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## About ICFC

ICFC is Canada's leading charity for conserving nature in the tropics and other priority areas worldwide.

### How we're different

Our programs are varied, but all exemplify our distinct modus operandi:

- We engage in direct conservation action to protect ecosystems, species and wilderness, basing our work on existing science.
- Because a core group of donors covers administrative costs long term, 100% of your donation is applied to programs.
- For carrying out much of our work, we partner with capable in-country conservation organizations, who best understand both the sociopolitical and biological environment.
- We work to identify opportunities that represent conservation priorities, with good value in relation to cost and risk.
- We involve local communities in conservation efforts, building local support for conservation.

ICFC is a registered Canadian charity (Charitable Registration # 85247 8189 RR0001)

Photo credits: Cover (left to right from top): Jorge A. Solórzano-Filho, Martin Schoeller, Jeffrey Cortez, Fabien Andres Llanos, Paul Ferber/Marine Conservation Cambodia, Jorge A. Solórzano-Filho (and opposite page), Luciano Capelli/Area de Conservación Guanacaste



## By the Numbers

Number of countries ICFC has worked in: **16**

Number of threatened species  
(that we know of!) in ICFC project areas: **over 100**

Total land area protected: **152,183 km<sup>2</sup>**

Marine area of ICFC projects: **46,000 km<sup>2</sup>**

Number of land acquisitions that  
ICFC has been involved in: **6**

### ICFC Project Areas





## Message from the Chairman

*Thank you* to those of you who supported us this year and in the past. As you can see from our report, significant progress is being made in our conservation initiatives on your behalf.

If you are thinking of getting involved in international conservation efforts, you should consider investing in ICFC. Here's why:

- We undertake direct conservation actions that protect natural ecosystems.
- We stay lean and flexible, using established partners in the locations where we work and providing focused projects with good value and measurable results.
- We scale our selection of projects to be manageable and impactful.
- We work in community and with communities.
- We are transparent.
- We are successful.
- With your investment we can make a difference.

Many thanks to our staff, partners, advisors, volunteers, and donors—and to our founders, Tom and Anne, whose vision and resources are making a unique contribution to conservation.



John B. McWilliams, QC  
Chairman

## Message from the Managing Directors

### *Is your donation to ICFC a gift or an investment?*

From our perspective as donors, it's an investment—one that yields a public good and gives us a personal return in the satisfaction we derive from seeing the long-term benefits from our work. In some cases, ICFC's conservation projects become financially self-sustaining. Others need long-term support. Either way, the overall return is excellent.

Our progress in 2015 illustrates this. At a tiny per-unit-area cost, we are protecting vast areas of Amazonian forest in Brazil (see page 10 of this report) and Peru (page 22). In Guatemala, an important new forest reserve has been created (page 6). Our projects in Mali (page 8) and Costa Rica (page 12) provide world models for involving local communities in conservation. Our new shorebird initiative is reducing threats to Canada's shorebirds in their winter homes (page 14).

Is there any longer-term return than preventing extinctions? In Patagonia, the hooded grebe has been saved from going extinct by a modest-budget project run by a team of dedicated biologists and volunteers (page 18). Threatened species are the focus of our project in Sulawesi (page 16) and two small projects in Argentina (page 13).

Finally, the carbon benefits from our work (page 23) are a huge public good and can be viewed as offsetting one's personal carbon footprint.

Thank you for joining us in this effort. We hope you'll agree we have all invested well.



Tom Welch & Anne Lambert  
Managing Directors



# Land securement in the Sierra de los Cuchumatanes, Guatemala

## Creation of the Yal Unin Yul Witz Reserve

**Timeframe:** land acquired in 2015 for protection in perpetuity

**Area involved:** 845 hectares

**2015 budget:** \$103,636 (US\$75,000 toward US\$660,000 purchase price)

**Field partner:** Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO)

### Conservation potential

The Sierra de los Cuchumatanes, the highest non-volcanic mountain range in Central America, is a centre of amphibian endemism, harbouring a number of species of salamanders, frogs, and toads found nowhere else on Earth. The Cuchumatanes is a priority for conservation, because it has been identified as an Alliance for Zero Extinction site—that is, the last remaining refuge of several species classified as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List. It is also an Important Bird Area, supporting three

globally threatened bird species. The remoteness of the Cuchumatanes has protected much of its forest cover to date, yet increasing pressures from corporations looking to exploit the area’s coffee-growing potential put its exceptional plant and animal assemblage at risk.

In early 2015, an opportunity arose to acquire a critical 845-ha (2,088-acre) property called Finca San Isidro in the cloud forests of the Cuchumatanes. Home to a treasure trove of amphibians, including 11 threatened species, it was slated to be cleared for coffee cultivation within a year.

