

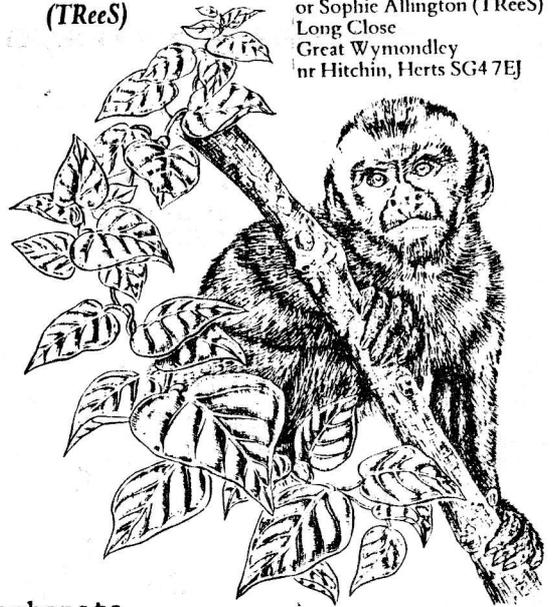
TAMBOPATA
RESERVE
SOCIETY
(TReeS)

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TReeS NEWS

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Biological Survey Expedition and Official Visit to Tambopata

In June, the Asociacion para la Conservacion de la Selva Sur (ACSS) made a biological survey of the Rio Heath and surrounding areas. The Rio Heath, on the Bolivian border, is one of the proposed boundaries for an expansion of the Tambopata Reserved Zone. The expedition was collecting information which will be used to convince the government of the area's biological importance.

The expedition team consisted of members of the ACSS, together with journalists, representatives from the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture and 2 zoologists from San Marcos University in Lima - Victor Morales and TReeS representative Isabel Bohorquez. We are waiting for news of its findings, to be reported in the next TReeS News.

In connection with the expedition, Charlie Munn of the ACSS arranged a visit to Explorer's Inn and the Tambopata Reserved Zone by the director of the Direccion General Forestal y Fauna (DGFF), Ing. Romero. The DGFF is the governmental department responsible for decisions on the Reserve's future and the visit could mark an end to the lack of progress in gaining real protection for the Reserve.

Felling Permits and Poaching

Governmental action to protect the Reserve has never been more urgently needed. Resident Naturalists there report that hunting is now regular on the big lake, Cocococha; there is even a hunters' camp with recently-made canoes and a trail which has been found on the Northeast bank. A giant otter skeleton was found next to shotgun cartridges - perhaps one of the family of otters which used to be seen regularly on the lake. Naturalists are to increase their patrolling at more irregular hours to discourage the hunters, but at present they have little power to stop intruders.

In addition, in May a large number of logging permits were granted at the limits of the Reserve by la Torre river, and several thousand feet of wood were taken.

The Relationship with the People of Infierno; AMETRA

Communication with the Native Community of Infierno indicates that the poaching is the work of just one family. The land to the North of lake Cocococha is on the 2000-hectare overlap between the Tambopata Reserve and the Community's land, and until now, it was only the goodwill of the people of Infierno which prevented its destruction by logging and hunting.



The Tambopata Reserve Society (TReeS) was formed in response to the growing number of people concerned for the Tambopata Wildlife Reserve in southeast Peru.

Its aim is to assist in the protection and preservation of the fauna and flora of the reserve and to advance public awareness and education about the area.