areas, we strive to strengthen the link between our species and the environment in general, also contributing to improving the quality of life for local inhabitants.

Protected areas contribute to the conservation of cultural heritage, the preservation of watersheds and soil; they collaborate with climate regulation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, pest and disease control; they provide resources, raw materials, food and medicine; they promote recreation and spirituality, ancestral cultures, local, social and economic development, among others. They also provide an ideal framework for awareness-raising, education and *"in-situ"* scientific research.

## What is the Situation in our Country?

The Federal System of Protected Areas (SiFAP) has been in place in Argentina since 2003. This is an instrument that recognizes and brings together the protected areas of the National Parks Administration and those provinces that are incorporated voluntarily, adding areas under their jurisdiction, private spaces and those belonging to Universities, NGOs, or community areas.

According to SiFAP, there are 530 protected areas at the national level, which represents approximately 14.5% of the continental national territory, and 3 marine areas, which represent 7.05% of our seas. Worldwide, and according to the Protected Planet (IUCN), protected areas represent 15.79% of the global continental territory and 8.16% of the marine territory.

These percentages may seem encouraging, but the reality is that they are below current goals. In this sense, it is crucial to highlight two key points: on the one hand, there are biomes or ecoregions that are not represented or that have very little protected areas; and, on the other hand, many of these are not effectively managed to meet their objectives.

For protected areas to fulfill their mission, they must be managed efficiently and beyond their physical boundaries. They must be integrated with the landscape, that is, they must be complemented by the activities carried out in the region where they are located. If they are managed as "islands", disconnected from reality - as was the case for several decades and still in force today in some systems - their important contributions will be reduced or violated. The Sustainable Use of Biodiversity Project (USUBI) of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is an example of responsible use of biodiversity for sustainable entrepreneurs that could be taken as a model.

Biodiversity, of which we are part as a species and on whose survival our health and economies depend, faces many threats, such as habitat loss and degradation, climate change and the overexploitation of natural resources, among others. Protected areas are a great tool to mitigate these risks, optimizing our quality of life and ensuring the availability of natural resources for generations to come. We must improve the way we engage with nature, beyond protected areas. Otherwise, they will never be enough.



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# BUILDING Environmental Citizenship

Temaikèn Foundation believes that the way forward is by working with others to change our lifestyle habits, assume our responsibility in the conservation of biodiversity and live in harmony with other species and the environment. This can be achieved through education, promoting environmentally responsible citizens who can support the conservation of life on our planet.

Zoological institutions are gateways and a contact with nature for many people around the world, especially in urban areas. In the case of the Temaikèn Biopark, located in the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires, an area with over 16 million inhabitants, we feel the desire to influence the more than 700 thousand visitors we receive each year, whether it is through the communities that we serve, our nature reserves or online.



© Andrea Baruffi

## EDUCATION FOR CONSERVATION

The strategy for building environmental citizenship has conservation education at its core. It relies on all the capacities of the organization: in the facilities of the Biopark, in the Osununú Nature Reserve and in the areas where conservation initiatives are carried out in the territory.

Education for conservation is a multifaceted, blended discipline that draws on aspects of many cognitive, social, emotional, behavioral, and educational theories. This approach considers elements of environmental and science education, interpretation, education for sustainable development, and community participation.

The challenge is enormous and the time is now. For this reason, no one can be left behind. This is also why all educational proposals that motivate environmental action must be inclusive and equitable.

Thus, the Temaikèn Biopark is an inclusive, massive and experiential education platform, an alternative learning space through which hundreds of thousands of people each year reconnect with nature, experience educational programs, actions and activities, and actively help to conserve our planet through diverse, equitable and inclusive environments and devices.



## EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Our educational visits, which were completely redesigned in 2022, offer a new semi-guided modality that gives teachers the possibility of participating more actively.

We've created an educational device that articulates curricular content and highlights the transversal axis of Environmental Education proposed by the National Ministry of Education in institutional educational projects.

**72,766** STUDENTS WERE WELCOMED AT THE EDUCATIONAL VISITS TO THE BIOPARK.

**14,558** SCHOLARSHIPS TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BELONGING TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

## EDUCATIONAL VISITS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Since 2004, our visits have tools that capture the attention and interest of people with disabilities, facilitate communication and understanding of the information provided, and offer sensory experiences that encourage learning and participation.

**2,965** PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES PARTICIPATED IN THESE VISITS THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS.

— **“ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR BIODIVERSITY” VIRTUAL COURSE**

This self-paced virtual course, developed along with the Sembrador Program carried out by the Perez Companc Foundation and the Bunge & Born Foundation, had 1414 participants on the Coursera and Universidad Austral platforms.

— **“CONCIENCIA ACTIVA AMBIENTAL” FESTIVAL**

The “ConCienca activa Ambiental” Festival is an event that engages the community of environmentally responsible and sensitive citizens, committed to the conservation of biodiversity by participating in educational, recreational and creative activities. The event is also an opportunity to publicize the conservation actions carried out by civil society organizations and State agencies, preserving the country’s natural heritage.

More than 3,600 people participated in the event, which was attended by allied organizations that also work in environmental education and conservation: Aves Argentinas, Save the Frogs, Jane Goodall Institute, Sustainable Escobar, Bioandina Foundation, Yaguareté Project, Peumayén Foundation and Pantano Project.



— **GUARDIANS OF NATURE**

An experience focused on understanding and mitigating the problems of emblematic species in our country and the ecosystems they inhabit.



The Guardians of Nature experience is made up of a circuit with augmented reality activities and games, which gives people the challenge of completing 4 missions with the aim of becoming a “Guardian of Nature”. As part of the experience, our guides tell visitors about the actions carried out by the foundation. Their role as facilitators is to interact with the audience in a pleasant way and facilitate 12 activities narrating the problems faced by each species at the 4 stops. They also raise awareness and invite participants to commit to concrete actions to care for the environment. Properly disposing of waste, being a responsible tourist, avoiding taking pets to natural areas, and not buying wild animals as pets are just a few examples.

**726,256** PEOPLE BECAME GUARDIANS OF NATURE.



**PROMOTING AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT**

Inclusion is an all-encompassing philosophy across our organizations, and therefore it is present in everything we do. That is why we have specific programs for people with disabilities.

