



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

This is the report corresponding to the period from January to December 2021, addressed to Tu Tierra, Bioparc and to those interested in the conservation and sustainable development projects of two Private Conservation Areas (PCA) such as the Chaparrí PCA owned by the Comunidad Campesina Muchik Santa Catalina de Chongoyape (34,412 ha.) and the PCA La Huerta del Chaparrí (La Huerta Encantada) owned by the Plenge Pardo family (100 ha.), who through an agreement work together as they are adjacent conservation areas with common conservation objectives. For marketing reasons, this group has been called the Chaparrí Ecological Reserve.

Likewise, both private conservation areas assume that they are part of a natural Biological Corridor between Lambayeque, Cajamarca and Piura, Cajamarca and Piura and establish alliances with Associations such as Acoturch, Tu Tierra, Bioparc, Rondas and Peasant Communities with whom the Bi-regional Strategic Plan 2010-2020 "The Conservation of Natural Resources and the Development of Sustainable Economic Activities" was elaborated, which summarises the working philosophy of the actors. (Annex 1).

THE FOREST

The predominant Equatorial Dry Forest in both private conservation areas shows a constant regeneration in the intervened areas before their qualification as PCAs.

In the Chaparrí PCA we estimate 50 % of degraded areas in recovery and 50 % of areas with primary forests.

In the La Huerta del Chaparrí PCA we estimate 30% of forests that were degraded and are currently recovering through care and reforestation. The remaining 70% corresponds to primary forests. corresponds to primary forests (Annex 2).

CONSERVATION PROJECT AND BEAR RESCUE

There are currently 6 Spectacled bears in the bear rescue center.

Rescued bears

This semi-captive bear breeding facility is a powerful tool for research and environmental education and we continue to act on the basis of the Master Plan for the establishment of the Chaparrí ACP that was approved by INRENA in 2005. However, as we have already stated, in the new division and nomenclature of institutions such as SERNANP and SERFOR they demand that we should "formalise" a Rescue Centre in the ACP La Huerta del Chaparrí. In 2019 we made the consultations and we see a great economic inconvenience since, this new "formalization" would imply an extra monthly expense of approximately S/. 3,000 (Three thousand soles) to cover the fees of a professional authorized by SERFOR who should attend monthly to the supposed Rescue Centre in order to verify that the requirements stipulated by them are fulfilled. This demand seems to us to be exaggerated and economically unfeasible, as there are no economic resources for such an eventuality. On the other hand, we know that several rescue centres in the country have been forced to close due to the excessive requirements demanded by SERFOR and OSINFOR and due to the crisis caused by the global pandemic of Covid 19.

Our bears:

- TONGO, in excellent condition, has been moved to the first enclosure of the old pens.
- AMAZONA is with her daughter Chaska in the same enclosure and in October she also mated with Tongo, but we do not know if she is pregnant.
- LOLA, daughter of COLLIQUE is developing normally. She is a very smart and curious bear. She escaped 3 times from the enclosure in July 2020. In 2021 she escaped only once and was recovered the same day. She mated in October with Tongo. We don't know if she is she is pregnant.

- CHASKA is the daughter of Amazona with a wild bear. The name was assigned by means of a contest "LOOKING FOR MY NAME".
- COLLIQUE, the problem of alopecia still persists, but her state of health does not look alarming.
- AZULINA, similarly in good general condition, but with the problem of alopecia.

As a result of the damage to the electric fences, caused by the deterioration of time and the onslaught of wild bears that entered the enclosures in search of females in heat, we continue to move forward in a modular fashion with the general repair of these facilities, which mainly involves checking and replacing the wooden posts that support the electric lines, many of which have a rotten base after 20 years of use.

This mainly involves checking and replacing the wooden poles that support the power lines, many of which have rotten bases after 20 years of use.

Intensive maintenance is also being carried out on the caves and, as we do every year, for safety reasons, we are replacing the batteries to ensure the supply of electricity needed by the site.

In February 2022, Pierre and Francois Gay brought us a new energiser and a new voltage meter.

The bear miracles

A few years ago, Mr. Hernan Garrido Lecca made a book based on the story of Milagros and now he announces a cartoon comic to be released in 2023.

(Annex 03)

In the Chaparri Master Plan, accepted by INRENA, the competent authority in the year 2000 (before the existence of SERNANP and SERFOR), it was stated that one of the actions that we would carry out would be the release of some rescued bears. This has been carried out in spite of the criticism of some detractors who argued, among other reasons, issues such as:

- Genetics of specimens that did not correspond to the dry forest.
- Transmission of diseases.
- Released bears that could cause problems for livestock, crops and incursions on farmers' properties.

Through a system of social and ecological monitoring that we have implemented, including news and the use of camera traps, we have verified that during these 20 years we have not registered any of the problems or risks mentioned above.

