

The Wild Capuchin Foundation: Mission statement and history

Mission statement:

The Wild Capuchin Foundation (WCF) is dedicated to supporting the study and preservation of the white-faced capuchin monkey (*Cebus capucinus*). The goals of the foundation are:

To support meritorious scientific research on the behavioral biology of the wild white-faced capuchins in the Lomas Barbudal Biological Reserve, Costa Rica, and adjacent private lands

To inform the public, especially the local community, about the natural history and behavior of capuchin monkeys

To support training in primate research and conservation, and

To contribute to the conservation of capuchin monkey habitat, especially the tropical dry forest that is the home of the Lomas Barbudal population.

History of the Wild Capuchin Foundation. The Wild Capuchin Foundation is a California non-profit corporation founded in 2012 to assist the Lomas Barbudal Monkey Project, a project founded by Dr. Susan Perry, who is currently a professor of Anthropology at University of California-Los Angeles. The WCF recognizes the importance of sustaining continuous long-term research on primates in the field, and the challenges of maintaining such a project with short-term grants. The WCF aims to ensure the continuity of the Lomas Barbudal Monkey project, in all of its inseparable research, conservation and outreach aspects. For more information on the history and activities of the Lomas Barbudal Monkey Project click [here](#).

Officers of the Foundation:

All officers and board members are volunteers who receive no financial compensation for their services.

Dr. Susan E. Perry, Ph.D., is the President, and Chairperson of the Board of Directors, of the Foundation. She is a professor in the Department of Anthropology, University of California Los Angeles and is principal investigator of the research and outreach supported by the foundation. Dr. Perry is a widely published anthropologist who has conducted research on the social behavior of capuchin monkeys at Lomas Barbudal for more than 25 years. She was director of the Cultural Phylogeny Research Group at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology from 2001-6 and is now a full professor at UCLA. (Click [here](#) for her CV)

Dr. Lynn A. Fairbanks, Ph.D., is the Treasurer of the Foundation. Dr. Fairbanks is a widely published primatologist and emeritus professor at UCLA. She is the former director of the Center for Primate Neuroethology and the Vervet Research Colony, and has a thirty-five year career studying behavior, development and genetics of non-human primates. Dr. Fairbanks is a former Associate Editor of the American Journal of

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Primatology, and has authored over 150 scientific publications including peer-reviewed journal articles, chapters, and edited volumes.

Rhiannon MacCarter, Secretary of the Foundation, worked for the Lomas Barbudal Monkey Project as a field assistant & field site manager from 2011-2012. She received her B.S. from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor where she focused on environmental and evolutionary biology, as well as anthropology and primate behavioral ecology. Currently working on sustainable agricultural products in the private sector, she has continued to volunteer and assist with fundraising for the Monkey Project in addition to board activities.

Contact information.

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