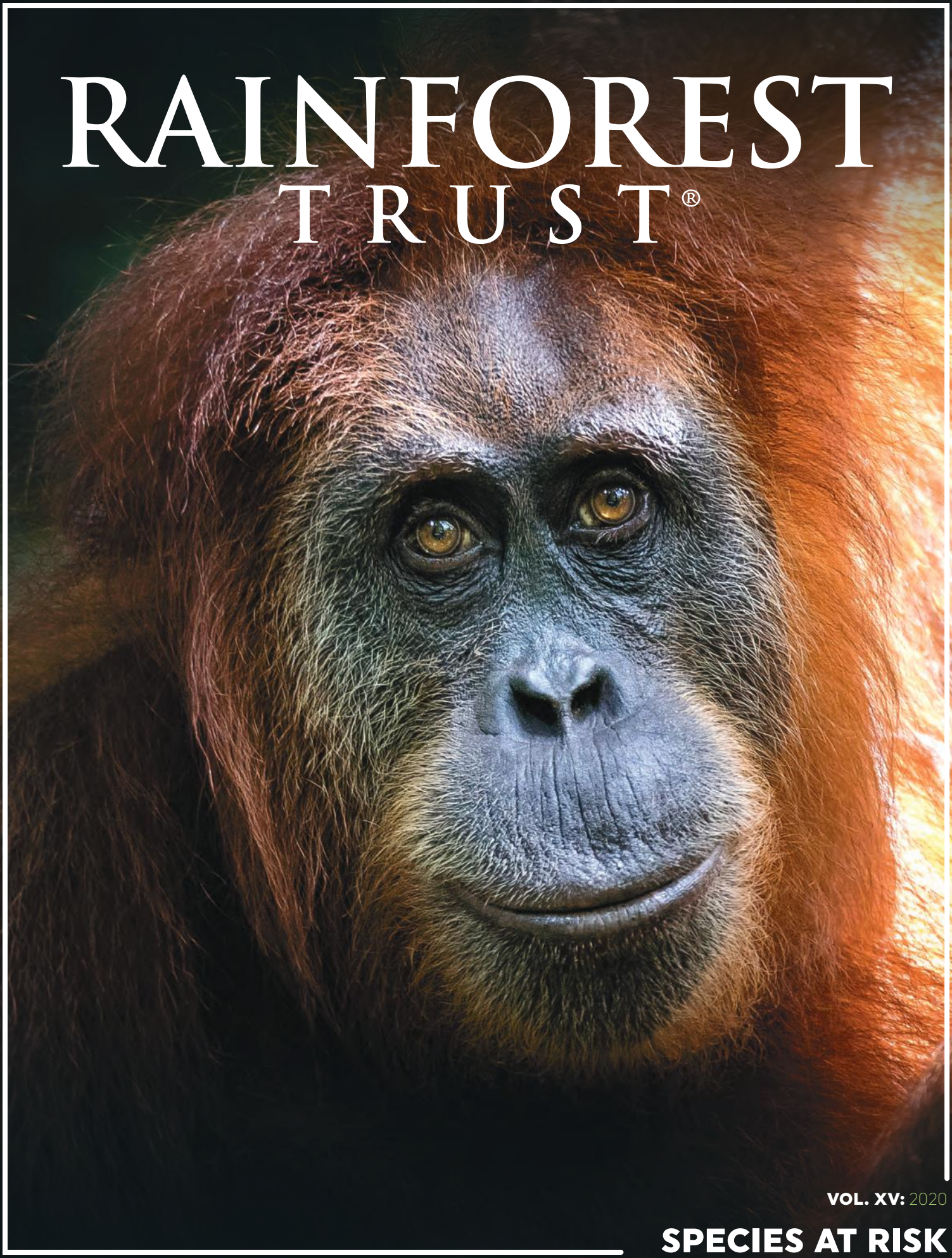


RAINFOREST TRUST®



VOL. XV: 2020

SPECIES AT RISK

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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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RAINFOREST TRUST RECEIVES PLATINUM SEAL FROM GUIDESTAR

Rainforest Trust is committed to the highest level of
transparency to ensure that your donations go directly to
Conservation Action, so we are thrilled to announce that we
have received a **2020 Platinum Seal of Transparency with
GuideStar**.

We are also excited to share that since 2014, Charity Navigator
has recognized Rainforest Trust as one of the most efficient and
effective nonprofit organizations in the country with
the **highest possible rating of 4 stars**.



Our world's vulnerable habitats face increasing threats from deforestation, resource extraction, climate change and development. Rainforest Trust safeguards them through the creation of protected areas, and we make sure they stay protected for future generations. Our steadfast mission for over thirty years — to protect threatened tropical forests to maintain the health of our planet, strengthen communities and save endangered wildlife through strong local partnerships — has remained a proven success.

