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International Outlook for Privately Protected Areas

Country Profile: COLOMBIA

Suggested citation: **Myron, E., Gloss, L., Fabiano, C., and Ahmed, H.** *International Outlook for Privately Protected Areas: Colombia Country Profile*. International Land Conservation Network (a project of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy) - United Nations Development Programme, 2019.

Introduction:

This country profile is part of a study by the International Land Conservation Network (ILCN) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) summarizing the **legal, policy, and institutional mechanisms used to establish and incentivize privately protected areas (PPAs) in 30 understudied countries.**

PPAs contribute to the achievement of global conservation goals and biodiversity targets by contributing to landscape-scale conservation, connectivity and ecological-representativeness of protected areas.

For the purposes of this profile, an area is considered a PPA if it conforms to the definition agreed upon by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Generally speaking, a PPA's protection must be recognized and durable (with long term conservation intent); it must be governed by a private or non-governmental entity; and it must be governed and managed to meet the general conservation standards of a protected area (PA) as laid out by the IUCN.^{1,2} **Note: Alongside currently existing mechanisms in these countries, this study also references mechanisms that represent *potential opportunities for the creation of PPAs.***

The data in this profile is based on a 2018 desk review of law and policy documents, government reports, publications by multi-lateral organizations, scholarly literature, and other sources. For 28 of the 30 country profiles, data was reviewed by a volunteer in-country expert. We are grateful to these experts, whose names and the profiles they reviewed are listed in the appendix to the [International Outlook for Privately Protected Areas summary report](#).

Finally, this profile is intended to be a living document, which will be updated periodically as more information is submitted and time and resources allow. If you have a contribution, please contact the authors at landconservation@lincolninst.edu.

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¹ Mitchell, B.A., Stolton, S., Bezaury-Creel, J., Bingham, H.C., Cumming, T.L., Dudley, N., Fitzsimons, J.A., Malleret-King, D., Redford, K.H. and Solano, P. (2018). *Guidelines for privately protected areas*. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 29. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. xii + 100pp.

² Dudley, N. (ed.) (2008). *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. x + 86pp. WITH Stolton, S., Shadie, P. and Dudley, N. (2013). *IUCN WCPA Best Practice Guidance on Recognising Protected Areas and Assigning Management Categories and Governance Types*, Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 21. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN

COLOMBIA (*República de Colombia*)

Outlook for Privately Protected Areas

The ILCN and UNDP would like to thank the following volunteers for reviewing this document for accuracy to the best of their ability.

1. Dexter B. Dombro, Founder and Conservationist, Corporación Ambiental La Pedregosa, Reserva Natural La Pedregosa
2. Marcela Santamaría, Technical coordinator Resnatur (Colombian Network of Civil Society Natural Reserves)

I. Country Overview

Land Area

Home to a significant amount of biodiversity in the region, Colombia's total land area is estimated at 114,175,000 hectares (ha).³⁴ As of 2016, of the total land area, 45,670,000 ha (roughly 40 per cent) are used for agriculture, while 59,371,000 ha (roughly 53 per cent) are forested.^{5,6}

To protect the integrity of the nation's natural resources and secure property rights, Colombia has established significant policy and organizational structures, both governmental and non-governmental, that are conducive to land and biodiversity conservation.

Land Ownership and Tenure

In Colombia, citizens have the right to own land. However, much privately-owned land in Colombia is held informally, in the sense that the owners do not have legal title to their land. While the exact area is unknown, it is estimated that between 20 per cent to 59.5 per cent of privately-owned land does not have legal status. This uncertainty is due in part to the abandonment of land in certain regions of the Country as a result of armed conflict.⁷

In response to land tenure insecurity, the Colombian government established the National Land Agency (*Agencia Nacional de Tierras*), through Decree 2363 in December 2015, to formally administer the process of land titling in rural areas.⁸ This entity also supports a legal mechanism through which vulnerable

³Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "Colombia," FAO website, <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/index/en/?iso3=COL>

⁴ Land area includes water area.

⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "Colombia," FAO website, <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/index/en/?iso3=COL>

⁶ According to the FAO, as of 2015 an additional 16,351,620 hectares (14%) of Colombia's land area are classified as 'other forested areas,' including planted forests.

