



30
years
1988-2018

RAINFOREST
TRUST®



VOLUME X: 2018
COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

**NEW-TO-SCIENCE
SPECIES DISCOVERED**

RAINFOREST TRUST'S CEO HONORED WITH
MULAGO'S HENRY ARNHOLD FELLOWSHIP

Rainforest Trust is proud to announce that Chief Executive Officer Dr. Paul Salaman has been chosen as one of eight recipients — out of over 500 prospective candidates — for the Mulago Foundation's 2018 Henry Arnhold Fellowship. The fellowship is part of the foundation's mission to support high-impact organizations in doing what they do best. Becoming a fellow is a lifetime appointment and includes a financial award to the organization and leadership training retreats and mentorship in the first few years.

"It is such an honor to be awarded the prestigious Henry Arnhold Fellowship, and the retreat was a great introduction to the support and mentorship I can continue to expect from the highly experienced team at the Mulago Foundation, as well as other fellowship members," said Dr. Salaman. "On a personal note, learning about Mr. Arnhold brought up fond memories of my own grandfather, who shares a similar history of persecution in Germany and then entering World War 2 for the Allies. This just made me all the more proud to be a Henry Arnhold Fellow and represent Rainforest Trust."

Henry Arnhold escaped Nazi-occupied Germany to start a new life with his family in the United States, where he participated in the family banking business. His philanthropic work has expanded over the years with considerable support for non-profit organizations.



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RAINFOREST
TRUST®

We purchase and protect threatened
tropical habitats to save endangered
wildlife through local partnerships and
community engagement.

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LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends,

Thirty years ago, a desperate call for help was sounded from rainforests around the world.

Our most precious life-support system was under attack for timber and marginal agricultural lands. Species were facing extinction. Indigenous communities were being driven out and displaced. The carbon emissions released by fires burning across the tropics fueled rapidly changing climatic patterns that impacted the entire planet.

Rainforest Trust emerged from this urgent call to action in 1988 with a clear mission — to purchase and protect rainforests at imminent risk to save endangered species.

Today, we remain steadfast in this mission.

Since the end of 2013, we have placed more than 11 million acres under permanent protection across the tropics — that's saving one acre every 12 seconds across five years!

This year alone, thanks to your support, we have successfully helped establish the Douala-Edea National Park in Cameroon — an area slightly smaller than Rhode Island (page 6)!

Also, we purchased 20 acres to create the first-ever protected area for the Endangered Fijian Free-tailed Bat, an endemic species to Fiji and Vanuatu that provides important services to these island ecosystems (page 10).

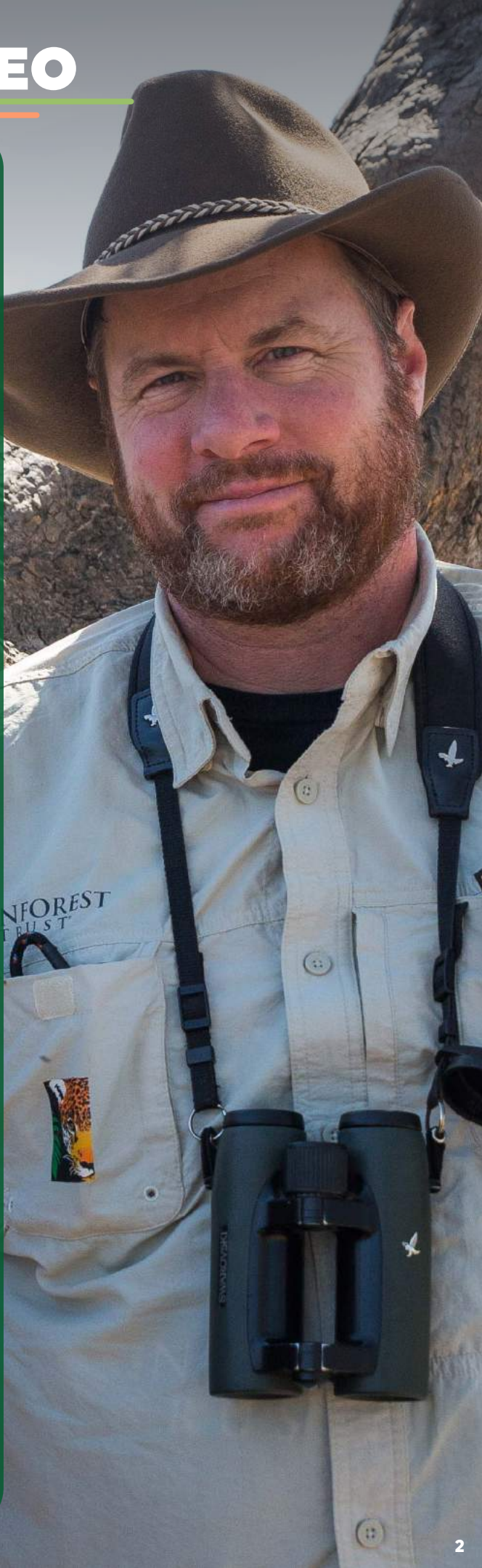
We've also established and strengthened a network of six nature reserves across Ecuador, protecting more than 3,800 acres of land, including the first private nature reserve on the Galapagos Islands. These acres have protected countless endangered plants and animals (page 19-20).

This year, we have worked even harder to share our story, and have seen it resonate with individual supporters and new corporate partners. We value our partnership with Endangered Species Chocolate and a new relationship with race car driver and conservationist Leilani Münter (page 30).

Sadly, the threats rainforests faced that motivated our founding have only grown over time, but with your help, we pledge to continue our clear mission with tangible results and real impacts. We will continue to save tens of millions of acres of life-giving, irreplaceable rainforest in the coming decades and make a positive difference for us all.

We only have one planet and we must all work to protect it.

For the rainforests,



NEW SPECIES



SPECIES NEW TO SCIENCE ARE BEING DISCOVERED AT OUR RESERVES

Scientists and researchers are discovering species new to science all across the tropics, the most biodiverse region of the planet, on a fairly regular basis. These new species range from plants and insects to invertebrates, birds and mammals. But why does this matter?

"While Rainforest Trust's mission is to protect tropical habitat to save threatened species, the discovery of species new to science reinforces the importance of saving these vital habitats," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "Not only are there many threatened species in need of protection, but there could be just as many species that need to be discovered before they become extinct."

The process of naming a species creates awareness about its existence and risk of extinction, and it also provides an opportunity to recognize and honor the work of the people fighting to protect it.

For example, several Rainforest Trust board members and supporters have had new species named in their honor just this year. In September, a new plant species from the coffee family (Rubiaceae) was described by Rodolfo Flores and co-authors in *Webbia — The Journal of Plant Taxonomy and Geography* and named for Sally Davidson, Rainforest Trust's treasurer of the board. Davidson is a longtime supporter of Rainforest Trust, serving on the board almost since the organization's conception 30 years ago. She is a passionate conservationist who also owns the DC-based Clyde's restaurant chain.

Back in May, five new snail-sucking snake species in the forests of western Ecuador were announced in the journal *ZooKeys* by a group of Ecuadorean

