

RAINFOREST REVIEW



CHILE: Expansion of the Nasampulli Reserve

SURINAME: Mapping a new future for the Wayana

COLOMBIA: Creating the new Pangan-Awa Corridor

ECUADOR: Watershed project exceeds targets



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SPRING 2006

Costa Rica
Coastal forest and turtle conservation

Panama
Turtle conservation

Ecuador
Choco-Andean Corridor project

Ecuador
Lowland tropical forest on the Rio Napo

Sri Lanka
Protection for the Sinharaja Reserve buffer zone

Suriname
Mapping a new future for the Wayana

Colombia
Creating the new Pangan-Awa Corridor

Brazil
Assistance for the Yawanawa to protect their land

Peru
Threatened high-altitude forest of Peru

Chile
Araucaria forest of Southern Chile

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When do we start to realise the true value of what we are losing?

As if you needed reminding, 2005 was a year devastated by natural disasters. First the tsunami in the Indian Ocean, then hurricane Katrina that devastated New Orleans and finally the earthquake in Pakistan and its terrible consequences, which are still being felt. However the first of these three may not be as natural as one might think. I for one do not believe that it is mere coincidence that the increased frequency of hurricanes and violent storms are occurring at the same time that glaciers are retreating and polar ice caps are melting. At long last even Blair's environmental advisor, Professor David King, is saying that global warming is much more serious than the experts had thought possible.

It is widely accepted that a major contributing factor to global warming is the removal of our forests and it is depressing to have to say that the destruction of the rainforests continues unabated. New technology has shown that the removal of rainforests in Brazil is almost twice that previously thought, this being largely driven by the determination to satisfy China's ravenous demand for soya. Japan and South Korea's requirements for timber and land to plant palm oil are now beginning to effect countries like Papua New Guinea and the Guyanas which until very recently possessed largely intact forests.

I'd like to provide you with a few surprising statistics. Tropical rainforests cover less than six per cent of the Earth's surface but support more than half its animal life and two thirds of its flowering plants. Believe it or not, 99 per cent of flowering plants have never been tested for their medicinal properties even though we know they are rich in potentially useful compounds. Almost a quarter of all medicines are derived from just 40 plants, with a further 15 per cent coming from animals or micro-organisms. Perhaps even harder to accept, but as much as 97 per cent of the world's plant and animal species still await discovery and just one per cent of the organisms that have ever been identified are poorly researched. The sad reality is that we are destroying much of this vast reservoir of knowledge before we even know it exists!

These stark facts demonstrate how vitally important it is to protect what little is left of the rainforests whilst we still can. With this firmly in mind Rainforest Concern continues to pursue its objectives with considerable success. During 2005, we joined forces with the Colombian organisation ProAves and purchased the first area in a proposed corridor between Pangan reserve and Awa reserve in Tulcan Province - this will eventually link up with the Choco-Andean Corridor in Ecuador which we have been building for 11 years. With Netherlands WWF, we co-funded the production of a land use map for the Wayana indians of Suriname, which will make it much easier to defend their 4.5 million acres of forest and its staggering biodiversity. Earlier in the year we purchased two important parcels of araucaria forest for our partners Parques Para Chile and AIFBN in southern Chile. We also exceeded our targets for community participation and watershed protection in the Intag region of Ecuador.

We have no time to waste, but as a small organisation we rely totally on your continued support and for this we are always extremely grateful.

Peter Bennett
Director, Rainforest Concern

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Rainforest Concern is grateful to British Airways for their ongoing support



More than 600 hectares of new watershed forest reserves created



In 2001 Rainforest Concern and DECOIN set out the bold target of creating a network of Watershed Forest Reserves in the Intag region of Ecuador. Our aim was to create 20 reserves covering 300 hectares and involving a significant degree of habitat reconstruction on cleared areas.

With substantial help of the communications company O₂, the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation and two anonymous donors, we are pleased to report that we significantly exceeded many of our targets. As the project comes to the end of its planned cycle on 1st February 2006, we can report that 26 new Community Watershed Forest Reserves have been created occupying an area of more than 600 hectares. More than 20,000 native trees have now been planted on deforested watershed areas with a tree survival rate of more than 80%.

Mining threat at Junin

In previous Rainforest Reviews we have reported on the potential threat that mining could pose in western Ecuador. Sadly, a large open cast mine is now a real possibility in the primary forest of the Toisin Range, close to Junin. If the mine goes ahead it would mean the destruction of thousands of acres of primary forest.

Communities in the area are overwhelmingly against a mine as they fully understand the huge negative environmental and social impacts it

As a direct result of this project, the participating communities and many of their neighbours fully appreciate the importance of protecting the rainforests that surround their farmlands. This can be clearly seen by the efforts local people themselves have put into making this project a success. As well as providing some of the funds to secure community title to watershed land, they have carried out the whole reforestation process and weeding that follows.

There are a great many more communities who want to join the Watershed Project, many of whom live adjacent to Ecuador's largest ecological reserve, the Cotacachi-Cayapas. Joining our new Rainforest4Climate programme is one way in which you can help us to keep this momentum going and further expand the network of watershed forest reserves.

would have. The Mayor of Cotacachi supports this opposition which according to Ecuadorian law, should be sufficient to stop the project. However, it is looking more and more likely that the Toronto listed Ascendant Copper Corporation is going to find a way to push through its plans to devastate the rainforest that covers this area. If Ascendant get their way then they will destroy a substantial area of pristine rainforest in the world's most diverse ecosystem.

Rainforest Concern at the Royal Geographical Society

On 16th November last year, one of our trustees Hylton Murray-Philipson, gave a fundraising lecture at the Royal Geographical Society on Rainforest Concern's project in Brazil to protect the Yawanawa people and their ancestral forests. It was extremely well attended, with over 500 people coming to the event.

Hylton highlighted how the Yawanawa have regained their culture and identity from the dark days of indoctrination by zealous missionaries; how their numbers have rebounded; and how they are struggling to expand their territory. He also discussed some of the larger threats facing the Amazon region, in particular, the loss of forest to make way for vast soya farms and cattle ranches. He also spoke of the threat posed by Brazil's determination to open up the Amazon basin with its programme of road building, illustrating how once a road is built deforestation follows relentlessly.

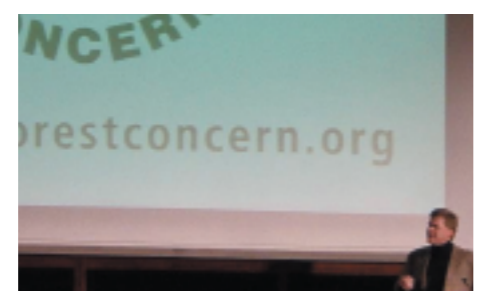


photo: TERRY NORTHWOOD

The talk was introduced by Dr John Hemming, the eminent anthropologist, expert on Brazil's indigenous tribes and advisor to Rainforest Concern. Also by Ray Mears (pictured above), who has become widely known as an expert on survival techniques and has had several hugely popular television series.

You may read Hylton's article on the progress made with the Yawanawa project on pages 14 and 15.

An opportunity to visit our projects



photo: RAINFOREST CONCERN

The Rio Napo, Amazonian Ecuador

The travel company Aqua-Firma, in partnership with Rainforest Concern, has created a two week trip that gives you the chance to visit our projects in Ecuador and those of some of our partners.

This 'conservation in action' journey begins on the Pacific Coast before ascending to the cloud forests for a behind the scenes look at some of our most inspirational projects in the Southern Phase of the Choco-Andean Rainforest Corridor. These include Santa Lucia, the Watershed Project, our new Rainforest4Climate programme and some of our latest land purchases close to the Cotacachi-Cayapas Reserve. The final phase of the journey is a choice of ecotourism experiences in the Amazon including a specially arranged visit to Funedesin's new conservation and education projects on the Rio Napo.

Leaders on this trip include one of Ecuador's foremost birding guides and project leaders from Jatun Sacha, DECOIN and Rainforest Concern. The trip contributes directly to our work and those of our partners and includes the sponsorship of 3 acres towards our Rainforest4Climate programme.



For more information about the trip please refer to Aqua-Firma's website at www.aqua-firma.co.uk or call them on 0870 766 0864. Dates for the trip are 22nd July - 5th August 2006.

Rainforest4Climate

by Ralph Pannell

Climate Change is happening ... and it is because we are all burning too much coal, gas and oil, and consuming products such as beef, soya and vegetable oils that are grown in fields created by burning tropical forests. When we drive our cars, heat our homes, switch on the kettle or take a flight, the burning of fossil fuels causes the emission of carbon dioxide - a gas that prevents heat from escaping from our planet. This is the process called the Greenhouse Effect.

The average British person is responsible for emissions of 11 tonnes of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide each year.

This figure excludes the carbon dioxide emissions our patterns of consumption cause overseas.

The Problem

The United Nation's International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicts that global temperatures will increase by between 1.4°C and 5.8°C by 2100, based upon current trends in our output of global greenhouse gases.

20 to 30% of the annual greenhouse gas emissions are caused by the burning of tropical forests

Not only does this represent a huge threat to our planet's climate, but it means that some of the world's most diverse ecosystems and the dependent species are being lost forever.

Local climate change through deforestation can be much more rapid than the global impacts. For example, it can lead to a significant reduction in rainfall, which means that remaining parcels of forest become fragmented and certain species become locally extinct. One victim of this climate change was almost certainly the Golden Toad. Its last known habitat was the Monteverde Reserve in Costa Rica, but as forests around the reserve were cut and burned, this beautiful creature disappeared.



Rainforest Concern's solutions

Each one of us has the responsibility to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases we produce. Our new initiative, Rainforest4Climate is designed to encourage more and more people to do just this. Where you are unable to eliminate emissions, we can offset your carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in a way that also protects the biodiversity of our planet. We do this in two ways:

1. **Carbon Conservation - by preventing vulnerable rainforests from being cut and burned.**
2. **Carbon Sequestration - by re-establishing rainforest on deforested land.**

Local Climate Change & Water Conservation

Our most important Rainforest4Climate project is our Community Watershed Reserves project in Ecuador. This project has been running for more than three years now and as you may have read, it involves creating a network of community owned watershed forest reserves in the cloud forests of north west Ecuador. Our Rainforest4Climate project secures legal title of watershed land for communities as a whole. The communities themselves establish within the title deeds of the reserve that plants and wildlife are left alone. Where parts of a watershed reserve have already been cut, we provide native tree saplings and guide communities in how to re-establish natural forest habitat. These growing trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere that will have been put there, in part, by our daily activities. This is the process referred to as carbon sequestration.

