

# Cyanopsitta

The Loro Parque Fundación newsletter

2022  
# 122

**HELP  
FOR PARROTS  
IN UKRAINE**

**X INTERNATIONAL  
PARROT  
CONVENTION  
OF TENERIFE**

**50 YEARS OF  
LORO PARQUE - THE "MUST"  
OF THE CANARY ISLANDS**



**Poema del Mar**  
AQUARIUM



**LORO PARQUE**  
FUNDACIÓN  
WE CARE

ANIMAL EMBASSY  
**LORO PARQUE**  
1972 **50** 2022  
ANNIVERSARY



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Poster "X International Parrot Convention 2022"

## EDITORIAL OFFICE:

Loro Parque Fundación. Avda. Loro Parque s/n, 38400 Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Islas Canarias, Spain  
Tel.: +34 922 373 841 (ext.: 281)  
E-mail: [lpf@loroparque-fundacion.org](mailto:lpf@loroparque-fundacion.org)

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

Javier Almunia  
Christoph Kiessling  
Rafael Zamora Padrón

## PRINTING:

Canarias 7

## VISIT OUR WEBSITES:

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**LORO PARQUE**  
**FUNDACIÓN**  
*WE CARE*

Dear friends,

*This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Loro Parque, the beginning of a whole new era and the reason we want it to be memorable. Particularly now, after COVID, with visitors and animals happily reunited once again. It is really quite amazing how much they enjoy it—we really weren't aware just how much. Something positive that has arisen from having to handle the absence of visitors for such a long time. Visitors that bring change, sounds and contribute to their daily enrichment.*

*A highlight this year is the X International Parrot Convention of Tenerife, which is undoubtedly the longest running and most successful international congress of its kind in the Canary Islands. It is the only event of this nature in the world. The convention is an opportunity for leading experts in ornithology to get together with those studying to become future professionals in the field. This well received event, of worldwide importance for the conservation of parrots and their habitats, will be once again held here, on our Canary Islands.*

*On another note, we have also been selected to host the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual WAZA Conference (World Association of Zoos and Aquariums), an organisation that, since 1935, has provided support and guidance in animal care and welfare, environmental education and global conservation to leading zoos and aquariums worldwide.*

*These events are significant in that they mark 50 years of knowledge about parrots, their habitats and the protection of biodiversity worldwide, thanks to the action of this accredited and certified modern zoo, where more than 50 million visitors have been able to gain greater awareness about the life of our planet. The events also position the Canary Islands at the top of nature protection, thanks to the combination of in-situ and ex-situ work, in which Loro Parque stands out as a modern first-rate zoo, demonstrating its effective role for science and the conservation of species.*

*In this issue, readers will find out how we've fostered the reintroduction into the wild of yet another species which we've been helping for decades: the Vinaceous Amazon in Brazil. Another successful project build on a science-based methodology developed thanks to the action of scientists from both countries.*

*We could not remain on the sidelines faced with the difficult situation caused by the war in Ukraine where parrots from different local zoos also need our help. We have offered our support alongside our key partner, Versele-Laga.*

*We will also be telling you about our research and conservation project for the Atlantic humpback dolphin, a species already considered to be one of the most endangered cetaceans on the planet.*

*Despite all the problems arising from viral diseases, such as the different COVID variants, the emergence of monkeypox or the changes in market prices as a result of the war, we feel we are bearing witness to a stronger overall spirit and an increased desire to enjoy quality leisure while remaining committed to nature. This encourages us to continue working in favour of animals, in order to get to know them, love them and, based on the knowledge acquired, carry out effective conservation and restore their ecosystems. Clearly, this shows the importance of in-situ and ex-situ work, which has a positive effect in the long term.*

*I am confident that you will enjoy reading this issue and we invite you to continue to support us in our work.*

## WE CARE

Christoph Kiessling,  
President of Loro Parque Fundación



# Animal aid for Ukraine

Loro Parque and Loro Parque Fundación help animal victims of war



Feed sacks travel through a secure corridor that guarantees their arrival in Ukraine

Due to the difficult situation in Ukraine at this time, Loro Parque acting as animal embassy, has decided to send a truckload of parrot food to help local zoos in need.

**Loro Parque has purchased goods amounting to €20,000 from its partner, Versele-Laga, who will send it by train from Berlin to Kiev, where it will be distributed to all zoos in need.**

This action stems from Loro Parque's commitment to animal welfare and the protection of

species both inside and outside its facilities.

We are offering a helping hand to all zoos that are facing difficulties as a result of the armed conflict in the region.

The food sent is of unbeatable quality, in terms of its composition, as Versele-Laga and Loro Parque, jointly with Loro Parque Fundación, carry out research work on the feeding of different species of psittacidae birds with the aim of improving food quality and helping to preserve their biodiversity.

The improved feed will help to maintain a balanced basic diet for many animals at this critical time. ■



Support with improved feed means survival for many animals in critical situations.

