

Update: Rainforest Climate Action Fund

In 2021, Rainforest Trust launched the Rainforest Climate Action Fund (RCAF) to enable our donors to maximize their impact in the fight against climate change by supporting projects that sequester larger amounts of carbon. Our goal is to permanently lock up 15 billion metric tons of CO₂ equivalents by 2025 by expanding or establishing new protection for vulnerable rainforests, peat swamps and mangroves across the tropics.

This is our first annual report on your impact through your support of the Rainforest Climate Action Fund. Thank you.



**RAINFOREST
TRUST®**



Projects funded by RCAF

-  **Bolivia** | San Ignacio and Concepción Municipal Protected Areas
-  **Colombia** | Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta National Park Expansion
-  **Cuba** | Cananovas Habitat/Species Management Area
-  **Democratic Republic of the Congo** | Kanyama Community Forest
-  **Liberia** | Krahn-Bassa National Park
-  **Madagascar** | Beamingaratsy National Protected Area
-  **Mexico** | Cuenca del Río Mayo Natural Resources Protected Area
-  **Peru** | Madre de Dios Community Reserve Expansions
-  **Peru** | Vilaya Condorpuna Shipago Regional Conservation Area
-  **Republic of the Congo** | Ogooué-Lékéti National Park

Rainforest Climate Action Fund Impact Facts



Since its launch in 2021, RCAF has funded **10 projects** worldwide



When protected, these acres will safeguard the CO₂ equivalent of **192 million vehicles** driven for one year.



3,332,035 acres have been protected and work continues on an additional 3,557,457 acres



The landscape of the Vilaya Condorpuna Shipago Regional Conservation Area | ECOANDSC



Protect A Critical Peruvian Amazon Watershed

Rainforest Trust and our local partner, the Andean Ecosystems Association, are creating the Vilaya Condorpuna Shipago Regional Conservation Area in Peru. This area consists of **74,306 acres** of dense tropical forest in the transition zone between the Andean highlands and humid forests to the east. Over 70% of this frontier forest remains covered with primary vegetation that supports an abundance of threatened species.

These acres will lock up 15,267,340 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents and be protected from illegal logging, rapid expansion of agriculture and illegal trafficking of rare orchids and timber.

The Rainforest Climate Action Fund supports high-impact projects in three types of forest:



Frontier Forests

These forests massively reduce carbon emissions in the immediate future because they protect forests in imminent danger of destruction—a so-called "frontier" providing a protective barrier and keeping dense forest intact.



Super-Sequesterers

Healthy tropical forests actively draw large amounts of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and sequester it underground. But forests inundated by water are especially efficient sequesterers because the water blocks the oxygen required for decomposition. These "super sequesterers" include flooded forests, swamp forests, peat forests and mangroves—which fringe many of the world's tropical coastlines.



Carbon Vaults

These forests lock up carbon in large, tall, intact hardwood forests in perpetuity for a reasonable cost. Protected forests in this category store vast amounts of carbon in their wood, roots and soil, and prevent huge amounts of greenhouse gases from being released.

Aerial Rainforest | Rainforest Trust





The landscape of the Cananovas | Rey Estrada



Safeguard Vital Coastline in Cuba

Cuba's undisturbed northeastern coastline is home to mangrove forests that thrive where land meets water. Mangroves are uniquely adapted to low-oxygen soils and brackish waters inundated with salt water during high tides. While these conditions would kill other trees, mangroves flourish and serve as an irreplaceable super-sequesterer, keeping large amounts of carbon safely stored.

Rainforest Trust and Wildlife Conservation Society, together with the local Antonio Nuñez Jimenez Foundation, are creating the new **22,574-acre** Cananovas Habitat/Species Management Area in Cuba to protect this vital habitat for threatened marine life. These acres will efficiently store 2,426,767 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents.



Highlight: Stop Deforestation at the Edge of the Bolivian Amazon

Rainforest Trust and our partner, Fundación Natura Bolivia, protected **2,259,969 acres** of rich, old-growth, lowland rainforest in Bajo Paraguá. The San Ignacio and Concepción Municipal Protected Area locks up 374,575,213 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents.

To protect the Bajo Paraguá forest of Eastern Bolivia—a frontier forest—from forest fires during the July through November fire season, our partner trained and equipped a team of local rangers to control and manage fires in Bajo Paraguá. Despite ongoing threats, a substantial reduction in deforestation and fires has been noted since the activities for this project began.

Bolivian Rainforest | Laszlo Mates



RAINFOREST
TRUST

Rainforesttrust.org | 1.800.456.4930
P.O. Box 841, Warrenton, VA 20188