What does it cost?

We have calculated that it costs us £6.82 to conserve and sequester each tonne of CO₂, which means that it costs £75 to offset the average British person's CO₂ emissions.

If you are seeking to offset the impact of flying to a holiday destination, then we recommend £5 for every flight within Europe, £10 for a flight to North America or the Caribbean, and £15 for longer distances.

We urge you to do whatever you can to reduce your Greenhouse Gas emissions. We also urge you to offset your annual CO₂ emissions with us and in so doing preserve some of the most biodiverse habitat on our planet and secure clean drinking water for communities in north western Ecuador.

For a Rainforest4Climate donation form, please call us on 020 72292093, refer to our website, www.rainforestconcern.org, or send an email to climate@rainforestconcern.org.

London Marathon 2005

We started off with a record nine runners in the London Marathon last year though, unfortunately, two supporters had to drop out due to injury whilst training. Our seven survivors did exceptionally well and we thank everyone who took part and worked so hard, both running the gruelling 26.2 miles and raising over £11,400 to protect 456 acres of forest. Well done! Last year's rainforest champion was Jon Cassidy, with a very impressive time of 3 hours and 55 minutes, and our other team members, Chris Bartlett, Alan Simeoni, Tom Verrall, Paul Clifford, Ben Fredriksen and Gillian Smith all completed the race with flying colours. 2004's record still stands, held by Rainforest Concern's Ralph Pannell. The prize for the most visually dramatic participant goes to Alan Simeoni who shaved half his head to demonstrate the contrast between rainforest and deforestation. A fantastic effort!



Alan Simeoni illustrating deforestation!

Training for this year's event is well underway, and you can sponsor our runners online through www.justgiving.com, or phone us for further details on how you can support them on the big day. Alternatively, if you want to get fighting fit for a good cause, or simply like a challenge and are ready to join the race to save rainforest, we still have places for the 2006 marathon and would welcome you joining our team. If you already have your place through the ballot system, have you considered using it to run for Rainforest Concern? Please telephone Kirsten Smith on 020 7229 2093 as soon as possible for more information.



CHILE

population: **13.3 million**
capital: **Santiago**

total land area: **74,880,000 ha**
primary forest 2005: **4,142,000 ha (5.53% of land)**



CHILE

Another year of progress at Namoncahue

by Karl Yunis, Director Parques Para Chile

You may remember that last year Rainforest Concern had a special campaign to purchase the Mora parcel. As a result of the fantastic support of the Planet Foundation and a neighbouring land owner we were successful in this objective. The balance of the required funding came from the fundraising campaign. The araucaria trees have stood on Mora for at least 150 million years and, thanks to you, they should continue to remain there for future generations!

Valdivian temperate rainforest is widely recognised as a globally important "biodiversity hotspot" (e.g by Conservation International, and WWF Global 200). Forest clearing for farmland has reduced and fragmented lowland forests in the IX and X Regions of Chile. 80% of what remains of the Valdivian forest, including remnant stands of Araucaria (*Araucaria araucana*), is found at altitudes in excess of 1000m. It is for this reason that Parques para Chile has recently highlighted the strategic biological importance of the remaining tracts of lower altitude forest in the Araucarian Lake District.

To date, such land falls outside the National Protected Areas, being largely private mixed farm and forested land. These lowland habitats represent an important habitat connector, since these areas are a transition zone between the intensively deforested lowlands of the central valley, and the protected higher altitude forests of the Andean pre-cordillera. The zone provides important winter refuge for many endemic avian and mammal species of the Valdivian Temperate Rainforest, which, due to human disturbance, has become a severely fragmented biome. The concern is that the existing protected areas do not offer sufficient protection to much of the endemic fauna, because most of the land surface areas of existing protected areas are above the winter snow-line.

Seasonal altitudinal migrations into this transition zone exacerbate the threats posed by human activities - forestry operations, livestock herding, roads etc. The ongoing fragmentation of this transition zone habitat represents a real threat to



These forests are prime habitat for the puma

faunal diversity on a wide scale. The absence of solid science to underpin the creation of new protected areas inhibits the implementation of a regional or local biodiversity conservation strategy. The collection of data on species abundance, distribution and movement is an urgent priority to evaluate the strategic importance of specific forest remnants threatened by development, such as road building, or timber extraction.



A corrie lake surrounded by araucaria trees

Parques para Chile, and their local partner the national parks authority, CONAF, have created a public-private alliance which will underpin their work to support the National Biodiversity Strategy (Plan de Acción de País para la Implementación de la Estrategia Nacional de Biodiversidad) in the Valdivian forest ecoregion of Chile. The partnership aims at the establishing public-private partnerships for conservation through the creation of biological corridors. These corridors greatly enhance the chances of persistence of protected areas and improve the effectiveness of existing public protected areas in the conservation of endemic biodiversity by joining these lands to lower elevation private protected areas.

With the support of Rainforest Concern, the Namoncahue Biological Corridor has continued to develop and grow. However, human-induced disturbances continue to remind project planners that every protected area needs to establish adequate protection for endemic biodiversity within the boundaries of its protected areas. Parques para Chile seeks to establish long-term protection of crucial winter habitat for several endangered species of fauna and flora. The risk of human-induced fire and related cattle grazing disturbances in marginal sites, old-growth logging and habitat fragmentation, slope failure and erosion are some of the main threats to the Namoncahue Biological Corridor. These threats are heightened due to the interest of the Chilean Road Ministry in building a permanent road, which would fragment native habitat at the heart of the biological corridor.



Deforestation near Namoncahue

Parques para Chile sees the creation of proper protection of native habitat, hydrological systems and water resources, preservation of pristine native habitat, and restoration of damaged sites in need of native forest regeneration as their main project mission. Recently signed concessions on public land created between the National Tourism Ministry (SERNATUR), The Chilean National Park Corporation (CONAF), and Parques para Chile have opened up several new possibilities for project development. Community education, job creation and capacity building for sustainable development are at the centre of this public-private alliance. Parques para Chile is "cessionario" with The Villarrica National Reserve, Sector Panqui of the Cani Mountain Range, The Huerquehue National Park, and the Villarrica National Reserve, sector Quilembre and Quelhue of the Namoncahue Biological Corridor. These ecotourism related projects are aimed at establishing large infrastructure outside of Public Protected Areas, while fostering development of sustainable businesses within privately owned buffer zones around National Parks and Reserves.

In another area of development, Parques para Chile has initiated formal meetings with one of Chile's largest forestry companies, in order to plan a landscape-level reforestation programme for the corridor. This initiative will measure forest biomass at the landscape level with specialised airborne remote sensors. Imagery will then be used to develop computer-generated 3D models of vegetation in order to determine areas that, if reforested, would serve as the most efficient habitat connectors in areas suffering from severe erosion and slope failure.

We are very grateful to Rainforest Concern for their ongoing support.

photos: RAINFOREST CONCERN

Expansion of the Nasampulli Reserve

by Cristian Echeverria, PhD, Universidad Austral de Valdivia

Over the past year, with the support of Rainforest Concern, important progress has been made in the Nasampulli Reserve Project. This work is focused on the conservation of Monkey-puzzle (*Araucaria, Araucaria araucana*) forests in the Andes Range of Chile. The Nasampulli Reserve is located at approximately 39°01' S and 71°38' W, north of the Caburga Lake, and contains continuous areas of pristine Araucaria forests that create a unique landscape in the region. Nasampulli is located near the edge of deforested areas, which go from the central depression to the Andes Range. In addition, it is close to the Villarrica National Reserve, which is managed by CONAF (the Chilean National Forest Service). The goal of the project is to conserve approximately 1,010 hectares of native forests that contain Araucaria trees. These forests are currently divided into seven parcels that are being purchased in stages. The original piece of land of 160.4 hectares was purchased by the Fitzroya Society, a group composed mainly by Chilean professionals that acquired this property for conservation purposes.



Cristian Echeverria, Antonio Lara, Martin Gardner and John Denham at Nasampulli

photo: RAINFOREST CONCERN

Since 2003, three additional purchases of land were undertaken with the support of Rainforest Concern. An area of 161.5 hectares of monkey puzzle forest was acquired in December 2003 (parcel 1), located to the south of a protected area owned by the Fitzroya Society. In February 2005, Nasampulli was expanded by 150 hectares (parcel 2), increasing the protection of monkey puzzle forests. A third parcel of 166 hectares has also now been purchased with the support of Rainforest Concern, bringing the total Nasampulli area to 639 hectares, made up of large tracts of monkey puzzle forests.



Villarica volcano in mid winter



Riding is the perfect form of transport in the reserve

Additional to the purchases of the parcels, diverse field activities have been conducted in the Reserve. Recently, a 1.4 km trail was built to connect the three parcels purchased by Rainforest Concern, which enables access to different sectors in the reserve. The location of a new lookout point facing south was then identified in the second parcel, purchased in February 2005. The current trail facing north was built by Fitzroya Society and enables a view to the northern part of the Reserve. Over the last year, the geographical coordinates and boundaries of the parcels were revised in the field in order to check the size of the properties to be purchased and location of current fences. Additionally, we have been conducting

photo: RAINFOREST CONCERN

conversations with some of the neighbours to formalise a permanent access to the Reserve. We have also been in discussions with representatives of CONAF in order to join efforts in the conservation of the species. One of the main collaborative works is to develop integrated conservation plans between the network of protected areas managed by CONAF and the Nasampulli Reserve. In particular, the geographic location of Nasampulli would enable the protected areas to be expanded.

The continuous support of Rainforest Concern has been essential to carry out this initiative for the conservation of monkey puzzle in the Andes Range of Chile and, in particular, the help of the lawyers Alberto Pulido and Macarena Montero has been crucial.



