

Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

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October 30, 1991

TO: See Distribution
FROM: LAC/DR/PSS, Susan Bugg *SB*
SUBJECT: LAC Regional - Parks in Peril Project (598-0782)
First Year Evaluation

The Nature Conservancy has submitted an evaluation of the first year's activities under the Parks in Peril Project. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, at 2:00 in the LAC Conference Room (2248 NS) to review and discuss the evaluation. Representatives of The Nature Conservancy will be present to answer questions and discuss the program. If you have issues for the Issues Paper, please give them to me by November 6.

Attachment:
Parks in Peril Evaluation

Distribution:
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**PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION**

**USAID/TNC COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
#LAC 0782-A-00-047-00**

INTRODUCTION:

The Nature Conservancy respectfully submits this report on the **FIRST YEAR EVALUATION OF THE PARKS IN PERIL PROGRAM** in compliance with the requirements set forth in the USAID/TNC Cooperative Agreement No.# LAC 0782-A-00-047-00: "Conduct an in-house evaluation of the project focusing on: (a) the extent to which the outputs are being achieved; and, (b) the success of the project in promoting the establishment of "Parks in Peril" throughout the LAC Region, training a cadre of skilled protected areas managers, conserving threatened and endangered species and protecting biological diversity, and establishing innovative financial mechanisms necessary to ensure the long term maintenance of these protected areas."

The evaluation was performed from June - September 1991 by The Nature Conservancy's Latin America Division in coordination with NGO partner organizations, government natural resource agencies, and AID missions. The evaluation team made on-site visits to each of the ten priority Parks in Peril sites for the first year. The individual evaluations for each site focused on significant accomplishments, limitations, and recommended changes in the program for the coming year.

This report is divided into the following sections:

- A. Brief History of the Program**
- B. Progress toward Program Outputs**
- C. Major Constraints**
- D. Conclusions and Recommendations**
- E. Individual Parks in Peril Evaluations**

A. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PROPOSAL

The Nature Conservancy and its Latin American partner organizations designed the Parks in Peril program to establish on-site management for a total of 200 critically threatened ecosystems in Latin America and the Caribbean with global biological significance. The primary purpose of Parks in Peril is to ensure minimum critical management for each of the targeted sites, elevating these areas from mere "paper parks" to functional protected areas. The program works with non governmental organizations (NGOs) to assist government agencies in the establishment of a permanent management presence in each protected area. Specifically, the program focuses on the need to survey and post critical boundaries, to recruit, train and equip rangers and community extensionists; to install protection infrastructure, and to promote local community participation in management activities. It will establish and strengthen working partnerships with local NGOs, government natural resource agencies, and other national and international organizations to achieve on-the-ground biodiversity conservation.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) submitted an unsolicited proposal for \$2.0 million to USAID in December 1989 for the Parks in Peril program. The purpose of the program is to ensure adequate on-site protection for critically threatened national parks and reserves in Latin America and the Caribbean that have global biological significance. USAID approved a Cooperative Agreement with TNC in September 1990. At that time, TNC and its partner NGOs developed individual Parks in Peril work plans and budgets in collaboration with the natural resources agencies of the respective countries. These plans were submitted on an individual basis to USAID/LAC and AID country missions for review and approval. Upon AID approval, on-site activities were initiated in each area. The first 10 high priority Parks in Peril sites included:

Bolivia:	Amboro National Park
	Noel Kempff Mercado National Park
Colombia:	La Paya National Natural Park
Costa Rica:	Corcovado National Park
Dominican Republic:	Jaragua National Park
Guatemala:	Sierra de las Minas Biosphere Reserve
Mexico:	El Triunfo Ecological Reserve
	Ria Lagartos/Ria Celestun Wildlife Refuge
Panama:	Darien Biosphere Reserve
Peru:	Pampas del Heath National Sanctuary

B. PROGRESS TOWARD PROGRAM OUTPUTS

Significant progress has been achieved in the first year of the Parks in Peril program. The individual Parks in Peril evaluations included in Section E. provide specific information on the activities in each area. For the overall project, the more outstanding achievements include the following:

1. Work plans and budgets for the first ten high priority Parks in Peril sites have been approved and on-the-ground protection and management activities are underway. The PIP project is providing critical support for field operations toward the establishment of a permanent presence in each area.
2. NGO and government natural resource agencies have signed agreements for the Parks in Peril (PIP) program and are collaborating on the implementation of activities. Host country contributions are outperforming initial project expectations.
3. The administrative systems are in place within each NGO to facilitate PIP program management. TNC staff visited each NGO office to assist in structuring project administration in accordance with AID regulations.
4. NGOs and GOs are increasing their skills and capacities for project planning and administration, logistical support for field operations, resource management, and community relations.
5. Thirty-seven NGO and GO representatives participated in the PIP component of the Conservancy sponsored "Conservation Training Week" in Panama (April 1991). Five NGO participants received training at the Colorado State University "Wildlands Management Course" (July -August 1991). Over 50 rangers and extensionists received on-site training.
6. Baseline data collection on the biological/ecological significance, socio-economic values, threats and management opportunities for each PIP site is providing greater insights on the solutions to key biodiversity conservation issues. Local Conservation Data Centers (CDC) are actively involved in this effort. The PIP program has systematically accumulated maps, biological inventories, photos, etc. for each site.
7. NGO outreach programs are forming strong linkages with local communities. Local employment is increasing through ranger and extensionist jobs and contracts for the construction and maintenance of facilities and boundary trails.

8. **NGOs are using the PIP objective of establishing a permanent on-site management presence to attract other national and international partners, including development organizations, universities, indigenous groups, and local businesses.**
9. **Public awareness of the objectives of the PIP program is increasing in both the U.S. and Latin America. Numerous T.V. announcements, radio interviews, and news articles accompanied the initiation of the program.**
10. **The Nature Conservancy's Latin America Division was reorganized to accommodate the growth of the Parks in Peril agenda as its principal strategic objective. A PIP Program Coordinator, two in-region Parks in Peril Advisors and two Debt Specialists have been hired. The PIP program was incorporated in to the Conservancy's "Last Great Places" capital campaign, directed at large landscape conservation efforts during the 1990s.**
11. **All AID country missions have played an active role in the design and implementation of the PIP sites and often identified additional local resources to assist the project. Mission officers have visited 9 of the 10 first year PIP sites.**
12. **The identification of sustaining sources of income is underway. Debt-for-nature trust funds for PIP sites are being initiated in Bolivia, Panama, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and the Dominican Republic.**

C. MAJOR CONSTRAINTS

Despite the impressive progress that has accompanied the first year of the Park in Peril program implementation, there are a series of constraints that remain to be resolved. Among them are the following:

