

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2024



View from Ceiba tree,
Ecuadorian Amazon
photo: Charles Smith

OUR MISSION

Nature and Culture International partners with local cultures to connect and protect biodiverse hotspots in Latin America for the well-being of our planet.



“Our lands, our ways of life, our rivers, our lakes are our sources of life. We want to leave a legacy for future generations. We want to tell the world that we must continue conserving our biodiversity because, without it, we would not exist.”

- Daniel Dagua
President of the Andwa Nationality



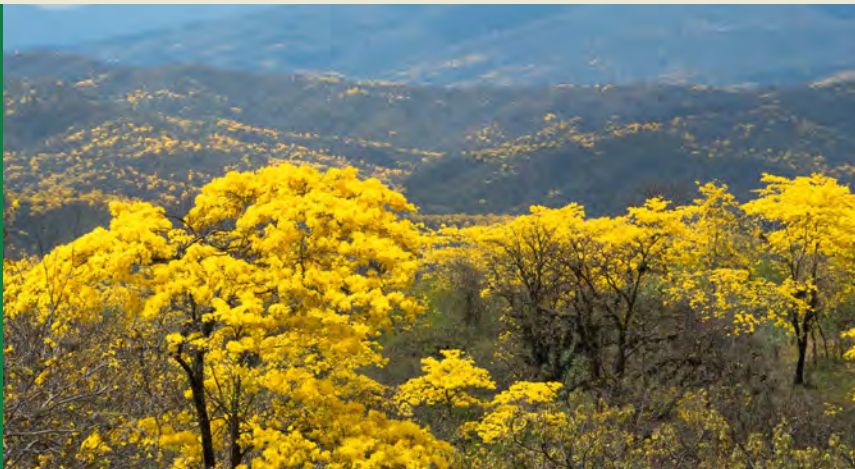
“I was honored to meet Nature and Culture team members in Ecuador, and to observe firsthand their passionate commitment to the biodiverse regions they help protect.”

- Sue Hart
Dedicated Supporter



“It has been a privilege to work in the Ecuadorian Amazon over the last 13 years. Working together with Indigenous Peoples and local governments to find common goals and protect the rich culture and biodiversity in this region is truly unique.”

- Jaime Toro
Amazonian Platform Technician



“The team at Nature and Culture has a tireless, long-term vision and is making a huge impact in protecting forests. I support their work because I trust the organization and know they’re making real, on-the-ground progress.”

- Dendy Walker
Dedicated Supporter



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IN MEMORIAM

Adriana Casas (1971–2024)

We honor the life and legacy of Adriana Casas, a dedicated advocate for biodiversity and environmental policy. As a board member of Nature and Culture International, Adriana championed conservation and climate change mitigation. Her enduring impact lives on through the many lives she touched and the ecosystems she helped protect.

**THANK
YOU!**

Because of your incredible support, we were able to GO BIG FOR NATURE in 2024.

Together, we expanded protected areas in the Amazon, established new conservation sites in the Andes, and built critical partnerships with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to safeguard these vital ecosystems for generations to come.

We hope you take pride in the impact of your generosity across Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, and Mexico. Thank you for being part of our community and a dedicated defender of nature!

GOING BIG, STAYING LOCAL

A letter from our Executive Director

2024 was a landmark year for Nature and Culture International. In October, we stepped onto the global stage at the COP16 Global Biodiversity Conference in Cali, Colombia, making a strong case for the power of subnational conservation.

We highlighted two key insights in Cali: First, over the past 20 years, Nature and Culture has been the driving force behind the creation of more than **80% of all subnational protected areas** in Ecuador. Second, these areas **are critical for biodiversity**.

Our results were featured in a meeting of prominent conservation donors, validating our long-term focus on subnational conservation and encouraging others to consider a similar approach. After years of working behind the scenes, we're now firmly on the radar of major players in Latin American conservation.

Yet, for all the momentum we've built on the international stage, **our work remains deeply local**. Looking through my archive of more than 20,000 Nature and Culture photos—collected during my time living in Ecuador with my family from 2015 to 2018—I was reminded that our success is built on **trusted, personal relationships**. I found a photo of my colleague Bruno, racing alongside children in a dry forest community. Another of Trotsky, sharing chonta palm fruit at a Shuar celebration in El Kiim, deep

in the Ecuadorian Amazon. And one of Eduardo, teaching kids to fish during a community derby on the Zapotillo River.

These moments capture what makes our work successful: **relationships, trust, and shared commitment**.

These relationships helped us build regional conservation alliances, such as the Amazonian Platform and the Binational Andean Corridor, two of our core projects. They helped us **collaborate with local and Indigenous partners to protect the most biodiverse places on Earth**, ensuring their leadership in conservation. And they helped us **develop financial mechanisms** that will secure the long-term stewardship of these landscapes, funding efforts like **species monitoring and community-led patrols** to keep forests standing for generations.