We helped create 148 protected areas. Of these, 92% have lost less than 5% of their tree cover since their creation.

TOTAL DEFORESTATION in our Protected Areas

92%

148
Protected
Areas

of our
Protected Areas have
had less than
5% DEFORESTATION
since their creation



ECUADOR

A HISTORY OF PROTECTING RAINFORESTS IN ECUADOR

For over 20 years, Rainforest Trust has been protecting the tropical forests of Ecuador. The threat of deforestation persists, and combined with climate change, the pressure to expand protection grows in urgency. To meet this, Rainforest Trust with our local Ecuadorian partners, has been expanding key reserves to ensure species survival.



TAPICALACA RESERVE:

In 1997, Rainforest Trust President Dr. Robert Ridgely discovered the Jocotoco Antpitta, an endangered and rare bird, in southern Ecuador. One year later, the Ecuadorian organization he founded to protect the bird, Fundación Jocotoco, and Rainforest Trust established the Tapichalaca Reserve to protect and manage a key location for this species. Situated in the eastern Andes, the reserve now spans over 9,000 acres of tropical cloud forest and grassland habitat and provides safety for many threatened and endemic species like Black-and-chestnut Eagles and Mountain Tapirs. Due to increasing threats to the ecosystem, we are teaming up to expand the reserve by 1,419 acres.



PROTECTED ACRES
4,248



THREATENED SPECIES (5)

Bomarea Longipes (CR), Black-and-chestnut Eagle (EN), Costus Zamoranus (EN), Jocotoco Antpitta (EN), Mountain Tapir (EN)



ACRES
1,419

DRACULA RESERVE:

The Chocó-Tumbes, a biodiversity hotspot composed of tropical moist and dry forest, is nestled between the Andes and the Pacific Ocean in western Colombia and northwest Ecuador. Rainforest Trust has been working with our local partner, Fundación EcoMinga, for six years to protect critical forest habitat, for the many endemic orchid species found in the region, through the creation of the Dracula Reserve. Named after the famous Dracula Orchid found there, the reserve spans 2,789 acres and protects hundreds of species. We are expanding the reserve again to safeguard the only known site in Ecuador for the Carchi Andes Toad and one of only two known sites in the world for the Rio Faisanes Stubfoot Toad, once thought to be extinct.



PROTECTED ACRES
3,520



THREATENED SPECIES (4)

Black-and-chestnut Eagle (EN),
Brown-headed Spider Monkey (EN),
Carchi Andes Toad (EN),
La Planada Robber Frog (EN)



ACRES
1,268

BIGAL BIOLOGICAL RESERVE:

The Bigal River Biological Reserve in northeastern Ecuador protects ecologically unique tropical forests, providing a safe haven for species from the Andes to the Amazon. Providing a protected wildlife corridor from highlands to lowlands, its foothills are a critical part of the Northern Andes Endemic Bird Area. Rainforest Trust worked with our local partner, Fundación Sumac Muyu, to expand the reserve by 200 acres in 2019. Now, we are strategically building on that success by safeguarding another 200 acres so resident species like the Military Macaw, Common Woolly Monkey and White-bellied Spider Monkey can continue to thrive.



PROTECTED ACRES
268



THREATENED SPECIES (6)

White-bellied Spider Monkey (EN),
Maria's Giant Glass Frog (EN),
Espadarana Audax (EN),
Common Woolly Monkey (VU),
Coppery-chested Jacamar (VU),
Military Macaw (VU)



ACRES
200

YANACocha RESERVE:

Since its creation in 2002, Rainforest Trust and Fundación Jocotoco have been expanding Yanacocha Reserve. On the western slope of the Ecuadorean Andes, the forests of Yanacocha are a key part of the Volcán Pichincha Key Biodiversity Area and a haven for an array of hummingbird species, including the largest population of the endemic Black-breasted Puffleg Hummingbird. Currently, we are working to increase protection by an additional 596 acres. The Spectacled Bear and a newly discovered amphibian species believed to be highly range-restricted will also benefit from this expansion.



PROTECTED ACRES
2,399



THREATENED SPECIES (3)

Black-breasted Puffleg (CR),
Draba Aretioides (EN),
Spectacled Bear (VU)



NEW UNPROTECTED ACRES
596



Our portfolio of work in Ecuador is a perfect example of our approach and impact," said Bob Ridgely, Rainforest Trust President. "We establish protection and then look to strategically expand it to meet the changing needs of species and the ecosystem, all the while building strong relationships with our partners and the communities near the reserves who are critical to the long-term success."