The Magellanic woodpecker is the largest of its species in the world

photo: KARL YUNIS

photo: CRISTIAN ECHEVERRIA



SURINAME

population: 0.5 million
capital: Paramaribo

total land area: 15,600,000 ha
primary forest 2005: 14,776,000 ha (91.12% of land)



SURINAME

Mapping a new future for the Wayana in Suriname

by Mark J. Plotkin, PhD, Director Amazon Conservation Team

With the backing of Rainforest Concern and the World Wildlife Fund, the Amazon Conservation Team (ACT) has just completed a series of ethnographic maps for the traditional lands of the Wayana indigenous people of southernmost Suriname, in full collaboration with both the tribe itself and the cartographic arm of the Surinamese government. Covering approximately 4.5 million acres, the maps will be used by the Amerindians for legal, educational, and conservation purposes, while ACT and its indigenous partners will be using the maps as a baseline for conservation and land use management of the region.

The lowland tropical forests of the Surinamese interior are some of the most biodiverse, intact tropical forests in the world. Home to tribes of Carib-speaking Amerindians and Maroons, approximately 950 Wayana tribespeople live in the relatively pristine tropical forests of the Guiana Shield. There are 600 residing within the borders of Suriname north of the Tumucumaque mountain range with the remainder in Brazil and French Guiana. Although first contact was made in the mid 18th century and Christian missionaries have made significant inroads since that time, the cultural integrity of the group is relatively undisturbed. However, the gold mining that has

ravaged the rivers, streams, and forests further north has found its way to Wayana traditional lands. While the effects are as yet minimal, the cultural and ecological consequences of an expanding industry would be devastating.

In May 2003, the Amazon Conservation Team signed a memorandum of understanding with the Wayana that detailed a strategy for helping protect the ecological and cultural integrity of the Wayana traditional lands. The Wayana had participated in an ACT-lead initiative to produce a collaborative ethnographic map of neighbouring indian traditional lands, home to the Trio tribe, to the west of the Wayana. The integrative process of creating the map, the intensity of cultural pride that the map brought to the Trio, and the potential of using the map to protect their lands left such an impression on the Wayana peoples that they decided to embark on a similar path.

Prior to this effort, ACT had perfected a methodology that now has mapped, managed, and protected 27 million acres of tropical forest in the territories of 25 tribal people. Such a methodology involves three community-wide workshops, intense fieldwork between workshops, and final production. A map in the ACT sense is "cultural DNA" that inscribes a tangible blueprint of cultural and ecological data that has until now been held only in the minds of



Wayana chief Aptoeh Noewahe displays map of his tribe's traditional land

photos: AMAZON CONSERVATION TEAM

people. It is important to observe that aside from the technical details of data input, computer drafting and printing, ACT itself does not "make" the map, rather, we provide the training and materials for the tribes to do so. As such, the process helps revitalise culture and builds local capacity.

By working closely with government cartographers, the map becomes a legal document with the power to help resist intrusion. The mapping process sets in motion significant discussions concerning resource use, reserve boundaries and the monitoring of those boundaries against logging and mining incursions.

To begin the project, the first preparatory mapping workshop was held in Apetina village (the "capital" of Wayana lands) in November 2004. Here, the Wayana researchers, chosen by their communities, received fieldwork training from both staff at ACT and the Suriname Government's Central Bureau for Aerial Mapping (CBL). Topics included written record-keeping, rudimentary drawing in the field, and how to interview and fill out basic questionnaires. Practice sessions were held, and elementary research and mapmaking was conducted. The researchers were each provided with a basic field kit including mapping paper, tubes, field notebooks, coloured writing utensils, and a questionnaire. The workshop was followed by approximately three weeks of intensive topographical, cultural, and demographic information-gathering around the main Wayana communities by the indigenous researchers.

The second workshop was held in the Surinamese capital of Paramaribo in December 2004, with the objective of drafting a first map from the field data, collected by eight indigenous cartographers. Fieldwork results were compared with the rudimentary maps from the first workshop, and adjustments and corrections were made. The names as they appeared on the questionnaire were compared to various local maps to establish their exact location and to help interpret the symbols used.

The third workshop was held in Apetina village in January and February 2005, with the objective of presenting the draft map to the community representatives and verifying the information presented. In addition, decisions were made on the use and format of legends and other cartographic information. Participants were community representatives (elders), the chief or Granman of the Wayana, and mapping researchers from Apetina, Kwamalasamutu, and Tepü. The transfer of information from the local maps to the base map was largely facilitated by the participation of the indigenous community leaders and elders.

In April, the CBL mapping researchers, the ACT GIS specialist and the tribal mapping groups were flown into Kwamalasamutu in order to exchange experiences. Here, the paramount chief of the Trios, Granman Asongo, stated the need for a collective map of all Trio and Wayana lands in southern Suriname. ACT provided technical assistance toward the digitisation of the final ethnographic map of the Wayana traditional lands, a first draft of which was produced at the end of May. The joint ACT-CBL cartographic team is now preparing to print the map in accordance

with the compatibility standards of the Government of Suriname for official recognition. The first printed map will be presented to the Wayana Chief Nuahe in the village of Apetina, in the presence of indigenous leaders, community-based organisations, community members and other relevant stakeholders.

If one looks at any map of southernmost Suriname made prior to 2001, what is visible are large expanses of green with highlights of yellow fingers: forests and savanna, respectively, but otherwise blank. The new Wayana maps, like those made with the Trios, certainly fill this vacuum by showing physical features and major communities, but go beyond topography by illustrating land use patterns and areas of cultural significance. As impressive an achievement as these maps are, they are just the cornerstone of a multi-year process in which the maps will be utilised to plan and improve resource use and management strategies; for instance to evaluate the current status of hunting and fishing grounds and to indicate ideal zoning for agricultural and forest management areas.



The orchid *Cochleanthes amazonica* is typical of Wayana forest flora

The Amazon Conservation Team continues to work to strengthen local indigenous institutions, build local capacity, and increase the level of participation of the Wayana in regional conservation and land use strategies with the Surinamese government and conservation NGOs. Already, the Wayanas have greatly improved their position through their direct participation in a collaborative process with Government officials, sharing experiences with neighbouring Carib groups during the process of mapping, and from the absorption of basic concepts of natural resource management gained during cartographic training. They are, indeed, preparing to map their future.



Researchers receive instruction in mapping



Wayana tribal celebratory ceremony

Renowned ethnobotanist Mark Plotkin, trained at Yale and Harvard, has undertaken extensive research throughout tropical South America. Formerly director of the Plant Conservation Program at the World Wildlife Fund and a Vice President at Conservation International, he and his wife Lilita Madrigal established the Amazonian Conservation Team based in Arlington, Virginia in 1995. Mark was named a "Hero for the Planet" by Time Magazine in 1998, and is author of *Medicine Quest: In Search of Nature's Healing Secrets* and *Tales of a Shaman's Apprentice*, published by Penguin.

ECUADOR

population: **12.7 million**
capital: **Quito**

total land area: **27,684,000 ha**
primary forest 2005: **4,794,000 ha (17.32% of land)**

ECUADOR

Progress with the Choco Andean Corridor Project

by **Fiona Pérez, Ecuador Co-ordinator**
Rainforest Concern

Santa Lucía Cloud Forest Reserve

A total of 730 hectares (1800 acres) of forest, 80% of which is primary forest, are now being protected by the community of Santa Lucía, including an additional 80 hectares, bought last year by Rainforest Concern in the name of the community, to extend the reserve. We are currently investigating the potential links of forested land between the high ridge of Cerro Campana down to the Guayllabamba River, for possible further land purchase.

Paso Alto Mountain Range

In the Cambugan Watershed, where ALLPA Janpirina, one of our partner organizations, is working, there are 4100 hectares (10,130 acres) of forest with official protected status from the Ministry of Environment. Rainforest Concern recently helped to buy a 200 hectare property in the Cambugan area, which will serve as a useful base for conservation programmes in the region.

In the Pamplona Watershed we are working with the Ministry of Environment, ALLPA and AACRI (Intag Coffee Growers Association) to declare 5000 hectares (12,350 acres) as Protected Forest. In order to do this we are actively working with the communities in this area to try and find sustainable alternatives of income for them so that they don't cut down more of the forest. This process involves a lot of community

workshops and their participation is vital to ensure long-term protection for this area. The community have signed a letter to the Ministry to support the Protected Forest request, which is a major advance for the project.



Protected cloud forest at Intag

Intag

In the Azabí area, Rainforest Concern has been actively buying up pieces of land to link the corridor between the Paso Alto area and the private reserves further north, which border with the Cotacachi Cayapas Ecological Reserve (a state run reserve of over 200,000 hectares - 494,200 acres). We have named these areas of land The Neblina Reserve (in English this means "Misty") and it currently has an extension of 187 hectares. We have an agreement with a local group of forest guards (Guardabosques Flor de Mayo) who regularly patrol the reserve and report back to us. We are protecting a very important species of wax palm here, which attracts the critically endangered yellow-eared parrot, an endemic species of the Tropical Andean Biological Hotspot (ie. only found in northwest Ecuador up to Southwest Colombia). There are several more pieces of land to purchase here but we need the funds to do this.

Awacachi Corridor

The Sirua Foundation is currently managing 10,000 hectares which makes up the Awacachi Corridor, which Rainforest Concern created with Fauna and Flora International three years ago. Community guards are being trained continually to take on the task of protecting this large area where conflict can be rife. The current emphasis of the Foundation is on research and implementation of alternative sustainable development projects, and so far they are looking into producing and exporting butterflies, growing bamboo, agroforestry, non-timber products and ecotourism. There is also an important focus on biological monitoring and research in the corridor.



The golden tanager

Over the last year, the problems that we have encountered have been largely related to bureaucracy. New regulations related to land purchase in Ecuador have meant that buying land takes longer than it did before. Land that doesn't have a registered title (with ownership by possession only) has to be properly titled by the landowner before selling. This can be both time consuming and costly, and we often have to help with the costs involved, as the local people cannot afford to fund the necessary paperwork themselves. Secondly, in order to pay less tax, the amount of land has often been registered as considerably less in the title deed than it is in reality. This too has to be corrected reflecting the true area of land before it can be bought.

Another factor that can hinder our work is the political instability in Ecuador. When a President changes, so do the main officials in the Ministries & Institutions, including the Ministry of Environment and Land Adjudication Agency (INDA), with whom we have to co-ordinate most procedures. As you will no doubt have heard, in April of last year, the President, Lucio Gutierrez, was ousted by the Congress and the people of Quito, who demonstrated for several weeks. The main reasons for his fall was his illegal re-structuring of the Supreme Court and Constitutional Tribunal, which paved the way for the return of exiled ex-presidents accused of corruption. The Vice President, Alfredo Palacios, has now taken over the Presidency. I have almost lost count of how many Presidents there have been in Ecuador in the 10 years I have worked here, but I think it is seven!