— **“WE ARE DIVERSITY”:  
CELEBRATING THE PATH TO INCLUSION TOGETHER**

Since 2013, the Foundation has been organizing an annual conference that encourages visitors to live a transformative experience. We share and carry out inclusive, recreational and environmental activities. All activities have an Argentine Sign Language interpreter.

**4,150** PEOPLE ATTENDED IN TOTAL.

**1,460** PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS PARTICIPATED IN THE EVENT.

— **BLUE MONTH**

On Saturday, April 2, the Temaikèn Biopark opened its doors earlier to celebrate “Blue Day”, as part of World Autism Awareness Day (ASD). We received a total of 288 people on the autism spectrum and their families to enjoy a park with few stimuli, offering recreational activities that allow people with ASD to enjoy a pleasant visit. Three organizations also participated (Brincar Autismo Foundation, TGD Padres TEA Escobar, TGD Padres TEA Pilar) with recreational activities for visitors. Our doors opened earlier every weekend in the month of March 2023. We reached a total of 15,477 visitors during those days.





## ENVIRONMENTAL MULTIPLIERS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Environmental Multipliers Educational Program (PEMA) is a teacher education and training project that seeks to pass on knowledge about biodiversity and its value. Work is being done so that groups of influence can replicate the tools they acquired, call people to action and motivate them to carry out and spread collective actions for the benefit of the environment.

This program, where 69 teachers led 23 projects that had an impact on threats to regional biodiversity, is developed in two areas: the Osununú and Urutaú Nature Reserves in Misiones and the Lower Paraná Delta area.

## WORK WITH THE PARANÁ DELTA COMMUNITY

Framed within the work of creating conservation areas and biological corridors, this initiative mainly integrates the Municipality of Escobar, as well as other municipalities included in the scope of the Lower Delta of Buenos Aires: Zárate, Campana, San Fernando and Tigre. This work seeks to support the Buenos Aires Delta community to identify problems of the wetlands, threats and mitigation actions, involving schools in the district of Escobar and the area of influence, municipal advisors, protected natural areas, rural neighbors, island inhabitants and producers, among other key players in the territory.

3	7
TEACHER TRAINING MEETINGS	SCHOOLS IN THE AREA: initial, primary and secondary levels - Isla, Barrio Torres and Lago nodes, which carried out eight environmental projects.
	10
	WILDLIFE REINSERTION EVENTS. 206 animals were reintroduced and 191 people participated.
19,425	PEOPLE REACHED BY THE ACTIONS.



### Other actions and participations on significant dates in the environmental calendar or of community interest

- Coastal clean-up day at the Ingeniero Maschwitz Educational Nature Reserve.
- Activities in the Biopark for Plurinational Action for Wetlands.
- Workshop on planning the management plan of the Paraná Delta Biosphere Reserve (San Fernando).
- Participation in the Flower Festival: "Discovering the value of our wetlands: the community of Escobar and Temaikèn Foundation working together for the conservation of the Delta".
- Participation in the conference "Together we are a forest" in the Ingeniero Maschwitz Educational Nature Reserve.
- EmpantanARTE Contest, in coordination with Proyecto Pantano and the Ciervo de los Pantanos National Park, in 9 schools in the municipalities of Tigre, San Fernando, Escobar, Campana, Zárate (Buenos Aires) and Islas del Ibicuy.



## WORK WITH THE MISIONES COMMUNITY

The work in the south of the province of Misiones is part of the Jungle and Grassland Program: it spans from San Ignacio, home to the Osununú Nature Reserve, to Candelaria, home to the Urutaú Nature Reserve.

**1,114** PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY REACHED BY OUR ACTIONS.

- 2 open meetings with the community in the Osununú Nature Reserve.
- Educational visits to the Osununú Nature Reserve.
- Peña Ambiental de San Ignacio and meeting for the socialization of school projects.
- Workshops in the Urutaú Nature Reserve:
  - Interpretation of heritage.
  - Environmental Projects for Teachers.
  - Butterflies.

Together with the Campo San Juan Federal Park, Municipality of Santa Ana and the NGO Aves Argentinas, we hosted the 1st Bird and Conservation Festival of the south of Misiones.

## WORK WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

We kept nurturing our connections with the Mbokajaty, Mbokajaity, Pindoty and Tava Miri communities. With the first two, we worked to make two interpretive nature trails and we provided native plants from our nursery, plants for medicinal use, fruit trees, etc.



## GATHERINGS IN THE RESERVE

**979** VISITORS RECEIVED THE OSUNUNÚ NATURE RESERVE.

**607** STUDENTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF EDUCATIONAL VISITS.

We held thematic meetups to raise awareness of the culture and biodiversity of the area:

- Guarani Sky, an astronomical interpretation meeting to raise awareness in the community.
- First meeting of plein-air painters. Thirty-five painters from different parts of Misiones painted the landscapes of Osununú and its species of flora.
- Teyú Cuaré's Flora, where we highlight the value of the area and its surroundings for the endemic flora species.



## EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS AND TEACHER TRAINING

A total of 52 teachers from 14 educational institutions in San Ignacio and Gobernador Roca were trained at the initial, primary, secondary and special levels. 14 projects were developed aimed at the conservation values and threats of the Teyú Cuaré region.

14 talks were given to approximately 1000 students from schools in San Ignacio and Gobernador Roca at all levels.

All this work concluded on November 4, with the return of the "Environmental Peñas" after the COVID-19 pandemic. In the 8th edition, teachers and students presented the projects they had designed over a year in the square of the Municipality of San Ignacio.



# More Necessary Than Ever: Environmental Education 47 Years After its Beginnings

By María Alejandra Romeo  
Head of Conservation Education at Temaikèn Foundation  
Published in Infobae.com

**On January 26, Environmental Education Day is celebrated around the world. Argentina has been making progress in this area for decades. Is it enough? Civil organizations play a crucial role in education, but there is still work to be done and a discussion that calls into question our current way of life.**

On a recurring basis, environmental issues are a topic on the agenda of governments and the alike, either in the form of bills of law or due to events with a negative environmental impact, such as forest fires. Is society prepared to reach consensus on how to respond? Is there a lack of information or education?

