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Volume 12

Washington University
Undergraduate Research Digest

Spring 2017

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Recommended Citation

Marggraff, Annie, "Longitudinal Study of *Saguinus weddelli* and *Saguinus imperator* in Southeastern Perú" (2017). *Volume 12*. 130.

https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/wuurd_vol12/130

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LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF *SAGUINUS WEDDELLI* AND *SAGUINUS IMPERATOR* IN SOUTHEASTERN PERÚ

Annie Marggraff

Mentor: Mrinalini Erkenwick Watsa

Few primates are more visibly and genetically identical than callitrichids, which have an astonishing rate of twin births ($\geq 80\%$ of births). This phenomenon, termed genetic chimerism, is an incredible illustration of abnormally high genetic relatedness, making the research of callitrichids important in studying the evolution of primate reproductive systems. I assisted in this longitudinal investigation by gathering morphological, physiological and health data on two species of individually identifiable saddleback (*Saguinus fuscicollis*) and emperor (*Saguinus imperator*) tamarins in southeastern Peru at the Los Amigos Conservation Field Station. The goal of this collected data is to analyze group structure, reproductive success, and individual growth and development in these species. We used a unique capture and release system to gather individual physiological, morphological, and health data about each individual. A recently completed meta-analysis using the gathered data showed that adult females and group size, not the number of adult males, significantly correlates with group reproductive output. These results will help predict future reproductive growth, allowing researchers to track fluctuation in group sizes, possibly relating this data to environmental changes.