1. The initial "start-up" period for the project has taken more time than originally anticipated due to delays in negotiating the Work Plans between NGOs and GOs or with the review/approval process in the AID local mission. The first PIP work plans were approved in late February 1991 and the last in July 1991. As a result, construction was not underway during the 1991 dry season. This evaluation reflects only as much as 6 months or as little as 2 months of actual on-site work.
2. There are major logistical obstacles to overcome in order to establish an on-the-ground presence, including: the distance and difficulty of access to transport labor, materials and supplies, inclement weather, poor communications, and safety factors. At times, the NGOs' central offices are not providing the necessary resources in a timely fashion to support field operations.
3. NGO and GO relations are strained in some cases due to such issues as: control of funds, disparities between NGO and GO personnel salaries, NGO ability to provide on-site operational support in the absence of the GO, ownership and use of equipment, political influence to affect change, and perceived management authority.
4. In some cases, there are discrepancies between the approved Work Plans, calendars and budgets and the work actually implemented. This is due to a variety of factors, including: insufficient initial knowledge of the PIP site conditions and underestimation of the time and funds necessary to accomplish the tasks; undocumented decisions to change the activities and corresponding budget; and the definition of potential activities in the Work Plan without a corresponding budget.
5. Some of the NGOs have limited capacity to address AID administrative requirements and as a result, TNC has occasionally delayed the disbursement of funds until corrective measures were taken.
6. Actual scientific knowledge on the PIP sites is very limited; little is known about the type, status and distribution of species in each area, their ecological relationships, or threats imposed on them by human activities and steps to mitigate inappropriate uses.

- 7. To date, the PIP program has placed a limited focus on the issues of compatible human uses in the surrounding buffer zones as an important factor in the conservation of biological diversity.**
- 8. The future management costs of the PIP sites and sources of income are not well-defined; external threats to the areas are increasing and host country conservation budgets are shrinking in relation to the amount of decreed areas.**

D. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the evaluation team, the following general conclusions and recommendations are made:

1. **Conclusion:** The original assumptions made in the design of the Parks in Peril program and expressed in the proposal's "Logical Framework" are consistent with the results achieved during the first year of implementation. There is no immediate reason to change the component design or implementation process of the project at this time.

Recommendation: Expand the project to include an additional 15-20 high priority PIP sites over the next year.

2. **Conclusion:** Training needs to be continued and expanded to address such issues as project planning and administration, natural resource management, community development, biodiversity monitoring, and income generation. This training can be best accomplished in regional level workshops and courses.

Recommendation: In addition to programming funds for on-site training, TNC should maintain a central fund to provide support for training workshops, courses, and south-south exchanges.

3. **Conclusion:** With increased on-site presence, the local NGOs, GOs, TNC, and other collaborating organizations are learning a lot more about the biological and ecological significance, socioeconomic values, threats, and successful management strategies for each PIP site. What remains unknown about the PIP sites is startling. Increased efforts are needed to undertake applied research on the PIP sites and to disseminate the information to local communities, on-site managers and policy decision-makers.

Recommendation: Provide additional funds to directly involve TNC's Latin America Science Program, CDCs, and other scientific organizations in rapid ecological assessments and biological monitoring for the PIP sites. Provide for improved distribution of the information.

4. **Conclusion:** The success of the PIP program will depend upon the direct participation of local communities in the protection and management of the lands, waters, and natural resources that compose the PIP sites and surrounding landscapes. Increased efforts need to be made by the local NGOs and development organizations to define strategies that address the basic human needs and economic aspirations of the local communities while ensuring the conservation of biological diversity.

Recommendation: Work with the local NGOs to involve additional partner organizations with specific skills and experience in community development issues (e.g., CARE). Cultivate long-term funding commitments as part of work plan development process.

5. **Conclusion:** Although some progress has been made, sustainable funding sources are not yet available to finance the long-term operations of the PIP sites. In addition, accurate estimations of the management costs for the PIP sites are not available.

Recommendation: Develop detailed financial estimates for the long-term management costs of the PIP sites. Provide additional resources and staff to develop debt-for-nature initiatives as well as other experimental mechanisms to generate income for operations.

6. **Conclusion:** Local NGOs have an important role in the establishment of the PIP sites. Specifically, they can compliment the GO's management activities, work directly with local communities, and administer project funds. Improved efforts are needed to increase NGO - GO alliances for PIP management.

Recommendation: Continue to involve both NGO and GO representatives in PIP training events. Improve communications through the development of a project newsletter. As necessary, involve TNC in the definition of work plans, budgets, and project agreements. TNC should consider the use of in-country representatives assist in project planning and monitoring and to facilitate NGO-GO communications.

7. **Conclusion:** In those countries where TNC has been able to provide intensive on-site technical assistance, there was immediate improvements in work plans, financial administration and project sustainability.

Recommendation: When feasible, contract TNC in-region PIP technical advisors to work with partners and advance the implementation of the individual sites.

E. INDIVIDUAL PARKS IN PERIL EVALUATIONS

AMBORO NATIONAL PARK

NOEL KEMPF NATIONAL PARK

LA PAYA NATIONAL NATURAL PARK

CORCOVADO NATIONAL PARK

JARAGUA NATIONAL PARK

SIERRA DE LAS MINAS BIOSPHERE RESERVE

EL TRIUNFO BIOSPHERE RESERVE

RIAS CELESTUN Y LAGARTOS WILDLIFE REFUC

DARIEN BIOSPHERE RESERVE

PAMPAS DEL HEATH NATURE SANCTUARY

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION



Park Name: Amboro National Park, Bolivia

Government Partner Organization: Unidad Tecnica Desconcentrada-Centro de Desarrollo Forestal (CDF), Ministerio de Asuntos Campesinos y Agropecuarios

Non-Government Partner Organization: Fundacion Amigos de la Naturaleza (FAN)

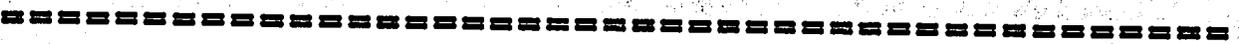
Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC and FAN: November 20, 1990

Work Plan Submitted to AID: November 20, 1990

Work Plan Approved by AID: February 20, 1991

Date of Evaluation: July 22, 1991



Introduction:

Hugo Arnal, a Protected Areas Specialist, was contracted by TNC to evaluate the implementation of work plan activities in Amboro National Park. Len West of TNC and FAN's personnel were also part of this evaluation.

The Park's management protection activities are coordinated between the UTD-CDF (the government agency in charge of managing Bolivia's protected areas), the Chimore-Yapacani Project (funded by the Inter-American Development Bank) and FAN (a private and non-profit conservation organization).

FAN is responsible for the protection of the Park's southern and western limits and has established a permanent office from which FAN's Project Coordinator oversees activities on a daily basis. An agricultural extensionist provides land and resource use direction and

training in coordination with surrounding communities by explaining the need to conserve Amboro's biological heritage and demonstrating the benefits the Park provided the local population.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PiP funds

- o 8 park guards have been hired, trained, and equipped by FAN.
- o FAN hired an Agricultural Extensionist to work in the Park.
- o FAN's Project Assistant has moved to Samaipata, a town near the Park, to open an office.
- o Purchased 2 radio sets for communications.
- o Project Coordinator and Project Assistant attended TNC's CTW in Panama. Project Assistant also attended Wildlands Management Course in Colorado State University.
- o 2 park guard training courses have been conducted in Amboro.
- o Normalization of patrolling park guard activities.

