

Annual Report 2006



The Great Work of our generation is to carry out the transition from a period of human devastation of the Earth to a period when humans would be present to the planet in a mutually beneficial manner ... to ensure each species of their proper habitat and to conserve the basic functioning of the biosystems of the planet.

— Thomas Berry, The Great Work

Our Mission

Nature and Culture International's mission is the conservation of biological and cultural diversity. Our philosophy is to carry out this program by developing and strengthening local institutions and assisting communities to preserve their way of life and traditions.

How We Work

NCI works to create private reserves, assist in managing parks and public reserves, carry out science and education programs, and help local communities to integrate their development with conservation objectives. We focus on threatened ecosystems in the dry forests, cloud forests, and rain forests of southern Ecuador and northern Peru.

NCI is an international nonprofit organization with offices in Loja (Ecuador), Sullana (Peru), and San Diego (United States). We try to be as efficient and effective as possible in supporting conservation action in the developing world:

- ? We minimize our US presence, with only one employee;
- ? We build local conservation capacity, hiring dedicated local professionals who determine the program priorities for their regions;
- ? We seek to establish long-term conservation efforts that integrate local communities, and are sustainable in biological, social and political terms; and
- ? We achieve efficiency with local salary levels and low administrative overhead.

What Is at Stake?

Creation, an astounding phenomenon by any measure, presents humanity with a richness and variety of fellow life forms that is almost unbelievable in scope. Such variety reflects the work of untold millions of years of patient, persistent natural selection. Achingly slow, evolution's product is the gift of an irreplaceable natural patrimony. This gift, often termed "biodiversity," possesses worth in its own right as well as opportunities for the enjoyment, enrichment, and betterment of humankind.

As life has flourished throughout geologic time, so humanity has come to flourish in numbers and achievements beyond any prediction. Our human variety in cultures, languages, customs, and unique stores of knowledge are an integral part of this vast array of life; however, the technologies we have harnessed to achieve our current status have brought us to a level of unparalleled dominance in which we have become the arbiters of the future course of evolution. We will decide, consciously or by default, how much of nature survives, and which creatures will vanish forever, with their unique genetic information, their beauty, and their carefully crafted role in the scheme of life.

The Time is Now

The relentless conversion of natural habitats continues at an alarming pace, destroying the potential contribution of biodiversity, as well as the life-supports systems provided by nature. We ask you to join us in attempting to save the miraculous diversity of planetary life forms and cultures, which are now at grave risk. The destiny of creation, and of our own well-being, lies in the hands of our generation.

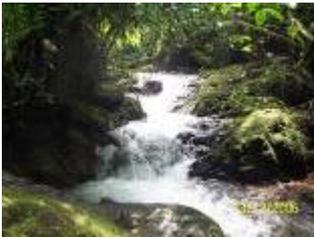
Ivan Gayler, Chairman of the Board

Byron Swift, President

Highlights of 2006

Gained Ecuador state approval of a proposal for a **Biosphere Reserve** to protect and promote sustainable development of one million forested hectares in southern Ecuador.

Purchased the **El Tiro paramo** of 613 hectares, protecting the north boundary of Podocarpus Park and a site of exceptional biodiversity with many endemic plant species.



Initiated **watershed conservation program** with regional municipalities, with payments for ecosystem services; initiated land purchases at Celica, Loja and Zamora.

Conducted the Feasibility Study for a small run-of-river **hydroelectric project** to provide sustainable financing for regional conservation initiatives.

Initiated a legal program to protect up to 40,000 ha as **forest patrimony** on unoccupied state lands in southern Ecuador.

Opened an NCI office in **Zamora**, with two staff members. The office is working with four **Shuar communities** to legally designate 20,000 ha as their indigenous homeland, and to manage them as community reserves.

Attained approval of the Regional Government for a **Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity** for Loreto, Peru; working to designate seven major protected areas covering several million hectares at the Regional system.

Continued scientific work through **Darwinnet** on the **endangered dry forest ecosystem of northern Peru and southern Ecuador**; initiated protection of key sites for endangered species in these dry forests, including 10,000 ha at Talara; a community reserve at Limon (1,500 ha), and improved management of 10,000 ha at Angolo reserve.

Worked with the Regional Government of Piura to establish a regional system of conservation areas, prioritizing watersheds through the **Andean Paramo Project**.