HELP US EXPAND PROTECTION IN ECUADOR

URGENT PROJECT



LOCATION
South Africa, Africa



THREATENED SPECIES
4



COST
\$284,071



STORED CO2 EQUIVALENT
820,801 mT

SOUTH AFRICA

SPECIES AT RISK: ALBANY ADDER

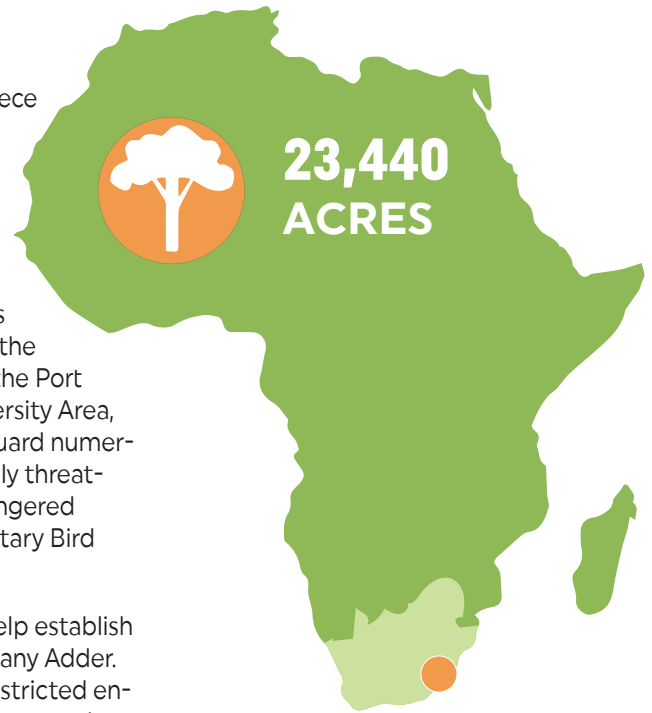
Endemic to the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, the Endangered Albany Adder is arguably South Africa's most threatened snake species. This extremely range-restricted dwarf viper had not been seen for a decade when a research team supported by Rainforest Trust set out to determine if it still existed in 2017. On the final day of their study, the researchers witnessed a solitary female Albany Adder crossing the road.

Unfortunately the team also discovered that the species' core habitat is in the Coega Bontveld region, which is quickly disappearing because it is also the location of an active cement mine. After negotiations, a local South African organization and the mining company reached

a resolution to set aside this piece of land for conservation.

To save the species, Rainforest Trust and our longtime partner, the Endangered Wildlife Trust, are working to establish a 24,440-acre nature reserve as the first protected habitat for the Albany Adder. Located within the Port Elizabeth Complex Key Biodiversity Area, the new reserve will also safeguard numerous endemic plants and globally threatened birds including the Endangered Black Harrier, Vulnerable Secretary Bird and Blue Crane.

Rainforest Trust is thrilled to help establish this first protection for the Albany Adder. Protecting extremely range-restricted endemic species and their habitats remains one of our top conservation priorities.



23,440 ACRES



TOP: EWT; BOTTOM LEFT: ARCALU/SHUTTERSTOCK; BOTTOM RIGHT: EWT



CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA

SPECIES AT RISK: JAGUAR

The iconic Jaguar is the only big cat in the Americas, found in the tropical forests of South and Central America.

Unfortunately, their beauty also makes them targets for their only natural predator: humans. Over the last two decades, senseless hunting, habitat loss, and conflict with ranchers has caused Jaguar populations to drop by over 20%. Although stricter regulations are now in place, the species has still lost nearly half of its historic habitat range. In order to survive, jaguars need large swaths of rainforest to roam; the only way this can be possible is to create, expand and re-connect more protected areas.

Rainforest Trust has helped protect many large landscapes across Central and South America that protect this beautiful and unique species. Our proposed purchase of 260,000 acres in the Maya Forest of Belize would directly protect at least 50 jaguars, part of their largest population in Central America.

Jaguars are known as "protectors of the rainforest"— and so is Rainforest Trust. For more than three decades, we have worked to safeguard habitat for countless species across the globe.



These impressive predators prefer to live alone and prefer to hunt at night.



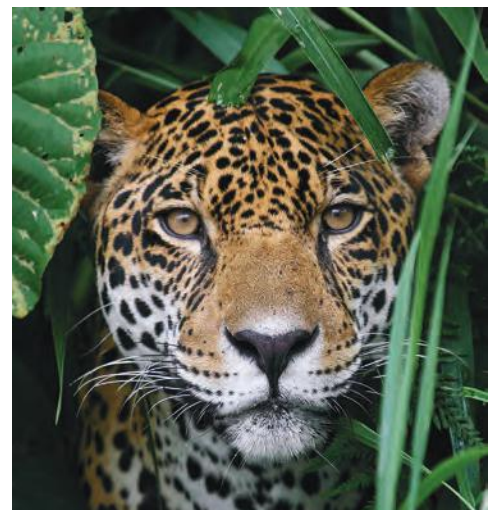
Often confused with their cousin, the leopard, their spots— called "rosettes"— are larger with a dot in the center. This pattern helps camouflage them in tall grass and bushes so they can easily hunt.



