

Annual Report 2020



Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo (*Neomorphus geoffroyi*), Pocosol, Children's Eternal Rainforest. Photo: Fabio Araya

Monteverde Conservation League
Children's Eternal Rainforest



BOSQUE ETERNO
DE LOS NIÑOS
CHILDREN'S ETERNAL
RAINFOREST

**AGENDA FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
MONTEVERDE CONSERVATION LEAGUE**

March 20, 2021; Virtual Assembly via the Zoom platform

- 8:00 a.m. First roll call, Extraordinary Assembly
- 8:30 a.m. Second roll call for Extraordinary Assembly, confirmation of quorum
- 8:31 a.m. Moment of silence, approve agenda
- 8:32 a.m. Resignation of Vicepresident and Vocal 2
- 8:35 a.m. Election of **Vicepresident** for the period April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022
- 8:40 a.m. Election of **Vocal 2** for the period April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022
- 8:45 a.m. Election of notary, motion to formalize the agreements taken during the assembly, motion to formalize the minutes, Closing of Extraordinary Assembly

**AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
MONTEVERDE CONSERVATION LEAGUE**

March 20, 2021; Virtual Assembly via the Zoom platform

- 9:00 a.m. First roll call, Ordinary General Assembly
- 9:30 a.m. Second roll call for Ordinary General Assembly, confirmation of quorum
- 9:31 a.m. Moment of silence, welcome to Ordinary General Assembly
- 9:35 a.m. Approval of agenda for Ordinary General Assembly
- 9:40 a.m. President's report
- 9:50 a.m. Treasurer's report
- 10:00 a.m. Fiscal reports
- 10:10 a.m. Executive Director's report
- 10:40 a.m. Questions and Answers
- 11:00 a.m. Motion to approve President's and Treasurer's reports
- 11:05 a.m. Nominating Committee Report
- 11:15 a.m. Election of Board of Directors and Fiscal
 - Election of **President** for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
 - Election of **Secretary** for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
 - Election of **Vocal 1** for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
 - Election of **Vocal 3** for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
 - Election of **Fiscal 1** for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
- 11:45 a.m. Election of Nominating Committee
- 11:55 a.m. Other topics
- 12:00 p.m. Election of notary, motion to formalize the agreements taken during the assembly, motion to formalize the minutes

Contents

Introduction 4

Reports from the Board of Directors

President’s Report 5

Treasurer’s Report 8

Report from Fiscal 1..... 9

Report from Fiscal 2..... 9

Executive Report

Financial Reports 10

Visitation..... 16

Reforestation 18

Environmental Education..... 20

Control and Protection 21

Maintenance..... 23

Payment for Environmental Services 25

Legal Affairs 30

Research..... 33

Interns 33

Nominating Committee Report 34

List of Members 35

Organizational Structure 37

Donations 38

Community Partners 41

In Memory 42

Monteverde Conservation League
Children’s Eternal Rainforest
 Apartado 124-5655, Santa Elena de Monteverde
 Puntarenas, Costa Rica
 Tel: (+506) 4001-4866 / 2645-5200
www.childrenseternalrainforest.org
 Email: info@acmcr.org



Introduction

Monteverde, Puntarenas
March 17, 2021

A little over a year ago, I started thinking about how we might celebrate the Monteverde Conservation League's 35th anniversary in 2021. Who could have anticipated the strange turn that 2020 would take? I don't know what the founders of the MCL would have predicted for February 8, 2021, but I am pretty sure it wasn't a global pandemic. The in-person anniversary celebration will have to wait – along with so many other things. COVID-19 has changed many aspects of our daily lives, and for those of us who work in conservation, it has also brought new challenges related to operations, protection, finances, and long-term economic sustainability.

And yet here we are. Resilience in the face of adversity has defined this organization for the past 35 years, and will continue to define it for decades to come. Against a backdrop of financial uncertainty, the MCL not only survived 2020 but also managed to log a number of important achievements, helping ensure the ongoing conservation of the Children's Eternal Rainforest ("BEN").

In 2020 we launched our most ambitious and successful fundraising campaign in recent history, raising more than \$200,000 via the Amigos of Costa Rica crowdfunding platform, in addition to numerous other donations from individuals and partner organizations. Our heartfelt thanks to each and every person who contributed to the success of this campaign, whether in money, volunteer time, moral support or otherwise. In 2020 we also completed the purchase of a 102-hectare property near Monteverde, securing this land for conservation in perpetuity. We participated in research and supervised local high school interns. With help from key allies, we produced a promotional video about the BEN. We took steps to promote safe tourism, including participation in the Safe Travels seal, the Costa Rican government's "Vamos a Turistear" program, and continued participation in the "Código de Conducta" program. Once again, we received the Ecological Blue Flag award with 5 stars in the natural protected areas category. And, most of all, we continued with daily operations and efforts required to ensure the protection of this unique forest and its incredible biodiversity.

For all this and more, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to our staff, who have once again demonstrated flexibility, dedication, and solidarity. Each and every member of our team has adapted to new responsibilities and learned new skills over the past year. Looking over the list of employees, there is literally not one person who escaped having to carry out "extraordinary" duties.



It is thanks to our dedicated and resilient staff – as well as our committed board of directors, an impressive list of members and allies, literally hundreds of individual supporters, and a lot of luck – that we look to the future with the sense of hope that has characterized the MCL for so many years now. Here's to the next 35 years... and an eternity more after that.

Lindsay Stallcup
Executive Director

Reports from the Board of Directors

President's Report

Since last year's Assembly, the board of directors has met once a month, or thirteen times. For several years the board had wanted to find a stable platform for online meetings since meetings in person require a long journey for some board members. The pandemic obliged us to resolve this challenge quickly, and thanks to Zoom we were able to conduct all but our first meeting online and without problem. In fact, meeting this way is more convenient in various respects, so it is likely that many board meetings will take place in this fashion even once the pandemic has subsided.

The main and unexpected issue for the organization and for the board this year was of course how to deal with the impact, especially financial, of the COVID-19 pandemic. The response was a fundraising campaign, on several fronts, that led to more than \$355,000 in donations over the last fiscal period - much more than in any other recent year and primarily earmarked to compensate for the crisis. In conjunction with the fundraising campaign, there were a number of cuts in spending (detailed in the executive director's report), of which the most important were the reduction of working hours for all staff for about 9 months, and the elimination of 6 positions at the beginning of August.

Thanks to these measures, fundraising, and the fact that (for now) environmental service payments were not affected by the pandemic, MCL managed to reinstate full working hours for all staff starting February 1st, and expects to be able to maintain full working hours throughout the coming year, as well as to re-hire at least some of the positions that were cut. Under the circumstances, and considering the certainty that economic fallout from the pandemic will continue to affect us strongly over the coming year and beyond, we consider our current situation to be a major achievement.

I would like to acknowledge some of the organizations and hundreds of individuals who have supported MCL this year. First, we thank all of the MCL staff, who have faced the very difficult circumstance of spending so many months with incomplete work hours; we will continue to strive to prevent this from happening again.

In May, we kicked off an online fundraising campaign via a platform managed by Amigos of Costa Rica, with the declared goal of raising \$200,000. Thanks to the collaboration of almost 500 donors, we reached that goal in February of this year. Many thanks to our director Lindsay Stallcup, and at Amigos of Costa Rica, Emily Arnold, for coordinating this campaign. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all of the individuals who donated (listed at the end of this annual report) as well as to all those who helped to spread the word.

Aside from the crowd-funding campaign, this year we also received important donations from several organizations. The largest, \$50,000, came from the Cotyledon Fund and we are profoundly grateful to its executive director, Pieter Bohlen, for his instrumental role in granting us this critical support. \$25,000 came from the Alex C. Walker Foundation, and for that we thank in particular Barrett and Tom Walker. This foundation funded part of the construction of the San Gerardo field station almost 30 years ago, but it wasn't until this year that MCL was able to reconnect with its directors, thanks to a mutual friend, Ron Carroll of the



One unique example of "spreading the word": Bruce Young inspired about \$8,000 in donations (as well as a promotional video), in part by cycling a 3-day, more than 400 km loop between Escazú and all of the BEN's public visitation sectors.

University of Georgia. And our long-time supporting organization in Germany, Kinderregenwald Deutschland, made contributions totaling more than \$20,000 this year. The funds from all three organizations were earmarked specifically to counteract the economic impact of the pandemic.

Another source of support for MCL this year was, once again, Engage Globally, whose donors contributed \$5,500 (as well as a \$9,000 grant for the environmental education department that was documented in last year's annual report but not used until this year). Half way through the year, Engage and MCL agreed to end our partnership because MCL wanted to focus its efforts on the Amigos of Costa Rica campaign and the creation of a new 501(c)(3) platform in the U.S. (see below). We owe Engage Globally and particularly its executive director, Heather Heckel, a mountain of gratitude for invaluable support over the last few years.

Friends of the Rainforest made three important donations this year: two grants of about \$11,000 each to help cover guard salaries; and another of a little over \$40,000 for a totally different cause - completing the purchase of a property belonging to César Santamaría. The purchase of this property - of about 103 hectares and located in Rancho Alegre (behind Selvatura) - started in 2006, but the outstanding amount of \$20,000 had been withheld pending fulfillment of the agreement that the land would be handed over with full title deeds. This condition was never met, but the board decided that at this point the risks of not finalizing the sale outweighed those of not having full title. The MCL will seek to obtain legal title for this property in the future. MCL's current policy towards donations for land purchase and protection is to divide the funds in 50% for the purchase, 40% for protection and maintenance costs, and 10% for the endowment fund; the \$40,000 grant from Friends was divided in this way.

And finally, we are profoundly grateful to Marc and Lynne Benioff for their donation of \$25,000 to the endowment fund, in honor of Lir McCauley (and through Friends of the Rainforest). Beyond the need to compensate for the economic impact of the pandemic, our top fundraising priority is still to build the endowment fund. It is the clearest path towards greater long-term financial stability for the organization, as has been explained in previous annual reports. Our endowment fund (together with funds from the sale of the old office building which are managed the same way) now totals about \$640,000.

This year, many board members have donated their time not only to participate in the regular board meetings and to help with the fundraising campaign, but also to move forward some other initiatives. One project has been to identify and work with a group of skilled volunteers based in the U.S. with the goal of forming a new 501(c)(3) organization, which is to say a non-profit organization with tax-deductible status in the U.S. For their participation in this process, and also for their help in different ways with our fundraising campaign, we are grateful to Amanda Rugenski, Matt Moran, Ron Carroll, Laurie Fowler, Leslie Burlingame, Francis Joyce, Sharon Kinsman, Pieter Bohlen, Tom Newmark, and Bob Howe.

Many board members have participated in a reactivated Research Committee, the main achievement of which has been the creation of updated species lists for each of the four visitation sectors in the BEN (Bajo del Tigre, San Gerardo, Pocosol, and Finca Steller). To date we have drawn up lists for mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and damselflies/dragonflies, as well as a more complete description of the life zones represented in the BEN and at each site. We expect to publish this information soon on the MCL website, where visitors will be able to use it for reference and contribute additional data. We thank Bill Haber for providing the Odonata list, and Matt Moran and Ron Carroll for productive discussions about potential avenues for research in the BEN in the near future.

One of the board's fundamental responsibilities is to hire and evaluate the executive director. Lindsay Stallcup has made that task very easy. Even though, of course, MCL still faces many

challenges, its relative well-being in a moment of crisis is due primarily to her extraordinary leadership. For this reason, the board recently decided to renew her contract for three more years.

What are some of the challenges anticipated for MCL and the board for this year and beyond? First, always, comes financial sustainability because everything else depends on that. Although we have now managed to compensate for the immediate effects of the pandemic, we can anticipate longer term impact from a sharp decline (already announced by the government) in environmental service payment contracts, which are currently our main source of income. See Yúber Rodríguez's report for more details on this issue. We should thus start preparing now to cover the deficit this is likely to cause from 2022 on.

To that end, we need to improve our capacity to be more proactive in communicating with potential donors - both individuals and granting organizations. We were about to create a new position to help with this task when the pandemic started; hopefully we can make this investment soon. The new fundraising platform in the U.S. is part of that goal also. Identifying and promoting opportunities for scientific research in the BEN is a goal unto itself, but also one that can fund some of MCL's needs and make it more sustainable in several respects. Emily Hollenbeck, nominee for president in this assembly, has a lot of interest and experience in this field.

We also need to keep working to increase the use of our stations and trails, especially since once, hopefully, the dangers of the pandemic have subsided, we can anticipate a strong rebound in visitation. It would seem that in Pocosol the wildlife already received that memo. A few weeks ago, a group of Rufous-vented Ground Cuckoos (*Neomorphus geoffroyi*) appeared close to the station, where they put on a show that lasted several days. Since this is one of the hardest birds to see in all of the Neotropics, big, striking and unique in both plumage color and ecology, it is one of the most sought-after species by birdwatchers. On the other hand, a high percentage of birding guides and other nature enthusiasts in Costa Rica are currently unemployed. The result was that, despite the pandemic, Pocosol reached its maximum trail visitation capacity several days running for the first time in its history, and there was even a queue to get in. No publicity or promotional package invented by us could equal the impact of this cuckoo ambassador, who managed to get a ton of people who work with groups of ecotourists to discover, many for the first time, the unique beauty and biodiversity of Pocosol. There is no doubt that some of these visitors will return with their groups (some already have) and thus contribute to the protection of the habitat of this cuckoo and the thousands of other species that live in the BEN.



Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo, Pocosol. Photo: Fabio Araya.

Combining a strategic and philosophical vision from the board with the administrative component from the director and department heads, these and other ideas need to be detailed to the degree possible in the form of updated and more complete strategic and management plans. With a dedicated board, with Lindsay at the administrative wheel, with staff as capable and dedicated as those we have now, with the support of so many people in so many ways as we have received this year, and with the help of the cuckoo, there is much light at the end of this tunnel.

Mark Wainwright
President

Treasurer's Report

March 2020 is a month that will always remain in our memories. It was the beginning of the pandemic, and COVID-19 had reached Costa Rica, and with it a series of changes that put the MCL economic stability at risk. Since then, we have faced the crisis with great caution, creativity, and deep consideration of the staff of our organization.

By March 2020 the outlook was bleak and uncertain. Costa Rica's economy contracted, tourism had collapsed, and doubts arose about the government's ability to continue with its payment for environmental services (PES) program, the latter two factors being fundamental to the organization's income. Hence, we decided to make drastic decisions and implement strategies to keep the organization afloat, also knowing that the crisis would most likely continue until after 2021. Given the probability of zero income from visitation throughout 2020, little income from tourism in 2021, and the possibility of a reduction in income from PES, we implemented the following contingency measures:

1. Expense reduction across all departments of the organization
2. Reduction of working hours for all staff
3. Elimination of several staff positions
4. Suspension of maintenance projects
5. Implementation of protocols
6. Renewal of strategies for changes in the tourism market

It is important to highlight that all these measures, especially those that had to do with the staff of the MCL, were discussed openly and clearly by the board, the executive director, and with each of the employees, in order to make decisions with the greatest possible solidarity.

Apart from these measures, we decided to launch an ambitious fundraising campaign. We were entirely unsure of how the fundraising campaign would go. Thanks to the efforts of the organization and the support of many donors, the campaign turned out to be an overwhelming success, and we were able to create a COVID-19 Contingency Fund, an economic cushion that will help our organization survive a crisis that is far from over.

Currently we can say that, although the outlook remains somber, the measures implemented in 2020 have helped to create a remainder in our finances that will help us survive the 2021 fiscal period, for which we are projecting a deficit of ¢80,589,648 colones. We will continue applying measures that will allow us to continue our work over the long term.

Although today we can sleep with relative peace of mind, the pandemic clearly highlighted the fragility of tourism as a source of income for conservation, and the need to seek new alternatives to secure and manage resources for their sustainable use over time.

Orlando Calvo Carballo

Treasurer

Report from Fiscal I

My report deals with the functioning of the organization with respect to the following obligations:

Costa Rica Social Security (“CCSS”)

Regarding the obligation of the MCL with respect to the Costa Rican Social Security system, a March 2021 report employer status report was requested and indicates that we are up to date.

National Insurance Institute (“INS”)

Regarding worker risk insurance, which is paid semi-annually, we are up to date. We are also up to date with our civil liability insurance policy for the visitation centers.

Accounting

Salaries are adjusted to ensure compliance with the minimum wages published annually by the Ministry of Labor. As a nonprofit association, the MCL does not pay corporate taxes. The MCL has maintained its tax-exempt status as an organization with “Utilidad Pública”.

Legal affairs

At present, there are several pending legal cases, but I will not refer to them here as they are addressed in the report of the Legal Affairs Committee, below.

Thank you,

Dr. Julia Matamoros Alvarado

Fiscal I

Report from Fiscal II

Good morning to all,

As Fiscal II, I wish to present my report on the activities of the Board of Directors and the Administration during the period from October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020.

On February 8, 2020, the MCL held two assemblies: an extraordinary assembly and an ordinary general assembly. The extraordinary assembly was held in order to make modifications to the association's bylaws. Modifications of articles 7, 8, 11, 19, 20, 29, 32, 40 and transitory I and II were approved by the MCL Assembly and sent to the National Registry of Associations. The Registry approved most of the proposed changes, except for Articles 7 and 8.

The Board of Directors met 12 times during 2020, nearly all virtually due to the global situation of the Coronavirus pandemic. The minutes of the general assembly and the minutes of the Board have had final approval and are registered with the government.

As Fiscal II, I have not received any requests or complaints from members regarding the Board of Directors or the Administration, nor have I observed any activity of the Board or Administration that could be considered illegal.

Jorge Maroto Puga

Fiscal II

Financial Reports

In a typical year, our operating budget is covered by Payment for Environmental Services (PES, about 50%), sales related to visitation (entrances to stations and trails, lodging, souvenir sales, about 40%), general donations, and other sales. Our main expense is payroll (about 60%), followed by cost of sales (just under 15% in 2018-2019), operating, administrative, and maintenance costs.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, it was unclear how we would cover our operating budget for the rest of the year. While the beginning of the fiscal year had gone according to plan, we were projecting near-zero visitation for the remainder of 2020 and seriously reduced visitation into 2021. In addition, there was some uncertainty as to whether we would receive the predicted income from the Costa Rican government's PES program. The government is bound by contracts with the MCL (see PES section, below), but as the country was in a state of national emergency, we feared that payments might be suspended or delayed. Furthermore, given the economic impacts of the pandemic on an international scale, we were also uncertain if we would receive the same level of general donations as in years past.

Even assuming full income from PES, without any income from visitation or donations, and with all staff at full time, we were facing a projected funding gap of more than 120 million colones (about \$200,000) for the 2019-2020 period. In response, we immediately implemented a series of cost-cutting measures, restricting spending in all departments and programs and suspending planned maintenance projects. We reduced staff time to about 50% across the board beginning in April 2020, and eventually made the difficult decision to eliminate six staff positions. Even with these measures, we still faced a projected deficit of about 40 million colones (just under \$70,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. In an effort to cover this significant shortfall, and to help us survive into 2021, we launched an ambitious fundraising campaign with the goal of raising \$200,000.

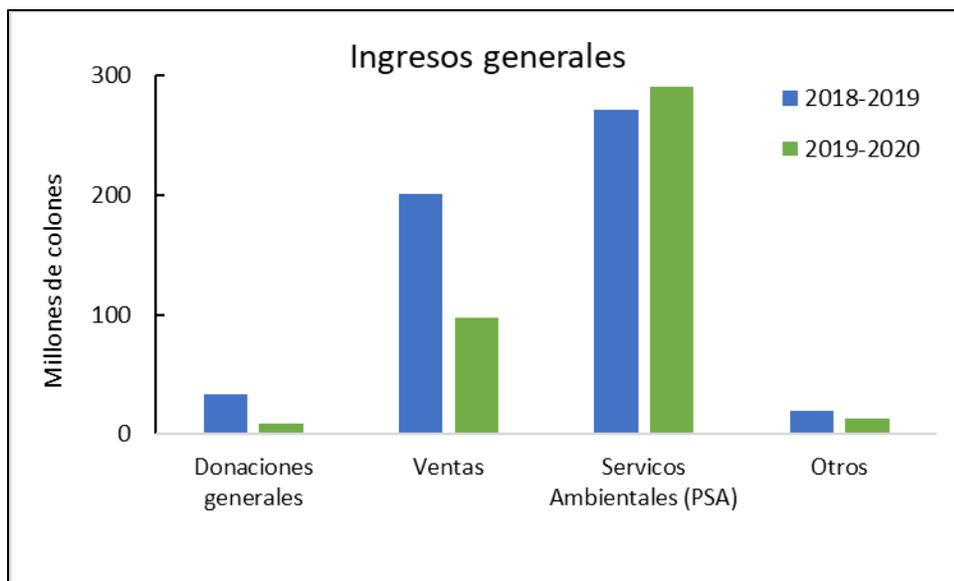
After a year of hard work, and a very successful fundraising campaign with support from hundreds of generous individual donors and multiple international partner organizations, our current situation is much more stable. The funds raised, combined with the savings achieved via cost-cutting measures, mean that we now have sufficient funds to return all existing staff to 100% time as of February 2021, restore several of the positions that were eliminated in 2020, and resume projects that were suspended.

We were also able to create a modest contingency fund, which had just under 180 million colones at the end of the fiscal period. This fund will help us to cover the projected deficit for 2021 (about 80 million colones, or \$133,000; Table 1) as well as meet future challenges. The MCL did not previously have a contingency fund to help us survive in a time of crisis. This fund is important now, since it is clear that visitation (and related income) will not rebound immediately, particularly in the case of international study abroad groups, a major client base for the MCL's field stations and trails. The contingency fund will also give us a buffer as we seek new funding sources and ascertain how the Costa Rican government's PES program will respond in the face of potentially reduced funding beginning in 2021. (At the end of the day, PES payments in 2020 were not adversely affected by the pandemic, but there is uncertainty as to the amount of funding available for new PES contracts beginning in 2021).

In the following pages we present the 2019-2020 financial results, as well as budget projections for 2021 (Tables 1, 2, and 3). For the interpretation of the results from 2019-2020, it is important to remember that Costa Rican law stipulated a transition to a fiscal period based on the calendar year (Law on Strengthening Public Finance), so the period was 15 months, from October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020.

General income for 2019-2020 was substantially less than for the previous period, and distributed differently than in years past (Fig. 1). Income from visitation was less than half than for the 2018-2019 period, representing just under 24% of overall income (as opposed to about 40% in the previous year). Income from PES represented about 70% of overall income in 2019-2020, compared to about 47% in 2018-2019. Note that general donations are a small proportion of overall income in the financial results; the reason being that most donations from our successful fundraising efforts in 2020 were either channeled to the COVID contingency fund to be used as needed, or are registered as specific projects (as is the case for the grants from Cotyledon Fund, Alex C. Walker Foundation, and Friends of the Rainforest), so they are reflected in these restricted funds categories rather than in general donations.

Figure 1. General income by category, comparing the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 fiscal periods. *Donaciones generales* = unrestricted donations. *Ventas* = sales. *Servicios ambientales* = Payment for Environmental Services. *Otros* = other.



We are grateful to our accountant Jose Mora and accounting assistant Dunia Picado for, as well as to Jose Soto and Ignacio Picado who have risen to the challenge of supporting the accounting department in 2020 and 2021.

Table 1. Projected operational budget for the 2021 period (January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021). Amounts expressed in Costa Rican colones.

Asociación Conservacionista de Monteverde		
CEDULA JURIDICA 3-002-075864		
RESULTADOS INTEGRALES PROYECTADOS		
PERIODO 1 ENERO AL 31 DICIEMBRE 2021		
INGRESOS		
801-00-000	INGRESOS POR DONACIONES	-
803-00-000	VENTAS	- 67,446,200.90
810-00-000	INGRESOS POR SERVICIOS AMBIENTALES	- 178,921,250.00
820-00-000	OTRO INGRESOS	- 6,600,000.00
TOTAL INGRESOS		- 252,967,450.90
COSTOS Y GASTOS EN OPERACION		
903-00-000	COSTOS DE VENTAS	22,736,725.30
920-00-000	SALARIOS Y GASTOS RELACIONADOS	225,610,203.83
930-00-000	GASTOS OPERATIVOS	31,086,116.13
933-00-000	GASTOS MANTENIMIENTO	15,268,290.70
935-00-000	GASTOS GENERALES Y DE ADMINISTRACIÓN	24,097,627.38
950-00-000	GASTOS SERVICIOS PUBLICOS	2,244,000.00
TOTAL COSTOS Y GASTOS EN OPERACION		321,042,963.34
RESULTADOS EN OPERACIONES		68,075,512.44
OTROS GASTOS NO OPERATIVOS		
955-00-000	IMPUESTOS Y PATENTES	525,800.00
960-00-000	GASTOS FINANCIEROS	952,647.45
965-00-000	GASTOS POR DIFERENCIAL CAMBIARIO	-
970-00-000	DEPRECIACIÓN EDIFICIO	4,494,037.92
975-00-000	DEPRECIACION MAQUINARIA Y EQUIPO	6,541,650.36
990-00-000	AJUSTE A PERIODOS ANTERIORES	-
TOTAL OTROS GASTOS NO OPERATIVOS		12,514,135.73
DEFICIT DEL PERIODO		80,589,648.17

Table 2. Results from fiscal year 2019-2020 (October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020). Note: This period consisted of 15 months, due to the Law on Strengthening Public Finance which stipulated a transition to a fiscal period based on the calendar year. Amounts expressed in Costa Rican colones.