However, despite these frustrations, I would like to emphasise that great progress is being made with the corridor and we hope that with your help we can continue to make a difference in this very threatened area over the next few years, making those vital links between the reserves.

Ecotourism safeguards cloud forest at Santa Lucía

by **Carolyn Halcrow, volunteer coordinator**

With the support of Rainforest Concern, we achieved a great deal last year at Santa Lucía both in terms of conservation and in developing alternative sustainable sources of income for our community.

Ecotourism is the main way in which Santa Lucía seeks to provide a sustainable income for our members and other local people, while at the same time safeguarding the future of our cloud forest. In 2005 we focused on improving what we offer ecotourists. Training has been important, with staff attending a twenty-day course for native guides, courses in cooking, hospitality and administration and capacity-building enabling us to draw up a strategic ecotourism plan.



The award-winning Santa Lucía Lodge

We are proud to have been runners up in last year's World Travel and Tourism Council's 'Tourism for Tomorrow' Awards in the Conservation category and also runners up in 2004 in the Responsible Tourism Awards, organised by ResponsibleTravel.com, in the Poverty Reduction category.

Bird watchers are one group of visitors that are increasingly coming to Santa Lucía. Several of our local guides are expert birders and we have developed tours specifically for birders. We now know that we have over 370 species of birds in the reserve, including birds that are vulnerable or endangered such as the Plate-billed Mountain Toucan, Moustached and Giant Antpittas, the Beautiful Jay and Toucan Barbet. We offer trips to see the leks (courtship sites) of the Andean Cock of the Rock and the Club and Golden-winged Manakin, with strict controls for instance about photography and the size of group so as not to disturb the birds. Bird watchers can hike to our birding observation tower, constructed last year

with the help of a Quest Overseas volunteer group, and there is an option to spend a night there, camping in the heart of the forest!

In 2005 Rainforest Concern provided funds to purchase a further 80 hectares of 90% primary cloud forest. The land is between the Santa Lucía reserve and the neighbouring upland ecotourism and conservation community of Yunguilla, and so protects a further part of this important corridor between our two communities. This purchase was strategic in that it also ensures that a proposed extension of the road into primary forest cannot go ahead.

Last year saw the successful completion of our four-year reforestation project and we have now planted native trees in 20 hectares of land. Part of this area we hope to return to forest, while the remainder will be used as silvopasture. Silvopasture can still be used to graze the mules needed for carrying supplies up to the lodge, but the additional trees planted in it boost the biodiversity, attracting additional flora and fauna. After initial experimentation with a range of native trees, we concentrated on planting trees that thrive in full sunlight, such as Aliso (*Alnus sp.*), which is a particularly good nitrogen fixer, Lechero (*Euphorbia laurifolia*) and the medicinal Sangre de Drago, or Dragon's Blood, (*Croton sp.*), all of which were raised in our tree nursery. With regular maintenance, these trees have thrived, with low mortality rates and rapid growth rates. Where the trees have grown sufficiently to provide protection from the sun, we have started to underplant with trees that need shade such as Cedro (*Cedrela sp.*) Motilon (*Hyronema oblonga*), Guayavillo (*Campornanesis sp.*) and Palmito (*Geonoma sp.*), an important part of the diet of the Spectacled Bear. Clearance of the invasive pasture around the new trees will continue for a further year and a half until they are sufficiently established.

We are very grateful for the hard work of the many volunteers involved and to Rainforest Concern for funding the project. This support has allowed members of Santa Lucía the time to experiment and develop the project to suit the local environment and the opportunity to learn more about their forest as well as the regeneration of degraded land.

In the last year of our Conservation Monitoring Project, we continued to focus on our bird-monitoring project, and also carried out studies to find out more about the reptiles, frogs and toads



Successful reforestation at Santa Lucía

and medicinal plants in the reserve. We are currently beginning a project to identify and collect basic information about the estimated 300 plus orchids at Santa Lucía and are planning a small orchidarium near the lodge. As part of this, we recently worked in partnership with colleagues from Yunguilla and the Maquipucuna Foundation to run a workshop about orchid identification, attended by 30 staff from Santa Lucía and neighbouring conservation and ecotourism communities.

Volunteers have continued to play a crucial role in conservation and in the development of Santa Lucía's ecotourism and other sustainability projects. In September 2004, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, on a 'working holiday' planted trees and constructed a bridge over a creek, as part of a project to create a proper trail to our organic sugar cane, one of our agroforestry projects.

In March last year we welcomed another Quest Overseas group who as well as planting trees, replaced a bridge over the River Umachaca and constructed three covered seating areas on the main trail.

We have recently formed a new partnership with Rainforest Concern and the organisation i-to-i, which helps individuals put together packages of travel and volunteering.

We welcome and are grateful to all of our volunteers who have contributed their hard work, their enthusiasm and their ideas, and hope that in return they too have benefited and learned a little more about the complexities of conservation and sustainable development and about our local community and culture.

For information about visiting Santa Lucía or to make a reservation, please see www.santaluciaecuador.com or email info@santaluciaecuador.com

ECUADOR



The Cock-of-the-Rock has an elaborate courtship display



ECUADOR

population: 12.7 million
capital: Quito

total land area: 27,684,000 ha
primary forest 2005: 4,794,000 ha (17.32% of land)

ECUADOR

Communities learn the importance of conservation through the Intag Watershed Project

by Carlos Zorrilla, Project Director, DECOIN (Defensa y Conservación Ecológica de Intag)

Four years and twenty-six community reserves later, the project to conserve Intag's water and biodiversity resources is changing the way people conserve these primary natural resources in the area, and the way they relate to the environment and, especially, to water. It's been an amazing success, even though a lot remains to be done.

Biodiversity was an unknown concept to many people before this project started. Though many people had heard of it, most had not the slightest idea of what it meant, nor could they understand its importance. This project is making biodiversity into something that people can relate to and care about.

In a similar way, water was a resource that was totally taken for granted. In some ways it still is, but through this project, the importance of conserving water and its intrinsic value and necessity for maintaining health is taking hold. More and more people are seeing the connection between healthy forests and safe and abundant water supplies, thereby fulfilling one of the project's main goals.

The individual reserves which protect the water of 29 communities (three communities share two of the reserves) vary from a couple of hectares to 130. Five of them have been reforested by the communities with nearly 20,000 trees comprising 37 native species.



Saffron-crowned tanager



One of Decoin's community workshops

Thanks to the support of Rainforest Concern and O₂, the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation and the RD Turner Charitable Trust, the reserves are currently supplying safe water to all of the large towns in the Intag area, and over 3,000 people. Many communities are anxiously waiting their turn to be included in the project.

There are many reasons why communities are so interested in this project. For example, the contamination caused by cattle waste has been stopped in the areas that served the dual purpose of private cattle farm and community water supply. In some cases, the communities have been able to increase the amount of water they were getting, whilst in others it's been a blessing to have a source of water to call their own so they could benefit from a potable water programme currently being implemented in the area. In order to qualify for the water project, a community must show ownership of the land the project is affecting. Other communities are planning to use their reserves to implement community tourism.

In all cases, there has not been a single incident of land invasion, or problems due to soil or any kind of environmental degradation. The reason for this, I believe, is that the project makes the ownership and administration of the land a responsibility of each community.

The project consists of other aspects that make it more interesting for the communities. For example, representatives from each community take part in several workshops on water quality and biodiversity monitoring. They are also trained in water sampling techniques and then given a simple-to-use water testing kit so they can monitor the community's water quality. The project's own, and more extensive, water testing and monitoring programme augments this. The participants are also trained in how to monitor water quality by identifying aquatic insects. In effect, the information being generated by these project activities are creating the most exhaustive base line on water quality in the Intag area and, almost certainly, the most complete in the province.

The same goes for the reforestation. Since the project works with an unusually large amount of native species, the information gathered will go a very long way towards creating a priceless data base about how native trees do in reforestation efforts, and which ones do better, or grow faster than others. Since we are encouraging the use of species attractive to birds, we should also soon experience an upsurge in the bird population.



photos: CARLOS ZORRILLA



The CO₂ sequestering measurements, on the other hand, promise to produce information which will give us an idea of the amount of carbon dioxide the different vegetation cover in the reserves contain, and how much is being taken out of the atmosphere. It is the first time such measurements have been carried out in the Intag area.

I think it's good every once in a while to step back and see where the Intag area was before this project started. A few years ago, there was not a single community-owned watershed reserve. Thousands of people from several communities had no choice but to get their water from the same place where private individuals pastured their cattle or sprayed their crops. They had no interest in water except that it flowed when the tap was turned on. In most instances, the community had never participated in reforestation; they didn't know what biodiversity meant, or what it was good for, and many thought conservation was a luxury and a waste of time!

That was then. Nowadays, and in large part due to this project, more people are learning the direct value of conservation, and can understand the connection between clean, safe water and healthy forests. They better understand the health problems associated with unclean water, the importance of conserving their forest and planting trees in deforested watersheds, and are learning how to tell if their water is polluted by looking at the stream's aquatic insects. The representatives participating in the workshops also know how to measure water flow, take and analyse their own water, and how to best reforest with their own native trees. They've come to respect that conservation doesn't just happen; it is a participatory process, which in this case, involves the active participation of all the members of the communities. They are learning that in order to have a good and abundant water supply, they must care for the trees, the birds, the land, and work together to protect what they have. I strongly believe, as I did at the beginning of the project, that this is the most effective way of conserving the world's natural resources. If anything, the project's results so far confirm it.



photos: CARLOS ZORRILLA

Emerald toucanet



The cloud forests of Intag at dawn

Future Prospects

The Intag area has over 70 communities. If this sounds a bit vague, it's because we've actually discovered communities that are not in any maps (sometimes, comprised of five or six families and a school)! We've so far helped 29 of them, or about 40%. There is indeed much work to be done. The expectation created by this project defies description, and the chance to perfect this

conservation initiative while reaching more people with the strong conservation message like ours is too valuable to waste.