⁷ Kevin Barthel, Vanessa Cespedes, Beatriz Salazar, Ricardo Torres, and Margarita Varón, *Land and Rural Development Policy Reforms in Colombia: The Path to Peace*, 2016, p. 2, USAID/Colombia Land and Rural Development Program (LRDP) publication available from https://www.land-links.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/USAID_Land_Tenure_World_Bank_2016_LRDP_Policy_Reforms.pdf

⁸ [Decree 2363 of December 7, 2015](#), By which the National Land Agency (ANT) is created and its objective and structure is set.

farming families may receive government-owned parcels, gradually increasing the amount of privately-owned land.⁹

32.5 per cent of Colombia's national territory corresponds to indigenous territories and Afro-Colombian communities. Indigenous and community lands feature communal tenure.¹⁰

Protected Areas in Colombia

In total, there are 59 national parks that cover 11 per cent of land and 1.1 per cent of marine areas in Colombia.¹¹ The majority of public protected areas are administered by a special administrative unit known as the National Natural Parks of Colombia (*Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia* or PNN).

Colombia formed a National System of Protected Areas (*Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas* or SINAP), to provide a public/private system involving NGOs, environmental institutions, and the Colombian government for the management of protected areas under 15 classifications.¹² To assist in the collaborative management of regional public protected areas, there is also the Regional System of Protected Areas (*Sistema Regional de Áreas Protegidas* or SIRAP), the Municipal System of Protected Areas (SIMAP) and at a more local level the Departmental System of Protected Areas (*Sistema Departamental de Áreas Protegidas* or SIDAP). The National Protected Area Registry (*Registro Único Nacional de Áreas Protegidas* or RUNAP) is where public protected areas are registered as part of SINAP, providing transparency and legal recognition of their status.¹³

A variety of different groups support the formation and function of private natural reserves in Colombia. Foremost is the National Natural Parks of Colombia (PNN), which is the only one that registers RNSCs (*Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil* or RNSC) in the National Registry of Protected Areas.

II. Law and Policy for Private Land Conservation

Privately-owned Protected Areas

As of 2018, there are 682 privately protected areas in Colombia, covering about 132,492 ha.¹⁴

In 1993, a network of private landowners who voluntarily decided to conserve their land (known as Resnatur) worked with the State to implement a legal form for privately conserved areas through Law 99,

⁹ Kevin Barthel, Vanessa Cespedes, Beatriz Salazar, Ricardo Torres, and Margarita Varón, *Land and Rural Development Policy Reforms in Colombia: The Path to Peace*, 2016, p. 5, USAID/Colombia Land and Rural Development Program (LRDP) publication available from https://www.land-links.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/USAID_Land_Tenure_World_Bank_2016_LRDP_Policy_Reforms.pdf

¹⁰ Pía Escoba and Clara Solano, "Colombia," *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 113

¹¹ Pía Escoba and Clara Solano, "Colombia," *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 113

¹² Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, "Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas – SINAP," Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia website, <http://www.parquesnacionales.gov.co/porta/es/sistema-nacional-de-areas-protegidas-sinap/>, accessed May 2, 2017

¹³ RUNAP is the mechanism through which protected areas included in SINAP are recorded, however, several public protected areas not included in SINAP.

¹⁴ Registro Unico Nacional de Areas Protegidas de Colombia website, <http://runap.parquesnacionales.gov.co/categoria/SINAP/20>, accessed December 2, 2018

Articles 109-110. The law defined a category for private conservation areas known as “Civil Society Natural Reserves” (*Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil* or RNSC): “part or all of an area of a property that conserves a sample of a natural ecosystem and is managed under the principles of sustainability in its use of natural resources, whose productive activities and use are established in accordance to regulations, with the participation of environmental non-profit organizations.”¹⁵ These RNSCs are included in the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) and can be registered, by the decision of the owner, with the National Registry of Protected Areas (RUNAP) through the PNN.¹⁶ Landowners, individual or collective, who wish to register their land as an RNSC have the right to participate in the planning of development programs for the area, along with a variety of financial incentives.¹⁷ Resolution 0207 of 2017 allows for non-profit organizations to serve as affiliate groups within the Natural Reserves of Civil Society system, further promoting the inclusion of individual reserves through non-profit organizations into the national registry.¹⁸

PNN has established a system of Articulating Organizations, which are NGOs that assist private land owners in meeting the legal and technical requirements for establishing RNSCs. Articulating Organizations are represented in the SINAP, SIRAP and SIDAP boards and committees. They are also instrumental in helping private land owners to prepare natural reserve management plans and to do flora and fauna characterizations of the natural reserves.