Wild Spectacled bears

Monitoring with the camera traps donated by Bioparc and South Lakes continues with excellent results. We currently have 15 cameras in operation. We need to look at the possibility of acquiring 5 more cameras.

In 2021, our park rangers have continued to monitor wild bears, obtaining 1,378 videos and 1,494 photographs, some of which are presented in this report (Annex 04).

Between September 2021 and January 2022, a wild male bear that we baptized as Piloto was frequenting areas around the enclosures, plantations and Ecolodge. In an unprecedented event he entered the cabin of our vehicle, fortunately without causing any damage to property or people (Annex 05).

Also in an unprecedented event, during the dry season, wild bears have been observed with unusual frequency by tourists and visitors, in the sector El Angolo. (Annex 6)

By monitoring the population of bears and other wildlife, which is being carried out from 1998 to 2020 (22 years), we can preliminarily establish that the Chaparri ACP plus the ACP La Huerta del Chaparri and neighbouring rural communities such as Santa Lucia de Ferreñafe, Tocmoche, Yaque, San Juan de Licupis, Miracosta, Laquipampa and others, are home to the densest population of Andean bears in South America. It is therefore of utmost importance

to strengthen these institutions in order to insist on the creation of a conservation corridor to ensure the viability of this endangered species.

Condors

In the aviaries built for the condors, we currently keep Iñiku, the female Andean condor that is turning 15 years old.

Wild condors (*Vultur gryphus* and *Sarcoramphus papa*) continue to be observed in the vicinity of Iñiku's environment (Annex 07).

Camelids

In 2012, with the help of Bioparc, a herd of llamas was acquired from the Pachacutec Cooperative and private individuals located in the Junín region (Central Andes of Peru).

These llamas were located near the Tinajones Reservoir, next to the previous herd. together with the previous group.

In 2021, between births and deaths of animals due to old age and dog attacks and dog attacks, the herd currently numbers 48 individuals (Annex 08).

White-winged guan

The 2021 monitoring of the population tell us that the population is about 85 individuals. (Annex 09)

Herpetarium

The Herpetarium continues to be a very popular place to visit, especially for children, and in the bioterium we have managed by crossbreeding to obtain a colour that more closely resembles the colour of the wild mice that serve as food for the snakes, lizards and other animals that we keep on display.

Please find attached report:

Boas: 02

Barnett's lancehead: 03

Runner: 02

Toads: 02

Large frogs: 02

Frogs: 08

Tarantula: 01

Hundred-Footed: 01

Hanging Deer: 01

Iguana: 02

Rattlesnake: 03

Coral: 01

In July, during the visit of a TV crew from Animal Planet, a small snake was collected. Animal Planet TV crew collected a small snake which is being investigated by Juan Andres Plenge, and the first indications are that it will be a new species for science (Annex 10).

Peccaries and other species

- The population of peccaries (*Pecari tajacu*) around the lodge is estimated at more than 50 individuals that now move long distances and have subdivided into groups of 10 to 15 individuals.
- The population of white-naped squirrel (*Sciurus stramineus*) has increased significantly in 2021 and it is very common to observe them throughout the day.
- In 2019, groups of Tayras (*Eyra barbara*), possibly attracted by the squirrel population, are still present. Deer, foxes, pumas, tamandua, and royal condors have also been observed more frequently, (Annex 11)

Tourism in Chaparri

In 2021, tourism in Chaparri and in Peru has started to be partially reactivated. Attached is a table of visits (Annex 12).

La Ruta de los Encantos

This route is now more important in the context of the pandemic and the influx of Master Healers continues to increase, as does the use of medicinal plants due to people's need to go to open, safe and healthy spaces. (Annex 13).

Forest guards

Our park rangers have worked very hard throughout the year 2020 and accepted the reduction of their salaries due to the lack of tourism, which generated a part of their salaries. Until 31 December 2020 they were able to put up with this situation. After that date only Ivan Vallejos and Valentin Sanchez remained with us.

From 31 December to the present, we have partially hired Abraham and Deysi Vallejos Santa Cruz, Elvis Jair Santa Cruz Matril (Annex 14).

In the 2022 budget we are suggesting a salary increase for all Chaparri staff.

Reforestation

Due to the chronic lack of rain in the last 12 months, we have initiated a project of assisted restitution of the forest through technified irrigation. Approximately 3,500 trees have been planted along the main routes to where the water from the springs can reach by gravity. We have acquired implements such as Rain Bird electronic irrigation regulators, hoses, pipes, storage tanks, drippers and other equipment, drippers and other equipment.

We have also donated plants for reforestation on communal land. (Annex 15)

Equipment and infrastructure improvement

Thanks to the Fondo de Turismo Emprande supplemented with funds provided by BIOPARC and own funds in the period 2021, the infrastructure and equipment for biosecurity protocols were improved. A ranger's refuge was also built for Valentin (Annex 16).