None of this would be possible without you. Your support drives bold conservation, strengthens local leadership, and helps safeguard irreplaceable ecosystems. But more than that, it makes you part of the network of relationships that makes this work possible—a community of people dedicated to protecting nature, from local leaders and Indigenous partners to supporters like you who believe in lasting conservation.

Next year marks Nature and Culture's 30th anniversary—three decades of working alongside communities to protect the most biodiverse places on Earth. This milestone belongs to you, too.

Every acre protected, every species safeguarded, and every thriving landscape is a testament to what we've accomplished together.

As we continue to scale up and protect vast landscapes, we remain rooted in these relationships. **Going big doesn't mean losing our local roots—it means building on them, together.**



Sincerely,

Matt Clark
Executive Director



Collared aracari



2024

highlights



3.9 BILLION TONS
of CO₂e stored
27.2 million tons in 2024



66 Indigenous Peoples
and Local Communities
supported



26.5 MILLION
acres protected
Added 491,389 acres



191 protected
areas
Added 7 more areas



3.1 MILLION beneficiaries
of Water Protected Areas
Reached 166,022 more people



9 publications published

Platinum
GuideStar Rating

100%
Accountability and Transparency
score on Charity Navigator



Protecting areas across 8 ecoregions

1. Amazon Rainforest
2. Tropical Dry Forest
3. Cloud Forest
4. Páramo Grasslands
5. Oak Woodland & Pine Forest
6. Mangroves, Estuaries & Marine
7. Chocó Forest
8. Chaco Forest

Álamos, Mexico

MEXICO

Our San Francisco Research Station, located in the cloud forests of southern Ecuador, is part of our founding story and is home to the world's largest tropical montane forest ecology research program.

2
Research
centers

3
Partner
offices

10
Regional
offices

WE LIVE WHERE WE WORK

Since our founding in 1996, our approach has been rooted in local partnership. Our staff live in or near the landscapes they help protect—many are from the communities themselves. This deep connection to place fosters trust, understanding, and long-term collaboration.



92%

of the staff live and work in Latin America



PROTECTING INTACT FORESTS

The foundation of our work is protecting and connecting large, intact forests—**critical ecosystems that sustain biodiversity, regulate the climate, provide clean water, and support Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.** By conserving expansive landscapes, we safeguard essential wildlife corridors, prevent deforestation, and strengthen ecosystem resilience, ensuring that nature thrives for generations to come.

In 2024, we continued expanding and connecting protected areas, **reinforcing ecological corridors across the region.** Notably, we made major strides in **key landscapes like the Ecuadorian Amazon and the Andean Bi-National Corridor**, which spans the Andes of southern Ecuador and northern Peru.



OUR KEY INITIATIVES

ECUADOR AND PERU

Amazonian Platform

Protecting 14 Million Acres in the Ecuadorian Amazon

Nature and Culture is working with **11 Indigenous nationalities** and provincial governments to protect **14 million acres** of Ecuador’s Amazon by 2030. This initiative strengthens Indigenous land stewardship, safeguards biodiversity, and combats climate change, ensuring a thriving future for one of the most biodiverse regions on Earth.

Andean Bi-National Corridor

Creating a Cross-Border Corridor for the Andes

The **Andean Bi-national Corridor** is a significant conservation initiative by Nature and Culture International, aiming to protect and connect critical ecosystems across the Andean region between Ecuador and Peru. This corridor spans approximately **5 million acres**, creating a **250-mile protected area** along the Andes mountain range, crossing international borders. The corridor safeguards high-altitude cloud forests, **páramos**, and montane ecosystems that are home to iconic and endangered species such as the **spectacled bear**, **Andean condor**, and **mountain tapir**.

UPDATE

Orellana Protected Area

In Progress 1.85 million acres of Amazon Rainforest

Our team visited Kichwa and Waorani communities in Orellana Province, deepening partnerships that are key to the proposed Orellana Provincial Protected Area.

This area is currently in development as part of our Amazonian Platform initiative and will safeguard 1.85 million acres across 14 unique ecosystems, home to threatened wildlife like the giant otter and the Amazonian pink river dolphin.

UPDATE

Momentum for the Andes del Norte Corridor

The Andes del Norte Corridor comprises the Peruvian side of the Andean Bi-National Corridor. In 2024, the Regional Government of Piura, Peru, declared the corridor a regional priority. This is an important step toward protecting biodiversity, securing water resources for local communities, and advancing the realization of the Bi-National Corridor.

The next step is for the Government of Cajamarca, the other major region within the proposed corridor, to do the same. Their approval, along with a strong action plan, will pave the way for effective conservation and cross-border connectivity.