The *Asociación Red Colombiana de Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil* (Resnatur, the Colombian Network Association of Civil Society Natural Reserves), is the only nation-wide network and articulating organization for private land conservation in Colombia. Within Resnatur’s classification, natural reserves are established by the decision of private landowners for the objectives of “conservation, restoration, and sustainable production.” There are no minimum, nor maximum size limits for lands to qualify for this designation, and no formal land tenure is required. Natural reserve owners can be individual persons, corporations, communities, or NGOs. There are approximately 160 natural reserves associated with Resnatur, covering about 55,000 ha in all five geographic regions of Colombia. Of these 160 reserves, 22 are also registered with RUNAP.¹⁹

Conservation Strategies on Private Lands

According to SINAP’s guide, “Guía para la elaboración de planes de manejo de Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil,” RNSCs can be managed in several ways. Families that own small reserves (generally less than ten hectares) can include sustainable water usage, soil conservation, sustainable production, and

¹⁵ General Environmental Law of Colombia,

<http://institucional.ideam.gov.co/descargas?com=institucional&name=pubFile437&downloadname=C%3A%5CUsers%5Cbarahona%5CDesktop%5CMonica%20R%5Cnormas%20pag%20web%5Cley99.pdf>, accessed online December 2, 2018

¹⁶Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, “Reservas de la Sociedad Civil,” Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia website, <http://www.parquesnacionales.gov.co/portal/es/ecoturismo/reservas-de-la-sociedad-civil/>, accessed May 2, 2017

¹⁷ Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, “Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil,” Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia website, <http://www.parquesnacionales.gov.co/portal/es/sistema-nacional-de-areas-protégidas-sinap/reservas-naturales-de-la-sociedad-civil/>, accessed May 2, 2017

¹⁸ Pía Escoba and Clara Solano, “Colombia,” *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 118

¹⁹ Santamaría M. en prensa. Resnatur: un red de redes. En: Estrategias Complementarias de conservación. Instituto Humboldt y Fundación Natura

ecotourism as examples of potential management strategies.²⁰ Other owners who do not depend on the resources of their land as their primary form of income can dedicate their management strategies almost exclusively to preservation instead of subsistence. Activities might include ecosystem recovery, research, education and tourism.

A variety of other mechanisms are utilized to promote conservation practices on private lands; where not in RNSCs, these measures may fall under the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) definition of “other effective area-based conservation measures.” Such mechanisms include: leasing land for conservation services, conservation trusts, conservation concessions, designating land for preservation in one’s will and testament, exercising one’s own right to enjoy and preserve one’s land, and co-ownership of property.²¹ Next to natural reserves, a frequently used private conservation strategy in Colombia is ecological easements (*servidumbres ecológicas*), which require a dominant tenement and a subservient tenement, both titled land. Some Colombian NGOs are also using conservation agreements, which fall into the category of alternative conservation strategies and rely on civil contract law.

Leasing land for Conservation Services

Articles 2036 to 2044 of the Civil Code in Colombia allow for privately-owned land to be leased through a civil contract for a stated period of time.²² This could be utilized by those seeking to protect privately-owned land through leasing it without the need for transferring ownership.

Conservation Trusts

A private property owner or owners may form a civil contract in which the land owners assign land to the authority of a third party that will manage that land for the goal of conserving its resources.²³ Often these trusts are made up of lands from multiple property owners whose land holds a common resource with a common service provided.