Launched the **Amazon Biodiversity Fair** at Loreto to emphasize conservation of Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve, through the **Jim Clements Conservation Fund**.

Worked to establish a 457,000 hectare **Communal Reserve for the Matses** indigenous peoples in Amazonian Peru.

Purchased another 400 ha for NCI's private reserve Cuencas de Alamos, and created an alliance with Pronatura, to protect the **Sierra de Alamos reserve** in Sonora, Mexico.

Tropical Dry Forests



The dry tropical forests of the Americas are one of the world's highest priorities for biodiversity conservation, due to their species endemism and significant loss of habitat.

NCI owns and manages the *La Ceiba Reserve* (25,000 acres, pictured above) and the *Laipuna Reserve* (4,000 acres) to conserve the highly endangered Tumbesian dry forest in southern Ecuador. Around these reserves, NCI implements a major program to develop the capacities of neighboring communities to manage and conserve the forest resource and improve their livelihoods. NCI is also working to expand conservation throughout the 100,000 acres of remaining dry forests in the Catamayo River basin through management agreements with the federal government and with communities.

In the Peruvian State of Piura, NCI is working to conserve a number of critical sites for biodiversity, which include the coastal deserts of *Talara*, the dry forests of the *Limon watershed* and the *Coto de Caza El Angolo*, a protected area within the Northwest Biosphere Reserve. NCI is also working with the Regional government of Piura to develop a protected area system for the entire Region.

At *Alamos, Mexico*, NCI is creating a 20,000 acre reserve within the Sierra de Alamos national protected area. This area protects the northernmost extension of high-quality tropical deciduous forest in the Americas, and the headwaters of the Rio Cuchujaqui. To date, NCI has purchased 8,000 acres, and improved several cabins in order to promote visitation and scientific use of this exceptional resource.

Andean Cloud Forests

Andean cloud forests are the world's highest biodiversity priority, with the greatest number of endemic species. Due to their geography and climate, southern Ecuador and northern Peru are among the most diverse areas within this priority ecosystem, with numerous animal and plant species that live only in here.

A major initiative of NCI is to seek declaration by UNESCO of 1 million hectares of Andean cloud forests as a *biosphere reserve*, in which we would extend our work with governments, communities, and the private sector to conserve the pristine forests of the Loja and Zamora regions and local cultures.

Within this area, one of NCI's major community efforts is within the Colombo-Yacuri Protected Forest of 76,000 hectares. Here our work with two communities has led them to establish the *Angashcola Community Reserve*, which protects 3,500 acres of their cloud forests. A second effort is our intensive work with three indigenous Shuar communities to establish ancestral homelands and protect 20,000 acres of cloud forests as the *Yacuambi Shuar Community Reserve*.

In Peru, NCI is implementing conservation measures for the endangered cloud forest areas at *Ayabaca and Pacaipampa* in Piura, within the regional initiative for protection of Andean paramos that will stretch from Venezuela to Peru.

Apart from our own direct efforts, NCI manages a major project to support the Peruvian Association for the Conservation of Nature (APECO) to strengthen management of the **Rio Abiseo, Alto Mayo and Cordillera de Colan** protected areas in northern Peru, that together protect one million acres of pristine cloud forests.

NCI also works to protect *paramos* or high-altitude grasslands, which are another threatened ecosystem throughout the Americas. NCI has assisted in the designation of the **Colambo-Yacuri Protected Forest**, which places the paramos of southernmost Ecuador in protected status, and is working to achieve a similar result with the chain of paramos that extends south into Peru. In 2006 NCI also purchased the 1,500-acre **El Tiro paramo** above Loja, Ecuador, a beautiful tract with many of the original (and in some cases only) record of a number of endemic plant species.



Amazon Lowland Rain Forests



Amazon lowland rain forests are the most extensive tropical forests in the Americas, and contain very high biological diversity, although with less endemism than the Andes.

NCI is working with the Peruvian state of Loreto to create a **regional system of conservation areas** over its vast 90 million acres of Amazon forests. This project is carried out in partnership with the Peruvian Institute of Amazonian Investigation (IIAP) and could potentially create 25 million acres of protected areas at the state level, coupled with sustainable development initiatives.

