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# International Outlook for Privately Protected Areas

Country Profile: PERU

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## 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.<sup>1,2</sup> **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](mailto:landconservation@lincolninst.edu).

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

## PERU (*República de Perú*)

### Outlook for Privately Protected Areas

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#### I. Country Overview

##### *Land Area*

Covering a variety of biotic zones, including desert, andean, and tropical forest, Peru's land area totals approximately 128,521,500 hectares (ha).<sup>3</sup> Of this extent, approximately 24,330,600 ha (19 per cent) were dedicated to agriculture and roughly 73,973,000 ha (58 per cent) was under forest cover as of 2015.<sup>4</sup>

Peru is considered one of the world's 17 megadiverse countries and is home to 83 of the world's 117 'life zones.'<sup>5</sup> Over 20,000 species of plants, 500 mammals, 1,800 birds, 400 reptiles, and 1,000 fish live in Peru.

##### *Land Ownership and Tenure*

In Peru, private land holders have access to a formalized titling process to obtain legal tenure of their lands. Currently, the legislative decree that regulates access to the formal titling procedure for rural property is *Legislative Decree 1089* and its associated regulations, approved through *Supreme Decree N<sup>o</sup> 032-2008-VIVIENDA*<sup>6</sup>. This law replaced *Legislative Decree 667 on Rural Property Registry*, a law passed in 1992 to promote the process of titling among Peru's rural populations. The latter created legal restrictions so that indigenous lands, public areas with forest cover, natural protected areas, archeological sites, and those declared as Natural Heritage areas were not included in the titling processes. However, its compliance was difficult to achieve because Peru does not have a detailed cadaster of these areas. The lack of such a cadaster, combined with a rule that, in the Amazon, property rights are granted only in

<sup>3</sup> Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática. n.d. "Peru in Figures." Accessed November 2018. <https://www.inei.gob.pe>.

<sup>4</sup> The World Bank. 2015. "World Development Indicators." Accessed November 2018. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.FRST.K2?locations=PE>.

<sup>5</sup> Perú, Ministerio Del Ambiente. 2014. La Estrategia Nacional de Diversidad Biológica al 2021 y su Plan de Acción 2014-2018. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pe/pe-nbsap-v2-es.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> Baldovino, Silvana. 2006. Una Primera Mirada: Situación Legal de la Tenencia De Tierras Rurales en El Perú. Lima: Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental. [https://spda.org.pe/?wpfb\\_dl=3232](https://spda.org.pe/?wpfb_dl=3232).

agricultural areas, lead to a perverse incentive where people changed the forest cover of lands in order to be part of the individual property formalization processes.<sup>7</sup>

The multiple legal changes during the formalization of rural property has generated conflicts, as different entities grant overlapping rights in the same area. There is also still a need to finish the titling of indigenous territories, protect peasant and native communities, and implement an active and dynamic cadaster of rural property in Peru.<sup>8</sup>

Overall, Peru's land is largely under public ownership, with only 40 per cent of the territory under private property (either individual or collective).<sup>9</sup>

### *Protected Areas in Peru*

Peru established its first national park in 1961 through a law approved by the national congress.<sup>10</sup> As of 2018, there are 76 national protected areas, 20 regional conservation areas, and 124 Private Conservation Areas in Peru, totaling approximately 22 million ha, roughly 17.35 per cent of the Country's total land area.<sup>11</sup> (Note: The World Database on Protected Areas shows 27,677,200 ha of land – over 21 per cent of the country – protected, including 123 private conservation areas.<sup>12</sup> Differences between statistics may be due to differences in methodologies or out of date reporting).

Protected areas in Peru are managed under the National Protected Areas System (*Sistema de Áreas Naturales Protegidas del Peru*, SINANPE) whose legal basis was established through the *National Protected Areas Act of 1997* and then later formed the regulatory agency under the Ministry of the Environment in 2008.<sup>13</sup>

Government-owned protected areas are managed under the following categories: National Reserve, National Park, Protected Forest, Hunting Area, Communal Reserve, Landscape Reserve, Historical Sanctuary, National Sanctuary, Reserved Zone, and Wildlife Refuge.<sup>14</sup> Additionally, regional and private conservation areas complement the national system.

