

Crocodile Specialist Group Steering Committee Meeting
Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Santa Fe, Argentina
(6 May 2018)

General Research

WCH and Meeting with Chinese Delegation

A Crocodile Symposium organized by Dr. Mark Merchant and Professor Wu Xiaobing was held at the 8th World Congress of Herpetology (WCH8; Hangzhou, China, 15-21 August 2016). Prior to WCH8, senior CSG members (Charlie Manolis, Mark Merchant, Paolo Martelli) and members of the CSG Future Leaders Working Group (Marisa Tellez, Pablo Siroski, Alexander Meurer, Matthew Shirley) undertook a study tour of Chinese alligator (*Alligator sinensis*) reintroduction sites and private and government breeding facilities, in Anhui and Zhejiang Provinces. We also held discussions with Chinese authorities on progress with the reintroduction program and made some recommendations for future activities and collaboration with the CSG.

XI Latin American Herpetology Congress

Pablo Siroski, Alvaro Velasco and Sergio Balaguera-Reina accepted the invitation, and co-chaired a Crocodylian Symposium called “Crocodylidos en Latinoamérica: Pasado, Presente y Futuro” (Crocodylians in Latin America: Past, Present and Future) within the XI Congreso Latinoamericano de Herpetología (XI Latin American Herpetology Congress; XILHC) held in Quito, Ecuador, on 24-28 August 2017. There were 18 presentations from various countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela) and the USA, representing a diversity of topics: ecosystem value, genetics, paleontology, morphology, releasing programs, nesting ecology, trade, human-crocodylian conflict, management programs, etc. - and including two plenary lectures by Dr. Perran Ross on IUCN Red Listing for crocodylians in the region, and Dr. Lou Densmore on crocodylian evolutionary biology. It was a very interesting event, attended by 60+ people with high quality of presentations and different points of view and current concepts.

Crocodile Genetics and Molecular Science Conference

Unfortunately, the Crocodylian Genetics and Molecular Sciences Conference scheduled for August 2017 was cancelled due to conflict of interest with other conferences and events. Historically, this is not a CSG-sponsored event, but the entire focus of the conference is crocodylian science, and the event is normally attended by many CSG members.

Prepared by: Val Lance, Mark Merchant and Carlos Piña, Vice Chairs General Research

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