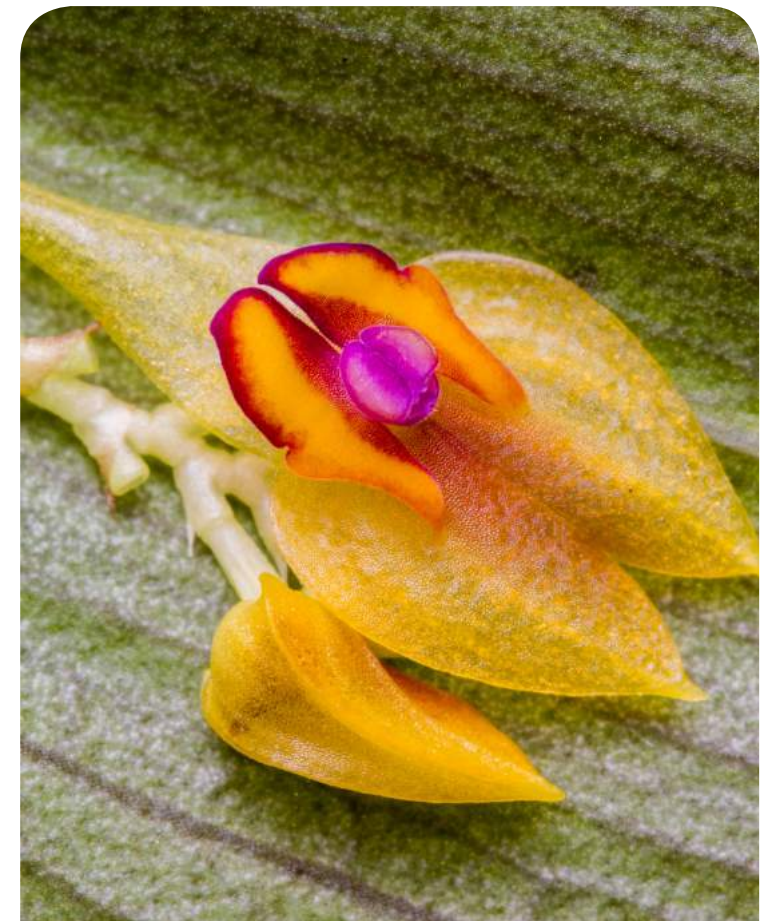
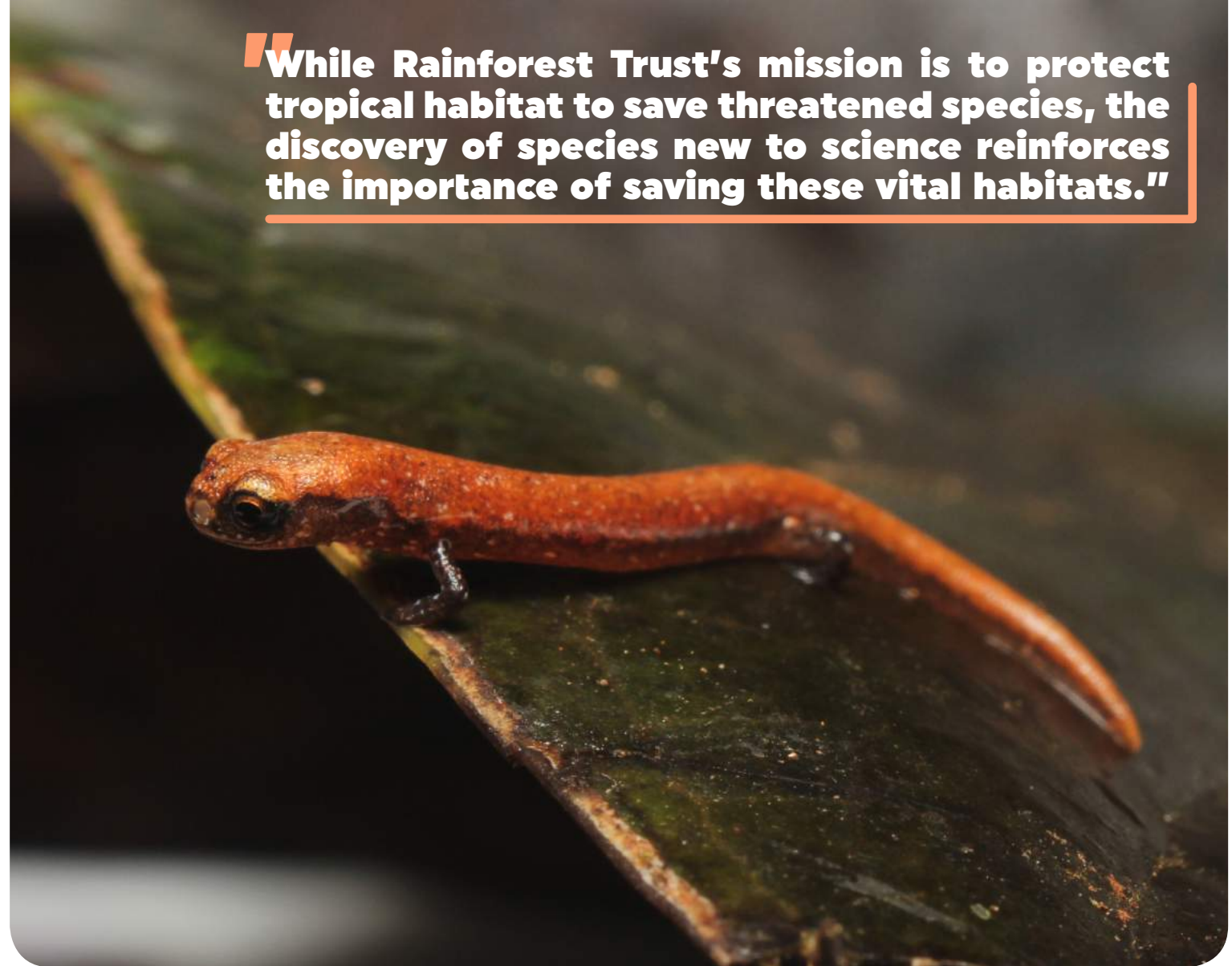
and international scientists. Rainforest Trust's President and two supporters, who helped purchase a 178-acre rainforest property where at least two of the species live, were honored for their efforts to protect this vital habitat.

Rainforest Trust President Dr. Robert "Bob" Ridgely as well as Rainforest Trust supporters George Jett and Dr. Beverly Ridgely, Bob Ridgely's father, were recognized in perpetuity for their contribution to conservation with the following species names: *Dipsa bobridgelyi*, *Dipsa georgejetti* and *Sibon bevriddgelyi*.

The researchers discovered the new snail-sucking snakes within Ecuador's Canandé Reserve, a hotspot of biodiversity. Rainforest Trust partners with the local conservation group Fundación Jocotoco to strategically purchase and protect land across Ecuador, including properties to expand this reserve, in an effort to halt species extinction.

In fact, the number of new species discovered in our protected areas is so great that Rainforest Trust and our local partners chose 12 to feature in the largest known species-naming auction in history! Our "Species Legacy Program" ran from November 8th to our 30th anniversary dinner on December 8th. With support from Freeman's Auction House in Philadelphia and Invaluable.com, we auctioned off the naming rights of 12 new-to-science species from Latin America, including a forest mouse, trap-jaw ant, salamander, caecilian (legless amphibian), four frogs and four orchids. Rainforest Trust hosted the auction as a way to increase both funding for and awareness of its projects, with proceeds going directly towards saving species from extinction.

"While Rainforest Trust's mission is to protect tropical habitat to save threatened species, the discovery of species new to science reinforces the importance of saving these vital habitats."



TOP: PHILIPP HÖNLE

BOTTOM LEFT: JUAN PABLO REYES; BOTTOM RIGHT: SEBASTIÁN VIEIRA

GHANA

NEW AMPHIBIAN-FOCUSED REFUGE ALSO HELPS LOCAL COMMUNITIES

On August 21, the Ghanaian government approved the designation of 847 acres — the size of Central Park — as the new Onepone Endangered Species Refuge, safeguarding habitat for numerous threatened species. Rainforest Trust worked closely with its local partner Herp Conservation Ghana to establish this protected area in Ghana's Togo-Volta Hills near the border with Togo.

"This new refuge is wonderful news for the Critically Endangered Togo Slippery Frog as well as many other threatened and endemic species," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "We are honored to have had such great support from local communities to preserve this biodiverse region, which previously was at risk from deforestation."

The unique biodiversity of the Togo-Volta region makes it a priority conservation site for endemic plants and animals, including the Critically Endangered Togo Slippery Frog and the Endangered Ukami Reed Frog. Critically Endangered Hooded Vultures, Vulnerable Black-bellied and White-bellied Pangolins and a plethora of endemic butterfly and amphibian species all reside within this forested habitat that is facing increasing pressures from forest degradation

and hunting. Demand for timber and charcoal production, conversion to agricultural land and new settlements drive much of the forest loss.

The new refuge bears the traditional name of the local people, who have been integral in the official designation. Two local communities gave up land for this designation, and Community Management Committees and a Protected Area Management Board will be created. Rangers will be selected from these communities as well. In addition to these benefits, this new protected area will safeguard a forest stream that is currently a major source of clean water for the rural communities. Water-gathering and washing in the stream have negative impacts on wildlife — specifically the amphibian population. This project will improve the community water supply by constructing two solar-powered, underground water wells. Increased access to clean water will have both ecological and social benefits.

This protected area was made possible by donors to this project and to the Conservation Action Fund. All gifts to the Conservation Action Fund are matched through the SAVES Challenge and used 100 percent in support of our conservation action.



BOTTOM: HERP CONSERVATION GHANA

TOP: TAMBAKO THE JAGUAR

CAMEROON



NEW NATIONAL PARK PROTECTS CHIMPANZEE STRONGHOLD

The government of Cameroon recently announced the creation of its first marine and terrestrial national park, an effort that was made possible by Rainforest Trust and local partner Cameroon Wildlife Conservation Society (CWCS).

The declaration upgraded the Douala-Edea Wildlife Reserve, first created in 1932, to national park status, and it approved a 375,303-acre expansion that includes mangrove forests, rivers, wetlands and marine habitats. Collectively, this expansion and conversion actively safeguard a total of 741,000 acres.

"This critical Key Biodiversity Area was at grave risk from growing pressure to deforest and destroy its megadiverse rainforests," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "The designation of this huge National Park is a vital step towards permanently protecting the precious natural resources of Cameroon hand in hand with local communities and the government."

The Douala-Edea Wildlife Reserve, recently identified as one of the most important conservation landscapes in Central Africa, had unprotected land parcels, mangrove forests and freshwater and marine habitats that are integral to the overall health and sustainability of this coastal land and seascape. With this new designation level and expanded area, the Douala-Edea National Park will protect both the integrity and connectivity of this amazing ecosystem,

which includes habitats as diverse as the species that live within them.