Our present tells us about the loss of biodiversity, illegal wildlife trafficking, global warming, urban waste, among so many other problems. However, production and consumption chains are accelerating, seriously risking the resources that support our ecosystems, including the survival of the human species. In this sense, the pandemic caused by Sars-Cov-2 has shown us that we are quite far from the goals defined by Environmental Education as a tool to make correct decisions in pursuit of the conservation of all forms of life. We do understand that these problems do not arise in isolation, but are rather the result of a system of human development at the planetary level that gives rise to issues of such complexity that they are unprecedented in the history of humanity.



## What About Environmental Education in Argentina?

From the 1990s onwards, a space was opened to analyze and discuss theoretical and methodological issues, as well as to exchange and disseminate experiences. In 1994, “the right to a healthy environment and the duty to preserve it” was introduced into our Magna Carta, as well as our calling upon the authorities to provide for the protection of this right, the rational use of natural resources, the preservation of the natural and cultural heritage and biological diversity, and environmental information and education. We currently have two recently enacted laws: the National Environmental Education Law and the Yolanda Law. Both reach two important sectors and respond to the need to cover the general population, in formal and alternative learning spaces, with an appropriate methodology in each case, to allow reflection, debate and participation as instruments of knowledge of reality and its transformation. These Laws also challenge decision-makers, since environmental determinations are urgent and do not leave room for error. Organizations have been key to this progress in legislation, however their work does not end there. They must continue to work hard to participate in the implementation of both regulations, complementing the actions of the State, since their vast experience is necessary to achieve the expected results. These civil society actors contribute to Environmental Education, applying valuable work models with different targets, but with the common goal of promoting a more sustainable life among all citizens, in harmony with all forms of life.

The challenge we have ahead of us is articulating our efforts to speed up processes and reach our goal in the shortest time: the Agenda for Sustainable Development tells us that we have 8 years to achieve the 17 Goals, so there is little time left: **Let’s do it together!**

With this framework, it is time to think of clear objectives and goals to respond to the Papal Encyclical *Laudato Si’*, a document very much in tune with the point of view of conservation organizations that work and people concerned about the environmental problems of the present: “Education will be ineffective and its efforts will be sterile if it does not also seek to spread a new paradigm about human beings, life, society and the relationship with nature. The environmental crisis is not just an ecological crisis in terms of environmental loss and degradation, but a deeper one that includes the principles of modernity, becoming an issue of our civilization.”



# GENERATING Knowledge

Our goal is to promote and facilitate the study, research, knowledge and dissemination of all aspects related to biodiversity, especially in our protected natural areas, the Temaikèn Biopark and the Species Recovery Center.

Animal welfare, species conservation and biological diversity are paramount and need to be our main focus when deciding to carry out research. For this reason, all our actions within different strategic alliances with government agencies, NGOs and universities, must respond to our mission.

Once again, we obtained the Certificate of Qualification for private non-profit entities, dedicated to the promotion of Research and Development (R&D), issued by the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation.



## Work Model



At Temaikèn Foundation, research encompasses a wide range of disciplines including **behavior, nutrition, ecology, reproductive biology, genetics, and veterinary medicine, among others.**



Each project is evaluated by the foundation's Ethics Committee, which determines its execution.



Through the signing of agreements, alliances are established with leading institutions, such as CONICET (our National Scientific and Technical Research Council), universities and other NGOs.



Within the framework of the corresponding agreements, the collection of biological samples is carried out and their subsequent referral to the MACN-CONICET and the University of Buenos Aires School of Veterinary Medicine.



We promote the dissemination and publication of projects, with greater or lesser participation of the Temaikèn Foundation.

## TEMAIKÈN FOUNDATION ETHICS COMMITTEE

Developed by a multidisciplinary team, the Foundation's Code of Ethics complies with WAZA's Code of Ethics and Animal Welfare (2003) and is responsible for evaluating all research procedures developed at the institution.

This interdisciplinary committee is currently made up of 10 members of the foundation, including biologists, veterinarians and dedicated professionals.



## ONE HEALTH

We participate in projects focused on assessing environmental and wild species health:

- **“Surveillance of diseases and environmental contaminants in wild fauna: an ecological approach within the framework of Ecosystem Health”** Dra. Marcela Orozco (FCEN-UBA-CONICET).
- **“Endogenous retroviruses and Felines: investigating 10 million years of viral transmission”** Dr. Eduardo Mortola, from the School of Veterinary Medicine of the UNLP in partnership with the University of Yamaguchi, Japan.
- **“Quantification and evaluation of the cases of reptiles entering the TEMAIKÈN Foundation Rescue Center”** Thesis by Micaela Fernández, University of Reading, United Kingdom.

## REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY, COGNITION AND ANIMAL WELFARE

- **“Study of the reproductive biology of the Sevengill shark”.** By researcher and head of the Aquarium, Julieta Jañez and MV Natalia Demergassi.
- **“Study of Neophobia in psittacines from Fundación TEMAIKÈN”.** Dr. Jimena Lois Milevicich (CONICET) in the framework of her collaboration with the manybirds.org.
- **“Análise de bem-estar e comportamento animal em flamingos (Aves: Phoenicopteridae) em ambientes de cativeiro”.** Henrique Cardoso Delfino, from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.
- **“Cognitive abilities in neotropical psittacines”.** Project initiated by Dr. Jimena Lois Milevicich (CONICET) within the framework of her postdoc work.

## RESEARCH IN THE PROVINCE OF MISIONES

Research on macrophytes (aquatic plants) and lepidoptera was carried out in the area for the first time. New floristic finds and a new appointment for Misiones (*Euphorbia pedersenii*).



## PARTICIPATION IN CONGRESSES

In order to train and interact with members of the scientific community at a national and international level, to share experiences and learning, to publicize different medical cases of relevance or to disseminate different scientific findings, representatives of TEMAIKÈN Foundation attended various congresses mainly of zoological associations, veterinary medicine, environmental education and management of protected natural areas.

