

**IUCN OTTER SPECIALIST GROUP BULLETIN  
VOLUME 23 ISSUE 1 PAGE 35**

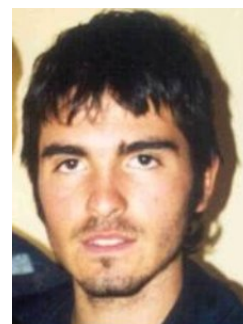
**Citation: Sepúlveda, M. (2006)** First Binational Southern River Otter Conservation Workshop *IUCN Otter Spec. Group Bull. 23* (1): 35

**FIRST BINATIONAL SOUTHERN RIVER OTTER  
CONSERVATION WORKSHOP**

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**Abstract:** The 1st Binational Southern River Otter Conservation Workshop was held on 30th – 31st of September 2005 in Valdivia, Chile, for scientific people involved in otter research both from Argentina and Chile. Forty-seven participants were registered from Chile and Argentina and more than 25 scientific oral presentations were given. During the next months the proceedings and recommendations of the meeting will be published.



During 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> of September 2005 the 1<sup>st</sup> Binational Southern River Otter Conservation Workshop was organized in Valdivia, Chile. The proposal of this event was to convene scientific people involved in otter research both from Argentina and Chile. Furthermore, different Public Governmental Services that coordinate conservation actions for this endangered species and its habitat were present. Forty-seven participants were registered from Chile and Argentina and more than 25 scientific oral presentations on the themes of surveying, distribution, feeding ecology, genetics, radiotracking studies, veterinary aspects and conservation discussion workshops were presented. After the event, the CODEFF team (The National Committee for the Defence of Flora and Fauna) developed the second training course entitled “Southern River Otter Survey Techniques and its Application to Riparian Habitat Assessment”.

This meeting was organized by the Southern River Otter Conservation Project of CODEFF and supported by the Frankfurt Zoological Society - Help for Threatened Wildlife and the Darwin Initiative.

During the next months the proceedings of the meeting will be published under the coordination of the editor Dr. Marcelo Cassini (mhcassini@yahoo.com.ar) from Argentina and the recommendations of the workshop by Maximiliano Sepúlveda (maximiliano.sepulveda@gmail.com) from Chile. For further information, please contact them via their respective e-mails.

I would like, on behalf of the IUCN/SCC Otter Specialist Group, to thank the sponsors of this meeting: from Chile, Comision Nacional del Medio Ambiente, Comisión Nacional Forestal, Servicio Nacional de Pesca, Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero; and from Argentina, Administración de Parques Nacionales.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Binational Southern River Otter Conservation Workshop will be held next year 2007 in Argentina. Date and location still have to be confirmed.