B. On-going activities not funded by PiP

- o CDF-IDB have carried out a socio-economic study on colonization to investigate the effects of the proposed park expansion on local communities.
- o Community extension activities have begun with agricultural producers and with Peace Corps volunteers.
- o 13 park guards have been employed by CDF along the northern half of the park.

Limitations:

- o Lack of presence of the Park's Director and the postponement in the hiring of a Sub-director for the southern area of Amboro.

- o FAN has been waiting for months for the government to approve an official decree to expand the Park to 180,000 ha. The action is 99% done but FAN cannot place signs and guard posts in strategic points until this is completed.
- o Conflicts between the communities in the northeast, CDF and IDB. Human activity and accompanying socio-economic conflicts constitute the most severe threats to the success of the park.
- o Lack of communication between park guards and local residents.

Suggested Changes:

- o Provide FAN's personnel with technical assistance in planning and management.
- o Include intensive public relations training module in future park guard training modules to improve communications with local communities.
- o Carry out a complete study of the Park incorporating regions in Illico and Carrasco National Parks. FAN could take part in this study since it needs to be actively involved in local management activities surrounding the Park. In addition, successful implementation of the current work plan is dependent on the official decree of the current proposed extension.
- o Establish with CDF a time frame to absorb salaries of personnel hired by FAN for the southern side of the Park.
- o Encourage CDF to hire a director for the southern side of the park and open an office.
- o Focus extension program in a specific community in order to obtain prompt results and fortify park guard relations with communities.
- o A concerted effort to improve communication lines with local communities is essential for Amboro.
- o Write an operative plan.

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

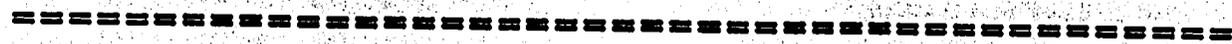
- o Signing of Park extension decree.
- o Construction of 2 posts.

- o **Boundary demarcation, with Park's extension, and sign posting.**
- o **Monitoring.**
- o **Park guard training courses.**
- o **Start-up of extension and environmental education projects.**

Long-Term Funding:

- o **The Fondo Nacional para el Medio Ambiente (FONAMA) has created a trust fund for the Park which will in the long-term enable FAN to count on income generated locally**

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION



Park Name: Noel Kempff Mercado National Park, Bolivia

Government

Partner Organization: Corporacion de Desarrollo de Santa Cruz (CORDECRUZ) and
Ministerio de Asuntos Campesinos y Agropecuarios (MACA)

Non-Government

Partner Organization: Fundacion Amigos de la Naturaleza (FAN)

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement

TNC and FAN: November 20, 1990

Work Plan

Submitted to AID: November 20, 1990

Work Plan

Approved by AID: February 20, 1991

Date of Evaluation: July 22, 1991



Introduction:

Hugo Arnal, a Protected Areas Specialist, was contracted by TNC to evaluate the implementation of work plan activities in Noel Kempff Mercado National Park. Len West of TNC and FAN's personnel were also part of this evaluation.

The Fundacion Amigos de la Naturaleza (FAN), a private, non-profit, conservation organization established in 1988, has drafted the work plan for the Park and has acquired a private 25,000 acre cattle ranch located in the Park's northern tip to establish the main camp.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds

- o FAN purchased Estancia Flor de Oro with TNC's matching funds.
- o Hired a Manager for Estancia Flor de Oro.
- o Purchased 2 outboard motors and field equipment.
- o Overflew the area.
- o A radio was installed on-site for communication with FAN in Santa Cruz.
- o Construction on guard post facilities has been completed at Mangabalito on the Rio Itenez (northern edge of the park) while work is ongoing at Las Torres.
- o Sign posting in Madre Viejas area.
- o Project coordinator and project assistant attended TNC's CTW in Panama. Project assistant also attended Wildlands Management Course at Colorado State University. Manager for Flor de Oro attended park guard training course in Samaipata, near Ambo National Park.

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o Hired 4 workers for Estancia Flor de Oro.

Limitations:

- o Dependence on air transportation and high costs limits implementation of proposed activities in the existing work plan. The NGO contends that the logistics, efficiency, and time costs make air transportation more cost-efficient than land travel. However, when weather conditions are good, land transport would no doubt be less costly and provide more options for FAN and the Flor de Oro site personnel. This should be discussed further.
- o Absence of personnel with field experience in protected areas management and planning has set back plans.

- o Management of site is shared with government entity, CORDECRUZ, and this creates constant sources of friction and disagreement with FAN. Inadequate work relations between NGO and park director has been a major problem in the implementation of the work plan. In most cases, FAN needs approval from this group to carry out park administrative/management decisions and there is an apparent lack of cooperation on the government's side.
- o Lack of proven and experienced candidates for technical and park guard positions.
- o Park limits have not yet been demarcated due to the lack of personnel.

Suggested Changes:

- o Provide FAN's personnel with technical assistance in planning and management.
- o Concentrate efforts by placing guards along the northern edge of the park on the Rio Itenez where there has been some intrusion by Brazilians and where the guard posts are more easily in touch by radio and river.
- o Promote the study for the expansion of the park to the east, near Rio Paragua. Pressure the approval of the proposal for expansion of the park to the west.
- o Draft a plan that defines boundary demarcation, sign posting, as well as location and construction of 2 remaining posts in the Park.
- o Sell major portion of remaining cattle in Flor de Oro property and use resources from sale to establish a fund to cover costs of food for personnel stationed in the area. Rearrange fencing after cattle have been sold.
- o Draft a development plan for Estancia Flor de Oro.
- o Clarify agreements with CDF and CORDECRUZ regarding future turnover of Flor de Oro to the government.
- o Define logistics for non-aerial transportation to the park.
- o Direct management of the Park more towards on-site conservation rather than ecotourism.
- o Work towards improving relations between FAN and the government counterpart.

- o Document and justify reasons for changes in original work plan. Such changes include the reprogramming of existing funds for the purchase of a vehicle to go towards the purchase of 2 boats; change in the location of control posts to be constructed.

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o Hire and train 5 park guards for the Park.
- o Initiate construction of 2 remaining control posts.
- o Post signs along the northern and eastern side of the Park.
- o Establish a scientific research program on the northern side of the Park.
- o Carry out aerial monitoring of the area.
- o Mapping of existing roads of access and inside Noel Kempff Mercado.

Long-Term Funding:

- o The Fondo Nacional para el Medio Ambiente (FONAMA) has created a trust fund for the Park which will in the long-term enable FAN to count on income generated locally.

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION

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Park Name: La Paya National Natural Park, Colombia

**Government
Partner Organization:** Instituto Nacional de los Recursos Naturales Renovables y del Ambiente (INDERENA)

**Non-Government
Partner Organization:** Fundacion Natura

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

**Memorandum of Agreement
TNC and Fundacion
Natura:** October 22, 1990

**Work Plan
Submitted to AID:** March 14, 1991

**Work Plan
Approved by AID:** July 5, 1991

Date of Evaluation: August 19, 1991

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Introduction:

Hugo Arnal, a Protected Areas Specialist, was contracted by TNC to evaluate the implementation of work plan activities in La Paya National Natural Park. Claudia Romero, PiP Coordinator in Fundacion Natura was also part of this evaluation.