Unlike others of their kind, Jaguars are one of the few big cats that love water. They are excellent swimmers, hunting fish, turtle and caiman (Latin American crocodile) species in addition to their diet of land mammals.



As apex predators, they help control other species populations to maintain a healthy ecosystem.





SAVES CHALLENGE

SAFEGUARDING AREAS VITAL TO ENDANGERED SPECIES



Each and every day, thousands of acres of rainforest are destroyed from reckless, human-caused deforestation that drives iconic wildlife to extinction and our planet to an irreversible tipping point. In 2016, a generous friend of Rainforest Trust and dedicated conservationist realized the importance of our work in the wake of these environmental tragedies and pledged to help us dramatically reduce this senseless loss by launching the SAVES Challenge.

SAVES, or 'Safeguarding Areas Vital to Endangered Species' allowed us to invest \$100 million directly to our conservation efforts to ultimately

protect 50 million acres for endangered wildlife by 2020. The goals were ambitious, but with the help of our experienced partners and generous friends, we have achieved success while also elevating the importance of establishing protected areas.

25.9M ACRES IN PROGRESS AT EOY 2020



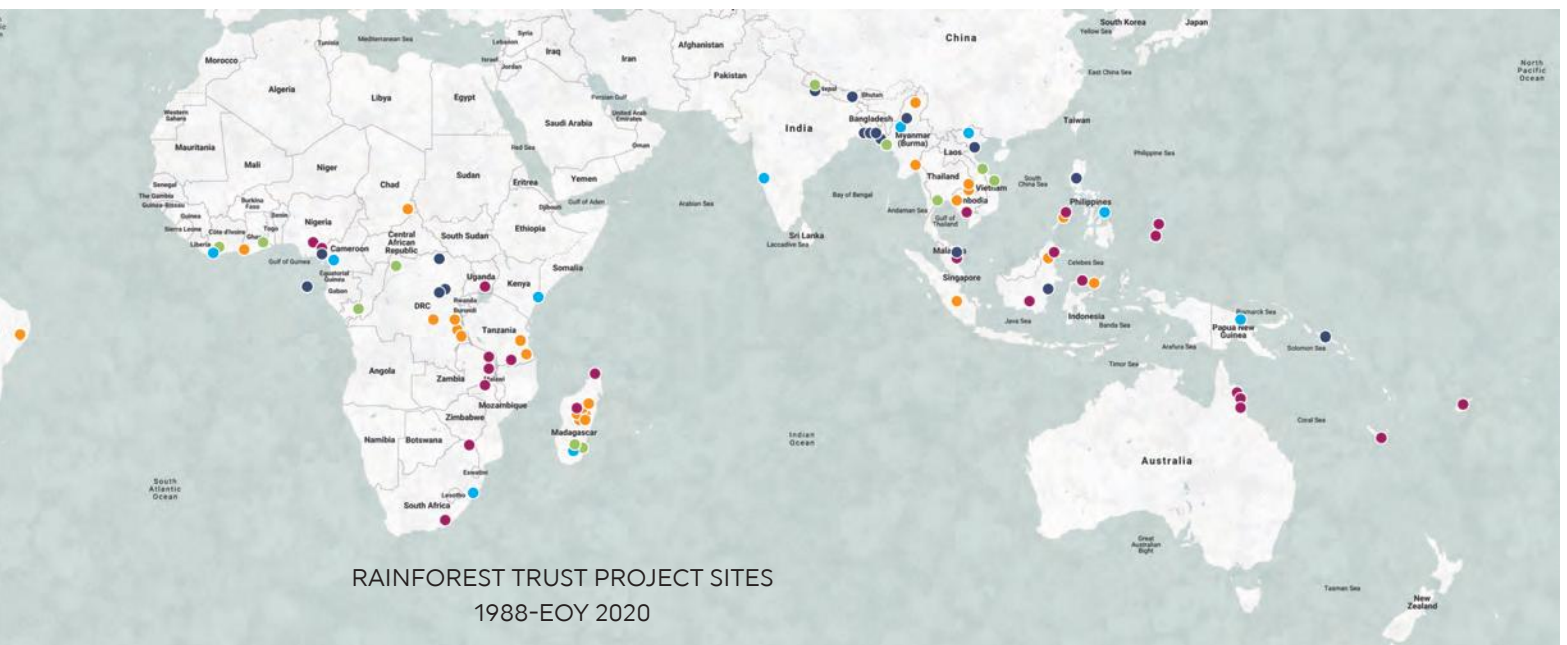
TOP: WORLDCLASSPHOTO; BOTTOM: MARTIN BUZORA



24.6M
ACRES
PROTECTED 1988 - 2020

PROTECTED IN 2020
1.2M
ACRES

MIDDLE RIGHT: DENNIS VAN DE WATER; RIGHT: MARTIN MECNAROWSKI



URGENT PROJECT



LOCATION

Panama, Latin America and the Caribbean



THREATENED SPECIES

5



COST

\$385,061



STORED CO₂

154,034 mT

PANAMA

SPECIES AT RISK: HARLEQUIN FROG

The Cocobolo Nature Reserve in Panama encompasses a lush combination of intact tropical rainforest and cloud forest. A critical portion of the world's third largest biodiversity hotspot, the reserve was established to protect unique and threatened species from habitat loss. But cattle ranching and commercial farming are rapidly increasing in the area, encroaching on the 250-acre reserve and fragmenting nearby habitat.

