

# FOSSIL HERITAGE TELLS OUR HISTORY



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- -Measure the level of awareness that locals in Neuquen city have regarding fossils.
- -Raise awareness about the importance of fossil heritage.

What do people know about laws that protect fossils?

# 1.2 HYPOTHESIS

Most people are not well-informed nor show awareness in this topic.



Image 1 Paleontological protected area, fossil nesting within the Universidad Nacional del Comahue.



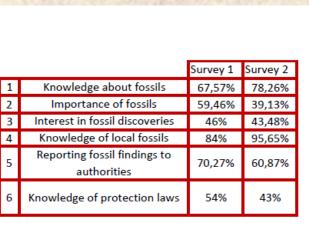
# 2. METHODOLOGY

Surveys and polls were used to gauge how interested and informed people are about the fossils that can be found in Neuquen city.

- Surveys: A total of 60 people were interviewed, including runners and Universidad del Comahue students.
- Polls: Multiple choice to provide clear statistics. A total of 15 high school students were interviewed.

To analize the information a standarized scale was created, in order to sort answers into different categories. An in-depth interview to college professor geologist and director of the Dino Project, Laura Ávila, was carried out in order to consolidate our knowledge and compare our findings with her beliefs.

#### 3. RESULTS



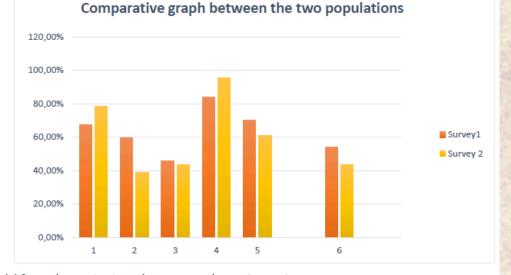
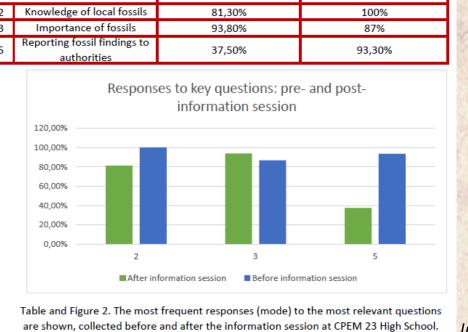


Table and Figure 1. The most frequent responses (mode) for each question in each survey are shown. Survey 1 corresponds to UNCo students, and survey 2 corresponds to running groups.

After information session Before information session





QR code: to get to know the developments in results

Image 3

### 4. DISCUSSION

The analyzed data show that most of the surveyed young people and adults are aware of the importance of fossils in different areas, although they do not express an interest in delving deeper into or becoming more involved with the topic. In contrast, the results obtained among adolescents reflect a lower initial level of awareness but a greater interest in learning about fossils and their heritage value.

This trend coincides with what was noted by Laura Ávila, who highlights that current interest in fossils is mainly concentrated in schools and among children and adolescents, as these groups are the ones who encourage adults to visit museums and participate in educational activities.

#### 5- CONCLUSION

The results partially refute the initial hypothesis. Most respondents demonstrate awareness of fossils, although gaps persist in legal knowledge, in the dissemination of the topic, and in interest. It is concluded that there is heritage awareness, but it is necessary to strengthen education and communication about the protection of fossils.

Image 2