Fundacion Natura, a private sector non-profit conservation organization based in Bogota is cooperating with INDERENA in protecting and managing La Paya National Park.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds

- o **Fundacion Natura hired a PiP Coordinator, 3 park guards, and temporarily a Park Director (named by INDERENA).**
- o **Park Director participated in a controlled burn workshop.**
- o **Identified sites for construction of 2 control posts.**

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o **INDERENA temporarily hired a chauffeur for the park**

Limitations:

- o **Strong presence of guerrilla groups in the northern part of the park along the Rio Mecaya and to the north and west of the Rio Hacha, approximately 40 km from Park's boundaries.**
- o **Limited cultivation of coca crops near the watershed of Rio Caucaya.**
- o **Transport of coca leaves through the Park from the Putumayo zone to the Puerto Boy region.**
- o **Inter-ethnic disputes in Cecilia Cocha.**
- o **Disputes between settlers and indigenous communities.**
- o **Lumber exploitation and fauna commercialization on the international market.**
- o **Lack of coordination between governmental agencies working in the Putumayo area.**

Suggested Changes:

- o **Concentrate initial management activities in the southern region of the park around Lake La Paya and the Putumayo/Caucaya watershed.**
- o **Develop a monitoring program of key fauna and flora elements.**

- o Carry out a area resource benefit study of local communities.
- o Begin an intense extension program with the Rio Mecaya community
- o Hire a community extensionist earlier than programmed.
- o PiP Coordinator should visit area more frequently.

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o Construction of 2 control posts.
- o Hire 3 park guards.
- o Purchase equipment and motors.
- o Frequent visits of PiP Coordinator.

Long-Term Funding:

- o Currently working on Initiative of the Americas proposal that would include a trust fund for this park.

PARKS IN PERIL

FIRST YEAR EVALUATION

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Park Name: Corcovado National Park, part of the Osa Conservation Area (ACOSA), Costa Rica

Government Partner Organization: Ministerio de Recursos Naturales, Energia y Minas (MIRENEM)

Non-Government Partner Organization: Fundacion Neotropica

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC and FN: February 8, 1990 (two years)

Work Plan Submitted to AID: February 13, 1991

Work Plan Approved by AID: March 13, 1991

Date of Evaluation: August 22, 1991

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Introduction:

Laurie Hunter, TNC's Protected Area Specialist, visited Corcovado National Park accompanied by J.J. Campos and Leslie Simmons of Fundacion Neotropica. They met with the MIRENEM personnel in charge of the area, Miguel Madrigal (Director of the Area Conservacion de Osa) and Orlando Montero (Director of Corcovado National Park). They visited the park on foot and conducted an overflight of the Osa peninsula.

The private organization, Fundacion Neotropica, has a large project in the buffer zone of Corcovado called BOSCOA which is working with local communities to establish sustainable development programs known as "community rainforests". BOSCOA is also conducting a Rapid Ecological Assessment in the buffer zone and has established a GIS in the central office.

Achievements:

- A. Actions resulting from PIP funds**
 - o 2 vehicles purchased.
 - o Miguel Madrigal (ACOSA director) and J.J. Campos trained at Panama Conservation Training Week.
 - o Legal services provided to help establish community rainforests in the buffer zone.

- B. On-going activities not funded by PIP**
 - o Contracted 50 park personnel, 35 are park guards.
 - o Entire boundary marked, except for 4 km stretch.
 - o Developed an environmental education program.
 - o Conducting biological inventories - parataxonomists are collecting insects in Corcovado.
 - o Amplification of park - 12,000 ha section was added this year (Esquina Park).
 - o Development of management plan, written in 1988, which guides park management decisions.

Limitations:

- o Lack of cooperation and coordinated decision making between GO and NGO; GO views NGO role only as a pass-through for funds; GO active in the core area and NGO active in the buffer (BOSCOSA project) but there is little communication and support.
- o NGO is losing money on administration of PIP; no funds provided for an NGO project director.

Suggested Changes:

- o **Revise agreement between GO and NGO to include specific roles for each and mechanisms to enhance cooperation (NGO is preparing a revision for all to review).**
- o **Restructure budget to include salary for NGO project director and accommodate GO's requests for funds for biological monitoring and environmental education (GO is preparing a revised budget for all to review).**

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o **Renovate 3 park control posts (Los Patos, San Pedrillo, and Isla Caña).**
- o **Purchase machinery for control posts, including generator and water pump, and equipment for the park guards.**
- o **Park guard training course on environmental laws, organized by CEDARENA and BOSCOA.**
- o **Finish marking the boundary of the park, by completing the last 4 km section near La Leona.**

Long-Term Funding:

- o **The Swedish Government (ASDI) has contributed \$2 million dollars for park protection and sustainable development in the buffer zone.**
- o **WWF has provided funds for park infrastructure, scientific studies (REA in the buffer zone), etc., over the years and will continue to do so in the future.**
- o **Neotropica has established the Osa Rainforest Fund, an endowment fund to sustain the activities of BOSCOA and other Osa projects over the long-term. The Chicago Rainforest Action Group (CRAG) has already contributed to this fund.**

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION



Park Name: Jaragua National Park, Dominican Republic

Government Partner Organization: Direccion Nacional de Parques (DNP)

Non-Government Partner Organizations: Grupo Jaragua, Inc. and PRONATURA

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement
TNC and Grupo Jaragua: March 13, 1991
TNC and PRONATURA: July 24, 1991

Work Plan
Submitted to AID: March 14, 1991

Work Plan
Approved by AID: July 5, 1991

Date of Evaluation: September 12, 1991



Introduction:

Domingo Marte of TNC visited Jaragua National Park to carry out evaluation of the progress made to date in the implementation of the work plan.

There have recently been some changes in the project, although these do not change the goals and objectives that were outlined in the work plan submitted to AID. What has changed are the administrative roles that were initially envisioned for Grupo Jaragua, Inc., a small private, non-profit conservation organization. PRONATURA will be used as an intermediary to channel funds distribution and provide technical support to Grupo Jaragua, Inc as well as DNP. The choice of PRONATURA satisfies concerns expressed by DNP regarding the need to receive funds for government implemented projects through Grupo

Jaragua, Inc. PRONATURA is in a better position to comply with the reporting and administrative requirements of AID and the project. After these changes, the working relationship between Grupo Jaragua and DNP has improved.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds

- o Begun construction of 2 park guard stations.
- o Started activities to survey and post boundaries.
- o Hired local coordinator and administrative personnel.
- o Provided administrative training to Grupo Jaragua and DNP's personnel.
- o Sixto Inchaustegui, Project Director, and G. Valdez, Head of the Park Department at DNP, trained at CTW in Panama.
- o Yearly operational plan and calendar of activities has been concluded.
- o Establishment of monthly planning and coordinating meetings as well as a working group between Grupo Jaragua, DNP, PRONATURA, and TNC.
- o Preparing a proposal for baseline data collection.
- o Course to train and select candidates for park guards was offered in September. At the same time, this course sought to train existing park guards.
- o TNC has raised a match of \$50,000 for project.

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o WWF is financing one park station.
- o CMC built a station for turtle protection.
- o FEDOMASEC/PRONATURA sponsored a beach cleaning day.