Photo: LPF

# In-situ and Ex-situ conservation for the African Grey Parrot

African Grey parrots are one of the best-known species worldwide thanks to their impressive ability to imitate sounds. Even the human voice, not only words. They can also copy the individual tone and accent of the person they are imitating.

At Loro Parque- Animal Embassy, the Max Planck Institute researches the behaviour of this species, which we already know to have extensive cognitive abilities that go beyond simple imitation.

Classified as 'endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Endangered Species, it is necessary to conserve it in the field, in its habitat.

**Loro Parque Fundación plays a key role in in-situ and ex-situ study of the African Grey Parrot worldwide.**

Thanks to the technical and financial support received from the Asociación Amigos de Doñana, it will analyse the populations of this species in Equatorial Guinea. Censuses will be carried out to determine the population trend of the species in this African region, in order to complement

the efforts already made in neighbouring countries on the continent.

Research on its population and distribution will be carried out centred on the equatorial rainforest on which the species depends on for food, nesting and shelter.

**The foundation has supported the conservation of the African Grey Parrot on the African continent with 283,173 USD over the past few years.**

At Loro Parque Fundación, home to the largest living genetic reserve of psittacine parrots, the African Grey Parrot breeds on a regular basis. These birds, born for generations under human care, are the representatives of this

species for their fellow parrots in the wild. There is no place for capturing them when there are healthy domestic specimens available that also serve as a safety net for the species in the natural environment, if necessary.

Uncontrolled deforestation and illegal capture are a serious threat to this species.

In-situ and ex-situ studies carried out on the African grey parrot will enable its effective conservation while also providing an opportunity to assess the health of the biodiversity of the regions where they live.

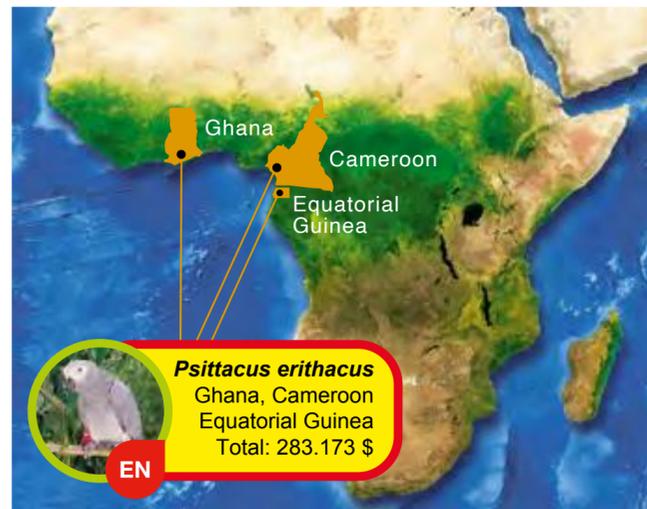
Yet another conservation project of Loro Parque Fundación in which protecting one species can benefit many others living in the same ecosystem. ■



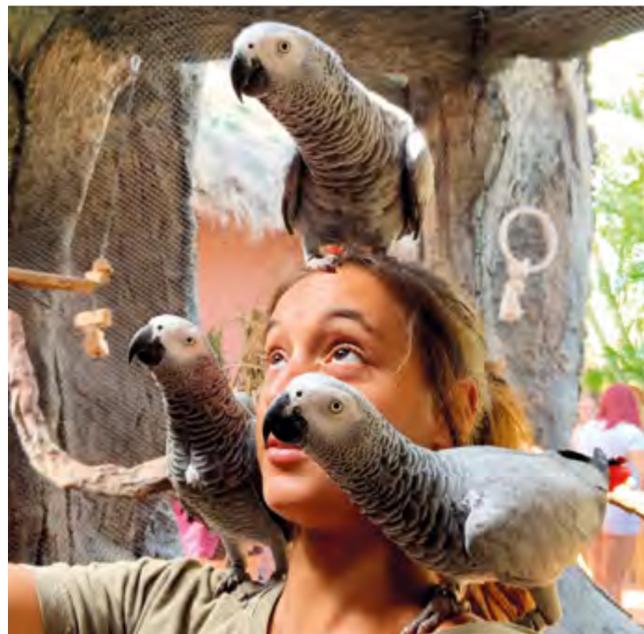
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The African Grey Parrot is listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List. Photo: M. Pérez/LPF



LPF has studied the species throughout its range, including Ghana and Cameroon, and now Equatorial Guinea.



The Max Planck Institute at Loro Parque Animal Embassy studies the behaviour of African Grey Parrot. Photo: E. Rovegno/LPF



Illegal captures are still very much a reality and we need to raise awareness among the population. Photo: LPF

# 50 years of Loro Parque - the "must" of the Canary Islands



Founded on 17 December 1972 by Wolfgang Kiessling, Loro Parque was created initially as a paradise for parrots. It started with only 25 employees, 150 parrots and a space of 13,000 m². Over the years, **it has become one of the most respected and renowned zoos and genetic reserves in the world**, both for its beauty and the excellence of its facilities, its care for the animals and respect for nature.

