



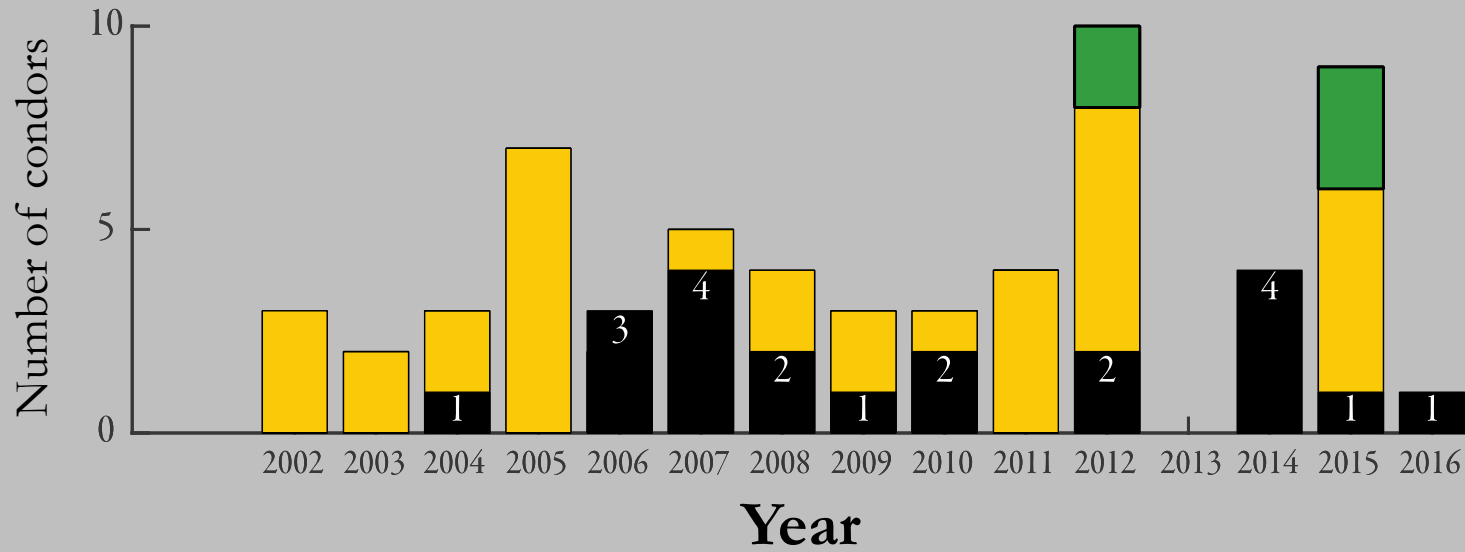
BAJA CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA CONDOR REINTRODUCTION PROGRAM



Outline of Presentation

- History of Program & Current Status
- Current conservation actions
- Future goals and milestones of program