### Achievements

ICFC funds, together with those of other organizations, were used to purchase the land to create the Yal Unin Yul Witz Protected Natural Reserve. Its name underscores the importance of this area as a salamander sanctuary: in the Mayan language Q’anjob’al, spoken in local indigenous communities, salamanders are referred to as the “sleeping child,” and the phrase *Yal Unin Yul Witz* means “Sleeping Child Between Mountains.” The reserve will be owned and managed by FUNDAECO and will be registered in the Guatemalan protected area system.



The new reserve is the only known home to some of the world’s rarest amphibians, such as the Finca Chiblac salamander and the Cuchumatán golden toad, which was discovered as recently as 2012. © Robin Moore

## Managing Barba Azul Nature Reserve, Bolivia

### *Strengthening protection of the blue-throated macaw and other wildlife of the Beni Savanna*

**Timeframe:** land acquisition in 2013; reserve management in 2010-2011 & from 2014 onwards

**Area involved:** 11,000 hectares

**2015 budget:** (ICFC portion): US\$58,039

**Field partner:** Asociación Armonía

### Conservation potential

The Barba Azul Nature Reserve lies in the heart of one of South America's largest grassland floodplains, known as the Beni savannas. WWF has ranked the conservation status of this ecoregion as "critical" on account of its being heavily affected by human activities including livestock grazing and intense yearly burning for forage maintenance.

Barba Azul is one of the very few portions of the Beni savannas that are spared these pressures. It supports 250 species of birds and 27 medium and large mammals, including jaguar, puma, maned wolf, and giant otter. And it is the world's only protected area for the Critically Endangered blue-throated macaw, one of the rarest parrots, endemic to northern Bolivia.

### Actions and achievements

- ICFC and American Bird Conservancy purchased a John Deere tractor for the reserve. While not glamorous, it has proved a critical conservation tool. In just six months, the tractor enabled:
  - ◊ the creation of a 30-km firebreak system to prevent fires (resulting from annual pasture burning on surrounding ranches) from entering the reserve, enabling the development of old-growth savanna communities;
  - ◊ the construction of 4 km of fence along the entire southern border of the reserve to prevent incursions of free-roaming cattle from neighbouring ranches;
  - ◊ the installation of 10 new nest boxes for blue-throated macaws in the previously inaccessible parts of the reserve.
- Progress was made in developing a long-term strategy for sustainable management of Barba Azul, including hiring a full-time reserve coordinator and expanding ecotourism capacity.

### Funding needs

Asociación Armonía is seeking additional funds to complete the reserve's tourist facilities intended to help achieve its financial sustainability.



The palm islands embedded in Barba Azul's flooded grasslands provide blue-throated macaws with their chief food (Motacu palm fruits) and nesting cavities. © Bennett Hennessey (L); Daniel Alarcon (R) / Asociación Armonía

# Mali Elephant Project

A joint project of ICFC and WILD Foundation

**Securing the future of Mali's desert elephants by working with communities and government to establish lasting protection of key dry season and migration habitats**

**Timeframe:** Began 2010; anticipated 8-10 years

**2015 Budget:** \$408,536

**Size of area:** 3.3 million hectares (33,534 km<sup>2</sup>) size of Vancouver Island or Belgium

**Field Partner & project originator:** WILD Foundation

## Conservation potential

In Mali, an internationally important population of desert elephants makes the longest annual migration in Africa (a 600-km circuit). In this arid region, competition is high for access to water and forage among prestige cattle herders, pastoralists and elephants. Yet much can be done to reduce conflicts and align human and elephant interests through strengthening community-based resource management systems.

## Actions

- The project's grassroots approach brings together communities, led by elders and clan leaders, to enact rules for management of natural resources in a way that respects elephants. These rules, which have the force of law, include charging fees to transient herders and curtailing deforestation from the charcoal industry.
- Patrols of young men (*Brigades de Surveillance*) work alongside government foresters to enforce rules, guard elephant habitat, and combat poaching.
- An awareness campaign has increased knowledge about elephants, conservation and the new resource management rules.
- To counter increased poaching, the project mobilized significant support from the Elephant Crisis Fund and UN peacekeepers, and worked with military commanders to organize patrols.



Numbering an estimated 350-700 individuals in 2004-2005, the elephants inhabiting the Gourma region of Mali are a notable remnant population – one of the largest remaining in West Africa. © Carlton Ward Jr./WILD Foundation

## Achievements

- An escalation of poaching in 2015 was halted thanks to the key role of project personnel.
- Implementation of community based natural resource management has made space for nature while improving livelihoods. We believe this is an excellent model for Africa and beyond.
- Deforestation has been reduced, and grassland quality has improved through the creation of extensive firebreaks.
- Countering terrorism: The project provides over 600 young men with work that they take pride in and that prevented their recruitment by extremist groups.

