

**ECOLOGICAL REPORT**  
**ITA – PEM**  
**AUGUST 2015**



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**ITA**  
**>INKATERRA<**  
ASOCIACIÓN

A toucan bird with a large, colorful beak (red, yellow, and black) is perched on a tree branch. The bird has a yellow breast and a black body. The background is a dense, green forest with many leaves and branches.

# ECOLOGICAL REPORT

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FIELD STATION TAMBOPATA BY ITA



## ECOLOGICAL REPORT OF FIELD STATION TAMBOPATA BY ITA

By: Noe Roger Huaraca Charca  
Field Station Tambopata by ITA Coordinator

### **INTRODUCTION**

Biological Station Casa ITA is located on the left bank of the Madre de Dios River approximately 40 min outboard ride from the city of Puerto Maldonado, it is passed the Rolin Island and near the port of the Station is a small stream named Carachamayoc.

### **STUDY AREA**

The area where the species were recorded are in the trail system of the station and tourist attractions, these were: staff gauge, Trail A, Trail D, Anaconda Walk, Canopy Walk, Palmetum and around the station.

### **METHODS**

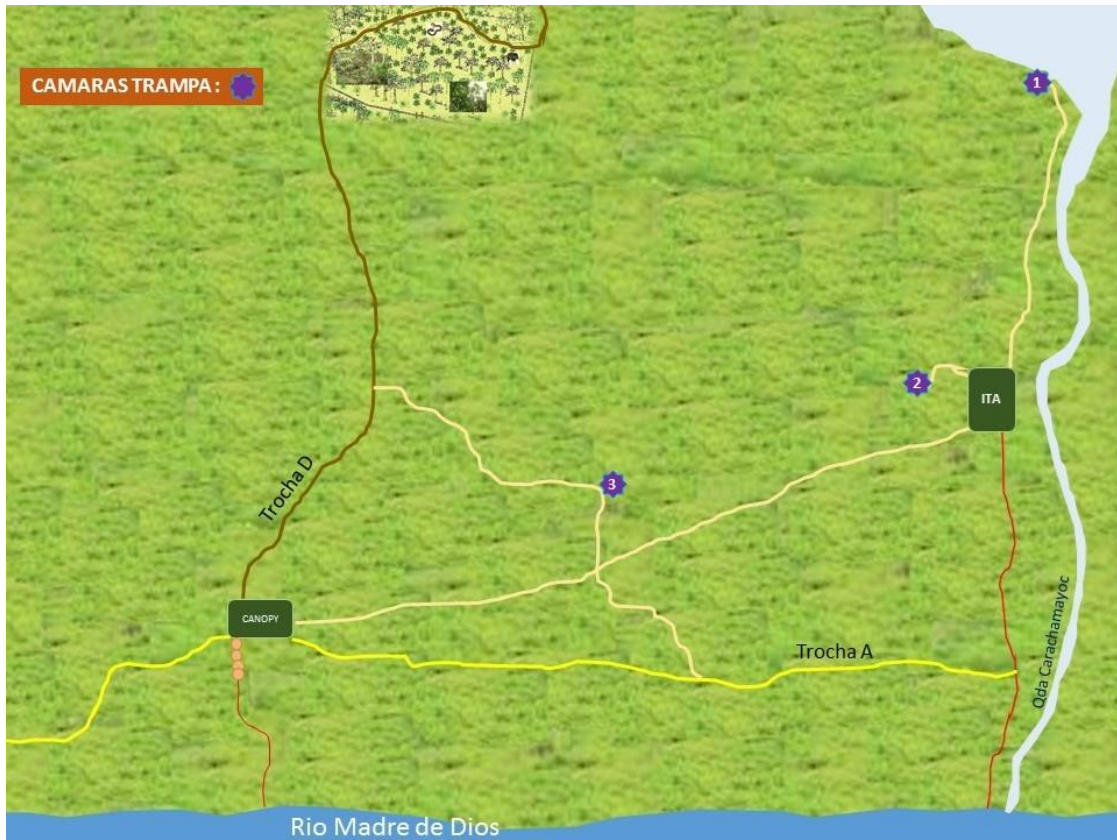
Two methods were used. The first was direct sighting (seen and/or heard) and indirect (tracks, feces) which was conducted through the trails A, D, Canopy and river banks. The second was by camera trap where 3 of them (Bushnell) were used in a combination of photo and video mode. They were placed only for 2 days in 3 different spots around the station. The second point was chosen because of a previous registration of *Leopardus pardalis*. The rapid assessment by this method was done due to the presence of ACEER.

### **RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS**

#### **A. Camera trap:**

The working hours (registered) on the camera trap (Photo N°1) were on average every 40 hours. In the last report a registration of a feline was taken with the N°2 camera, so it was reinstalled in the same place. The other 2 cameras were placed in a new region (Map N°1). Camera N°1 was left near the Carachamayoc broken and camera N°3 on the side of the trail that accesses the swamp. In all cases, we did some cleaning of the area to help capture the photo.

