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-ARCO Newsletter no 04

ARCO-Nepal & ARCO-Spain celebrated World Turtle Day 2013



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ARCO-Nepal & SUMMEF constructed a big dammed lake at SUMMEF Park in SE-Nepal for the Turtle Rescue & Conservation Program

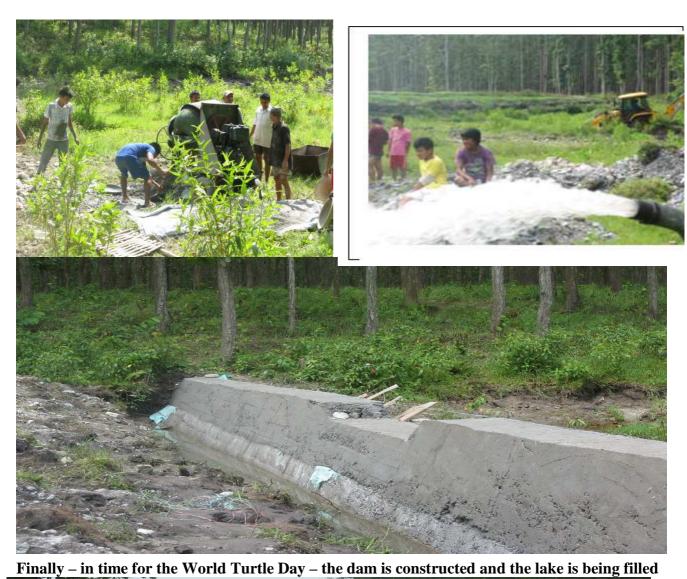


In 2012 the big main lake of the SUMMEF Recreation Park & Nature Reserve has been filled completely replacing the formerly abused wetland area. Here we could release the first rescued and translocated terrapins and Softshell turtles during last years' acitivities. Finally two dams will be constructed – only this year's early onset of monsoon rains stopped the construction works.

Make your Donation Now!!!! Vote for Turtle Conservation and support our project in SE Nepal that we can continue with our project development for rescuing, homing and breeding endangered turtle species of Nepal:

Account/Kto.-Nr. 1000099984 BIC SSKMDEMMXXX Bank/Credit Institute: Stadtsparkasse München BLZ 70150000 IBAN DE95701500001000099984







Project review on Budo Holi Turtle Rescue & Conservation Centre in SE-Nepal

After 25 years working with Nepal for the study and conservation of amphibians and reptiles, ARCO-Nepal (Amphibian and Reptile Conservation-Nepal is the first association founded and dedicated for research and conservation on Nepal's herpetofauna) reached its main target to collaborate directly with the government authorities in the realization of an active turtle conservation program. About 15 years ago first planning details for a turtle conservation centre were made for Chitwan National Park and realized by the Nepali government, Dpt. National Parks & Wildlife (see www.arco-nepal.de).

Arco-Nepal now is glad to have received after many years application the chance for constructing a Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre (TRCC) in Sanichare/Jhapa district, SE Nepal. In April 2012 a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed between ARCO-Nepal and SUMMEF (Sukhani Martyrs Memorial Foundation) both collaborating as joint venture partners. The project had been accepted by all national authorities and planning started immediately after agreement. After the planning phases and accepted cost evaluations, international fund raising activities commenced and allowed the start of first constructions this May 2013.

Nepal has a potential of 17 turtle species although only 14 are proven so far for their occurrence in the lower subtropical parts of the country.

The TRCC will be settled in a forested recreation park donated from the Nepali government to the Local Community District where in honour of the first martyrs for the fight of democracy, are placed their statues. The whole 22 ha big area is fenced and protected by gates and guardians. A small river drains the former abandoned wetland and a big dammed lake had been filled up last year, serving now for fishing, boating and other recreational facilities.

The TRCC shall receive an independent but attached dammed artificial lake of more than 1,000 sqm, a dammed pond of 260 sqm. In an area of approx. 3,500 sqm, to be fenced finally and partly forested, several 40 sqm sized pools and various breeding and rearing ponds will be constructed. A central building for visitors, guests, laboratory etc., an education centre and perhaps a worshipping place shall become installed, too.

The TRCC shall serve for rescue of confiscated specimens and as breeding centre for Nepal's endangered turtle species as well as training and education centre for the conservation and protection of turtle wildlife.

By H. Hermann Schleich for Arco-Nepal. c/o Arco-Instituto y Nucelo Zoológico, E-04200 Tabernas/Almería, Spain; (arco-nepal@t-online.de).

Fieldguide of Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal – Now available

Send your order by Arco.Spain05@gmail.com

Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal By Kästle, W., Rai, K. & Schleich, H.

2013

Size A 5, 612 pages, 52 plates, 156 color photographs, 180 maps, over 1000 black/white illustrations.