### Community benefits from better resource management

An impact survey of 10 communities showed that those which had designated areas of reserve pasture and protected them with fire-breaks and protected forests from abusive cutting, noticed a substantial increase in the quality of their livestock, as reflected in the price in the local markets. On average prices were 55% higher for goats, 36% for sheep and 40% for cattle.

### Funding needs

Funds are stretched for this project and additional support would make a positive difference.



Firebreaks are labour intensive, but effective. 525km were completed in 2015.  
© WILD Foundation

## Brazilian Amazon: Protecting Kayapó lands

*Working with the Kayapó indigenous people to ensure continued protection of the last large block of intact forest in the southeastern Amazon*

**Timeframe:** medium- to long-term involvement from 2007

**Area involved:** Enormous! 11 million hectares (110,000 km<sup>2</sup>) — larger than Iceland

**2015 budget (ICFC portion):** US\$661,839

**Field partners:** Associação Floresta Protegida, Instituto Kabu, and Instituto Raoni

### Conservation potential

Amid one of the world’s deforestation hotspots, the southeastern Amazon, the legally ratified indigenous territories occupied by some 8,000 Kayapó people comprise the largest unbroken expanse of tropical forest under some form of protection in the world. Kayapó territories are large enough to sustain sizable populations of

most Amazon plant and animal species at risk, including the Critically Endangered bearded saki monkey and Endangered white-whiskered spider monkey, giant otter, and hyacinth macaw. This block of forest also acts as a “biotic pump” that pulls in enormous amounts of water vapour, leading to rain, lower local atmospheric pressure, and winds moving moist ocean air far inland. It thus contributes substantially to ensuring regular rainfall in the Amazon and beyond, and mitigating climate change.

Without the Kayapó, this vast forest island would be gone. The Kayapó have fiercely protected their land for generations, but they face increased pressure posed by illegal mining, logging, commercial fishing, ranching, agriculture, and mega-dam projects. The conservation solution is to work with them to preserve their land and way of life.

### Actions and achievements

- We have prevented widespread invasions of Kayapó land by illegal loggers, miners, and ranchers. Surveillance expeditions and modern communications now allow the Kayapó to stop intruders along an almost 2,500-km border.



A Kayapó man looks out on his forest home.© Cristina Mittermeier



A Kayapo woman in forest. © Cristina Mittermeier

- We have helped develop sustainable and culturally compatible economic activities that reduce the pressure on the Kayapó to accept cash for unsustainable activities (such as logging or gold mining). Brazil nut harvesting and sales have been especially successful, while other sustainable enterprises continue to grow, including cumaru seed production, bead jewelry making, international field courses in ethnography and tropical forest ecology, and a sport fishing venture.

## Highlights of 2015

The remote village of Kendjam, located on the beautiful Iriri river, hosted the first sport-fishing venture on Kayapó lands. The Kayapó protect long sections of the region's two major wilderness rivers, the Iriri and the Xingu, from unsustainable commercial fishing, logging, and pollution. Fish populations remain healthy, and we saw the potential for the Kayapó to develop a business guiding sport fishing tours. After years of preparation and discussion with the community of Kendjam, federal government authorization was obtained for a pilot project with the company Untamed Angling. Four groups of anglers were hosted by Kendjam people and fished the Iriri in the summer of 2015. This was judged a great success by all involved, and the number of Kendjam tours is set to double in 2016. The sport fishing venture and community benefit sharing system developed at Kendjam provide a model for other villages on the Xingu river.

Incursions by gold miners and loggers continued to plague northeastern and northwestern portions of Kayapó land in 2015. Our partner NGOs managed to keep the lid on the situation but challenges remain. With support from ICFC and Environmental Defense Fund, the Brazilian government mounted two helicopter-supported operations to clear out illegal logging and gold mining. As usual, these operations destroyed substantial equipment, but some invaders had time to escape. The battle against illegal activities continues.

## Funding needs

This project needs substantial funds to support the crucial management and operations of our Kayapo partner organizations.



Kayapó lands are home to diverse aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. © Jorge Alberto Solórzano-Filho

## Costa Rica: Area de Conservación Guanacaste

### *Supporting parataxonomists and community education at a renowned national park*

**Timeframe:** Long-term support of parataxonomists through a trust fund established in 2011, and ongoing support of a volunteer-led after-school program

**2015 budget:** \$24,087

**Size of area:** 163,000 hectares (1630 km<sup>2</sup>)

**Field Partner:** Guanacaste Dry Forest Conservation (GDFCF)

### Conservation potential

Encompassing dry lowland forest, higher elevation rain forest, cloud forest, and a marine sector. Area de Conservación Guanacaste (ACG) is considered a world model for restoration and management of a large protected area. ACG Parataxonomists hired from the local community protect the park and receive ongoing training to become experts in taxonomy and ecology and contribute to a scientific database.