History of Program



50 released

5 net-birds hatched

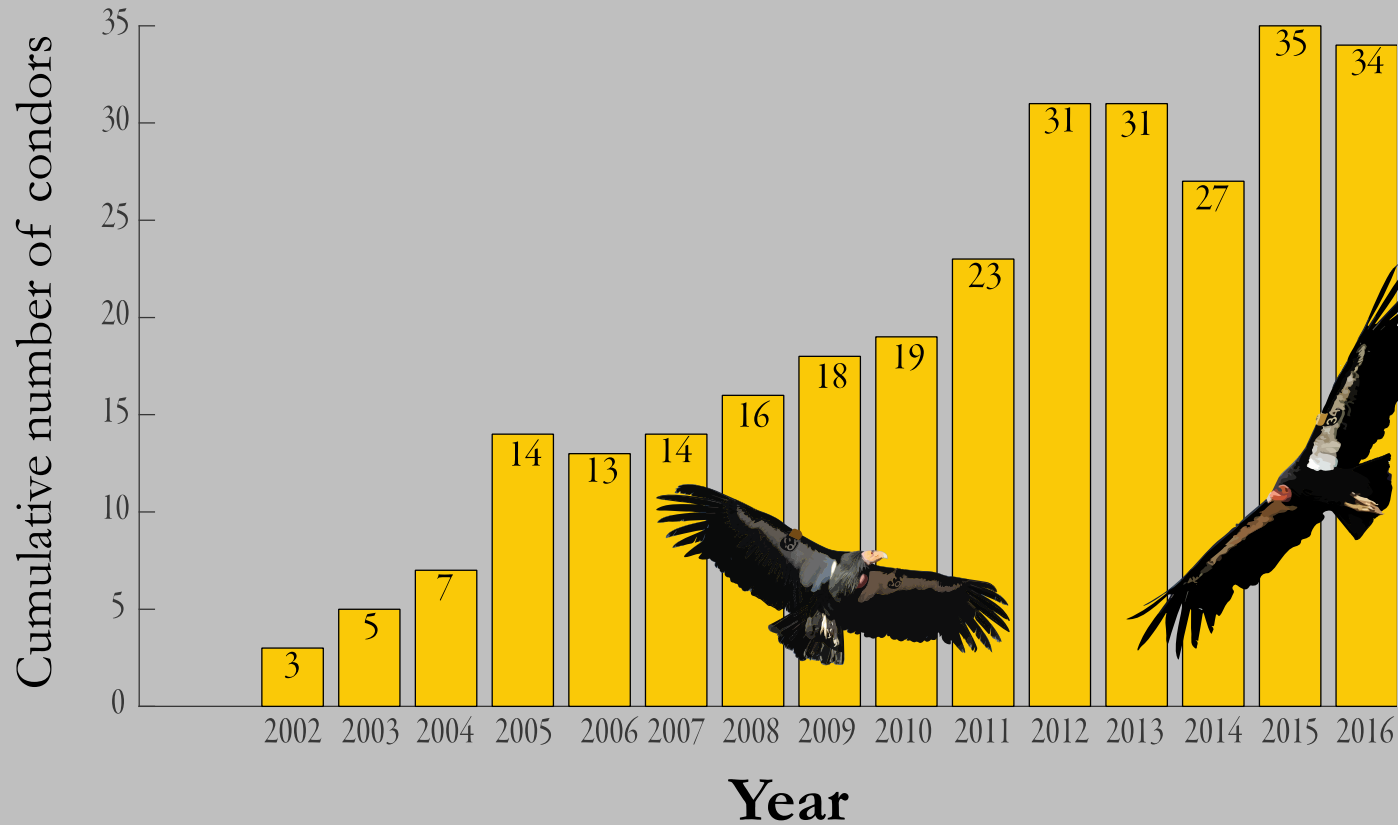
16 deaths

5 returned to captivity

14-year binational conservation program



Current Status



- *13 females*
- *18 males*
- *3 fledglings*
- *7 breeding pairs*

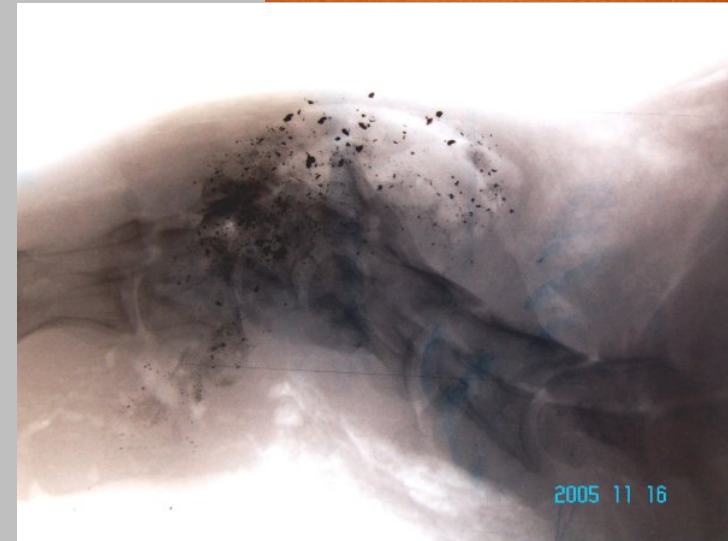
Conservation Actions: Lead poisoning

Lead is the number one cause of death for California condors

Exposed to lead by ingesting lead shot or fragments when feeding on carcasses

Lead bullets fragment into hundreds of pieces when striking an animal

These are left behind with the carcass and ingested by condors when feeding



Conservation Actions: Lead poisoning

Incidence of lead poisoning is less in Baja California than in CA, AZ and UT, but still an active management issue

1 - Management by bi-annual lead screening exams

Measure blood lead levels annually

Treat with chelation when blood lead levels are $>30 \mu\text{g/dl}$

Bird is symptomatic for lead toxicosis



Conservation Actions: Lead poisoning

Incidence of lead poisoning is less in Baja California than in CA, AZ and UT, but still an active management issue