## **II. Law and Policy for Private Land Conservation**

### *Privately Protected Areas*

Peru has several tools through which private individuals and organizations can conserve land. Registered *Private Conservation Areas* are included in the national system of protected areas. Other tools, like easements and trusts, rely on legally binding contracts between private individuals to manage land for

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<sup>7</sup> Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, personal Communication, September 4, 2018.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Benzaquén, Simy, Bruno Monteferri and César Ponce. 2009. "Peru." In *Conservación privada y comunitaria en los países amazónicos*, edited by Bruno Monteferri and Diego Coll, 215-255. Lima: Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental. P. 217. [https://spda.org.pe/?wpfb\\_dl=47](https://spda.org.pe/?wpfb_dl=47).

<sup>10</sup> Solano, P. 2009. Legal Framework for Protected Areas: Peru. IUCN-EPLP, No 81. [http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/peru\\_en.pdf](http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/peru_en.pdf).

<sup>11</sup> Ministerio del Ambiente, Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas Por El Estado (SERNANP). 2018. "Sistema de Áreas Naturales Protegidas del Peru." Accessed September 2018. [http://www.sernanp.gob.pe/documents/10181/165150/Lista\\_Pagina\\_Web\\_OFICIAL\\_2018-08-24.pdf/485fb043-7597-431f-8e36-48ec398ff08f](http://www.sernanp.gob.pe/documents/10181/165150/Lista_Pagina_Web_OFICIAL_2018-08-24.pdf/485fb043-7597-431f-8e36-48ec398ff08f).

<sup>12</sup> UNEP-WCMC. 2018. "Protected Area Profile for Peru from the World Database of Protected Areas." Accessed November 2018. <https://www.protectedplanet.net/country/PER>.

<sup>13</sup> Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado. n.d. "El SINANPE: Categorías del SINANPE." Accessed October 2017. <http://www.sernanp.gob.pe/el-sinanpe>.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

conservation, and conservation concessions allow private actors to manage public land for conservation. Peru also has several regional Privately Protected Areas networks that support the development and recognition of these tools. More on all of these below.

Note that there remain some conflicts between extractive activities and private land conservation activities, with hydrocarbon and mining concessions sometimes overlapping with private conservation areas, conservation concessions, and ecotourism concessions.<sup>15</sup>

### *Private Conservation Areas*

Throughout the 90s, Peru created a formalized and legal structure for private conservation. In 1997, the idea for Private Conservation Areas (ACP; *Áreas de conservación privadas*), came about through the *Law of Natural Protected Areas* and was later expanded upon two years later in the *National Strategy of the Protected Natural Areas of Peru*. ACPs are “areas under individual or collective ownership, and possessing biodiversity conservation value, the owners of which voluntarily decide to establish specific conditions for use and conservation, and request the government to recognize them as such.”<sup>16</sup> Because ACPs are viewed as a complement to state-owned protected areas, their recognition requires that they fulfill certain biological and environmental criteria in order to be added to the system, which can be done for a minimum of 10 years or indefinitely.<sup>17</sup> Although they are still considered private property, they are included in the SINANPE.

During the recognition of an ACP, the owner of the property assumes obligations and commitments that are recorded in the public records and that will remain with the property, even if the property is sold, during the period for which the ACP is established.<sup>18</sup> Following their legal inscription in public registry, the property owner must complete annual reports outlining the activities that have been implemented within the ACP. Formal recognition as an ACP also allows the proprietor to receive technical support from the government for conservation efforts, research, ecotourism and other activities within the area, as long as they do not interfere with the conservation interests on the property.

The first ACP registered was the Chaparrí Reserve in 2000, conserving 34,412 ha of northern dry forest. Chaparrí is communally owned and operated by the rural community Santa Catalina de Chongoyape.<sup>19</sup> Home to a variety of local fauna, the area has been managed by the local population as an ecotourism attraction, allowing the community to benefit economically through preservation of the natural resources.

Today, 124 ACPs have been established through this framework, protecting 366,540.66 ha.<sup>20</sup> It is important to note that ACPs include both private and community conservation areas, in that they can also be established on land that is under collective ownership. Peruvian legislation does not differentiate between individual and collective ownership in the recognition of ACPs.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Benzaquén, Monteferrí and Ponce, 2009. P. 216.