The after-school program has spawned a bird club: *Los Trogones*. Instructor Maria Marta Chavarria Diaz (MMC) is on the right. Photo © GDFCF

### Actions and Achievements

- ICFC's Parataxonomist Trust Fund grew its capital to C\$1,979,345 in 2015, making progress toward our goal of US\$2.1 million.
- The after-school program in a fishing village neighbouring ACG gets kids out in nature (sea and land) for hands-on learning, and is building conservation literacy in the children and their families.

### Funding needs

Funds are needed for food, supplies, and other costs for marine excursions and camping trips. Contributions to the trust fund are welcome.



Photo © Maria Marta Chavarria, ACG



Manta rays and starfish (photo by Esteban Romero) at Bahía Santa Elena, an area whose importance as a fish nursery the local community is learning to appreciate.

## Selva de Pino Paraná, Argentina

### *Protecting threatened species of the Atlantic Forest*

**Timeframe:** 2013-2016

**2015 budget:** \$19,809

**Field partner:** Proyecto Selva Pino Paraná

#### Conservation potential

About 90% of the Atlantic Forest has been cleared or degraded by logging, driving major declines of many birds. Twenty species of globally threatened birds live alongside small-holder farms in Argentina's San Pedro province. This project engages farmers and local youth to restore bird habitat and protect trees needed by specialist cavity-nesting birds.

#### Actions and achievements

- Outreach programs were expanded in secondary and post-secondary schools,

engaging youth in decision-making around forest management and conservation measures.

- More than 200 young people have participated in this project since 2003; some are now conservation professionals, including Nestor Fariña, who is the project leader for another ICFC project, Rincón Santa María (see next).



Children learn about the needs of wildlife in their communities. © Proyecto Selva de Pino Paraná.

## Reserva Natural Rincón Santa María, Argentina

### *Restoring habitat for threatened species*

**Timeframe:** 2013-2016

**2015 budget:** \$16,216

**Field partner:** a team of naturalists and volunteers working at the reserve

#### Conservation potential

This 2,500-hectare reserve in the Mesopotamian savanna ecoregion is important for native and migratory birds, including species breeding in Canada (common nighthawk, osprey, upland sandpiper, and greater and lesser yellowlegs). The conservation challenge is the invasion of exotic pine and eucalyptus trees, which compete with native tree species and change soil humidity.

#### Actions and achievements

This project entails replacing invasive tree species with native flora. The project enjoyed a productive first year in 2015: a nursery for native tree seedlings was established; 300 saplings were planted, and 300 hectares of grassland were cleared of invasive trees.



Native tree nursery at Rincón Santa María. © Nestor Fariña.

## Shorebird Conservation Initiative

*In 2015 we began projects to reduce threats to Canada's shorebirds at their winter homes.*

**Timeframe:** long term, started 2015

**2015 Budget:** \$135,632

**Field Partners:** Fundación Inalafquen (San Antonio); Asociación Ambiente Sur (Rio Gallegos); Conservación Marina (Chile)



Rangers protect shorebirds and their habitats and educate the public about the needs of migratory shorebirds. © Fundación Inalafquen

“Shorebirds need urgent action” is the conclusion of the 2012 edition of *The State of Canada's Birds*. The Environment Canada study notes that as a group, shorebird species have declined by almost half in the period 1970 to 2010. The cited cause is “loss and alteration of wetlands, estuaries, deltas and mudflats at all stages of their journey, from their breeding grounds in Canada to stopover sites and wintering grounds throughout the Western Hemisphere”.

We have good information on where shorebirds congregate during the non-breeding season, but action to reduce threats is what's needed.

ICFC's Shorebird Conservation Initiative was created to address this need. In 2015 we appointed Patricia Gonzales as ICFC's Shorebird Project Coordinator, based in Argentina. The late Allan J. Baker, an eminent scientist and shorebird conservationist, identified Patricia (his research colleague for red knots) as a one-person force for shorebird conservation in South America. 2015 saw the start of three projects, of which the first two are Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network sites of International Importance:



Cattle (background) pose threats to shorebird habitat: a solvable problem. © Conservación Marina

**Bahia de San Antonio, Argentina** — Although a coastal marine protected area, shorebirds using this important stopover site are subject to increasing human disturbance and the threat of inappropriate development. The site is especially important for the *rufa* subspecies of red knot. This project increased the number of beach guardians, resulting in less disturbance and improved compliance with regulations. The project also provides expert input into the reserve’s management.

**Rio Gallegos Estuary, Argentina** —At this important stopover site for thousands of migratory and resident shorebirds, we are extending management that has worked well at the municipal reserve to the even more important provincial reserve, reducing disturbance and other threats.

