

NEWS UPDATE AND TReeS MEETING
June 1988

Since the latest TReeS News was produced, we have heard that ~~new~~ new concessions for forest clearance in Madre de Dios have been granted or are being considered:-

1. 16,500ha to Electro-Peru for electricity production
2. 74,000ha to an industrial logger, under consideration
3. 40,000ha for cattle-ranching
4. 10,000ha for tourist development or palm oil plantations, under consideration.



At present we do not have many details - for example, we do not know for all these cases the present state of the forest to be affected. The people working on the Reserve - naturalists, scientists, Peruvian Safaris staff, and Didier Lacaze of AMETRA - are liaising closely with the local Ministry of Agriculture in Puerto Maldonado and have written a joint letter to the local conservation group, the ACSS, suggesting a coordinated effort to deal with these developments. All those concerned are convinced that a regional approach is needed, accepting that developments will go ahead and looking for ways to minimise environmental damage.

The action decided upon is likely to take the form of international publicity, of letter-writing to the officials involved, and of raising funds through slideshows, donations and sponsorship to allow us to offer material help. On the short term we are looking at the possibility of sponsoring a park guard for Tambopata; on the longer term we have offered our support to the ACSS and other local groups once the legal pathways are opened for improved protection on a larger scale.

I am planning to travel myself to Peru later this summer to spend some time coordinating with local groups for TReeS. It will be a good opportunity for TReeS to send out equipment, and to form a targeted plan of action.

I hope very much you will be able to attend the TReeS meeting on June 4th to air your views on our possible courses of action.

SPECIAL SKILLS WE NEED:

Printing/publications
Audiovisual displays
Press/publicity outlets
Translations to and from Spanish

HM

Slideshow - Birding in Tambopata

We are very lucky to have Barry Trevis to talk to us on birds and birding at Tambopata. Barry and Lyn Trevis have birded extensively in Peru and are considering setting up specialist trips for birders, with the help of Barry Walker in Peru, and has produced an invaluable report from one of their trips giving practical and detailed information on the birding locations in Peru.