2 - Management by subsidizing condors with with lead free carcasses

34 free-flying condors ~ 22 sheep per month

Complete certainty to be lead free

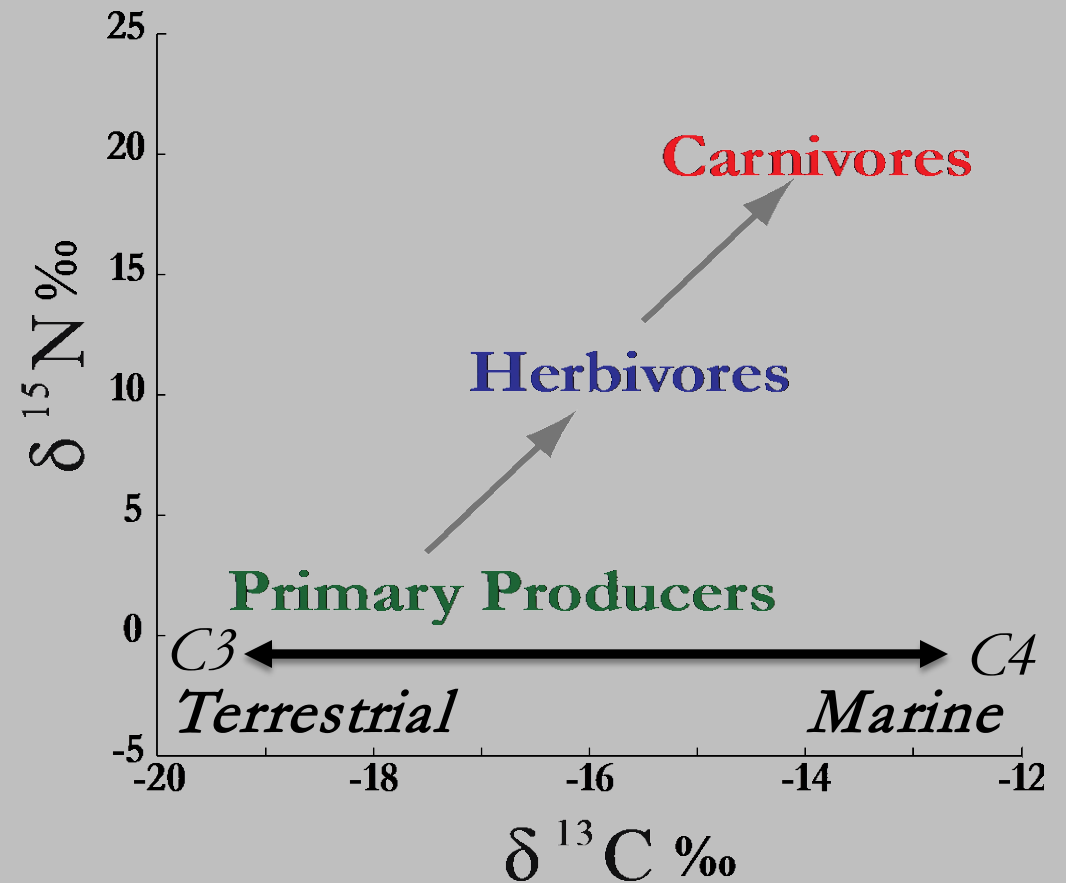
Random blood tests to confirm food is lead free



Conservation Actions: Encouragement of natural foraging



Stable Isotopes as a tool to assess diet habits



Conservation Actions: Outreach and Env Education

Outreach and environmental education program

Community workshops

Hunter workshops

Education materials



Conservation Actions: Outreach and Env Education

Strengthening the capacity of Mexican personnel to implement recovery activities

Training of Chapultepec Staff

Training of 14 outreach specialist from other National Parks in Mexico



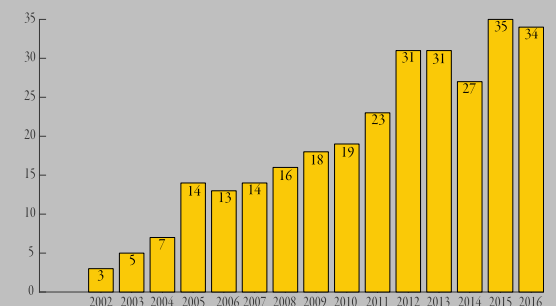
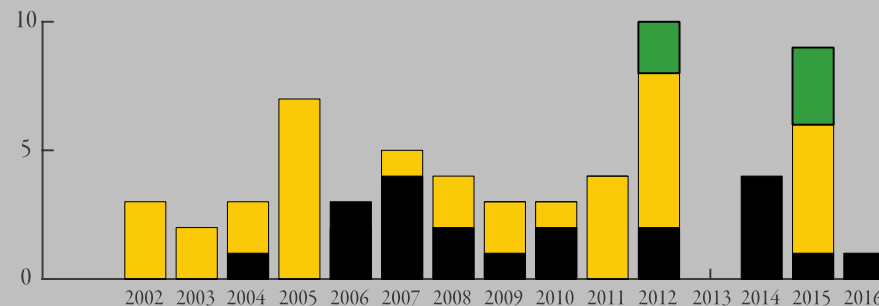


Future Conservation Actions

Goal 1 – Prevent/reduce environmental impact/risks for condors at SSPM

Goal 2 – Develop and implement habitat management plan

Goals 3 and 4 – Continue to release condors as well as the intensive management and monitoring of free-flying condors in SSPM





Future Conservation Actions

Goal 5 – Continue to support the captivity breeding program in Mexico as a way to boost wild population numbers and develop in-country technical capacity.

Goal 6– Restore areas of conservation importance to condors within SSPM

Goal 7– Continue to generate knowledge of condor biology, ecology and behavior



Conservation Actions

Goal 8— Inform, influence and educate local communities and stakeholders

*Goal 9— Bolster binational collaboration for the successful implementation of the
MOU*

Remaining Challenges

Transborder movements and HPAI

Transfer of 3 Chapultepec to the USA

Need to develop a permits manual

Need for more face-time between partners

