

North-West Peru Biosphere Reserve

The North-West Peru Biosphere Reserve forms the heart of the Tumbesian Endemic Bird Area (EBA), recognised as one of the most important EBAs globally. Located in the extreme north-west of Peru the Reserve consists of the Cerros de Amotape National Park, Tumbes National Reserve, and the El Angolo Hunting Ground. Additionally the area holds the Tumbes Mangroves National Sanctuary, which is a RAMSAR site. This group of protected areas forms the most important and largest remaining expanse of forest left in the Tumbesian EBA. The Reserve was declared in 1977 and is managed by the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA), through the Sistema Nacional de Areas Protegidas por el Estado (SINANPE).

Key Facts:

Protected Areas:

Cerros de Amotape NP: 151, 561 ha
Tumbes NR: 19,266 ha
El Angolo HG: 65,000 ha
Tumbes Mangroves NS: 2,972 ha
Total: 238,799 ha

Main biogeographic regions:

Equatorial Dry Forest
Pacific Tropical Forest
Pacific Tropical Sea

Fauna and Flora:

No. bird species: estimated 450
Threatened bird species: 16
Endemic bird species: 50
Main mammal species: Mono Coto de Tumbes (*Alouatta palliata*), Nutria del Noroeste (*Lutra longicaudis*), Jaguar (*Panthera onca*), Puma (*Puma concolor*), Tigrillo (*Leopardus pardalis*), Cocodrilo de Tumbes (*Crocodylus acutus*), Venado Gris (*Odocoileus virginianus*).

Typical tree species:

Hualtaco (*Loxopterigium huasango*), Palo Santo (*Bursera graveolens*), Guayacán (*Tabebuia billbergii*), Ceibo (*Ceiba trichistandra*), Pretino (*Cavanillesia platanifolia*) Palo de Balsa (*Ochroma pyramidalis*), Cetico (*Cecropia peltata*), Cedro (*Cedrela montana*), Angolo (*Pithecellobium multiflorum*), Algarrobo (*Prosopis pallida*), Pasallo (*Eriotheca ruizii*), Overo (*Cordia lutea*).



Recent operational activities by INRENA:

Deforestation: routine patrols in various areas. Coordinations with communities in buffer zone, involving them in control. **Illegal traffic of parrots:** control program during breeding season, which has reduced the illegal trapping of parrots. Coordinations with Ecuador to reduce entrance of Ecuadorians into the Reserve to trap parrots and deforest. **Livestock:** working with cattle farmers to regulate the number of cattle in the Reserve. Elaboration and implementation of Pasture Use Plan. **Forest fires:** with the formation of community brigades to control forest fires, the number of fires has been reduced by 90%. **Education:** Implementation of Environmental Education Plan which has been inserted into the curriculum of local schools. **Tourism:** implementation Tourism Plan, with the formation of community tourism committees in several areas, with training in guiding and treatment of tourists. **Research:** various studies with park guards and students from local universities. Systemization of studies during last 5 years. Recently a Biological Research Station has been constructed in Cerros de Amotape NP. **Management:** Management Committees for Cerros de Amotape NP, El Angolo HG and the Reserve have allowed greater participation of civil society in the management of these areas.