NEW PROTECTED AREAS

Connecting Key Landscapes from the Andes to the Amazon



Chordeleg Protected Area, Ecuador

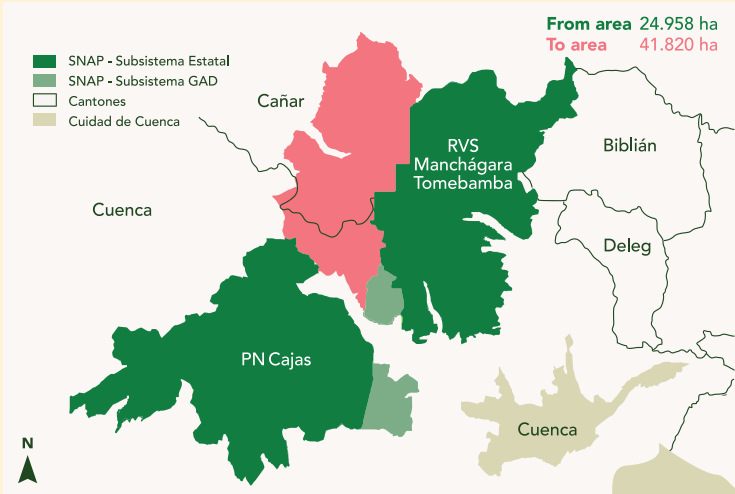
New 16,283 acres of Paramo and Cloud Forest

Strategically positioned at the meeting point of the eastern slope of the Andes and the Amazon, it connects to two other subnational areas and one nationally designated area. It is part of the massive corridor we are creating down the spine of the Andes called the Bi-National Andean Corridor. It is designated as a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA).

Río Negro Sopladora Protected Area, Ecuador

Expanded from 79,363 to 162,741 acres of Paramo and Cloud Forest

The Río Negro Sopladora National Park nearly doubled in size and now strengthens the Andean Bi-National Corridor along the spine of the Andes. The area harbors exceptional biodiversity, with 344 vascular plant species, 136 bird species, 43 mammals, and 23 amphibians and reptiles recorded so far!



Machángara Tomebamba Wildlife Refuge, Ecuador

Expanded from 61,673 to 103,339 acres of Paramo and Cloud Forest

Machangara Tomebamba Wildlife Refuge has expanded to 103 thousand acres, linking with El Cajas National Park to create an uninterrupted wildlife corridor.

This high-altitude páramo ecosystem is essential for species migrating uphill as temperatures rise due to climate change.

Its conservation is especially important for the local water supply, providing more than 60% of drinking water to the region.

Sucúa Protected Area, Ecuador

New 43,840 acres of Amazon Rainforest and Cloud Forest

This area safeguards crucial water sources and preserves local water supplies for the urban and rural communities of the Sucúa region. Due to its location, bridging the Amazon Rainforest with the eastern slope of the Andes, it contains a range of ecosystems and remarkable biodiversity.



New Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

Junín Protected Area, Ecuador

New 28,402 acres of dry and evergreen forests along the Pacific coastal range

This area safeguards 10 critical water sources, providing clean water to over 26,000 local residents. It is home to vulnerable species such as the black-headed spider monkey (*Ateles fusciceps*) and the Esmeraldas woodstar (*Chaetocercus berlepschi*), a rare hummingbird endemic to the region.

Atahualpa Protected Area, Ecuador

Expanded from 3,301 acres to 28,369 acres of páramo

This area enhances ecological connectivity by linking nearby protected areas, creating a crucial corridor for biodiversity, including the endangered El Oro Parakeet (*Pyrrhura orcesi*), endemic to Ecuador. It safeguards vital water resources supplying Paccha and nearby parishes, including the Yacuvíña archaeological site, a significant cultural heritage area.

Balsas Protected Area, Ecuador

Expanded from 741 to 6,096 acres of dry forest

This area connects with protected areas in neighboring municipalities, forming an ecological corridor that links the dry forest of the Puyango with the Buenaventura and Moromoro reserves, enhancing regional biodiversity conservation.

Mar Tropical de Grau National Reserve, Peru

New 286,059 acres of marine habitat

This area protects a unique marine ecosystem where the cold Peru (Humboldt) Current meets the warm Southern Equatorial Current, creating ideal conditions for species such as the Humboldt penguin, Pacific seahorse, humpback whales, hammerhead sharks, and all Pacific marine turtle species. Its protection is the result of more than a decade of collaboration among Nature and Culture, local governments, and coastal communities to conserve marine biodiversity and promote sustainable use of ocean resources.



Atahualpa



El Oro parakeet



Mar Tropical de Grau



Breaching humpback whale





Tutunedo Community in planning stage



Red-crested tamarin



Mapping of protected area

Protecting the Chocó Rainforest with the Local Community

Las Siete Sabias-Esperanza de Vida Protected Area, Colombia

New 75,115 acres of biodiverse Chocó rainforest, one of the rainiest regions in the Americas

Afro-Colombian communities played a central role in the creation of the Las Siete Sabias–Esperanza de Vida Protected Area. The name, Siete Sabias, honors the seven community councils that united to protect this land.