**Together with Loro Parque Fundación, it currently manages the largest and most diverse reserve of parrot species and subspecies in the world in its various centres**, and has therefore become the leading international organisation in the breeding and handling of psittacine birds.

Throughout its history, it has become an obligatory visit, the "must" of the Canary Islands.

It has become an obligatory visit, the "must" of the Canary Islands.

**One of the major attractions for tourists in the Canary Islands, with more than 50 million visitors since it opened.**

The excellence and quality of its facilities, its love for animals and its commitment to the environment have made it the best zoo in the world. Thanks to the help of organisations, partners and all the people who come back year after year, Loro Parque Fundación has been able to save 10 parrot species from imminent extinction.

On the occasion of this anniversary, Loro Parque is 'gifting'



The President of Loro Parque, Wolfgang Kiessling, in 1972

away, through social media, information on each of the parrot species with which it works by means of a video encyclopaedia that includes new information on this unique group of birds every day. The initiative will last the whole year. Feel free to access the Loro Parque video encyclopaedia using this QR code and don't forget to subscribe and activate your notifications. ■



Access the world parrot video encyclopaedia



For the first time ever, a video encyclopaedia of psittacine birds is being broadcast with free access for all.

# Reforestation for the Black Cockatoo

The partnership of Loro Parque Fundación in Australia with Bush Heritage continues to yield excellent results for the Carnaby's black cockatoo. In the last months of 2021, they were able to plant 10,000 seedlings of the most important type of vegetation for black cockatoos.

Volunteers in south-western Australia have been involved in the planting process over the past few years across 400 hectares of restoration. This has provided resources to the cockatoos in areas that had become deserts.

**Severe droughts and fires in Australia are responsible for the difficult situation experienced by the black cockatoos, which have lost large areas for feeding and breeding. This reforestation will be key in the coming decades.**

**Protea seeds are extremely hardy and produce a large number of highly-resistant plant types.**

The Australian Government has placed its trust in the Foundation for this reforestation project that directly benefits the Carnaby's black cockatoos.

The project is reliant on the help of volunteers who are proud of the transformation that is taking place in the habitat. What's most interesting is the fact that, during these planting days, the volunteers have been rewarded with the visit of several Carnaby's black cockatoos, which have already been able to obtain fruit from what has been planted in

previous years. This is very good news for these cockatoos, and we are pleased to know that the Foundation's support has been vital in creating the habitat for these iconic birds to thrive. ■



Exuberant Carnaby's black cockatoo fly long distances to find food.

Photo: M.Pérez /LPF



Team of volunteers with the planting equipment that opens up the hard ground for planting the protea seeds.

Photo: Bush Heritage.



Visit to the area of reforestation for the black cockatoos. Photo: Krysta Guille

# Re-encounter with nature in Brazil

Loro Parque Fundación gives both technical and financial support to a project for the rehabilitation, monitoring and reintroduction of the **Vinaceous Amazon in Brazil.**

The Foundation has invested around 200,000 dollars in the conservation of this species in Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina over the past few decades.

Thanks to this support, numbers remained high in conservation areas.

This species has always been prized as a pet, and therefore captured in its countries of origin for its beautiful colour. Illegal captures have led to the emergence of seized specimens in rescue centres where they have to be rehabilitated.

For this reason, the Waita organisation initiated a process of reintegration of the species by selecting 22 specimens for reintroduction. **18 successfully passed the training period.**

This process involves birds developing their innate abilities to eat fruit hanging from branches, recognise potential predators and acquire good flight skills.

Some were unable to adapt because they didn't show a



The best-behaved Vinaceous Amazons will be the ones selected for introduction into the wild.

Photo:M.Bertrand / Waita

character fit for the wild, nor responded well to training, so they were kept at the centre to further prepare them for reintroduction in the future.

The birds made very good progress in training for food and flight adaptation.

Two groups of 9 individuals were formed. 5 males and 4 females in

each group.

5 specimens in each group were fitted with telemetry collars for preadaptation and subsequent monitoring. A total of 10 specimens were fitted with telemetry collars. At the moment of fitting them with the collars, they were weighed to control their development. ■



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LPF has been vital in the conservation of this species.

Photo: LPF



Already in the wild, the birds are monitored thanks to their telemetry collars. These collars have been designed for their comfort and to emit a signal for long periods of time.



18 Vinaceous Amazons were gradually integrated into the wild. They returned to the aviary on their first flights.

Photo: M.Bertrand / Waita

# Loro Parque Fundación is the new Centre for Species Survival in Macaronesia

There are only 7 such centres in the World. The Canary Islands will benefit from this major support centre for the conservation of species based at Loro Parque Fundación and Loro Parque Animal Embassy.