In another community-based effort, NCI supports the Peruvian group Center for Development of the Amazonian Indigenous Peoples (CEDIA) in its programs to assist the Matsigenka indigenous peoples sustainably manage their own communal land and to obtain designation of one million acres as the **Matsigenka Communal Reserve**, which would protect the surrounding watershed of pristine Amazon rain forests.



The **Allpahuayo-Mishana Reserve** protects 300,000 acres of Amazon forests, within which is the largest and most diverse area of white sand forest in Peru. These are among the oldest tropical forests in the New World, in some places estimated to be 14 million years old. The rare white sand forests support a wealth of endemic flora and fauna, including a number of endemic and endangered birds, including the emblematic Iquitos Gnatcatcher, *Polioptila clementsii*, that lives only within the Reserve. NCI supports management of this reserve and conservation of its endangered species through the James Clements Conservation Fund.

Sustainable Community Development

A core element of NCI's ethic is to link the well being of local communities with our activities to conserve the environment. The importance and benefits of community involvement can be demonstrated by a few short stories from our La Ceiba project:



Changing Attitudes and Behavior: One of the aims of the La Ceiba project is to raise awareness of the value of sustainable management and conservation of natural resources, and away from practices such as unsustainable or illegal logging. In the village of Catanas, illegal logging and wood trafficking were common practices. In 2006, one of the most active illegal loggers joined the Catanas Comite Barrial, a community-based organization that regulates logging activities. He no longer participates in illegal logging activities, and he now serves as Treasurer of the Committee.

Strengthening capacities in gender issues: In September, NCI's support allowed Mrs. Peregrina Sarango to travel to the regional capital of Piura, to represent her village, Blas, at a Heifer Project International workshop. She was an active participant and encouraged community members to participate in future workshops. As a result, a number of Blas community members attended a cheese preparation workshop. In October 2006, Asociacion Sagrado Corazon de Jesus was established by Blas community members produces and markets goat cheese, and Mrs. Sarango was named President.

Attitude changes in the communities: Due to high rates of child malnutrition in the La Ceiba communities, the Ecuadorian National Institute for Children and the Family (INNFA) has provided nutritional supplements for children under the age of two. The mothers have established an association in which each member voluntarily contributes a 25 or 50 cent fee that is used to buy more supplements and to make loans to mothers in emergency situations.

Empowerment for action and decision-making: The December 2006 goat vaccination campaign in La Manga (part of NCI's community assistance program) was led by eighteen year old Alexandra Zapata. Under her direction 340 goats were vaccinated. When heavy rains blocked vaccination supply routes, Mr. Adolfo Rogel, director of the Veterinarian Medicine Program in Blas, traveled to Cabeza de Toro, Ecuador to obtain the supplies needed to ensure the vaccination of the remaining 882 goats.

The Impact of Demonstration: A demonstration of the benefits of a drip irrigation system for the drylands was performed at the school of Higuera as part of NCI's Schoolyard Ecology Program. Two orchards were established, a control using the traditional irrigation system and an experimental using the new drip irrigation system. Families observed firsthand that the new system saved both water and time.

Scientific Investigation

On the northern edge of Podocarpus National Park in Ecuador is NCI's 800-hectare *San Francisco Scientific Station*. Here, 17 German and Ecuadorian universities conduct one of the largest ecosystem studies worldwide, investing \$2.5 million dollars a year in interdisciplinary study of tropical mountain forests. The research studies pristine forest ecosystems as well as secondary forests, agricultural land, and abandoned farmlands. Results to date include 109 Doctoral and MS thesis (33 of which are Ecuadorian), training of 500-700 research interns from local universities, and 140 papers published in peer-reviewed journals [see <http://www.bergregenwald.de>].



In Piura, NCI is assisting the government park service INRENA in understanding the biodiversity of the Cota de Caza Angolo national reserve, and the Regional Government of Piura with information on the biodiversity of its dry forests and paramos.