Limitations:

- o Work plan was approved in July 1991 and disbursements begun in August 1991. Project implementation started late and there has not been enough time to measure progress.
- o Current funding for community outreach activities seems insufficient.

Suggested Changes:

- o Seek additional funding for community outreach activities.
- o Increase budget line for dock construction to \$1,600.

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o Hire 7 park guards.
- o Conclude boundary demarcation and posting work.
- o Provide recurrent monthly training of 15 park guards and extensive training of 3 park guards abroad.
- o Plan and execute community education and motivation training.
- o Train 2 technicians abroad.
- o Equip park guard stations.
- o Purchase vehicle and other programmed equipment.
- o Initiate and conclude construction of dock.
- o Publish planned materials.
- o Conclude proposal for baseline data collection for evaluation.

Long-Term Funding:

- o \$1 million could be obtained for 3 years if GEF project is approved for the Dominican Republic. Jaragua National Park would obtain funding from a trust fund that would be created for this purpose.
- o US AID/DR co-financing project will be approached to support further institutional strengthening of NGOs involved in project.

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION

=====
Park Name: Sierra de las Minas Biosphere Reserve
Government Partner Organization: Consejo Nacional Para Areas Protegidas (CONAP)
Non-Government Partner Organization: Defensores de la Naturaleza (DN)
Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991
Memorandum of Agreement TNC and DN: February 5, 1991
Work Plan Submitted to AID: January 7, 1991
Work Plan Approved by AID: February 20, 1991
Date of Evaluation: July 22 - 26, 1991
=====

Introduction:

Andreas Lehnhoff, Executive Director of DN, Peg Kohring, TNC Guatemala In-country Advisor, and Brian Houseal, TNC Regional Director for Mexico and Central America, undertook the on-site evaluation of Sierra de las Minas in July 1991. They interviewed DN rangers and local community members. Monica Ostria, PIP Program Coordinator, interviewed DN staff and board members in the DN offices about the project administration and finances.

Sierra de las Minas, the oldest mountain range in Mesoamerica, is biologically highly diverse with an unusually high rate of endemic species. In addition to conserving habitat for endangered felines and monkeys, the area contains over 400 species of birds, including the resplendent quetzal and harpy eagle. Unfortunately this outstanding area is threatened by timber concessions and uncontrolled agricultural expansion. By law, Defensores is responsible for co-managing this "Park in Peril" with CONAP, a public-private partnership unique to Latin America.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds:

- o Contracted NGO Project Field Director and 6 rangers.
- o Approximately 6.4 kms. of boundaries surveyed and posted with metal signs on lands purchased by Defensores.
- o Preparation of Management Plan for Sierra de las Minas Biosphere Reserve is underway. Critical management zones have been mapped.
- o CECON/CDC provided natural communities map of area.
- o Defensores has met with local communities and leaders around entire periphery of Sierra de las Minas to present the objectives of the reserve and receive local comments on the management opportunities and potential conflicts.

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o Rangers receiving on-site training through 3 Peace Corps Volunteers assigned to sites.
- o The Universidad del Valle and the Universidad de San Carlos are carrying out ecological studies in cooperation with Defensores field personnel.
- o WWF/US is funding a sustainable agriculture project on north side of reserve, working with 2 Ketchi Maya communities.
- o CARE extensionists are working with Ketchi Maya communities north side of the reserve on programs for infant survival, potable water and agro-forestry.
- o Over 1,500 acres of land was purchased with a donation given by the Swedish Children's Rainforest.
- o The Central America Environmental Project, funded through the ROCAP/RENARM project, identified Sierra de las Minas as a target site; work plan and budget are in process.

Limitations:

- o **Delays in field implementation due to late hiring of Field Director and poor orientation re: his role in project implementation. (Note: Defensores has not had an Executive Director for much of the year. Andreas Lehnhoff was hired as DN Exec. Dir. in July 1991.)**
- o **At present, rangers do not have uniforms or field equipment, and many critical boundaries have not been surveyed and posted.**
- o **Poor communications due to lack of radios.**
- o **Project management is centralized in Guatemala City, making field level logistical decisions difficult to implement due to lack of cash flow at local level.**
- o **Rangers have limited training in natural resources management or community relations.**
- o **At present there is no general Management Plan to guide the reserve implementation. Specifically needed are: plan for private land acquisition, information on types and impact of current resource extraction activities, clearly defined institutional roles and responsibilities, and additional information on ecological conditions.**

Suggested Changes:

- o **Improve central office management of the project to facilitate field level implementation. Specifically: obligate Field Director to deliver equipment, materials, and operational support to Sierra de las Minas rather than have field personnel travel to Guatemala City; also, establish a field level petty cash system to improve operational support.**
- o **Provide additional on-site resource management training to rangers and focus activities on surveying and posting critical areas of the reserve. Immediately acquire uniforms, equipment and radios for field personnel.**
- o **Initiate a rapid ecological assessment of the reserve to determine ecologically sensitive areas for protection activities and to establish priorities for future applied studies on resource use.**

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o On-site ranger training.
- o Purchase of ranger uniforms, equipment and radios.
- o Continue strong community outreach program.
- o Publish Management Plan.
- o Initiate Rapid Ecological Assessment.

Long-Term Funding:

With Conservancy support, Defensores has acquired over 30,000 acres of ecologically sensitive properties with funds from the "Adopt-An-Acre" Program. The Vermont and Minnesota Chapters of the Conservancy have also provided financial support and key personnel through the TNC Conservation Corps to implement land-saving strategies for Sierra de las Minas. Defensores has also engaged the World Wildlife Fund and CARE as partners, focusing on sustainable development in the reserve's buffer zone to the north of the reserve.

TNC and DN are presently negotiating a debt swap with the CABIE to acquire and protect additional key properties in Sierra de las Minas. DN and CONAP have also submitted a major funding proposal to the Global Environmental Facility of the World Bank to establish a trust fund for the area.

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION



Park Name: El Triunfo Biosphere Reserve, Mexico

Government Partner Organization: Instituto de Historia Natural (IHN)

Non-Government Partner Organization: FUNDAMAT (until August 5, 1991)

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC - FUNDAMAT: February 12, 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC - IHN: August 5, 1991

Work Plan Submitted to AID: February 15, 1991

Work Plan Approved by AID: March 13, 1991

Date of Evaluation: August 1991



Introduction:

Susan Anderson, TNC Associate Director for the Mexico Program, and Frank Zadroga, AID Environmental Officer for Mexico, each visited different parts of El Triunfo Biosphere Reserve in May 1991 to evaluate their progress in on-site protection.

The Instituto de Historia Natural (IHN), a decentralized state of Chiapas institution, is implementing Parks in Peril activities in El Triunfo. TNC matching funds, support from the state government, and funds from other U.S. donors, such as the MacArthur Foundation and World Wildlife Funds, were used to support activities in El Triunfo between March and August 1991.

There have recently been some changes in the project, although these do not change the goals and objectives that were outlined in the work plan submitted to AID. The non-government partner in this project, FUNDAMAT, is no longer channeling funds to IHN. With AID/Mexico approval, it was decided that IHN was in a position to directly receive funds and comply with the reporting and administrative requirements of AID and the project. A new Memorandum of Agreement for the project was signed with IHN in August of this year.