This new protected area conserves some of the rainiest forests in the Americas and helps secure clean water for more than 100,000 people in Quibdó, the capital of Colombia’s Chocó region. It also supports local livelihoods and strengthens environmental governance.

Internationally, this area is recognized as an Important Area for Bat Conservation; home to vulnerable species like the Greater long-tailed bat (*Choeroniscus periosus*), Chocó broad-nosed bat (*Platyrrhinus chocoensis*), and hairy little fruit bat (*Rhinophylla alethina*).



SAFEGUARDING THE MOST BIODIVERSE PLACES ON EARTH

Some places on Earth hold extraordinary concentrations of life, harboring species found nowhere else. These ecosystems, from the Amazon rainforest to the Andean cloud forests, are **irreplaceable strongholds of biodiversity**. By working in these high-priority regions, we **help protect critical habitats, ensuring that future generations inherit a planet rich in life.**

In 2024, through science-driven conservation and collaboration with local communities, governments, universities, NGOs, and research scientists, we monitored endangered and key species, informing strategies to prevent extinctions and support thriving ecosystems. This work also led to remarkable discoveries, **including species never before known to science**. With vast regions still unexplored, we know that **countless species remain undiscovered**, reinforcing the urgency to protect these landscapes before it's too late.





Petracola amazonensis



Petracola shurugoalcapi



Marco Reyes' Glassfrog

AMAZONAS, PERU

Two New Lizard Species

Researchers have identified two new lizard species, *Petracola amazonensis* and *Petracola shurugoalcapi*, in Peru's Amazonas region. This discovery adds to our understanding of the area's rich biodiversity, and the species' names reflect the local culture and geography. For example, while *Petracola amazonensis* directly honors the Amazonas region, *Petracola shurugoalcapi* incorporates Quechua words—linking the discovery to Indigenous knowledge and heritage. Although local communities had known about these lizards for over a decade, it's only with recent advances in scientific methods that researchers could formally describe and distinguish between them.

SAN FRANCISCO SCIENTIFIC STATION, ECUADOR

New Glass Frog Species

Researchers identified a new species, *Centrolene marcoreyesi*, in the Andes. Distinguished by unique traits—such as a lavender tint in its eyes and a clear belly—this discovery refines previous assumptions that grouped similar frogs into one species.

The finding underscores the critical role of protected areas like Nature and Culture's San Francisco Reserve in conserving the rich biodiversity of the Andean region. It also emphasizes the need for ongoing research to monitor and protect species threatened by habitat loss and other human induced pressures.

SONORA, MEXICO

Jaguar Census

For the third time, Nature and Culture worked with the National Jaguar Census (CENJAGUAR), an effort utilizing camera traps and field research to collect critical data on jaguar movements, behavior, and habitat use. Seven individuals were identified during this census, three of them within our Monte Mojino Reserve. This informs public policies and conservation initiatives by accurately determining the conservation status of this iconic species.

The project exemplifies successful collaboration among local communities, environmental authorities, and various social and governmental organizations. This integrated effort not only protects jaguar populations but also enhances broader ecosystem sustainability, ensuring that both wildlife and local communities benefit.



Camera Trap, 3:38 PM



Camera Trap, 2:28 AM



POWERING CONSERVATION TROUGH LOCAL LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS

Conservation only works **when it works for people**. At Nature and Culture, we **don't just protect land—we build lasting partnerships** that ensure its long-term stewardship. By bringing together governments, Indigenous nationalities, and local organizations, we strengthen conservation leadership at the local and regional level, ensuring that landscapes remain healthy and interconnected for generations to come.

In 2024, these partnerships led to major milestones, including the expansion of the Amazonian Platform, a regional initiative uniting political leaders and Indigenous communities around a shared conservation vision. We also **provided tools and technical expertise to strengthen local stewardship**, ensuring that those who know these lands best have the resources to care for them.

A Smarter Approach to Conservation: Equipping Local Governments with the Right Tools

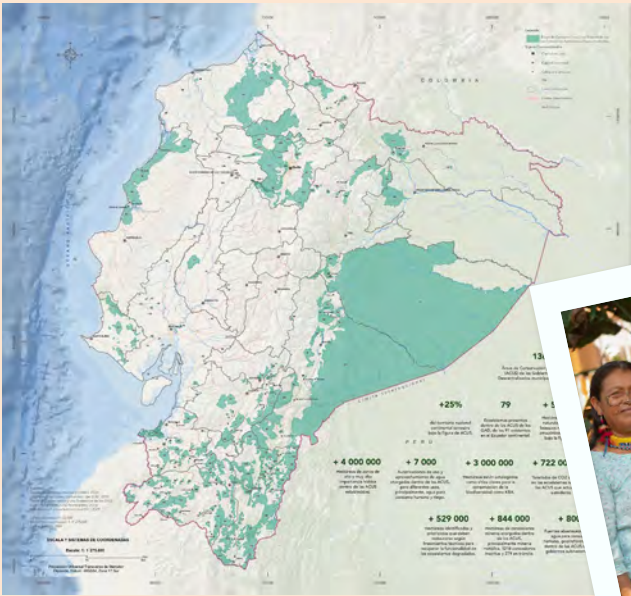
Conservation is most effective when it is rooted in local leadership. One of the most impactful ways Nature and Culture protects intact forests is by working at the grassroots level—advocating for subnational protected areas led by provincial and municipal governments in partnership with local communities. Unlike national protected areas, these locally designated conservation areas offer flexibility, allowing communities and governments to tailor protections to the unique needs of their landscapes while securing long-term conservation commitments.