Asociacion Conservacionista de Monteverde		
Cédula Jurídica 3-002-075864		
ESTADO DE RESULTADOS INTEGRALES		
Periodo del 1ero de octubre del 2019 al 31 de diciembre del 2020		
Descripción	Acumulado	
	año actual	año anterior
INGRESOS		
801-00-000 INGRESOS POR DONACIONES	- 8,266,087.54	- 33,746,500.42
803-00-000 VENTAS	- 97,955,123.10	- 201,061,701.40
810-00-000 INGRESOS POR SERVICIOS AMBIENTALES	- 290,448,760.59	- 271,043,291.94
820-00-000 OTRO INGRESOS	- 12,586,739.70	- 19,497,434.61
TOTAL INGRESOS	- 409,256,710.93	- 525,348,928.37
COSTOS Y GASTOS EN OPERACION		
903-00-000 COSTOS DE VENTAS	29,168,746.95	59,515,275.51
920-00-000 SALARIOS Y GASTOS RELACIONADOS	213,967,676.37	287,237,860.56
930-00-000 GASTOS OPERATIVOS	36,721,500.23	49,638,345.67
933-00-000 GASTOS MANTENIMIENTO	12,795,723.08	13,679,719.39
935-00-000 GASTOS GENERALES Y DE ADMINISTRACIÓN	26,003,221.04	32,898,681.60
950-00-000 GASTOS SERVICIOS PUBLICOS	2,509,544.97	2,454,516.05
TOTAL COSTOS Y GASTOS EN OPERACION	321,166,412.64	445,424,398.78
RESULTADOS EN OPERACIONES	- 88,090,298.29	- 79,924,529.59
OTROS GASTOS NO OPERATIVOS		
955-00-000 IMPUESTOS Y PATENTES	520,264.49	86,292.60
960-00-000 GASTOS FINANCIEROS	3,612,196.96	2,378,986.91
965-00-000 GASTOS POR DIFERENCIAL CAMBIARIO	7,403,268.60	- 2,927,019.81
970-00-000 DEPRECIACIÓN EDIFICIO	5,612,799.92	6,640,806.99
975-00-000 DEPRECIACION MAQUINARIA Y EQUIPO	8,076,721.76	5,249,834.03
990-00-000 AJUSTE A PERIODOS ANTERIORES	- 12,745.00	- 12,745.00
TOTAL OTROS GASTOS NO OPERATIVOS	25,212,506.73	11,416,155.72
EXCEDENTE DEL PERIODO	- 62,877,791.56	- 68,508,373.87

Table 3. Balance, October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020. Note: This period consisted of 15 months, due to the Law on Strengthening Public Finance which stipulated a transition to a fiscal period based on the calendar year. Amounts expressed in Costa Rican colones.

Asociacion Conservacionista de Monteverde			
Cédula Jurídica 3-002-075864			
ESTADO DE SITUACION FINANCIERA			
Periodo terminado al 31 de diciembre del 2020			
ACTIVOS CORRIENTES		Dec-20	Dec-19
100-00-000	ACTIVOS	-	-
110-00-000	CAJA GENERAL	2,456,056.30	2,632,490.91
120-00-000	BANCOS	10,996,993.17	24,431,792.08
122-00-000	DEPOSITOS EN TRANSITO	-	454,955.80
125-00-000	FONDOS DE INVERSION	637,470,350.40	374,067,875.05
130-00-000	CUENTAS POR COBRAR	4,601,835.84	4,652,949.53
132-00-000	CUENTAS POR COBRAR COMERCIALES	1,680,990.89	6,907,972.27
145-00-000	ADELANTO A PROVEEDORES	264,000.00	264,000.00
150-00-000	INVENTARIOS GENERALES	9,625,763.98	9,314,928.14
170-00-000	GASTOS DIFERIDOS	1,685,903.17	1,838,101.83
180-00-000	DOCUMENTO POR COBRAR CORTO PLAZO	-	-
TOTAL ACTIVOS CORRIENTES		668,781,893.75	424,565,065.61
ACTIVOS NO CORRIENTES			
200-00-000	ACTIVOS FIJOS		
205-00-000	TERRENOS	762,118,008.29	749,848,608.29
206-00-000	REVALUACION DE TERRENOS	-	-
210-00-000	EDIFICIOS	220,306,177.18	223,989,773.23
215-00-000	DEPRECIACION EDIFICIO	- 165,710,041.89	- 161,217,190.84
220-00-000	MAQUINARIA MOBILIARIO Y EQUIPO	61,382,458.16	68,718,835.68
225-00-000	DEPRECIACION MAQUINARIA Y EQUIPO	- 45,004,863.65	- 47,073,854.62
250-00-000	OBRAS EN PROCESO	-	428,090.51
300-00-000	OTROS ACTIVOS	-	-
320-00-000	DEPOSITOS EN GARANTIA	204,233.00	204,233.00
330-00-000	DOCUMENTOS POR COBRAR LARGO PLAZO	-	-
350-00-000	GASTOS DE REORGANIZACION	-	-
370-00-000	INVERSIONES A LARGO PLAZO	-	58,185,631.55
TOTAL ACTIVOS NO CORRIENTES		833,295,971.09	893,084,126.80
TOTAL ACTIVOS		1,502,077,864.84	1,317,649,192.41

PASIVOS CORRIENTES			
400-00-000	PASIVO CIRCULANTE	-	-
401-00-000	SALARIO	-	-
405-00-000	COMERCIALES	- 23,542,428.60	- 23,478,973.03
410-00-000	INTERESES POR PAGAR	-	-
415-00-000	PREPAGO DE CLIENTES	- 22,341,302.43	- 26,512,859.90
420-00-000	DOCUMENTOS POR PAGAR CORTO PLAZO	- 196,730.00	- 196,730.00
430-00-000	RETENCIONES POR PAGAR	- 2,333,087.38	- 3,444,988.38
440-00-000	APORTE PATRONALES POR PAGAR	- 1,826,592.00	- 3,402,138.00
450-00-000	IMPUESTO POR PAGAR	- 6,149,806.46	- 2,340,394.44
460-00-000	PROVISIONES	- 18,885,089.89	- 23,043,595.65
470-00-000	FONDOS DE PROYECTOS	- 40,198,840.89	- 56,112,528.73
TOTAL PASIVOS CORRIENTES		- 115,473,877.65	- 138,532,208.13
PASIVOS NO CORRIENTES			
500-00-000	PASIVOS A LARGO PLAZO	-	-
510-00-000	DOCUMENTO POR PAGAR LARGO PLAZA	-	-
600-00-000	OTROS PASIVOS	-	-
610-00-000	FONDOS ESPECIFICOS	- 453,642,456.63	- 228,617,127.27
TOTAL PASIVOS NO CORRIENTES		- 453,642,456.63	- 228,617,127.27
TOTAL PASIVOS		- 569,116,334.28	- 367,149,335.40
PATRIMONIO			
700-00-000	PATRIMONIO	-	-
710-00-000	PATRIMONIO DONADOS	- 870,083,739.00	- 846,214,339.00
715-00-000	SUPERAVIT EN PERIODOS ANTERIORES	-	- 35,777,144.14
720-00-000	RESULTADOS DEL PERIODO	- 62,877,791.56	- 68,508,373.87
725-00-000	RESERVA LEGAL	-	-
730-00-000	RESULTADOS ACUMULADOS	-	-
740-00-000	SUPERAVIT POR REVALUACION	-	-
TOTAL PATRIMONIO		- 932,961,530.56	- 950,499,857.01
TOTAL PASIVO MAS PATRIMONIO		- 1,502,077,864.84	- 1,317,649,192.41

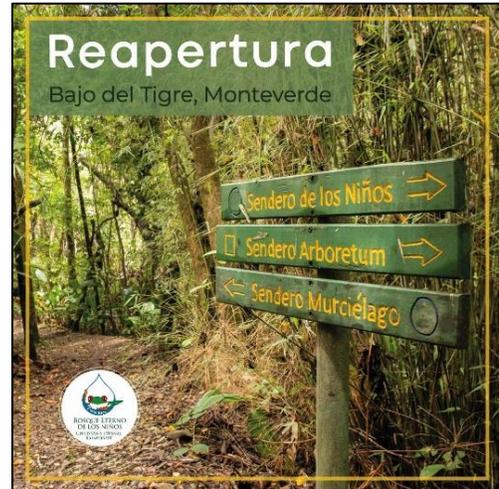
Visitation

For obvious reasons, visitation to the BEN was extraordinarily low in 2020. In Bajo del Tigre, we received a total of 3,617 visitors (compared to 9,493 in 2019; Fig. 2), the vast majority between January and March.

From April to August 2020, our visitation centers were completely closed by order of Costa Rica’s Ministry of Health. In August, we began to receive visitors at Bajo del Tigre, nearly all Costa Rican nationals and Monteverde residents. Pocosol opened its doors for trail use only in December, and from December 11 to 31 received 71 visitors, most of them Costa Rican nationals and local residents.

From April to December 2020, there was no visitation with lodging in Pocosol or San Gerardo. In other words, 100% of the bed-nights reported for these sectors was between January and March, resulting in very few bed-nights compared to previous years (Figs. 3 & 4).

For reasons of staff availability (related to the economic situation and consequent reduction in staff working hours), San Gerardo and Finca Steller remained closed to the public from April to December 2020, although in reality there was no demand for visitation to justify opening.



Flyer designed by Orlando Calvo promoting the reopening of Bajo del Tigre.

As of January 2021, **all of the BEN’s visitation centers (Bajo del Tigre, San Gerardo, Pocosol and Finca Steller) are open to the public.** Taking family, friends, tourists, and student groups to visit the BEN is one of the best ways to help reactivate ecotourism. In many cases, and *especially for lodging and meals*, prior reservations are necessary to guarantee staff availability.

Figure 2. Visitation at Bajo del Tigre from 2017 to 2020 (total visitors). *Entrada de día* = Daytime entry. *Caminata nocturna* = Night walk.

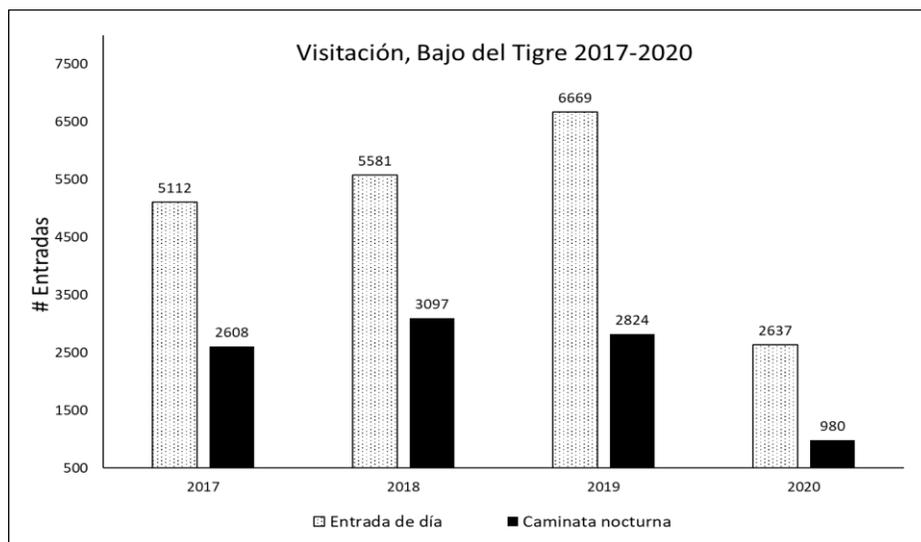


Figure 3. Pocosal Field Station, annual occupancy (bed-nights), 2015 to 2020. Note: Pocosal was closed from January 2017 to April 2018 for repairs, and from April to December 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

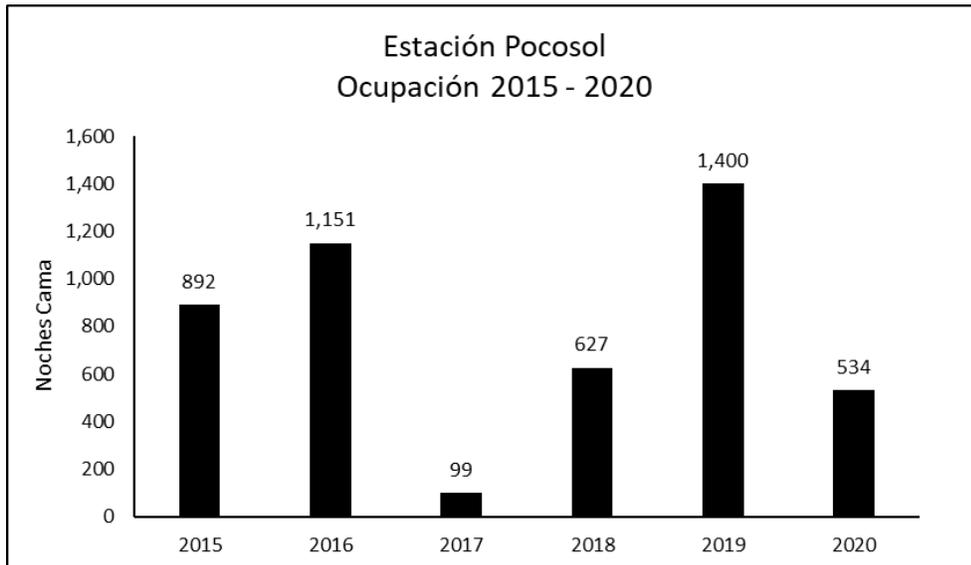
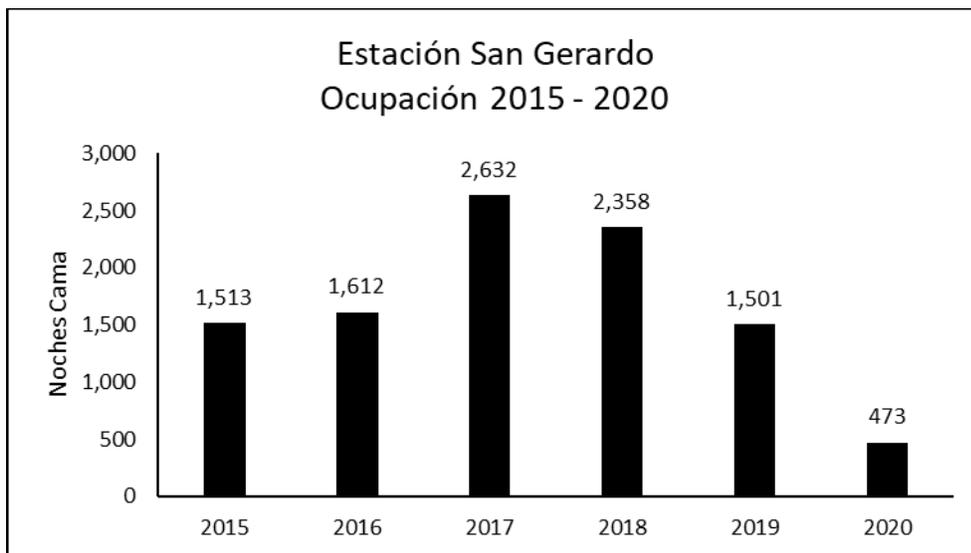


