

THE VALDIVIAN COASTAL RESERVE

COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

Pioneering carbon offsets conserve Chile's native Valdivian forests, protect its biodiversity and boost livelihoods for local communities.

Deforestation and forest degradation is a leading cause of climate change, generating approximately 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions, threatening global biodiversity and millions of people who depend on forests for their livelihoods. By working with the private and public sectors and local communities, The Nature Conservancy is helping to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in benefit of people and nature.

If you are interested in joining with us to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while preserving one of the world's most unique forests, please read on to learn about this opportunity.

*Find out how you can
compensate your carbon
emissions and help conserve
one of the planet's last
temperate rainforests by
retiring carbon credits from
The Nature Conservancy's
Valdivian Coastal Reserve.*



The Valdivian Coastal Reserve is part of an ancient temperate rainforest rising from Chile's southern coastline. With more than half of the world's temperate rainforests gone, the 50,000 - hectare (124,000 acres) Reserve is one of the largest of these areas remaining on Earth. The Conservancy acquired the Valdivian Coastal Reserve in 2003 due to its enormous biological significance and the immediate threat to its forests, which included conversion to non-native eucalyptus plantations and deforestation related to the construction of a coastal highway. For nearly two decades, the Conservancy has been developing

projects that restore and protect forests all around the world by avoiding carbon emissions. In 2014, the Valdivian Coastal Reserve successfully registered and issued the first "REDD" (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) forest carbon credits in Chile certified by the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS). In 2016, it became the first carbon project in Chile to achieve Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) verification. The VCS program is widely acknowledged by project developers, investors and policy-makers as one of the most

rigorous, global standards for voluntary greenhouse gas emissions.

The CCB verification on the other hand, turns the Valdivian Coastal Reserve into the first forest carbon project in Chile that not only captures carbon, but that also promotes the welfare of local communities and conserves valuable biodiversity.

CLIMATE BENEFITS

Protecting the Valdivian Coastal Reserve has avoided the release of almost 400,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere

The Valdivian Coastal Reserve's old growth forests store the equivalent of more than 800 tons of carbon dioxide per hectare (324 tons per acre), some of the largest amounts of carbon per hectare in the world. Stopping deforestation and conversion of these native forests prevented an estimated 350,000 tons of CO₂e emissions from being released into the atmosphere, the

equivalent to taking 67,000 cars off the roads in the United States in one year. At the same time, it helps to mitigate the climate change that is making these forests vulnerable to fires. This was a result of purchasing the site in 2003, a situation that enabled us in 2006, to halt plans to cut down native forests and then prevent the construction of a coastal highway.

The CCB standard verifies that the Reserve's forest carbon project mitigates climate change whilst improving and diversifying livelihoods for local communities and conserving native species, such as Darwin's frog and the pudu, ranked as highly threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).



Local communities have been able to diversify their activities improving the economy

BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS

Saving Chile's native rainforests means saving the habitats of mammals, birds and plants found nowhere else on Earth

The Valdivian Coastal Reserve is of global ecological importance. During the last Ice Age, the coastal rainforests of southern Chile provided plants and wildlife with a freeze-free refuge. As a result, the Valdivian coastal forests harbor some of Chile's highest concentrations of rare and unique species found nowhere else on Earth. The Reserve's biological treasures include Olivillo and Alerce trees, with lifespans of more than 400 years and 3,000 years, respectively. These forests harbor one of the world's

largest woodpeckers; the tree-dwelling marsupial known as the mountain monkey considered by scientists to be a living fossil; the world's smallest deer, the pudú, rare carnivores such as the southern river otter and at least 58 bird species.

BENEFITS FOR COMMUNITIES

A project that contributes to the economic development of local communities

The Conservancy works closely with neighboring finishing villages and indigenous communities to maintain traditional land uses and encourage compatible local economic development. The Conservancy and its local partners collaborate to make the Reserve both accessible and informative to all visitors, driving tourism that is crucial for the economic sustainability of local communities. Tourists represent a market for sustainably produced goods, such as locally produced organic

honey and herbal teas. Moreover, a joint management plan with the adjacent Alerce National Park - the first in Chile - ensures that specially trained fire brigades from the local community prevent and combat forest fires, a growing problem in Chile throughout the year.



JOIN US AND FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE USING CARBON OFFSETS!

Together we can conserve rainforests in Chile

HOW COMPANIES BENEFIT

The Nature Conservancy is seeking financial supporters to retire carbon credits from the Valdivian Coastal Reserve project. Financial supporters will receive rights to verified forest carbon offsets, certified under the VCS and CCB standards. The Conservancy can retire these offsets on behalf of the financial supporter on a public VCS-authorized offset registry, or transfer the offsets to the registry account of the financial supporter. Companies and other

supporters will be recognized not only for offsetting their carbon footprint, but also for contributing to the protection of 50,000 hectares (124,000 acres) of ancient temperate rainforest, saving numerous endemic species and unique vegetation, and supporting the economic development of local communities. Your support will contribute to The Nature Conservancy's mission of conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends.

To learn more about this opportunity or to request a Technical Summary, please contact:

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**CONTACT US
TO LEARN MORE**

<http://www.reservacosteravaldiviana.cl/>

Photos: Pages 1-3 Nick Hall,
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