

Are our efforts enough to protect one of the most biodiverse places on earth?

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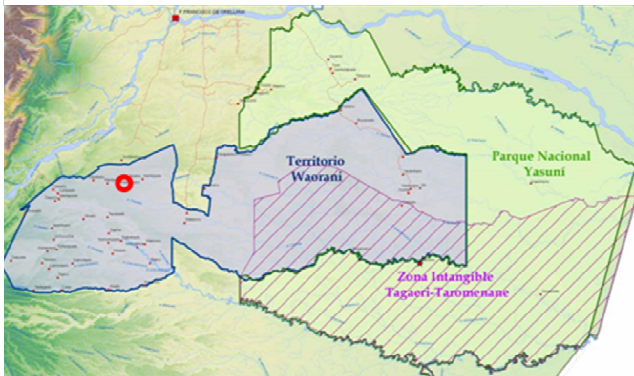
About the study area

The Yasuní National Park (YNP)

- Ecuador's only National Park, created in 1979
- UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserve** (9820 km²) since 1989
- Geography:** intersection of the Amazon, the Andes mountains and the equator; **climate:** moist tropical forest conditions
- Biodiversity:** biodiversity hotspot: e.g. over 600 tree species per hectare; 43 endemic vertebrate species; 15 Near Threatened vertebrate species
- Threats:** human activities including logging, oil drilling, habitat fragmentation and deforestation due to road construction, pollution

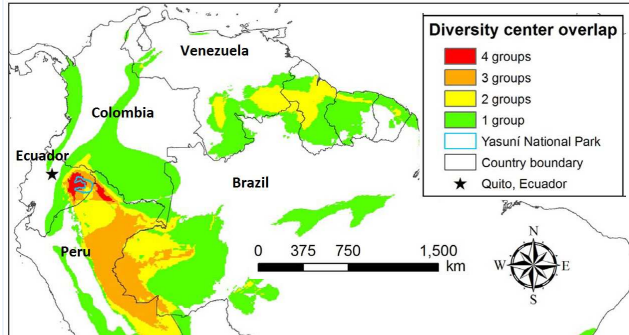
The Zona Intangible (ZI)

- Reserve for the protection of the Tagaeri & Taromenane (indigenous population) within the YNP
- No kind of extraction (timber, oil, etc.) allowed



Yasuní National Park and Zona Intangible²

The two study areas.

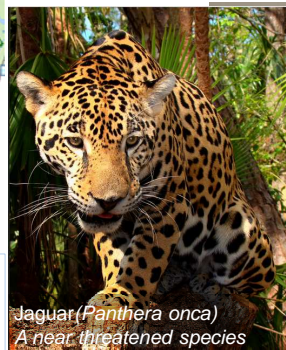


Biodiversity in the Yasuní National Park¹

Overlapping richness centers of the groups mammals, amphibians, birds and vascular plants

Current state of research

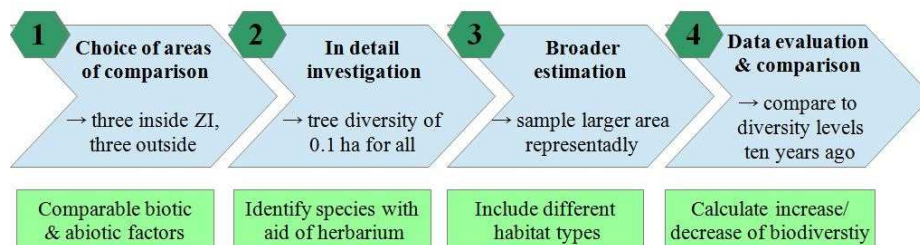
- Biodiversity of the YNP quite well assessed (mainly α -diversity) - especially for mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and vascular plants
- So far: no studies about the role of the ZI for biodiversity conservation and no comparison of biodiversity richness of the YNP and ZI



Amazon Rainforest

Jaguar (*Panthera onca*)
A near threatened species

Methods and trial design



Is there a difference in biodiversity richness between the ZI and the YNP? Is a National Park enough protection?

Sources:

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World Rainforest Movement [WRM] (2013). Ecuador: The Tagaeri Taromenane Intangible Zone in Yasuní Park. Posted on Oct 2, 2013. <http://www.wrm.org.uy/articles-from-the-wrm-bulletin/section1/ecuador-the-tagaeri-taromenane-intangible-zone-in-yasuni-park/> (last accessed: Jul 11, 2016).

¹modified according to Bass et al. (2010). Global conservation Significance of Ecuador's Yasuní National Park. *PLoS ONE*, January 2010 (5).

²http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_8hXy10kltwQ/TGcfy69syAI/AAAAAAAAABQA/zVIGL-sQ6h4/s1600/Keweriono+amd+Wao+Ter+map.png (last accessed: Jul 13, 2016).

Picture on the right: https://pixabay.com/static/uploads/photo/2014/10/13/01/52/amazon-486353_960_720.jpg (last accessed: Jul 25, 2016).

Picture on the left: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/21/Junior-Jaguar-Belize-Zoo.jpg> (last accessed: Jul 25, 2016).