Figure 4. San Gerardo Field Station, annual occupancy (bed-nights), 2015 to 2020. Note: San Gerardo was closed from April to December 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Reforestation

Manager: *Marcelino Rodríguez Jiménez*

Finca Steller, located near La Tigra de San Carlos, is the base of our environmental education program and is home to our nursery, which has been producing native trees for reforestation within the BEN and in nearby communities for the past 23 years.

Under the supervision of Finca Steller Manager Marcelino Rodríguez, the nursery produces 26 different native species (Table 4), with about 1,000 trees currently in production (not including seeds in the process of germination). Trees are donated to community organizations or sold at a symbolic price to individuals or businesses.

In 2020, we sold 2,250 trees, donated 800 trees to community organizations, and planted 220 trees as part of our Environmental Education Program, for a total of **3,270 trees** planted in the BEN and in neighboring communities (Table 5).

We also participated in the “Cultural Collection of Seeds and Trees” program (*Colectivo Cultura Árboles y Semillas*), to which the MCL donated seeds from two native tree species.



Marcelino Rodríguez, Manager of Finca Steller, has been working with the MCL for 22 years.



Left: Marcelino shows co-worker Ignacio Picado some of the native tree species in production in the nursery. Right: The nursery in full production.

Table 4. The nursery at Finca Steller currently produces 26 species of native trees.

Scientific name	Common name	Family
<i>Anacardium excelsum</i>	Espavel	Anacardiaceae
<i>Astronium graveolens</i>	Ron ron	Anacardiaceae
<i>Mauria heterophylla</i>	Sirri amarillo	Anacardiaceae
<i>Iriartea deltoidea</i>	Palmilera	Arecaceae
<i>Tabebuia guayacan</i>	Corteza amarilla	Bignoniaceae
<i>Parmentiera valerii Standl.</i>	Pepino de danto	Bignoniaceae
<i>Calophyllum brasiliense</i>	Cedro María	Calophyllaceae
<i>Caryocar costarricense</i>	Plomillo	Caryocaraceae
<i>Sideroxylon capiri</i>	Danto amarillo	Chrysophylloideae
<i>Terminalia oblonga</i>	Surá	Combretaceae
<i>Terminalia amazonia</i>	Roble coral	Combretaceae
<i>Dipteryx panamensis</i>	Almendro amarillo	Fabaceae
<i>Myroxylon balsamum</i>	Bálsamo	Fabaceae
<i>Ormosia coccinea</i>	Nenes	Fabaceae
<i>Platymiscium curuense</i>	Cristóbal	Fabaceae
<i>Zygia longifolia</i>	Sota caballo	Fabaceae
<i>Dialium guianense</i>	Tamarindo de montaña	Fabaceae
<i>Persea schiedeana</i>	Aguacatillo	Lauraceae
<i>Ceiba pentandra</i>	Ceiba	Malvaceae
<i>Guarea guidonia</i>	Cocora	Meliaceae
<i>Brosimum alicastrum</i>	Ojoche	Moraceae
<i>Virola koschnyi</i>	Fruta dorada	Myristicaceae
<i>Pimenta dioica</i>	Jamaica	Myrtaceae
<i>Minquartia guianensis</i>	Manú	Olacaceae
<i>Hyeronima alchorneoides</i>	Pilón	Phyllanthaceae
<i>Chimarrhis latifolia</i>	Yema de huevo	Rubiaceae

Table 5. Total trees sold, donated, and planted, 2016 to 2020.

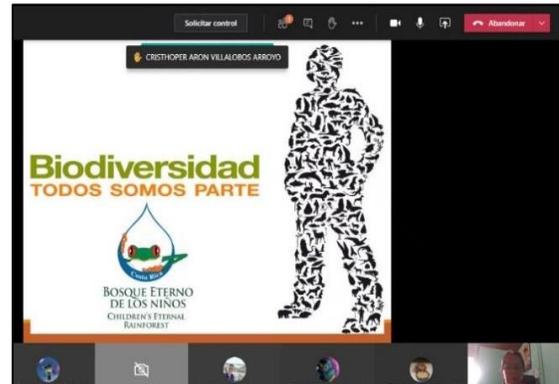
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<i>Sold</i>	1,180	527	453	1,732	2,250
<i>Donated</i>	1,909	1,330	1,306	1,582	800
<i>Planted in BEN (Env't Education Program)</i>			55	250	220
Total	3,089	1,857	1,814	3,564	3,270

Environmental Education

Environmental Educator: María Fernanda Rojas Murillo

Our environmental educator, María Fernanda Rojas, usually works with 16 elementary schools in communities near the eastern border of the BEN. However, with the suspension of classes in March 2020 by the Ministry of Public Education, our environmental education program in local schools was also suspended.

Despite this, María Fernanda remained active, participating in virtual meetings and workshops, representing the MCL in a variety of ways, and seeking new resources and projects. She produced videos on recycling and how to file an environmental complaint online using the SITADA platform. When possible, she began offering virtual activities with La Tigra Elementary School.



Virtual biodiversity workshop with students from the La Tigra Elementary School.

In addition to the work we had planned in local elementary schools, for 2020 we had received a grant from Engage Globally and the JustPax Fund (USA) for a new program called “Faith, Community, and Environmental Conservation”, inspired by our positive experiences with the Girls' Environmental Club (also funded in part by JustPax Fund and Engage Globally) in 2019. The idea was to work with families from at least five local churches on issues of conservation, reforestation, and citizen participation, starting with the families of girls who had participated in the Girls' Environmental Club the previous year.



Meeting with youth from a local church, “Faith, Community, and Environmental Conservation” program

The Faith, Community, and Environmental Conservation program was about to hit the ground running when the COVID-19 pandemic began. Thanks to the flexibility and understanding of JustPax Fund and Engage Globally, we received authorization to use the funds (\$9,000) to cover the salary of our environmental educator, in addition to completing specific projects including presentations on biodiversity, recycling and solid waste management, the creation of a guide to the native trees produced in our nursery, the production of videos about the BEN's felines, and educational posts on social media.

In 2020, we also presented a successful proposal to the “Puntos de Cultura” program, financed by the Costa Rican Ministry of Culture. The project, **“Generating awareness, creativity, and effective citizen participation in socio-environmental issues in the community of La Tigra de San Carlos,”** will take place between February and July 2021 and will bring five million colones to the MCL and local providers of transportation and meals. Each week a family group (or “social bubble”) will visit Finca Steller to learn about conservation, reforestation, and citizen participation in environmental issues. We expect to receive a total of approximately 150 participants from 26 households during the course of the project. We are extremely proud and pleased to be a part of this program!



Control and Protection

Coordinator: Hernán Chacón Castro

With just four rangers to cover more than 22,000 hectares, the success of this program depends to a large extent on the hard work of our dedicated *guardabosques*, in addition to support from other MCL staff, organizations, and private citizens who collaborate with information, donations, and logistical assistance.

This was more so than ever in 2020. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic brought an increase in trespassing, poaching, and other illicit activities, at a time when we had fewer financial and human resources to deal with these situations.

The main environmental threats faced in the BEN and its buffer zone during 2020 included poaching, illegal logging, collection of orchids, hearts of palm, birds and other wild species for commercialization, entry of visitors to restricted areas (illicit tourism), illegal access to springs, and people searching for gold. In addition to carrying out routine patrols, coordinating operations in collaboration with SINAC (Costa Rica's National System of Areas of Conservation) and police, and following up on information and leads, our rangers also support projects such as installation and maintenance of camera traps, following up on legal cases, and serving as witnesses when necessary.



Detention of poachers and hunting dogs in the BEN.

In 2020, our rangers attended cases almost constantly, including the discovery and capture of no fewer than 19 hunting dogs abandoned within the BEN, 6 cases of logging, the location and subsequent destruction of 4 poachers' encampments, 1 case of palm heart extraction, 1 case of capture of live songbirds for commercialization, and at least 6 cases of illicit tourism. This does not include the numerous occasions when offenders (mainly poachers) fled without our being able to detain them, or when trespassers were detained and subsequently asked to leave the protected area. Furthermore, we coordinated and executed 36 operatives in collaboration with SINAC and/or police, primarily with officials from SINAC's *Area de Conservación Central (ACC)*. Sadly, in 2020 our rangers also participated in the search and recovery of the body of Ulises "Moyo" Corrales, who died in one of the protected areas near the BEN. Moyo will forever be remembered as a great friend and ally of the BEN.



Traps used to capture live birds, near the eastern border of the BEN.

Teamwork and flexibility were key in getting the job done under conditions of reduced staff time (50% for multiple months). We owe special thanks to MCL staff Marcelino Rodríguez, who worked with the Control and Protection program for almost 10 months, and Pablo Villalobos and Luis Arana for their direct support to this program.

Collaboration with SINAC, police officials, District Attorney's offices, Red Cross, the

Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve, and others continues to be of utmost importance in achieving our objectives. We are extremely grateful to SINAC-ACC officials Jorge Alonso Vindas Angulo, Manuel Alfaro Alpizar, Víctor Vega Herrera, and Esteban Hernández Arce, and to volunteer Victor Olsen Saborío, for their unconditional support.



Top: Destroying a poachers' encampment in the BEN during a joint operative with MCL/BEN and SINAC-ACC. Below: Alonso Sánchez, Miguel Fernández and Marcelino Rodríguez patrol along the Peñas Blancas River.

Maintenance

Coordinator: Luis Solano Morales

The Maintenance Program plays an essential role in the conservation and protection of the BEN. Under normal circumstances, we have seven maintenance workers: four based in La Tigra de San Carlos, two in Monteverde, and one in Pocosol. Although two of the positions had to be cut in August 2020 for economic reasons, by March 2021 it was possible to reestablish these two positions and restore maintenance staff hours to 100%.

Maintenance staff work in all areas of the BEN, performing a diversity of tasks including but not limited to: inspection and maintenance of property boundaries, fences and roadsides; maintenance of access roads and trails; repair and maintenance of buildings and infrastructure; support in legal cases; inspections for Payment for Environmental Services and topographic measurements; and support to other programs and departments including Control and Protection, research projects, volunteers, and field stations.



Jorge Ramírez clearing one of the BEN's many boundaries with neighboring properties.

While we had to suspend many maintenance projects in 2020 due to cost reduction measures, the complete absence of visitation during several months also allowed us to advance with inexpensive projects and those for which materials had already been purchased. In addition to performing routine maintenance of trails, roadsides, and buildings at the BEN's visitation centers, our staff completed the following projects in 2020:

- **Bajo del Tigre:** Remodeling and expansion of the entrance to the Reception area; expansion and marking of the parking lot; painting building roofs and interiors; installation of handwashing area to comply with COVID-19 prevention protocols.
- **San Gerardo:** Replacement of wooden beams under the second-floor balcony with metal beams; new trail signs; painting the exterior of the entire station; new bridge on the Tabacón trail; construction of a structure for safe storage of cooking gas; construction of an area to properly dispose of organic kitchen waste; and installation of handwashing area to comply with COVID-19 prevention protocols.
- **Pocosol:** Replacement of wooden railings outside dining room and second floor balcony of the lodge with metal railings; painted roof of dining room and lodge; removed old kiosks from lake area; new trail signs; painted waterfall overlook structure (mirador) and bridges; reinforced tool storage shed; construction of structure for safe storage of kitchen gas; repair of kitchen counters; expansion and marking of parking lot; and installation of handwashing area to comply with COVID-19 prevention protocols.
- **Finca Steller:** New trail connecting scenic viewpoint (mirador) with waterfall area. Note: In addition to not having priority projects in this sector for 2020, Marcelino Rodríguez (Manager of



Erick Barquero & Joaquín Araya replace wooden beams with metal beams on the second-floor balcony at San Gerardo.