Conservation Concessions

Neighboring property owners may enter into agreements on how to manage adjacent properties for the goal of conserving the resources found within them. The title of the property remains with the owner, and agreements are established for a stated period of time through a civil contract.²⁴ These types of concessions are voluntary and may be used for a variety of purposes including watershed management, forest conservation, habitat protection, ecotourism activities, and other uses. This is similar as well to a

²⁰ Manuela Ruiz Reyes, Elizabeth Buttikus Vives, Ana Cristina Enríquez Córdoba, Mónica Hernández Corrales, Liliana Muñoz Meneses, Jorge Hernán López Guzmán, Camilo Ernesto Erazo Obando, and Johnnier Andrés Arango, “Guía para la elaboración de planes de manejo de Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil,” 2009, pp. 6-7, downloaded from <http://www.parquesnacionales.gov.co/portal/es/sistema-nacional-de-areas-protégidas-sinap/reservas-naturales-de-la-sociedad-civil/>, accessed May 28, 2017

²¹ Pía Escobar and Clara Solano, “Colombia,” *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 126-127

²² Ibid. p. 126

²³ Ibid., p. 126

²⁴ Ibid., p. 121-122

property loan that can be granted through a civil contract, lending one's land for a stated period of time to another party that is placed in charge of its management.²⁵

Land Designation for Conservation in Will and Testament

Utilizing one's will and testament to guarantee the continued conservation of one's land is a unique mechanism being utilized by some members of the RESNATUR network to ensure that private reserves continue their goal of conservation following the death of the property owner.²⁶ Legally, only up to 25 per cent of a property can be designated in this manner and monitoring is required by a third party to ensure compliance.

Right to Personal Enjoyment and Preservation of land

As stated in Article 823 to 869 of the Civil Code, property owners have the legal right to give rights to another person for the enjoyment of his property with the responsibility of preserving the integrity of its state, implying the obligation to engage in conservation activities on the land.²⁷

Co-ownership of Property

Groups of community members or neighbors can legally make purchases of lands with the objective of preserving a resource found within them, such as a water source for example.²⁸ An agreement within the ownership determines how the lands and resources will be managed.

Ecological Easements

This type of conservation requires a dominant tenement and a subservient tenement, both titled land. The dominant tenement would register its conservation requirements on the title of the subservient tenement, where the resource, water source or ecosystem that needs protection is located. In practice it is difficult to register an ecological easement if the owner of the dominant and subservient tenement is not the same person or entity. Proaves, a Colombian NGO which protected habitat for rare and endangered birds, has established 24 ecological easements covering 1,300 ha of land to date.²⁹

Conservation Agreements

There is at present no law governing the signing and registry of conservation agreements in Colombia. However, due to the large percentage of untitled land that is in private possession, many NGOs and environmental organizations have made use of conservation agreements with private individuals, corporations, communities and communal action committees (*juntas de acción comunal*). These are

²⁵ Ibid., p. 126

²⁶ Pía Escobar and Clara Solano, "Colombia," *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 124

²⁷ Ibid., p. 126

²⁸ Ibid., p. 126

²⁹ Proaves, <http://www.proaves.org/ecological-easements/?lang=en>, accessed online December 2, 2018

owners who are not necessarily part of the recognized private natural reserves registered in RUNAP. Care is taken to verify that the person or entity in possession of the untitled land is paying property taxes, has some evidence of economic use of the land, and is not a recent invader or squatter. It is estimated that there are in excess of 1,000 conservation agreements in Colombia between NGOs and the private sector, most of which are based on a defined geographic area in which the parties are carrying out joint conservation activities. The agreements have legal validity based on civil contract law, but are essentially voluntary conservation efforts.

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)

In 1995, many institutions signed a memorandum of understanding to define and implement activities from the work plan for protected areas in order to address the agreements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).³⁰ Colombia created its National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBSAP) in 1996. In order to ensure that this works in accordance with Aichi Targets, Colombia updated this document and presented it to the National Environmental Council in 2010. Following revisions, it evolved to become the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and Its Ecosystemic Services (PNGIBSE).³¹ On page 40 of this policy, the “ordering of territory,” or establishment of socio-economic management strategies for different environmental systems, is named as a tool for conserving biodiversity, taking into account the different environmental services provided by different natural zones.

Following its creation in 2012, Colombia set the proposed target for the year 2014 to have 3,000,000 ha incorporated into the National System of Protected Areas, the network in which formally registered Natural Reserves of Civil Society would be included.³² While this may be the case, the PNGIBSE does not specify exactly what portion of that target would be specifically comprised of RNSCs. According to IUCN’s *The Futures of Privately Protected Areas*, there are 280 RNSCs registered within the national system in Colombia.³³ An April 2018 RUNAP report states that there are 682 RNSCs registered in Colombia covering approximately 119,182 ha.