There is the Central African Chimpanzee, one of West Africa's most imperiled primates, as well as other increasingly rare primate species such as the Vulnerable Gabon Black Colobus Monkey. Numerous species of forest antelope and small populations of Vulnerable West African Manatees, Leatherback Turtles, Olive Ridley turtles and African Forest Elephants also live in the area. There are more than 70 water bird species documented, in addition to many migrant species that use the rivers and rich wetlands as important stops on annual migrations.

"There is no doubt this major conservation breakthrough could not have been achieved without resolute engagement and financial support from Rainforest Trust," National Coordinator of CWCS Dr. Gordon Ajonina said. "We are proud to say Rainforest Trust funding helped speedily move the gazettelement process forward, including improvements in infrastructure, purchasing equipment for game rangers and motorcycles and engine boats for marine patrols."

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Donna and Marc Smith, ImpactAssets, Shayde Christian and EnviroBuild for their leadership support.

PHILIPPINES



NEW RESERVE SAFEGUARDS ENDANGERED RATS AND BATS

Rainforest Trust is honored to announce the designation of a new protected area on Dinagat Island, one of the Philippines' smaller islands off the north coast of Mindanao. At over 3,400 acres, the Tubajon Bat Reserve secures habitat for numerous threatened and endemic species such as the Critically Endangered Dinagat Bushy-tailed Cloud Rat, the shrew-like Dinagat Gymnure (also known as the Dinagat Moonrat) and the endemic Dinagat Tarsier, a recently discovered primate distinct from its relative, the Philippine Tarsier.

Rainforest Trust teamed up with local partner GREEN Mindanao to create this new reserve as the second stage of a much larger project that will establish four new protected areas for a total of more than 16,000 acres — an area larger than Manhattan — in order to save the island's unique and endangered fauna and flora. Dinagat Island is home to 400 plant species and more than 100 bird species.

"This designation by the Tubajon government will help provide a permanent safe haven for many unique species on Dinagat," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "It is an important step in protecting this vital habitat from mining and other threats."

Community engagement and involvement in the creation and management of the new protected areas are integral components of the project. Led by local community members and indigenous groups, there is a palpable desire for conservation as evidenced by community-led protests against mining companies. Representatives from the municipal government and local people will oversee the new protected areas, with forest guards enforcing new regulations.

A congresswoman native to the island along with local officials are negotiating with mining interests to select where the new protected areas will be established. So far, these officials have secured the approval of nine out of 10 participating mining companies. Financial support will be utilized to map and delineate the new protected areas, as well as enable workshops for management and protection training. Patrol equipment, ranger stations, wildlife habitat assessments and policy adoption are key components of this project.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to The Biodiversity Consultancy, SW Region Orchid Growers Association, Inc., Charles Hess and Dr. Urs-Peter Stäuble for their leadership support.



PHILIPPINES

MIDDLE LEFT & BOTTOM: GREEN MINDANAO; MIDDLE RIGHT: KOK LENG YEO

ECUADOR

INCREASING PROTECTIONS FOR ENDANGERED ORCHIDS IN THE ANDES

This year, Rainforest Trust helped purchase three properties for a total of 160.8 acres to expand a unique orchid reserve in northwestern Ecuador. The Dracula Reserve was created in 2014 and is part of the Chocó-Tumbes biodiversity hotspot that is restricted to a narrow swath of land from the Andes to the Pacific along western Colombia and Ecuador.

"With less than 10 percent of Ecuador's precious Chocó rainforests left standing, Rainforest Trust has focused significant effort on purchasing the most threatened private lands to expand and consolidate protected areas in this region of tremendous conservation importance," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "Sadly, 14 Dracula species have already gone extinct due to deforestation in the region, so every acre we can add to these spectacular orchids' habitat is vital."

As its name suggests, this reserve is one of three locations that safeguards approximately 90 percent of the Dracula orchid genus, while also offering protection to other threatened orchids such as the Endangered slipper orchid called Hirtz's Phragmipedium.

While the reserve was founded with an orchid conservation focus, many types of flora and iconic fauna are also protected by the reserve, including the Critically Endangered Brown-headed Spider Monkey, one of the rarest primates in the world.

Rainforest Trust is continuing to work with local partner Fundación EcoMinga to expand the Dracula Reserve, with efforts underway to purchase several more properties that will add 1,475 acres, more than doubling its current size to 2,616 acres by 2019.

This will help create a corridor of protection that not only connects the different units of the existing Dracula Reserve, but also connects Dracula to the Awa Ethnic and Nature Reserve, spanning 284,986 acres across the Ecuador-Colombian border.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to the Orchid Conservation Alliance and Conservation Circle member Maria Flowers for their leadership support.



BOTTOM: SEBASTIÁN VIEIRA

FIJI



LAND PURCHASE CREATES NEW BAT SANCTUARY IN THE PACIFIC

Rainforest Trust celebrates the purchase of over 20 acres in Fiji to protect the land around Nakanacagi Cave, home to the only known maternity colony of the Endangered Fijian Free-tailed Bat, creating the nation's first bat sanctuary. This strategic purchase on Vanua Levu Island was undertaken in partnership with our local partner, the National Trust of Fiji, together with Bat Conservation International (BCI), and was officially dedicated with a large, local ceremony in July.

"This is an exceptional opportunity to protect a single site that is literally irreplaceable for the security of the Fijian Free-tailed Bat," said Dr. George Wallace, Chief Conservation Officer for Rainforest Trust. "In the absence of protection, the fate of nearly the entire global population would be potentially in jeopardy, but we have a chance here to provide a much more certain future for the species."

Securing this parcel of land initiates the process of creating the new Nakanacagi Cave Reserve. A forthcoming adjacent parcel will add over 30 additional acres, ensuring protection of the entire cave system and surrounding habitat. Ultimately, the entire area will be formally integrated into the Fijian government's nascent protected areas system.

Local communities used to hunt Fijian Free-tailed Bats for food. Recent conservation outreach efforts have curbed bat consumption, but without formal protection, hunting could resume. The local partner is working to create a consensus amongst the local communities on the importance of conservation, and the Nakanacagi Cave Reserve's creation is a vital part of this plan.

Besides bat hunting, erosion and deforestation threaten the cave and surrounding habitat. Past logging and burning has degraded some areas of the native forest, causing it to be susceptible to damage from extreme winds that accompany tropical cyclones. With protection and restoration undertaken by Nature Fiji, the forest can begin to recover and make erosion less potentially damaging.

The reserve will be formalized over the next five years under the Fiji Forestry Department's Reserve Demarcation Policy. A management plan will be put in place and local conservation rangers will be deployed to ensure continuing conservation successes.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Bat Conservation International.

TOP: BCI/BAU BAAU

MALAYSIA

NEW STATE PARK TO STRENGTHEN TIGER PROTECTION

Malaysia's Terengganu state government announced in August that it had designated 25,664 acres of land formerly slated for logging as a new protected area for wildlife. This new Lawit-Cenana State Park in the Kenyir region of Terengganu is phase one of a much larger conservation project that will encompass nearly 250,000 acres that lies within a globally important Tiger Conservation Landscape and critical wildlife corridor.

The creation and ongoing management of this new protected area by Rainforest Trust is a collaborative effort involving the Terengganu state government and our local partners Rimba and Panthera.

"This new protected area not only brings more key wildlife habitat under protection, but also protects

vital forested watersheds that provide important ecosystem services to the people of Terengganu," said Dr. Sheema Abdul Aziz, President of Rimba.

Estimated at more than 130 million years old, the dipterocarp forest in the Kenyir state park is now permanently protected from logging and secured from further development.

Over a dozen Critically Endangered Malayan Tigers have been recorded in the area, while the global population is estimated at fewer than 250 mature individuals in the wild.

"The importance of this area simply cannot be overestimated," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "The creation of the new park is a rare and unparalleled opportunity to protect a spectacular

and imperiled tropical forest harboring what is certainly one of the planet's most awe-inspiring predators — the Malayan Tiger."

The forests of the new park contain some of the highest biodiversity in Asia and are home to 18 highly threatened mammal species, including the Asian Elephant, Sunda Pangolin, Malay Tapir, Dhole and White-handed Gibbon. Six of Malaysia's eight wild cat species prowl these forests, including the Critically Endangered Malayan Tiger.

"These apex predators face tremendous pressure from poaching, fueled by the illegal trade in their body parts for traditional Chinese medicine," said Dr. Gopalasamy Reuben Clements, lead investigator of Rimba's Project Harimau Selamanya and Associate Professor at Sunway University.