Finca Steller) worked from April to December 2020 with Control and Protection, and only carried out basic maintenance at Finca Steller (e.g., tree nursery, maintenance of landscaped areas).

In 2021, in addition to continuing with the seemingly endless work of keeping roadsides and property boundaries cleared, we will be resuming the maintenance projects that were suspended in 2020.



Top: Erick Barquero & Joaquin Araya install new railings at Pocosol. Center: Expansion of entry at Bajo del Tigre; Jose Soto & Ignacio Picado repair the roof of the greenhouse at Bajo del Tigre. Below: San Gerardo with new paint!

Payment for Environmental Services (PES)

Director of Land Affairs: Yúber Rodríguez Santamaría

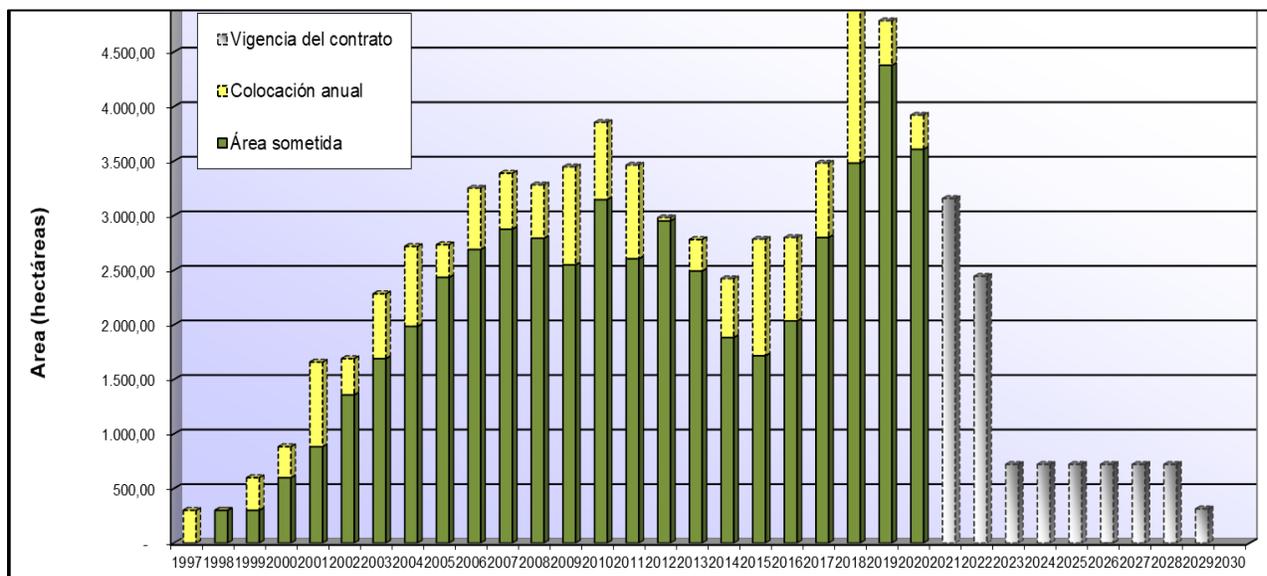
When reviewing the history of the Monteverde Conservation League and the Children's Eternal Rainforest ("BEN"), over the last twenty-three years there is undoubtedly an important influence of Payment for Environmental Services (PES). As the largest private reserve in the country, the BEN is the main private generator of environmental services in Costa Rica, which has allowed access to government resources to help finance protection and conservation activities within the BEN.

In 2020 the MCL had an active participation in the government's PES program, with a placement of 11 properties for a total of 313.10 hectares, or 27.8% of the area for which we applied (Table 6). This is in accordance with the regulations of Costa Rica's National Forest Financing Fund (*Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento Forestal*, or FONAFIFO) over the past three years; according to Costa Rica's Forestry Law, a non-profit organization (such as the MCL) can register up to a maximum of 300 hectares per year, per Conservation Area, in the PES program. With the 313.10 hectares added in 2020, the MCL has a current total of 2,921 hectares in the PES program (Fig. 5). The total number of hectares placed in PES in 2020 was similar to 2019 (407.8 hectares corresponding to 6 properties).

Table 6. Placement of MCL properties in PES, 2020.

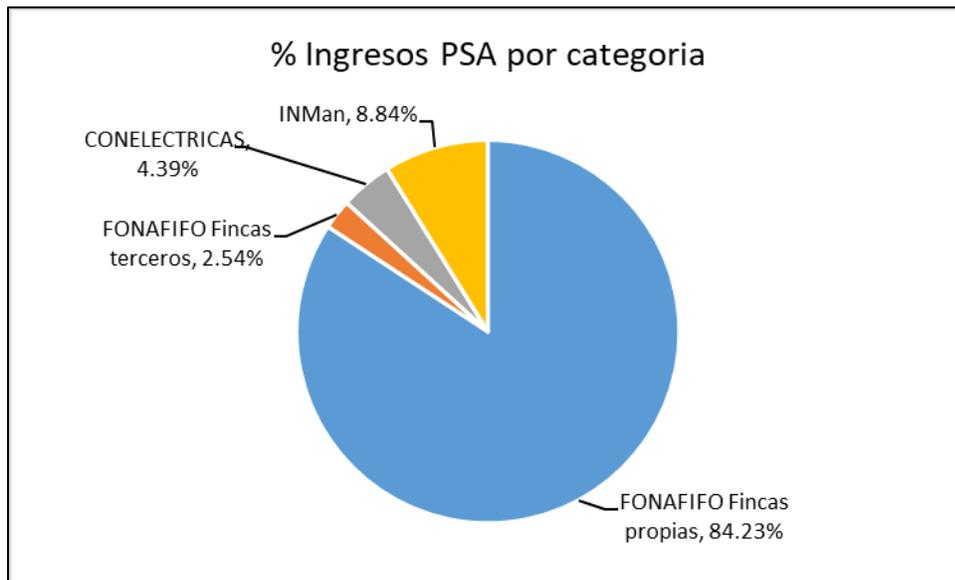
Description	# of projects	Area (hectares)
Applications presented	19	1,125.20
Applications approved	11	313.10
% success	57.9%	27.8%

Figure 5. History of the MCL's participation in FONAFIFO Payment for Environmental Services program. (*Vigencia de contrato* = period of future contract validity; *Colocación anual* = annual placement; *Área sometida* = area from previous years' contracts).



For the 2019-2020 fiscal period, income generated by payment for environmental services represented approximately 71% of the organization’s total gross income, with a total of just over 290 million colones. Of this total, the majority (84.23%) was from MCL properties in the FONAFIFO program, 2.54% was from neighboring properties that MCL helps to place in the FONAFIFO program (see below), 4.39% from an agreement between MCL, FONAFIFO and CONEELCTRICAS (see below), and the remaining 8.84% from a private PES contract with the INMan hydroelectric project (Fig. 6).

Figure 6. Income from payment for environmental services by category, 2019-2020. FONAFIFO Fincas propias = MCL properties. FONAFIFO Fincas terceros = private properties placed in PES vía MCL.



An outstanding aspect of 2020 was that 64% of the area placed in PES corresponds to properties held under rights of possession (“fincas in posesión”), a situation that reflects the reality of land tenure in the BEN, where approximately 85% of the protected area is held under rights of possession (as opposed to having proper legal title). The application process for PES for properties in possession requires much greater effort on our part, in terms of time and paperwork invested in order to meet technical and legal criteria. This is not exclusive to the BEN but rather is a dynamic situation that reflects the reality of private conservation in Costa Rica.

Another noteworthy and very positive aspect of 2020 was that, as was the case in 2019, contracts were for a ten-year period (compared to five years for contracts signed in previous years). It is important to remember that, with the signing of a PES contract, FONAFIFO-MINAE (on behalf of the government) acquires the commitment with the beneficiary of the program (in this case, MCL) to maintain the agreed-upon payments throughout the life of the contract. This provides financial security to the MCL throughout the duration of any given PES contract. Although there is still a great degree of uncertainty about



Yúber Rodríguez and Erick Barquero participate in a field inspection for the PSA program near San Gerardo with a FONAFIFO official.

the placement of new areas for 2021 and beyond, the MCL’s current PES contracts ensure the generation of economic resources for the organization through 2029.

Neighboring properties

Thanks to a 2013 agreement between the MCL and FONAFIFO, the MCL acts as a facilitator in the process of incorporating properties in the PES program. This simplifies the process for MCL’s applications for its own properties, and also permits us to facilitate the placement of neighboring farms in PES. This is an opportunity to involve communities and neighboring landowners in conservation of natural resources, to promote good relations with our neighbors, and also to earn additional income for the MCL.

In 2019, the MCL presented applications for 26 private properties (total area 1,285.1 hectares); of these, 14 properties were approved, with an area of 434.2 hectares, or 33.8% of the solicited area. To date, the MCL has facilitated the placement of 73 neighboring properties totaling just over 2,950 hectares in PSA (Table 7).



Placing PES signage in MCL properties.

Table 7. Private properties placed in PES, 2013 to 2020. (Año = year. Fincas = properties. Area = land areas in hectares. “Gestión en PSA” represents the applications presented for placement in PES; “Inscripción en PSA” is the number of properties actually placed in PES.)

Año	Gestión en PSA		Inscripción en PSA		
	Fincas	Área (has)	Fincas	Área (has)	% colocación
2013	24	1.228,00	7	131,00	10,67
2014	24	1.309,00	8	245,50	18,75
2015	22	1.742,00	9	355,20	20,39
2016	25	1.526,37	6	540,00	35,38
2017	24	1.607,00	11	596,90	37,14
2018	18	1.223,70	2	308,80	25,23
2019	41	1.470,78	16	347,10	23,60
2020	26	1.285,13	14	434,20	33,79
Total	204	11.391,98	73	2.958,70	25,62

Private PES contracts

As mentioned above, we continue to received income from two private PES contracts, which were established with hydroelectric companies that built their hydroelectric projects near the border of the BEN. The first was established more than 22 years ago with the hydroelectric company Inversiones La Manguera (INMan), which currently belongs to the *Cooperativa de Electrificación Rural de la Zona de San Carlos* (COOPELESCA), and is still maintained as a private contract that pays the MCL via semiannual contributions for environmental services related to watershed protection in the La Esperanza River basin (La Tigra de San Carlos). The other contract is with the hydroelectric company CONELECTRICAS (Consortium of Rural Electrification Cooperatives). It is currently managed under a special contract between MCL, CONELECTRICAS, and FONAFIFO. Currently these payments come from three five-year contracts (for three MCL properties) for water

resources protection. At this time, there are still two years remaining in these contracts; upon their expiration, they will be renewed.

Emissions Reduction Program (ERP)

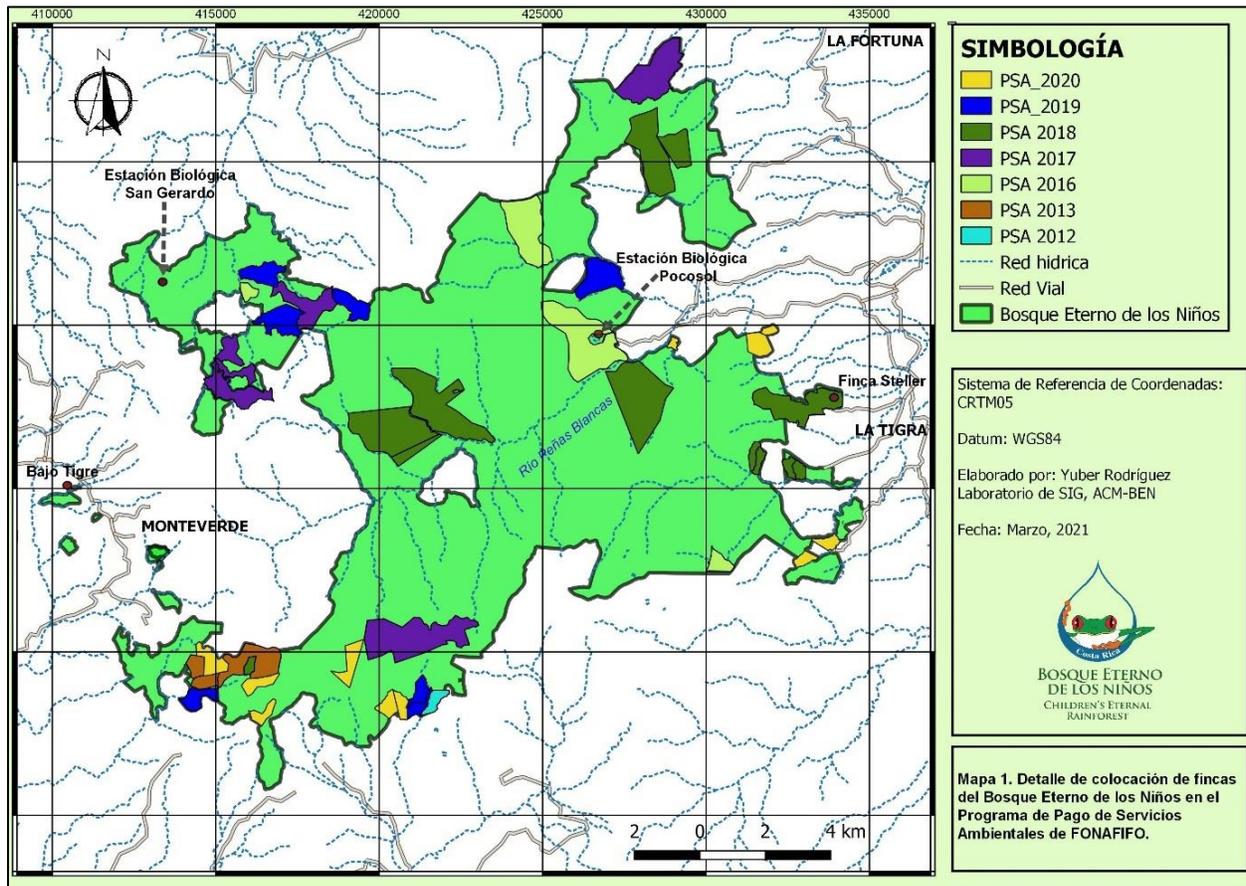
REDD+ of Costa Rica, in conjunction with FONAFIFO, invited the MCL to apply to the Emissions Reduction Program (ERP), which will be receiving financial resources from the signing of the Emissions Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) as part of Costa Rica's actions to achieve a low-carbon economy. The ERP will distribute economic benefits among the owners of forested areas who sign a contract with FONAFIFO. This mechanism expects to benefit approximately 6,300 landowners and about 535,000 hectares of primary forests, forests in regeneration, and forest plantations that have not participated in the FONAFIFO PES program since 2017. ERP will recognize emissions reductions over the period 2018 to 2024 (7 years) and will pay approximately \$52.00 per hectare.