The Canary Islands and the archipelagos of Macaronesia boast an exceptional biodiversity which requires the commitment and support of civil society for its protection. The European Union has taken a bold step forward with the publication of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, a comprehensive and ambitious long-term plan to protect nature and reverse ecosystem degradation. **The Strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on the path to recovery by 2030 through concrete actions and commitments.**

In this sense, the Government of the Canary Islands is promoting a Law on Biodiversity and Natural Resources which aims to protect the islands' natural heritage. The document has already been the subject of a long process of citizen participation involving more than 600 people from different groups.

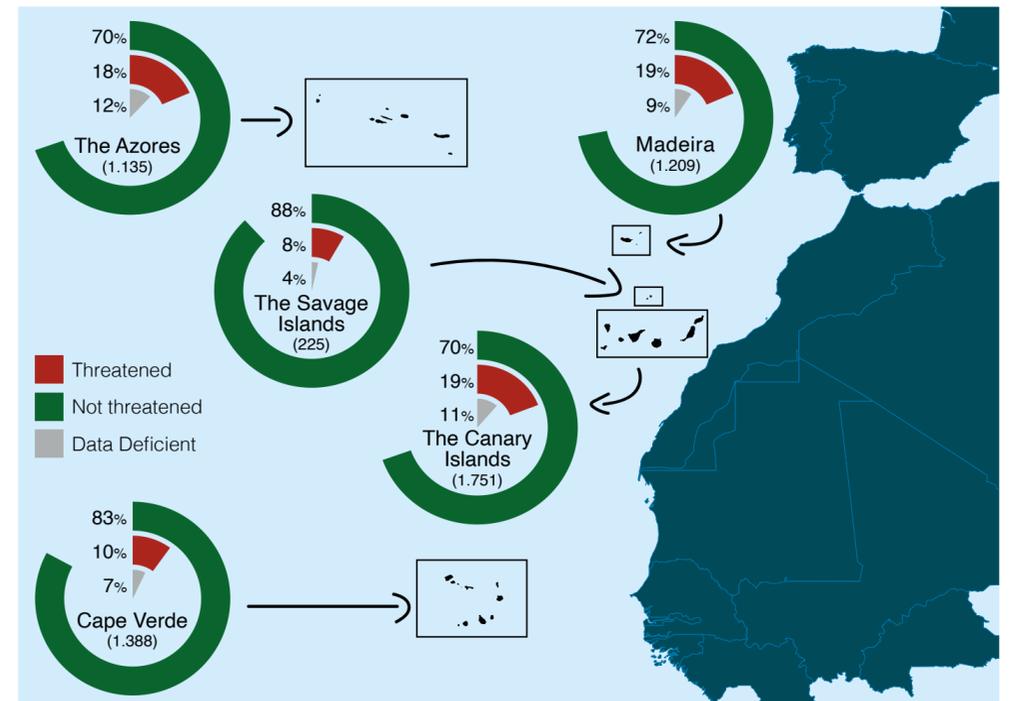
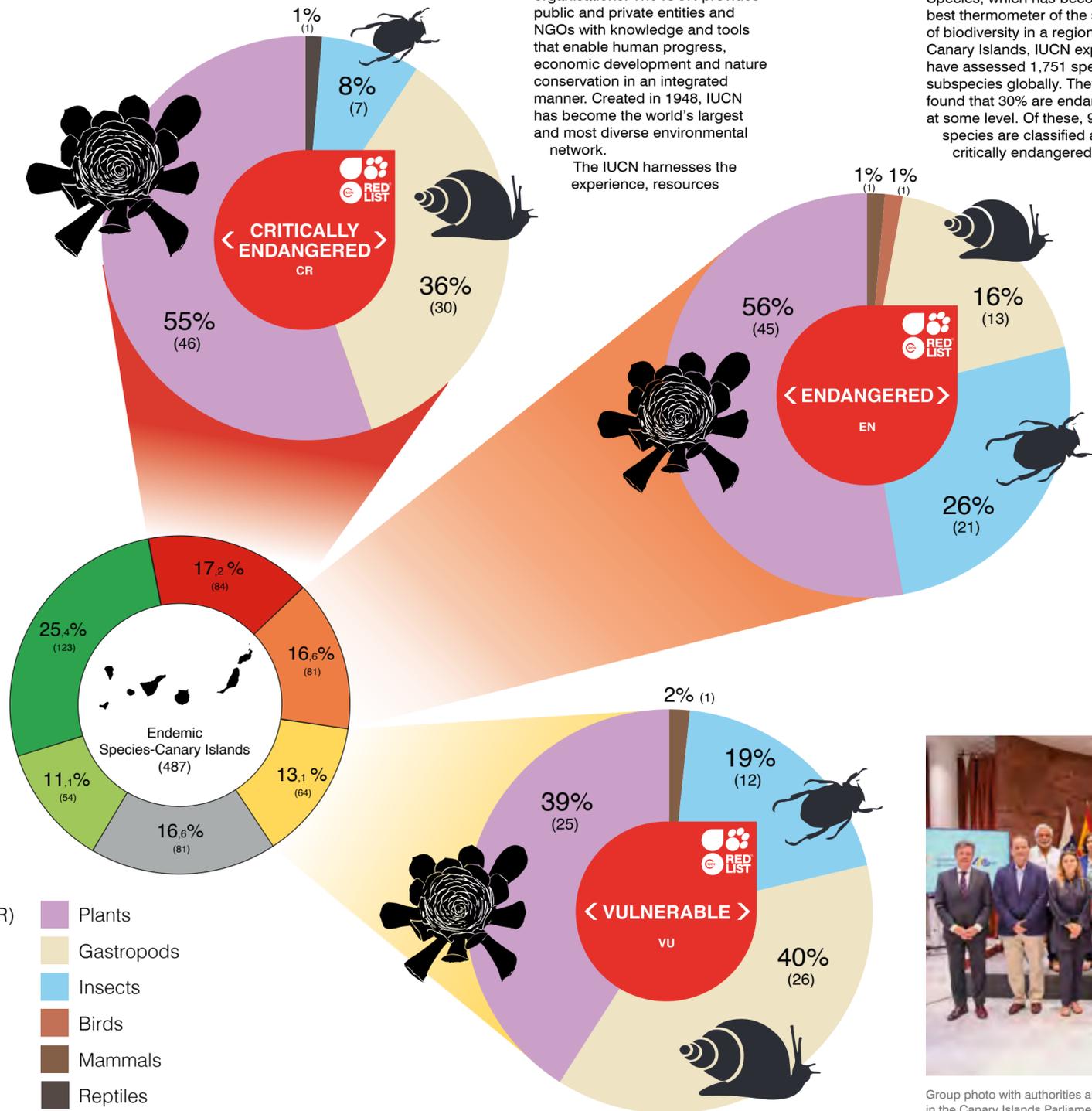
In line with the spirit of this standard, it is also necessary to monitor the status of the most endangered species and their evolution over time, and to actively communicate this to society as a whole. Only in this way can we achieve committed citizens who are involved in the active preservation of biological diversity for future generations. And that is precisely the aim of this Centre for Species Survival in Macaronesia. A biodiversity observatory that will become a tool for the conservation of the most endangered species of the Macaronesian archipelagos.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a membership union composed

