



E - N E W S

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Conservation in ACTION

Across the Paso del Istmo biological corridor, bats perform ecological services ranging from pollination to pest control. Pictured above is a Mexican fruit bat (*Artibeus jamaicensis*), documented by wildlife photographer Bruce Taubert, just one of **44 species** of bats we're working to understand and protect.

Carol Chambers, [a bat biologist from Northern Arizona University](#), just spent her sabbatical in Nicaragua studying bat populations in fragmented landscapes like those found in Paso del Istmo. Working with [Bat Conservation International](#) and 15 other bat researchers she worked in the field conducting research to strengthen our conservation efforts in Nicaragua.

Two of her students, Jose Gabriel Martinez and Marlon Chaves, are still in the field, placing AnaBat devices across the landscape and recording bat activity. (An anabat is a monitoring system which detects and analyzes bats' echolocation calls.) Thanks to the mentorship of Chambers, Kim Williams-Guillén, and Arnulfo Medina, these budding conservation scientists are at the cornerstone of our commitment to build local capacity to study and protect bats, crucial to the ecosystems and agricultural economy of Central America.

As with all our initiatives, we are combining scientific research and conservation efforts with community outreach. Before leaving Carol contributed to our environmental education program in Ostional with a nighttime bat workshop for school children. Thanks to the support of Bat Conservation International, our bat conservation campaign will include additional workshops and learning materials for school children



Team member spotlight

Julie Martinez has headed our Environmental Education program from the beginning, visiting hundreds of students every month to take them on forest hikes and to teach them the wonders of our natural world.

In addition to her studies at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN), Julie gained experience in participatory environmental education in Japan with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency ([JICA](#).)

She spends much of her time traveling around rural Nicaragua, often on horseback, to reach the schools in Rivas which participate in our environmental education programs.

ACT NOW!

[Subscribe](#) to our email list

To learn more about [Valuing the Ecosystem Services of Bats](#), please visit our [website](#).

We are grateful to wildlife photographer [Bruce Taubert](#) for his fabulous bat photos. The pair pictured to the right are Lava tube bats. You can see more of Taubert's bat photos [here](#).



Paso Pacífico in the News

One of our CGI commitment partners, the [Ocean Recovery Alliance](#), took the [Global Alert project](#) to *The Economist's World Oceans Summit* in Singapore last week. For more information about the Global Alert, empowering individuals and communities to reduce trash in waterways, [watch this video](#).

Last week, we also participated in Flora and Fauna International's press conference to disseminate the results of the [Yo No Como Huevos](#) campaign to discourage the consumption of sea turtle eggs.

We're also pleased about Planet Action's [In Depth Coverage](#) of our program to *Rebuild Landscape Connectivity and Ecosystem Services for Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Community Development*. [Planet Action](#), a non-profit initiative dedicated to promoting cooperative approaches to climate change, is generously providing us with satellite imagery to help gauge the connectivity of migratory corridors in Paso del Istmo. Our other partners in this reforestation project, led by Kim Williams-Guillén, are [CarbonFund.org](#) and the [University of Wisconsin Osh Kosh](#).

Partnerships make it possible

Our commitment to an integrative approach means every goal we set as an organization is achieved with the cooperation of multiple partners and stakeholders.

For example, as we continue our work to increase the populations of critically endangered sea turtles, we work with the following organizations.

[DANIDA](#) (the Danish International Cooperation Agency) has provided funding and guidance for our Coastal Marine Research project, which includes school murals celebrating the biodiversity of the Paso del Istmo biological corridor.

[RageJax Foundation](#) helped us commission the school murals.

The [Turner Foundation](#) has contributed financial support and expertise to our turtle ranger program.

[Flora & Fauna International](#) have led the Yo No Como Huevos campaign to get people to pledge not to eat turtle eggs.

HELP US DO THE WORK!

It doesn't just take a lot of hard work to restore and protect crucial wildlife habitat and mitigate climate change, it takes funding.

HELP US TODAY, by donating to the project of your choice.

[\\$10 will plant native trees](#) to mitigate the effects of climate change and provide wildlife habitat.

[\\$5 will protect sea turtle nests](#) by employing women to watch over them on their local beach.

[\\$100 will help pay for an AnaBat](#) to detect and identify bat species.

IN GRATITUDE



We are grateful to Board

[PRETOMA](#) scientists helped conduct our fisheries assessment as well as turtle first aid workshops.

The [University of Costa Rica](#) marine science program helped us map turtle habitats and reefs.

[SEE Turtles](#) and [SEEtheWILD](#) help us fund turtle conservation through ecotourism.

For more information about our efforts to save endangered sea turtles, please visit our [website](#).

For photos of our school murals, visit the RageJax Foundation's [photo album](#) on Facebook.

Member Emeritus, Rick Smith, for his continued service to Paso Pacifico. A retired park ranger who helped us launch our turtle ranger and junior ranger programs, Rick provides valuable advice in program planning, and has been key in helping us form and strengthen partnerships with allied organizations.

You can learn more about our ranger programs [here](#).

You can read Rick Smith's biography [here](#).

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