

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2020

Welcome to June!

What is the current situation in the Galapagos?

The Galapagos has been under strict lockdown since March, and the recent figures regarding their total of 118 cases can be seen in this diagram sent out to the public on the 20th May. The Galapagos has shown a great effort and response to the outbreak, with the majority of the cases being crew members of the respective tourist cruise ships. With such a high volume of tourists and travel passing through the islands, as well as its flight connections with Guayaquil (a city that was hit hard by COVID-19), the islands have ensured a rapid lockdown and processed over 2082 tests in their modern laboratory on Santa Cruz.



There have been no tourists on the islands since March, and with a local economy revolving heavily around the tourism industry, financial struggles are a real concern for many members of the community. With efforts continuing on all fronts, we would like to send a message to our colleagues, friends, and all members of the community across the islands that we stand with them in solidarity and wish them to stay safe and well.

What does this mean for the domestic animals?

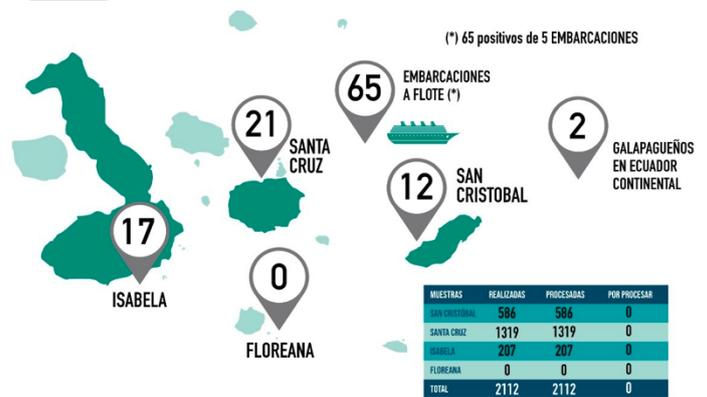
To maintain a population and manage its growth, it requires constant and persistent input from multiple different angles, with the most important being sterilisation.

A break in sterilisation of this period of time can be devastating and result in a population 'boom' that takes a huge amount of effort to control. With a population boom, the domestic animals' impact on endemic species and their habitats continues to occur, and encroachment and contact may be unavoidable. This has only increased the requirement to return as soon as possible.

This is why we need your help, and we will update you on how you can do that very shortly with our newsletters and on our social media and website.



SITUACIÓN GALÁPAGOS COVID-19 | CORTE: 20/05/2020 (23h00)



Stories from the Galapagos:

We had such a fantastic response to our last Newsletter that we decided to bring some stories home to you this month.

We have heard some amazing stories from around the world on how people have been getting through isolation. The most common one is how they have enjoyed the companionship of their animals. With the lockdown putting pressure on everyone, this rings just as true for those on the Galapagos.

Therefore, every newsletter will highlight three stories from those living with their animals in the Galapagos themselves. We hope this will bring people around the world closer together by bringing the Galapagos closer to you!



1. Fatima and the sisters Karma and Alba

Karma and Alba were both found tied to a tree in the Highlands of Santa Cruz by Fatima, who runs her small dog shelter Patitas Galapagueñas on the Island. Both were only around 6 months of age, and after recovering from a small bout of Parvovirus, they returned to the shelter to start to be introduced to the rest of the clan.

They have since grown into their characters, with Alba loud and excitable, and Karma quiet and gentle. With these opposites in characters, they have one thing in common and that is that they are not afraid to get their white coats covered in mud, much to Fatimas' despair!



Fatima and her small clan at Patitas Galapaguenas have grown to a current 28 dogs rescued around the island. She spoke to us and despite being able to spend more time onsite, the challenges to maintain the food supplies grew rapidly. She has some beautiful videos on Facebook and Instagram ([@patitasgalapaguenas](https://www.instagram.com/patitasgalapaguenas)). We cannot wait to get back and support her, but in the meantime she could do with your support too!



2. Sarah Darling and Marygold

Sarah Darling runs the Angelique Art Gallery in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island. She has been a huge animal lover and currently has a rescued family of 23 cats and 3 dogs. She designed her house and garden into a cat-proof haven with full and free access to all of the cats.



Sarah has many fascinating stories of how she came across her rescued animals, but we thought we would mention a favourite of ours; Marygold. Sarah came across Marygold just before Christmas in 2013

when she saw a black knotted bag being thrown into the bushes. Walking passed with her dog Neptune, she saw it moving and inside was a 6-week old Marygold, also known as the 'Golden Girl'. Marygold may not be the queen of the household, but she certainly acts like it!

Sarah has had to close her Gallery during this time, but continues to paint. Her inspiration comes from her passion for the natural world, conservation, and animal kingdom. She has started to showcase some of her art on Instagram

([@sarahdarlinggalapagos](https://www.instagram.com/sarahdarlinggalapagos)) to continue working and living. Despite these hard times, she has selflessly offered 20% of some of her paintings to the Galapagos Animal Doctors Project.



3. Claudia and the newcomer: Destiny

Claudia Moreno runs the Galapagos Horse Friends rescue farm in the Highlands of Santa Cruz. She currently has 13 horses, 12 cows, and 12 dogs herself.



Destiny was a young horse that was found muddled in her rope whilst working as a pack horse at the end of 2018. With a number of old wounds and completely exhausted, the team at Galapagos Horse Friends (GHF) took her in and nursed her back to strength over many months.

She is now an active and happy member of the Herd on the rescue farm. Having been caught herself by a stallion on island, she is due to foal very soon. Preparations have been put in place by Claudia and her team to welcome this foal, with all precautions to prevent further foals in the future. Like all rescue sites, Claudia has also opened up about the challenges of quarantine and finances. She has put her time into developing new programmes for tourists ready to launch once the situation relaxes.



Claudia and the Galapagos Horse Friends continue to work hard, and we look forward to getting back to the Galapagos to continue to provide support for their growing site.

Go see Destiny and Claudia at the Galapagos Horse friends on Facebook or on their website (<https://galapagoshorsefriends.org>).



What is coming up?

- We are now offering **Virtual Talks** to groups, schools and academic classes who are continuing to teach! If you are interested for one of us to join you in a virtual classroom talking about the Galapagos, conservation, and veterinary work, get in touch at ben@pananimalia.org!
- We are excited to say that our finalised website is almost ready! The website www.pananimalia.org will be ready to launch at the end of this month with all of our information and opportunities that we are offering!
- We will continue to share stories of families and their animals from the Galapagos on each of our upcoming Newsletters. Keep an eye out and continue to circulate and encourage more to sign up online at www.pananimalia.org!

The
Pan Animalia
Team