- In September, we participated in the **XIX RAO - Argentine Ornithology Meeting in the city of Puerto Madryn**. Through five papers, we shared the results of the yellow cardinal project <sup>(1)</sup>. We also presented a proposal for the work plan of the “Cognitive Study of Psittacids” together with Dr. Jimena Lois Milevicich. She was awarded the 1st prize and obtained a grant of \$100,000.
- On the **Annual WAZA Conference<sup>2</sup>** (77th Annual WAZA Conference, 23 - 27 October 2022, Tenerife, Spain) we presented two papers: one on the recovery of yellow cardinals <sup>(2a)</sup> and the other on conservation strategies <sup>(2b)</sup>, within the framework of the CSS-Argentina. We also had the opportunity to share some of this work at the United Nations Scientific Assembly <sup>(3)</sup>.
- In addition, we participated in the **XXIII Argentine Conference on Mammalogy (4) (IAM 2022) in Puerto Iguazú**, where we were part of a panel on the role of rescue centers in conservation. Seven other works were presented that addressed various conservation issues: the presence of an invasive alien species in Misiones <sup>(4a)</sup> and the evaluation of the impact of a domestic species in the Osununú Nature Reserve <sup>(4b)</sup>. Two papers on maned wolf, based on the results of territory monitoring activities <sup>(4c)</sup> and rescue cases <sup>(4d,e)</sup> and another one on the evaluation of sites of importance for the conservation of primates in Argentina <sup>(4f)</sup>. A paper was also presented within the framework of “One Health” <sup>(4g)</sup>.

## PARTICIPATION IN PUBLICATIONS AND THE WRITING OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

Regarding our own scientific production, during this period we published five articles of great relevance for the conservation of different threatened species, showing results on the impact of an exotic species on the populations of micro-endemisms of the Teyú Cuaré <sup>(7)</sup> and based on an analysis of new records, an update of the distribution of the maned wolf <sup>(8)</sup>.

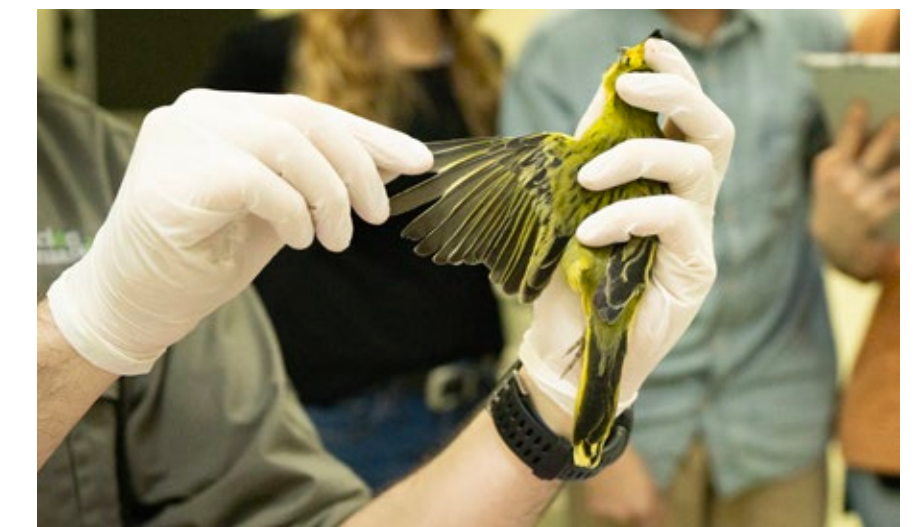
Regarding the *ex-situ* work carried out by the foundation and specifically at the Species Recovery Center, we participated in a publication on the importance of behavioral work in the recovery of yellow cardinals <sup>(9)</sup> and the phylogenetic identification of a parasite of the marsh deer <sup>(10)</sup>. In addition, we participated in a scientific opinion piece that uses data demonstrating the mismatch between the co-occurrence of biodiversity and human, financial and institutional resources to address its decline. This work proposes stronger partnerships to implement the next Global Biodiversity Framework <sup>(11)</sup>.

In terms of promoting the generation of knowledge by supporting projects, we provided support for the publication of 17 articles on the most varied topics. These have contributed to deepening the knowledge of the physiology of marine fauna <sup>(12)</sup>, endemic species of the flora of Teyú Cuaré <sup>(13,14,15,16,17)</sup>, its community of birds <sup>(18,19)</sup> and spiders <sup>(20,21)</sup>, among other topics. In addition, five studies were carried out at CRET and in the Biopark, with animals from the population <sup>(23,24,25,26)</sup> and those admitted for rescue <sup>(27)</sup> and a final publication on our collaboration with cormorants <sup>(28)</sup>.

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POPULAR SCIENCE ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINES.

WE PARTICIPATE IN ITS AUTHORSHIP OR FACILITATE ITS DEVELOPMENT.





# DEVELOPING Installed Capacity

Providing specific knowledge to strengthen the capacities of specialists, professionals and representatives of government organizations for the conservation of biodiversity is another goal of TEMAİKÈN Foundation.

To this end, we deploy various strategies for different audiences, current or future professionals from different areas, always seeking to prepare them for the complex challenges of biodiversity loss.



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## — EMPOWERING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

We provide training for government agencies and key actors in wildlife rescue and rehabilitation, with the purpose of promoting a network of institutions and professionals who are able to respond to different scenarios and conduct successful rehabilitation processes with rescued animals.

We taught the “Diploma in Management of Wildlife Specimens under Human Care” (Project ARG 21/G28) with the aim of training 80 wildlife managers from the 24 jurisdictions of the country and contributing to the implementation of the commitments made before the Convention on Biological Diversity at the national level. This diploma was carried out in conjunction with the National Directorate of Biodiversity of the Secretariat of Environmental Policy in Natural Resources of the Argentine Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the National University of the Southern Chaco, the United Nations Development Program and the Global Environment Facility.

Together with the NGO Freeland Brazil, we organized a workshop on the “Detection of Transboundary Wildlife Trafficking” for border security forces. A total of 23 law enforcement officers, control officers and justice officers from various national and provincial agencies were trained. In addition, we trained 250 Brazilian and Argentine agents online.

**246** PROFESSIONALS WERE TRAINED OVER THIS PERIOD.

## — FORMAL EDUCATION IN TEACHING AND TOURISM

We teach a new edition of the course “Introduction to the Interpretation of heritage in the Osununú Natural Reserve” for students of the Tourism Guide career at the National University of Misiones School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

**207** STUDENTS FROM THE TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE N° 55 OF ESCOBAR WERE TRAINED IN PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL SUBJECTS.