<sup>16</sup> Solano, 2009. P. 16.

<sup>17</sup> Benzaquén, Monteferrí and Ponce, 2009. P. 219.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Reserva de Chaparrí. 2009. “Acerca de Nosotros.” Accessed October 2017. <http://www.chaparrí.org/es/acerca-de-chaparrí.php>.

<sup>20</sup> Ministerio del Ambiente, Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas Por El Estado (SERNANP), 2018.

<sup>21</sup> Solano, 2009. P. 12.

### *Conservation Easements*

Apart from conservation areas recognized and supported through the government's protected areas system, various civil code mechanisms exist that promote conservation of private lands. Article 1035 of Peru's Civil Code defines a *servidumbre* (easement) between two landowners. This has been adapted to allow for a conservation easement, defined as "a voluntary agreement between two or more owners, where at least one establishes limitations of use on part or all of its property with the purpose of guaranteeing the provision of an environmental or ecological service in benefit of the other properties and, with this, contribute to the conservation, protection, restoration, improvement and adequate management of natural resources and existing environmental values."<sup>22</sup> An easement is considered a "real right," meaning that the contract is tied to the property, regardless of ownership. These contracts can be perpetual or for a limited time.

In Peruvian legislation, it is not required that parcels be adjacent to one another, as long as there is a clear relationship between the two – one providing some sort of utility to the other (this may be economic, environmental, recreational, aesthetics, etc.). For example, this sort of contract has been used in instances where maintaining forest on one property allows for the provision of water downstream, or where a tourism operation relies on another parcel to provide habitat for species.

### *Trusts*

Property owners can agree to give up the right of use of their property to an alternate party who is entrusted with the management of such property under pre-agreed terms of use and for a limited time.<sup>23</sup> Properties held within trusts are typically managed through national or international NGOs.

### *Conservation Donations*

Under *Civil Code 1625*, land donations can be made to a second party under the terms of conservation, restricting the use of the receiving party to those uses previously communicated in the civil contract.<sup>24</sup> This mechanism involves a complete transfer of ownership. As this is a civil contract the time established for the agreement can vary based on the terms.

### *Conservation Concessions on Public Land*

Established through the *Forestry and Wildlife Law of 2000*, conservation concessions allow for the State to grant private individuals or organizations rights to a specific area for projects linked to the conservation of biodiversity. As Peru's territory, particularly the forests, is largely publicly owned, this is a well-developed and important tool for private individuals to engage in conservation.

Concessions for conservation are granted by the Forestry and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) free of charge for up to 40 years at a time, renewable, with preference given to areas that have high conservation value, such as those that buffer protected natural areas, form biological corridors, or provide ecosystem services.<sup>25</sup> As part of the process, the grantee must present a management plan that is consistent with the resources on the land and that outlines any activities that may be carried out, such as ecotourism or collection of non-timber forest products. Because a conservation concession is granted for free, some

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<sup>22</sup> Benzaquén, Monteferri and Ponce, 2009. P. 226

<sup>23</sup> Ibid. P. 231-232

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid. P. 234

uses require payment to the State (there are also specific ecotourism concessions, which are discussed below).

As of 2013, 51 conservation concessions were granted in Peru, totaling 967,260 ha.<sup>26</sup> Conservation concessions can be granted by the National Forestry Service or Regional governments that have been delegated with forestry and wildlife responsibilities under the decentralization process. However, there is no updated and centralized database of how many conservation concessions exist today and their current status.<sup>27</sup>

According to *Guidelines for Privately Protected Areas* (2018), released by the IUCN, “PPAs [privately protected areas] can be established on leased land, provided these are intended to be long-term and renewable.”<sup>28</sup> Therefore, depending on the terms of the contract, it is possible that conservation concessions may one day be recognized as PPAs.

#### *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)*

Peru’s latest NBSAP (2014), submitted to the Convention on Biological Diversity, makes explicit note of the important role ACPs play in complementing the national protected area system.<sup>29</sup> Specific actions cite increasing public-private partnerships and private sector action to advance conservation and restoration. In order to facilitate this, the NBSAP also highlights the need to create and promote incentive schemes for conservation and sustainable use of ecosystem services, as, currently, rural populations assume the costs for conservation and management.