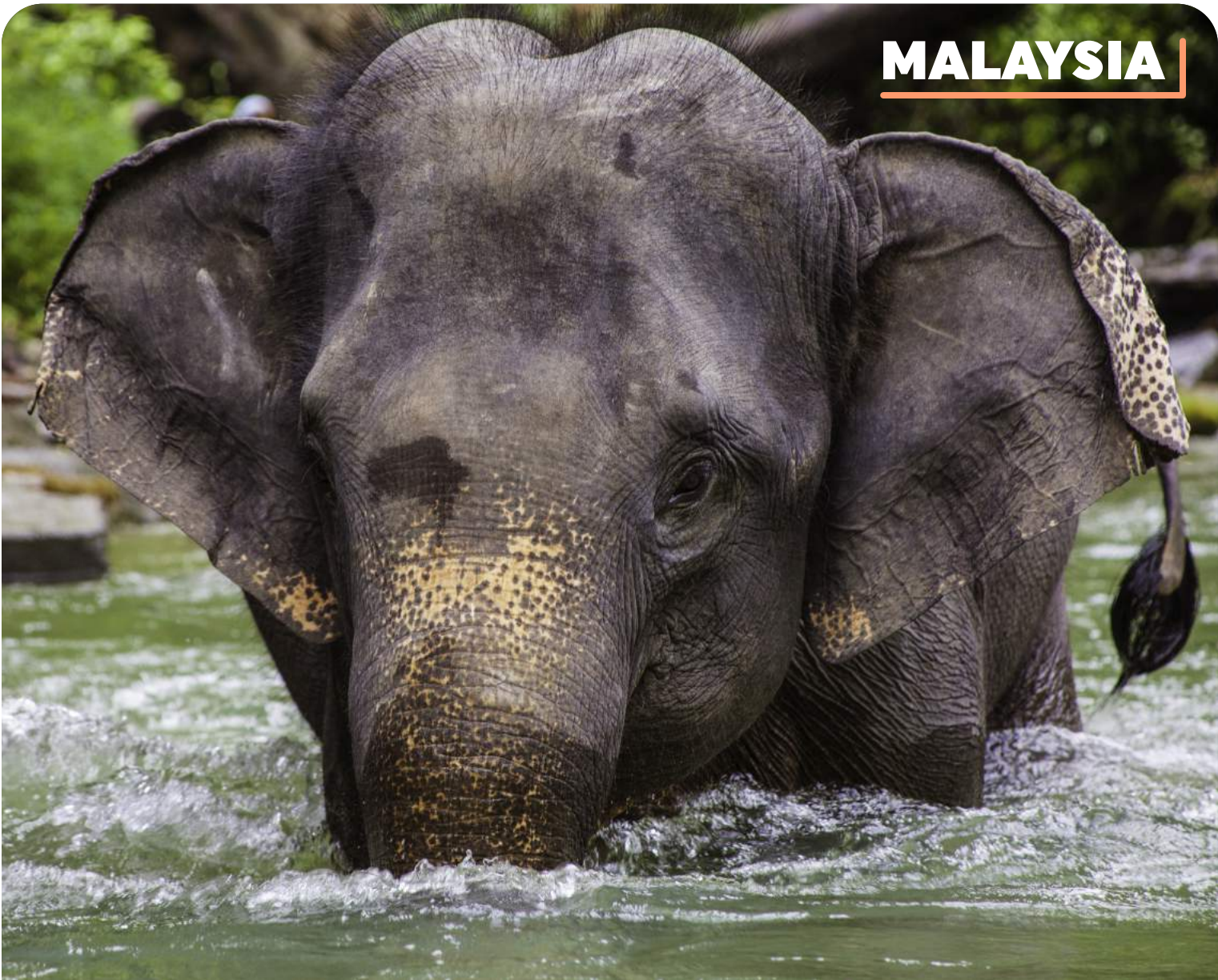
More than 290 bird species have been documented in this area, 66 of which are considered threatened or near threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. This includes nine hornbill

species, making this area one of the richest places in Southeast Asia for these magnificent birds.

Future phases will expand on the new state park and connect the previously unprotected forests to the 1,073,280-acre Taman Negara National Park, creating a vast protected landscape for the wide-ranging tigers.

The next steps will involve the establishment of ranger teams to patrol the state park and the development of sustainable funding mechanisms such as ecotourism and payments for ecosystem services to help support wildlife protection efforts.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Jazmyn McDonald, Patricia Ann Kaupp, Geoffrey Chen and Angela Huang, Panthera Foundation, Joan Hero and William Baumgardt, Whitney and Elise DeCamp and Stanley Watt for their leadership support.



MALAYSIA

BOTTOM: DOMINIQUE20

ECUADOR

ANDEAN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT RESERVE EXPANDED

In May, Rainforest Trust helped secure a 134-acre strategic land purchase — an area the size of 100 football fields — to expand the protection of Tapichalaca Reserve. The reserve was first established in 1998 after Rainforest Trust's President Dr. Robert Ridgely discovered the iconic and Endangered Jocotoco Antpitta nearby.

For 20 years, Rainforest Trust has worked with its longest-standing Ecuadorean partner Fundación Jocotoco to expand a network of nature reserves that are some of the last sanctuaries for many threatened and endemic species in the Ecuadorean Andes.

The Tapichalaca Reserve is Jocotoco's first reserve (of more than a dozen today) and encompasses spectacular montane forest on Ecuador's eastern Andes slope, one of the most biodiverse regions in the world.

"Strategic land purchases to expand nature reserves are key to Rainforest Trust's work to protect threatened species into the future," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "We are delighted to work again with Fundación Jocotoco

to secure this private property in the Ecuadorean Andes."

The reserve harbors at least 55 plant species endemic to the slopes of Cerro Tapichalaca, including a Critically Endangered vine. It also protects significant numbers of threatened animal species, ranging from large mammals such as Endangered Mountain Tapirs to the Endangered Black-and-chestnut Eagle. The list of globally threatened species protected by Tapichalaca Reserve will likely grow as a number of species, such as the endemic Tapichalaca Tree Frog (*Hylacirtus tapichalaca*), have not yet been assigned an IUCN threat category.

Rainforest Trust will continue to work with Jocotoco to expand this and other reserves throughout Ecuador, a nation that hosts more species per square mile than most others on Earth.

This purchase was made possible through the support of the March Conservation Fund and by gifts to the Conservation Action Fund. All gifts to the Conservation Action Fund are matched through the SAVES Challenge and are used 100 percent in support conservation action.



BOTTOM: JOCOTOCO

TOP: ABEL BATISTA

PANAMA



EXPANDING PROTECTIONS FOR THREATENED SPECIES IN CERRO CHUCANTÍ

Rainforest Trust recently helped expand the Cerro Chucantí Private Nature Reserve by strategically purchasing a 127-acre parcel that will help combat the encroachment of pastureland conversion near the reserve. Cerro Chucantí, an isolated massif or "sky island" in eastern Panama, sustains a diverse cloud forest as well as other tropical forest ecosystems. The geographic isolation of the Cerro Chucantí mountaintop has allowed its flora and fauna to differentiate considerably such that it now contains a number of endemic rainforest species found nowhere else on Earth.

"This small but strategic land purchase is vital to protect these unique ecosystems," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "In just a few short years, researchers have already found a number of species new to science within this reserve, and we do not yet know how many there are still to be discovered."

Cerro Chucantí is well known for having numerous discoveries of species new to science, including plants, salamanders, frogs and snakes.

For example, the dark brown Chucantí Salamander (*Bolitoglossa chucantiensis*) was discovered in this area in 2008, and a new frog species called Maje Dink Frog (*Diasporus majeensis* sp. nov.) was formally described in 2016. Earlier this year, the new-to-science plant, *Notopleura sallydavidsonae*, was described and then named in honor of longtime Rainforest Trust Board Member Sally Davidson.

This is the second expansion project Rainforest Trust and local partner Asociación Adopta el Bosque Panamá (ADOPTA) have undertaken in their short two-year partnership. In 2016, Rainforest Trust and ADOPTA expanded Cerro Chucantí by 260 acres, bringing the total area protected within the reserve to 1,500 acres or nearly twice the size of Central Park.

This purchase was made possible by the Conservation Action Fund and supporters of our work in Panama. All gifts to the Conservation Action Fund are matched through the SAVES Challenge and are used 100 percent in support of conservation action.

ECUADOR

LAND PURCHASES EXPAND VITAL PROTECTIONS IN NARUPA RESERVE

Rainforest Trust has helped purchase 243 acres to expand habitat protections in the Napo bioregion of northeast Ecuador, one of the most biodiverse regions in the world. These purchases are part of a larger project with local partner Fundación Jocotoco to add 915 acres to the 2,850-acre Narupa Reserve, which is essential for safeguarding numerous endangered species from threats like illegal logging, deforestation and agricultural expansion.

"We are thankful to be able to continue working with our long-time partner Fundación Jocotoco to expand protection in this important and highly threatened region," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman.

The Narupa Reserve expansion area consists of 60 percent old secondary forest, with the rest of the habitat being young secondary forests and abandoned pasture. Just to the north of the reserve in the Sumaco Napo Galeras National Park, 872 species of birds have been recorded. The expansion provides critical habitat for range-

restricted Andean endemic bird species and Vulnerable Neotropical-Nearctic migrant bird species, especially the Cerulean Warbler. This expansion also includes important habitat for at least four species of endangered amphibians, including the Puyo Giant Glass Frog.

An integral component of this project and future work with our local partner is to connect the Narupa Reserve with the Sumaco Napo-Galeras National Park to the north and the Antisana Ecological Reserve to the west.

Our partner plans on purchasing the remaining 672 acres from different owners and marking the boundary with signs and posts, while also including the additional acres in their park guards' patrols.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to the March Conservation Fund, Hans and Hidegarde Schaefer and Artenschutzstiftung Zoo Karlsruhe for their leadership support.



