

ANDES AMAZON FUND

safeguarding the most diverse landscapes on earth



From the Andes mountains to the lowland Amazon, we support durable locally-led conservation efforts in Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Suriname, Guyana, and Brazil through the designation and effective management of protected areas and Indigenous lands.



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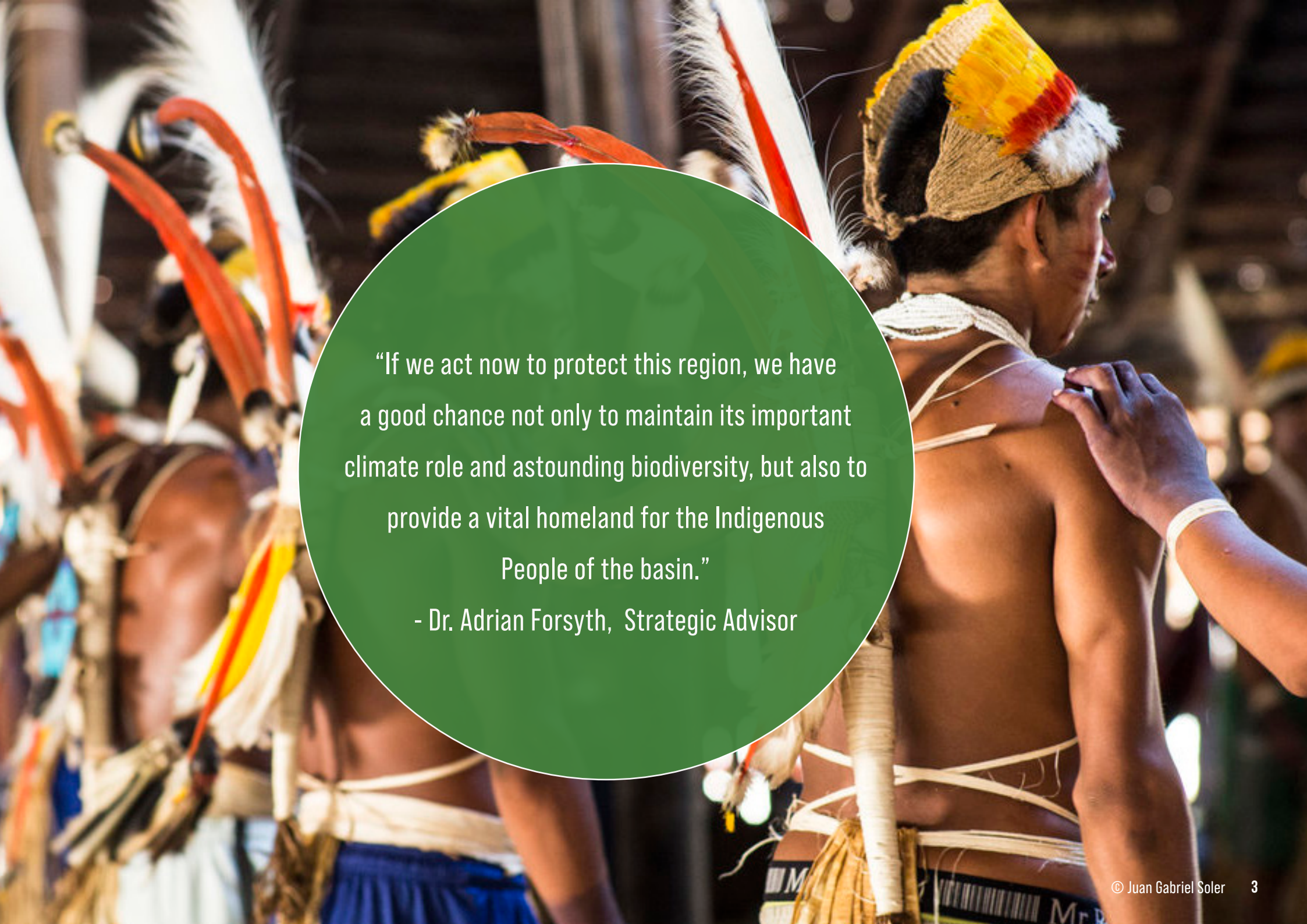
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HIGHLIGHTS

A photograph of several Indigenous people, likely from the Amazon basin, wearing traditional headdresses made of feathers and palm fronds. They are dressed in traditional attire, including beaded necklaces and waistbands. The image is partially obscured by a large green circular overlay containing text.

