

# Update: **The Maya Forest Corridor**

Rainforest Trust is dedicated to protecting and preserving the fragile tropical forest of Central America. With your support, we have secured vital habitats that would otherwise be lost to development, agriculture or extraction of natural resources.

**In the last two years, we have protected 266,627 acres of tropical rainforest.** Most recently, with your help, we not only met—we exceeded—our original goal and purchased 29,941 acres

of the untouched **Belize Maya Forest Corridor.**



Located between the Maya Mountains of southern Belize and the tri-national Maya Forest of Belize, Mexico and Guatemala, this emerald corridor connects protected refuges—safeguarding many endangered and at-risk species.



**RAINFOREST  
TRUST®**





# What We're Doing



Baird's Tapir by Mark Kostich/Shutterstock

## Protecting Endangered Species

Your gift helped create a safe and permanent home for many threatened species including the Critically Endangered Central American River Turtle. The only living species in its family, this turtle makes its home in the Cox Lagoon wetlands in the Maya Forest Corridor.

Other protected species in this forest include Baird's Tapir (EN), Geoffroy's Spider Monkey (EN) and the Yucatán Black Howler Monkey (EN)—all of which require vast expanses of habitat to thrive. In addition, populations of iconic species, including Jaguars and White-lipped Peccaries (VU), will benefit from the safe passage created in this newly connected corridor.

## Our Ongoing Commitment

The Maya Forest Corridor project is part of our ongoing commitment to the protection of the great forests of Central America, the most expansive tropical forests north of the Amazon. In Belize, we supported the purchase of a keystone 236,686-acre block of tropical forest as part of a consortium of international conservation organizations. Soon after the closing on the property, the Belize Maya Forest Trust was established as a local nonprofit to manage the long-term conservation of the Belize Maya Forest. Our most recent purchase, and an additional donation in progress of 23,314 acres, will bring the **total acres to 289,941—exceeding our goal by 101% of the expected total.**

With your support, we are safeguarding this land from deforestation and protecting an ecosystem that contains more than 40.9 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e—the equivalent of **8.8 million passenger vehicles driven for one year.**



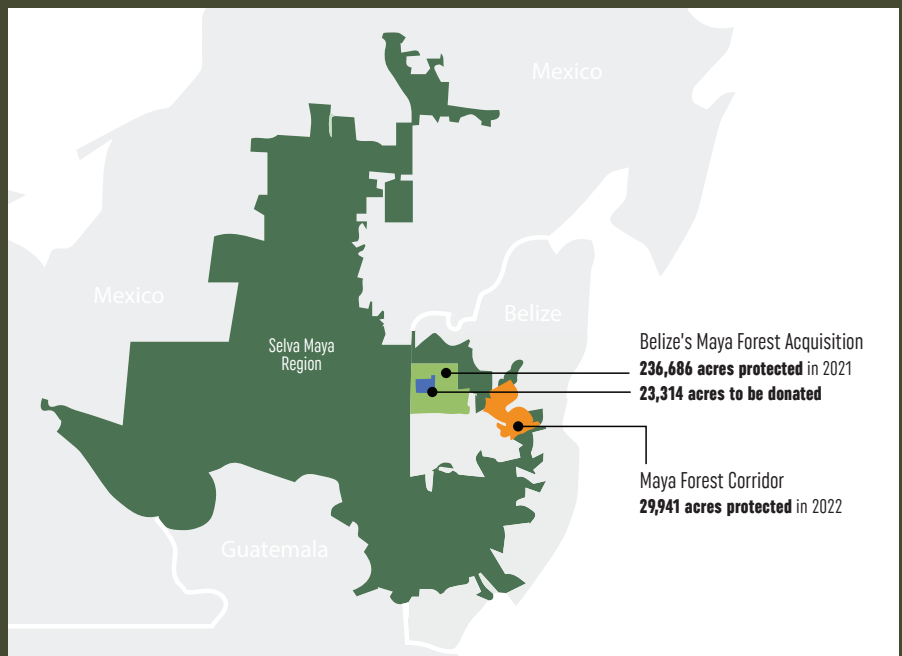
Ocelot by Leonardo Mercon/Shutterstock

## Saving Habitat

The Mesoamerica Biological Corridor was once a vast tropical forest that stretched the length of Central America. With much of the habitat degraded or fragmented, conservation organizations, including Rainforest Trust, have put a priority on protecting what remains. This biodiverse area in Central America is home to more than 200 species of trees, 400 species of birds and 70 species of mammals including the Critically Endangered Central American River Turtle—as well as 39 threatened species—like the Jaguar, Puma, Margay, Ocelot and several species of monkeys.

## Together We Can Accomplish Great Things

This incredible progress would not be possible without your support. Because of you, many endangered species now have a place to call home for generations to come.



## Maya Forest Impact Facts

**2**  
projects

**266,627**  
acres protected  
**23,314**  
acres in progress

**709**  
species protected

The CO<sub>2</sub>e equivalent of  
**8.8 million** passenger  
vehicles driven for one year



RAINFOREST  
TRUST®

Rainforesttrust.org | 1.800.456.4930  
P.O. Box 841, Warrenton, VA 20188

