

Overview of the Amazon Conservation Association

The Amazon Conservation Association (ACA) is an alliance of Peruvian, Bolivian, and U.S. conservation organizations with a shared vision of protecting the biological diversity and social viability of the Amazon basin for local inhabitants and future generations. We work with local communities and our sister organizations - the Amazon Basin Conservation Association (ACCA) in Peru and the Association for Research and Conservation of Andean-Amazonian Ecosystems (ACEEA) in Bolivia - to pursue science, sustainable resource management, and healthy land-use policy.

WHY IT MATTERS

The Amazon rainforest is home to more than a third of species found on Earth and is a vital force shaping the world's climate. Twenty percent of all Earth's fresh water flows through the Amazon, and its forests are the source of countless foods, fibers, and potential medicines to benefit humankind. These forests now face increasing threats from road development, logging, petroleum extraction, and large-scale agriculture.

WHERE WE WORK



ACA works in southeast Peru and northwest Bolivia, one of the Earth's most biologically rich regions, where lowland rainforest meets the Andes range at the headwaters of the Amazon. Thousands of square miles of Amazon wilderness provide habitat to jaguars, tapirs, giant river otters, and many other species facing extinction in the face of large-scale economic exploitation and rapid climate change.

HOW WE WORK

We believe conservation requires partnerships at every level of society. Using cutting-edge science and innovative conservation tools, ACA is creating models for others to follow. We established the world's first conservation concession, manage some of the best research stations in the tropics, and are pioneering the use of new mechanisms, such as the voluntary carbon market and payments for environmental services, to make forest conservation financially sustainable.

KEY PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Los Amigos Conservation Concession and Biological Station: Forest protection, research, and education in 360,000 acres of old-growth forest in the world's first private conservation concession.

Manu-Tambopata Corridor Initiative: A 500,000-acre conservation area designed to connect a mosaic of rainforest sites, including the Los Amigos Conservation Concession, national parks, and indigenous reserves in order to mitigate the negative effects of road-building south of Manu National Park.

Brazil Nut Program: We support over 500 harvesters through technical training and certification to ensure their sustainable income while protecting native forest.

Wayqecha Cloud Forest Biological Station: Ecological research and forest management 9,800 feet above sea level.

Villa Carmen Biological Station and Campus for Conservation Economies: Tropical conservation and sustainable agriculture research in the Andean foothills.

Haramba Queros Wachiperi Conservation Concession: Supporting traditional livelihoods and management in Peru's first private conservation concession granted to a native community.

Conserving the Pampas del Heath, Bolivia: Biodiversity conservation and support to native Tacana communities in some of the Amazon's best preserved savanna-forest ecosystems.

The Amazon Conservation Association Internship Program

ACA's internship program is central to our mission to protect the world's most diverse landscapes, train the next generation of Amazonian conservationists, and partner with communities to support livelihoods that sustain biodiversity. Our interns provide invaluable support for our programs through projects that range from mapping and researching threats to the Amazon rainforest, to designing fact sheets that outline ACA's numerous sustainability and conservation projects, to growing our presence in social media.

Because interns are such a crucial part of the ACA team, our approach is one of mutual benefit: we will work with interns to make sure their experience at ACA aligns with their interests and studies, helps them develop new or hone existing skills, and allows them to produce a tangible work product to strengthen their professional portfolio. Past ACA interns have co-authored and contributed to peer-reviewed articles, helped plan (and attended!) special events with important partners like the Smithsonian Institute and the Embassy of Peru, and have worked on developing strategies for our on-the-ground conservation work. In addition to their specific internship focus, all interns play a role in supporting and learning more about the day-to-day functions of a small NGO.

Through entry and exit orientations with our internship program coordinators and open and frequent communication with their internship supervisor, ACA's internship program provide interns with a unique opportunity to be truly integrated into our motivated team of conservationists and a growing network of ACA internship alumni.

If you are interested in applying for an ACA internship, please review our internship opportunities below and send your resume and a cover letter to applications@amazonconservation.org with the title of the internship in the subject.

SUMMER 2015 INTERNSHIPS

GIS and Remote Sensing

The GIS and Remote Sensing internship involves conducting research and preparing maps related to the major threats that face the Andean Amazon, such as oil palm plantations, oil and gas drilling, road construction, hydroelectric dams, and illegal mining. Work also includes seeking and/or creating shapefiles to demonstrate threat and impact, as well as analyzing satellite imagery in search of new deforestation zones.

Research

The Research internship involves conducting research and tracking current events related to the major threats that face the Andean Amazon, such as oil palm plantations, oil and gas drilling, road construction, hydroelectric dams, and illegal mining. The research intern will write internal reports, memos, and fact sheets related to these issues, and may have the opportunity to contribute to research publications and published articles.

Program and Grants Support

The Program and Grants Support internship involves creating, editing, and updating project fact sheets and/or web content. This is a unique opportunity to learn and describe the nuances of sustainable development and conservation projects that are implemented in remote areas of the Andean Amazon. The programs intern will also assist with grant proposal preparation, grant reporting, and translating project documents to and from Spanish.

Communications and Social Media

The Communications and Social Media internship involves helping to plan and facilitate fundraising events and campaigns (i.e. events at the Peruvian Embassy and/or the Folklife Festival which will be highlighting Peru in Summer 2015). The communications intern will also support monthly e-newsletter writing & design, generate material for the upcoming 2014 annual report, update social media and networking sites, and manage ACA's photo database.

Marketing and Sustainable Tourism

The Marketing and Sustainable Tourism internship involves developing content and design for marketing materials for ACA's three biological stations, which are located among some of the highest concentrations of wildlife on the planet. The marketing intern will also assist in developing a webpage for birding clients, research tour operators and birding groups, assist in developing an outreach strategy, and update the biostations social media.



For more ways to get involved with the ACA mission:

Connect. Find us on Facebook or Twitter

Ask. Contact us any time.

Visit. Stay at one of our 3 research stations

Give. Support our mission.