

MONTHLY FIELD REPORT

INKATERRA MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL-ITMP

From February 1st to 28th, 2014

RESIDENT BIOLOGIST: CARMEN R. SOTO VARGAS

carmen.soto@inkaterra-asociacion.org

carmen.soto@inkaterra.com

www.inkaterra.com

www.inkaterra-asociacion.org

MAMMALS

Andean Bear Rescue Center (*Tremarctos ornatus*)

Inkaterra Asociación-ITA, has a Rescue Center with a Captivity Program (3 Bears) and a Semicaptivity Bear (2 Bears) with conservation, research and education purposes. Its objective is to rescue and take care of Andean Bear specimens, to work on their breeding and reinsertion into wildlife if management conditions allow it.

The Andean Bear is the only bear of the Tremarctinae subpecies that is native to South America. Its population spreads across the Andes, from the Andean high sierra on Western Venezuela down to Bolivia. It can be found in coastal deserts, highlands and cloud forests. The Andean Bear is defined by its black or dark-brown fur, and a white spot around its face and throat, hence the other name it is known for: "Spectacled Bear". It reaches a longitude from 1.5 to 2.20 m, and can weigh up to 200 kg. Females can breed up to three cubs, which are fiercely protected.

Spots:

Spots in their face and chest are birthmarks that difference one specimen from another, like fingerprints. Nonetheless, it has led to confusion the fact that these spots have diverse shapes, and some researchers believe that there might be more than one species, as some Andean bears do not have spectacle-shaped spots, or even no spots at all.



Andean Bear/ Spectacled Bear
Oso andino, oso de anteojos, oso frontino, ukuku, ukumari.
Tremarctos ornatus