IHN has been working to protect El Triunfo for four years. They succeeded in obtaining Biosphere Reserve status from the federal government of Mexico for 250,000 acres of El Triunfo in May 1990 and signed a cooperative agreement with the federal government giving IHN authority to manage the reserve. A management Plan was needed in order to obtain the federal decree. IHN has steadily increased its presence and protection infrastructure since that time.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds

- o Salary support for reserve director, 3 rangers, and a biologist.
- o Delineation and marking with interpretative signs of 40 km surrounding the largest of 5 nuclear zones.
- o Completion of 90 signs marking the entrance into buffer zone.
- o Three-week training course for the staff of all the reserves IHN manages. Eleven of the El Triunfo staff participated as trainers or attenders resulting in over eight person/months of training.
- o IHN's head of the protected areas department participated in TNC's Conservation Training Week in Panama.

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o IHN restored and operates one of the 3 ranger stations in El Triunfo originally built by the federal government. It is also responsible for the operation and construction of 2 auxiliary ranger stations. All 3 ranger stations are operated by rangers and there are also 3 mobile rangers that patrol boundaries and trails within the reserve.

- o Cultivation of support from local townspeople and landowners has led to the establishment of a local board of directors that has raised funds to support a secretary and pay for an office for the preserve director and mobile rangers.
- o Organic coffee project in the buffer area. Funds provided by these individual coffee fincas support 5 extensionists and environmental educators and 2 agronomists.
- o MacArthur Foundation funds supports an ethnobiologist who is studying how nearby residents use the plants and animals within the buffer zone of El Triunfo.

Limitations:

- o Extreme topography and inaccessibility of the area. Five nuclear zones scattered along the top of a mountain range and are separated by inaccessible peaks.
- o Limited communication between ranger stations and between mobile rangers on patrol and the permanent bases.
- o Need of ranger stations in each of the nuclear zones but establishment of these stations is not an easy task.
- o Seasonal accessibility is affected by the many fires that are set to clear fields during the dry season. Uncontrolled fires can close the roads leading to the reserve and have crossed reserve boundaries.

Suggested Changes:

- o Improve communication and safety within the reserve by installing a radio system with a repeater on El Triunfo Peak and the capability to communicate between the office in Jaltenango, the three ranger stations, and the mobil patrols. AID funds will be used to purchase the radio system and TNC funds will purchase the solar generators needed to run the repeater and base stations.
- o IHN plans to use AID and TNC funds to build another ranger station within nuclear zone IV to provide protection for that outlying region.
- o IHN is in the process of developing an early warning system for set fires and with new radio communication system reserve staff will be able to move to areas within the buffer zone that are threatened by burning before fires are started.

Planned Activities 1991-1992:

- o **Maintenance of buildings and equipment, delineation of the boundaries of the nuclear and buffer zones, and installation of an additional 260 signs marking the entrance to the buffer zone on all roads and footpaths.**
- o **Establishment of a protection presence and building a ranger station in nuclear zone II on the west side of the reserve. IHN will also focus outreach efforts, environmental education, and cultivation of town leaders and businessmen to develop a local Board of Directors.**
- o **Finca Cuestepec will fund an agricultural extensionist.**
- o **IHN will establish a research center near the Palo Gordo ranger station which will be open to both national and international students and researchers.**

Long-Term Funding:

- o **IHN is continuing to develop local sources of funding for the long-term protection of El Triunfo such as local Boards of Directors in Jaltenango, Mastepec, and Cuestepec.**
- o **Increased number of permanent positions funded by the state government of Chiapas.**
- o **IHN hopes to establish an endowment for long-term support of reserve operations. IHN calculates an ongoing need for approximately \$100,000 a year for operations, requiring an endowment fund of approximately \$2 million. They are exploring three possibilities for establishing an endowment of this size:**
 - **IHN is working with the state government to establish taxes on cigarettes and alcohol that will be directed to alcohol and health rehabilitation programs and conservation.**
 - **The federal government of Mexico may begin to allow the development of state lotteries. IHN is proposing that a portion of lottery funds be directed to conservation, if state lotteries can be established.**
 - **IHN is working with the state government to establish the mechanism for a debt swap jointly managed by the state government, federal government, and private sector. Potential debt swaps could come from U.S. or Japanese sources.**

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION

=====
Park Name: Rias Celestun and Lagartos Wildlife Refuges, Mexico

Government Partner Organization: Secretaria de Desarrollo Urbano y Ecologia (SEDUE)

Non-Government Partner Organization: Pronatura - Peninsula de Yucatan

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC and Pronatura: December 15, 1990

Work Plan Submitted to AID: February 7, 1991

Work Plan Approved by AID: March 13, 1991

Date of Evaluation: August 1-7, 1991
=====

Introduction:

Joe Quiroz and Peg Kohring from TNC and Pronatura-Yucatan, SEDUE, and Ducks Unlimited personnel conducted an evaluation of the up-to-date progress in the Ria Celestun and Ria Lagartos Wildlife Refuges.

Pronatura-Yucatan, is a private non-profit working in both refuges. Land management activities under the guidance of the PiP work plan approved by AID have generally progressed on schedule.

At the local level, coordination among the various governmental, research, and NGO cooperators who have an interest in the area appear to be very smooth. The governor of Yucatan and the state delegate of SEDUE have shown strong public support of the Pronatura's management activities.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds

- o Uniformed and equipped 2 rangers and 1 director in Celestun, and 5 rangers and 1 director in Lagartos (a total of 7 rangers and 2 directors).
- o Posted regulatory and interpretative signs in both Celestun and Lagartos.
- o Purchased a vehicle to transport equipment and personnel to and within reserves.
- o Field work by management and scientific staff has been possible because of funds available for travel, lodging, and sustenance.
- o A business office for Pronatura has been established with furniture, equipment, and basic services.

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o Strategic organization of effort on the part of the federal, state, and local government agencies, scientific institutions, and NGOs. Primary force in this organization has been Pronatura. For the first time since the coastal reserves were established, there is an active and visible management presence in Rias Lagartos and Celestun.
- o Organization and enforcement of tour operators who take visitors into the rias to view wildlife.
- o Active and effective public outreach and environmental and education programs in the communities within the reserves.

Limitations:

- o A principle limitation to progress in managing the reserves has been centered in the Mexico City office of SEDUE. There have been a number of delays and complications in the processing of communications regarding permission to operate in the reserves.
- o Inadequate federal funding for these or any other land protection projects.
- o Agriculture, cattle ranching, and illegal timber extraction continue to threaten the boundaries of the reserves.

- o The reserves, although significant in size, do not include management control of the entire hydrologic systems that affect them. This points out the critical importance of coordination between other management agencies and user groups.
- o Population growth has been significant in some areas such as the town of Celestun. This presents a challenge to the management of that refuge to include new citizens in its educational programs. Specific threats arising from the proximity of population centers include sewage and solid waste disposal, feral animals, and incompatible activities such as logging and wildlife poaching.
- o There is no marine environment within the decreed boundaries of the reserves. This will be addressed by Pronatura once a management strategy involving the entire coastal area is agreed upon by the council of representatives from the various user and conservation groups.