### **III. Financial Incentives for Private Land Conservation**

Despite Peru’s formalization of ACPs, legal mechanisms that offer financial incentives, such as tax incentives or economic compensation, for private lands conservation have yet to be created.<sup>30</sup> In addition, protected areas law established the *Promoción de las Áreas Naturales Protegidas del Perú* (PROFONANPE), which can provide financial resources toward the management of ACPs; however, this has also not occurred.

To begin to address this challenge, *Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental* (SPDA) developed a report, at the request of the Ministry of the Environment, recommending incentives to promote conservation through various possible legal mechanisms.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Dirección General Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre. 2013. Concesiones Para Conservación: Una Mirada A La Conservación de la Vida Desde el Bosque. [https://www.serfor.gob.pe/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/concesiones\\_para\\_conservacion.pdf](https://www.serfor.gob.pe/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/concesiones_para_conservacion.pdf).

<sup>27</sup> Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, personal communication, September 4, 2018.

<sup>28</sup> Mitchell, B.A., S. Stolton, J. Bezaury-Creel, H.C. Bingham, T.L. Cumming, N. Dudley, J.A. Fitzsimons, D. Malleret-King, K.H. Redford, and P. Solano. 2018. Guidelines for privately protected areas. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 29. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. xii + 100pp.

<sup>29</sup> Perú, Ministerio Del Ambiente, 2014.

<sup>30</sup> Benzaquén, Monteferrri and Ponce, 2009. P. 223

<sup>31</sup> Alvarado, Carlos Trinidad. 2015. Incentivos Fiscales Para La Conservación: 10 Propuestas Legales. Lima: Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental. <http://www20.iadb.org/intal/catalogo/PE/2016/15976.pdf>.

### *Ecotourism*

Several privately protected areas in Peru participate in some kind of ecotourism to support their conservation and management activities. See the case study below for how the *Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental* (SPDA) is working to develop a network of ACP ecotourism destinations.

For those areas that are under conservation concession, there are particular regulations around ecotourism. As noted above, conservation concessions are granted free of charge; therefore, landowners carrying out ecotourism must provide payment to the State.

Alternatively, one could be granted an ecotourism concession, which was first created in the *Forestry and Wildlife Law of 2000* and is designed for “private companies to conduct a tourism operation in an area of public domain and, in this way, promote environmentally responsible recreational activities to appreciate, enjoy and internalize natural and cultural values.”<sup>32</sup> Ecotourism concessions can be granted for up to 40 years renewable and can cover up to 10,000 ha. Tourism, recreation, research, and environmental education activities are allowed.

### *UN-REDD Program*

Since 2011, Peru has been a member of the UN-REDD and REDD+ Partnership Agreement, participating in preparations and reviews to assess Peru’s readiness to receive incentives through the REDD+ program.<sup>33</sup> The country is working towards highlighting sufficient inclusion of mechanisms for incorporating indigenous populations into the plan. Peru expects to advance in the program in future years.

## **IV. Organizations for Private Land Conservation**

### *Governmental Organizations*

- The Ministry of the Environment (MINAM) is the overarching governmental authority related to environmental matters in Peru. The National Service of Natural Protected Areas of the State (SERNANP) falls under their authority.<sup>34</sup>
  - o The National System of Natural Protected Areas of the State (SINANPE) is managed under the National Service of Natural Protected Areas of the State and tracks each of the categories of protected areas within Peru. Private Conservation Areas are also included within this system’s registry.<sup>35</sup>
- The National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) grants conservation concessions.<sup>36</sup>

### *Non-governmental organizations*

- The *Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental* (SPDA; Peruvian Society for Environmental Rights), has been operating since 1986 and supports legal advancements that promote environmental conservation in Peru, encouraging the role of local and regional governmental bodies in the process.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Benzaquén, Monteferrri and Ponce, 2009. P. 240.