“If we act now to protect this region, we have a good chance not only to maintain its important climate role and astounding biodiversity, but also to provide a vital homeland for the Indigenous People of the basin.”

- Dr. Adrian Forsyth, Strategic Advisor

ABOUT US

Since 2014, Andes Amazon Fund (AAF) has worked with local partners to conserve the biodiversity, ecosystems, and environmental integrity of the Andes and Amazon.

We have helped establish over 50 million acres (20.2 million ha) of new protected areas and Indigenous lands so that local cultures and nature can flourish.

Andes Amazon Fund is committed to making sure no area becomes a “paper park.” We have invested in establishing effective management practices in 200 protected areas and Indigenous lands covering more than 130 million acres (52 million ha) to date, while also connecting these areas to longer term financing options where possible.

Satellite monitoring has shown that AAF-supported areas have deforestation rates averaging 25.5% lower than other protected areas in the region (MAAP 2024).



Our grantmaking focuses on two strategies:



Establish new, legally-recognized protected areas and Indigenous lands.



Ensure effective management systems are in place for the newly designated areas and identify longer-term financing options for their protection.



OUR GRANTEES

We achieve our goals by awarding grants to 45+ non-profit organizations that support the technical and outreach work to formally protect key sites. To date, our grantees have been working in Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Brazil, Guyana, and Suriname.



IMPACT: 50 MILLION ACRES WITH NEW LEGAL PROTECTION

50,035,709 acres (20.2 million ha) conserved with support from Andes Amazon Fund (2014-2025)



1.4 MILLION ACRES IN BRAZIL
Protection of tallest trees in the Amazon Rainforest



8.9 MILLION ACRES IN COLOMBIA

Including 4.5 million acres of Indigenous Reserves and 4.3 Million acres protected as National Parks