BRAZIL

population: 176 million

capital: Brasilia

total land area: 835,556,000 ha

primary forest 1990: 460,513,000 ha

primary forest 2005: 415,890,000 ha (49.8% of land)

primary forest lost 1990-2005: 44,623,000 ha (-9.69%)



BRAZIL

New hope - new challenges

by Hylton Murray-Philipson,
Trustee of Rainforest Concern

The last 12 months have seen many positive developments with our project in Acre, Brazil - set against a backdrop that gives increasing cause for concern.

Last summer, the State of Amazonas experienced an unprecedented drought. Ships were unable to dock in Manaus as the river receded, remote communities were marooned in the forest as their river links to the outside world dried up, and supplies had to be flown in as fish in the rivers died. Although this caused much suffering, it has hopefully sent environmental alarm bells ringing in Brasilia with a reappraisal of some of the next generation of mega projects planned for the region under the Avanca Brazil programme - notably roads and dams.

The forests are major regulators of global climate, and if we lose the forests we will lose the rainfall that they stimulate. The food producing areas of southern Brazil and Argentina depend on rainfall generated in the Amazon basin, so there will be a major economic impact unless the destruction can be halted.

Last year, on official government figures, Brazil lost 18,000 sq km of forest, equivalent to 50 sq km every single day. This is a reduction from the 2004 figure of 24,000 sq km, though most observers think the reduction is due to the rise in the Brazilian currency making exports of soya and beef less competitive on world markets. Most deforestation is illegal, but forces for protection are thin on the ground and the law often exists more in theory than in practice.



Deforestation quickly follows road construction



Ceremonial body painting of the Yawanawa

In this context, strengthening indigenous communities is one of the best hopes of preserving extensive tracts of forest for generations to come. The struggle between conservation and destruction was thrown into sharp contrast this year with the purchase of 200,000 hectares bordering Yawanawa territory by a Sao Paulo based TV presenter, Ratinho. The declared intent of his venture is to make money by clear felling the forest and converting it to cattle pasture.

Far from being intimidated by this event, the Yawanawa have been pressing a long standing claim over 50,000 hectares of the Ratinho purchase, determined to preserve ancient burial sites, hunting grounds and fishing ponds for the benefit of generations to come. The Government Agency, Funai, visited the area for 42 days of investigation and produced a comprehensive 130 page report on the issue, entirely vindicating the Yawanawa claim. The Governor of the State, Jorge Viana - helped, it must be said, by a barrage of emails from Rainforest Concern supporters around the world - has also pronounced clear support for the Yawanawa cause.

Unusually, forest loss actually caused street demonstrations earlier this year in the State Capital Rio Branco when the level of smoke from forest fires filled hospital wards to overflowing with people suffering from respiratory problems. With strong grass roots support for conservation linked to the memory of Chico Mendes; the leadership role of Federal Minister of the Environment Marina Silva (herself the daughter of a rubber tapper from Acre) and the commitment of the State Government (named "the Government of the Forest"), the determined stand taken by the

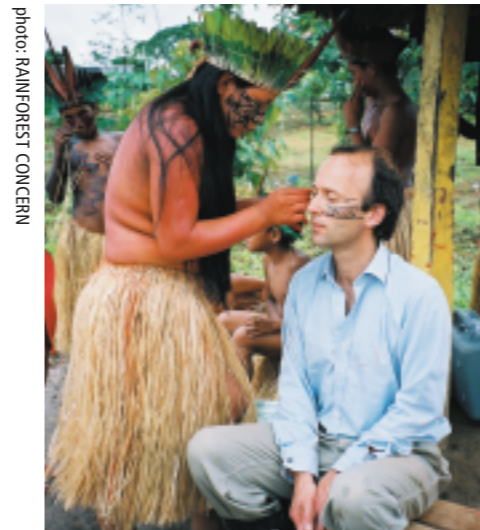
Yawanawa may yet ensure the triumph of the long term interests of the majority against the short term financial gain of the absent few.

Nonetheless, the wheels of bureaucracy grind slowly in Brasilia and it could take 4 years to obtain official designation of the contested land as Yawanawa territory - during which time respect for the rule of law could well be tenuous. We will be keeping a close watch on developments during this period, and will contact you if any further lobbying is called for.

There are 2 major road developments in the state of Acre - the existing BR 364 from Rio Branco to the Peruvian border is gradually being asphalted providing year round movement of goods and people; and a second road called the TransOceanic Highway - basically an extension of the TransAmazonic Highway - is also connecting the state of Acre to the Peruvian National road network.

Taken together, these 2 projects are specifically designed to open up the western Brazilian Amazon to development for the first time, enabling easy access to Peru's Pacific ports (and thereby exports to China) only 580 km away. At present, products from Acre destined for overseas markets have to travel 2,500 km by river to Belem or 2,500 km by road to Sao Paulo before going through the Panama canal or round Cape Horn.

Acre is about to lose its physical isolation that has hitherto been the greatest force for conservation. As external pressures mount, the renaissance of the Yawanawa culture and the increase in population arising out of improved diet and better



Hylton in preparation for a Yawanawa ceremony

medical facilities makes the expansion of their defined territory ever more important.

We are all keenly aware of the destruction inflicted on the forests by the arrival of roads elsewhere in Brazil, so our efforts to prepare the Yawanawa for the future have proceeded with renewed vigour.

Specific achievements over the last 12 months have included the construction of a modern hospital facility, the establishment of an animal breeding programme in partnership with the Federal Ministry of the Environment, and the launch of a range of clothing in Rio and Sao Paulo inspired by traditional Yawanawa body painting designs.

The importance of the hospital project was underlined by the tragic death of 4 children just prior to our last visit - itself a reminder of the harsh realities of life in such an isolated community.

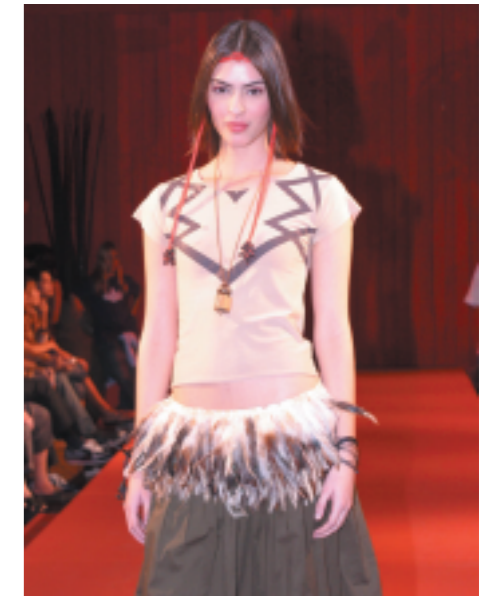
The animal breeding project has arisen out of the increase in the Yawanawa population from 150 to 680 over the last 10 years. As they have evolved from being nomadic hunter-gatherers into a community largely based on the village of Nova Esperanca ("New Hope"), the impact on game in the immediate vicinity of the village has been significant. Our project will see the captive breeding of alligators, fresh water turtles, wild boar and fish - with specimens reintroduced into the wild as well as harvested for consumption by the community. Turtle nesting sites have been identified and protected; baby turtles have been collected at birth and reared on the edge of the village; and the first batch of adults has already been re-released into the river.

The clothing project was launched with great success in June 2005, created by the Brazilian designer, Adriana Aquino and designed to create awareness of the role of indigenous people in preserving the Amazon amongst mainstream Brazilian society as well as to generate a sustainable and recurring income stream for the Yawanawa themselves. It was extremely positive that the fashion event was co-sponsored by Rainforest Concern, the Government of Acre and the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Rio de Janeiro.

As we explore these new ways forward, we are ever conscious of the need to strengthen Yawanawa traditions so that they meet the future with confidence. An interesting development combining new and old is the emergence of 2 young female shamans within the community - something that has never happened before. As we go to press, these young women are about to emerge from 12 months isolation deep in the forest. 5 young men have also begun the training process, and it will be interesting to see how many of them have the requisite commitment to see it through.

Another development has been the construction of the first Secondary School in the community, so that children in the age group 11-18 have the opportunity to study the mainstream Brazilian curriculum, taught by specially trained Yawanawa teachers. This is all part of the process of preparing for the changes that will inevitably come to Acre when the road projects are completed.

One issue which we are currently researching is the possibility of producing biodiesel from forest fruits so that the Yawanawa could become self sufficient in fuel and carbon neutral at the same



Launch of Yawanawa-inspired clothing at the Rio fashion show, June 2005

time. At present, getting diesel to the community is the largest item in the Yawanawa budget. Given the extended supply chain, it is extremely expensive and highly inefficient, as it currently takes 5 litres of diesel to deliver 1 litre upriver to the village of Nova Esperanca.

We remain hopeful that taking the best from the past and adapting it to the new realities of Acre in the 21st century, we can make a meaningful contribution to the survival of the Yawanawa people and their forests for many years to come.



Giant river otters are often seen in this part of Brazil

BRAZIL

photo: ADRIANA AQUINO

photo: PETE OXFORD

photos: RAINFORREST CONCERN

photo: RAINFORREST CONCERN

COLOMBIA

population: 44.5 million
capital: Bogota
total land area: 103,870,000 ha

primary forest 1990: 53,854,000 ha
primary forest 2005: 53,062,000 ha (51.09% of land)
primary forest lost 1990-2005: 792,000 ha (-1.47%)

COLOMBIA

Creating a new rainforest corridor in the Colombian Chocó

by Paul Salaman, Director of ProAves



The lodge at the Pangan Reserve

Tropical wet forests straddle the equator and cover less than 5% of the earth's land surface, yet encompass the vast majority of the planet's biodiversity. Within those forests, however, biodiversity is not equally spread, and nor are the threats to their survival. There is only one region straddling the equator where tropical forest rises 4000 metres from sea-level to snow-capped mountains and where incessant rains douse the forests with over eight metres of precipitation per year. This unparalleled combination has produced the most biologically unique and diverse region on earth, situated on the Pacific slope of the Andes in SW Colombia and NW Ecuador. Part of the Chocó Biodiversity Hotspot, it now faces imminent threats if we do not act quickly to conserve it.



Rainforest Concern has teamed up with Fundación ProAves, Colombia's largest conservation NGO, which established El Pangan Nature Reserve in 2001, in an effort to protect one of the jewels of the Chocó Biodiversity Hotspot. The Pangan Reserve is not only at the heart of the Chocó hotspot, but is also its epicentre, hosting the highest concentration of endemic birds in the World! However, this biodiversity treasure box has been the focus of intensive colonisation and natural resource exploitation in the past decade, feeding the voracious economic development of the Pacific Rim nations. Uncontrolled deforestation has left this foremost hotspot, with the greatest assemblage of endemic flora and fauna, in a precarious state.

