

Variegated Spider Monkey © Amani A



Andinobates daleswansonii © Bert Benaets

## Secure a Safe Haven for Threatened Amphibians

**On 1,001 acres in the Andean rainforests of Colombia, at least thirteen resident species of amphibians are in danger of extinction.** They have recently been found on this land adjacent to the Selva de Florencia National Natural Park. The rocky terrain here climbs up and down varying altitudes, creating unique pockets of rainforest habitat for these equally unique, restricted-range amphibians.

But despite the mountainous terrain, farms for large-scale avocado production are spreading rapidly across the region. This critical habitat for amphibians and other species will be dug up for cultivation if it is not saved.

Rainforest Trust and our partner, Fundación para la Conservación de la Vida Silvestre en Colombia, seek \$1,309,453 to purchase 1,001 acres to create the Andinobates-Boquerón Reserve for amphibians and other threatened species. The new reserve will also function as a buffer between encroaching cultivated areas and the existing national park.

### PROTECT RARE RESTRICTED-RANGE FROGS

The largest recorded populations of two Critically Endangered frogs are found in this proposed reserve, and **over 90% of the population of an endemic Endangered poison dart frog has been found only here.**

Conservation activities have been stalled for over 20 years because the area was inaccessible due to armed conflicts. Since a peace agreement was signed in 2016, the area has undergone extensive removal of landmines and conservation efforts are finally able to move forward. But so, too, is deforestation.

This region of the Andes is a high-elevation water resource, which is why it is attractive to those who grow avocados—it is a crop that requires a great deal of water. But extensive avocado farms can destroy the water resource for both people and the amphibians who cannot survive without it.

### SAFEGUARD ENDEMIC COLOMBIAN BIRD SPECIES

The Selva de Florencia National Natural Park was designated an Important Bird Area for both Colombia and global conservation, and that abundance of bird species is reflected in the new reserve area. The presence of four endemic bird species of restricted distribution in Colombia stand out: Stiles's Tapaculo, Yellow-headed Brush-finch, Multicolored Tanager and the Vulnerable Red-bellied Grackle. Boreal migratory



**1,001**  
ACRES

**\$1,309,453**  
PROJECT COST

**\$1,308**  
COST PER ACRE

**197,182 mT**  
CO<sub>2</sub> EQUIVALENTS  
STORED

### KEY SPECIES:

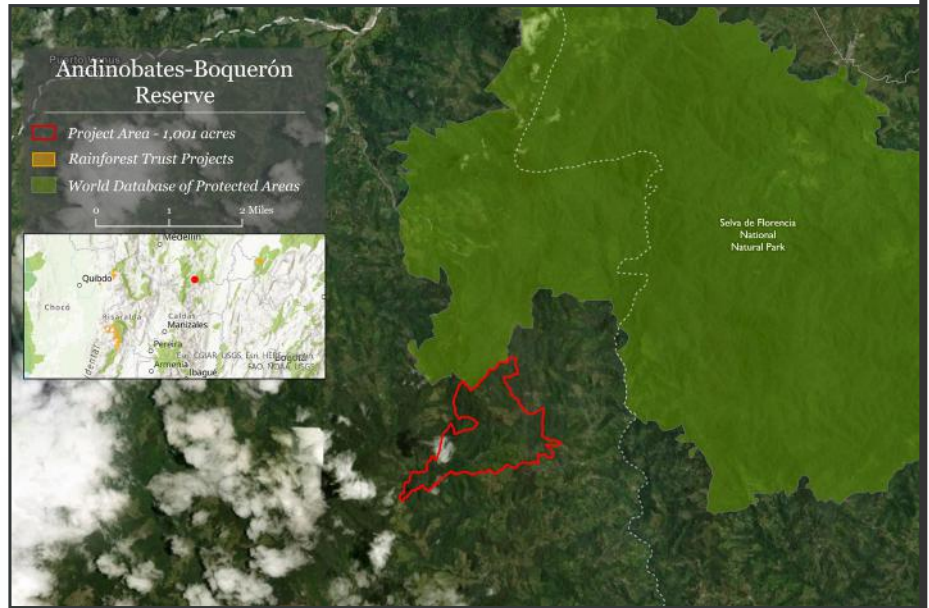
*Andinobates daleswansonii* (EN),  
Variegated Spider Monkey (CR),  
*Pristimantis tribulosus* (CR),  
Varied White-fronted Capuchin (EN),  
*Pristimantis veletis* (CR)



species are also reported including Osprey, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Black-and-white Warbler, Canada Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler and Swainson's Hawk.

It is also important habitat for the Critically Endangered Brown Spider Monkey.

Our partner has worked for more than 25 years in this area. They will continue to engage with local communities to jointly develop an ecotourism program that facilitates the sustainability of the area and improves quality of life for surrounding communities. They will also strengthen environmental education to promote the conservation value and community benefits of safeguarding this important area.



La Montaña © Urbano Buitrago Delgado