Yúber Rodríguez participates in a field inspection with an official from FONAFIFO in the Arancibia sector of the BEN.

MCL is applying for approximately 10,500 hectares under the ERP, in 73 properties of the BEN. To date, field inspections have been carried out for several properties, and paperwork has been submitted and reviewed. We thank ERP advisers Omar Coto Loría and Johnny Rodríguez Chacón for their great willingness to collaborate with MCL in our effort to comply with the requirements for ERP. We hope that participation in the Emissions Reduction Program, and the associated access to additional economic resources, will provide economic stability for our organization during this time of global pandemic.

Map 1. MCL properties in Payment for Environmental Services, 2012 to 2020.



Legal Affairs

Director of Land Affairs: Yúber Rodríguez Santamaría

The Legal Affairs Committee includes members of the General Assembly, members of the Board of Directors, and employees, constituting a group with extensive experience in legal matters and with great willingness to collaborate. Its members are Julia Matamoros, Jorge Maroto, Ricaute Jiménez, Gerardo Céspedes, Lindsay Stallcup, Hernán Chacón, Luis Solano, and Yúber Rodríguez.

In 2020, an irregular year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the committee as a whole had just one in-person meeting and one virtual meeting. A subset of the Committee also participated in additional work sessions and field visits related to specific cases or situations, for a total of nine meetings and three field visits. The following is a brief update on the main judicial and legal processes in 2020. For most cases, additional detail can be found in reports from previous years.

- 1. INMAN-Banco IMPROSA vs. MCL.** Legal representative: Ricaute Jiménez. In 2017, the court ruled on this case; however, both INMan and the Attorney General's Office appealed, and the case is currently in appeals in the First Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice. In February 2021, we received notification indicating the court had accepted the appeals, and that we had the opportunity to reply. As a result, Mr. Jiménez has been working on our responses with respect to the appeals of the Attorney General's Office and INMan, both of which go against the parts of the sentence issued by the Court that were favorable for the MCL.
- 2. Bekom case (MCL vs. Badilla Navarro & Canet Zamora).** Legal representative: Marco V. Retana. This process has been in the court system for more than 22 years. Five years ago, this file was transferred from the Agrarian Tribunal to the San Ramón Agrarian Court. For the past year, this case has been suspended due to the death (nine years ago) of one of the members of the Badilla Navarro family group. The Court ordered a process to define Mr. Badilla Jiménez's heirs; the case is on hold until this process is completed
- 3. MCL vs. Mario Rodríguez (Wilson Badilla).** Legal representative: Marco V. Retana. This process began with the MCL's opposition to Mr. Mario Rodríguez's attempt to seek legal title to a property that the MCL purchased 30 years ago from Mr. Wilson Badilla. As a result, the MCL sued Mr. Rodríguez. We recently received information that a sentence was issued by the Agrarian Court. The sentence rejects the MCL's claims, but also rejects those of the defendant, Mario Rodríguez. This is positive for the MCL in the sense that Mario Rodríguez loses his claims against two other defendants (neighbors of the BEN), and he must cancel his registered plans for the property and may not visit the area in question; these were also pretensions of the MCL in this case. In the coming days we hope to learn more details of the sentence and appeals process.
- 4. Legal registration (title) of MCL properties.** We continue to advance slowly with the process of obtaining legal title to several MCL properties. The pandemic has not helped with progress. We have obtained land use certificates for the properties in question, as well as the certifications of location from the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC), part of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE). Soon we will begin filing the required documentation with the agrarian court system. We have also continued to evaluate additional strategies for obtaining legal title to other MCL properties, in the interest of the consolidation and long-term protection of the BEN.
- 5. Purchase of the Cesar Santamaría property.** Perhaps one of the greatest achievements of 2020 was completing the purchase of the property of Mr. Cesar Santamaria Hidalgo, ensuring

the acquisition of 102.5 hectares for the protection and conservation in perpetuity as part of the BEN. This case began 14 years ago with the signing of a purchase agreement for the property, located in the Rancho Alegre area (Peñas Blancas de San Ramón, Alajuela). The purchase option indicated that Mr. Santamaría would complete the process of obtaining legal title of the property in order to finalize the purchase of this property. However, due to the time elapsed, the lack of progress in process of obtaining legal title, and the fact that MCL had already paid Mr. Santamaría approximately 80% of the agreed price, the board determined that the best (or lowest risk) option at this point was to proceed with the purchase of the property without legal title. The MCL instead received transfer of possession via a public deed from notary public Lic. Meylin Quirós. The purchase was completed in October 2020 thanks to a grant from Friends of the Rainforest.



Signing the purchase of the Cesar Santamaría property.

6. **Purchase of the Olger Badilla property.** There were no changes in 2020.
7. **Property plans, Peñas Blancas.** This process involves the approval (*catastro*) of plans for three adjacent properties belonging to Labrador Lindora S.A., the Tropical Science Center, and the MCL in the area of the Peñas Blancas valley known as “Eladio’s”. During 2020, Labrador Lindora S.A. was able to register its plans, signaling the possibility of obtaining “catastro” in the coming months.
8. **Property plans, Pipe Cruz.** The Tropical Science Center, owners of the property adjacent to the MCL’s “Pipe Cruz” property, decided to update the plans for their property to correct errors and improve precision. The TSC’s new plan overlaps slightly with the MCL’s plan for the Pipe Cruz property, so the MCL was forced to also update plans. There were no changes in 2020.
9. **Property plans, Cerro Amapala.** When the MCL updated its plan for the Pipe Cruz property (see above), the new plan for Pipe Cruz overlapped with another, very poorly elaborated, plan of an MCL property in the area known as Cerro Amapala. As a result, the MCL was forced to also update the Cerro Amapala plan. There were no changes to this case in 2020.
10. **Property plans, San Gerardo.** At the request of the National Registry, the MCL had to cancel three surveyed plans of the San Gerardo area, totaling 145 hectares. As a result, we had to begin the elaboration of new plans for this entire area (now being treated as one 145-hectare property). The new plans have been presented to the National Registry. Among the details to be corrected is an overlap with a neighboring property belonging to Mr. Eulogio



Field inspection, Linda Vista de Chachagua.

Jiménez (Hotel Vista Verde Lodge); this overlap is in the process of being corrected. There were no changes in 2020.

- 11. Olman Castro (Elidieth Vindas).** The MCL continues to follow up on the possession information of Mrs. Elidieth Vindas, due to an overlap of her property with the MCL; currently the registered plan of Mrs. Vindas must be corrected.
- 12. Leitón Family.** In 1990, the MCL purchased a property from Mr. Miguel Leitón Villalobos, now deceased. At present, this property is registered and has legal title; however, part of the property as it appears on the plans is currently physically occupied by the Leitón Méndez family. In an effort to correct this situation, MCL and the Leitón family agreed to exchange properties, in this way achieving the original objectives for acquiring this property: ensuring the protection of an important area, consolidating priority areas for conservation, and using natural property limits such as streams and rivers when possible. Currently, the plans are being prepared for both MCL and the Leitón family in order to proceed with the legal transfer of the two properties.

- 13. Finca Mason.** In previous reports, this property can be found as the Banco Nacional or El Burrito case. This situation involves an overlap of plans between MCL and the property formerly belonging to Banco Nacional; about three years ago this property was acquired by Mr. Steve Mason and his family. In 2020, Mr. Mason hired a surveyor to mark the location of his farm, resulting in the invasion of the neighboring MCL property, whose historical border with the Mason property has been the Burrito River. Faced with this situation, MCL has approached Mr. Mason and members of his family to seek a solution that is acceptable for all parties without having to resort to another lawsuit.



Field inspection, El Burrito.

- 14. Eliberto Araya Ledezma, Ramón Rodríguez Ulate, Jose Pablo Rodríguez Rodríguez, and Guarren Araya Garita.** In May 2018, these individuals were encountered in the BEN in San Jorge de los Criques; as a result, the MCL filed a legal complaint for poaching and invasion of a private and protected area. This case is being handled by the *Fiscalía* in San Ramón and we expected it to come to trial in 2020; however, due to the national emergency related to COVID-19, the case has been delayed.
- 15. Richard Araya Muñoz, Gilbert Artavia Solano, and Luis Alonso Artavia Campos.** These three individuals were encountered near Pocosol. Charges were pressed for poaching, attempted aggression against authorities, and resisting arrest. Initially these were being treated as three separate charges, however, they are now being treated as one. The charges were filed by MINAE, MCL, and the police, all of which were present in this situation. This process has suffered delays mainly due to the inability of the court system to properly notify one of the defendants, Mr. Araya Muñoz; however, it is expected that the preliminary hearing of this judicial process will be held within the next few months.

Research

In 2020, the MCL reactivated its Research Committee with the objectives of identifying research priorities and promoting research in the BEN. The committee members are Federico Chinchilla, Celia Harvey, Emily Hollenbeck, David Rodríguez, Lindsay Stallcup, and Mark Wainwright.

Due to the pandemic, all research was suspended for about two months; and because of the closure of international borders during many months, there was not as much research in the BEN as in previous years. However, Ricardo Guindon continued with his surveys of bird diversity in different sectors of the BEN. We also had a visit from Rodolfo Probst from the University of Utah, USA, with his research on the natural history of mutualist associations in the Central American radiation of *Myrmelachista* (Formicidae : Formicinae). Rodolfo culminated his field work by giving a talk, together with Jack Longino, for MCL staff at Pocosal Station.



Luis Solano contemplates the hike that awaits him during a field visit to install camera traps, part of a project of Dr. Matt Moran.

Some members of our staff had the opportunity to participate in research project using camera traps to survey terrestrial mammals along altitudinal gradients in the La Esperanza and La Gata watersheds, under the supervision of Dr. Matt Moran (Hendrix College, USA). The support of Luis Solano, Erick Barquero, Yúber Rodríguez, and Marcela Villalobos was key to the successful completion of this project.



In 2020 the “Mi Ocotea” project, funded by and in collaboration with the Monteverde Institute and the Franklinia Foundation, began. Mi Ocotea is dedicated to research and conservation of the endangered, endemic tree, *Ocotea monteverdensis*. The project will continue throughout 2021 under the leadership of Dev Joslin and Daniela Quesada Cruz. For more information on this project or to learn about this endangered species, visit @mi_ocotea on Instagram or <http://monteverde-institute-blog.org/environmental/ocotea-monteverdensis>

Volunteers and Interns

Volunteers and interns assist the MCL with a variety of projects and operational needs. In 2020 we had the valuable support of the following interns completing their college graduation requirements: Christopher González Anchia and Diego González Cambroner (Colegio Técnico Profesional de Santa Elena), Angie Vanessa Solís Marín (Colegio Técnico Profesional de Pital), and Rebeca Peña Ramírez (Colegio Técnico Profesional de La Fortuna).

We also have dedicated national volunteers who have assisted us in various important jobs within the BEN; they appear in the Community Partners section, below.

Nominating Committee Report

Board members are elected for two-year terms, with half the terms expiring each year. The following list details the status of positions on the current board; the five seats that expire in this Assembly are marked in bold.

