

Workshop on Conservation and Bird Watching in the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu



As part of the series of lectures and activities on the biodiversity of the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu this workshop was held from November 15th to 18th, with the aim of providing tools to resident guides and naturalists interested in bird watching in the cloud forest.

The workshop was attended by renowned experts in conservation and bird watching as Barry Walker, Fernando Angulo, Edwin Salazar, Renzo Zeppilli, Jose Luis Venero, Alfredo Inca Roca and Marina Rosales with the support of the Peruvian National Service of Protected Areas, the National Institute of Culture, Train Company Inca Rail and Inkaterra.

These days the 40 participants went surrounding the Machu Picchu Village during the morning to learn the techniques of interpretation, observation and recognition of species with the experts in the field and had lectures in the evening.

Conclusions: The event has approached local guides, park rangers, environmental interpreters and participants to get involved with a sustainable tourism activity such as bird watching. It has shown experts interest to assist in such initiatives. Machu Picchu receives a strong pressure by the flow of visitors to the shrine but is still possible to see endemic and endangered species of birds, and it is considered an Important Bird Conservation Area (IBA) for Birdlife International.

After the workshop, local guides of Machu Picchu have taken the initiative to establish a birdwatchers club, who received some books and documents donated by the experts and sponsors, once it formed this organization will take the respective communications.

