



WENGER® PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE

9th Edition : February 8th - 16th 2011

THE LAST WILD RACE

TOP ADVENTURE RACE RAISES FUNDS TO PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES

- **World's most respected eco-endurance race targets \$20,000**
- **Money to run a vital population study on the critically endangered Huemul**
- **Project collaboration with the University Austral de Chile to run March 2011**

(PUNTA ARENAS, Chile - November 8, 2010) The organizers of the Wenger Patagonian Expedition Race have announced plans to raise \$20,000 to run a project to help protect the critically endangered Huemul, the national emblem of Chile.

The event, which is recognized as the world's toughest and wildest race, is run to promote sustainable tourism and help protect the wilderness region of Chilean Patagonia. It will run its ninth edition next February and organizers aim to raise the funds for the Huemul project in time to launch its first phase in March 2011.

"The Wenger Patagonian Expedition Race takes place in one of the most remote wilderness regions on the planet but many of its animal inhabitants are in danger of extinction and we want to do all we can to help," said race founder and director Stjepan Pavicic. "This global eco-adventure was set up to raise awareness of the need to protect wilderness regions around the world and this year we have decided to put a specific focus on the Huemul as without our fundraising it would not be possible to run this specific project.

"The existence of Huemul in Peninsular Brunswick has been known to the organization because of sightings from competitors in remote regions during previous races. We are delighted to be raising funds through the race to set up this project and, in collaboration with the University Austral de Chile, move towards the preservation of this endangered species throughout Chile."

The Patagonian Huemul, a member of the deer species, is already demonstrating a classic extinction spiral, existing now in only a few small pockets of Chile, with little known about their existence in the Peninsular Brunswick region. The aim of the project is to determine their population in this area, estimate their conservation status and finally connect with other research from around the country to develop a conservation management plan for their protection within the whole of Chile.

The project will be run by the Institute of Zoology at the University Austral de Chile, with funds raised through the Wenger Patagonian Expedition Race and collected by race organizers Nomadas Outdoor Services.

- **FOR MORE INFORMATION, HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES OR TO DONATE FUNDS PLEASE VISIT:** www.patagonianexpeditionrace.com OR www.nomadas.cl
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