TOP: EFRÁIN CEPEDA

TOP: CCSOLANA

ECUADOR



NEW RESERVE STRENGTHENS PROTECTION OF PREMIER PARK

Rainforest Trust helped establish an important new reserve in August at the eastern gateway to Podocarpus National Park, which holds the greatest concentration of biodiversity in Ecuador. Rainforest Trust teamed up with our local partner Fundación Jocotoco to purchase the 269-acre private property that houses ecotourism facilities with the objective of helping protect the threatened tropical forests beside the national park. The Copalinga Nature Reserve is an area half the size of Central Park and is an excellent site for ecotourism with its spectacular biodiversity, landscapes and an established eco-lodge that is already incorporated into the itinerary of tour groups visiting the region.

"This strategic land purchase is critical not only for the protection it provides to an imperiled national park, but because it offers high-quality accommodation facilities for ecotourism and thus an income stream to sustain conservation activities in this biodiverse region," Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman said. "On a personal note, this reserve is a special one for our Rainforest Trust family, who came together and donated towards this project in memory of Beverly Ridgely, a long-time conservationist and father to Rainforest Trust President Bob Ridgely."

Podocarpus National Park lies on the eastern flank of the towering Andes mountain chain and is recognized as one of the most biodiverse places

in the world, with some 554 bird species having been recorded. While the Napo Giant Glass Frog is incredibly rare, it has been recently recorded near the Copalinga Reserve. The area also has the highest orchid diversity in Ecuador. Located in the pre-montane tropical forest zone, the newly purchased property has approximately 75 species of trees per acre. In the tropical Andes, only an estimated 25 percent of the region's habitat remains intact, with threat levels being particularly severe in the northern range from Venezuela to Ecuador. Although there are several large national parks in Ecuador, they lack adequate protection and are at risk from logging. For example, the annual deforestation rate within and around Podocarpus National Park in southeastern Ecuador is up to almost 1 percent per year. This figure, along with the small ranges of many threatened species, shows that additional protection in the buffer zone of the park is desperately needed to prevent the loss of rainforests.

Our vision is to expand Copalinga Nature Reserve further so as to provide a robust barrier to colonization and logging on the eastern flank of Ecuador's most important national park.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Jazmyn McDonald, Dale Henderson and the Baltimore Family Foundation for their leadership support.

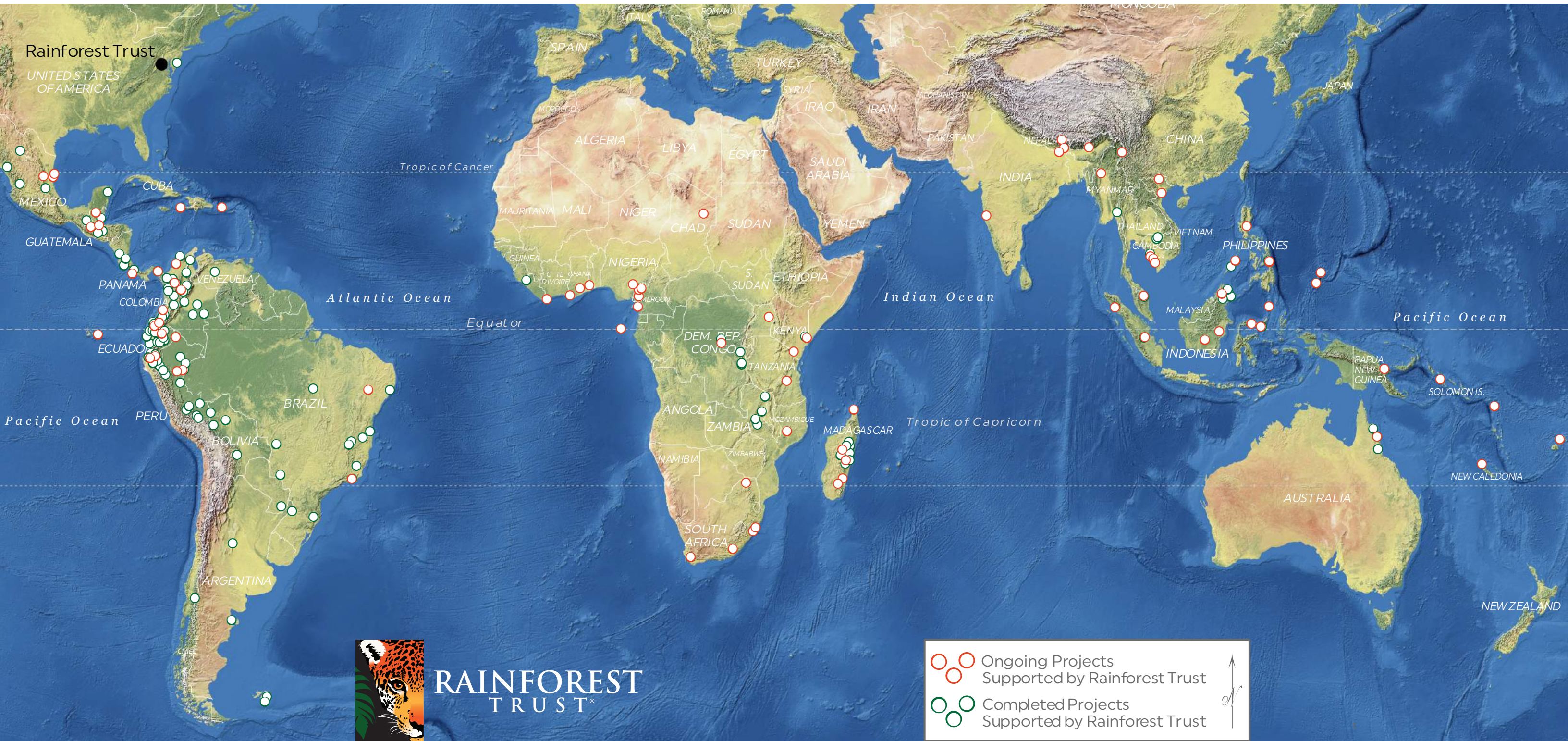
SAVES CHALLENGE

SAVING RAINFOREST ONE ACRE AT A TIME

Since 2016, Rainforest Trust has committed \$66,960,905 towards the creation or expansion of new or existing protected areas across the tropics towards the goal of investing \$100 million in conservation by 2020. Using an approach that is both strategic and scientific, Rainforest Trust has

safeguarded 19,605,036 acres since our founding in 1988. Presently, we are working to protect a further 26.9 million acres, pushing us close to our goal of 50 million acres saved by 2020.

None of this would be possible without your support. We thank you for all that you have helped us accomplish to date and what we will achieve together in the coming year!





EMERGENCY PURCHASE SECURES FIRST PRIVATE RESERVE IN THE GALÁPAGOS

Rainforest Trust and local partner Fundación Jocotoco purchased a 250-acre parcel on San Cristóbal Island in the Galápagos, establishing the Galápagos Nature Reserve, the archipelago's first private nature reserve.

The island chain is one of the most biologically outstanding areas on Earth with an extraordinary concentration of endemic wildlife, and it is recognized as an international conservation priority without equal. This emergency land purchase will protect numerous endemic and threatened species, including the Critically Endangered Galápagos Petrel that has several nest burrows on the property.

"As I saw firsthand in my visit to the Galápagos earlier this year, Galápagos wildlife is under tremendous pressure from development and rapid growth of invasive species," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "The urgency to

protect this unique habitat and the unique species that depend on it is very real."

In 1835, Charles Darwin arrived at the Galápagos Islands and over the course of five weeks discovered an astonishing diversity of unique species found nowhere else in the world. His observations, that began on the island of San Cristóbal, laid the groundwork for what is considered one of the most important scientific breakthroughs for humankind — the theory of evolution by natural selection.

This relatively young island chain, comprised of 127 islands, islets and rocks, was formed millions of years ago by volcanoes — some of which are still active and shifting land masses today. However, only 19 of the islands are considered large and only four are inhabited by humans.