**Mauñin wetlands, Chile** — Three new wetland reserves totaling 970 hectares are in the works. Protected status will address issues of habitat degradation from unregulated recreational activities and livestock trampling. This project



Children learn about shorebirds. © Gabriela Mansilla

was awarded matching funding from the US Fish & Wildlife Service’s **Neotropical Migratory Bird Convention Act** program.

In 2015, we also laid the groundwork for upcoming shorebird projects in the Bahamas and Suriname.

### Funding needs

Our prospective project in Suriname (a super important region for shorebirds) needs support.



Red knots ready for migration. © Fabian Llanos

## Securing a future for imperiled wildlife in Sulawesi, Indonesia

*Our focus is the endangered maleo bird, sea turtles and fruit bats, and we report progress on all fronts.*

**Timeframe:** long-term involvement from 2010

**Size of area involved:** 250,000 hectares (2,500 km<sup>2</sup>)

**2015 budget (ICFC portion):** \$126,191

**Field partner:** Alliance for Tompotika Conservation (AlTo)

## Conservation potential

Sulawesi is a global biodiversity hotspot with numerous species found nowhere else. The Tompotika peninsula where we work has a good representation of Sulawesi's characteristic natural habitats, including montane rainforests, savannah, wetlands, mangroves, sandy beaches, coral reefs, and seagrass beds. The area is a stronghold for one of Sulawesi's most fascinating creatures, the maleo, a highly endangered megapode bird that relies on geothermal heat to incubate its huge eggs. Maleos and sea turtles declined in population from rampant harvesting of their eggs for sale as a luxury item. Fruit bats, important for forest regeneration as seed dispersers and pollinators, are under hunting pressure from the expanding bushmeat market in North Sulawesi.



Rush hour at the maleo's nesting ground near Tompotika's village of Taima. © Anton Struchkov / ICFC

## Actions and achievements

This project is securing communal breeding grounds for the maleo and for three threatened species of sea turtles (green, hawksbill, and olive ridley). We are also protecting key roosting sites of fruit bats.

Our approach combines direct action to deter poaching with community education and collaboration with government authorities. 2015 highlights:

- The peak daily counts of adult maleo at the region's key nesting ground have hit all-time highs of up to 60 birds. This underscores the importance of the Taima site as the largest maleo nesting ground anywhere and the only one that boasts a long-term increase in maleo numbers.
- Revenue to the community from the project's conservation lease of the maleo nesting ground is providing free rice for anyone in the village who needs it. Thus, in addition to the opportunity of being employed as guards at the maleo nesting ground, Taima residents, especially the poorest, can experience direct benefits of conserving maleos.
- The past year has seen increased local participation in sea turtle conservation, with villagers bringing turtle eggs for incubation in the project hatchery. The number of hatchlings released (over 2,000 in 2015) has quadrupled over the past five years.
- A prime island bat roosting site that had been completely abandoned by bats due to relentless hunting has been spared from hunting since mid-2014 and is once again harbouring thousands of Sulawesi and black flying foxes.
- Interactive conservation education programs reached about 1,500 schoolchildren per month in the more than 100 primary, middle, and high schools of the region. Most of

Topotika's 20,000+ schoolchildren have now had at least a general introduction to local conservation issues. (We should do so well in Canada!)

- The first Tompotika International Maleo and Sea Turtle Festival was well attended at six locations across the region in February-March 2015. Daytime juggling workshops, face painting, informational booths, and music were followed by two drama performances by a troupe of 16 local high school students and a sea turtle-shaped lantern parade at the end of the evening. Feedback from officials, teachers, and other participants was highly enthusiastic.

## Funding needs

We need additional funds to add a project component that will address poaching of two threatened large mammal species, the anoa and the babirusa.



© Anton Struchkov / ICFC



The Festival closing: lantern parade. © Noval Suling / AlTo

## Preventing Extinction of the Hooded Grebe in Argentina

*This project has halted the decline of the critically endangered hooded grebe*

**Timeframe:** 2012–2017 and likely beyond

**2015 budget:** \$76,452

**Field Partner:** Asociación Ambiente Sur

### Conservation potential

The hooded grebe is found only in Argentina's southern Patagonian steppe region. This Critically Endangered species suffered a precipitous decline in recent decades, but the causes have been identified and are being addressed. Key among them is predation by introduced American mink.

### Key actions

- Guardians are assigned to each breeding colony. They actively prevent predators from accessing the colonies and collect data on breeding success.
- In winter surveys, simultaneous counts were conducted in three Atlantic estuaries and threats to grebes identified.

### Achievements

- The species' population is no longer in decline: Surveys at wintering and breeding areas show that the population has stabilized or is slightly increasing (it stands at close to 800 worldwide).