At the same time, 11 students in their final year of Technical School No. 4 of Garín, with a focus on tourism, carried out their professional internship in the Biopark. This contributes to their training in the tourism industry with a sustainable perspective.

## — TRAINING OF CONSERVATION PROFESSIONALS

We provided training to students from foreign and Argentine universities, and professionals from related institutions. A total of 22 trainings and technical visits were held for students from six universities: the National University of La Plata, the National University of the Northeast, the University of El Salvador, the National University of the Litoral, the University of Business and Social Sciences, and the National University of Río Cuarto.

**611** SPECIALISTS FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS LINKED TO CONSERVATION PARTICIPATED IN THE ACTIVITIES.

We carried out formal training in tool handling, fire and risk management, for both interns and students of the park ranger career in the National University of Misiones.

Since 2015, we have participated in the teaching of the subjects “Conservation and environmental education” and “Administration, Management and Planning of Bioparks and Zoos” as part of the Bachelor’s Degree in Biological Sciences at Universidad de Belgrano. During this period, 17 students took these courses.

## — TEMAİKÈN FOUNDATION HELD ITS FIRST CONFERENCE ON VETERINARY MEDICINE FOR WILD ANIMALS

Throughout three days, more than 20 specialists presented cases and work experiences. Different topics of interest were discussed, both for the daily practice of professionals and for the large number of students in training.



# World Wetlands Day: Advocating for the Law

By Germán Hansen, Bachelor of Environmental Information,  
member of the Delta Program  
Published on Infobae.com



**On February 2, “World Wetlands Day” is celebrated worldwide to celebrate the international treaty signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971. The treaty is known as the “Convention on Wetlands”, since its mission is to conserve and promote the rational use of these environmental systems through local and national actions. Our country has ratified it since 1991.**

The issue of wetlands has gained importance on the public agenda, largely thanks to the demonstrations of civil society and environmental organizations. However, despite several frustrated initiatives since 2013, this has not yet resulted in the enactment of a national law of minimum budgets that orders, regulates and ensures a sustainable use of wetlands, which make up more than 20% of our national territory.

The benefits or ecosystem services that wetlands provide to society are remarkable. Perhaps the most outstanding is the great wealth of biodiversity they contain, as they are places with very favorable conditions for wild species. According to the World Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), 40% of the world’s plants and animals are raised or live in these environments. In addition, they provide us with direct “goods” such as drinking water, fish, wood, fruits, and various much-needed products. Another one of the essential services that wetlands provide is their contribution to reducing

the risk of natural disasters, resulting from their ability to regulate the climate, soil erosion or floods, among other factors. Likewise, they offer places of unique scenic beauty, which results in several cultural, research or educational activities, as well as recreation and tourism. As if all this were not enough, they are great allies in the fight against climate change, since they make up sites that can store huge amounts of carbon in their vegetation and soil, thus preventing it from being released into the atmosphere in the form of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Despite all these immense and varied benefits, and despite the fact that the threats they face are many and their degradation does not cease, wetlands in our country do not have a specific law to protect them. As for the current threats, it is enough to mention the fires that have affected large areas of land in different provinces in recent times, many of which took place precisely in wetland areas. Another crucial problem that these ecosystems face is the development of productive activities that are not at all compatible with them, such as urbanization, intensive livestock farming or large-scale agricultural production. Finally, the deforestation of forests and jungles associated with wetlands also has severe impacts, many of them irreversible.

**But what do we mean when we talk about wetlands?** What is it that we should protect and use more sustainably? The term “wetland” includes a variety of ecosystems, with different functions and structures, that extend across the length and breadth of the planet. In Argentina, we can mention the recently protected peat

bogs of the Mitre Peninsula, the high-Andean and Puna lagoons of Catamarca and Jujuy, as well as the Paraná Delta. They all share a common attribute that defines them as wetlands and sets them apart from other terrestrial or aquatic ecosystems: they are areas that remain intermittently flooded or with their soils saturated by water for long periods of time. Consequently, they have a flora and fauna adapted to these unique conditions.

Biodiversity, of which we are a part, and the ecosystem services that wetlands provide, are key to sustaining and improving the quality of life of our species in the present and will also be crucial for future generations, that is if we manage to preserve them through sustainable use.

In this sense, civil society organizations, such as Temaikèn Foundation, have been developing strategies for the conservation and restoration of wetlands through a comprehensive approach that includes the communities that inhabit them. Such strategies promote, on the one hand, environmental education and the appreciation of this type of ecosystem. On the other hand, they allow for projects in specific territories, such as the Paraná Delta, aimed at strengthening degraded environments through the recovery and reinsertion of emblematic fauna species such as the marsh deer. Finally, networking promotes the creation of protected natural areas in the region and the restoration of native riparian forest. Through the planting of mini-forest modules, with the aim of generating biological corridors, we contribute to connectivity between and biodiversity, while strengthening the natural system.



# PROMOTING Public Policies and Intersectoral Alliances

## TEMAIKÈN FOUNDATION IS A VALUED MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:



### World Association of Zoos and Aquariums

We have been part of the Council of Members representing the region.



### Association of Zoos & Aquariums

We are one of the few certified institutions in South America.



### Asociación Latinoamericana de Zoológicos y Acuarios

Member of the Animal Welfare, Education, Aquariums and Accreditation & Ethics Committees.



### International Zoo Educators Association

Active member and host of the 2016 Annual Conference.



### Species 360

We are part of the global management system of zoological information for conservation.

## WE PARTICIPATE IN SPACES AND AREAS OF ARTICULATION:



### Forum for the Conservation of the Patagonian Sea and Areas of Influence

Member of the Steering Committee of this international network, created to coordinate the joint work of civil society organizations, focused on promoting policies and measures to ensure the sustainability and viability of the Patagonian Sea ecosystem.



### Wildlife Trafficking Alliance – WTA

We are the first South American organization to join this international alliance to combat illegal wildlife trafficking.



RED ARGENTINA DE RESERVAS NATURALES PRIVADAS

### National Network of Private Nature Reserves

We are a member and active participant of the Argentine North-East and Buenos Aires nodes.