<sup>33</sup> Piu, Hugo Che and Mary Menton. 2014. The Context of REDD+ in Peru: Drivers, Agents, and Institutions. *Occasional Paper 106*. Bogor, Indonesia: CIFOR. [http://www.cifor.org/publications/pdf\\_files/OccPapers/OP-106.pdf](http://www.cifor.org/publications/pdf_files/OccPapers/OP-106.pdf).

<sup>34</sup> Ministerio del Ambiente. 2016. “Organismos Adscritos.” Accessed October 2017. <http://www.minam.gob.pe/>.

<sup>35</sup> See their website: <http://www.sernanp.gob.pe/el-sinanpe>.

<sup>36</sup> See their website: <https://www.serfor.gob.pe/>.

<sup>37</sup> See their website: <http://www.spda.org.pe/>.



- The Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks and Protected Areas (PROFONANPE) was founded in 1992 to provide financial support to Peru's National System of Natural Protected Areas, while also mobilizing support from private entities for conservation.<sup>38</sup>
- *Amazónica por la Amazonía* (AMPA),<sup>39</sup> the Peruvian Society for Nature Conservation (APECO; *La Asociación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza*),<sup>40</sup> Nature and Culture International (NCI),<sup>41</sup> Andean Ecosystems Association (ECOAN; Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos),<sup>42</sup> Neotropical Primate Conservation (NPC),<sup>43</sup> Amazon Conservation Association (ACCA),<sup>44</sup> and Instituto del Bien Común (IBC)<sup>45</sup> have been using private conservation tools as part of their strategies for terrestrial conservation across Peru. Many of these, as well as Gobierno Regional Piura (GORE Piura<sup>46</sup>), have also supported the recognition of Private Conserved Areas.
- Peru has several regional Privately Protected Areas networks:
  - o Red Amazónica de Conservación Loreto (RACOL) acts as a facilitator in the decision making process in environmental matters and promotes the creation of more private conservation areas (ACP), concessions for conservation and other tools. Members include ACP, conservation and ecotourism concession holders.<sup>47</sup>
  - o Red de Conservación Voluntaria de Amazonas (Red Ama) encourages and coordinates activities aimed at guaranteeing the environmental and financial sustainability of private and community conservation initiatives on public and private lands.<sup>48</sup>
  - o La Red de Conservación de la Biodiversidad de Madre de Dios (RCBMDD) is a group of organizations and people committed to the protection of the Amazonian environment through private and community conservation initiatives.<sup>49</sup>
  - o There is also a network in the Pasco region, one being formed in Cusco, and AMPA has promoted the creation of a Network of Amazonian PPAs.<sup>50</sup>

## V. Case Studies

### *ACP Pampa del Burro*<sup>51</sup>

The Pampa del Burro Private Conservation Area (ACP) in the departamento de Amazonas was the vision of Cástulo Guevara. Upon moving to Yambrasbamba with plans for agriculture, he instead decided to pursue a future of conservation for the unique white sand montane forest in the area. He found that the land was not good for cultivation and that the forest was responsible for supplying his town with water.

<sup>38</sup> See their website: <http://www.profonanpe.org.pe/en>.

<sup>39</sup> See their website: <http://ampaperu.info/>.

<sup>40</sup> See their website: <http://www.apeco.org.pe/web/>.

<sup>41</sup> See their website: <https://natureandculture.org/>.

<sup>42</sup> See their website: <http://www.ecoanperu.org/>.

<sup>43</sup> See their website: <http://www.neoprimate.org/index.php/en/>.

<sup>44</sup> See their website: <http://www.amazonconservation.org/>.

<sup>45</sup> See their website: <http://www.ibcperu.org/>.

<sup>46</sup> See their website: <http://www.regionpiura.gob.pe/>.

<sup>47</sup> Instituto de Biodiversidad y Paisajes. Creación de la Red Amazónica de Conservación Loreto (RACOL). 2010. Accessed online at: <http://www.ibpperu.org/es/noticia/creacion-de-la-red-amazonica-de-conservacion-loreto-racol>

<sup>48</sup> See their website: <https://www.facebook.com/red.dba.amazonas/>.

<sup>49</sup> See their website: <https://www.facebook.com/RCBMDD/>.

<sup>50</sup> Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, personal communication, September 4, 2018.