While 97 percent of the archipelago's emerged

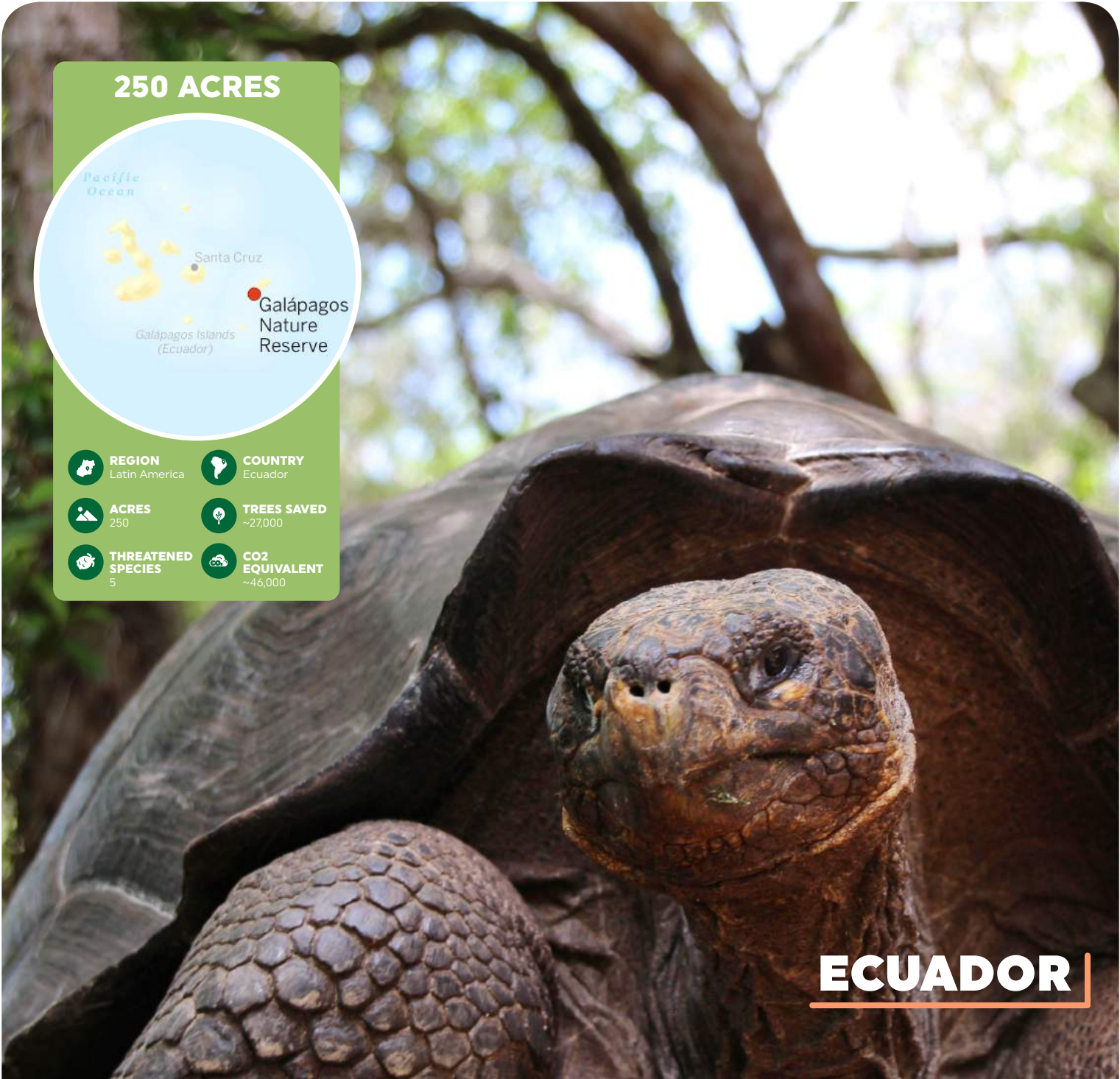
and uninhabited landmass is protected as a national park, the four islands on which humans reside — including San Cristóbal — are extremely vulnerable to development threats. With three extinct volcanoes dominating this island, its rich soils and lush montane vegetation have long attracted farming and settlements, such as the capital of the Galápagos province, Puerto Baquerizo Moreno.

San Cristóbal is dominated by private properties and land conservation has been unable to get a permanent footing to restrict development and remove invasive species.

To protect the vulnerable species on San Cristóbal, our partner approached us about the

potential to purchase several properties slated for development. Rainforest Trust is supporting our partner's purchase of possibly two more properties that will further expand protections for endemic species. With these purchases and subsequent conservation efforts across the Galápagos, we will permanently secure one of the most unique, scientifically important and biologically outstanding areas on Earth.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Avaaz Foundation, Global Wildlife Conservation, The Marshall-Reynolds Foundation, Shayde Christian, Spindrift Family Foundation, Emmerson Bowes, Bihua Chen and Jackson Loomis and David B. Donsker for their leadership support.



250 ACRES



REGION
Latin America



COUNTRY
Ecuador



ACRES
250



TREES SAVED
~27,000



THREATENED SPECIES
5



CO2 EQUIVALENT
~46,000

GUATEMALA

STRATEGIC PURCHASES CONTINUE IN CERRO AMAY CLOUD FOREST

This year, Rainforest Trust has helped purchase two 119-acre properties for a total of 239 acres. These strategic purchases expand protections afforded by the Cerro Amay Reserve in Guatemala. The reserve was just created last year, when Rainforest Trust and local partner Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO) purchased seven properties totaling 1,129.27 acres within the Cerro Amay Cloud Forest, which is among the largest areas of intact old growth forest left in Central America.

“This new land purchase in Cerro Amay is another critical step in our efforts to halt the threats to this unique habitat,” said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. “Cerro Amay is a limestone massif permeated by an estimated 5,000 caves overlaid by a virgin forest including some of the largest trees in Guatemala. We cannot allow this amazing area to be lost for short-term gain by logging companies”

The Cerro Amay Cloud Forest is a spectacular and

biodiverse refuge for native wildlife and flora. The preserve safeguards threatened species such as the Critically Endangered Guatemala Spikethumb Frog, the Endangered Yucatán Black Howler Monkey and the Endangered Geoffroy's Spider Monkey. Several salamanders new to science have also been discovered in this region.

Despite this ecosystem's significant biodiversity value, extensive road building and deforestation have occurred since protection efforts began in 2008. Loggers currently extract cloud forest oaks at an estimated rate of three to four truckloads per week on the main access road. To combat this degradation, Rainforest Trust and its local partner will continue to make strategic land purchases to expand the Cerro Amay Reserve through 2021.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to the March Conservation Fund, Harvey and Heidi Bookman and the Conservation Action Fund for your leadership support.

COLOMBIA

222 ACRES



REGION	COUNTRY
Latin America	Colombia
ACRES	TREES SAVED
222	~46,000
THREATENED SPECIES	CO2 EQUIVALENT
18	~33,000

CRITICAL LAND PURCHASE EXPANDS PROTECTION FOR MAGNOLIAS

In October, Rainforest Trust supported the purchase of a 222-acre land parcel to expand the Selva de Ventanas Natural Reserve in northwest Colombia. This reserve is located in the 'Alto de Ventanas' bio-geographical region, which is considered the most biodiverse area within the Antioquia region, and it affords protection to vital habitat for many endemic and threatened flora and fauna like the Critically Endangered Handley's Slender Mouse Opossum and the Ventanas Magnolia.

“This purchase is another important step in protecting the fantastic biodiversity in this region from deforestation and conversion into ranch land,” said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. “We are delighted to work with our local partner to make this happen.”

This purchase, done in partnership with Corporación SalvaMontes, is the first phase of a two-property plan to expand the reserve by a total

of 402 acres. Buying these two neighboring parcels will help with the strategic goal of consolidating a biological corridor in the area, including the largest remaining patches of well-preserved old secondary forests where key species are present. Due to limited economic opportunities in the area, these forests and species face daily threats from agricultural expansion activities, which also erode soil and contaminate water supplies.

Another important aspect of this project is working with the local campesinos. Our local partner will channel environmental awareness and education programs to these communities to promote the creation of an Association of Natural Reserves in the region of Alto de Ventanas.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Orchid Conservation Alliance and Keith and Janice Wiggers for their leadership support.

239 ACRES



REGION	COUNTRY
Latin America	Guatemala
ACRES	TREES SAVED
239	~58,000
THREATENED SPECIES	CO2 EQUIVALENT
19	~40,000

BOTTOM: ROLANDO GOMEZ

TOP: SEBASTIAN VEIRAU



MAJOR NEW PROTECTIONS ACROSS THE PERUVIAN AMAZON

Rainforest Trust has once again teamed up with local partner Center for the Development of an Indigenous Amazon (CEDIA) to help expand protection around Sierra del Divisor National Park and the Airo Pai Community Reserve in Peru by helping indigenous communities obtain proper land titles to their ancestral lands, giving these people control over what activities take place within their native forests.

These latest land titlings place an additional 552,392 acres under protection as part of a larger effort to title over 50 community territories that will form a firewall against colonization around Sierra del Divisor National Park and the soon-to-be White Sands National Reserve that together span more than 7 million acres, as well as the 1.3 million-acre Airo Pai Community Reserve.

"When Rainforest Trust helps indigenous peoples secure their legal rights to their land, it not only gives them rights to block mining and logging,

but importantly gives them one of the most basic of human rights," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "Land is a cross-cutting issue that directly impacts a number of human rights. For indigenous communities, land is a source of livelihood, central to their economic rights and tied to social and cultural rights."

It is estimated that there are over 500 indigenous communities in the entire Peruvian Amazon that are still in need of proper land titles. However, this four-year project with CEDIA, which is expected to be completed next year, will provide land titles in all communities in the west part of Sierra del Divisor and in the Tapiche and Blanco River Basin north of the park.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Eric Veach and Luanne Lemmer, Sambazon, the Jennings Family and Mystic Dreamer for their leadership support.