In 2024, we took a major step toward strengthening the management of these areas by launching the [Subnational Protected Areas Map](#) a powerful tool that provides an interactive, science-based view of Ecuador’s subnational protected areas. Developed in collaboration with Ecuador’s Ministry of Environment, Water, and Ecological Transition (MAATE) and local governments, this mapping system gives decision-makers the tools they need to plan, expand, and effectively manage conservation areas at a national scale.

But the Subnational Protected Areas initiative is about more than mapping—it’s about deepening local conservation leadership. In 2024, we hosted the first Subnational Conservation Forum bringing together

provincial and municipal leaders to discuss best practices and reinforce the essential role of local governments in conservation efforts. Through these partnerships, we have helped communities develop policies, secure sustainable funding, and implement conservation programs that ensure these protected areas are not only designated—but actively managed for the future.

By working hand in hand with local communities and governments, we are ensuring that subnational conservation remains adaptive, effective, and built to last. As we continue to expand this approach across Latin America, we are proving that conservation works best when it works for people.



 [Subnational Protected Areas Map](#)



Generations of Shuar Women



Subnational Conservation Forum

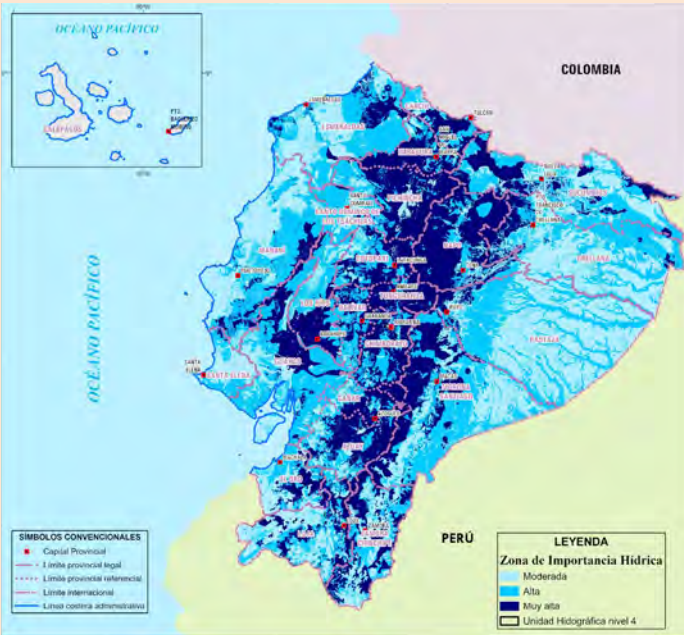


Mapping Water for the Future: The Atlas of Watershed Protection

In 2024, Nature and Culture International partnered with Ecuador’s Ministry of Environment, Water, and Ecological Transition (MAATE) to launch the [Atlas of Watershed Protection](#), a groundbreaking tool that identifies and supports the conservation of 35 National Hydric Protected Areas covering more than 381,404 acres and ensuring clean water access for 1.18 million people.

Beyond the data, it’s a tool that strengthens local and regional conservation leadership, helping communities and decision-makers advocate for stronger protections and sustainable management of their water sources.

This coalition-driven approach is also shaping the future. Looking ahead, we are working with partners to create 1.46 million additional acres of Hydric Protected Areas and elevate 766,000 acres of existing subnational areas into Ecuador’s



 [Atlas of Watershed Protection](#)

National System of Protected Areas. We are also investing in watershed management training and expanding sustainable financing models, including Fondo CASCA, a new fund supporting four northern Andean provinces, and Ecuador’s first National Water Fund dedicated exclusively to conservation.

By bringing together local expertise, government leadership, and financial sustainability, we are ensuring that conservation efforts are not only effective but enduring.

Celebrating 20 Years of Community-Led Conservation in Peru

In 2024, we marked two decades of protecting Peru’s extraordinary biodiversity—made possible through deep collaboration with local communities. Our journey began in the dry

forests along the border, where environmental education, sustainable development, and community-driven conservation strategies helped safeguard these unique ecosystems. Today, thanks to these partnerships, we’ve helped conserve 4.9 million acres across 36 protected areas—from the dry forests of the Marañón River valley to the cloud forests of the Andes in Huánuco and the vast tropical forests of Loreto.

