



CHATTANOOGA ZOO CONSERVATION AWARD



Chattanooga Zoo Conservation Award Winner—Paula Gonzalez, Fundación TEMAIKÈN

[Zoo Conservation Outreach Group](#) (ZCOG) and the **Chattanooga Zoo** are pleased to announce **Paula Gonzalez**, Threatened Species Conservation Program Coordinator at Fundación TEMAIKÈN in Escobar, Argentina, and Principal Investigator of the Maned Wolf Conservation Project, as the 2016 recipient of the *Chattanooga Zoo Conservation Award*. Paula holds Bachelor's in Biological Sciences and Master's degrees in Project Design and Management from Buenos Aires University, where her research focused on improving the welfare of managed collection animals through enrichment applications. She also possesses extensive experience designing conservation education campaigns for species like the Andean condor and Lowland tapir, and is a past recipient of ZCOG's [International Conservation Training Scholarship](#). In 2010, the Jane Goodall Institute selected Paula to serve as National Coordinator of its *Roots and Shoots* program in Argentina, and in 2012, Fundación TEMAIKÈN, an AZA accredited facility, chose Paula to manage its Endangered Species Conservation Program.

Since 2009, Paula and her Fundación TEMAIKÈN colleagues have been involved in a cooperative, multidisciplinary effort to protect Maned wolf (*Chrysosyon brachyurus*) populations and preserve their natural habitat in Argentina. Rescue, rehabilitation, reintroduction, and field monitoring have been key project components, as has an effort to promote the Maned wolf as an emblematic species for biodiversity conservation.

Paula will give a presentation on recent Maned Wolf Conservation Project field efforts during the Open Session of the ZCOG Board of Directors meeting, which takes place between 8:00AM-9:00AM on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA. The session is open to all conference attendees.

Please contact zcog@zcog.org for additional details.



Paula Gonzalez at Mar de Ansenbuza, Córdoba, Argentina.

ABOUT THE AWARD:

The [Chattanooga Zoo Conservation Award](#) was established in 1999 by ZCOG and the Friends of the Chattanooga Zoo (FOTZ). The award recognizes excellence in wildlife conservation and environmental education efforts in the Americas, while honoring the memory of Patrick Jones, a longtime friend and volunteer of the Chattanooga Zoo. Award recipients receive round trip airfare, hotel, and registration to attend the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) National Conference, where they present the results of their field research and conservation outreach efforts and network with members of the global zoo and aquarium community.