© Pablo Hernandez

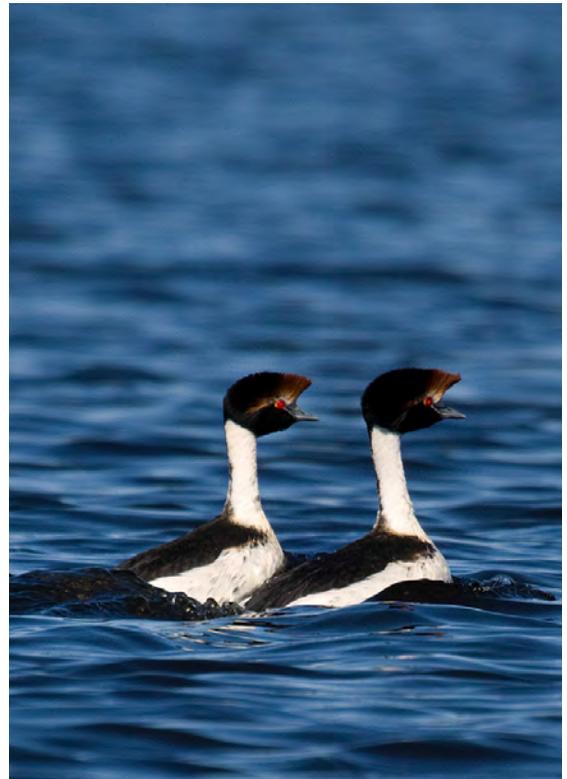


At work on a rare calm day for Patagonia. © Diego Punta Fernandez

- Mink control has greatly improved grebe breeding success, and mink numbers at grebe breeding areas are now lower. The long-term plan is eradication of mink from high plateau breeding grounds and a reduction in their number in the surrounding low plateaus.
- Measures to deter breeding of kelp gulls have also reduced mortality and numbers of this predatory species at grebe colonies.
- (Funded by others:) Trout have been removed from lakes and steps taken to prevent introduction at other lakes.
- Public education efforts at Río Gallegos have been pivotal in developing local awareness of the hooded grebe and its plight. This includes a popular interpretive centre.

### Funding needs

Land acquisition to secure more key habitat for the species is in the plans when funds permit.



Pair of hooded grebes. © Diego Punta Fernandez

## Andean Amazon: Linking near real-time deforestation monitoring with policy action

**Location:** Andean Amazon, Peru especially

**Timeframe:** 2013-2017

**2015 Budget:** \$97,860

**Field Partners:** Amazon Conservation Association and Asociación para la Conservación Amazónica

### Conservation Potential

Preventing loss of primary forests depends on access to up-to-date information about where and why it is happening. ICFC supported the development of a tracking system based on analysis of remote sensing data that identifies deforestation hotspots almost as they take place (“near real-time”).

This technology opens up a vital opportunity to prevent large-scale damage to natural ecosystems in the extremely biodiverse Andean Amazon.

### Achievements

- The MAAP (Monitoring of the Andean Amazon) project was successfully launched (see: <http://maaproject.org>) and has been extremely well received. Every MAAP bulletin is distributed to over 850 people, including Peruvian and U.S. government officials.

- Incidences of illegal logging, clearing for oil palm and cacao plantations, road development and illegal mining are being identified and the information rapidly disseminated.
- MAAP has spurred government action including investigations and legal action to prevent and halt illegal mining, logging and development.
- MAAP has generated media attention and public interest in forest conservation.

### Funding needs

In 2016-2017 we plan to expand outreach to government to strengthen policy and enforcement action against illegal deforestation.



A front page article in El Comercio, Peru’s leading newspaper, features images from MAAP in a story on the alarming continued expansion of gold mining into the Tambopata National Reserve in Madre de Dios.



*The only places that will get through the bottleneck of environmental degradation in decent shape are those where individuals and organizations dig in and work in the field for the long term.*

— Daniel H. Janzen  
(right, with Winnie Hallwachs)



Photo credits (top to bottom): Asociación Ambiente Sur, ICFC, Asociación Armonía

## Peru: Los Amigos Conservation Concession

**ICFC's trust fund secures ongoing, long-term protection of 146,000 ha of primary lowland rainforest in Madre de Dios, southeastern Peru**

**Timeframe:** Long-term commitment from 2011

**2015 Budget:** \$81,851 (56 cents per hectare!)

**Size:** 146,000 ha (1,460 km<sup>2</sup>)

**Field Partners:** Amazon Conservation Association and Asociación para la Conservación Amazónica

### Conservation potential

The species-rich tropical lowland rainforests of Peru are under constant threat from illegal activities of mining, logging, agriculture and poaching.

In 2011 ICFC established a US\$1 million trust fund (2015 year-end value US\$1.14 million) to ensure long-term management of the Los Amigos Conservation Concession, which protects 146,000 ha of primary rainforest. Los Amigos borders a large reserve for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and provides a critical buffer to prevent loggers, miners and others from endangering this vulnerable group. The fund supports positions for concession guards (*Promotores de Conservación*) who carry out patrolling and biological monitoring.