of sovereign states, government agencies and civil society organisations. The IUCN provides public and private entities and NGOs with knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation in an integrated manner. Created in 1948, IUCN has become the world's largest and most diverse environmental network.

The IUCN harnesses the experience, resources

and reach of its more than 1,400 member organisations and the input of 15,000 experts. The IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. The IUCN's various tools include the Red List of Threatened Species, which has become the best thermometer of the status of biodiversity in a region. In the Canary Islands, IUCN experts have assessed 1,751 species and subspecies globally. They have found that 30% are endangered at some level. Of these, 94 (5%) species are classified as critically endangered, of which



Distribution of the number of threatened species in the Macaronesian archipelagos according to the IUCN Red List. Foto: LPF

84 are endemic species that only exist in our archipelago. To mark International Biodiversity Day, which will be celebrated on Sunday, 22 May, **Loro Parque Fundación, jointly with the IUCN, presented the Centre for Species Survival in Macaronesia in the Canary Islands Parliament, which will**

**become an observatory of threatened biodiversity,** as well as a collaborative platform to make all the global conservation tools developed by the different IUCN groups available to regional and island government bodies. This event also served to raise awareness among the local citizens on the need to preserve the extraordinary biodiversity of the archipelago and, with the help

of experts from universities from the Canary Islands, increase the visibility of species that are on the verge of extinction. A collection of photos and information on the 94 critically endangered species of the Canary Islands, were presented to this effect through social networks from 22 April to 5 June as a Partner Event of the European Green Week 2022. ■



Group photo with authorities and participants during the presentation in the Canary Islands Parliament.



Round table of experts on biodiversity from the Canary Islands. From left to right: Carolina Castillo (Professor at the ULL), Nuria Macias, Sofia Ramos (journalist acting as moderator for the round table), Arnolde Santos (retired researcher) and José Juan Castro (Professor at the ULPGC)

# Presentation of scientific results of the CanBIO project

In February, the Canary Islands Parliament hosted the presentation of the scientific results of the CanBIO project, which monitors ocean acidification, underwater noise and its impact on marine ecosystems in the Canary Islands. The event, chaired by Gustavo Matos, President of the Parliament of the Canary Islands, and organised by fourth-year journalism students, focused on the results of the subprojects developed by the University of La Laguna and the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. CanBIO is co-financed by the Government of the Canary Islands and Loro Parque Fundación. Other environmental NGOs also participate in the project.