### Marsh Deer Scientific and Technical Committee

We are a key reference in the implementation of the “Rapid Action Protocol for the Discovery of Specimens of Marsh Deer” in the province of Buenos Aires.

National Advisory Commission for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity - CONADIBIO

Yellow Cardinal Conservation Alliance

National Network of Rescue Centers of Argentina

Federal Network for Assistance to Marine Fauna Strandings – River Node

Management Committee of the National Plan for the Conservation of the Yaguareté Natural Monument.

Argentine Bat Conservation Program (AICOM)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PERIOD

### JUNGLE AND GRASSLAND

Several steps were taken with the Honorable Chamber of Deputies of the province of Misiones to resume the declaration of the endemic flora species in the reserve as Provincial Natural Monuments.

Together with members of the executive and legislative branches of the Municipality of San Ignacio, negotiations were carried out with provincial deputies for a bill to conserve the area of the Teyú Cuaré Scenic Route, a project that we have promoted and supported since 2017.

### PARANÁ DELTA

Together with the Municipality of Escobar, we worked to promote the well-being and conservation of the environment in our community.

Wetlands Law: we carried out the plurinational action for Wetlands Day in the Biopark. The meeting was attended by more than 17,500 visitors who were amazed by the communication campaign in support of the bill.

### PATAGONIAN SEA FORUM AND AREAS OF INFLUENCE

**Law against salmon farming.** The document “Protected Areas and Salmon Farming” was presented at IMPAC5, the 5th International Congress on Marine Protected Areas, which was held in Vancouver, Canada, from February 3 to 9, 2023.

### SEISMIC PROSPECTING IN THE NORTH ARGENTINA BASIN SUSPENDED WITH CONDITIONS

Based on the aforementioned Law, the activity now requires presenting a complementary environmental impact statement (EIS) by the National Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MAYDS).

### REVERSING THE RED OF SPECIES

We hosted and participated in a panel titled “*Ex-situ* conservation to reverse red” at the Science Summit of the 77th United Nations General Assembly.



## We are Recognized by:



## Partnerships With Official Bodies

National Parks Administration (APN)  
National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET)  
Directorate of Protected Natural Areas of the Environment Secretariat of Entre Ríos  
Yacyretá Binational Entity  
National Institute of Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP)  
Ministry of Environment of the Province of Buenos Aires.  
Ministry of Environment of the Province of Santa Fe  
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Production of the Province of Salta  
Ministry of Agrarian Development of the Province of Buenos Aires  
Ministry of Ecology and Renewable Natural Resources of Misiones  
Ministry of Education of the Province of Córdoba  
Ministry of Health of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires  
Public Prosecutor's Office of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires  
Municipality of Escobar  
Municipality of La Plata  
Municipality of San Ignacio, province of Misiones  
Argentine Museum of Natural Sciences “Bernardino Rivadavia” (MACN)  
Argentine Federal Police  
National Agri-Food Health and Quality Service (SENASA)

## Partnerships With Civil Society Organizations

Mar del Plata Aquarium  
Provita Civil Association  
Association of Tourism Hotels of the Argentine Republic  
Aves Argentinas  
Professional Council of Veterinary Doctors (CABA)  
Freeland Foundation  
Bioandina Foundation Argentina  
Félix de Azara Natural History Foundation  
Manos Verdes Foundation  
Miguel Lillo Foundation  
Mundo Marino Foundation  
Patagonia Natural Foundation  
Rewilding Argentina Foundation  
Shoonem Foundation  
Traces - Association for the Study and Conservation of Biodiversity  
Jane Goodall Institute Argentina  
Wildlife Conservation Society

## Partnerships With Educational Institutions

Faculty of Forest Sciences of the University of Misiones  
Faculty of Veterinary Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires  
Higher Institute of Teaching and Technical Training No. 55, Escobar  
University of Belgrano, CABA  
University of Business and Social Sciences, CABA  
University of La Rioja  
University of Salvador, CABA  
Juan Agustín Maza University, Mendoza  
La Salle University, Colombia  
Maimónides University, CABA  
National University of La Plata  
National University of Southern Patagonia  
National University of Mar del Plata  
National University of Misiones  
National University of Río Cuarto  
National University of San Luis

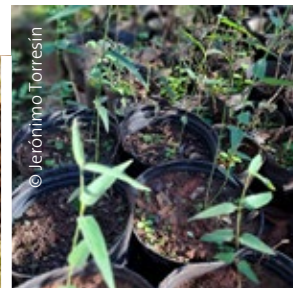
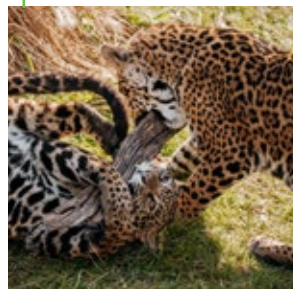
# A Year in Conservation

The following is a selection of moments that marked these 12 months of work.

## JAGUARS, NEW INHABITANTS OF THE BIOPARK

In a joint action with provincial and national government agencies, we received ambassadors of this emblematic species of the Argentine fauna to contribute to the *ex-situ* conservation of the species.

APRIL



MAY

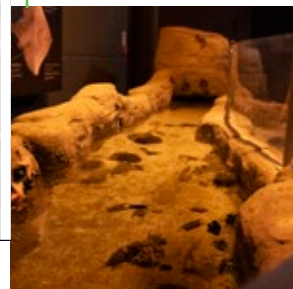
## WE ACHIEVED THE REPRODUCTION OF *OXYPETALUM TEYUCUARENSE*

For the first time in history, this plant was reproduced in the nursery of the Osununú Nature Reserve. There are only 12 individuals of this species left in the world.

## WE OPENED THE SMALLNOSE FANSKATE NURSERY

A new settings that allows visitors to observe the gestation process of these fish that inhabit the seabed and learn about the cartilaginous fish research project.

JUNE



JULY

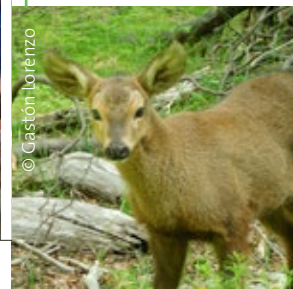
## RECORD NUMBER OF VISITS IN THE LAST 10 YEARS

The Guardians of Nature experience was consolidated into a circuit designed to offer each visitor the opportunity to explore, play and take action for the environment.