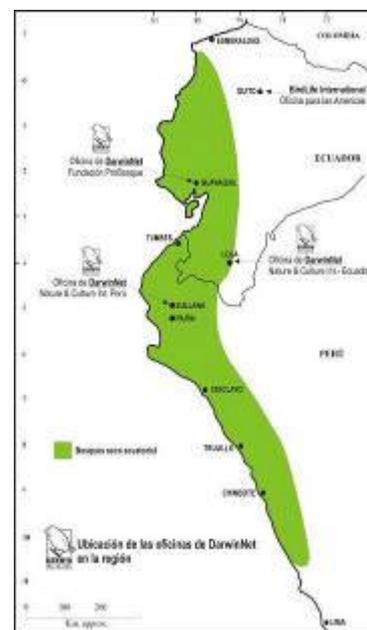
Environmental Management

NCI manages a number of policy initiatives, including the Darwin Initiative for the dry forests of Peru and Ecuador (www.darwinnet.org). This binational initiative collects and disseminates biological information to governmental, non-profit and private sector actors, to help integrate their development activities with the conservation of the dry forest ecosystem shared by Peru and Ecuador.

This effort helps meet both countries' obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as their respective national biodiversity strategies.

NCI also actively participates in matters of environmental policy at the state level in both Ecuador and Peru. Examples include our program for protection of watershed forests to safeguard water supplies in Loja and Zamora, and our assistance to the governments of Loreto and Piura to design and implement a regional protected area system that could potentially cover several million hectares.

In Peru, with the support of Birdlife International, NCI is helping to elaborate the national strategy for conservation of birds.



Valuing Ecosystem Services

A pressing conservation task is that of valuing the ecosystem services that provide us with so many of life's essentials – including our air, water and a stable climate. NCI has started two projects to value the water resource provided by natural forested watersheds.

[Watershed Services Providing Potable Water](#)

NIC has started work with several municipal governments in southern Ecuador, including the provincial capitals of Loja and Zamora, to purchase, reforest and protect cloud forest lands in the watersheds that provide them with drinking water.

The conservation of these forests has especially high value as we are simultaneously:

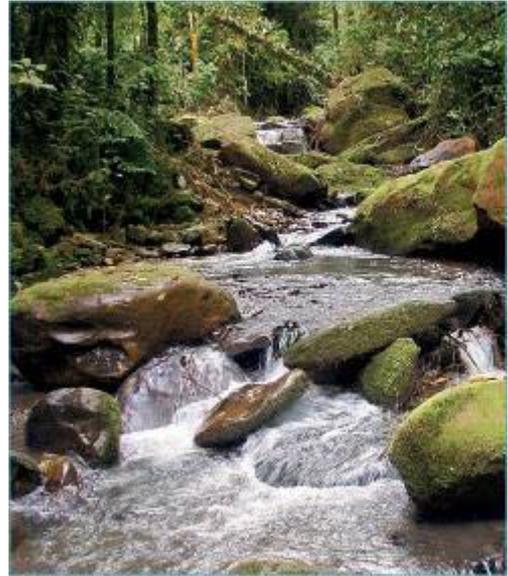
- ? saving the very high biodiversity of tropical cloud forest;
- ? providing clean water and related health benefits to municipalities; and
- ? creating climate and carbon benefits by reforesting degraded lands.

In return, the municipalities have agreed to implement a fee or other sustainable financing system to maintain and manage these forested watersheds. This program would also have broad educational impact, through reinforcing public perceptions of the importance of conserving forests and demonstrating the importance of ecosystem services in the most direct possible way, helping to build a conservation ethic.

[Watershed Services Providing Hydroelectric Energy](#)

The forested watersheds of the Andes provide an abundant water resource, yet most of these forested areas, even if within protected areas, are threatened by the lack of a sustainable funding source to pay for their management and protection. NCI seeks to harness the economic potential of this water resource, by developing a run-of-river hydropower project in the Andes of southern Ecuador. The run-of-river design uses river flow without any dams to provide clean power,. The net revenues from these projects would be used exclusively for non-profit purposes, to create a sustainable funding source for conservation and sustainable development initiatives in the region.

These projects will demonstrate in practical terms how to "close the circle" between the provision of ecosystems services (water) by natural environments, their market value, and the conservation of those same natural resources. This system will help to solve one of the most pressing problems of conservation initiatives, that of developing a sustainable financing source for the conservation of parks and other critical sites in the Andes. Economic benefits will be shared with local communities, so that they also perceive a value to conservation of the watershed and its forests. As similar hydro sites are availed for development through the Andes, this system if replicated could substantially address the persistent problem of lack of sustainable financing to conserve Andean ecosystems, the worlds most important hotspot for biodiversity conservation.



Environmental Education

NCI seeks to develop an environmental ethic within society through programs for children, youth, and adults.

