



PRESS CONFERENCE
EXTENSION OF INFORMATION

Winter Vacations in the MACN

**“PUERTASAURUS REULI: FINDINGS OF A GIANT HERBIVOROUS
DINOSAUR OF PATAGONIA”**

Friday 21st of July at 10.30 in the audiovisual room of the Argentine Museum of Natural Science “Bernardino Rivadavia” (Av. Ángel Gallardo 470, city of Buenos Aires) palaeontologist Dr. Fernando Novas will grant a press conference regarding the finding in the Expedition he held in Santa Cruz province and will exhibit the fossils found.

It is proposed to announce the discovery of the skeleton of one of the most gigantic dinosaurs discovered so far in the world: "Puertasaurus Reuli" found by Dr. Fernando E. Novas and his staff at the Cerro Los Hornos, near Lake Viedma in Santa Cruz province. The journey of exploration was conducted in 2001 and funded by the National Geographic Society (Washington), CONICET and the National Agency for Promotion of Science and Technology (Buenos Aires).

The discovery, consisting of several vertebrae from the neck, back and tail, can refer to a group of sauropod dinosaurs, herbivores elongated neck and tail Patagonian environments that dominated during much of the Mesozoic Era. In particular, the new dinosaur to be announced lived 70 million years ago, this is just before the mass extinction that affected the life of planet Earth 65 million years ago

To remove the remains of Puertasaurus Reuli it was required great physical strength because due that they were vertebrae of enormous dimensions that should be wrapped in several layers of plaster, burlap cloth and several feet of wire sufficient to confer resistance to transport due to rugged terrain of southern Patagonia.

The neck vertebra measures 1.20 m. in length and 1.40 m. wide. But more surprising is that corresponding to the first vertebra of the back, which reaches almost to be 1.70 m wide, comfortably surpassing that of its relative *A. huinculensis*, found in the Neuquen province and considered the largest of all land animals found. The new dinosaur has been recently published in the magazine of the Argentine Museum of Natural Science "Bernardino Rivadavia .

**VERTEBRA DORSAL DE PUERTASAURUS
(ANCHO: 1,70 M., ALTURA: 1 M.)**



To request further information or to coordinate coverage of the press conference release contact Press area of MACN institution.

Regards,

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