



MEMO

June 22, 2024

TO: Editors and Journalists

RE: Rainforest Trust Celebrates World Rainforest Day by Fighting to Protect 500,000 Acres in Peru

This year on World Rainforest Day, Rainforest Trust is [fighting to protect 500,000 acres](#) of rainforest in the Peruvian Amazon.

The Peruvian Amazon, second in size only to the Brazilian Amazon, covers nearly 60% of Peru's landscape, and is home to more than 12,810 species. The Endangered White-lipped Peccary, Andean Night Monkey, Giant Otter, Northern Tiger Cat, and Giant Armadillo are all found here.

This area is also one of the planet's most important carbon stores, [containing over 33 billion metric tons](#) of carbon, more than the annual emissions of China and the U.S. combined.

Rainforest Trust is working with partner Confederación de Nacionalidades Amazónicas del Perú and is supported by the International Land Coalition to secure land tenure rights on 500,000 acres of Indigenous territories in some of the last remaining tracts of Amazon rainforest in Peru.

Together, these organizations will support at least 30 Indigenous communities in conserving their lands. Once protected, these acres will safely store 121,309,442 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents—comparable to the CO₂ emissions produced by the burning of 13 billion gallons of gasoline.

These forests are home to hundreds of Indigenous communities who rely on this land for their survival. Encroaching activities, including illegal logging, mining, and land trafficking, are jeopardizing the sovereignty of Indigenous territories and traditions in the area.

Intact forests and threatened species face a growing menace as those seeking economic gain make inroads into Indigenous territories across the Amazon for nefarious purposes. Titled these territories will help prevent encroachment by outsiders and give communities legal recourse against threats.

Newly titled territories will enable Indigenous people to maintain their traditional livelihoods in sustainable ways. At least 12 communities will be seeking legal recognition of their lands as Private Conservation Areas in addition to designation as Indigenous territories, providing an additional level of protection.

To learn more about Rainforest Trust, visit www.rainforesttrust.org.

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About Rainforest Trust

Since 1988, Rainforest Trust has been safeguarding imperiled tropical habitats and saving endangered species by establishing protected areas in partnership with local organizations and communities. With its partners, Rainforest Trust has safeguarded more than 50 million acres of vital habitat across Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia–Pacific. Rainforest Trust is a nonprofit organization that relies upon the generous support of the public to successfully implement its important conservation action. The organization is proud of earning a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Learn more about the work of Rainforest Trust by visiting RainforestTrust.org, [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), or [LinkedIn](#).