President (Mark Wainwright) 2019-2021

Vice President (Emily Hollenbeck) 2020-2022

Treasurer (Orlando Calvo) 2020-2022

Secretary (David Rodríguez) 2019-2021

Vocal 1 (Noelia Solano) 2019-2021

Vocal 2 (Eladio Cruz) 2020-2022

Vocal 3 (Federico Chinchilla) 2019-2021

Fiscal 1 (Julia Matamoros) 2019-2021

Fiscal 2 (Jorge Maroto) 2020-2022

Substitute (Celia Harvey) 2020-2022

Of the board members whose terms expire this year, three - David Rodríguez, Noelia Solano, and Federico Chinchilla - have indicated that they are willing to be nominated again for the same positions. Of the other two, Mark is willing to be nominated again, but not for the position of President, and Julia is willing to be nominated again, but for a voting position instead of her current position of Fiscal.

Among the other positions that do not expire this year, two people are resigning: Eladio Cruz (Vocal 2), as his current employment situation is preventing him from participating in board meetings; and Emily Hollenbeck (Vice President), in order to be nominated for the position of President. By law, any resignation before the expiration of an elected term of two years, in addition to the election of new candidates for the corresponding positions, require an Extraordinary Assembly, which will be held just before the General Assembly on March 20, 2021.

The nominating committee proposes the following candidates to replace the two board members who will resign at the Extraordinary Assembly:

- **For Vice President, Julia Matamoros**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.
- **For Vocal 2, Katherine Ulate**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

For the five positions that end this year and therefore must be elected in the General Assembly, the nominating committee proposes the following candidates:

- **For President, Emily Hollenbeck**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023.
- **For Secretary, David Rodríguez**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023.
- **For Vocal 1, Noelia Solano**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023.
- **For Vocal 3, Federico Chinchilla**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023.
- **For Fiscal 1, Mark Wainwright**, for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023.

The committee wishes the MCL board members much energy and success in their efforts on behalf of the BEN.

The Nominating Committee

(Federico Chinchilla, Maikol Cruz, Hazel Guindon, Noelia Solano, Mark Wainwright, Carla Willoughby)

List of Members

Active members and year of affiliation:

1. Geiner Alvarado Huertas (2012)
2. Osvaldo Araya Céspedes (2017)
3. Sofía Arce Flores (2012)
4. José Edgardo Arévalo Hernández (2001)
5. Jeffry Esteban Arguedas Morales (2019)
6. Rafael Eduardo Arguedas Morales (2019)
7. Greivin Arredondo Castro (2018)
8. Selena Avedaño Leadem (2015)
9. Walter Bonilla Vásquez (2007)
10. Wendy Boone (2019)
11. José Carlos Calderón Ulloa (2019)
12. Orlando Calvo Carballo (2015)
13. Héctor Castaneda (2018)
14. Asdrubal Castro Miranda (2017)
15. Minor Castro Murillo (2017)
16. Gerardo Céspedes Rodríguez
17. Hernán Chacón Castro (2011)
18. Lilliana Chavarría Valario (2016)
19. Marvin Chaverri Sandoval (2002)
20. Johel Chaves Campos (2019)
21. Federico Chinchilla Romero (2018)
22. Juan Carlos Corrales Arce (1993)
23. Omar Coto Loría (2020)
24. Eladio Cruz Leitón (2002)
25. Maikol Cruz Porras (2019)
26. Wim De Backer (2015)
27. Mario Oscar Fennell Araya (2017)
28. Hazel Guindon Badilla (2019)
- 29. William A. Haber (1986)**
30. Debra Hamilton (2011)
31. Celia Harvey (2019)
32. Marvin Hidalgo Montero (1990)
33. Emily Hollenbeck (2019)
34. Félix Huertas Salazar (2019)
35. Ricaute Jiménez Araya (2005)
36. John Devereax Joslin (2014)
37. Francis John Joyce (1989)
- 38. Richard LaVal Bugg (1986)**
- 39. Bob W. Law (1986)**
40. Marlene Leitón Campbell (2015)
41. Jorge Lizano Suárez (2019)
42. John Thomas Longino (1989)
43. Jorge Maroto Puga (1992)
44. Karen Masters (1993)
45. Julia Matamoros Alvarado (1994)
46. Gabriela McAdam Montiel (2015)
47. Marcos Méndez Sibaja (2012)
48. Dariel Miranda Robles (2018)
49. Vinicio Miranda Sánchez (2017)
50. F. Alexander Molina González (2019)
51. Luisa Moreno Scott (2019)
52. Carlos Muñoz (2000)
53. Nalini Nadkarni Moreshwar (1989)
54. Susie Newswanger (1989)
55. Priscilla Palavicini Carmona (2015)
56. Fabiola Peralta Ramos (2017)
57. Fern Perkins (2015)
58. Jorge Ramírez Vargas (2017)
59. Alberto Rico Urones (2020)
60. Evelyn Rockwell Solano (2011)
61. David Rodríguez Arias (2018)
62. Yuber Rodríguez Santamaría (2005)
63. María Fernanda Rojas Murillo (2017)
64. Robert Rojas Vásquez (2001)
65. Giuliano Salazar Gigli (2012)
66. Martha Iris Salazar Méndez (1994)
67. Noelia Solano Guindon (2015)
68. Luis Solano Morales (2017)
69. Maricella Solís González (2015)
70. Jose Soto Segura (2012)
71. Lindsay Stallcup (2015)
72. Alexa Stickel (2015)
- 73. Joseph Stuckey (1986)**
74. Mills Tandy (2007)
75. Jorge Torres Ortega (2005)
76. Katherine Ulate Gómez (2020)
77. Paola Umaña Vega (2020)
78. Katherine VanDusen (1989)
79. Rafael Vargas González (2019)
- 80. Guillermo Vargas Leitón (1986)**
81. Jose Luis Vargas Leitón (1989)
82. Rafael Vargas Mata (2019)
83. Oscar Mario Vargas Solís (1997)
84. Mark Wainwright (2006)
85. Justin Welch (2015)
86. Jannelle Wilkins (2012)
87. Carla Willoughby (2016)
- 88. James Wolfe (1986)**
89. Bruce Young (1989)
90. Willow Zuchowski (1989)

* Updated January 31, 2020. Names in **bold** are founding members of the organization. Names that are underlined are new members in 2020.

Honorary members:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Gerardo Céspedes Rodríguez | 6. Sharon Kinsman |
| 2. Michael Fogden | 7. Bob Law |
| 3. Patricia Fogden | 8. Harriet McCurdy |
| 4. Adrian Forsyth | 9. George Powell |
| 5. Eha Kern | 10. Marco Vinicio Retana Mora |

Contributing members:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Carlos Aburto | 13. Tom Newmark |
| 2. Michael Besancon | 14. Jonas Nordstrom |
| 3. Leslie Burlingame | 15. Gordon Patty |
| 4. Omar Coto Loría | 16. Roland Paul |
| 5. James E. Crisp McGowan | 17. Alan Pounds |
| 6. Cynthia Echeverría López | 18. Tahnee Robertson |
| 7. Lisa Ellis | 19. Ree Sheck |
| 8. Mauricio García Cambronero | 20. Matilde Steiner |
| 9. Carlos Guindon Standing | 21. Robert M. Timm |
| 10. Alexander Kopper | 22. Jorge Vargas Cullel |
| 11. Alan Masters | 23. Nathaniel T. Wheelwright |
| 12. Gregory Murray Kevin | 24. Kathy Winnett-Murray |

Inactive Members:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Maria del Carmen Campos Araya | 6. Manuel Solis |
| 2. Randy Chinchilla | 7. Emilia Triana Cambronero |
| 3. Mercedes Dias Herrera | 8. Maria A. Vargas Chacón |
| 4. Yimer Morales Zamora | 9. Mauricio Vargas Salazar |
| 5. John Porras | |



Board meeting, April 2020.

Organizational Structure

Board of Directors & Fiscals

Mark Wainwright, President
 Emily Hollenbeck, Vice President
 David Rodríguez, Secretary
 Orlando Calvo, Treasurer
 Noelia Solano, Vocal I

Eladio Cruz, Vocal II
 Federico Chinchilla, Vocal III
 Celia Harvey, Substitute
 Julia Matamoros, Fiscal I
 Jorge Maroto, Fiscal II

Personnel

Administration

Lindsay Stallcup, Executive Director
 Yúber Rodríguez, Director of Land Affairs
 Giselle Rodríguez, Secretary
 Dunia Picado, Accounting, Human Resources & Purchasing
 Arelis Guido, Housekeeping
 Jose Mora, Accountant

Finca Steller

Marcela Villalobos, Administrative Assistant
 María Fernanda Rojas, Environmental Educator
 Marcelo Rodríguez, Finca Steller & Nursery

San Gerardo Field Station

Jose Andrey Obando, Co-Manager
 Pablo Villalobos, Co-Manager

Maintenance

Luis Solano, Coordinator
 Erick Barquero
 Jorge Ramírez
 Joaquín Araya
 Armando Villalobos (Monteverde)
 Deivy Jiménez (Monteverde)

Ocotea monteverdensis Project

Daniela Quesada

Bajo del Tigre

Jose Soto, Coordinator
 Ignacio Picado, Receptionist

Pocosol Field Station

Fabio Araya, Co-Manager
 Luis Arana, Maintenance

Protection

Hernán Chacón, Coordinator
 Alonso Sánchez
 Miguel Fernández
 Alberto Zúñiga

Anniversaries: We congratulate Luis Solano and Erick Barquero for 15 and 5 years, respectively, with the MCL. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

We thank the following employees who completed their service with the MCL during 2020: Merelyn Murillo (Pocosol), Alberto Jiménez (Maintenance), Joaquin Araya (Maintenance), Kimberly Castillo (Accounting), Rodrigo Hernández (Accounting), Jose Antonio Brenes (Bajo del Tigre), Yahaira Brenes (Information Center).

Donations

We are grateful to all those individuals and organizations that have supported the MCL over the past 35 years. Without your generous support, the conservation of the Children's Eternal Rainforest would not be possible.

For 2020, we owe a special THANK YOU to the hundreds of generous individuals who supported our fundraising campaign. The BEN was bought and protected in the first place thanks to the efforts of thousands of people around the world, and the collective support of so many individuals in the face of this most recent challenge is a profound reminder that each of us can truly make a difference.

We are grateful to our international partner organizations, who provided significant financial support in 2020: Friends of the Rainforest, Engage Globally, Amigos of Costa Rica, the Alex C. Walker Foundation, and the Cotyledon Fund in the United States, and Kinderregenwald in Germany. We know that each organization made an extraordinary effort to support the Children's Eternal Rainforest during a global situation of crisis and uncertainty.

Table 8. Grants from Friends of the Rainforest (USA) from January 1 to December 31, 2020.

<u>Friends of the Rainforest</u>	<u>Amt (\$)</u>	<u>Description</u>
Friends of the Rainforest Grant #29	11,322.00	Forest ranger salaries
Friends of the Rainforest Grant #30	10,998.00	Forest ranger salaries
Friends of the Rainforest Grant #31	40,560.00	Purchase and Protection, Santamaría property
Friends of the Rainforest	25,000.00	Marc & Lynne Benioff, in honor of Lir McCauley, donation for Endowment Fund

Table 9. Grants from Kinderregenwald (Germany) from January 1 to December 31, 2020.

