



E - N E W S

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Conservation in ACTION

When a critically endangered leatherback turtle came ashore in Nicaragua on January xx, the Paso Pacífico rangers rushed to her rescue. They first measured the turtle for size and collected tissue samples for genetic analysis, then erased her tracks after ensuring that no poachers were nearby. These standard but important protective measures help Paso Pacífico and participating scientists to study these ancient ocean creatures while avoiding their extinction.

In order to protect leatherback turtles among other endangered wildlife, Paso Pacífico works to hire and educate Nicaraguans who understand the need for conservation in their own backyard. Many collaborators help to make this protection possible, including [Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources](#) (MARENA), [US Forest Service](#) (USFS), [United States Agency for International Development](#) (USAID), IITS?, and an anonymous foundation.

Paso Pacífico in the News

Surfers from across Southwestern Nicaragua came together this month for an educational workshop(link) organized by Paso Pacífico. Coastal



Team member spotlight

Paso Pacífico Paso Pacífico ranger Jairo Coronado is committed to protecting sea turtles and educating his neighbors. Jairo recently returned from Argentina, where he attended the [VI Regional Course for Park Rangers of Latin America](#) last month, representing Nicaragua among rangers from 16 other countries. We are proud of Jairo and grateful to [Japan International Cooperation Agency](#) (JICA) for making Jairo's scholarship and the course possible.

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conservation was the main topic of discussion, emphasizing the link between surfing and preserving marine resources.

The workshop was organized as a response to the closing of coastal access to the Playa Madera surf break in Nicaragua, one of the countries most popular surf destinations. Previous meetings between surf leaders, Paso Pacifico, and the municipal government demanded that access be reopened. XX Nicaraguan surfers came together after the meeting for a cleanup of Playa Madera in order to highlight the importance of caring for our beaches.

Partnerships make it possible

The [black handed spider monkey](#) is one of Nicaragua's most endangered species, which is why Paso Pacifico is acting to protect their disappearing habitat in the Paso del Istmo and to keep poachers out. Over the past year, our partnership with the [US Fish and Wildlife Service](#) (USFWS), who sponsors international conservation efforts through Wildlife Without Borders, has made it possible to hire rangers to protect these spider monkeys on strategic reserves in the wildlife corridor.

With their support, Paso Pacifico is focusing on setting measurable and objectives and ensuring that our conservation efforts yield real results. We have also been able to increase our expertise in the field with a scholarship to learn the [Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation](#) through a workshop led by [Foundation of Success](#). Paso Pacifico's partnership with USFWS is crucial to achieving our goal of protecting spider monkeys in the wild.

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IN GRATITUDE



In 2009, Paso Pacifico's Executive Director Sarah Otterstrom made a commitment with the [Clinton Global Initiative](#) to Advance Women as Leaders in Nicaragua. Since that time, we have collaborated with important donors and partners to build these programs, which include forestry and entrepreneurship training that will teach women to manage their own tropical tree nurseries and help reforest Nicaragua. Paso Pacifico is thankful for support from the Jedediah Dewey Foundation ([link?](#)), Dr. Andrew McCracken, the [RageJax Foundation](#). Together we are empowering women to protect their environment!

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USA Address: PO Box 1244 • Ventura, CA 93002-1244 • Phone: 1-805-643-7044

Nicaragua Address: Km 15 Carretera Ticuantepe, Centro Comercial MercoCentro, Modulo #5
Ticuantepe, Nicaragua • Phone: +505-2279-7258