Suggested Changes:

- o Because the fresh water flows of both Celestun and Lagartos are entirely dependent on the surface and subsurface hydrologic systems, it is imperative to develop well coordinated management goals with the state refuges of El Palmar and Dzilam, as well as with the main use groups of oceans and coastal resources (fishermen, farmers, municipalities, etc.).

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o With the signing of the specific agreement between Pronatura and SEDUE, a number of important activities can proceed. A ranger office/bunkhouse and patrol stations will be built or purchased in Celestun. Ranger equipment that has already been purchased will be turned over to the reserve directors for their use.
- o Boundary surveys of both reserves will be initiated/ The commonly accepted boundary lines will be demarcated, signed, and patrolled.
- o A monitoring program of threats and biological indicators will be put in place.
- o The community outreach/environmental education program will be expanded to involve a greater percentage of the population living within the reserves.
- o Accords will be established with the state managers of El Palmar and Dzilam to coordinate management of the coastal zone of the Yucatan Peninsula.

Long-Term Funding:

- o **Pronatura is making impressive progress in attracting the private contributions of local and national businesses.**
- o **Pronatura is pursuing options that would help create a trust fund or stewardship endowment for the reserves. One possibility is the establishment of a corpus of capital through a debt-swap program.**

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION



Park Name: Darien Biosphere Reserve, National Park and World Heritage Site, Panama

Government Partner Organization: Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales Renovables (INRENARE)

Non-Government Partner Organization: Asociacion Nacional para la Conservacion de la Naturaleza (ANCON)

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC and ANCON: February 7, 1991

Work Plan Submitted to AID: November 28, 1990

Work Plan Approved by AID: February 20, 1991

Date of Evaluation: August 11, 1991



Introduction:

Brian Houseal, Bruce Stein, and Hugo Arnal of TNC were part of the team that evaluated on-going activities in the Darien. ANCON and INRENARE personnel accompanied TNC's team in the visit.

Since 1987, INRENARE and ANCON, a private and non-profit organization, have been working closely together to establish the minimum infrastructures necessary for the protection, conservation and management of this vital natural reserve with trained and equipped rangers, control points, ranger stations, nature trails, and community development and support programs.

Achievements:

A. Actions resulting from PIP funds

- o A surveyor was hired on a full time basis to carry out a topographic analysis examining the Garachine area. The study was completed.
- o A total of 60 km were demarcated in the Darien. The topographic analysis permitted the identification of the 35 km of demarcation work needed and this work was carried out and completed by park rangers and 36 community workers (a total of 66 hired workers). In addition, another 25 km have been demarcated near the rio Sabalo area.
- o 250 signs were posted in these demarcated areas and 100 signs are in the process of being assembled to continue the sign posting work.
- o ANCON provided support to INRENARE personnel by arranging the participation of 18 park guards in the First Training Seminar for Darien National Park Personnel held in Pirre which lasted 10 days. Courses and presentations included topics such as protection and conservation of natural areas, first aid techniques, and national park regulations and legislation information.
- o Purchased 2 horses, an outboard motor, a 30 ft. wooden boat, and field equipment (boots, knapsacks, hammocks, tents, pants, etc.). The field equipment was distributed among project workers and park personnel.
- o Refurbished existing house in El Real including: floor replacement, installing room partitions, a latrine and a water catchment system.
- o Construction of the patrolling station of Balsas in rio Sabalo was completed.

B. On-going activities not funded by PIP

- o Land tenure research is being carried out by ANCON's Conservation Department Director, Carlos Brandaris. ANCON personnel is also participating in mining concessions studies to determine their exact number and location.
- o ANCON personnel have been actively involved in environmental education and community extension work that have alleviated social tensions in the area.

- o ANCON scientists have completed field studies programmed for Panama's dry season in the Darien. The distance covered by the team was 16.5 km and the studies lasted ten days, during which time they gathered extensive records of the area's flora and fauna. These studies served to add data to the existing inventories on the different species of flora, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals found in the reserve.

Limitations:

- o Panama's lack of legislation on national parks which allows for the importance given to natural resources exploitation concessions and agrarian reform.
- o INRENARE's minimal budget and complex bureaucracy of this institution to move funds to the reserve.
- o Absence of radio communication system.
- o Delay in the funding of MARENA (AID).
- o Shortage of park guard training.
- o High turnover in INRENARE's park director position.

Suggested Changes:

- o Incorporate in the approved work plan the change of location of the patrolling station.
- o Develop a monitoring program for the park.
- o Carry out a study on how communities profit from the park's resources.

Planned PIP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o Continue demarcation in Garachine-Balsas sector.
- o Construct Garachine ranger station.
- o Continue ANCON/CDC monitoring studies.

Long-Term Funding:

NATURA Foundation has been incorporated as mechanism for debt swap that would endow basic operations of Darien National Park. AID/Panama is providing \$8.0 million to be matched by \$2.0 million of private funds for all park areas.

PARKS IN PERIL
FIRST YEAR EVALUATION

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Park Name: Pampas del Heath National Sanctuary, Peru

Government Partner Organization: Direccion General de Parques Nacionales, Ministerio de Agricultura

Non-Government Partner Organization: Fundacion Peruana para la Conservacion de la Naturaleza (FPCN)

Period of Evaluation: October 1990 - September 1991

Memorandum of Agreement TNC and FPCN: October 15, 1990

Work Plan Submitted to AID: January 9, 1991

Work Plan Modification and re-Submitted to AID: March 27, 1991

Work Plan Approved by AID: July 5, 1991

Date of Evaluation: July 10, 1991

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Introduction:

Hugo Arnal, a Protected Areas Specialist, was contracted by TNC to evaluate the progress of on-site protection of Pampas del Heath National Sanctuary in Peru.

The Peruvian Foundation for the Conservation of Nature (FPCN), a non-profit and non-government organization is implementing Parks in Peril activities in Pampas del Heath. FPCN has been working to protect Pampas del Heath since January of this year and they have signed a cooperative agreement with the General National Parks Office, dependency of the Ministry of Agriculture, to carry on conservation activities in the sanctuary.

Achievements:

- A. Actions resulting from PIP funds**
 - o Contracted the Sanctuary Chief and 5 park guards.
 - o Purchased of 3 outboard motors and a canoe.
 - o Initiated construction of control post that will be completed by the end of the year.
 - o Patrolling activities of park guards was begun.
 - o Sanctuary Chief attended TNC's Conservation Training Week in Panama.

- B. On-going activities not funded by PIP**
 - o Concluded detailed base mapping of area by CDC.
 - o Completed a field study trip to the western zone of the sanctuary.
 - o Sanctuary Chief participated and coordinated socio-economic studies of local communities living near the sanctuary.

Limitations:

- o Delay in the implementation of work plan activities.
- o Lack of correlation between approved budget and work plan activities. Sign-posting and boundary demarcation, as well as costs of publication of information pamphlet are not contemplated in the existing budget.
- o Delay in purchase of materials and equipment and in development of administrative procedures (specifically, drafting of contracts).
- o Complexity of annual plan makes it impossible for one person to carry out activities, more so if some of these do not have budgeted funds.
- o Difficulty in communication between Puerto Maldonado and FPCN and the control post.