Orders send to:

Arco-nepal@t-online.de

or to

Arco.Spain05@gmail.com

News from ARCO-Spain

Eight years after its foundation ARCO-Spain comes closer together. Engaged and enthusiastic English friends and members and the Spanish and German chair persons came together and helped to form a comite in spring 2013. By this way **Arco-Spain got an own independent email address:**

Arco.Spain05@gmail.com

The new board members for ARCO-Spain are as listed below:

A R C O – Anfibios y Reptiles en Conservación Asociación para la Conservación de Anfibios y Reptiles, reg. No. 3482, NIF G04528774 NUCLEO ZOOLÓIGICO No. 6354, Ctjo. Sol y Vida – Ctra. A 349 / km 1, E- 04200 Tabernas /Almería / España. Email: arco.spain05@gmail.com Website: "Bienvenido a ARCO-ESPAÑA" en www.arco-nepal.de

Presidencia / Chairpersons

Presidente: Prof. Dr.Hermann Schleich, Tabernas Vicepresidente: Pepe Bono, E- Las Aneas Secretaria: Sylvia Geldeard, E- Los Morales Tesorera: Judith Longhurst, E- El Puntal Vocal: Geldeard Williams, E- Los Morales Vocal: Gert Heinrich Wester, D- Landshut

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Trustee+Editor of Newsletters

Terry Gildert, E- Uleila



We acknowledge the collaboration and support by Andy & Nadine Highfield Tortoise trust.org & Jil Martin Fund

ARCO-Spain celebrated its Annual General Membership Meeting

with positive results for the development of turtle conservation at ARCO-Spain premises in Almeria province.

On Saturday September 14th a beneficial concert will be held at la "Karpa de LAS ERAS" by

"Almeria Strings"

together with an open day at ARCO-España where one can walk through the new installations and get an information on the conservation work of ARCO as well as an insight at the Herpetofauna (amphibians and reptiles) of Almería.







Please write us your opinion on our conservation issues at email: arco-nepal@t-online.de

Or simply post it on facebook at arco-nepal

Editorial: ARCO-Nepal / Prof. Dr. H. Hermann Schleich

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More about us at: www.arco-nepal.de



Job Posting:

Lead Keeper – Turtle Conservation & Rescue Centre at SUMMEF Park.

The **Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Nepal (ARCO-Nepal** reg. soc.) is seeking a lead keeper. This position reports to the Director of ARCO-Nepal. The position is responsible for animal husbandry and maintenance support at the Turtle Rescue & Conservation Centre, BudoHoli/Jhapa, South East Nepal.

Salary is fixed to 200 EUR per month. Candidates doing in the frame of this project a ph-thesis can have future improvements after finalisation such study.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: daily implementation of policies, procedures and protocols to ensure the highest standards of animal care, facility maintenance, and staff and visitor safety; participation in daily husbandry, medical care, and record-keeping for the collection; supervision of volunteers as necessary; active participation in workshops, seminars, activities and conferences aimed at continually improving technical and management skills; participation, in studbooks, education programs etc.; and coordination of veterinary concerns, marketing, education, maintenance, horticulture andvother efforts of the TRCC, in conjunction with the director. Contact To DNPWS and Ministry of Forestry are to be maintained, also to locals living around the park area and fishermen, mainly from the Koshi area.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate will have at least a four-year degree (master) degree in biology-zoology, environmental sciences or veterinary medicine and experience in successful husbandry and propagation of diverse chelonians and the ability to perform facility maintenance including plumbing, carpentry and horticulture; the ability to operate mowers, chainsaws and other equipment; computer skills and the ability to work irregular hours as needed. It is essential that the candidate possess strong organizational and time management skills, along with excellent communication skills and willingness to interact positively with guests, researchers and other staff.

Working conditions: Candidate must be able to work outdoors and in inclement weather conditions. And realizing his normal daily work at the SUMMEF Recreational Park & Nature Reserve (Sanichare)

Objective: Development of the Budoholi Turtle Rescue & Conservation Centre and ph-thesis on same topic

Further, ARCO-Nepal expects from the person to be employed:

Basics

- To write and submit monthly detailed report documented also by jpg-photos in quality to be published
- To communicate in the requested way by mail and/or verbal
- To leave items being purchased for the project as part of project or ARCO properties and to maintain in proper conditions

Tasks

to protocol exactly and detailed the status quo before commencement of the project, then with the development of the project and its finalisation for having real parameters fixed to discuss what is positive, negative, where are improvements or deteriorations and how will be proved and realized sustainability for future etc.

The candidate also should start immediately with contacts to locals and fishermen and try to get asap first turtle breeding colonies together also if there are to make some enclosures provisionally etc-

Listing of all activities of third parties and of SUMMEF regarding the project development

- to start immediately with questionairs at the surrounding villages
- to record any available information related to the project
- detailed biological mapping and sustainable data documentation of existant fauna and flora (whole fauna from invertebrates to vertebrates with according seasonality changes)
- to record any manipulation of physical and biological parameters of the project area (eg. excavations, water deviations, sedimentation, any impact by men of course also on plants and animals, (existing agriculture, land use, use of medical plants from that area, introduction or catching of fishes)
- record any presence of live turtles at any time of the year at the project site or close by vicinities
- to secure the belongings at the TRCC and those of ARCO-Nepal
- to inform any hazardous impact immediately to SUMMEF and ARCO

To apply for this position, please submit a Curriculum Vitae and cover letter to

Prof. Dr. Kaluram Rai or directly to Arco-Nepal@T-online.de by August 15.

www. arco-nepal@t-online.de

Arco-Nepal acknowledges the collaboration with Milan Kharel for the year 2012 and conveys best wishes for his future work.