The event was also attended by the Minister of Ecological Transition, Fight against Climate Change and Territorial Planning of the Government of the Canary Islands, José Antonio Valbuena, the Project Coordinator and Director of Loro Parque Fundación, Javier Almunia, the Professor of the Faculty of Marine Sciences of the University Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC), Magdalena Santana, the Professor of the Faculty of Industrial Engineering of the University of La Laguna (ULL), Fernando Rosa, and the Journalism student of the ULL, Desirée Salazar Páez.

The Regional Minister for Ecological Transition, José Antonio Valbuena, highlighted that the CanBIO project **“is essential to understanding the CO<sub>2</sub> system, the health of our oceans and the many species that inhabit our seabeds”**.

Javier Almunia explained that CanBio has enabled the successful creation of a Canary Islands’ ocean monitoring network, which will be essential to facing the environmental challenges presented by global change and protecting our marine biodiversity.

The event continued with a presentation on ocean acidification in the Canary Islands by Magdalena Santana, Professor at the Faculty of Marine Sciences of the ULPGC, who issued a warning that the growing trend in the level of ocean acidification “is a concern”. She stressed the need to “raise awareness and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere as a matter of urgency.”

Later, Fernando Rosa González spoke about soundscapes and



From left to right: Ernesto Pereda (Vicerector of Research of the ULL); Desirée Salazar (Journalism student of the ULL), Javier Almunia (Director of LPF), Wolfgang Kiessling (President emeritus of LPF), Brigitte Kiessling, Gustavo Matos (President of the Parliament of the Canary Islands); José Antonio Valbuena (Councillor for Ecological Transition of the Canary Islands Government); Nestor Torres (Vicerector for Teaching Innovation of the ULL), Cybell Kiessling (Administrative Director of LPF), Dolores Pelayo (President of the Social Council of the ULL), before the presentation of the results.

underwater noise in the Canary Islands. With extensive experience in the field of marine bioacoustics, Ms González highlighted the importance of measuring ecoacoustic indicators and assured attendees that the explorations carried out during the development of CanBIO **“show that the islands are still full of**

**marine life that requires protection, and therefore, noise pollution must be reduced.”**

The event ended with a presentation by Desirée Salazar Páez, a journalism student, who reflected on the role of young people in the face of climate change and also on the use of

active teaching and learning methodologies during university education. She also highlighted that through service-learning projects such as the one developed with CanBIO, ULL students ‘learn by doing’ and that this will help them with their future employability. ■

## Successes of the CanBIO project:

- 1 Integration of acoustic receivers in autonomous vehicles. 
- 2 Detection campaigns. The first tests have been carried out on autonomous surface vessels to detect animals around the island of La Graciosa. 
- 3 Critically endangered species such as Angel sharks have been detected. 
- 4 Temperature recording systems placed at selected points in the intertidal area of the island of Tenerife. 
- 5 Scientific records thanks to the installation of anchored recorders for the detection of tagged species. 
- 6 Validation of navigation with integrated sensors in autonomous surface vehicles. 
- 7 Installation of systems to determine the CO<sub>2</sub> flow between the atmosphere and the ocean. With an observation system installed on the Benchijigua Express and the Renate P. 
- 8 Sampling was carried out to determine algae cover and the presence of invertebrates that indicate the tropicalisation of the ecosystem. 
- 9 Placement of acoustic tags on Angel shark specimens. 
- 10 Placement of acoustic tags on Butterfly rays. 

# We received the IMATA award in Chicago



Award being received in Chicago. Photo: S.Torres

Loro Parque recently received an award from the International Marine Animal Trainer’s Association (IMATA) for its advances in research. The scientist, Sara Torres, from the Max Planck Institute of Ornithology received a Second Place Award for “Research Advancements” for a conference in which she explained the scientific breakthroughs that are obtained when a conservation centre and animal embassy such as Loro Parque merges with a scientific centre such as the Max Planck Institute.

In fact, Sara Torres works from the research station that the German institute has in Loro Parque, where she carries out scientific studies with both parrots and dolphins. The Max Planck group is dedicated to the study of intelligence in animals. Since its beginnings, it has been working mainly with parrots, known for their ability to imitate the human voice and their superior intelligence. Ms Torres started working closely with Loro Parque’s dolphin team in March 2021 in order to compare results with those obtained with birds. In just 9 months, the team managed to start and complete four high-impact research projects. Not only have they learned about dolphin memory and thinking, but also about their hearing abilities and their use of sonar or echolocation.

**Such promising results have only been possible thanks to the support of Loro Parque, Loro Parque Fundación and the team of dolphin trainers.**

The insights gained will help us better understand the way of thinking of dolphins, and learn about the impact of human activity and how we can better protect them in their environment.

Their progress in the study of parrot and dolphin responses to different stimuli are bearing significant fruit.



Sara Torres with the team of marine animal trainers at Loro Parque.

Photo: Loro Parque



**This work is being carried out at the Max Planck centre at Loro Parque Animal Embassy, where visitors can even watch these international researchers at work.**

This is possible thanks to the largest living genetic parrot reserve in the world managed by Loro Parque Fundación, which enables science to be conducted in a unique way, as all this research would be impossible to carry out in the wild.