<u>Kinderregenwald</u>	<u>Amt (Euros)</u>	<u>Description</u>
Kinderregenwald Grant #112	8,986.25	Land Purchase and Protection
Kinderregenwald Grant #114	5,986.42	Land Purchase and Protection
Kinderregenwald Grant #115	3,384.28	Land Purchase and Protection
Kinderregenwald Grant #116	5,384.10	Land Purchase and Protection
Kinderregenwald Grant #117	1,284.92	Maintenance and Reforestation
Kinderregenwald Grant #118	1,944.97	Maintenance and Reforestation
Kinderregenwald Grant #120	11,985.46	Maintenance and Reforestation
Kinderregenwald Grant #121	625.35	Land Purchase and Protection
Kinderregenwald Grant #122	1,335.51	Land Purchase and Protection

Table 10. General donations, January 1 to December 31, 2020. This list includes direct donations, in-kind support, donations received via Engage Globally, and donations received via Amigos of Costa Rica (USA). In addition to 112 anonymous donations, we received contributions from the following individuals and organizations:

Abby Daniel	Bode Sugar	Davy Swijns	Helen Mountjoy-Venning
Abigale Enrici	Breana Simmons	Deborah Turner	Henry Banzahaf
Alan Covich	Brian Currey	Deedra McClearn	Henry Kerstetter
Alana Porat	Brian Gray	Dennis Finger	Henry Nau
Aleah	Brian Ward	Diane Meyers	Iala Hannah
Alexa Stickle	Brianna Egan	Don Faber-Langer	Isaac Sinnott
Alexander Hollenbeck	Brittney Rosnow	Drew Di Francesco	Isabella Canales Claudio
Alexandra Neps	Brooke Osborne	Dwight Morris	Isabelle Cadrot
Alexandra Tuinstra	Bruce Young	Edward Griffin Nicholson	J Edgardo Arevalo
Alice Andersen	Bryan Pardo	Edward Zaydelman	J Lynn Dickhoff
Alice Beittel	Caley Zuzula	Eilish Zembilci	Jack Longino & Nalini
Alizah Garvin	Calla Lloyd-Lim	Eleanor Duffy	Nadkarni
Allison Gomez	Camila Donatti	Elijah Carter	Jackson Sales
Allison Starr	Camilla Chester	Elise Evans	Jacqueline Ekins
Amanda Rugenski	Camille McElmurry	Elizabeth Gagliardi	Jaime Villalobos-Delgado
Amanda Young	Camille Pawlak	Elizabeth Gilchrist	Jake Donoghue
Amelia Mank	Carbon-12 Project	Elizabeth Hrycyna	Jake Shorty
Amy Powers & Family	Carlos de la Cruz	Elizabeth Signore	James Bartalan
Amy Rosemond	Carlos Guindon	Ellen Joslin	James Crisp
Amy Strauss	Carol Lebischak	Emily Farrell	James Farrell
Amy Whitcomb	Carol Williams	Emily Hollenbeck	Jane Kim
Ana Gabriela Torres	Carol Williamson	Emily Shelley	Jane Lin
Anders Olsson	Carolina Flores	Emily Torres Harvey	Jane Wolff
Andrea DeRogatis	Caroline Berg	Emily Young	Jannelle Wilkins
Andrea Rieger	Caroline Brown	Engage Globally	Jason Kopp
Andres Oreamuno	Catalina Arevalo	Enrique Echandi	Javier Oreamuno
Andrew Conboy	Catherine Pringle	Eo Hanabusa	Jean Young
Andrew Hogue	Cathy M Wicks	Eric Fishman	Jeanna Gomez
Andrew Hudson	Cecilia Cerrilla	Eric Macklin	JeeYeun Lee
A Philipsborn & J Bilger	Cerveceria Monteverde	Erik Palmer	Jeffrey Katz
Andy Snow	Charlotte Ottenberg	Erika Drazan	Jeffry Arguedas
Angela Deluca	Chihkong Yang	Erin Hunt	Jenni Bringhurst
Angela Veras Oriach	Chloe Larson	Ernesto Arevalo	Jennifer Newland
Anita Philipsborn	Chris & Liz Garrett	Ethan Clotfelter	Jere Gilles
Anjali Kumar	Christiana Hetzel	Fern Perkins	Jeremy Alpert
Ann D Richmond	Christie Huff	Frances Barrett	Jerold Hale
Ann Marie Saidy	Christine Fekete	Franchesca Duval	Jesse Kasnicki
Ann Oliver	Cody Cox	Francis Joyce	Jessica McFadden
Anna Hamilton	Concordia Chen	Gabrielle Walker	Jessica Young
Anne Bartuszevige	CONELECTRICAS	Geoffrey Carter	Jianguo "Jack" Liu
Anne Williams	Connie Rizzo	Gerald Droszcz	Jill Sanchez
Annie Wainwright	Corrie Haley	Gertrude Shahady	Joanne Sutton-Smith
Anya Kater	Courtney Fitzgerald	Gloriana Echeverria	Johannah Kornbrath
Arenal Springs Resort & Spa	Cristina Riani	Grace Farley	Johannes Bonz
Ashley Anderson	Cristina Riani	Greatergood.org	John Adams
Ashley O'Neil	Cyril Englert	Haleh Arabzadeh	John Joslin
Asociación Instituto	Daire Courtney	Hannah Bergemann	John Kervan
Monteverde	Dania Marcela Villalobos	Hannah Chou	Jonah Busch
Audrey Stewart	Pérez	Hannah Mone	Jonathan Brooks
Barbara Garcia	Daniel Miller	HappyLandGifts Alemania	Jonathan Titus
Barbara Stern	Daniel Torres Harvey	Harold	Jose Luis Vargas Leitón
Baylee Bingham	Daniel Wesson	Harry Takenaka	Josef Glass
Beach Side School	Daniella Terruso / Nico's	Harry Tiebout	Joseph Heithaus
Ben Kumar	Kitchen	Healy Hamilton	Joyce Blackwell
Benjamin Morris	Dario Cuevas	Heather Luca	Juan Moreira Herrera
Bennett Wilburn	David Katz	Heather Seto	Juan Sostheim, Rancho
Bethany Dixon Rockwell	David Newcomer	Heather York	Margot
Bill Haggerty	David Ribble	Hector Castañeda	Judy Nelson
Bode and Soren Sugar	David Rodríguez	Heleena Sideris	Judy Stone

Julie L Rohovit	Lisa Okuyama	Nancy Mitiguy	Samuel G Campbell
Juliet Eden	Lon Smallridge	Nathan Diaz	Sandra Vehrencamp
Justin Penn	Lorena Bush	Nhicole Mendoza	Sara Brown
Justin Zahller	Lori Olson	Nic Korte	Sara Buresh
JustPax Fund	Los Coyotes de Escazú	Nicole Reisinger	Sarah DiPerna
Kai Chan	Lucia Cupertino Perta	Nicole Sears	Sarah M. Flaherty
Kara Busath	Luis Carlos Beltran	Nina Negi	Sarah Sargent
Karen & Alan Masters	Lyndsay Gordon	Nona Marie	Sarah Sawtelle
Karen Broen	Lynne and Gary Hartshorn	Omar Llavería	Sean O'Brien
Karen Craig	M Esther Brenes Villalobos	Orlando Calvo Carballo	Sean O'Donnell
Karen M Dawson	Maggie E Rios	Paola Muñoz	Sebastian Troeng
Karen Young	Maggie Hart	Pat Stallcup	Seth Wenger
Karyn Tabor	Marcela Mora	Patricia Sawin	Shannon McCoy
Kaselehlia Sielken	Marco Gomez	Patricia White	Sharon Hsu
Katherine Browson	Margaret Fekete	Patrick Hamilton	Sharon Kinsman
Katherine Moeller	Margaret Flaherty	Paul Englander	Shirley Moran
Katherine Rodriguez	Margaret Holland	Paul Murgatroyd	Sianin Spaur
Katherine Smith	Margaret Ormes	Paul Smith	Skyler Jordan
Katherine Wilson	Margo Burnham	Paul Smith	Sofia Arce Flores
Kathryn Cuellar	Marika Sjodin	Paula Trillo	Sofie Piracha
Kathy Golden	Marisa ValeCruz	Peter Jaszi	Sophia Graff
Kathy Itterly	Marius vanderMerwe	Philippe Vaast	Stella Capek
Katie Simpson	Mark Dodero	Proyecto Asis	Stephen Laubach
Kayla Awiszus	Mark Wainwright	R Joyce & M Handmaker	Stephen Ressel
Kayla Wagner	Martha Esquivel	Rachael Rusko	Steve Travers
Kazumi Fukunaga	Martha Groom	Rachel Brinks	Steven Hess
Keith Cooper	Mary Hotchkiss	Rafael Alfaro	Steven Sesnie
Kellee Koenig	Mary K Kutzli King	Rafael Arguedas	Susan Koch
Kelly Bringham	Mary Tara Joyce	Rancho Margot	Susan Sullivan
Kelly Jones	Matasha Dhar	Rebecca Bixby	Suzy Peraino
Kelly Juliano	Matthew Monahan	Rebecca McKee	Sybil Terres Gilmar
Kelsey Chai	Matthew Moran	Reed Brozen	Sydney Rainville-Thomson
Kelvin G. Murray	Matthew Parker	Reena Shah	Sydney Schalk
Kendall Jefferys	Mauricio Alvarez	Richard Bradley	Sylvia Echeverria
Kendall Rauch	Mauricio Garcia	Richard Hall	Tanner Frank
Kenneth Clark	Megan Ahn	Richard Kesseli	Taylor Ricketts
Kerstin Miller	Megan McCarthy	Richard Weisman	Tegan Cohan
Kestin Schulz	Megna Patel	Richelle Winkler	Teresa Dastice
Kevin Orner	Melanie Feinberg	Rickie White	Thibaud Aronson
Kirsten Martin	Melvin Baker	Robb Krehbiel	Timothy Curry
Kisa Weeman	Mia Roberts	Robert O. Lawton	Timothy Fitzgerald
Kristie Ashby	Michael Besancon	Robert Snowden	Todd Rusk
Kristin P Dierks	Michael Crist	Robert Stevenson	Tom & Terry Newmark
Kryscia Ramirez	Michael Fekete	Robin Para	Tomas Guindon
Laelle Busch	Michael Furdyk	Rodney Briggs	Tracy Lawler
Lars and Kate Larson	Michael Sobkowiak	Rodney Vargas	Trevor Ritland
Laura Deluca	Michael Stallcup & Terry	Roger Chen	Trudy Knowles
Lauren Barlow	Riemer	Roger Nixon	Victoria Schwarz
Lauren Dykman	Michael Summy	Roland Paul	Wendy Boone
Lawrence Kirkendall	Michael West	Ron Carroll	Wendy Smallridge
Leonardo Carmona	Michelle McGee-Moore	Ron Reuter	Wesley Ingwersen
Lesley Simmons	Mike Berin	Roxana Echeverría	William B. Stallcup
Lia McCoskey	Mike Gill	Roy Alvarado Vargas	William Busby
Lifer Nature Tours	Mila Elliott	Roy Nelson	William Grayson
Lilianna Wolf	Minnie Willette	Russell Kumai & Carol	Wren York
Lilliana Chavarria	Miriam Young	Cameron	Yalina Soto
Linda Moller	Monica Araya	Ruth Martinez	Zach Tarble
Linda Neps	Montserrat Zuniga	Ryan Piracha	Zachary Batt
Linda Young	Nancy & Peter Stevick	Saadatu Gray	Zoe Perloff
Lindsay Stallcup	Nancy Balaban	Saba Hamidi	
Lisa Colen	Nancy Clarin	Samantha Stovall	

Community Partners

The MCL thanks the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for their collaboration and support of the Children's Eternal Rainforest during 2020:

Acueducto Chachagua	Francis Joyce
Acueducto La Fortuna de San Carlos	Frank Joyce
Deiber Araya	Sharon Kinsman
Alejandro Arce	Sergio Lara
Emily Arnold	Christine Larson
Greivin Arredondo	Osvaldo Madriz
Roger Arredondo	Jorge Maroto Puga
Manuel Alfaro Alpizar	Matt Moran
José Manuel Alvarado Arias	Tom Newmark
Geiner Alvarado Huertas	Ministerio de Cultura
Jose Manuel Alvarado	Victor Olsen Saborío
Maria Jose Alvarado Sancho	Anita Pacheco
Maudin Alberto Arguedas Jiménez	Frank Quesada
Gilberto Araya Ruiz	Mayling Quirós
Hernán Arroyo Guerrero	José Ramos Garita
Antonio Barrantes	Clemel Ramírez Rojas
Pieter Boehen	Jorge Ramírez Vargas
Leslie Burlingame	Nuria Ramírez
Freddy Campos Rodríguez	Jean Carlo Rigioni
Filadelfo Cárdenas	Jorge Rodríguez
Juan Castro (Rancho don Juan)	Miguel Ángel Salazar Badilla
Centro Soltis (Texas A&M)	Marcelino Rodríguez Santamaría
Ron Carroll	Amanda Rugenski
Gerardo Céspedes	Heriberto Solano Gómez
Ignacio Chacón Castro	Luis Solano Morales
Comisariato Chachagua	José Ángel Soro
Eladio Cruz Leitón	Juan Sostheim
Joyce Leitón	David Soto Segura
Álvaro y Jaime del Castillo (Proyecto Asís)	David Swijns
Steven Farrell	Nautilio Valverde
Finca Luna Nueva Lodge	Katy VanDusen
Laurie Fowler	Juan Diego Vargas
Fundación Abuela Ecológica	Noé Vargas
Raúl Fumier	Rodney Vargas
Katia González	Victor Vega Herrera
Karol Jimena Gutiérrez Vásquez	Ligia Villegas Trejos
Heather Heckel	Charlin Vásquez
Esteban Hernández Arce	J. Alonso Vindas
Alexander Herrera	Volcano Lodge
Sergio Herrera	Carla Willoughby
Bob Howe	Bruce Young
Instituto Monteverde	Willow Zuchowski
Ricaute Jiménez Araya	Alfredo Zúñiga Montero

In memory

Sabine Lechner, former Chairwoman of Kinderregenwald, our German partner organization, who died at the age of 81 after a long illness. Sabine carried out her role first as deputy chairwoman (2002-2006) and then as chairwoman (2006-2014) with great commitment and heart. She was a devoted conservationist and enthusiastic supporter of the Children's Eternal Rainforest. We will always honor her memory.



Paul Smith, former MCL member and long-time Monteverde resident. The passing of Paul and his wife Sylvia was an enormous loss for the community of Monteverde. In 2020 Paul visited us many times first to offer and then to decide upon a location for the mosaic created for the BEN. It adorns our administrative office and is a beautiful reminder of Paul and his artwork.

Ulises “Moyo” Corrales, naturalist and ally of the BEN. Many of our staff members knew Moyo well, as he was involved with the MCL in different ways over the years, including as a volunteer and guide. He will be remembered as a great friend of the Children's Eternal Rainforest and all of Costa Rica's forests.