Expanding and Strengthening Protected Areas in Santa Cruz, Bolivia



In 2024, we deepened our collaboration with the Government of Santa Cruz, local organizations, and Indigenous partners to expand conservation efforts across the department, aiming to protect more than 50% of its territory.

The region spans unique ecosystems including the Gran Chaco and Pantanal which are home to a rich variety of wildlife, including jaguars, ocelots, pumas, tapirs, and various bird species, and a great diversity of Indigenous Peoples, including the Ayoreo, the only native population that remains in voluntary isolation outside the Amazon.

We are working with local authorities to establish a sustainable financing mechanism to support the expansion and effective governance of Santa Cruz’s subnational protected area system. Additionally, in partnership with the Directorate

of Natural Heritage Conservation (DICOPAN), we are enhancing biodiversity monitoring to guide conservation strategies.

Our work in the Ñembi Guasu Protected Area spans three million acres within the department of Santa Cruz and this year, our partner Nativa completed efforts to strengthen capacity and infrastructure for the effective management of the area.

Thanks to trained and well-equipped personnel and coordinated action with local municipalities and the Government of Santa Cruz, Ñembi Guasu was spared from the devastating wildfires that destroyed millions of acres in surrounding areas between August and October 2024.





Elevating Local Leadership on the Global Stage

For decades, Nature and Culture International has worked alongside local governments and communities to create subnational protected areas—locally designated conservation areas that strengthen biodiversity protection and ecosystem resilience. While these areas are vital for conservation, their contributions have historically been underrepresented in global datasets.

That changed in 2024.

At COP16 in Cali, Colombia, Nature and Culture’s Executive Director presented groundbreaking findings from a recent partnership with the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation and the Map of Life initiative. Using the Species Protection Index (SPI)—a globally recognized metric based on data from the Map of Life, we helped assess the true impact of subnational protected areas in Ecuador.

The results were striking:

Subnational protected areas increased Ecuador’s national SPI by 50 percent, proving that national parks alone are not enough to safeguard biodiversity.

These subnational areas provide the only protection coverage for 153 terrestrial vertebrate species, and subnational protected areas protect 100% of the habitat for 35 of Ecuador’s terrestrial vertebrates.

They expand Ecuador’s total protected area coverage by 24 percentage points, filling critical gaps in biodiversity protection.



A powerful example of this impact is the Gualaquero Municipal Reserve a 34,550-acre protected area on the Ecuador side of the Andean Bi-National Corridor. Home to the spectacled bear and mountain tapir, Gualaquero provides essential habitat connectivity while securing critical water resources for local communities. Since its protection in 2014, deforestation in the region has dropped by 24%, demonstrating the far-reaching benefits of subnational conservation.

At COP16, these findings became a focal point of international discussions, validating the approach Nature and Culture has championed for decades. Conservation donors and policy leaders recognized subnational conservation as an essential strategy for achieving global biodiversity goals, with Ecuador’s model now serving as an example for other countries.

By working hand in hand with communities, local governments, and conservation partners, we are ensuring that subnational protected areas continue to serve as strongholds for species protection, ecosystem resilience, and local well-being. And now, thanks to our collaboration with the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation and Yale University, their contributions can no longer be overlooked.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

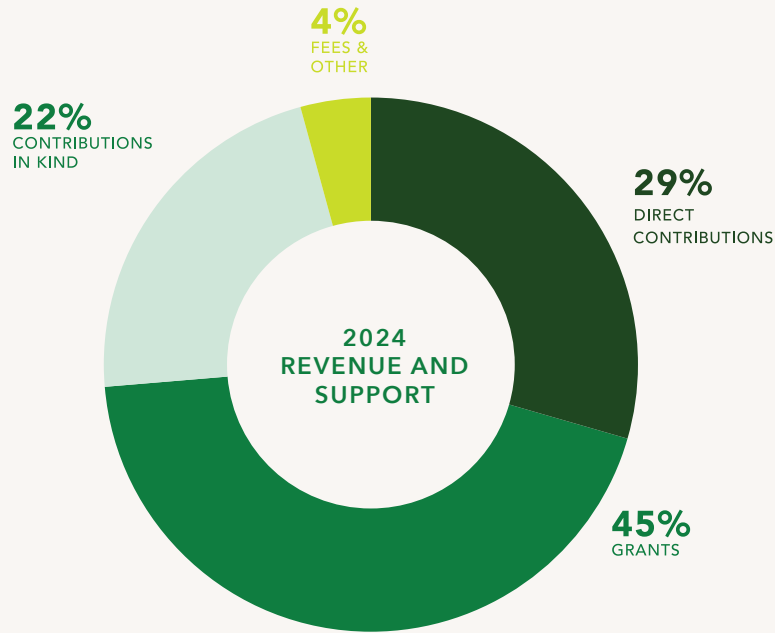
Cash & Cash Equivalents	8,150,907
Pledges & Grants Receivable	2,067,559
Prepaid expenses and deposits	6,663
Land for Disposition	2,398,351
Property and Equipment	
- Land	3,323,721
- Buildings & improvements (net of depreciation)	152,524
- Vehicles (net of depreciation)	239,102
- Furniture & equipment (net of depreciation)	1,718
Operating lease right-of-use asset	116,718
Total Assets	\$16,457,263