International Strategy

Colombia is a signatory to the 1971 RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands, with its application specified in Law 357 of 1997 and related decrees. The Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) has declared the 825,000 ha of the Río Bitá basin in Vichada, Colombia, as a 9th RAMSAR wetland or waterway in the Country. RAMSAR designations differ from parks or reserves in that they are areas subject to special zoning and territorial management for conservation purposes, while allowing private land owners inside the declared zone to continue with productive processes, as long as they are

³⁰Pía Escoba and Clara Solano, “Colombia,” *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 113

³¹ Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Republic of Colombia, “National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystemic Services NPIMBES (PNGIBSE),” August, 2012, pp. 7-8, available from <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/co/co-nbsap-v2-en.pdf> accessed May 4, 2017

³² Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Republic of Colombia, “National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystemic Services NPIMBES (PNGIBSE),” August, 2012, p. 94, available from <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/co/co-nbsap-v2-en.pdf> accessed May 4, 2017

³³ Sue Stolton, Kent H. Redford and Nigel Dudley, “The Futures of Privately Protected Areas,” *IUCN WCPA Protected Area Technical Report Series*, 2014, p. 18, available from <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PATRS-001.pdf>, accessed May 4, 2017

sustainable, in other words using eco-agriculture or similar productive strategies. Natural reserves become a very important actor for the management of these kind of areas.

Law 357 of 1997 also gives Colombia's MADS the power to declare areas a *Reserva de Biosfera* under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) program. This conservation vehicle is also focused on the sustainable use of the designated area, which covers private land owners and private possession of the land within the declared zone. In practice it depends on local government providing the zoning and supervision required to make it effective. Colombia has declared five biospheres covering some 24 million ha, of which 76 per cent is coastal and 24 per cent is terrestrial.

III. Financial Incentives for Privately Protected Areas

There are several incentives in place for landowning individuals and groups that register their property as a Natural Reserve of Civil Society. Among those are property and other tax exemptions, investments for environmental control, deductions based on the property owner's investments and improvements made on the land, certificates for forest conservation incentives, and payment for environmental services.³⁴ Property tax exemptions are the most commonly implemented form of incentive, with Resnatur having assisted with creating approximately 30 agreements as of 2009.³⁵ However these incentives are not always applicable because it depends on the agreement of the local government.

While it is not directly connected with the establishment of private natural reserves, Colombia's Ministry of Agriculture also provides incentives of financing half of the costs of establishing and maintenance of a reforestation project for up to five years after planting.³⁶ This incentive could potentially encourage property owners to reforest, thus taking steps towards establishing a reserve on their land. However, the incentive program has faced considerable criticism, as it does not include native tree species in the list of approved reforestation trees.

Other incentives include prioritizing funding when public or private projects such as highways require environmental offsets. For example, the planting of native trees in natural reserves have real additionality to compensate for the environmental impact of the project.

IV. Organizations for Private Land Conservation

Governmental

- The Regional System of Protected Areas (SIRAP) and Local System of Protected Areas (SILAP) are two working scenarios to coordinate and plan protected areas and other conservation strategies.

³⁴ Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, "Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil," Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia website, <http://www.parquesnacionales.gov.co/portal/es/sistema-nacional-de-areas-protégidas-sinap/reservas-naturales-de-la-sociedad-civil/>, accessed May 6, 2017

³⁵ Pía Escobar and Clara Solano, "Colombia," *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 132

³⁶ MinAgricultura, "CIF - Certificado de Incentivo Forestal," July, 2013, available from <https://www.minagricultura.gov.co/convocatorias/Paginas/CIF-Certificado-de-Incentivo-Forestal.aspx>, accessed May 5, 2017

These systems work through committees that include governmental and non-governmental organizations.

