

# THE ALTO MAYO PROTECTED FOREST

CI-BHP ALLIANCE



Located in the San Martín region of northern Peru, the Alto Mayo Protected Forest (AMPF) spans 450,000 acres — an area twice the size of New York City. This tropical forest is home to diverse plants and animals, including over 400 bird species and 300 orchid

species. The yellow-tailed woolly monkey, Peru's biggest primate, is native to the Alto Mayo Protected Forest and is critically endangered. The forest also protects streams that supply water to more than 250,000 people in the Alto Mayo basin.

## PROTECTING THE ALTO MAYO, PROVIDING ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES

Despite its protected status, deforestation from agricultural encroachment and illegal land and timber trafficking threaten the AMPF and, in turn, the lives of families who live within and near this area and depend on forest resources.

To provide local farmers with economic alternatives

to deforestation, Conservation International (CI) creates conservation agreements with communities in exchange for direct benefits. Families in this area pledge not to cut down the trees in return for benefits such as agricultural training, improved cookstoves and educational materials.

These conservation agreements are partially funded through REDD+, a nature-based climate change solution that seeks to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

**“When conservation offers positive and tangible benefits to rural farmers and local communities, protecting the environment becomes an increasingly viable and attractive choice. This approach helps conserve biodiversity and slow climate change while improving the quality of life for local communities.”** — Braulio Andrade, CI-Peru

## BHP INVESTMENT IN ALTO MAYO

BHP is a world-leading resources company that extracts and processes minerals, oil, and gas.

In partnership with CI, BHP has integrated support for REDD+ into its climate change strategy and has committed approximately USD \$5 million for CI's Alto Mayo REDD+ project in Peru.

With this investment, BHP is seeking to advance REDD+ and demonstrate the value it offers the private sector through focus on governance, project support and market stimulation.

This project support for the Alto Mayo Protected Forest dovetails with the efforts of CI and BHP over the past six years to design and implement a portfolio of conservation projects around the world.

*By providing benefits to local communities in the Alto Mayo region, CI and BHP are offering people the opportunity to become conservation allies.*

BHP joins leading companies such as Disney, United and Microsoft in investing in Alto Mayo. Additional opportunities exist for companies to support Alto Mayo or one of the many other REDD+ projects that exist around the world.

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