ECUADOR

CHOCÓ RAINFORESTS BENEFIT FROM MAJOR LAND ACQUISITION CAMPAIGN

Rainforest Trust has helped successfully purchase 21 properties totaling more than 2,755 acres to expand Río Canandé Reserve in northwestern Ecuador. The new land purchases are part of Rainforest Trust and Fundación Jocotoco's long-term objective of establishing an ecological corridor between Canandé and the Cotacachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve.

Rainforest Trust has helped expand the Río Canandé Reserve to 8,054 acres in one of the largest remaining fragments of the Chocó Rainforest in Ecuador, a biodiversity hotspot that is restricted to a narrow swath of land from the Andes to the Pacific along western Colombia and northwestern Ecuador. However, threats from commercial logging and rapidly expanding oil palm plantations within Ecuador have reduced the country's proportion of the Chocó to less than 10 percent of its original size.

"The strategic expansion of protected areas is incredibly important for Rainforest Trust, so we work with our partners to assess the most important properties that could provide road access to larger areas of intact tropical habitat and we work to secure those properties as a preemptive action to block potentially far greater impacts on rainforest," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "Furthermore, consolidating

and connecting reserves in the Chocó is key to providing a future for endangered species."

The Chocó hotspot has some of the world's highest concentrations of range-restricted or endemic species, particularly within bird, amphibian, and many plant groups. Those endemic species depend on the Río Canandé Reserve's spectacular lowland tropical rainforests. These species include the Critically Endangered Canandé Magnolia — known only from this reserve. Additionally, the area is a stronghold for the largest surviving population of the Ecuadorean subspecies of the Critically Endangered Brown-headed Spider Monkey. This subspecies lives only in northwest Ecuador and is ranked as one of the 25 most endangered primates on Earth.

The reserve, a Key Biodiversity Area, is also a refuge for more than 300 bird species and an astounding 123 amphibian and reptile species.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Scott Rasmussen, Fundacion Cambugan, Artenschutzstiftung Zoo Karlsruhe, International Conservation Fund of Canada, March Conservation Fund, Stephen Evans and Monica Fletcher, Save the Chocó, Edward and Irene Wilson and University of Sussex for their leadership support.



2,755 ACRES



REGION	COUNTRY
Latin America	Ecuador
ACRES	TREES SAVED
2,755	~592,000
THREATENED SPECIES	CO2 EQUIVALENT
27	~284,000

BRAZIL



225 ACRES



REGION	COUNTRY
Latin America	Brazil
ACRES	TREES SAVED
225	~22,000
THREATENED SPECIES	CO2 EQUIVALENT
26	~29,000

LAND PURCHASES EXPANDING VITAL ATLANTIC FOREST PROTECTIONS

This year, Rainforest Trust has helped purchase two additional land parcels for a total of 225 acres in the Brazilian state of Rio de Janeiro. The area contains high-quality Atlantic rainforest and the Guapiacu watershed, which offers verdant scenery with abundant streams of fresh water. The international conservation organization teamed up with its long-time Brazilian partner REGUA, from whom the protected area gets its name, to complete these purchases that are now under the local partner's conservation management portfolio.

"We are very pleased to have been able to work with REGUA since 2007 to protect critical habitats in Brazil," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "These latest purchases fill in and protect a mosaic of important areas for conservation."

The first property purchased, called Armênio, was completed in February 2018. Of its 52 acres, half are naturally forested and the other 26 acres have been cleared for cattle pastureland. Our local partner has already completed fencing around the property and has plans to implement

its proven reforestation methodology on the cleared portion. The second parcel — the 173-acre Vidal property — contains high-quality Atlantic rainforest adjacent to an existing REGUA property. These properties were at risk of being purchased by developers and cleared for homes.

Together, these two new acquisitions will expand protections for numerous endemic and threatened species in the REGUA protected area, including the Endangered Crowned Solitary Eagle, which has a very small, fragmented population within South America, and the Endangered Southern Muriqui, the continent's largest and rarest primate. The two properties will also function as a buffer to contiguous primary forest found at the higher altitudes of REGUA.

This project was a success thanks to our generous Conservation Action Fund supporters matching the SAVES Challenge. A special thank you to Michael Louis Charitable Trust, Louis Stewart Foundation, Felbun Foundation, Harvey and Heidi Bookman, Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest Trust and Dr. Urs-Peter Stäuble.

BOTTOM: MICHAEL MOENS

TOP: CARLY VOIGHT

BRAZIL

CONSERVATION ACQUISITION INSPIRES NEW PARK

Thanks to efforts taken by Rainforest Trust, the government of Brazil's Minas Gerais state just designated 88,174 acres — about twice the size of Washington, DC — as the new Botumirim State Park to protect the unique cerrado habitat. The cerrado, the most rapidly disappearing habitat in the country, is home to the Critically Endangered — and once thought extinct — Blue-eyed Ground-dove.

"It is great to see our long-term strategy to protect this spectacular dove has paid off with the designation of this new state park," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "Building on our land purchase with SAVE Brasil, this significant expansion will not only safeguard the core Blue-eyed Ground-dove population, but it will also allow habitat around it to recover."

Rainforest Trust's work to establish the first protection ever for the rediscovered Blue-eyed Ground-dove in 2017 raised awareness of both the bird's existence and its need for protection, leading the government to make this important decision.

On October 23, 2017, Rainforest Trust teamed up with our local partner Sociedade para a

Conservação das Aves do Brasil (SAVE Brasil) to purchase 1,606 acres of cerrado habitat, forming the Blue-eyed Ground-Dove Nature Reserve.

The Blue-eyed Ground-dove is one of the rarest birds in the world. It had been lost for 75 years until a population was rediscovered in 2015 by an independent ornithologist. Collaborating with SAVE Brasil and Rainforest Trust, a research group undertook an intensive survey for the species and created a comprehensive conservation plan. Although this rediscovery was one of the most amazing ornithological finds in recent memory, before these efforts, this highly threatened bird had no protection and was at grave risk.

"After intensive searches, it was clear that just one private property being sold for development contained the vast majority of all surviving individuals. With our partner SAVE Brasil we acted swiftly to purchase this property and permanently safeguard the species," Salaman said after completing the first land purchase last year.

On July 6, the Minas Gerais government recognized the work of Rainforest Trust and SAVE Brasil and expanded protection of the cerrado habitat to further safeguard this incredible bird.

URGENT APPEAL



URGENT APPEAL TO SAVE ENDANGERED MAGDALENA VALLEY RAINFORESTS

After years of negotiations, Rainforest Trust and our local partner are excited to announce that a new land purchase for a strategic 1,015-acre rainforest property is under contract to block access to logging and expand the only strictly protected nature reserve in Colombia's Magdalena Valley. The purchase has been under negotiation for 10 years, and now we urgently seek to raise \$94,000 by December 31, 2018 or this property will be sold to loggers and cattle ranchers.

The valley, centered around the 700-mile Magdalena River basin, contains lowland rainforest with flora and fauna from neighboring Amazon, Chocó and Central American regions, making it one of the most biodiverse areas on Earth. The region also has incredibly high endemism, providing vital habitat for many threatened species that live nowhere else, like the Critically Endangered Blue-billed Curassow and the Magdalena Spider Monkey, considered one of the rarest primates on Earth. The area is also home to populations of the

Magdalena Lowland Tapir (a Critically Endangered subspecies), Jaguar and Spectacled Bear.

Unfortunately, almost the entire forest has been lost. Located only 85 miles north of Colombia's capital city, Bogotá, the region is under intense pressure for cattle ranching. Deforestation has resulted in the destruction of over 16.1 million acres (98 percent) of the region's lowland rainforests.

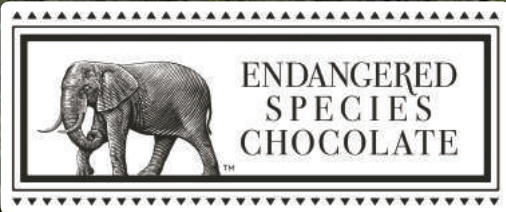
"The loss of all but a fraction of this incredible ecosystem is a devastating blow to so many irreplaceable species," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "Urgent action is needed to save what we can of this biodiversity hotspot."

Rainforest Trust has been working with our longstanding Colombian partner Fundación ProAves for more than 15 years to purchase and protect this last stand of lowland Magdalena rainforest beside El Paujil Reserve. Your urgent support now would save a wildlife haven forever.

BOTTOM: RAFAEL BESSA

TOP: EFRAIN CEPEDA

CONSERVATION CIRCLE NEWS



SAVING VITAL ELEPHANT HABITAT IN AFRICA

This summer, Rainforest Trust and Endangered Species Chocolate teamed up once again for a terrific awareness campaign and fundraiser! This time the partnership celebrated elephants and protected some of their most vital habitat in West and Central Africa.

From Endangered Species Day on May 17 to World Elephant Day on August 12, an online



campaign and "sweetstakes" was held that saved thousands of acres of habitat for elephants in our Oku Community Forest project with the Wildlife Conservation Society in the Democratic Republic of Congo. For every email submitted, Endangered Species Chocolate donated an acre to the project. The emails were also entered into a weekly drawing for delicious chocolate. By making donations to the project, additional chances to enter the contest were earned. One lucky winner — Chrissy Y. from St. Louis, MO — was chosen at the end of the contest to win a year's supply of Endangered Species Chocolate!

