



Humboldt Penguins live on and around the islands before the Pacific coast of Peru and Chile, between the 5th and 42nd southern latitude.

This area is, above all influenced by the northern-flowing, cold Humboldt Current, that results in a great abundance of fish. This abundance is the basis of existence for the Humboldt Penguin and many other highly-threatened animal species.

How can you help the penguins?

You can become a member!

Once a year Sphenisco holds an assembly at the Landau Zoo, in the Rhineland Palatinate. During an informational meeting prior to the assembly, the board and active members of Sphenisco report about current projects and developments. Above all, at these meetings ideas are gathered and projects are discussed.

You can donate!

Donation Account
 Sparkasse Südliche Weinstrasse
 IBAN DE 98548500101700139320
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SPHENISCO e.V. is a charitable organization, recognized as such under the German tax code, and donations are thus tax deductible under German law.

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Humboldt Penguins Need Our Help Internationally



Protection of the Humboldt Penguins e.V.
www.sphenisco.org



Humboldt Penguins are highly threatened!

The wild-living population of Humboldt Penguins on the coast of Chile and Peru is threatened by a whole range of factors:

- Decline in the fish population, from overfishing and climate change
- Marine pollution
- Fishing with gillnets (discard/by-catch)
- Illegal harvesting of guano
- Illegal removal of eggs or living animals (for consumption, as mascots)
- Disruption of breeding activities through tourist



What do we do for Their Protection?

With the cooperation of environmental protectionists and scientists, Sphenisco aims to prevent the extinction of the Humboldt Penguin in Chile and Peru. Our primary focus is the protection of breeding colonies and surrounding marine areas. We pay particular heed that protection measures are developed in harmony with the concerns of the local citizens. We therefore support sustainable projects, such as with fishing and tourism.



Environmental Education is Important!

For Sphenisco it is important to sensitize the local population to nature and species protection. Two primary target groups are fishers and students from all age groups. For example, Chilean and Peruvian natural protection organizations conduct educational campaigns on behalf of Sphenisco.

In Europe, Sphenisco points out the dangers of one's own eating and lifestyle habits that can damage an ecosystem very far away. We therefore promote the consumption of fish caught by sustainable methods, and the rejection of the use of fertilizer that contains guano.



Research is Important!

Sphenisco encourages in situ research projects, and financially supports such endeavors. We work closely with universities in Santiago and Coquimbo. Dr. Alejandro Simeone, Professor at the Ecology and Biology Department at Andrés Bello University, in Santiago, is a Sphenisco representative directly in Chile itself.



Support Animal Rescue!

The public Natural History Museum in San Antonio, Central Chile, performs animal rescue operations and runs a sanctuary for wild animals. Injured or sick Humboldt Penguins are cared for there, before being released back to the wild. Sphenisco supports this work through regular donations.



Cooperation with Zoological Gardens!

Modern zoological gardens put great value on environmental education and species protection. A whole range of European zoos therefore also support the Sphenisco's activities for the preservation of the Humboldt Penguin's natural habitat in Chile and Peru. These zoos inform their visitors about the threat to the Humboldt Penguin, and the work of Sphenisco. Current zoo members and activities can be found on our internet site at the links listed under "Cooperations".

Sphenisco's cooperation with its South American partners is recognized by the World Zoo and Aquarium Association (WAZA) as an official protection project. See www.waza.org.