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Season's Greetings from the Board of the International Iguana Foundation (IIF). We have much to be grateful for this time of year and many of us share that gratitude by supporting the various groups or causes that are close to our hearts. If you are reading this letter, then iguanas are likely on your list.

For the past twenty years, the IIF has been at the forefront of iguana conservation and has helped recover the most critically endangered of the 45 species, some of which were trending dangerously close to extinction – the Jamaican iguana for example. We could not achieve these successes without funding support, and you are a vital part of this process.

Each year we focus our End-of-the-Year (EOY) fundraising campaign around a particular species where there is an urgent need. Last year we bought a boat to help two conservation organizations on Utila survey and monitor a new protected area for the endemic Swamper, a unique iguana found only on one tiny island off the coast of Honduras. In 2020, we raised funds to purchase a truck for biologists working to protect the Lesser Antilles Iguana population on Dominica, the species' last stronghold population.





This year we turn our attention to another very special species, the Motagua Valley Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura palearis*), endemic to a dry thorn forest area in Guatemala. For the past twelve years, the IIF has supported this project through two local conservation groups – ZooTropic and the Heloderma Natural Reserve – where staff conduct natural history studies, population surveys and local awareness/education activities to instill in young school children the importance of protecting their local iguana.

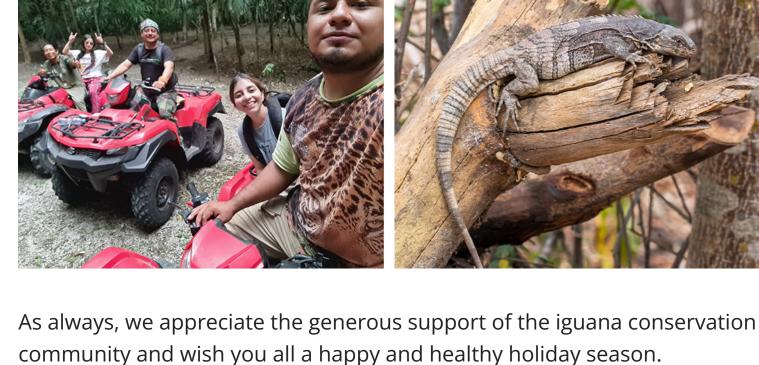
Motagua Valley Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura palearis*), endemic to a dry thorn forest area in Guatemala. For the past twelve years, the IIF has supported this project through two local conservation groups – ZooTropic and the Heloderma Natural Reserve – where staff conduct natural history studies, population surveys and local awareness/education activities to instill in young school children the importance of protecting their local iguana; also known as "the Shero."

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serving as a seed disperser for a large columnar cactus that characterizes this valley. Again, our campaign is aimed at project infrastructure, specifically two ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) that will help our rangers improve their ability to monitor iguana populations and protect their habitat.





My Best,

Rick Hudson

IIF Executive Director

Read more about our campaign to #SavetheShero here.

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