

**HOW WE WORK**

**PARKSWATCH TAKES A THREE-STEP APPROACH TO TROPICAL PARK CONSERVATION:**

*1) Gathering Information Through On-Site Inspections*

Park inspections begin by gathering information through extensive background research. The on-site data collection follows a standardized ParksWatch questionnaire completed through field observations and interviews with park directors and other personnel, tourists, scientists, and local residents.

*2) Analyzing Results*

Our product is “Park Profiles.” These compile and synthesize the large amount of information that results from each park audit. The centerpiece of each profile is a multi-disciplinary evaluation (“diagnosis”) of the state of the park based on an analysis of threats, local socioeconomic context, management needs, links to other regional and national organizations, and other such crucial matters. Each diagnosis leads to a prescription for actions needed to alleviate or remedy the most pressing needs.

*3) Publicizing Information*

Results are shared directly with the government agencies, conservation NGOs, and local communities involved in protected area management through conferences, meetings and workshops. In addition, results are disseminated to the international conservation community through publicity campaigns and our website.



Laguna del Tigre National Park, Guatemala

For more information on ParksWatch or to make a contribution, visit our website at:

[www.parkswatch.org](http://www.parkswatch.org)

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*ParksWatch would like to give a special thanks to our funders, including: the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, The Overbrook Foundation, the Foundation for Deep Ecology, the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences, and our individual donors.*



**CTC**  
 Center for  
 Tropical  
 Conservation



NICHOLAS SCHOOL OF THE  
 ENVIRONMENT AND EARTH SCIENCES  
 DUKE UNIVERSITY

**PARKSWATCH**  
*Strengthening Parks  
 to Safeguard Biodiversity*



**THE PROBLEM: TROPICAL PARKS IN CRISIS**

In many countries around the globe, the last remnants of native habitats and wildlife are found in a single category of land-use: parks. If the parks in these countries fail, their natural heritage will be lost forever. If humankind values intact nature, biodiversity, and wilderness, PARKS MUST WORK. Regrettably, the condition of many parks is deteriorating, particularly in tropical developing countries, that harbor the vast majority of the world's biodiversity. Despite the money invested in conservation each year, a disturbing scheme pervades the tropics: a lack of accurate information on the conservation status of parks, and of any accountability for their condition. Believing that this lack of accurate information is a serious impediment to tropical conservation, Duke University's Center for Tropical Conservation (CTC) launched ParksWatch to address this problem. ParksWatch was created in 1999 by Dr. John Terborgh, James B. Duke Professor of Environmental Science at Duke University and Co-Director of the CTC.

**THE SOLUTION: PARKSWATCH**

Through partnerships with in-country NGOs and individuals, ParksWatch conducts on-site evaluations of parks and protected areas in Latin America. The information gathered is used to analyze threats to parks' conservation viability, identify strategies for overcoming threats, and help government agencies, NGOs, and community groups succeed at the ultimate goal of protecting biodiversity. ParksWatch staff at the CTC defines project goals and procedures, analyzes data, provides academic support, and oversees dissemination of reports. Our in-country partners coordinate data collection with ParksWatch-funded personnel, and subsequently use our analyses, information, and contacts for the implementation of local conservation programs.

*ParksWatch is dedicated to protecting biodiversity by gathering, analyzing, and publicizing up-to-date information on the state of tropical parks and protected areas.*

**WHERE WE WORK**

**MEXICO**  
Established: January 2002  
Partner: Naturalia A.C.  
Director: Gerardo Carreón

**VENEZUELA**  
Established: November 1999  
Partner: Bioparques  
Director: Rodolfo Castillo

**GUATEMALA**  
Established: Feb. 2001  
Partner: Trópico Verde  
Director: Carlos Albacete

**BOLIVIA**  
Established: March 2005  
Director: Mario Diego Lilienfeld

**PERU**  
Established: August 2000  
Director: Diego Shoobridge

**SOUTHERN CONE**  
Established: July 2004  
Partner: Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales, Argentina  
Director: Adrian Monjeau

**BRAZIL**  
Established: August 2002  
Partner: Fund. O' Boticario  
Director: Gustavo Gatti