The water festival - far ich lap

This event could not take place due to the pandemic, but it is being proposed to reactivate it in 2022 together with the UNESCO Chair of the University of Genoa, the Municipality of Chiclayo, the Directorate of Culture and the Patronage of Culture of Chiclayo.

Illescas

In the context of the re-categorisation as a National Reserve, we recommend support for community members who need to assert their acquired rights before the state (Annex 17).

In the month of June 2021, the volunteer park ranger Pablo Martinez located a colony of flamingos in Virrila, and we went to the site to verify and register them (Annex 18).

We are also proposing an overflight by light aircraft for the first week of April 2022 to carry out the first census of flamingos in northern Peru.

If a basic budget of USD 3,000 could be allocated for the year 2022 it would be important to maintain our presence in alliance with the community.

The Bear Cup

The 2021 version of the Bear Cup took place and we participated with the prize money for the winning teams of the tournament. (Annex 19) For the 2022 version there is an offer from Play For Nature (Julien Pierre) to finance part of the tournament.

Melipona bees

In the year 2021 we started with a promising project of melipona bees (stingless bees) which is presented as an excellent socio-economic and environmental option to resume the project of the Conservation Corridors encouraging different sectors of the Comunidad Campesina Muchik Santa Catalina and other neighbouring rural communities.

The first 7 meliponarios have been installed (4 in Chaparri and 3 in Tocmoche) which are already being increased with breeding colonies.

The main concept is the following: "Without forest there are no bees; and without bees there is no forest" (Annex 20).

Others partners

This year 2021, Javier Ruiz and the National University of Trujillo together with the Belgian universities Kuleuven and Hasselt started a project for S/ 100.000 to support other community enterprises; but apparently, they are going through some problems that prevent them from completion.

For the year 2022, specifically in the Melipona Bee Project, there are several institutions that have shown interest in strengthening the approach: Avanza Rural, Vision 2050, Play For Nature and the UNESCO Chair of the University of Genoa.

An unusual event occurred when SERFOR Cajamarca visited us to release a Tamandua in Huerta Encantada (Annex 21).

Economic sustainability

The economic funds provided by Tu Tierra are very important and highly strategic to attend to the current situation in Chaparri and to continue strengthening the Biological Corridor; however, it is necessary to increase them by managing alliances and other sources of financing that help to achieve economic consolidation and the promotion of new rural community tourism enterprises that contribute percentages of their income for social support and income for social support and eco-businesses such as the rational use of forestry rational use of forest products, medicinal plants and payment for and payment for ecosystem services.

(Annex 22) - Table of Contributions Made Bioparc

(Annex 23) - Bioparc Executed Budget - Balance Sheet

The Tourism Fund has contributed the sum of S/. 32,200.00 soles, which has mainly served to support to the community.

THREATS

The Chaparri ACP and the La Huerta del Chaparri ACP are considered to have the following threats:

- There are more than 32 mining denouncements within the Chaparri ACP, according to information collected from Mr. Juan Carrasco Fernandez in the Directorate of Energy and Mines of the Regional Government of Lambayeque.

- 19.2. Projects for the expansion of the agricultural frontier and irrigation projects, with a view to agro-export. The Regional Government, the Chamber of Commerce and a new company from India are supporting the implementation of the questioned Regional Hydraulic Plan, which implies the construction of several reservoirs for water storage. Three of them, La Montería, Sicán and Yaipon, would directly affect the directly affect the Chaparri Ecological Reserve.

I, Heinz Plenge, personally think that this threat could be turned into an opportunity if the community has access to good information to make appropriate decisions.

- Conflicts and corruption of officials and former community leaders in struggles for control of the community board, aimed at land trafficking and control of income from ecotourism.
- 19.5. SERNANP has not fulfilled its commitment to register the conservation charge in the public registers.
- 19.6. SERFOR is evasive in recognising the Bear Rescue Centre.
- 19.7. Expansion of the agricultural frontier and mining ventures in adjacent areas remain a powerful threat to conservation.
- 19.8. The creation of a new Private Conservation Area called Bosque Urum, which could become a serious threat, if it is proven that its owners, with the authorisation of Sernanp, have partially superimposed this area on land belonging to the rural community Muchik Santa Catalina de Chongoyape.

CONCLUSIONS

The 4 pillars of Cultural, Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability have not developed evenly in the year 2021. In the context of the pandemic, the social and economic aspects have been ostensibly weakened. The Cultural and Environmental aspects have been favoured.

It is important for the year 2022 to have the basic budget for Chaparri to continue to function. The hope of this community and many other rural communities in Peru that are looking seriously at the conservation of their resources can only be strengthened if our main allies such as Bioparc and Zoo Due de La Fontaine, who are the most important and constant supporters, can continue to help.