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	182,276
Payroll Related Liabilities	477,632
Deferred Revenues	3,554,492
Operating Lease liability	117,037
Total Liabilities	\$4,331,437

NET ASSETS

Without Donor Restrictions	10,307,061
With Donor Restrictions	1,818,765
Total Net Assets	\$12,125,826
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$16,457,263



Statement of Activities

REVENUE & SUPPORT

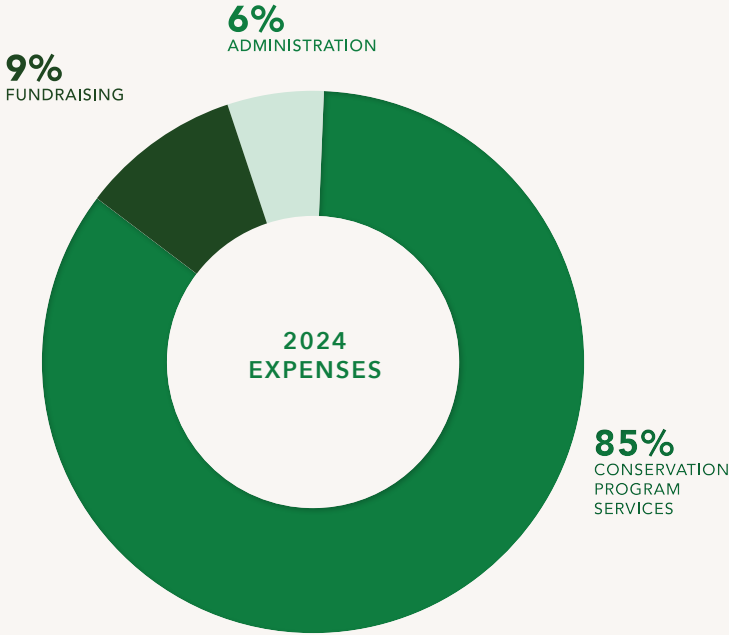
Grants & Contributions	
- Contributions - Direct	3,202,339
- Grants	4,858,679
- Contributions - In Kind	2,418,997
Fees & other	444,762
Total Revenue & Support	\$10,924,777

EXPENSES

Conservation Program Services:	
- Ecuador	3,179,313
- Peru	2,410,196
- Mexico	379,401
- Bolivia	255,685
- Colombia	364,454
- USA	193,190
- Fundraising	750,383
- General & Administrative	471,739
Total Expenses	\$8,004,361

Change in Net Assets

Net Assets Beginning of Year	9,205,410
Net Assets End of Year	12,125,826



Nature and Culture is deeply grateful for the generous support of our individual and institutional donors. We are committed to the ethical, transparent, and efficient stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. This dedication allows us to stay agile and responsive, maximizing our impact as we address the urgent challenges of a rapidly changing climate.

Making Every Dollar Count

85% of funds to the field
\$0.85 of every dollar donated goes directly to programmatic costs, with the remaining \$0.15 funding the critical tools, time, talent, and tenacity needed to build a lasting legacy for nature.



Our commitment to local leadership is evident—92.4% of our programmatic staff are based in Latin America, where they work alongside local communities to protect and preserve our most vital ecosystems.

Collaborating Efficiently & Advancing Conservation Sustainably

As trusted neighbors and committed partners, our staff works closely with local communities, Indigenous peoples, and governments to safeguard the world's most critical forests. By focusing on protecting intact forests, we ensure that these ecosystems remain protected for the long term. Through sustainable practices and innovative financing, we create lasting conservation outcomes, ensuring that these landscapes thrive for generations to come. Together, we are not just establishing protected areas; we are shaping a future where biological and cultural diversity can flourish.

Commitment to Transparent Reporting

Nature and Culture International is proud to be recognized as a top-rated environmental nonprofit, earning a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator and Platinum Level status from Candid® (formerly Guidestar). We are also recognized as a top-rated charity by Great Nonprofits and are registered nationwide as a licensed U.S. charitable solicitor.

Our financial records undergo an annual audit by an independent CPA firm. The financials for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, were unaudited at the time of this report. Full and audited financial statements for previous years are available on our website at www.natureandculture.org. To receive the latest audited financials once available, please contact us at hello@natureandculture.org.