To prevent any more destructive human activity in the region, Rainforest Trust is teaming up with our local partner, Conservation through Research Education and Action, to purchase 819 acres of forest—expanding the reserve to safeguard 1,069 total acres.

In addition to bolstering protection for a myriad of species like the Endangered Geoffroy's Spider Monkey and Baird's Tapir, this expansion will create a stronghold for the Critically Endangered Limosa Harlequin Frog. Endemic to Panama, the Limosa Harlequin Frog has been forced out of most of its range due to chytridi-

omycosis disease, a fungal pathogen that has decimated amphibian populations worldwide.

The reserve is habitat for 200 individuals of the frog, one of the last known wild breeding populations. Cocobolo is among the last areas where this species has been confirmed at all.

Without immediate expansion, deforestation will continue unchecked and the forest surrounding the Cocobolo Nature Reserve will be lost forever. Help us save this beautiful tropical forest landscape for the Limosa Harlequin Frog and all its other resident species.



PROTECTED



LOCATION

Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa



THREATENED SPECIES

6



COST

\$481,345



STORED CO2 EQUIVALENT

18,606,794 mT



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

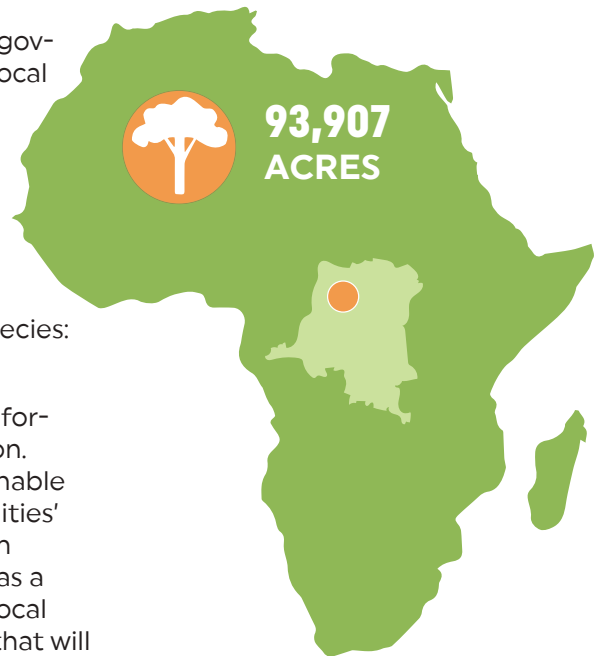
NEW PROTECTION FOR WILD BONOBOS

The Congo Basin is the second largest tropical rainforest in the world, after the Amazon. But due to a lack of resources, widespread poverty and instability, it is also the least protected and most vulnerable forest.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, decades of war and infrastructure neglect increase pressure on the country's rich natural resources while challenging wildlife conservation. But new laws offer communities the right to partner with conservation groups to manage their own forests.

To take advantage of the new governance, Rainforest Trust and local partner Amis des Bonobos du Congo (ABC), established the Ekolo ya Bonobo Community Reserve. Covering 117,412 acres of mostly swamp forest, Ekolo ya Bonobo is a critical habitat for one of the Congo's most iconic and threatened species: Endangered Bonobos.

This work is an important step forward for great ape conservation. But only significant and sustainable improvements in the communities' economy will ensure long-term biodiversity protection. ABC has a long history of outreach with local communities in the area, and that will continue as they manage the reserve.



"The rainforests and species of the Congo Basin demand the world's conservation attention," said Rainforest Trust CEO Dr. James Deutsch. "But the communities of this area deserve our support as well. I'm thrilled Rainforest Trust and ABC have achieved success with this community-driven project to protect one of the world's great ecosystems."



