



# Russas and Valparaíso REDD Projects



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Project partner: Carbonfund, a U.S.-based non-profit organization

The Russas and Valparaíso REDD projects protect nearly 70,000 hectares (170,000+ acres) of pristine Amazon rainforest in the western state of Acre in Brazil.

The area is under threat of deforestation from new roads and expansion of cattle ranching and agriculture.

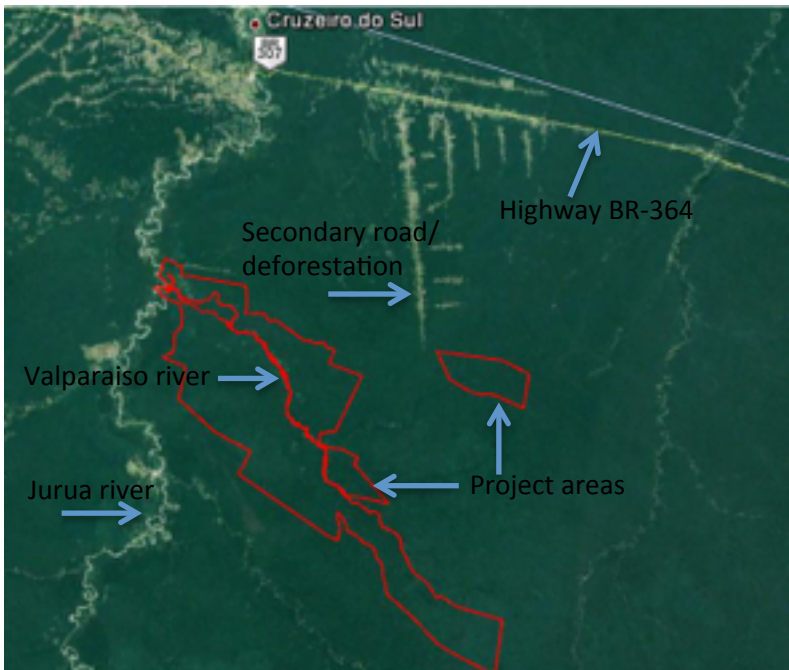
The projects aim to reduce deforestation by working with 55 small communities to improve agricultural practices, increase forest monitoring, and provide incentives for conservation.

The projects provide an opportunity for offset partners to protect iconic Amazon rainforest habitat and wildlife such as howler monkeys, freshwater dolphins, scarlet macaws, and jaguars.



## Project Background

- The projects are located in western Brazil in the state of Acre alongside the Valparaíso and Jurua rivers about 40km south of the city of Cruzeiro do Sul.
- Recent paving of highway BR-364 and new secondary roads has brought pressures to deforest land for expansion of cattle ranching (the largest driver of deforestation in Acre) and agriculture.
- The projects, started in March 2011, aim to reduce deforestation by working with communities to improve agricultural practices, increase forest monitoring, and provide incentives for conservation. They are registered under both the Verified Carbon Standard and the Climate, Community, and Biodiversity Standard (Gold level for Community Benefits).
- The projects are a collaboration of CarbonCo (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Carbonfund, a US based non-profit), I.S.R.C. and Manoel Batista Lopes (Brazilian landowners), and Carbon Securities (CarbonCo's Brazilian partner).



## Project Benefits

### Climate Benefits

- The Amazon forest plays a pivotal role in regulating the earth's temperature and climate by removing and storing vast amounts carbon dioxide.
- In the project areas, more 30 million tons of carbon dioxide are stored.
- The projects aim to prevent the deforestation of 14,000 hectares over the next 10 years and avoid the emission of nearly 5 million tons of carbon dioxide.



### Community Benefits

- 55 small communities live in the areas surrounding the projects.
- Communities will receive assistance in formalizing title to the lands that they currently utilize.
- Communities will also receive agricultural training to improve productivity and incomes on their farms without the need to deforest.
- A local farming association will be created to increase community incomes by improving processing, distribution, and sales of acai berries and manioc (cassava).



### Biodiversity Benefits

- The project lies within the Amazon rainforest and river basin, one of the most biologically diverse and ecologically important areas in the world.
- The project protects tropical rainforest which is vital for rainfall in the region as water is continually recycled through the Amazon rainforest by evapotranspiration and rain.
- The project protects habitat for an astonishing array of species of plants and animals including howler monkeys, freshwater dolphins, scarlet macaws, and



## Offset Partners

*The Russas and Valparaíso projects are seeking partnerships with organizations interested in acquiring carbon offsets to reduce their environmental footprint while helping preserve threatened tropical rainforests and improving the lives of rainforest communities.*



*For more information, please contact Scott Settelmyer at [scott.settelmyer@terraCarbon.com](mailto:scott.settelmyer@terraCarbon.com) or +1-309-693-9303 or visit [http://terraCarbon.com/for\\_buyers](http://terraCarbon.com/for_buyers)*