LOOKING FORWARD

At Nature and Culture, we are more committed than ever to combating climate change and protecting biodiversity by halting deforestation in our five focus countries. Our mission to preserve both nature and culture has never been more urgent. With your continued support, we can safeguard these vital ecosystems for generations to come. By funding this work, you remain a powerful force for good in an ever-changing world.

Ecological Diversity in Bolivia

In collaboration with the Department of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, we are expanding five protected areas by nearly 2 million acres. Santa Cruz is the largest and most biodiverse department in Bolivia and contains 9 of Bolivia’s 12 ecoregions, including Amazon rainforest and Pantanal. Continue to fund our work as we protect these precious ecosystems.

Amazonian Platform Expansion

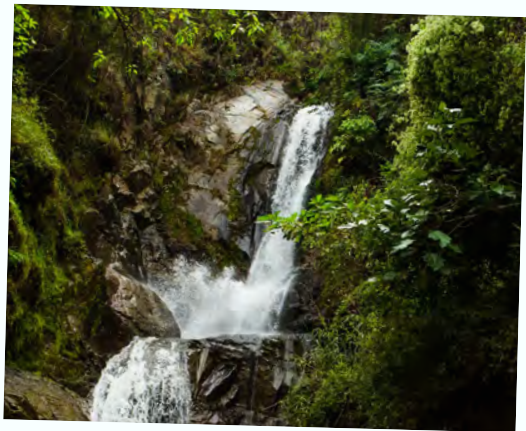
Our teams are hard at work to expand the Amazonian Platform project into two additional Ecuadorian provinces, with a third on the horizon, taking the total Platform to 14-million-acres of continuous, pristine Amazonian rainforest. Give today to preserve even more of “the lungs of the Earth.”

Watershed Protection

Protecting water at its source means safeguarding one of nature’s most precious resources. By conserving forests and ecosystems, we help ensure clean, reliable water for drinking, farming, and hydropower. [Support Nature and Culture to protect safe, sustainable water for all.](#)

United Nations Climate Conference (COP) in Brazil

We will continue to share the knowledge of local and Indigenous voices on a global scale by supporting our partners’ participation in this global event- especially in relation to the global UN goals of 30x30. Your gift ensures Indigenous conservationists are included in these global conferences.



Water Protection Area, Verdun



Macaw in flight, Orellana



Amazon rainforest shelter

Andean Bi-National Corridor

Spanning 250 miles and two countries, the Andean Bi-National Corridor protects a global biodiversity hotspot that contains about one-sixth of all plant life in the world and an enormous diversity of amphibian, bird, and mammal species, including the Spectacled bear.

In 2025, we plan to create and expand six different protected areas within the corridor footprint. The corridor is made up of three smaller corridors and, with your help, we expect all three corridors to be legally recognized this year before the unified corridor is declared. Be a part of South America’s first bi-national corridor that supports millions of critical species!

WAYS TO GIVE

CASH GIFTS

[Make a one-time or recurring gift online](#), or mail a check to Nature and Culture International’s U.S. office at 1400 Maiden Lane, Del Mar, CA 92014.

RETIREMENT PLAN GIFTS

Make a gift from your required minimum distributions (RMD) and reduce your taxable income.

PLANNED GIFTS

Name Nature and Culture International as a beneficiary of your will or trust. You can also name Nature and Culture as a beneficiary of your Qualified Retirement Plan, life insurance policy, donor-advised fund, or brokerage account. By making a planned or estate gift, you will create a lasting legacy while helping to ensure the conservation of threatened ecosystems and indigenous cultures for generations to come. If you are planning to include Nature and Culture in your estate plans, please let our Director of Individual Giving know so we can celebrate your legacy gift in life. If you are in the process of writing your will, please feel free to use the sample bequest language provided below.

Suggested Bequest Language

“I give and bequeath to Nature and Culture International (EIN: 33-077324), a non-profit corporation based in California and focused on tropical ecosystem conservation, the sum of \$___ to be used to support the general needs of the organization.”

STOCK GIFTS

One of the best ways to both support Nature and Culture and eliminate capital gains tax is through gifts of appreciated securities.

A gift of stock allows you to make a big impact while employing prudent tax strategies by both receiving a charitable tax deduction and reducing your taxable income. [Please contact us for DTC instructions.](#)

DONOR ADVISED FUND OR CHARITABLE TRUST GIFTS

You can provide for yourself or a loved one during your lifetime, creating significant tax deductions, all while providing critical resources to Nature and Culture. [Please contact us for wire transfer information.](#)

Deciding what vehicle to use will depend on your personal needs and financial objectives. These include charitable remainder unitrusts and charitable remainder annuity trusts as well as charitable lead trusts and charitable gift annuities. Please consult your financial adviser about the appropriateness of these planning tools.

* For more information on giving opportunities, contact Laura Meagher, Director of Individual Giving, at (858) 259-0374 or imeagher@natureandculture.org.

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