

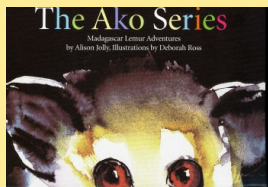


# LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Lemur Latitudes  
e-newsletter July 2013  
[www.lemurreserve.org](http://www.lemurreserve.org)



[DONATE HERE](#)



[CLICK TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT THE AKO  
PROJECT: MADAGASCAR  
LEMUR ADVENTURES](#)

[CLICK HERE TO SHOP](#)

[LCF WEB SITE](#)

[FIND US ON FACEBOOK](#)

[CLICK HERE TO SHOP  
LCF ON AMAZON](#)



children's puzzle available in  
our Amazon store

## What Happens When Forest Trails Flood?



Ansell & Harp wait for LCF staff to finish installing the fence!



We have been getting record rainfall on the reserve for the past few weeks. Unfortunately, our nicely worn lemur trails also make perfect pathways for all of the extra rain water. Lemurs are not the biggest fans of walking through puddles, so we had to think of a way to get Ansell, her twins and the rest of the lemurs back on one of their major forest pathways ...and do it before the next set of storms.

### **Join Our Mailing List!**

With the generous support from USA Fence Company in Bradenton, FL, we were able to get enough fencing to line the lemur's 250 foot trail through the west end of the forest. Ansell didn't waste any time hopping on the fence and not so patiently waiting for Pete, LCF's Maintenance Supervisor, and the rest of the staff to put up the remainder of the fence. We are happy to report that the lemurs are back to using their favorite trail and staying nice and dry on their new fence pathway.

Ansell and our other lemurs at LCF are extremely valuable to captive populations. Keeping them healthy and happy helps ensure that lemur populations continue to grow, which is critical to the success of captive and wild lemur populations.

- Alison Grand, Ph.D. LCF Animal Care Manager

**[CLICK HERE TO DONATE - HELP MAINTAIN OUR HABITATS](#)**



Unprecedented rainfall flooded lemur's favorite trails

### **Are You Interested In A Career In Conservation Biology?**

Here's a great opportunity for undergraduates: Dr. Natalie Vasey's 2014 program is now on our web site at <http://www.lemurreserve.org/vasey.html>

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for more information about what to expect in a field training course.





**Read Dr. Ian Tattersall's Recent Article**

**'Understanding species - level primate diversity in Madagascar'**

MADAGASCAR CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT VOLUME 8

ISSUE 1 - JULY 2013 PAGE 7

SPOTLIGHTS

Ian Tattersall  
American Museum of Natural History New York, NY 10024 U.S.A.  
E - mail: iant @ amnh.org

#### ABSTRACT

Over the past couple of decades Madagascar has witnessed an explosion in the number of primate species generally recognized. Much of this proliferation can be traced less to increasing knowledge of the lemur fauna than to the complete replacement of biological notions of the species by the Phylogenetic Species Concept (PSC), which views species as irreducible diagnosable units. The consequent focus on autapomorphy (unique possession of morphological and molecular derived features) as 'the' criterion for species recognition has led to the almost complete disappearance of lemur subspecies from Madagascar faunal lists; yet subspecies are an expected result of the evolutionary forces that gave rise to the island's current pattern of biodiversity.

Thanks in part to the perspective introduced by the PSC, it has become clear both that there is much more species - level diversity among Madagascar's lemurs than was evident only a couple of decades ago, and that this diversity is much more complexly structured than we had thought. But it does not appear to be aptly reflected in the hard - line procedural adoption of the PSC across the board, a move that typically results in fifty-percent inflation in species numbers relative to those yielded by biological concepts. I argue here that the reflexive wholesale application of the PSC to Madagascar's lemurs is inappropriate from both systematic and conservation stand points, and that a return to biological species concepts, and to the corresponding criteria for species recognition, will allow us to attain a much fuller and more nuanced appreciation of lemur diversity at low taxonomic levels.

**[CLICK HERE TO READ THE ARTICLE](#)**



## Would You Like To Travel In Madagascar With LCF?

Mark your calendar! Dr. Tattersall will lead our expedition to Madagascar in August of 2014. Watch for more information about the itinerary or contact Lee Nesler today for more information - [leenesler@lemurserve.org](mailto:leenesler@lemurserve.org)

### Contact Info:

LCF Executive Director & CEO

Lee Nesler

941-322-8494