**Map N°1.- Location of camera traps in the Field Station Tambopata by ITA**



The species recorded were:

**Table N°1.- Species captured by camera traps in Field Station Tambopata by ITA**

Specie	Hour	C N°1	C N°2	C N°3
<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	20:40		X	
<i>Sciurus sp</i>	7:14	X		
<i>Dasyus novemcinctus</i>	22.43		X	
Roedor (rata)	21:35	X		

It should be mentioned that *Leopardus pardalis* with this method was recorded again but there is no certainty that the individual is not the same as the one previously recorded. *Sciurus sp.* was the only species recorded during the day. The camera N°3 did not obtain any registration, which could be due to its proximity to the trail.

## B. Direct and indirect sightings:

For several days footprints of *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris* (Photo N°2) were found in the port of the station. Due to the presence of humans this small family, of two offspring and their parents, has been having crepuscular and nocturnal habits. Only this month they were sighted 3 times during the day. According to observations their territory encompasses all the banks of the Reserva Amazónica property and part of the adjacent property with direction to the east. This could be due to the presence of grasses found there that make up their diet. If in danger, the dominant male, who is directing the group, launches an alert in the form of short bark so that everyone runs to safety in the water. Along the lower Madre de Dios River its presence is very little; these are limited to being nocturnal and being in small groups. The reason for this is because they are hunted a lot, sometimes for their meat and the other times because they cause damage to corn, sugar cane, watermelon and different crops that villagers have in the banks.

*Pipa pipa* (Photo N°3) is an amphibian highly adapted to aquatic life, has a flat triangular head, a flattened body and powerful webbed hind legs that help them swim. It was found in the swamp during a night tour. They can withstand long immersion underwater. Looking at it more closely, this frog has tactile organs shaped like a star on the tip of their fingers that helps them detect their food which consists mainly of invertebrates such as crustaceans and worms. They are very active in the breeding season. In this process, the males grab the females with their hind legs and swim together. When the couple reaches the surface of the water, the female swims lays 60 to 100 eggs. The male then fertilizes the eggs and links them back to the female back. This is a unique process because the female skin encapsulates the fertilized eggs. Larval development occurs in the egg and metamorphosed individuals that are approximately 2 cm in length are output after incubation for 3 to 4 months.

In this area there is a presence of a relatively large group of *Psophia leucoptera* (Photo N°4). They have been found in: the area of Palmetum, Trail A, near the creek Carachamayoc and around the Canopy. In a recent quick count 16 individuals were recorded. They have shown a peaceful reaction to the presence of humans. The "trumpeters" as they are known locally, are widely distributed in undisturbed forests, always seated away from human presence. Their presence in Inkaterra speaks well of the good condition of conservation presented in these forests. They walk their territory on foot in search of windfalls, arthropods and some small vertebrates, including snakes. The breeding season is during the time where there is more food available to them, i.e. the rainy season (September to April). When they are nesting they look for hollow tree trunks that are relatively high (11 m average) and elusive to predators. This species is sensitive to degradation and disturbance of their habitat. The main threat to them is the deforestation of forests due to shifting agriculture and monocultures.

The following species were also recorded during Canopy visits:

- **Cracidae:** *Penelope jacquacu* (Photo N°5)
- **Ardeidae:** *Pilherodius pileatus* (Photo N°6)
- **Accipitridae:** *Leptodon cayanensis* (Photo N°7)
- **Aramidae:** *Psophia leucoptera*
- **Cuculidae:** *Piaya cayana* (Photo N°8)
- **Trogonidae:** *Trogon melanurus* (Photo N°9), *Trogon collaris* (Photo N°10)
- **Capitonidae:** *Capito auratus* (Photo N°11), *Eubucco richardsoni* (Photo N°12)
- **Ramphastidae:** *Pteroglossus azara*, *Pteroglossus beauharnaesii* (Photo N°13)
- **Falconidae:** *Ibycter americanus* (Photo N°14)
- **Psittacidae:** *Pionus menstruus* (Photo N°15), *Brotogeris cyanoptera* (Photo N°16)
- **Tityridae:** *Tityra semifasciata* (Photo N°17)
- **Thraupidae:** *Tachyphonus luctuosus* (Photo N°18), *Thraupis episcopus*, *Ramphocelus nigrogularis*, *Tangara mexicana* (Photo N°19), *Tangara chilensis* (Photo N°20)

## ANEX



**Photo N°1.-** Camera trap Bushnell



**Photo N°2.-** *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris*





**Photo N°3.-** *Pipa pipa*



**Photo N°4.-** *Psophia leucoptera*



**Photo N°5.-** *Penelope jacquacu*



**Photo N°6.-** *Pilherodius pileatus*



**Photo N°7.-** *Leptogon cayanaensis*



**Photo N°8.-** *Piaya cayana*





**Photo N°9.-** *Trogon melanurus*



**Photo N°10.-** *Trogon collaris*



**Photo N°11.-** *Capito auratus*



**Photo N°12.-** *Eubucco richardsoni*



**Photo N°13.-** *Pteroglossus beauharnaesii*



**Photo N°14.-** *Ibycter americanus*





**Photo N°15.-** *Pionus menstruus*



**Photo N°16.-** *Brotogeris cyanopectera*



**Photo N°17.-** *Tityra semifasciata*



**Photo N°18.-** *Tachyphonus luctuosus*



**Photo N°19.-** *Tangara mexicana*



**Photo N°20.-** *Tangara chilensis*