Suggested Changes:

- o **FPCN personnel needs to participate and be more involved in the implementation phase of the work plan. These will have some influence and accelerate planned activities. Personnel in Lima needs to receive technical assistance and training in planning and management.**
- o **Establish a radio communication system between office being constructed in Puerto Maldonado and control post in Rio Heath.**
- o **Initiate patrolling of the savannah area to prevent current poaching.**
- o **Establish monitoring systems for uncontrolled fires in the savannah area.**
- o **Promote a quick study that will justify the expansion of the area of the sanctuary.**
- o **Amend the existing budget to include the following:
(1) partial or total salary of PiP coordinator for FPCN stationed in Lima.
(2) surveying and posting of boundaries activities.**
- o **In Bolivia, promote the necessary studies and the formal declaration of a protected area that will coincide with Peruvian efforts to protect the watershed of Rio Heath.**
- o **Adjust the implementation activities in the work plan so that in the future there are no discrepancies between activities and budget.**

Planned PiP Activities for 1991-1992:

- o **Overflight of the sanctuary area.**
- o **Rent and equip office in Puerto Maldonado.**
- o **FPCN needs to draft an agreement with the Madre de Dios Agricultural Sub-Region, a division of the Regional Secretariat of Productive and Extractive Affairs, in order to assure its future presence and activities in the sanctuary.**
- o **Start work on the initial draft of a management/operations plan for the sanctuary and a document that clearly identifies the threats to the area.**
- o **Start the posting of signs in specific sites and begin boundary identification and demarcation, as well as trail construction, in Rios Palma Real Chico y Grande to Potoyacu and the northern side of the sanctuary.**

- o **Publish and distribute the information pamphlet for communities.**

Long-Term Funding:

- o **Currently encouraging the Peruvian government to provide funding for hiring more park guards and absorbing salaries of current guards.**
- o **Working in obtaining long-term funding for Peru from the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) of The World Bank.**
- o **in the process of negotiating a debt reduction package for Peru under the Enterprise for the Americas that will include the creation of a conservation trust for the sanctuary.**

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1

**List of Participants
Parks in Peril Component
Conservation Training Week, Panama**

- 1) **Hugo Salas
Project Coordinator
Fundacion Amigos de la Naturaleza (FAN)
Bolivia**
- 2) **Abel Castillo
Project Assistant
FAN, Bolivia**
- 3) **Luis Alberto Suarez
Director, Amoro National Park
Centro de Desarrollo Forestal, Bolivia**
- 4) **Carmen Tavera
Sub-Director
Fundacion Natura (FN)
Colombia**
- 5) **Claudia Romero
Parks in Peril Coordinator
FN, Colombia**
- 6) **Juan Mayr
Executive Director
Fundacion Pro-Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta
Colombia**
- 7) **Dilver Pintor
Parks Division
INDERENA, Colombia**
- 8) **Gustavo Suarez de Freitas
Technical Director
Fundacion Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (FPCN)
Peru**
- 9) **Luis Angel Yallico
Supervisor, Pampas del Heath Region
FPCN, Peru**

- 10) **Fernando Estremadoyro**
Project Coordinator
FPCN, Peru
- 11) **Fernando Rubio**
Director, Pampas del Heath Sanctuary
FPCN, Peru
- 12) **Jose Joaquin Campos**
Director, BOSCOA Project
Fundacion Neotropica (FN)
Costa Rica
- 13) **Eliomar Vargas Arce**
Forestry Engineer, BOSCOA Project
FN, Costa Rica
- 14) **Carlos de Paco**
Protection Director
Fundacion de Parques Nacionales (FPN)
Costa Rica
- 15) **Miguel Madrigal**
Director, Osa Conservation Area
Ministerio de Recursos Naturales y Minería (MIRENEM)
Costa Rica
- 16) **Orlando Montero**
MIRENEM, Costa Rica
- 17) **Mario Rojas Ramirez**
General Director
MIRENEM, Costa Rica
- 19) **Hector Centeno**
President
Defensores de la Naturaleza (DN)
Guatemala
- 20) **Rudy Herrera**
Project Director
Sierra de las Minas
DN, Guatemala

- 21) **Andreas Lehnhoff**
Executive Secretary
Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas (CONAP)
Guatemala
- 22) **Mario Garcia Aldana**
Director, Protected Areas
CONAP, Guatemala
- 23) **Milton Cabrera**
Centro de Estudios Conservacionistas (CECON)
Guatemala
- 24) **Froilan Esquinca**
General Director
FUNDAMAT, Mexico
- 25) **Odette Massimi**
Administrative Director
FUNDAMAT, Mexico
- 26) **Moises Garcia Castillo**
Technical Director
FUNDAMAT, Mexico
- 27) **Luis Gonzalez**
Executive Director
PRONATURA - Yucatan, Mexico
- 28) **Jorge Correa Sandoval**
Coordinator, Rias Celestun and Lagartos
PRONATURA - Yucatan, Mexico
- 29) **Juan Duran Najera**
Director, Ria Celestun
PRONATURA - Yucatan, Mexico
- 30) **Victor Hugo Hernandez**
Director, Natural Areas Department
Instituto de Historia Natural (IHN)
Mexico
- 31) **Raul Fletcher**
Director of Conservation
ANCON, Panama

- 32) **Carlos Brandaris**
Manager, Conservation Division
ANCON, Panama
- 33) **Manuel Rodes**
Director, National Parks Director
INRENARE, Panama
- 34) **Evin Cedeño**
INRENARE, Panama
- 35) **Hector Rene Ledesma**
Coordinator
PRONATURA, Dominican Republic
- 36) **Sixto Inchaustegui**
President
Grupo Jaragua, Inc., Dominican Republic
- 37) **Gabriel Valdez**
National Parks Department
Dominican Republic

Parks in Peril Participants
Colorado State University
"Wildlands Management Course"

- 1) **Abel Castillo**
Project Assistant
FAN, Bolivia
- 2) **Carlos de Paco**
Protection Director
FPN, Costa Rica
- 3) **Carlos Brandaris**
Manager, Conservation Division
ANCON, Panama
- 4) **Marisol Dimas**
Darien National Park
INRENARE, Panama

- 5) **Anthony van Humbeeck**
Director, Private Reserves Program
Fundacion Moises Bertoni, Paraguay

Park Guard Training Course

Fifty-four park guards received on the ground training:

- **Noel Kempff Mercado National Park, Bolivia (1 trained)**
- **Amoro National Park, Bolivia (8 trained, 2 workshops)**
- **La Paya National Natural Park, Colombia (1 trained)**
- **Sierra de las Minas Biosphere Reserve, Guatemala (7 trained)**
- **El Triunfo Biosphere Reserve, Mexico (11 trained)**
- **Ria Celestun Wildlife Refuge, Mexico (3 trained)**
- **Ria Lagartos Wildlife Refuge, Mexico (6 trained)**
- **Darien Biosphere Reserve, Panama (18 trained)**