

Monitoring and pair bond formation of rehabilitated Vinaceous-breasted Parrots (*Amazona vinacea*) released in Araucárias National Park, Brazil

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The Vinaceous-breasted Parrot (*Amazona vinacea*) is a globally endangered species. The goal of this project was to reintroduce *A. vinacea* into the Araucárias National Park, Santa Catarina, Brazil. Two groups of parrots, victims of illegal wildlife trade, were received from IBAMA and went through a four-month rehabilitation period, including health exams and behavioral training. The first group of 13 parrots was released in January 2011 and the second group of 30 parrots was released in September 2012. Parrots were monitored by radio-telemetry, vocalizations, and visual sightings on a monthly basis from January 2011 to July 2011 and from September 2012 until September 2014 by researchers from Instituto Espaço Silvestre. Local citizen scientists helped with the monitoring of the birds. Confirmed mortality rate during the monitoring periods was 8% for group 1 and 20% for group 2. From group 1, one parrot successfully formed two separate pair bonds during monitoring. Two parrots from group 2 had formed a pair bond during rehabilitation that broke up soon after release. Along the monitoring period, three additional unique pair-bonds were formed among birds from group 2. In the reproductive season 2013-14, we found one active nest. The formations and break-ups of pair-bonds demonstrate a more dynamic bonding interaction than previously thought based on other species in the genus. Additionally, both the low confirmed mortality rates and the formation of pair-bonds during monitoring show potential for a self-sustaining population of *Amazona vinacea* that will continue to be monitored with additional releases.

Key words: *Amazona vinacea*, monitoring, pair bond, reintroduction, behavior, psittacidae

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