## SHOONEM BREEDING STATION OPENED ITS DOORS IN CHUBUT

A unique establishment in Argentina, aimed at researching and breeding huemuls in the Patagonian mountain range. Within a few months, a calf was born!

AUGUST



SEPTEMBER

## PRESENTATION OF SAFE MANED WOLF

First Saving Animals From Extinction program co-led by a member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums based outside the United States. The goal is to contribute to the conservation of the species in the region.

## FIRST CONFERENCE ON VETERINARY MEDICINE FOR WILD ANIMALS

A valuable cycle for medicine began: more than 20 specialists shared work experiences over the course of 3 days, with support from more than 130 professionals.

OCTOBER



NOVEMBER

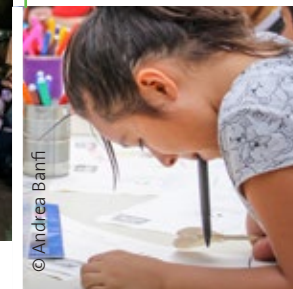
## 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIOPARK

We have been growing for two decades thanks to an increasingly solid network of allies. We celebrated with 200 of them during an amazing celebration at Temaikèn.

## CELEBRATING INCLUSION TOGETHER

This year, the Biopark received 16,669 people with disabilities, who participated in different events and educational visits.

DECEMBER



JANUARY

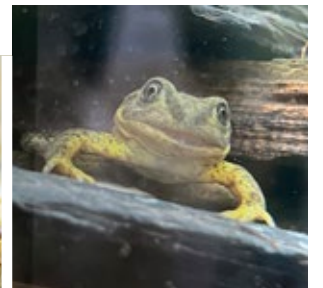
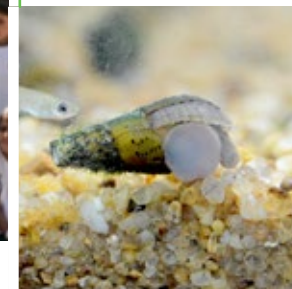
## COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

In this school year, more than 72,000 students participated in educational visits to Temaikèn.

## APIPÉ SNAILS ARRIVE AT THE AQUARIUM

More than 200 specimens were transferred from the Argentine Museum of Natural Sciences "Bernardino Rivadavia" to a specially conditioned space in the Foundation, where they began to breed in order to create a shelter population for a species categorized as extinct in the wild.

FEBRUARY



MARCH

## AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL PARKS ADMINISTRATION

To develop conservation and research work within the framework of the project "Towards the return of the Patagonian frog to the Laguna Blanca".

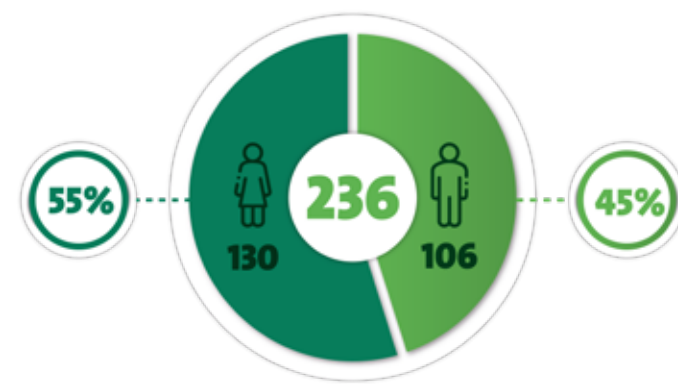
# Our People



## MANAGEMENT TEAM



## COLLABORATORS



## Volunteer Program

Since 2009, every year our program renews the commitment of people who are passionate about protecting nature, investing their time, talent and enthusiasm to collaborate with our mission, leaving their mark on different challenges.

During this last year, **40 volunteers** participated in different programs.

## Talent Development

Over the last year, **more than 220** employees participated in different training courses, including internal programs for the Aquarium teams, Caretakers, Veterinary Hospital, Animal Nutrition, Visitor Services, Nature Guardians Training Program, Emergency/Safety Plan at work and Induction of new personnel.

## Professional Internships

Since 2004, the foundation has been a space for training experiences in a learning setting within the Aquarium, Administration, Visitor Services, Warehouse, Education, Gastronomy, Infrastructure, Animal Nutrition, Water Plant and Electromechanical Installations.

This year, **13 people** were involved in different sectors.

# DEIA Program

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility

Since its beginning, our organization has worked on the concept of diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion in order to provide equal opportunities for all. To this end, the following programs and actions were implemented:



Accessibility to the Biopark




Educational Programs



Labor Inclusion

During 2022, the DEIA program was institutionally developed.

ITS GOALS ARE:

- 1 Generate and sustain** an inclusive culture and a shared understanding of how and why Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility are fundamental to achieving our mission.
  - 2 Reflect** on the organization's operations, our commitment to the concepts of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility.
  - 3 Visualize** the demographic trends that make up our diverse workforce and the changing communities our organization serves.
-  A Working Committee was established to develop and ensure compliance with the DEIA program.

# Sustainability

The conservation of wildlife and ecosystems requires and depends on the care and sustainable use of resources. That is why our operations must incorporate sustainable practices that conserve those resources, save money, and publicly show our commitment to conservation. In addition, we can pass on practices that our visitors can incorporate into their daily lives, thus becoming part of the solution to many environmental problems.

In this sense, we continue with the reduction and classification of waste, reuse, proper disposal for removal and subsequent recycling and we began to develop our Sustainability Plan. Within this framework, we decided to establish the Sustainability area within our structure and work accordingly on the following axes: **waste management, chemical product management, sustainable construction, energy management, fuel management, innovation, procurement management, water management and awareness.**



**WE USE ENERGY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES**

We have signed a purchase agreement for electricity from renewable sources, thus diversifying our energy matrix and reducing the environmental impact.



**WE SEPARATE WASTE**

**PAPER & CARDBOARD:**

Almost 7 tons sent for recycling. We have avoided cutting down more than 1,700 trees since 2010

**PLASTIC:**

More than half a ton of plastic sent for recycling.