9.4 MILLION ACRES IN ECUADOR

New protections added to over 14% of the country's territory



13.1 MILLION ACRES IN PERU

109 total areas conserved



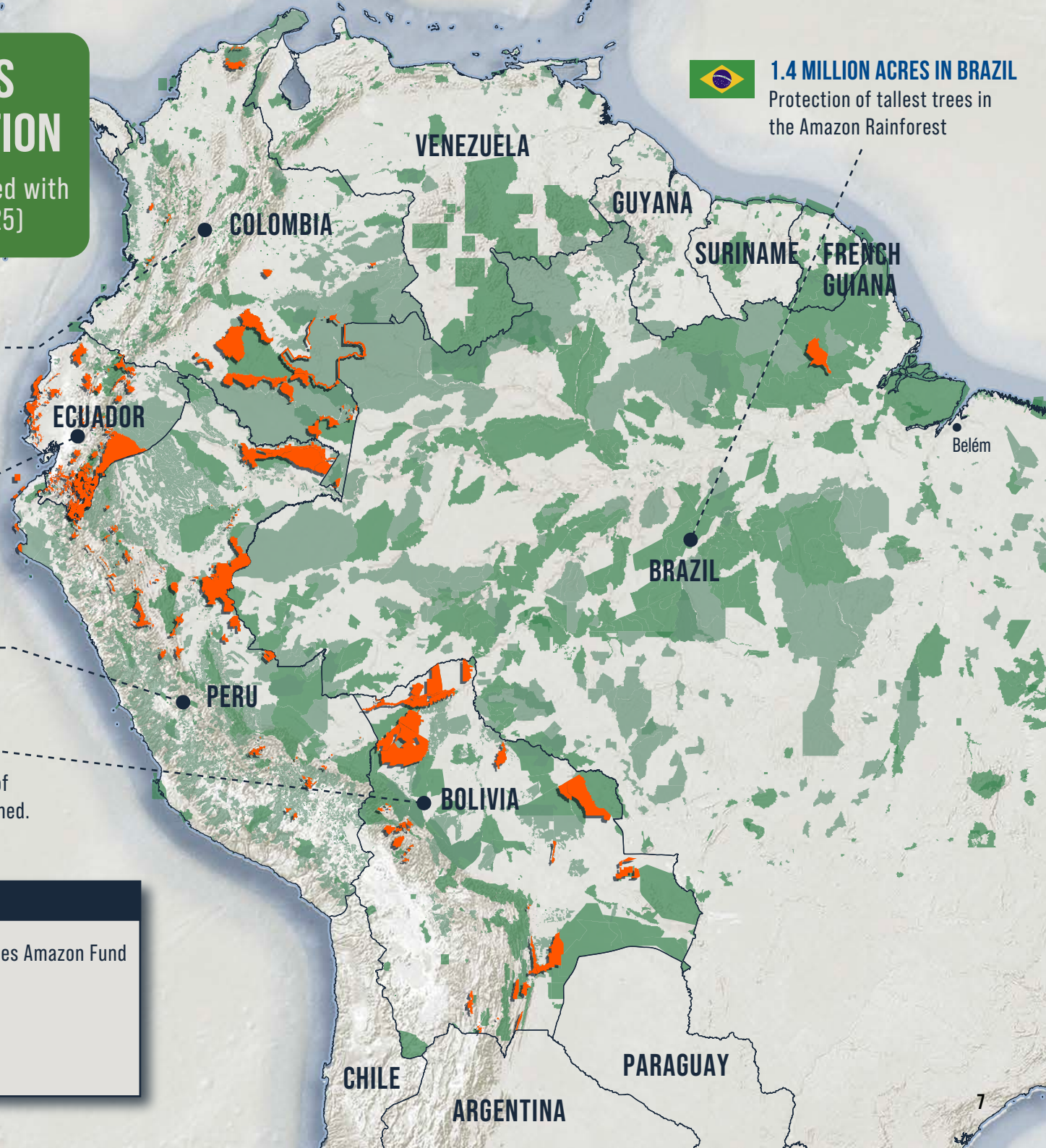
17.3 MILLION ACRES IN BOLIVIA

17.3 million acres is about the size of the Netherlands and Belgium combined.

LEGEND



- Areas conserved with support from Andes Amazon Fund
- Indigenous Areas
- Existing Protected Areas
- Borders



IMPACT - RESULTS TO DATE (2014-2025)

185

PROTECTED AREAS ESTABLISHED

43,163,023 acres (17.5m ha)