<sup>51</sup> Conservamos por Naturaleza, Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental (SPDA). n.d. "ACP Pampa del burro." Accessed November 2018. <http://www.conservamospornaturaleza.org/area/pampa-de-burro/>.

Neighbors were skeptical of his plan to turn the area into an ACP at first. The forest was threatened by cattle, coffee plantations, and wood extraction, but after years of working with the community, they began to manage the forest for conservation. With the help of the Neotropical Primate Center, Cástulo and the community were able to secure an ACP designation for the forest.

Today, about 2,777 ha are conserved through the ACP, protecting habitat for species like the yellow-tailed woolly monkey, Andean nocturnal monkey, little whiskered owl and spectacled bear. The community is working to maintain the remaining forest, restore areas that have been burnt, and reduce hunting of wildlife.

#### *Los Amigos Conservation Concession*

The Los Amigos Conservation Concession (LACC) is located towards the Southeastern region of Peru near the Bolivian border, a forested region with multiple land management practices. The concession was formed by Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica (ACCA) in 2001 with the intention of protecting 360,000 acres of old growth forests of the Amazon.<sup>52</sup>

The concession, located within the Los Amigos River watershed, is surrounded by various threats. Timber concessions are located within the vicinity of concession limits, in fact, ACCA was able to gain support from the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (IRENA) to remove the timber extractors from within the boundaries of the concession itself.<sup>53</sup> Additionally, mining and agriculture are taking place within the region.

In addition to preserving local resources, the LACC has been home to scientific investigations seeking to developing mitigation strategies to address threats. Projects have been proposed that address the interests of local communities' economic priorities while trying to promote more sustainable practices, both inside and outside concession boundaries. There is also an emphasis on working with loggers to conduct trainings in sustainable forestry methods.

#### *Conservamos por Naturaleza<sup>54,55</sup>*

In 2012, the *Conservamos por Naturaleza* (CxN) platform was founded by *Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental* (SPDA; Peruvian Society for Environmental Rights) to promote citizen involvement in conservation actions through an approach based on innovation and collaboration. Based on story-telling, crowd-funding and crowd-sourcing schemes, CxN seeks to involve more citizens in grassroots conservation efforts. The stories of people devoted to conservation are widely disseminated through mainstream media outlets and events, promoting opportunities for collaboration and volunteers.

CxN has produced a unique travel guide called *La Ruta Natural* ([www.conservamos.org/explora](http://www.conservamos.org/explora)), focused on promoting PPAs as ecotourism destinations. Through the web platform, one can find a tour of ACPs, complete with a potential itinerary, logistical information, and videos of the sites.

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<sup>52</sup> Amazon Conservation Association. 2015. "Los Amigos Conservation Concession." Accessed October 2017. <http://www.amazonconservation.org/ourwork/conservation.html>.

<sup>53</sup> Dushku, Aaron and Alfredo Unda. 2005. Protecting the Influence Zone around the Los Amigos Conservation Concession, Madre de Dios, Peru. Turners Falls: Winrock International. [https://www.e-education.psu.edu/geog587/sites/www.e-education.psu.edu/geog587/files/file/Influence\\_Zone.pdf](https://www.e-education.psu.edu/geog587/sites/www.e-education.psu.edu/geog587/files/file/Influence_Zone.pdf).

<sup>54</sup> Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, personal communication September 4, 2018.

<sup>55</sup> See their website: [conservamos.org](http://conservamos.org).

In addition to La Ruta Natural, SPDA is exploring other ways to help fund conservation and management on private lands. For example, they have a launched campaign called *Reforestamos por Naturaleza* that allows people to adopt a tree planted in a conservation area for USD 20.<sup>56</sup> This crowd-funding scheme is designed to support conservation areas and research grants for young professionals. CxN has also implemented partnerships with Shiwi, a Peruvian company dedicated to the trade of products from protected areas, to commercially sell sustainable products from private conservation areas, such as honey, coconut oil, and brazil-nuts based products.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>56</sup> See their website: [www.reforesta.pe](http://www.reforesta.pe)

<sup>57</sup> See their websites: <http://www.conservamospor naturaleza.org/noticia/unete-a-shiwi-y-conservamos-por-naturaleza/> and <https://shiwi.pe/>