**+ 1,680,000**

PLASTIC CAPS RECYCLED SINCE 2009.



**WE REDUCE THE USE OF PAPER AND SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

50% of paper towel dispensers in the Biopark bathrooms were replaced by automatic electric dryers.



**USED VEGETABLE OIL**

More than 7,500 liters of used vegetable oil were recycled, contributing to an 88% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions generated by conventional diesel compared to biodiesel.





**+ 83,000**

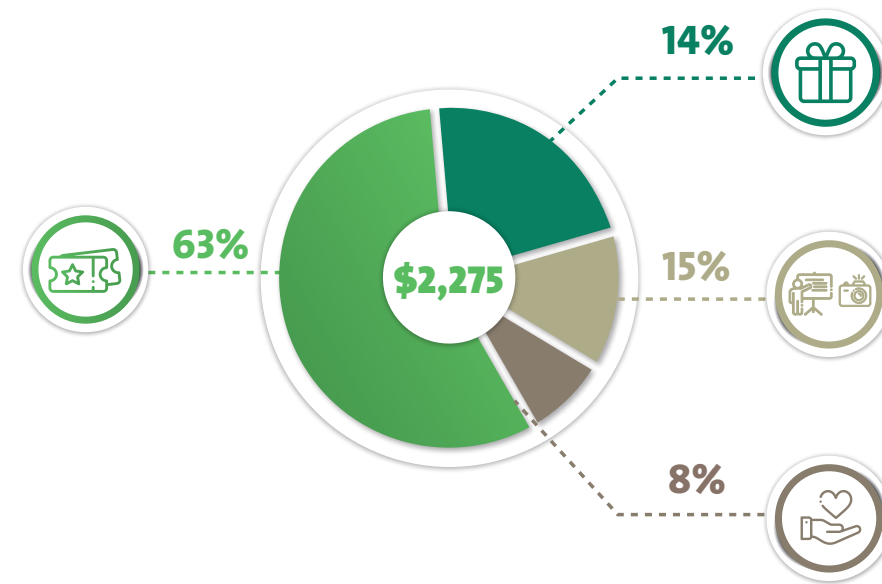
LITERS OF VEGETABLE OIL RECYCLED SINCE 2011.

# Financial Report

APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023  
EXPRESSED IN MILLIONS OF ARGENTINE PESOS

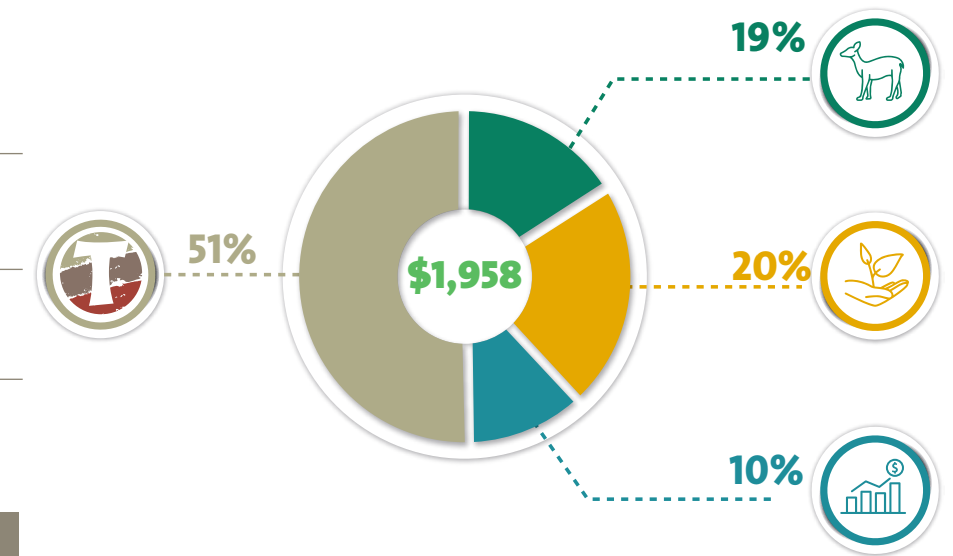
## REVENUES

 Biopark tickets	\$1,424
 Concessions & Others	\$320
 Education & Tourism	\$338
 Donations	\$193
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$2,275</b>



## OPERATING EXPENDITURES

 Biopark	\$1,007
 Animal care	\$376
 Conservation and Education	\$381
 Administration	\$194
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 1,958</b>







# Acknowledgements

## Allied Companies and Institutions

We are grateful for the fundamental support of those who make our projects, conservation and education programs possible.



Agfa  
Ansilta  
Compañía Tierras del Sud Argentino  
Holliday-Scott  
Hospital Austral  
Huente-Co  
Incubadoras A.DAMI



JetSMART  
Labyes  
Ostrava Zoological Garden and Botanical Biopark  
PAE (Pan American Energy)  
RUS (Rio Uruguay Seguros)  
Tenaris

## Individual Donors

We believe that the way to protect nature is always together. Thank you to our individual donors who have supported and continue to support us in working for the conservation and protection of nature.

# How to Join

## DONATE

Your donation helps support our conservation and environmental education efforts. **The generosity of our donor community makes it possible for us to tell stories of recovery of endangered species, to actively work for more protected natural areas and to continue with environmental education programs.**



Today, more than ever, our actions have a real impact on the future. We have the opportunity to make a difference.

Join Temaikèn Foundation with your donation  
<https://www.fundaciontemaikén.org.ar/quiero-donar>

Let's protect nature together.

## VOLUNTEER WORK

We believe that change can only be achieved by working as a team. We need people who want to take on the challenge of bringing about positive change in the way we respect and relate to nature.

To join our volunteer programs, please contact us at [voluntariado@temaikén.org.ar](mailto:voluntariado@temaikén.org.ar)

## INVOLVE YOUR COMPANY

By supporting the efforts of Temaikèn Foundation, companies can provide additional resources for the conservation of species and areas and education. We are committed to true alliances, through different ideas and ways of association, looking for opportunities for joint growth.

For more information, please contact us at [aliados@temaikén.org.ar](mailto:aliados@temaikén.org.ar)

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