111

Regional / Municipal Conservation Areas

30,111,498 acres

57

Community-based Conservation Areas

1,402,939 acres

17

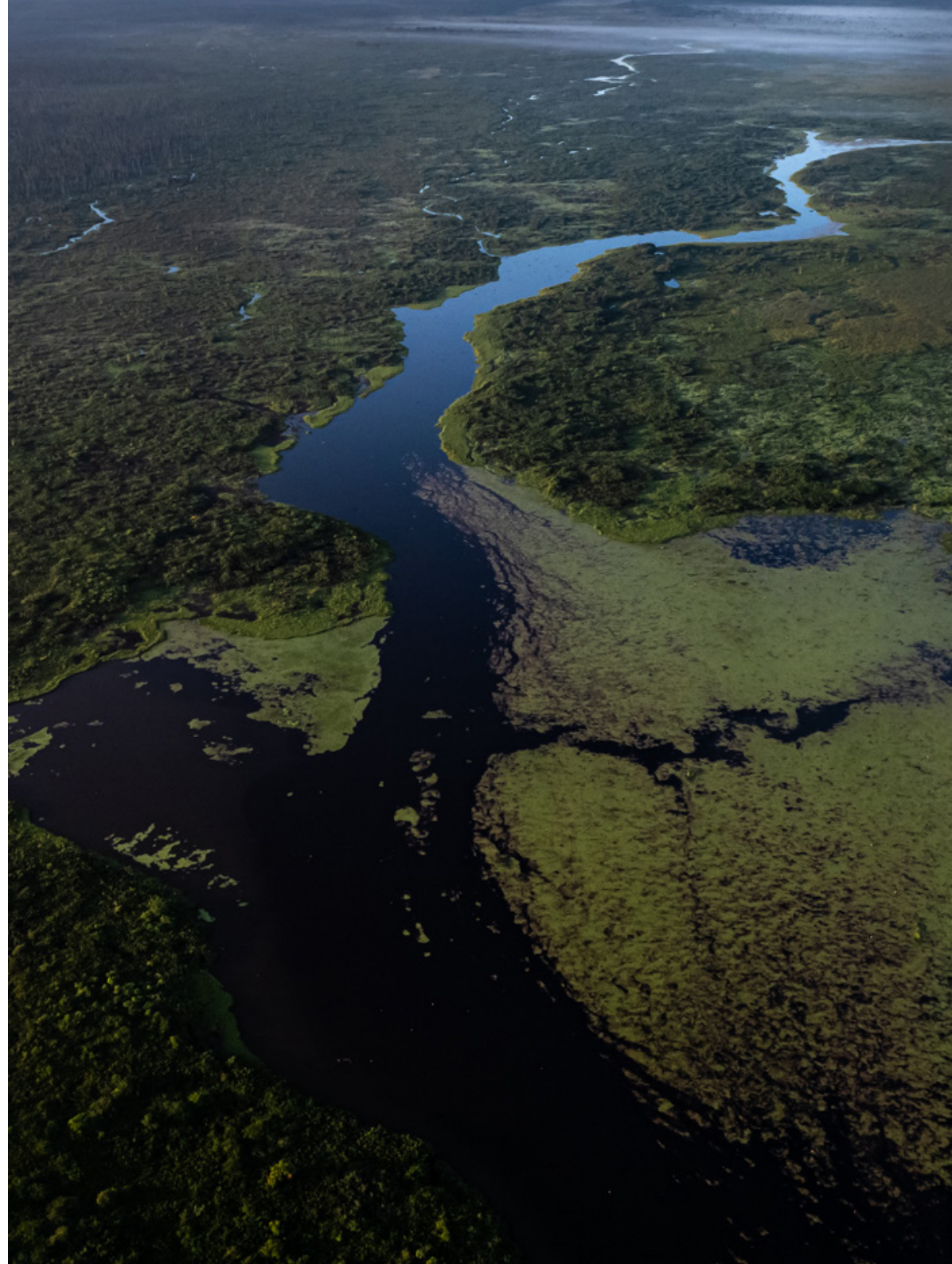
Nationally Protected Areas

11,648,587 acres



ACRES WITH IMPROVED MANAGEMENT

129,704,063 acres (52m ha)



IMPACT - RESULTS TO DATE (2014-2025)

52

INDIGENOUS LANDS SECURED

6,872,685 acres (2.8m ha)

- 28 Titled Indigenous Communities (Peru)
- 20 *Resguardos* (Colombia)
- 2 *Reservas Indígenas* to Protect Indigenous Peoples in Isolation (Peru)
- 1 Territory to Protect Indigenous Peoples in Isolation (Colombia)
- 1 Titled Communal Indigenous Territory (Bolivia)



OUR TEAM



Megan MacDowell
Executive Director



Enrique Ortiz
Senior Program Director



Adrian Forsyth
Strategic Advisor



Margarita Muller
Peru Manager



Judah Marsden
Communications
Coordinator



Peter Oesterling
Program Officer



Marcelo Guevara
Program Officer



Carla Mere Roncal
Conservation Technology
Program Manager



Halle Catalina Brown
Program Associate

Turning our mission into action

We see a clear path to a strong, healthy future for the lands we protect. Our team of devoted experts works hand-in-hand with our partner organizations, Indigenous peoples, and other local communities to advance AAF's vision of a planet where nature and local communities can flourish.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



CHIRIBIQUETE

National Park - expansion



3,673,656 acres

Guaviare & Caquetá,
Colombia



Now one of the largest national parks in South America, Chiribiquete protects 10.5 million acres of Amazonian rainforest in southern Colombia. Largely unexplored, Chiribiquete's landscape appears almost otherworldly with massive *tepuy*s—table-top mountains—and domes protruding from dense rainforest. These rock formations are estimated to be 2 billion years old. Aside from their geological significance, the *tepuy*s are thought to have been sacred religious sites for Indigenous Peoples. One of the highest rates of plant diversity in the northern Amazon can be found within the park's lowland rainforest.