While Fundación ProAves were setting up the El Pangan Reserve, fifty miles south Rainforest Concern simultaneously identified the Chocó region of north west Ecuador as a global priority and were successfully working to establish the Awacachi Corridor through land acquisition and

community support. Rainforest Concern has now turned its attention to extending the corridor further north into the heart of the Chocó in southwestern Colombia. Here, situated between two large Awa indigenous reserves, is the Pangan protected area that encompasses a 4000 hectare, forest-covered mountain from 500 to 2000 metres elevation.

The forest surrounding the reserve is menaced by a highway, constructed in the mid-1990s, that pierces the heart of the Chocó from Tumaco on the Pacific coast to Pasto in the high Andes. Colonisation has branched out either side of the highway to create a deforested channel traversing the hotspot. This north-south ecological gap is rapidly expanding and could have catastrophic environmental and social implications, with connectivity irreversibly lost and local climatic change disturbing the region's fragile ecology that depends on year-round heavy rains to survive.

photo: PETE OXFORD

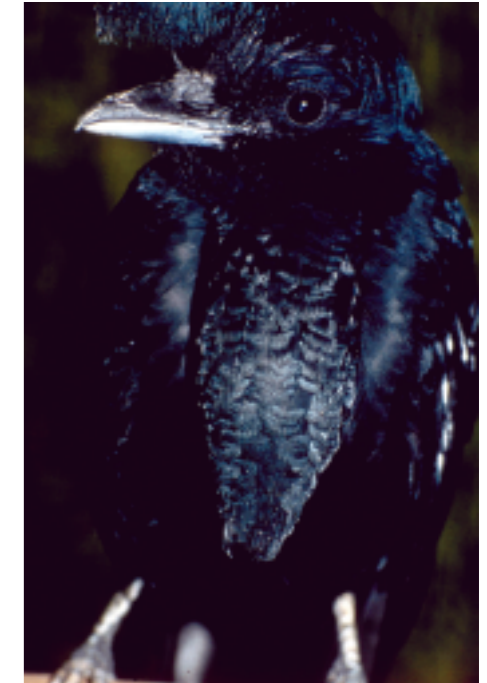


The Pangan Reserve is prime habitat for the jaguarundi

Named after the enigmatic Long-wattled Umbrellabird, the lush forests of Pangan support more endemic birds, frogs, orchids, and butterflies than any other area on the planet. The endangered Banded Ground-Cuckoo and Baudó Guan are only found regularly at this site, whilst the brilliant blue Pangan Poison Arrow frog is restricted entirely to this area. The Spectacled Bear and Jaguar are not uncommon here, but most important has been the discovery of many entirely new species of bird, amphibians and plants in the Pangan Reserve. Still little is known of the area's biodiversity, yet so much is at stake if we do not act now. The reserve is rapidly being isolated by deforestation that threatens to isolate its exceptional variety of species.

The Pangan Reserve is strategically positioned in that it limits colonisation from the road northwards and buffers the Awa indigenous CAMAWARI reserve to the north from the effects of the road. However the biodiversity of the Chocó is vulnerable to a 4 km-wide gap between the reserve and running alongside the road southwards to the UNIPA Awa indigenous reserve.

In 2004, Rainforest Concern recognised this threat and moved swiftly to support Fundación ProAves, an experienced Colombian conservation partner, to secure forest from the reserve up to the north side of the road and so ensure that no illegal colonisation takes place. The generous support of



The Long-Wattled Umbrellabird gives its name to the reserve - El Pangan



Rainforest Concern secured an additional 700 hectares to expand the reserve to its current 5,335 hectares of pristine forest.

However, we have several key land acquisitions pending to ensure that the natural forest-bridge that connects the reserve southwards for over 200km, through the Awacachi corridor, and over 400km northwards, remains intact. We must move decisively to acquire this narrow swath of forest so as to ensure biological connectivity across the conservation corridor, and also

maintain a cultural connection between the two Awa indigenous reserves that fear isolation by colonists.

We must act now to acquire the last intact forests and ensure a conservation and cultural legacy for the Chocó region. In partnership with ProAves Foundation, your support will allow us to intensify the strategic acquisition of land between the Pangan Nature Reserve and Awacachi Corridor, and so safeguard the Long-wattled Umbrellabird and its unique forest.

COLOMBIA

photos: PAUL SALAMAN

COSTA RICA

population: **3.7 million**
capital: **San José**
total land area: **5,106,000 ha**

primary forest 1990: **255,000 ha**
primary forest 2005: **180,000 ha (3.53% of land)**
primary forest lost 1990-2005: **75,000 ha (-3.33%)**



COSTA RICA

Over 700 Leatherback turtles nest at Pacuare Reserve

by John Denham, Trustee of Rainforest Concern

More turtles, more visitors and no floods made the 2005 season the best for several years at the Pacuare Reserve's turtle conservation project in Costa Rica.

Just over 700 Leatherback nests were counted, a healthy increase over the previous year's 555. The Green turtles, whose numbers fluctuate wildly from year to year, rose spectacularly from 76 the previous season to over 300, of which 150 came in a four-day period in August.

In 2005, we employed professional beach guards from the National Park Service at great extra expense, but it paid off in deterring poachers and providing extra security for the school groups and volunteers. Poaching was negligible on our beach but 4 kms to the south of the Reserve, on a stretch of beach with no protection, we found the remains of about 150 dead Green turtles slaughtered for their meat. This was a grim reminder of the need for constant patrolling by professional guards. Turtle eggs and turtle meat are banned by law in Costa Rica, and killing a turtle is an offence punishable by up to two years in gaol, but the law is meaningless as there is no attempt to enforce it.

Ecology Project International (EPI) again brought most of our visitors, with 550 children visiting in groups from the US and Costa Rican schools, accompanied always by their instructors. Among volunteer groups were 73 UK Gap students who typically stay for 1-3 weeks, which is a big help in beach patrolling. They are at the Reserve for long enough to be really useful. The student groups come for a few days only, the US students for 4-6 days but the Costa Rican schoolchildren come during their term-time so can only stay two nights.



Monica and volunteers excavate a leatherback turtle nest

Once again, Monica and Iniki were in charge of the Reserve and they recruited eight Research Assistants - all Spanish except for Debbie, from England - to work on the beach at night with the turtles and also to do an individual research project of their choice. The subjects chosen this year varied from a monkey census to Debbie's study of aquatic invertebrates. Mayte and Israel opted for environmental education at the local Pacuare primary school with its eight pupils but found that the teacher had left and there was no replacement. So they filled the gap and taught the children Reading, Writing and Arithmetic.

We have a treasure in the Reserve in the form of a very rare bird - the Chestnut Bellied Heron (agamia agami) which is of spectacular colour and plumage during the nesting season, with long white plumes cascading from the back of its head. The very comprehensive book "Birds of Costa Rica", which describes 825 species, refers to the only known breeding colony as having 10 pairs. Last year we counted 120 nesting pairs on a tiny island in a lagoon, which is in the very middle of the Reserve. There are not more than half a dozen big trees on this island, very close together, and the agamis nest in these trees, no nest being more than a few feet from the next.



Carlos Fernandez and John Denham at the Reserve



The very rare agami heron

photo: ARTHUR GROSSSET

They are a wonderful sight and one can safely watch them from only 30 yards, as the forest trees grow densely right to the edge of the lagoon. To be quite safe, we are building a hide before the herons return this year, and we shall also clear the water of the lagoon to make sure there is no land-bridge to the island that the aggressive white-faced monkeys could cross. They are omnivorous and would quickly eat all the eggs and hatchlings. We have seen a white-faced monkey harassing an anteater, which just ignored the attempted mugging. It seemed to know that the monkey would not risk being ripped by the anteater's big claws, but agami eggs and hatchlings would be easy prey.

A new feature in the Reserve is an area of native fruit-trees and vegetables, which will be a useful source of food and a very interesting demonstration area for students and visitors. Carlos Fernandez and the faithful Guillermo have developed this from an original orchard overgrown by years of neglect but now cleared and planted with new species. There are now 42 different species, mostly edible, such as avocado, banana, yuca, oranges, lemons, papaya, bread fruit etc., and others such as noni (highly medicinal but disgusting to eat) and cacao trees. Not many of our visitors from the US or Europe will have seen a chocolate tree!

Monica and Iniki will not be returning to Pacuare this year. We wish them every success in their careers and thank them for their great contribution to the Reserve during the three years that they have been with us.

To continue protecting the leatherback turtles of Pacuare each season, we rely on volunteers to help to monitor the beaches and keep a watchful eye on the laying females. If you would like to visit the Pacuare Reserve and be a part of this invaluable project, please contact us on 020 72292093 for further information. These magnificent animals need your help to survive!

PANAMA

population: **2.8 million**
capital: **Panama City**
total land area: **7,443,000 ha**

primary forest 1990: **3,706,000 ha**
primary forest 2005: **3,023,000 (40.62% of land)**
primary forest lost 1990-2005: **683,000 ha (-18.43%)**



PANAMA

Soropta beach - a success story

by John Denham, Trustee of Rainforest Concern

Soropta and Playa Larga are two turtle projects in Panama, managed by the Endangered Wildlife Trust and funded by Rainforest Concern, for the protection of the giant leatherback turtle, a critically endangered species.

Not all our readers will remember how and why these projects were started, back in 2002, so it is worthwhile recapping how we came to be involved.

At that time, many leatherback turtles were being slaughtered on Panama's beaches, where it was customary to eat the meat of the leatherback, as well as its eggs. By contrast, in next-door Costa Rica, there is heavy poaching of leatherback eggs but the meat is not sought after. We therefore had a situation where the Pacuare Reserve and other Costa Rican turtle projects were protecting leatherback eggs but the turtles that laid them were quite likely to lay their next clutch of eggs in Panama (they lay 7-9 times at intervals of 10 days), where they could well be killed. The worst of the killing beaches was a stretch of about 6 km of Soropta beach, 15 km from the Costa Rican border, where about 35 turtles were killed annually. With a colony of only a few hundred females, that was the path to extinction.