Together, we saved nearly 34,000 acres!

"Endangered Species Chocolate is excited about the impact Rainforest Trust is making around the globe. We enjoyed working with them on this campaign, because we were able to utilize a portion of our annual giveback donation to encourage others to join our efforts to save rainforests and to participate in a campaign that truly made a difference," said Endangered Species Chocolate CEO Curt Vander Meer. "We continue to be amazed by the daily efforts of the Rainforest Trust team as they are significantly moving the needle to save habitats and species around the globe. Endangered Species Chocolate is proud to be associated with Rainforest Trust."

TOP: ENDANGERED SPECIES CHOCOLATE; BOTTOM: NOEL ROWE

TOP: LEILANI MÜNTER; BOTTOM: NOEL ROWE

NEW CORPORATE SPONSOR, RACE CAR DRIVER LEILANI MÜNTER

This summer, race car driver and environmental activist Leilani Münter teamed up with Rainforest Trust to protect over 1,500 acres of rainforest along the Mahakam River on the island of Borneo in East Kalimantan, Indonesia.

These protected acres are home to a population of the Critically Endangered Mahakam River Dolphin that consists of around 80 individuals and will prevent approximately 60,000 metric tons of carbon from entering the atmosphere, equivalent to taking more than 13,000 cars off the road for one year.

"Rainforest Trust is doing incredible work and I am thrilled to partner with them. We are living through the sixth mass extinction event, and I don't want to live in a world without wild creatures. Our generation needs to do everything we can to save the species we can before it's too late," Münter said.

This new commitment was a doubling down of her earlier efforts to protect one acre of rainforest for every race she ran.



JOINING ZOO ATLANTA'S QUARTERS FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Zoo Atlanta helps field conservation activities through its "Quarters for Conservation" program, where 25 cents of every Zoo Atlanta general admission ticket goes to an external conservation project.

Rainforest Trust's Saving the Lost Forest of Madagascar project was selected as one of the three projects to participate in the program this year, as it will provide protection to the endemic and threatened Fossa, a cat-like carnivorous mammal, once complete. This "Lost Forest" is a unique and intact primary forest that has fortunately avoided degradation, unlike almost all other remaining Malagasy forests.

The 3,460-acre Lost Forest Reserve will also provide community support such as employment, education and firebreaks to protect against the spread of forest fires to which the rainforest is highly susceptible to during long drought periods.



FELLOWS AND GUARDIANS



RAINFOREST TRUST FELLOWS

The Rainforest Trust Conservation Fellows program is part of our ongoing efforts to enhance and expand relationships between Rainforest Trust and our partners, and to inspire and showcase the great work of our partner field conservationists.



GANGA LIMBU
NEPAL, KTK-BELT



MICHAEL GYAPONG AKRASI
GHANA, HERP CONSERVATION



JONALYN B. LAVEGA
PHILIPPINES, KATALA FOUNDATION, INC.



SANJAY PASHTE
INDIA, AERF

RAINFOREST TRUST LAUNCHES FELLOWS AND GUARDIANS PROGRAMS

As part of Rainforest Trust's mission to purchase and protect threatened tropical forests through innovative in-country partnerships, we support hundreds of people across the tropics who are working in various conservation capacities. In celebration of our 30th anniversary, we recently launched the Conservation Fellows and the Conservation Guardians programs to honor these unsung heroes of conservation.

"The Conservation Fellows and Conservation Guardians programs are our most important initiatives since the SAVES Challenge," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman. "They represent our continuing efforts to recognize and support our partner conservationists."

Conservation Fellows are managers and coordinators that perform the essential work necessary to implement our protected area projects on the ground. As the Fellows represent the variety of careers available within conservation, our goal is to inspire these dedicated professionals to continue to apply their skills to tropical forest conservation.

By supporting Conservation Guardians, Rainforest Trust recognizes and assists reserve guards and rangers on the front lines of conservation monitoring. These are the integral members of the team responsible for safeguarding irreplaceable biodiversity and the crucial protected areas that we help establish.

The Conservation Fellows and Conservation Guardians programs have currently enrolled 104 men and women from 16 different countries and 21 partner organizations. Profiles of all participating Fellows and Guardians are being featured on the Rainforest Trust website. We are busy enrolling more, and foresee the programs growing significantly over the next year.

Through these programs, we engage with passionate and hardworking individuals all over the world to help promote their work and improve their capacity for conservation success. These programs highlight people within our partner organizations as not only part of a global network of conservation professionals, but part of the Rainforest Trust family.



TOP: CARLOS MAURICIO MAZO
MIDDLE LEFT: SABINE SCHOPPE; MIDDLE RIGHT: SEBASTIAN VIEIRA; BOTTOM: CARLOS MAURICIO MAZO

URGENT APPEAL

12,179 ACRES



REGION	COUNTRY
Latin America	Colombia
ACRES	TREES SAVED
12,179	~3,500,000
THREATENED SPECIES	CO2 EQUIVALENT
33	~1,987,000

ALL GIFTS DOUBLED



COLOMBIA



ACQUISITION CAMPAIGN PROTECTS WORLD'S MOST IRREPLACEABLE SITE

On Colombia's Caribbean shores stands the highest coastal mountain on Earth. The Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is a corrugated pyramid of rock that rises almost 4 miles high. This ancient massif dates back to the Jurassic period and contains a microcosm of the entire planet from deserts to rainforests to glaciers, with an extraordinary diversity of plants and animals found nowhere else.

It is regarded as the planet's single most important site for threatened and endemic biodiversity as it boasts the highest concentration of endemic bird species in the world. As a result, the prestigious journal *Science* dubbed the area the "most

irreplaceable site on Earth" and a major priority for biodiversity conservation.

Located on the Sierra Nevada's most vulnerable northwestern flank — less than 10 miles from the city of Santa Marta — is perhaps the world's most important nature reserve — El Dorado.

Established in 2006 with Rainforest Trust support, we have helped our Colombian partner Fundación ProAves greatly expand the reserve's protected area over the past decade, safeguarding habitat for threatened species such as the Critically Endangered Santa Marta Toro and the Santa Marta Harlequin Frog.

Lost for over 100 years, the Santa Marta Toro was rediscovered in El Dorado Nature Reserve in 2011 and identified by Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. Paul Salaman.

The elusive species is restricted to the northwest slope of the Santa Marta mountain range, making it exceptionally vulnerable.

Following decades of uncontrolled colonization and agricultural expansion, only 15 percent of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta's original vegetation remains unaltered.

Principle threats include the expansion of farms, pasturelands and coffee plantations. In addition, the construction of new vacation homes poses a growing danger to the forests.

In a final push to consolidate this crucial reserve, Rainforest Trust is seeking \$1,824,957 to strategically acquire key properties and protect 12,179 acres to provide a safe haven for the planet's most important biodiversity hotspot.

With rampant deforestation placing this biodiversity jewel at tremendous risk, our partner has surveyed the landscape to locate the most critical areas for endangered and endemic flora and fauna. These are the areas that will be urgently protected in perpetuity.

The ongoing expansion of the reserve is critical to safeguard the area's wildlife. The new 12,179-acre sanctuary will safeguard the future of countless endangered species that depend on this unique area for their survival.

TOP: LARRY THOMPSON

ALL: PROAVES

UrgentProtection

Support the conservation work of Rainforest Trust and its partners around the world.

OUR WORK CREATES TANGIBLE RESULTS

ALL GIFTS
DOUBLED



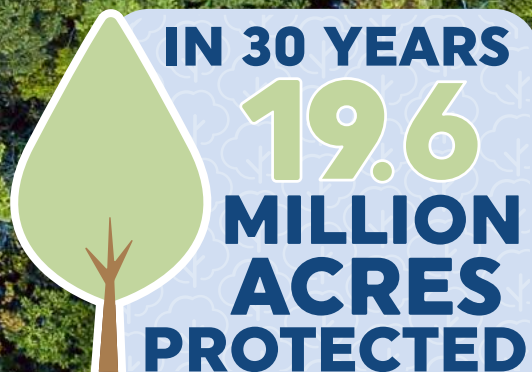
PROTECTING RAINFORESTS IS THE BEST SOLUTION TO SAVE OUR PLANET!

In the past 5 years, we have saved a critical rainforest acre every 12 seconds. Yet every day, precious acres of rainforest are lost forever. Critically endangered species lose their habitat. Communities lose their sustaining forests. Water sources and weather systems are disrupted. Our planet is impacted when stored carbon is released by deforestation and degradation.

Rainforest Trust believes that the simple solution of stopping rainforest destruction will positively

impact species, communities and the planet. And our conservation work makes a tangible difference.

A gift to our **Conservation Action Fund** supports our most urgent work around the world. Whether it is preserving the Amazon and the way of life for indigenous peoples or purchasing rainforest in Borneo to create an urgently needed corridor for Bornean Orangutans, with your support we preserve critical areas for life on Earth.



Please use the enclosed envelope, or visit RainforestTrust.org/donate to make a donation