The amazing partnership that has emerged from merging research facilities and a state-of-the-art zoo to educate and learn about animal cognition has resulted in a wealth of

knowledge about parrots and more than 15 scientific publications in just 6 years.

The importance of acquiring knowledge on different species, through certified zoos where animal welfare and scientific research can go hand in hand to achieve common goals for the benefit of the species, thus becomes evident. ■



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Science happens every day at Loro Parque thanks to the studies of parrots and dolphins.

Photo: A.Azcárate/LPF

# Major alliance for ex-situ conservation

Breeding of the Yellow-billed Amazon in Loro Parque Fundación

Representatives of Vienna Zoo recently visited Tenerife to receive and transport some of the specimens born from joint breeding work with Yellow-billed Amazons (*Amazona collaria*).

A complex species with which the foundation has accumulated

extensive experience since its arrival around ten years ago from the prestigious Austrian zoo in order to attempt controlled reproduction and establish successful breeding protocols.

**The Foundation's success has been overwhelming. Three breeding pairs are currently being managed, of which 34 specimens have been born so far.**

They will now be shared between the two parks to continue the breeding programme.

This species, which is endemic to the island of Jamaica, is experiencing a decline in its populations in the wild and is in a vulnerable conservation status. The deterioration of its habitat due to mining is one of the main challenges threatening the species, which also has to face illegal trade due to its high price on the black market.

**These birds have a very strong character. Males can be very violent with their females to the point of even ending their lives in sudden episodes of aggression.**

Very few specimens are under human care. Only a few skilled hands have managed to breed it successfully.

As in all Caribbean ecosystems, this parrot species is very sensitive, hence the great importance of its management off-site for conservation purposes, with a view to possible future emergencies. ■



Yellow-billed amazon populations in the wild are in decline. Hence the importance of breeding them in certified conservation centres.

Photo: R.Zamora /LPF



Yellow-billed amazon chicks (*A.collaria*)

Photo: M.Weinzetti/LPF



The biologist, Marcia Weinzetti, and her team of keepers at the LPF breeding centre at the time when the specimens were being sent to the Vienna Zoo.

Photo: LPF



# LPF supports the most endangered dolphin in the Atlantic



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Young Humpback dolphin swimming with its mother.

Photo: Lucy Keith Diagne, AACF



Researchers during their photo-identification work.

Photo: AACF



Uncontrolled and unselective fishing directly affects these dolphins.

Photo: AACF

For the past two years, Loro Parque Fundación has been studying and researching the little-known Atlantic humpback dolphin. This species is native to the West African coast, and the Saloum Delta is home to one of the largest populations, which is estimated to amount to a few hundred specimens.

**Photo-identification and acoustic technology are two of the tools being used for the conservation of this critically endangered species, which according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is on the verge of extinction.**

The population is estimated to comprise around 3,000 specimens and is in serious decline, as, given their proximity to the coast, they are often accidentally caught in fishing nets and die from asphyxiation.

The Foundation also works to raise awareness among the local population, that is unaware of the vulnerable situation of these animals. Dolphins are perceived as yet another food resource, which is of special interest to the locals because of its

high protein value. It is therefore important to provide fishermen with incentives to refrain from catching these cetaceans.

**A new census of the species was carried out in March 2022.**

The recording devices that were anchored last year in the estuary waters that serve as a refuge for one of the best-known populations of the species have been recovered. Once analysed, these results will be key to assess the status of the population in the area, but also to develop methodologies to analyse the situation in other coastal environments in West Africa. Loro Parque Fundación has invested around 100,000 dollars in this project over the past two years and we hope that our support will make it possible to remove this species from the extinction lists soon. ■



+ info / Audio

# Breakthrough for conservation

## 1<sup>st</sup> Botanical Nutrition Guide for the Andean parakeet

The first "Guide to food plants for high-Andean parakeets" has been created in Colombia, thanks to the support of Loro Parque Fundación, and of all the people who work with the WWF.

This manual has been designed to become a formidable conservation tool.

**Its primary goal is to list the most relevant plant species for parakeets living in the high Andes of Colombia.**

In essence, it has been formulated to become a useful tool for governments, universities, associations, estate owners, farmers, naturalists and ornithologists to get involved in improving the habitat of this parrot



The Golden-plumed parakeet feeds on palm trees when its fruit is at its peak. Photo: M. Restrepo



The Yellow-eared parrot travels long distances to locate the fruits inherent to its diet. Photo: FVS

species, and many other types of fauna, with a focus on food plants, through the conservation of those already existing in the area. Preservation, planting and



Guide

habitat enrichment, in the context of landscape restoration projects and their ecosystem services, are essential for the conservation of these endangered parrot species.

We now know the type of plants, including their flowering and fruiting periods, that will serve to better understand the movement and interaction of the species.