A leatherback returns to sea after nesting

photo: CARLOS FERNANDEZ

The Soropta project started in 2002 with the purchase of some land behind the beach and the building of accommodation for a biologist, a few local guards and up to 15 volunteers. During the leatherback season, March to June, the beach is patrolled every night, turtles are tagged and some nests relocated to a protected hatchery. Since we started the project, only a single leatherback has been killed, which is one too many but much better that it would otherwise have been.



Soropta Beach

photo: RAINFORREST CONCERN

Last year we counted 245 nests, which is slightly fewer than the previous year, plus seven hawksbills, the beautiful turtles targeted by poachers for their mis-named "tortoise-shell". The 6 kilometres which we patrol shifted 1 km to the East this year, due to exceptional floods in January. The huge volume of water, coming down the nearby Changuinola river, washed away 1 km of the sandspit which formed the Western end of our protected beach. So now we have extended our patrolling 1 km further East.

The other project we have taken on is very different. While Soropta is on the mainland, Playa Larga is a golden sand beach on the island of Bastimentos. Because it lies within a National Park, we do not own any land or buildings there but base the project around a beach hut, which we have to renovate annually. A biologist and up to six volunteers run the project, doing the same work as at Soropta but without the threat of such heavy poaching. Playa Larga appeals to those looking for the "Robinson Crusoe" life. It is an idyllic beach with hardly ever a tourist. Food is delivered once a week and the volunteers cook for themselves (Soropta employs a cook).

Playa Larga registered 153 leatherback nests last year, a substantial increase on 2004, plus 18 hawksbills. For some reason, hawksbills like this beach and we have seen about the same number each year since we started.

We have a good and experienced team in Panama. Cristina, from Mexico, is senior biologist in overall charge, and at the same time she runs a very big project for leatherbacks and hawksbills in a remote area 100 km to the south of Bocas del Toro. Natalia, from Colombia, has been running Soropta for us since 2003, and Ramon, from Spain, was in charge of Playa Larga this year after a season as a Research Assistant at Pacuare Reserve. All three will be returning this year, as well as Clara, who will coordinate volunteers from Bocas del Toro.

Volunteers of ten different nationalities came to the two projects during the 2005 season, with some staying for several weeks.

We greatly value volunteers, not only for their practical and financial contribution towards keeping these projects going, but also for spreading the word about the need for turtle conservation.

If any readers or their friends are interested in volunteering in Panama, please contact us on 020 72292093.

SRI LANKA

population: **20 million**
capital: **Colombo**
total land area: **6,463,000 ha**

primary forest cover 1990: **257,000 ha**
primary forest cover 2005: **167,000 ha (2.58% of land)**
primary forest cover lost 1990-2005: **90,000 ha (-3.05%)**

SRI LANKA

Rainforest Rescue International and Rainforest Concern

by Robin Lock, Advisor Rainforest Rescue International, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's rainforests are amongst the top 10 biodiversity hotspots in the World, though the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka rainforest region is also identified as a region where the biodiversity is under the highest pressure by agriculture in the World. The number of oil palm plantations and tea estates has increased drastically, and are even starting to encroach upon the protected Sinharaja Forest Reserve.

In 1997, against this backdrop of increasing deforestation and agricultural development, Dr Ranil Senanayake discussed with Peter Bennett of Rainforest Concern, a programme to conserve, protect and rebuild the rainforests of Sri Lanka by creating a bufferzone and corridor project around the two biggest remaining rainforest patches of Sri Lanka; Sinharaja Forest Reserve and Kanneliya Forest Reserve. In 2002, Dr Senanayake set up Rainforest Rescue International as the first Sri Lankan Rainforest Conservation NGO for 15 years. This was followed in June 2004 by the establishment of the Custodian Rainforest Trust of Sri Lanka, a fully-fledged charity organisation seeking full parliamentary approval, to ensure that any lands purchased are secured indefinitely as rainforest conservation areas. All land purchases are made by the Rainforest Trust, and all conservation projects are managed, funded and run by Rainforest Rescue International.

Whilst the creation of these two rainforest conservation organisations is a major achievement in itself, the increase of active



The indigenous tree nursery at Badulla

rainforest conservation and education activities in the area have also inspired a great deal of interest from the local communities. The presence of these two organisations has been noted by both the Sri Lankan government and international NGO's for their positive efforts and we are starting to get increasingly more support as a result.

Rainforest Rescue International was one of the first NGO's to get permission from the Sri Lankan government to collect seeds from the Sinharaja Forest Reserve and in 2002, we set up an indigenous tree nursery at Badulla, growing 7 endangered and endemic Dipterocarp species along with 46 other indigenous tree species. Rainforest Concern secured the first year of running costs and, adjacent to the nursery, supported the purchase of 4 acres of land and the building of an Education Centre for School children, due to be completed in March 2006. The tree nursery is now self sufficient, producing more than 100,000 plants over several rotations in the last year, which have already been distributed across different reforestation projects.

The Rainforest Trust has since purchased a further piece of land (6.4 acres) next to the Gin Ganga (Gin River) adjacent to Kanneliya and the proposed Hiniduma Forest Reserve as the first land bought for the new corridor project between Sinharaja and Kaneeliya Forest Reserves, mainly consisting of secondary forest. In September

2005 we began the programme of reforestation for this area, planting indigenous and endemic forest species cultivated in the new nursery, to attract animals like the flying squirrel, the giant squirrel, civets, wild boar, etc. The biggest group of animals endangered in Sri Lanka's rainforest are the reptiles, endemic flora and the fresh water fish, closely followed by the insects. Tragically Sri Lanka's Rainforest Elephants have totally disappeared from the wild and no longer populate the remaining forest areas.

To date, through the Rainforest Trust, Rainforest Concern has helped to fund the purchase and maintenance of over 16 acres of land between Sinharaja and Kanneiya Forest Reserves which is the start of a full programme in that region to create a bio-diversity corridor.

Finally, we would like to thank Rainforest Concern for it's financial assistance after the tsunami, which struck the area near our offices in the southern Sri Lankan city of Galle on Boxing day of 2004 with devastating effect. Rainforest Concern was the first organisation to commit itself to environmental relief work, pledging funds without delay to help rebuild offices and homes that were destroyed and to support school nutrients programmes at schools totally devastated by the tsunami.

Rainforest Rescue International continue to work at national levels and at the village level to increase awareness of some of the few remaining rainforest areas around the district of Galle, highlighting the need for conservation and protection of these threatened eco systems. We have initiated a two-year programme for the further creation of small nurseries and indigenous woodlands at secondary schools in the corridor area, and are actively promoting conservation education.



Sri Lanka's Rainforest Elephants have totally disappeared from the wild

The trustees of the Rainforest Trust of Sri Lanka are grateful to Rainforest Concern and all your members for your ongoing support and hope that we can do much more together in the years to come.

Quest Overseas and Rainforest Concern - A seven year partnership still going strong!

by Jon Cassidy, Quest Overseas



School children at the Yachana Reserve

Last year the Quest Overseas/Rainforest Concern relationship was about fond farewells and new beginnings, with one project coming to its end and another new venture taking off.

Farewell to the community of Santa Lucia

In the Ecuadorian cloud forests of Santa Lucia, Quest Overseas teams have been working hard since 2001. The aim has been to help the community of Santa Lucia with their ecotourism and sustainable development projects. Over the past couple of years, the community has become more well known amongst eco-tour operators and is now beginning to receive a decent flow of visitors, from ornithologists to botanists or even just holiday makers wanting to have a more genuine ecological or community experience. Just one Quest team was sent up the hill to work with Santa Lucia last year, to help tie up the loose ends. A new bridge leading to the Santa Rosa waterfall and the reforestation of yet another five hectares of land helped get our "eco-warriors" fitter and healthier than ever. We're delighted to say that the essential infrastructure is now in place to let the project thrive and although it was a sad farewell to Pancho and all the locals we have worked with, we know we have made friends for life there.

Although the work for large groups has come to an end for now, there is still a lot of ongoing survey and

maintenance work which needs to be done and the people of Santa Lucia would be delighted with any help.

Yachana - building for the future safeguarding of the Amazon

Two teams also ventured into the Ecuadorian Amazon to work at Yachana. Following the purchase of a new tract of land along the Napo river, the FUNEDESIN foundation has set about establishing a model sustainable farm. From here they can run workshops for the young people in the area, helping them to learn alternative methods of agriculture to the traditional slash and burn, which is still taking place. Despite many cries of, "how is building a pig pen and planting a corn field helping to save the rainforest?" from our volunteers, we have managed to set up a tool from which future generations of local farmers can learn how to do just that.

A new venture in the Chilean monkey puzzle forests

I mentioned new beginnings. We are delighted to say that following Rainforest Concern's recent expansion into Chile, Quest Overseas has followed closely behind and are working to preserve the native araucaria (monkey puzzle) forests. In the Namoncahue area of the Chilean Lake District,



Quest students beside the Rio Napo

a small pilot team spent five weeks in the foothills of the Andes, working on reforestation and the creation of an infrastructure which, we hope, will allow many more teams to experience this amazing part of the continent.

As I write this, the Namoncahue project is in the process of applying for support from the Darwin Foundation to be able to do some extensive biodiversity studies in the area, something which Quest Overseas will no doubt be contributing - we have our fingers crossed for you.

So, all in all, another busy year! I'd like to take this time to thank the students and volunteers for all the hard work they have done to support the various projects. It's your sweat and hard work that make all this possible and I hope you got as much out of it as the communities and forests have.

Until next year!

If you would like to join a Quest Overseas team, please visit our website at www.questoverseas.com, send an email to emailus@questoverseas.com, or call Olivia on 01444 474744



The first group of Quest Students to visit Chile

photos: ROBIN LOCK



Forest cleared for tea plantations near the Kanneliya Forest Reserve

VOLUNTARY WORK

photos: QUEST OVERSEAS



SCHOOLS

Schools raise over £14,000!

I doubt there is a school boy or girl who doesn't know a little about the terms 'deforestation', 'pollution' or 'endangered species', reflecting the growing importance placed on the environment under the school curriculum over the last 10 years. We had a very enthusiastic response from schools again last year, and have received donations totalling more than £14,000 from children's fundraising events - a fantastic contribution! We would like to say a big thank you and well done to all the children and schools that have worked so hard to raise money for Rainforest Concern and our projects, and who continue to organise events.