TOP: SERGEY URYADNIKOV; BOTTOM LEFT: GUDKOV ANDREY; BOTTOM RIGHT: TERESE HART

URGENT PROJECT



LOCATION
Nepal, Asia



THREATENED
SPECIES
7



COST
\$732,948

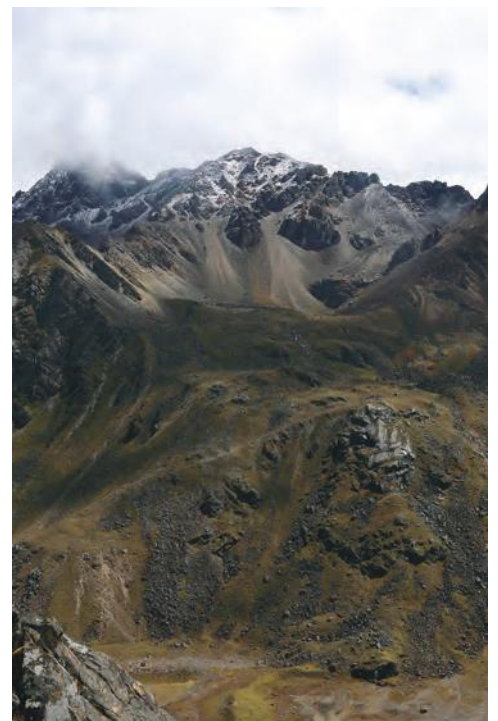
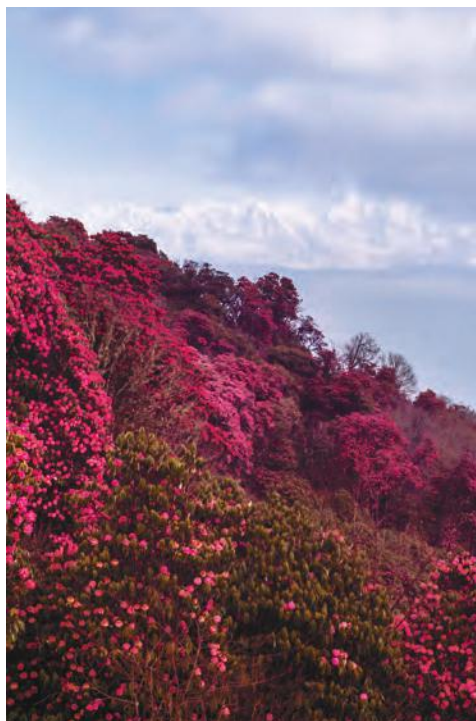


STORED CO2
EQUIVALENT
15,865,671 mT

NEPAL

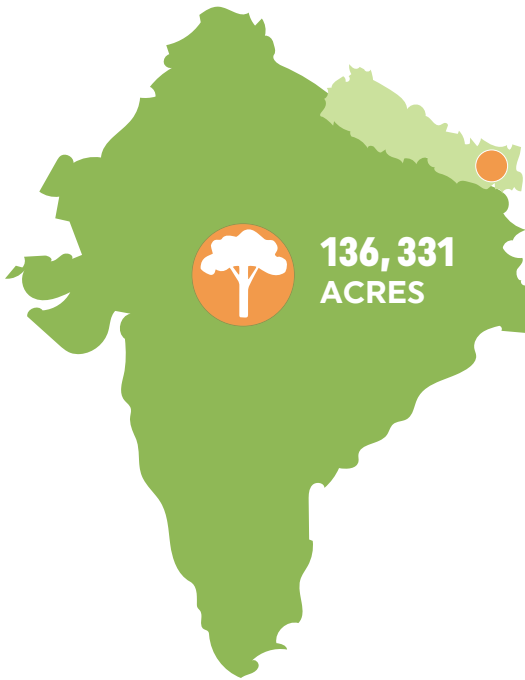
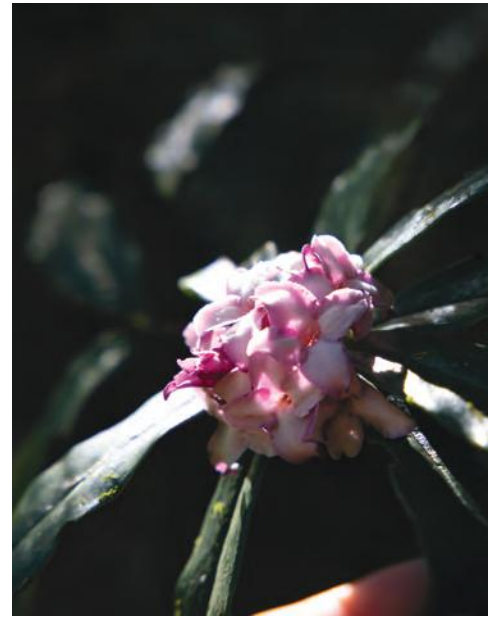
SAVING NEPAL'S THREATENED LANDSCAPES

Many of Rainforest Trust's projects connect isolated habitat patches to reunite fragmented ecosystems. This connectivity promotes population sustainability for many species as well as landscape-scale conservation. In Nepal, Rainforest Trust and our longtime partner KTK-BELT are venturing on a multi-year, multi-project mission to save habitat in a belt from the country's lowlands, all the way up to the Himalayas through community outreach and land protection.