In southern Ecuador, our public outreach effort includes publication of a weekly full page in the leading regional newspaper, and workshops that reach rural populations in many areas. Our environmental education programs teach children from the first to twelfth grades, and we organize annual Science and Technology fairs and Encounters for Creativity (pictured above), which have reached 200,000 students in both southern Ecuador and northern Peru.



NCI is also active locally, with training programs and a campaign for the recycling of batteries with the Ecoclubs of Loja, and programs on fire prevention and adequate use of water with the Podocarpus National Park and Zoological Gardens of Loja.



In 2006, NCI helped to launch CANATURA, a group that emphasizes youth education in northern Peru, where environmental education programs are almost completely absent. Chapters have now been established in Iquitos, Moyobamba and Chicalyo. Our joint vision is to empower local populations with knowledge about their environment, and foster their greater care and involvement in, environmental issues. CANATURA works to:

- ? involve and educate high school and college students in nature conservation;
- ? elaborate and carry out environmental education programs, mainly outdoors; and
- ? participate in, and lead, environmental campaigns.



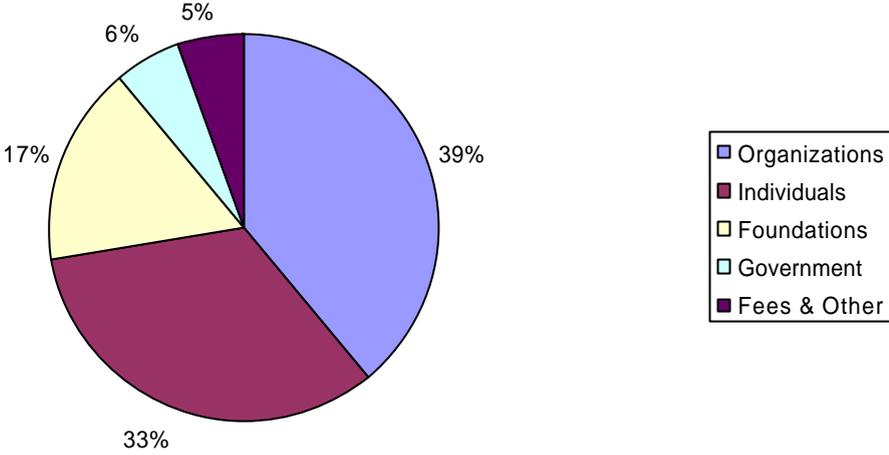
Through the Jim Clements Conservation Fund, CANATURA held the first Festival for Amazonian Biodiversity and the Festival of the Iquitos Gnatcatcher that reached over a thousand people and took over 500 students on trips to the rainforests around Iquitos (photo). In Piura NCI implements the Children Land Program, that seeks to involve children in the management of their natural environment, developing in the process a sense of value and commitment to the natural world.

Finances and Administration

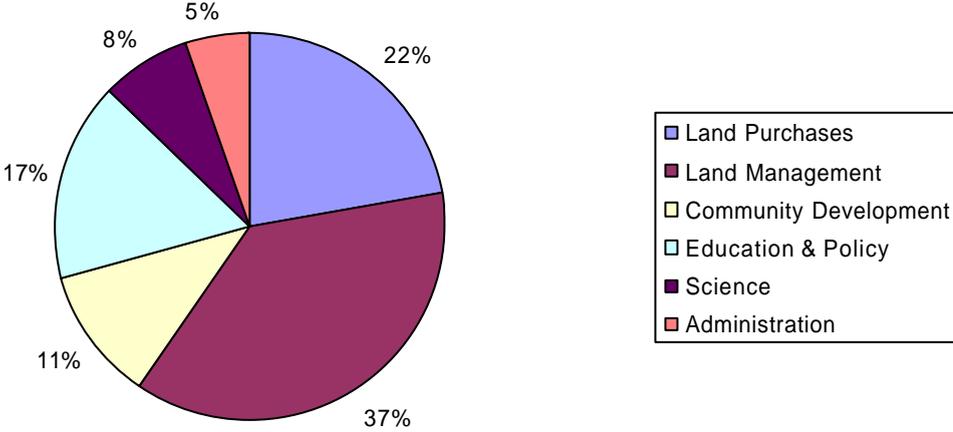
Overall, our 2006 revenues were \$2,987,857 and costs were \$2,535,558 (expenses plus land and asset purchases). We are proud that over 95% of all costs was spent within our project countries, building capacity where it is needed most

