

black lemur, black spider monkey, mairiqui, gold-faced saki and buffy-headed marmoset). These, along with 11 postcard sized illustrations, are available separately at a special offer price (contact address below for further details).

Jan B. Kaiser, (Foundation) Illustrated Monographs of Living Primates, P.O.Box 160, 8091 PA Wezep, The Netherlands. Fax: +31 (for Holland) 5253.3123.

PRIMATE PREDATORS

Dr Robert W. Sussman and Donna L. Hart of the Primate Biology Program, Department of Anthropology, Washington University, St. Louis, are carrying out a survey dealing with predation on primates. They are requesting information on predation or mobbing by means of a simple questionnaire. Information collected from the questionnaire will form part of a Ph.D dissertation by Donna Hart. In addition, they would welcome information on unanalyzed fecal samples or nest debris of carnivores or raptors, and would be prepared to study the material to determine the presence of primate remains. Please contact: Prof. R. W. Sussman or Donna L. Hart, Primate Biology Program, Department of Anthropology, Washington University, Campus Box 1114, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63130-4899, USA. E-mail: dhart@arts.wustl.edu.



COMMUNITY
CONSERVATION
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CATALYSTS FOR RURAL CONSERVATION

Community Conservation Consultants (CCC) is an organization designed to meet the emerging new challenges facing both local and global conservation by stimulating localized community conservation activism. CCC strives to establish community sanctuaries based on voluntary participation and respect for the capacity, ability, and desire of rural people and landowners to be stewards of their own lands. CCC provides local groups appropriate approaches regarding the conservation of target species and/or habitats. Our goal is to empower local people to manage their own lands with minimal outside interference. Its programs strive to leave a local organization or group in charge of managing and perpetuating the newly formed community-based sanctuary. Community conservation demands creative

solutions to individual situations. Each project or conservation situation is unique and requires unique solutions often revolving around flagship species, specific habitats or natural landmarks, areas surrounding protected core areas, and species which are endangered or have small distributions, or which are locally prominent or historically important.

CCC began as Howlers Forever, Inc. in 1989 to aid the Community Baboon Sanctuary (CBS), Belize, an experimental grassroots conservation effort by rural Belizean subsistence farmers to protect the black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*). By approaching landowners from a position of respecting their autonomy, decision-making capacity, and way of life, while underscoring the benefits of proper management on their own lands, the CBS has succeeded in placing control of the stewardship of lands with the individual landowner. The CBS has become a successful model spawning a new wave of conservation projects in Belize and internationally.

CCC was formed under Howlers Forever, Inc. to broaden its functions to meet the growing interest in community conservation. Since the concept has the potential to be used commonly by local conservation groups, it thus has wide ramifications for protecting private and public lands throughout the world. Stimulated by the success of the CBS methods, other community projects are in various stages of planning or development. Presently, they center on Wisconsin and Central America, but CCC has answered inquiries from a wide variety of international conservationists interested in community sanctuaries.

CCC is currently involved in four main community projects as well as consultations on others and a number of research and publishing projects. *The Community Baboon Sanctuary*, initiated in 1985, involves seven villages and over 100 landowners to protect approximately 18 square miles of private lands. There is a tourism and education program centered on a small natural history museum at Bermudian Landing. The sanctuary is managed by a local committee with representatives of each village. Financial administration is currently by the Belize Audubon Society. CCC is working with participants to expand tourism to other villages, and in the creation of a history/forest use museum in St. Paul's Bank.

The Gales Point, Manatee project involves helping the community of Gales Point to create a protected area of the 170,000 acres surrounding the village

and encompassing a large river and lagoon system. The area extends through a cross section of varied ecosystems including: cays, ocean tidal areas, coastal beach and mangrove forests, pine forests, lagoon mangrove forests, brackish lagoons, broadleaf semi-deciduous tropical rain forests, cohune palm forests, and riverine rain forests. The area also includes many limestone caves within the karst hills in which are found pot shards and bones, indicating ancient Mayan burial grounds. The Government of Belize has created two Special Development Areas for the region as interim protected areas. CCC volunteers have created a zoning plan for the area as well as specifically for the village which resides on a long narrow peninsula extending into the Southern Lagoon. Additional work includes carrying out a biodiversity assessment with a USAID grant, including a general survey of howlers (*Alouatta pigra*) and spider monkeys (*Ateles geoffroyi*) within the area. Village development work included installing better sewage systems, planting virus resistant coconuts, and creating a buoy system for manatee protection. Research work with the participation of villagers includes gathering data on tree phenology, hunting and fishing yields, monitoring and protecting sea turtle nests, as well as creating vegetation and wildlife GIS maps. CCC works with Belize Enterprises for Sustainable Ecology and the Gales Point Progressive Cooperative in these projects.

The *Kickapoo River Community Reserve* was initiated by CCC to bring local control to lands in Wisconsin along the Kickapoo River which have been under the control of the US Army Corps of Engineers as part of a failed dam project. The 9,500 acres, which were purchased under eminent domain by the Federal Government, have been a source of local conflict for 30 years. CCC initiated a proposal to create a community sanctuary and a rural education center for the area. Despite historical problems, the proposal was approved by the local community with little dissent. Recently, the Wisconsin State Government passed legislation, written by a local committee, for the management of the lands. According to this legislation, the area will be managed by a nine-person Kickapoo Authority, six of whom will be local residents. CCC is helping to plan a museum of sustainability as well as creating a multi-use design for the protection of endangered species and for limited recreation.

Another project with primates as its focus involves CCC working with Pronatura of Yucatan to help the village of Punta Laguna in Mexico to protect

their local population of spider monkeys (*Ateles geoffroyi*). The area is an archeological site which the Mayan community hopes to develop for additional tourism. There is also a rain forest honey project to develop income. Future CCC plans include gathering basic information on spider monkey ecology, creating a conservation plan for both *Alouatta* and *Ateles*, initiating tree phenology studies, and helping to create an area guidebook. The conservation plan will entail attempting to connect spider and monkey populations or habitats through expanding the protected areas or through corridors.

CCC has always valued and stimulated educational materials at all levels. Under the Orang-utan Press name, it has recently reprinted "A Belizean Rain Forest - the Community Baboon Sanctuary" by Robert Horwich and Jon Lyon. Other educational material projects include writing a book on Creole uses of rain forest plants, a guide to the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary, a guide to community tourism in Belize, and a booklet on converting farming practices to organic methods in Wisconsin.

A variety of research projects are also being carried out by CCC volunteers. These include studies on the ecology, social behavior, and population changes of the black howler monkey, and the phenology of trees in the Community Baboon Sanctuary, Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Manatee Special Development Area of Belize. Another primate research project involves reestablishing a population of howlers at the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary. This project is being carried out with the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Belize Audubon Society. Animals have been translocated from the Community Baboon Sanctuary to the Cockscomb Basin and are being monitored using radio transmitters. In addition to the study of animal movements, there is a study of the ecology of the translocated animals before movement and later while in their new environment. Translocations of 63 animals have been carried out in 1992, 1993, and 1994. Thus far, survival rate of the translocated animals has been over 85% for 1-2 years with 11 new infants born to the new location. Approximately 65 animals now comprise the new population.

CCC is interested in providing a service to help communities to protect their forests and wildlife. If any groups or individuals would like to help toward these goals or want additional information on any of the CCC projects or wish to receive the

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CCC newsletter, please contact the following address.

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