

A ROCHA
PERU

AMAZON HERITAGE PROJECT



ABOUT A ROCHA PERU

A Rocha Peru aspires to restore harmony between people and nature and ensure the well-being of all creation, by enabling a responsible relationship with the environment. We are a Christian, non-profit organization and a member of the global family of A Rocha International. We work with local actors to carry out activities in conservation, environmental education, social development, and applied research.

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The Amazon Natural and Cultural Heritage Project commenced as a pilot project in May 2023. It aims to help conserve and restore ecosystems and endangered species and preserve the cultural traditions and knowledge so indigenous communities can maintain their traditional way of life. The project currently works with a small community called Monte Carmelo, located in the basin of the Urubamba River in the Southeastern Peruvian Amazon. Monte Carmelo manages around 20 thousand hectares of tropical forest — 12.6 thousand of which are primary forests designated for conservation.

The project aims to:

- ◆ **Conservation:** Restore degraded land with native seedlings including Huayruros (*Ormosia coccinea*) and Pijuayo/Shonta (*Bactris gasipaes*).
- ◆ **Preserve cultural heritage:** Promote cultural traditions and ancestral knowledge with elders to the younger generation on the uses of traditional medicinal plants.
- ◆ **Applied Research:** Generate valuable research information to aid in the conservation of avian diversity and promote birdwatching tourism.
- ◆ **Capacity Building:** Increase environmental awareness on the conservation of forests, flora and fauna within the younger generation of Monte Carmelo at the local school. A small children's forest (*Bosque de los Niños*) will be created overtime with the parents helping create it.

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