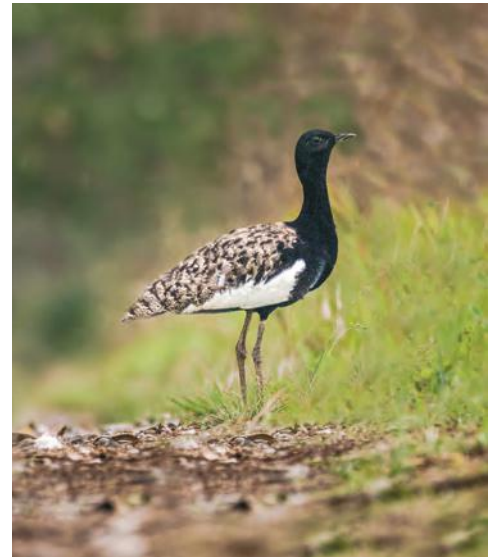
Rainforest Trust worked with KTK-BELT to establish the 40-acre Paschim Kusha Bird Sanctuary in 2018 to help safeguard critical lowland riparian habitat against threats of agricultural expansion. This connectivity promotes population sustainability for many species improving their ability to adapt to climate change.

In 2019, our two organizations successfully protected 150 acres of the TMJ Rhododendron Forest in the Himalayas of eastern Nepal. Known as the 'Rhododendron Capital of the Himalayas,' it is one of the most unique habitats of the entire Himalayan range consisting of 28 species of rhododendrons and more than a thousand different plant species, of which more than 100 are endemic. The area is also renowned for its abundance of wintering and staging bird species such as Snow Partridge, Himalayan Monal, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler, and Endangered Steppe Eagle. But as significant threats of road development, logging and land-grabbing continue to endanger the TMJ, we are working to help declare the entire landscape of 136,000 acres as a new protected area for these rare rhododendrons and other species.



In September of this year, we also protected 84,927 acres of the Taplejung District within the Himalayas from threats of road development through the creation of the Topkegola Biocultural Heritage and Ecotourism Special Conservation Zone in September. Twelve large, high altitude lakes and over 200 smaller wetlands make this location a Key Biodiversity Area — and as such, an indispensable habitat for many unique and threatened species.

To follow this success, we are working to create the Lungba Samba Conservation Area, spanning 176,630 acres of rugged mountain landscape. The new protected area will be the crucial link in a mosaic of protected areas across southern China, Nepal and India.



Sheep and Himalayan Muskdeer. Himalayan Black Bears, Indian Pangolins and Clouded Leopards are also resident species in the region.

These projects safeguard key habitat for Snow Leopards, Red Pandas, Blue

"We are so grateful for the deep partnership we have with Rainforest Trust in realizing the vision of a Vertical University spanning from Koshi Tappu wetlands to the Papung-Lungba Samba highlands," said Rajeev Goyal, KTK-BELT co-founder. "Each project collaboration with Rainforest Trust has fortified the biocultural heritage of indigenous communities and protected some of the world's most endangered wildlife."



PROTECTED



LOCATION
Papua New Guinea,
Pacific



THREATENED SPECIES
5



COST
\$244,915



STORED CO₂ EQUIVALENT
18,696,794 mT

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

NEW PROTECTED AREA ON THE HUON PENINSULA

Papua New Guinea's Huon Peninsula is rife with lush rainforests, and its adjacent shores are home to some of the most biodiverse ecosystems and unique species in the country, including the Endangered Huon Tree-kangaroo (also known as the Matschie's Tree-kangaroo). But forests in the region are a high profile target for palm oil and timber companies, threatening the limited range of habitat the Tree-kangaroo needs to survive.

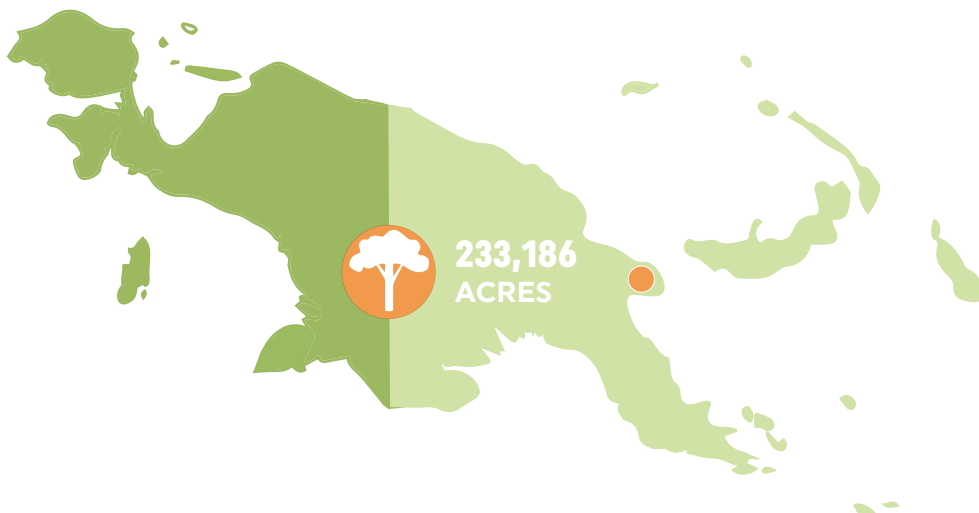
Rainforest Trust's local partner, The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP-PNG), has been working for over 20 years to ensure the survival of this and many other imperiled species in the region through the creation of the YUS