### Achievements

- Surveillance over land and along the Los Amigos River is deterring illegal activity.
- Despite nearby road development, incursions into LACC have been limited to a single site (resulting in legal action).



Juvenile puma: © Amazon Conservation Association

- We are leading a cutting-edge program to use drones for surveillance and have engaged with universities and government to encourage wider adoption of this technology.
- LACC guards participated in training workshops on best practices and preparedness for encountering uncontacted indigenous people.
- Thanks to our partner Amazon Conservation Association, we have a carbon profile for LACC: 79 million tonnes of above-ground carbon are stored in its forests.

### Funding needs

We need help to reach our goal of US\$2 million for the trust fund. See next page for the carbon benefits from this project.



Signs of uncontacted indigenous people near the Los Amigos Conservation Concession.  
© Amazon Conservation Association

# Carbon benefits, Los Amigos Conservation Concession

A chief goal in ICFC’s conservation work is conserving biodiversity, however a huge side benefit is mitigating climate change by preventing deforestation, which accounts for 15% of the world’s carbon emissions – more than all the cars and trucks on the world’s roads.

A case in point is the 146,000-hectare Los Amigos Conservation Concession in Peru (see preceding page). Let’s look at the carbon benefits of preventing deforestation there.

## Carbon facts and figures: Canada vs. Los Amigos Conservation Concession



Canada’s total emissions, 2014: **732 million tonnes** of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e)



Los Amigos stores **79 million tonnes** of CO<sub>2</sub> above ground, the same as Canada’s total carbon emissions from all electrical power generation in 2014 (78 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e)

ICFC’s Los Amigos Trust Fund provides for permanent protection of the concession, but its current assets of US\$1.1 million are insufficient and our goal for the trust fund is US\$2 million.

The figures on the left show what good value this provides:

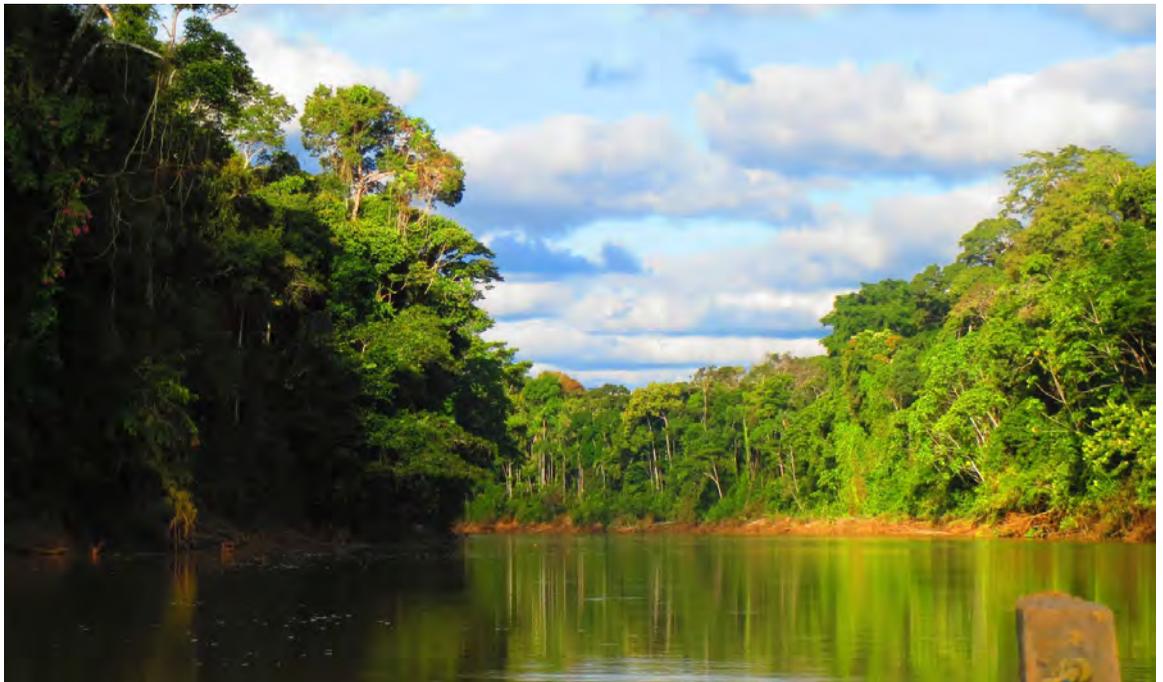
It protects an amount of stored CO<sub>2</sub> that is **one-tenth of Canada’s entire annual emissions**<sup>1</sup>.

Not only is Los Amigos preventing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on a massive scale, but we are also protecting the myriad species (4,343 have been recorded) that live there.