This is a perfect prototype to replicate in other areas of the world where different parrot species are threatened. ■

# LPF works with Biology Students of the ULL

Every year, Universidad de La Laguna (ULL) biology students hold a scientific convention organised by the students themselves in which they participate with posters, scientific papers and even a photo competition. This year's convention, which was held at the end of March, was a huge success in terms of participation (with more than 120 students attending) and allowed them to showcase works of the highest quality in the different branches of knowledge associated with this life sciences degree.

**Loro Parque Fundación contributed to the awards for the best scientific presentations, posters and also the photo competition.**

Our support includes bookstore vouchers, a range of digital

information storage devices and also an annual pass card for winners to enjoy Loro Parque and Siam Park, and also learn in detail about the biodiversity conservation work carried out by the Foundation.

**The Foundation also supported and participated directly in the second Job Orientation Conference,** as it understands the importance that new professionals in the field of biology represent for the Canary Islands. With the help of our Scientific Director, Rafael Zamora, attendees were able to explore the different activities carried out by biologists through LPF around the world. Career paths that involve tenacity and a passion for nature, to achieve the real conservation of species and their ecosystems. ■



In an interview format, Rafael Zamora explained to students of the Faculty of Biology how Loro Parque Fundación works with hundreds of biologists all over the world for the conservation of species. Photo: L. Valverde / ULL



ULL students received awards for best scientific presentations, poster and photo competition. Photo: LPF

# X International Parrot Convention of Tenerife

Loro Parque is organising the tenth edition of the most emblematic and most special convention of the Canary Islands.

**A unique international event, with the unconditional support of the Canary Islands Government, which will take place at the end of September in Puerto de la Cruz.**

The International Parrot Convention is the most important gathering around the world for exchanging experiences and knowledge with the most relevant and passionate experts in the world of parrots. Being present at this gathering, alongside breeders and professionals from more than 50 countries, means being a member of the elite in bird-keeping worldwide.

**'Wining & Dining', one of the key parts of the convention programme, represents an opportunity for multiple daily interactions between participants.**

More often than not, you may encounter a Social Media friend from Korea, India, Mexico or Florida at the same table and thus feel at home at this event, where participants can treasure and share experiences they have had over the last years. The fact of sitting down to share an experience in such an extraordinary setting creates an atmosphere charged with emotions that will never be forgotten.

**The event consists of a series of lectures given by reputable ornithologists.**

The convention covers areas including breeding, applied veterinary science, genetics, nutrition and conservation of species in the natural environment.

The Speakers come from different parts of the globe.

**All lectures are simultaneously translated into four languages to ensure fluid communication of all the**

**concepts involved.**

**The event is attended by around 800 people from around the world (50 different nationalities).**

Breaks during the event are used for networking between participants and companies from the sector who showcase their most innovative products. Incubation, aviary design elements, advanced nutrition, specialist books and even artists presenting their work live, with unique representations of the parrot world.

**One of the options is to visit the breeding station of Loro Parque Fundación.**

The "Mecca" of breeders in the parrot world. A place you have to visit at least once in your lifetime. It is the Psittacine breeding centre that keeps the largest genetic reserve of parrots in the world, with about 4,000 specimens of around 350 parrot species and subspecies. A stroll through its interior allows to absorb specific concepts of this sector, learning about advanced breeding without even realising it. Ideas that can be transferred to our particular breeding systems.

**The convention will offer applied workshops that address the topics of veterinary medicine, breeding and hand-rearing techniques.**

These workshops are held in English and have a limited number of places available, so it is advisable to register online in advance.

An event for students, new and experienced breeders, biologists,



Matthias Reinschmidt (Moderator)

Nanda Kishore

Fernanda Riera



Jacobo Lacs

Chaona Phiri

Lubos Tomiska



Sara Torres

Juan Carlos Noreña

Marcia Weinzettl



Anton Veidl

Jon Paul Rodríguez

Bettina Buchmüller



Bärbel Köhler

Martin Schäffer



Daniel Gowland

Mauricio Herrera

Enrique Martínez



Petra Wolf

Tony Silva

Rafael Zamora

veterinarians and people from all walks of life, who are passionate about parrots, to come together.

**If you like parrots, you can't miss it!** ■



+ info

SAVE THE DATE!

X INTERNATIONAL PARROT CONVENTION of TENERIFE

26 - 29 SEPT 2022 | LORO PARQUE








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Take part in  
**PROTECTING NATURE**

Become a member and enjoy the special bonus of being part of an organisation that fights to preserve the biodiversity of our planet. With the Loro Parque Fundación membership card you will be able to visit two International Nature Conservation Centres: Loro Parque and Poema del Mar, and you will also receive our newsletter Cyanopsitta during your membership



**BECOME A MEMBER!**

At LPF we are waiting for you so we can work together for nature!



**HELP US:**

+34 922 373 841 (ext.: 281)  
lpf@loroparque-fundacion.org  
loroparque-fundacion.org