NATURE AND CULTURE INTERNATIONAL Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2006 (unaudited)		NATURE AND CULTURE INTERNATIONAL Statement of Activities For the year ended December 31, 2006 (unaudited)	
ASSETS		REVENUES	
CURRENT ASSETS		Grants & Contributions	\$ 2,806,271
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,019,918	Fees	148,859
Grant receivables	36,213	Other	19,635
Prepaid expenses	<u>3,670</u>	Interest	<u>13,092</u>
Total current assets	1,059,801	Total revenues	<u>\$ 2,987,857</u>
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT, at cost		EXPENSES	
Land	\$1,294,688	Project grants	712,178
Building & improvements	226,242	Salaries & related benefits	713,855
Furniture and equipment	42,695	Travel	117,192
Vehicles	164,605	Supplies	135,043
Less accum. depreciation	<u>(100,126)</u>	Consultants	142,796
Total property & equipment	<u>1,628,104</u>	Auto	56,868
Total assets	<u>\$2,687,905</u>	Publications	19,461
		Outside services	11,089
		Depreciation	34,499
		Other direct costs	<u>89,478</u>
		Total expenses	<u>2,032,459</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES		Land and buildings	503,499
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$ 14,880	Other	<u>248,301</u>
Deferred revenue – grants	<u>568,981</u>	Total change in net assets	<u>955,398</u>
Total current liabilities	583,861	NET ASSETS AT Jan. 1, 2006	<u>1,148,646</u>
NET ASSETS		NET ASSETS AT Dec. 31, 2006	<u>\$ 2,104,044</u>
CY change in net assets	955,398		
Unrestricted	575,844		
Temporarily restricted	122,802		
Permanently restricted	<u>450,000</u>		
Total net assets	<u>2,104,044</u>		
Total liabilities & net assets	<u>\$2,687,905</u>		

NCI 2006 Income Sources



NCI 2006 Cost Categories



Board and Officers

Ivan Gayler, Chair, President, Del Mar Partnership; Board member and past President, San Diego Museum of Man

David Welborn, Vice-Chair, Director, Hunter Industries; San Diego Fdn. Environmental Working Group

Carol Hertzberg, Artist, Conservationist

Richard Hertzberg, President, ENPEX Corporation; Board Member, UCSD Fdn.

David Neil, PhD, Missouri Botanical Garden; Founder, National Herbarium of Ecuador

Dr. Norman Roberts, Author, Conservationist; Trustee Emeritus, San Diego Natural History Museum,

Doug Sheres, Partner, Rice Hall James & Associates; Former Mayor, Solana Beach

Ann Hunter Welborn, Director, Hunter Industries; Board Member, Nat'l Envir. Trust

David J. Winkler, CEO, Del Mar Partnership; Chair, Whittier Institute of Diabetes

In Memoriam, **James Clements**, Author, Conservationist (1927-2005)

Byron Swift, President

Renzo Paladines, Vice-President and Director, NCI-Ecuador

Rainer Bussmann, Vice-President and Scientific Director

Sara Dozier, Chief Financial Officer

Donors and Major Projects

We wish to thank the following donors, whose generous support has been essential to carrying out our conservation activities:

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, *Conserving the Montane Forests of N. Peru* (\$1.7 million*); and *Regional Conservation System for Loreto, Peru* (\$345,000)

United Kingdom Lottery Foundation *Integrated Development of La Ceiba-Pilares area* (\$1 million*, via Birdlife)

Birdlife International, *DarwinNet* (\$350,000*); British BirdWatching Fair (\$82,000*)

European Union, *Conservation and propagation of local fruits* (\$300,000*)

Belgium Forestry Fund, *Tropical dry forest conservation* (\$150,000)

Environmental Resources Trust, *Ecosystem Services in southern Ecuador* (\$90,000)

Global Environmental Fund /The Mountain Institute, *Andean Paramos Project* (\$325,000*)

Netherlands Committee for IUCN, *Tropical dry forest land purchase* (\$80,000)

Heifer Project International, *Improving productive capacity around La Ceiba* (\$60,000)

Overbrook Foundation, *Land purchases of critical areas of cloud forest* (\$20,000)

DLA Piper (donated legal services)

Del Mar Partnership (donated space and accounting services)

Groovy bits (donated internet services)

Many generous individual donors.

