

**Amphibian Conservation Needs Assessment for Ecuador**  
**21-24 May 2012**

In May 2012 the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Ecuador (PUCE) in Quito, Ecuador, hosted a workshop to assess the conservation needs of Ecuadorian amphibians. During the workshop, 265 of Ecuador's 531 species of amphibians were assessed, including all 241 threatened species (Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable and Near Threatened), and 24 species categorized in the IUCN Red List as Least Concern or Data Deficient.

Participants representing eight different organizations systematically assessed the species using the AArk's conservation needs assessment process, with each species being recommended for one or more of the following conservation actions:

- **Rescue: 55 species** that are in imminent danger of extinction (nationally) and require *ex situ* management, as part of an integrated program, to ensure their survival.
- **In Situ Conservation: 202 species** for which mitigation of threats in the wild may still bring about their successful conservation.
- **In Situ Research: 310 species** that for one or more reasons require further *in situ* research to be carried out as part of the conservation action for the species. One or more critical pieces of information is not known at this time.
- **Ex Situ Research: 28 species** currently undergoing, or proposed for specific applied research that directly contributes to the conservation of the species, or a related species, in the wild (this includes clearly defined 'model' or 'surrogate' species).
- **Conservation Education: 64 species** that are specifically selected for management – primarily in zoos and aquariums - to inspire and increase knowledge in visitors, in order to promote positive behavioral change.
- **Biobanking: 55 species** for which the long-term storage of sperm or cells to perpetuate their genetic variation is urgently recommended, due the serious threat of extinction of the species.
- **No Conservation Action Required: 156 species** that do not require any conservation action at this point in time.

Due to time constraints 266 species classified as Least Concern or Data Deficient were not assessed during the workshop.

The complete results from the workshop are available on Amphibian Ark's data portal, [www.amphibianark.org/assessmentresults.htm](http://www.amphibianark.org/assessmentresults.htm)

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