



PANTHERA ONCA, ONE OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTED BY THE PROJECT

Biodiversity Brief 2016

Madre de Dios Amazon REDD Project

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Biodiversity monitoring: a continuous process

Fauna evaluation

Madre de Dios Amazon REDD Project carries out an annual monitoring of fauna evaluating all the indicators required for the CCB (Climate, Community and Biodiversity) Standard.

Every five years an even more comprehensive report is elaborated by highly qualified independent biologists. The objective of the studies is to obtain precise knowledge of the state of wildlife populations and therefore evaluate the impact of the project on biodiversity.

Even though evaluations of all fauna species that live in the rainforest are carried out, the report focuses on those species that reflect the health of the ecosystem, such as for example medium and big primates. Besides this, reproductive data of the fauna species found are taken as well as observations for food consumption, especially fruit.

As a result of the fauna diagnosis, critic sites for fauna species were identified and "collpas", water sources, fruit trees of great production and caves or holes in trees are sought and marked, since all these formations

are key to the existence of some wildlife species.

Flora evaluation

With the objective to know the flora of the project area, a forest inventory is carried out every year, based on a systematic unrestricted sampling design.

The rainforest where the project area is located is very important in terms of biodiversity conservation since they are conformed by important populations of the specie *Swietenia macrophylla* (mahogany), and *Cedrela odorata* (cedar), which have been incorporated respectively to the Appendix II and III of CITES for being considered endangered and vulnerable species.

More than 126 tree species can be found in the project area, many of them with ability to use their wood as well as other products like fruits, seeds, fibers, gums, resins, latex, tannins, inks, oils, medicines, etc.

There is also a great amount of species of other flora categories such as palms, herbaceous, shrubs, lianas, bromeliads and orchids.



A parakeet "collpa"



Monkeys: important fauna indicators

Protection of 35 species in danger of extinction

The Madre de Dios Amazon REDD project is currently protecting 35 species in danger of extinction according to CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). Among the mammals are the jaguar, puma, ocelot, tapir, giant armadillo, red howler monkey, white-bellied spider monkey, brown-mantled tamarin, spix's night monkey, collared peccary, white lipped peccary and the pacarana. Within the reptile and amphibian species, the boa constrictor, spectacled caiman, dwarf caiman and yellow-footed tortoise. Among birds, the eagle harpy, scarlet macaw, military macaw, festive amazon, black tinamou, swallow-tailed kite, roadside hawk, black caracara, red-throated caracara, yellow-headed caracara, blue-throated piping guan, razor-billed curassow, white bearded hermit, needle-billed hermit and the bronzy inca. The tree species that are being protected are the mahogany, cedar, "leche caspi" and "oje".



The result of conservation



When comparing the successive evaluations of biodiversity the following conclusions were reached:

There has been a sustained increase in the number of sightings of the different species of fauna since the start date of the project, reflecting the excellent health of the ecosystem.

Other indicators of the above are: the sightings of crab-eating raccoons and northern olingos, which are species that are not frequently seen in Madre de Dios; the presence of the eagle harpy, nesting in the trees, another indicator of good conservation and that the trophic chain is working correctly; and most importantly the high frequency of sightings of species in danger of extinction.

Sites of importance for the fauna had also been conserved and monitored, obtaining relevant information.