

# Update: Brazilian Amazon Fund

To save nature and slow climate change, we must end deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon. Rainforest Trust is seizing an extraordinary opportunity to safeguard 20 million acres against imminent threats in the world's largest rainforest.

With your help, we created the Brazilian Amazon Fund in 2023, and our goal is to raise \$40 million by 2026 to directly fund urgent projects to save this rich and fragile forest.

Your support is already making a tangible difference. This report shares updates on active projects in the Brazilian Amazon, with many more to come!



**RAINFOREST**  
TRUST®

# Because of You, We Can Accomplish Great Things



Since 2023, the Brazilian Amazon Fund has supported **6 key projects** in Brazil



When protected, these acres will safeguard the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of **402 million vehicles** driven for one year



Protecting **6,515,957 acres**



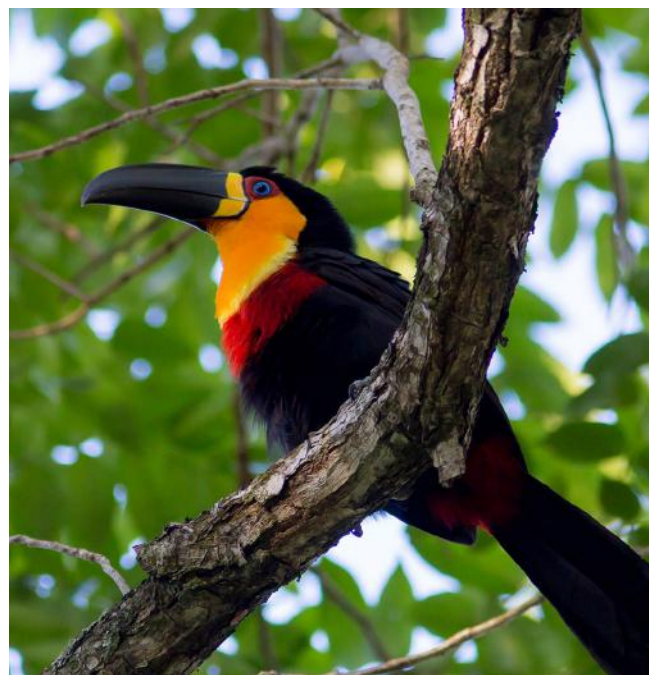
Safeguarding **126** threatened species (59 of these are marine)

## FUNDED

### Save The Brazilian Amazon

Traditional communities have lived sustainably within the Brazilian Amazon's ancient rainforests for generations but are under imminent threat from profit-seeking outside interests. They inhabit millions of acres of undesignated, unprotected lands that harbor rare and endemic species and play an important role in mitigating climate change both locally and globally.

Thanks to your support of the Brazilian Amazon Fund, we and our partner, Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil, are now working to protect **2,262,878 acres** in the states of Amazonas and Pará. Because of your generosity, between 6,800 to 7,700 people living within these territories will soon be supported to continue managing their lands against surrounding threats.





(Top) Amazon River Dolphin | COULANGES; (Bottom) Black-faced Black Spider Monkey | Diego Grandi

FUNDED

## Safeguard Over 1 Million Acres in Brazil's Flooded Forest

Lake Tefé in the heart of the Brazilian Amazon is surrounded by dense tropical rainforest teeming with biodiversity and is an integral part of the wider ecosystem. This vital habitat serves as a refuge for endangered wildlife like the Wattled Curassow, Black-faced Black Spider Monkey and two species of river dolphin. But millions of acres of undesignated public lands composed of more than 90% intact rainforest surrounding the lake are under intense threat of illegal land grabbing for mining, logging, agriculture and cattle ranching.

The added pressure of deforestation, climate change and El Niño caused the Amazon to suffer a drought from September to December of 2023. Lake Tefé nearly dried up, stressing the ecosystem and the local and Indigenous people who rely on it. Thankfully, the rains have now returned and the ecosystem is recovering.

Thanks to your generous support, Rainforest Trust and our partner, Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil, are working to secure **1,280,981 acres** of primary rainforest within the buffer area of the 2.5-million-acre Tefé National Forest Protected Area adjacent to Lake Tefé. These traditional Indigenous territories will be legally designated to recognize the communities' land tenure and help them to protect their territories against external threats.

FUNDED

## Protect A Critical Forest From A Mega-highway In Brazil

High carbon "flooded forests" situated in the lowlands around Capanã Lake are a vital component of the Amazon rainforest ecosystem. This region experiences dramatic changes in water levels throughout the year, creating a dynamic environment of abundant biodiversity with a rich array of plant and animal species adapted to aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Remarkably, 98% of this habitat remains intact. It is essential for local communities in providing resources such as fish, timber and non-timber forest products for subsistence and livelihoods.

All of this is at great risk from the controversial resurfacing of a 540-mile partially paved highway that was constructed across the Brazilian Amazon in the 1970s to link the major city of Manaus to Porto Velho in the Western Amazon. With the support of donors like you, we and our partner, Centro de Trabalho Indigenista, are working to establish the **429,823-acre** Lago Capanã II Indigenous Territory, to help mitigate threats from the highway and enable Indigenous communities to maintain their traditional ways of life and land use practices that are compatible with forest conservation.

Giant Otter | Natalia Tamkovich





Swamp Ghost Crab | Dmitrii Kash

URGENT PROJECT

## Preserve The Amazon's Coastal Gem

The world's largest contiguous belt of mangroves stretches along the coastline of Brazil where the Amazon River pours into the Atlantic Ocean. The vast estuary holds 80% of Brazil's mangroves and is home to at least 40 globally threatened species. Despite other protections in place for this estuary, however, a serious and significant gap has left mangroves vulnerable.

Rainforest Trust and our local partner, RARE Brazil, are working to safeguard **174,275 acres** of unprotected mangroves and coastal waters through government designation of two new sustainable-use reserves and the expansion of an existing reserve. Nearly **3,500 acres** have already been protected. Once complete, this project will protect a unique refuge for marine and coastal species facing extinction.

URGENT PROJECT

## Guardians of Biodiversity: Support Indigenous Peoples in Isolation in the Brazilian Amazon

Brazil's Amazon rainforest is home to more Indigenous Peoples in Isolation and Initial Contact than anywhere else in the world. Living harmoniously with nature has left their territories highly intact, storing vast amounts of carbon. Without formal protections, mining and deforestation will likely overtake these Indigenous territories, and the threatened wildlife that live there, like the Giant Otter, Black-faced Black Spider Monkey and the Amazonian Manatee.

Rainforest Trust and our local partner, Observatory of the Human Rights of Isolated and Initial Contact Indigenous Peoples, are working with the Brazilian government to advance legal recognition and land tenure rights for two territories totaling **1,544,000 acres** within these extraordinary regions of the Amazon rainforest. Once legally identified, demarcated and designated as Indigenous Lands, all uses outside those of resident Indigenous Peoples will be forbidden by Brazilian law.



(Top) Isolated Indigenous Pirititi from Tanaru | FUNAI; (Bottom) Amazonian Manatee | Tharuka Photographer