We invite you to take advantage of this investment opportunity and help us to meet our goal! Contributions at any level will help.

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<sup>1</sup> ICFC does not provide a carbon credit and this does not represent a certified offset. 100% of donations to the Los Amigos Trust Fund are applied to conservation activities.



**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Donations	1,944,606	1,849,134
Gain/(Loss) on investment and foreign currency	342,950	464,931
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>2,287,556</b>	<b>2,314,065</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Argentina: Hooded Grebe	76,452	20,675
Argentina: Rincon Santa Maria	16,216	-
Argentina: shorebirds, San Antonio	63,922	-
Argentina: shorebirds, Rio Gallegos	28,039	-
Argentina: Selva de Pino Paraná	9,809	6,834
Bolivia: Barba Azul nature reserve	58,039	17,681
Bolivia: Tacana Brazil Nut Program	-	1,547
Brazil: Kayapó Project	661,839	604,597
Chile: shorebirds, Maullin	44	-
Colombia: Chamicero del Perijá Bird Reserve	-	101,340
Costa Rica: ACG Marine Education	13,444	9,033
Costa Rica: ACG Parataxonomists	10,643	9,792
Ecuador: Buenaventura Reserve	-	375
Guatemala: Laguna Grande & Sierra Caral reserves	-	190
Guatemala: land acquisition	103,636	-
Guatemala: Tapon Creek Reserve	-	5,254
Indonesia: Sulawesi	126,191	109,369
Mali Elephant Project	408,536	431,572
Peru: Andean Amazon	97,860	50,463
Peru: Los Amigos Conservation Concession	81,851	58,277
Shorebird Program Coordinator	43,627	-
<b>TOTAL Program Expenses</b>	<b>1,800,148</b>	<b>1,426,999</b>
Administration and Fundraising	379,489	186,367
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,179,637</b>	<b>1,613,366</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>107,919</b>	<b>700,699</b>
Fund Balances, beginning	4,240,474	3,539,775
Fund balances, ending	4,348,393	4,240,474

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	513,814	415,760
Designated Donations	23,660	1,450
Investments (securities)	30,755	245,115
Project advances	199,705	236,114
Donated Assets	-	79,000
Accounts Receivable	681	29,591
Prepaid Expenses	2,361	709
Loans Receivable	76,120	63,806
	847,096	1,071,545
Capital Assets		
Interest in Land <sup>1</sup>	93,152	92,199
Office Equipment, net	5,839	4,080
	98,991	96,279
Restricted Assets		
Los Amigos Cons. Conc. Trust Fund	1,482,701	1,396,521
Parataxonomist Trust Fund	1,949,345	1,725,943
	3,432,046	3,122,464
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>4,378,133</b>	<b>4,290,288</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	29,739	49,814
	29,739	49,814
Fund Balances		
Unrestricted	892,688	1,116,560
Internally Restricted	23,660	1,450
Restricted	3,432,046	3,122,464
	4,348,394	4,240,474
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>4,378,133</b>	<b>4,290,288</b>

1 Represents 3 hectares and conservation easements over 2576 ha of land in Guatemala, and mortgages in Ecuador & Bolivia with conservation covenants.

## Our Supporters

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## Our Volunteers

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**ICFC Board of Directors:** Claude Gascon, PhD, Washington, DC; Anne Lambert and Tom Welch, Chester, NS, John McWilliams, Calgary, AB

## How your donation can help

- \$100** buys communications equipment for rangers at important sites for shorebirds in Patagonia
- \$500** pays for horse maintenance at Barba Azul reserve, Bolivia
- \$1,180** buys materials and supplies for a sea turtle nursery in Nicaragua
- \$1,500** covers patrol boat maintenance to prevent destructive illegal fishing in Cambodia
- \$2,500** pays for firebreak construction at a reserve in northern Argentina
- \$2,500** covers construction and maintenance of reserve trails in Ecuador
- \$3,000** covers five patrol officers for 3 months to prevent destructive illegal fishing in Cambodia
- \$5,000** buys beach signage to prevent disturbance at important sites for shorebirds in Patagonia
- \$8,182** buys construction of three bird observation platforms/shelters at coastal wetlands in Chile
- \$12,900** buys fencing to protect sensitive areas of the wetland reserves at Rio Gallegos, Argentina
- \$77,400** covers youth brigades (600 people for one year) to protect elephants and habitat



### Other ways to help

- Share our news and spread the word
- Organize a fundraising event
- Volunteer at one of our local events

**Contact Michelle at [Colero@ICFCanada.org](mailto:Colero@ICFCanada.org)**

Photo credits (from top): FUNDAECO, Maria Marta Chavarría/ACG, Amazon Conservation Association, Jorge A. Solórzano Filho



ICFC is Canada's leading charity for conserving nature  
in the tropics and other priority areas worldwide.

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