

Editorial

Neotropical Primates has taken on a new role - doubling as a journal while maintaining its main function as a newsletter for the Primate Specialist Group membership as well as for Neotropical primate researchers, zookeepers and conservationists worldwide. Our intention is to include up to two or three peer-reviewed articles. These will be limited to aspects directly dealing with or linked to the systematics and taxonomy, biogeography, ecology and conservation of the platyrrhines. For this reason, we are pleased to welcome a number of renowned Neotropical primatologists with enormous experience in these areas as our new Editorial Board. They have kindly accepted to play a special role in helping us to glean articles and information of importance for Neotropical primate studies and conservation, and to maintain, raise even, the standards we are hoping to achieve.

Besides the change into part-journal, moving the editorial office to the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science (CABS) at Conservation International (CI), Washington, DC, has been the reason for the delays in the publication of *Neotropical Primates* – for which we apologize. Remedying this situation, we are also pleased to welcome on board Jennifer Pervola, who is now the Assistant Editor and, by the way, is also helping Gustavo Fonseca with the editing of another SSC Specialist Group newsletter for the Neotropics – *Edentata*. Please send your contributions, and news items and announcements relevant to Neotropical primates (as well as sloths, armadillos and anteaters) to her at CABS/CI.

In this issue, we are publishing the descriptions of two new marmoset species, following six which have already been described from the basin of the Rio Madeira in the Brazilian Amazon in recent years: *Callithrix intermedius* in 1977, *C. nigriceps* and *C. mauesi* in 1992, *C. marcai* in 1993, *C. saterei* in 1998, and *C. humilis* in 1999. There are a further two articles, one by Alejandro Estrada and co-workers on a population of black howler monkeys, *Alouatta pigra*, at Parque Nacional Zona Arqueológica de Palenque in Chiapas, Mexico, and a second by Robert Wallace and co-workers on the primates of the Rios Blanco y Negro Wildlife Reserve in Bolivia.

The following issue, 8(2), of *Neotropical Primates* will be dedicated to a taxonomic listing of the Platyrrhini; results of the workshop “Primate Taxonomy for the New Millennium”, organized by the PSG, and kindly hosted by the Disney Institute in Orlando, Florida in February of this year. The aims of this Workshop were to provide the fullest assessment of primate diversity with our current knowledge, and especially considering the numerous contributions and revelations of genetic studies in the last decade. A full listing of the primates, be they species or subspecies, is a vital first step for the establishment of conservation priorities and the full assessment of the Order for the IUCN/SSC Red List. In no way are we imposing a “definitive taxonomy” and wherever there is disagreement or doubt, we hope it will stimulate substantiated discussion and further research, especially into such poorly understood genera as *Alouatta* and *Cebus*.

Please send us short articles, as well as your publications, information about events, research programs, field sites, announcements, theses and dissertations, and Society activities, so that we can fulfill our mission of disseminating a wide range of valuable information for the conservation of primates and their forests in the New World.

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