



Save the Amazon: Protect Half a Million Acres in Southern Peru

The Peruvian Amazon is second in size only to the Brazilian Amazon. It covers nearly 60% of Peru's landscape and supports the life of over 12,810 species. Its forests are home to hundreds of Indigenous communities who rely solely on the land to survive. The Peruvian Amazon is also vital in the global fight against climate change as one of our planet's most important carbon stores, containing over 49 billion metric tons of CO₂ equivalents.

But illegal logging, mining and land trafficking are jeopardizing the sovereignty of Indigenous territories and traditions. These threats are also imperiling wildlife species, many of which are already on the brink of extinction.

Rainforest Trust is working with partner Confederación de Nacionalidades Amazónicas del Perú and supported by the International Land Coalition to secure land tenure rights on 500,000 acres of Indigenous territories in some of the last remaining tracts of Amazon rainforest in Peru. Together we seek \$2,439,170 to support at least 30 Indigenous communities who urgently want to conserve their lands. The project areas contain over 80% high-integrity forests and an abundance of biodiversity that reflects their intact nature. These 500,000 acres also store 121,309,442 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents—comparable to the CO₂ emissions from consuming 13 billion gallons of gas.

STOP LAND-GRABBING AND ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES ON INDIGENOUS LANDS

Those seeking economic gain by making inroads into Indigenous territories across the Amazon for illegal mining, drug and land trafficking, logging and monoculture plantations—including coca plantations for the drug trade—are a growing menace. Titling of these intact forests will help prevent encroachment by outsiders and give communities legal recourse against the threats.

The status of the newly titled territories will enable Indigenous people to freely maintain their traditional livelihoods in sustainable ways. Some of the communities are adjacent to other national protected areas, increasing the impact of protections across larger areas. At least 12 communities will be seeking to gain legal recognition of their lands as Private Conservation Areas in addition to designation as Indigenous territories, thus providing an extra level of protection against conversion of the forests.



500,000
ACRES

\$2,439,170
PROJECT COST

\$4.88
COST PER ACRE

121,309,442 mT
CO₂ EQUIVALENTS
STORED

KEY SPECIES:

Sira Curassow (CR),
Giant Otter (EN), Black-faced
Black Spider Monkey (EN),
White-lipped Peccary (VU),
Giant Armadillo (VU), Harpy Eagle
(VU), Goeldi's Monkey, (VU)
Common Woolly Monkey (VU),
Giant Anteater (VU), Amazonian
Manatee (VU), Yellow-spotted
River Turtle (VU),
Grey Tinamou (VU)



SAVE RAINFORESTS AND RARE SPECIES IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

The proposed areas to be titled have a very diverse flora and fauna with an estimated 520 species living within the territories. While the community lands have not yet been fully cataloged, these forests are known to harbor threatened amphibians. The areas also support 11 threatened bird species, including the Critically Endangered Sira Curassow and Vulnerable Harpy Eagle.

Endangered mammal species living within the project landscapes include White-bellied Spider Monkey, Black-faced Black Spider Monkey, Peruvian Woolly Monkey, Giant Otter, Lesser Yellow-shouldered Bat and Rosalinda's Oldfield Mouse. Vulnerable mammals include Northern Tiger Cat, Giant Armadillo, Dwarf Red Brocket and White-lipped Peccary. More than 2,500 flora species have been identified.

Each Indigenous community will work in collaboration with the forestry authority to certify their own legally recognized forest custodians who will patrol, monitor and report on illegal activities using technology and deforestation alert systems. Facilitating Indigenous communities' access to both legal and technical instruments is a critical tool for the defense of these forests.



The landscape of the Ucayali River in Ucayali Peru © Christian Inga