Last year, schools and individual pupils have written to us about their sponsored cake sales, sports days, 'guess-the-name-of-the-sloth' competitions and many more ideas. Rainforest weeks are very popular, when classes decorate the classroom and do different activities with a rainforest theme for a whole week. To name just a few, Ladymede School in Buckinghamshire raised £499 through a cake stall, a sponsored run in pyjamas and a three-legged sponsored run, while class P5 at Low Port Primary School made and sold cards at the school's book fair to sponsor four more acres. For the last two years, Cuiken Primary School has organised a marathon Aerobics sponsored event raising £1,245 in total and sponsoring almost 50 acres! Lochinver House School raised money over the whole academic year and last year gave Rainforest Concern a wonderful donation of £1,649. Inspired by a school visit from Phil Williams, Ellen and Tamsin

from Hitchin Girl's School have created their own environment group, P.L.A.N.T.E.D. (Please Let's Act Now To End Destruction) and are planning to deliver their own newsletter, give talks to new year 7's and 8's next term, and organise fundraising events. Dodie, one of our young supporters, has personally sponsored 16 acres of forest by organising sales at her school for the last 2 years running and Maarten has forgone birthday presents for his 8th birthday to sponsor five acres!

If you are a teacher, remember to look at our website where you will find a lot of information about our work and also plenty of facts and figures relating to rainforests in general.

If you have any ideas for activities or materials that would be useful to you, or activities that you have tried and found to be effective, please don't hesitate to let us know. Our guided tour of the rainforest continues to be popular with children, teachers, and parents and you can get to it through our linked web site at www.guidedtour.rainforest-concern.org. Specifically designed for interactive use in schools and classrooms, you are able to print activity sheets directly from the site.



A colourful parrot we received from Kirsty Schott, Chapter House Preparatory School in York

Colourful rainforest decorations at Victoria First School

We are grateful as always to Phil Williams for visiting schools with his popular "World Within Your Shoe" presentations, which are wonderfully inspiring for children of all ages. These visits often generate a flurry of letters and fundraising initiatives from inspired teachers and their classes and we are always pleased to hear from them. Dave and Sue Shaw also continue to visit schools with their travelling "Rainforest Roadshow", and we thank them for their ongoing enthusiasm and support.

If you would like to know more about "The World Within your Shoe" and how to arrange a visit, please phone Phil Williams on 07798 802087. For information on "The Rainforest Roadshow", please contact Dave and Sue Shaw on 01982 560244.

T-shirts and leaflets at a P.L.A.N.T.E.D. fundraising stall

MEMBERSHIP

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS THAT HAVE JOINED US IN THE PAST YEAR OR HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH RAINFOREST CONCERN FOR MANY YEARS:

South Hampstead Junior School; Mackie Academy; Cwmatawke Comprehensive School; St Clere's School; Penyrheol Comprehensive School; Shottery Primary School; Milking Bank School; Fivemiletown Primary School; Brynmill Primary School; Low Port Primary School; Cuiken Primary School; Oakleigh House School; Grape Class Shaw Primary School; Bungay High School; St Leonard's CE Primary School; The Treasure Company; Pitcairn Primary School; Solomon Schechter School; Environment Club, Archbishop McGrath Catholic School; Atworth Primary; Ashley Road Primary; Nash Central High School; Friends School; St Agathas Primary School; Melbourne CP School; Norwell Primary School; Holbrook Primary School; Bullion Lane Primary School; Fairfield Endowed Junior School; Eardley Primary School; Altringham Grammar School for Boys; Mearns Castle High School; Eagle House School; Raddlebarn School; Fairbrook Elementary School; Newchurch School; Crompton House School; St Martin's School; St George's CEP School; Albyn School for Girls; Fearnhill School; Hurst Green Primary School; Lochinver House School; Raddlebarn J. I. School and Nursery; Redlands Primary School; Burwell Village College Primary School; Keith Primary School; Queen's College Junior School; Pennard Primary School; Dronfield Holmesdale Infant School; Tregwyr Junior School; Aldbury Primary School; Temple Beth El Hebrew School; Eaton Square School; Shottery Primary School; George Heriot's School; King Edward Primary School; Lady Eleanor Holles School; Brynhyfryd Junior School; Ladymede School; Shape International School; Lisgar Collegiate Institute; Arnold House School; Tidcombe Primary School; Swavesey Primary School; Cardinham School; Kings St Albans; International Volunteer Society at University of Birmingham and George Watson's College.

WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL TO THOSE OF YOU WHO BECAME BENEFACTORS OR GUARDIANS IN THE PAST YEAR:

Michael Amphlet; Miles WV Tadman and Alexandra Nicklin; Guy Edwards; Luis Alfonso Barroso; Helen Stuart; Eddie Gregg; Eva Akerholm; David Jovetic; Katherine Carlton-Paterson; Helen Jones; Simon Tardivel; Mrs C. Curtis; Michael La Rooy; Mrs Newton; Andrew Gavin Barnes; Geoffrey and Gaby Bevan; Olivier Parein; Amy Jones; Kenneth O'Hara; James Parsons; Nikki Webber; Megan Ashcroft; Amy Jones; Colin Pritchard; David Mark Evans; DG Gossip; Mrs VIL Coney; Nigel Lindsay Ogden; R.L. Gay; A Thomson; Alan Greenfield; P Welch; Phil and Claire Kenward; James Carter; Wayne Francis; Grzegorz Lesniak; Danny Porter; Debbie Bradford; Peter Webb; Mrs M Underdown; Emmanuel Fardoulis; Dorothea Piper; Dan Burningham; Mrs CA Christophers; Alistair Wright; Deborah Clarke; Stasa Banic; Jane Lancaster; Steven Bradley; Simon Paul Taylor; Hannah Edwards; Alexis Simon; Dan Brudy and Cathy Mather; Mrs Kathleen Walker; Mr G Hill at Hill Solomon Creative Services, CG Neave; James Fitzgerald; Jonny Agass; Tim Holmes; Rebecca Lawtn; Alison Stubbings; Edward Stern; Victoria North; Katherine Parker; Charles Ward; Fred Taylor-Dickson; Chris Hill; Victoria Cox; Jessica Baker; Jessica Leader; Edward Colthurst; David Lanning; Natasha Roper; Lisa Kingston; Jennifer Teasdale; Caroline Kilduff; Frederick Slater; Louise Pugh; Luke Jones; Carolin Roche; Kate Rawlings; Gertrude Boyce; Robert De-Mey; Gavin Vollmer; J Stanard; Mr Darcy at Tropical Inc; Lucy Fallis; NG Spencer; E Pisolkar; Amelia Blair; Jennifer Taylor; David and Essie Shachar-Hill; Hannah Summarsell; Nicholas Mulvey; John Lewis; Alex Lyons; Catherine Osborne; Nicholas Nevett; Justine Kirkham-Myers; Will Chalker; Sharon Miller; Victoria Vasiliou; Katherine Weatherburn; Julie Teall; Niels Vollaard; Amanda Hinds; William John Matthews; Mark Hancock; Stuart Dixon; Tom Bozek; Kate Sparksman; Mary Jones; Chris Roberts; Sarah Harrison; Susannah Worsley; Lucy Holton; Gabrielle Hales; Nicola Atkins; Emma Bugeja; Tim Young; David Brown; Stephen Copley; Nancy Reeve; Suzanne Mattock; Tricia Corob; Irene Nixon; Kevin Jorissen; Iain Trotter; Sam Thompson; Elizabeth Neal; Claire Thompson; India Humphreys; Alice Ward; Marguerite Cornu; Lara Maister; Thomas Wilson; Rebecca Swan; John longhurst; Sarah Farrand; Mark Roberts; Frances Craigie; J Renton; John Milsom; Ruth Stanton-Saringer; Jennifer Lei; Zoe Muller; Peter Hiscox; Danielle Hartley; Robert Harris; Andrew Deaville; Justin Chainey; Rosanna Geary; Oliver Ward; Marianne Mehta; Jessica Winch; Marian Cullis; Virginia Simpson; Donald Wiggins; J Renton and Judith Van Bergen.

If you are not a Member of Rainforest Concern, then please join us by completing the form below. If you are already, then perhaps you can encourage a friend to follow your example!

You might like to consider leaving a lasting legacy to the projects of Rainforest Concern in your Will.

We will be happy to provide full details upon request and you may of course choose a particular area to benefit from this.

Please tick one box only

Member: Incl. sponsorship of 1 acre each year	<input type="checkbox"/> £3 per month	<input type="checkbox"/> £36 annually
Friend: Sponsoring 3 acres each year	<input type="checkbox"/> £6.25 per month	<input type="checkbox"/> £75 annually
Protector: Sponsoring 5 acres each year	<input type="checkbox"/> £10.50 per month	<input type="checkbox"/> £125 annually
Guardian: Sponsoring 10 acres each year	<input type="checkbox"/> £21 per month	<input type="checkbox"/> £250 annually
Benefactor: Sponsoring 20 acres each year	<input type="checkbox"/> £42 per month	<input type="checkbox"/> £500 annually

Name Title
 Address
 Postcode

I would prefer to make a simple donation of £

Cheques should be made payable to 'Rainforest Concern'. Should you wish to pay by credit card, please telephone 0207 229 2093

giftaid it You can make your donation worth even more! For every pound you give to us, we get an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. All you need to do is tick the box.

I would like all donations I have made since 6 April 2000 and all donations in the future to be Gift Aid until I notify you otherwise.

To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year.

STANDING ORDER FORM

I wish to pay monthly / yearly by Standing Order (please delete as appropriate):
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 To: Bank / Building Society
 Address Postcode
 Name(s) of Account Holder(s)
 Account no Sort Code
 Instruction to your Bank - Please pay to Barclays Bank, 20-29-90, 50793086, Ref: RCSO.
 On day month year the sum of £
 and the same amount on the same day of each month / year (please delete) until further notice
 Signature Date

All our supporters will receive an attractive certificate recording the level of their Membership, our magazine Rainforest Review and regular updates. Guardians and Benefactors will receive an attractive Rainforest Concern T-shirt (XL / L / M) - please tick here if not required.
 After one year's Membership Rainforest Concern Benefactors are entitled to two days free accommodation, meals and guided tours at one of our lodges in Ecuador. Guardians are entitled to this after two year's Membership.

If you wish to sponsor an acre as a gift for someone please telephone us on 0207 229 2093 or visit www.rainforestconcern.org and click on "sponsor an acre online"