Andes Amazon Fund supported the Colombian National Park Service with a \$1 million contribution for the management of Chiribiquete and is working with the local organization FCDS to monitor and address deforestation in the surrounding areas.

Grantee: Fundación para la Conservación y el Desarrollo Sostenible - FCDS,
Patrimonio Natural



YAVARÍ TAPICHE

Indigenous Reserve



2.7 million acres

Loreto, Peru



Indigenous Reserves are designated by the Peruvian government for the protection of Indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation and initial contact. These groups are characterized by their immunological and cultural vulnerability, and the vast 2.7 million acre Yavarí Tapiche Indigenous Reserve provides strict protection for one of the most pristine and vulnerable regions of the Amazon in both biological and cultural terms.

Andes Amazon Fund is collaborating with the Ministry of Culture of Peru to support the Indigenous Reserve's initial protection from the threat of illegal activities. Strategies range from supporting fly-over monitoring, raising awareness in surrounding communities, and establishing and equipping control posts staffed by protection agents.

Grantees: Centro para el Desarrollo del Indígena Amazónico - CEDIA,
Centro de Conservación, Investigación y Manejo de Areas Naturales - CIMA



BAJO PARAGUÁ

Municipal Conservation Areas



2,810,513 acres

Santa Cruz, Bolivia



The Bajo Paraguá Municipal Protected Area in San Ignacio spans a massive 2,429,061 acres of Chiquitano and Amazonian forest. Located to the northwest of this area, the Bajo Paraguá-Concepción Municipal Conservation Area protects an adjacent 381,452 acres of Amazonian, Chiquitano and floodplain forests.

The creation of the Bajo Paraguá areas secures a connectivity corridor that spans over 10 million acres. These protected areas form an important barrier in the fight against deforestation in the Chiquitano ecosystem, which saw a loss of 10% of its tree cover in less than two decades and has been severely impacted by fires in recent years.

Andes Amazon Fund partnered with grantee Fundación Natura Bolivia to organize fire prevention workshops and trainings for local communities within and surrounding the area. Fire gear and safety supplies were distributed and a community monitoring mechanism was developed for the conservation of forests and biodiversity.

Grantee: Fundación Natura Bolivia



Área Protegida Municipal de Bajo Paragá de San Ignacio de Velasco

Ley autonómica Municipal N° 469/2021
Superficie: 983.006 ha

Conservando la diversidad biológica y cultural en los bosques amazónicos y chiquitanos

APMBAJO PARAGÁ

RESEARCH FOR RESILIENCY

In Andean Amazonian Protected Areas

Among the ecosystems most profoundly impacted by global temperature increases are tropical mountains. Their steep altitudinal ranges and climatic variability create unique microhabitats that host a remarkable diversity of life. However, as the Earth warms, changing temperatures are driving shifts in biodiversity, with some species moving upslope while others disappear altogether.

Our Research for Resiliency initiative focuses on measuring and monitoring present and projected biodiversity patterns in the tropical Andes to pinpoint potential local and regional climate refugia and to determine best methods for monitoring and managing protected areas as the climate changes. We employ a suite of conservation technologies, from DNA barcoding to passive acoustic monitoring, to track biodiversity patterns along elevation gradients. This approach aims to identify the most effective technologies and methodologies to inform conservation efforts and enhance resilience.



BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CONSERVATION

Andes Amazon Fund (AAF) is committed to building the capacity of local NGOs to continue to support local protected areas in their regions. To date, our Institutional Strengthening Program involves 12 grantee organizations from Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia who are sharing strategies to improve their internal operations, fundraising, and conservation impact.

In 2025, AAF launched a program to strengthen Peru's 36 Regional Conservation Areas by providing training in use of conservation technologies, wildfire control and prevention, and long term financial sustainability mechanisms. In 2026 AAF will offer a small grants program for equipment and local sustainable livelihood projects for Regional Conservation Area managers.





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