Conservation Area. Rainforest Trust joined them in 2016 for a 233,186-acre expansion, more than doubling the size of the protected area. And in August, our efforts were successful — the YUS Conservation Area now protects 401,998 acres of threatened rainforest.

In addition to the Huon Tree-kangaroo, the Eastern Long-beaked Echidna, New Guinea Pademelon, New Guinea Quoll all benefit from this protection. Three endemic Birds-of-paradise — the Emperor Bird-of-paradise, Wahnes's Parotia, and Huon Astrapia — can also be found in the reserve. Additionally, the protected beaches adjoining these forests are homes to Leatherback Sea Turtles and Dugongs.



This project is completely dependent on the indigenous communities— indigenous landowners and community members from the 50 local villages will be employed to guard the reserve, safeguarding resident species in perpetuity.





LOCATION
Republic of Congo, Africa



THREATENED SPECIES
6



COST
\$951,470



STORED CO2 EQUIVALENT
1,090,193 mT



REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

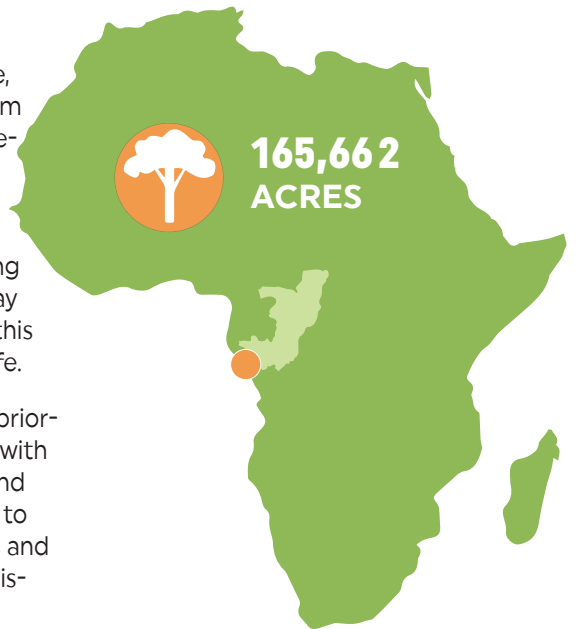
SAFEGUARDING THE LOANGO BAY

The Atlantic coastline of the Republic of Congo is a rich marine ecosystem. The Guinea and Benguela Currents converge here, upwelling cold-water nutrients, which support growth for seaweed and plankton, a vital food source for fish, marine mammals and birds.

The Loango Bay, a rare rocky area on the Congolese coast, is known for its calm waters and species diversity. Critically Endangered Atlantic Humpback Dolphins call these waters home, as do Critically Endangered Hawksbill Turtles, Endangered Green Turtles, Critically Endangered Scalloped Hammerhead Sharks and Angelsharks, in addition to many other types of fish and rays. It is also one of only two documented foraging grounds for sea turtles along the mainland coast of Central Africa.

Despite its significance for marine life, the area is under intense pressure from unsustainable commercial fishing, specifically for shark fin, oil exploration and drilling. To increase protection of Congo's waters, Rainforest Trust and our local partner, Renatura, are working to establish a 165,662-acre Loango Bay Marine Protected Area to safeguard this important area for endangered sea life.

The Loango Bay is already a national priority, and our partner is working closely with the government, as well as national and international experts to create a plan to stop competing commercial fisheries and help to meet local communities' subsistence needs.



TOP: LUIS MIGUEL ESTEVEZ. BOTTOM LEFT: RENATURA. BOTTOM RIGHT: KRIS-MIKAEL KRISTER



DONATE NOW TO THIS URGENT PROJECT!

BORNEO & SUMATRA



SPECIES AT RISK: ORANGUTAN

Orangutans are one of the great apes. Although they previously lived throughout Asia, they are now only found in forests on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo.

Despite our close ties to Orangutans, humans are currently at the forefront of their destruction. Habitat loss and hunting have left all three species of Orangutan Critically Endangered, with populations continuing to decline rapidly.

Rainforest Trust currently has several projects in Indonesia dedicated to the preservation of this unique species and the habitat they need to survive. Our newest project, located in the Leuser Ecosystem, will safeguard over 2,000 acres of forest corridor for Sumatran Orangutans to live and travel safely without threats.



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