* Multiyear grant

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NCI Senior Staff

Byron Swift, President has worked with local partners throughout Latin America over two decades to improve land and resource conservation and environmental policy. An environmental lawyer, Byron is expert in private lands conservation and published widely on biodiversity, industrial pollution and climate change. He has directed the energy program at Envir. Law Institute (1994-2004) and the US office of IUCN - World Conservation Union (1998-2004), and served as a private foundation officer.

Renzo Paladines, Director of NCI-Ecuador has led NCI's program in Ecuador since 1996. Renzo has broad experience in conservation, served as Coordinator of the United Nations Geo-Loja report, and was President of Regional Council of the Catamayo-Chira river basin in 2003. He has recently received the Podocarpus Award of Loja's Provincial Council for his efforts in conservation and environmental management. He has a masters degree in Zootechnics from the People's Friendship University, Moscow.

Luis Alban, Director of NCI-Peru initiated NCI's Peru office in 2003. He is a Biologist (Univ. Ricardo Palma of Lima), with twelve years experience in projects of conservation and development, especially relating to forest genetic resources. Luis served as scientific director for reforestation at the Univ. of Piura (1994-2004), President of the Regional Environmental Commission of Piura (2002-2004), Coordinator of the Piura working group on paramos (2001-2004).

Freddy Aponte, Social Communicator is a lawyer and one of the most influential journalists in southern Ecuador, where he has worked for over 20 years. He writes analyses of political and civic subjects, fighting corruption and in defense of nature. He has worked for NCI in this position since 2004.

Eduardo Cueva, Forester, has studied and published on the native fruits of the south Ecuador, the growth of the forest species and seeds, and reforestation. Postgraduate work at the National Herbarium of Ecuador in Quito; Doctorate studies completed at the University of Bayreuth, Germany.

Galo Carrillo, Education Coordinator, has trained a generation of environmental activists in southern Ecuador, where he has taught high school since 1970. He works for NCI to implement the national and binational Science Fairs, Encounters of Children's Creativity and Loja EcoClubs. Degree in Education.

Priscila Dávila, Head of Finance, has worked at NCI since 2000. Previously she was head of control for the Banco de Loja (1999-2000) and credit officer at Banco del Austro. Doctorate in accounting.

Jeremy Flanagan, Science Director, NCI-Peru and of the DarwinNet initiative. Author of numerous scientific articles, especially on endangered birds. Science coordinator of ArcoIris (1995-1998), and founded ProAves Peru (1999-2004). Masters degree in Envir. Management from DeMonfort Univ., UK.

Oswaldo Mora, Engineer, coordinates NCI programs on environmental services and with indigenous communities. Oswaldo previously served as Chief of Planning for the Municipality of Zamora, Director of Fundación Podocarpus, and technical director of a major Inter-American Development Bank project.

Bruno Paladines, Ecologist, directs NCI's programs for community development in southern Ecuador, working on both social and environmental aspects, and directs NCI's largest project at La Ceiba-Pilares in the dry forests of Zapotillo. Degree in Ecology, University of Brussels, Belgium.

Pedro Paladines, Administrator, San Francisco Scientific Station. Degree in Environmental Management, Technical Univ. of Loja, and postgraduate studies in Peoples Friendship Univ., Moscow.

Trotsky Riera, Coordinator of NCI Zamora office. Environmental Engineer, with thesis conducted at NCI's San Francisco station; Professor, Loja Technical University and specialist in habitat restoration.

Fabián Rodas, Biologist, is a regional coordinator of DarwinNet, and the Laipuna reserve. He has published on bird conservation and on the use of GIS for protected areas, and served as a University professor (2000-2002). Post-graduate degree is in Population Ecology, Univ. of Costa Rica.

Felipe Serrano, Coordinator of the Biosur project, of community programs at Colambo-Yacuri, and the Biosphere Reserve program. Masters in Management of Tropical Biodiversity, San Pablo University, Spain. University teacher (1999 - 2002). Founder of the Azuay Herbarium and president of Funbotánica.

Bolívar Tello, Forester, is Coordinator of the La Ceiba Natural Reserve, and heads the Zapotillo office for the La Ceiba-Pilares binational project. A specialist in conservation and community development, Bolivar is Charter member of ArcoIris foundation. Forestry engineer, National University of Loja.