- The National Parks Colombian Office is the government entity that manages registration of Natural Reserves of Civil Society to be formally recognized by the Government.³⁷

Non-governmental

- Resnatur is a network for private landowners who wish to conserve their land and/or implement sustainable practices on their land. Some members have registered their reserves as RNSCs with RUNAP; others have not. In addition to occasionally assisting landowners with the registration process, the network provides technical support to them for achieving their conservation objectives.³⁸
- According to the SINAP website, there are 16 Articulating Organizations in Colombia, some of which are: Resnatur, SERANKWA, Tierra Andina, CORFOPAL, ECOFUTURO Corporación Socio Ecológica para el Futuro de Bolívar, Valle del Cuaca, Fundación Ambiente Colombia, Fundación Ecoambientes, Fundación Palmarito, and Corporación para el Desarrollo de Versalles.³⁹ In a study conducted in parts of Colombia by Miriam Awad from the Fondo Patrimonio Natural, 39 different NGOs in five different regions were identified.⁴⁰ Data from Colombia's National Park Office suggests that there are currently 54 local organizations for private land conservation in the Country.⁴¹

V. Best Practices/Case Studies

Wax Palm Habitat and Conservation in the Toche River Watershed

There existed a need for property owners to be trained in conservation strategies for the wax palm, which is a crucial species for local ecosystems. In the Toche River Watershed region there are 600,000 palms, many of which are found within RNSC boundaries.ⁱ⁴²

RESNATUR, the network of RNSC owners, served as the driving force for organizing a dialogue with the support of the World Wildlife Fund and the Western Andes Territory Director (DTAO) of the National Parks System.⁴³ Fifty-five participants that own privately protected areas of different sizes were present and shared experiences and expectations, as a way of pursuing the National Plan for Wax Palm Conservation. This activity is an example of how privately protected area network organizations can directly support national conservation goals through connecting individuals with experts and institutional support. The

³⁷ Ibid., p. 115

³⁸ Pía Escoba and Clara Solano, "Colombia," *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 118

³⁹ Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, "Organizaciones Articuladoras," Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia website, <http://www.parquesnacionales.gov.co/portal/es/sistema-nacional-de-areas-protegidas-sinap/reservas-naturales-de-la-sociedad-civil/organizaciones-articuladoras/>, accessed May 27, 2017

⁴⁰ Pía Escoba and Clara Solano, "Colombia," *Conservación Privada Comunitaria en los Países Amazónicos*, 2009, p. 118

⁴¹ Data from Daniel Agudelo, National Parks Office of Colombia. Personal communication, Marcela Santamaria, December 2, 2018

⁴² Asociación Red Colombiana de Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil, Resnatur, "Redservando," Volume 1, 2017, p. 4, RESNATUR website, <https://www.resnatur.org.co/noticias/redservando/> accessed on May 5, 2017

⁴³ Asociación Red Colombiana de Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil, Resnatur, "Redservando," Volume 1, 2017, p. 4, RESNATUR website, <https://www.resnatur.org.co/noticias/redservando/> accessed on May 5, 2017

complete details of the event are shared in the RESNATUR bulletin, “Redservando: <https://www.resnatur.org.co/noticias/redservando/>

Promotion of Civil Society Nature Reserves (RNSCs) on the part of the Autonomous Regional Corporation of the Cauca Valley (CVC)

As early as the 1930s, the Colombian government recognized the need to take action on a local level in response to disasters caused from the flooding of the Cauca river.⁴⁴ As a result, the CVC was created to manage natural resources and address environmental priorities in the Cauca Valley region.

The CVC has developed actions to promote and support Natural Reserves of Civil Society in the region in order to address environmental needs.⁴⁵

Since 2005, the CVC has promoted and assisted with the establishment of the 62 private reserves within the region, totaling approximately 2,004 hectares. This example shows the success of promoting privately protected areas on a local level in order to address local environmental threats that may or may not coincide with national goals. More information on the CVC can be found at:

<https://cvc.gov.co/index.php/component/content/article/88-biodiversidad/areas-protégidas/1732-reservas-naturales-sociedad-civil>

⁴⁴ Corporación Autónoma Regional del Valle del Cauca, “Así nació la CVC,” CVC Website, <https://www.cvc.gov.co/index.php/asi-es-cvc/asi-nacio-la-cvc>, accessed June 8, 2017

⁴⁵ Corporación Autónoma Regional del Valle del Cauca, “Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil,” <https://www.cvc.gov.co/index.php/servicio-al-ciudadano/inscriba-departamento-de-gestion-ambiental/88-biodiversidad/areas-protégidas/1732-reservas-naturales-sociedad-civil#>, accessed June 8, 2017