



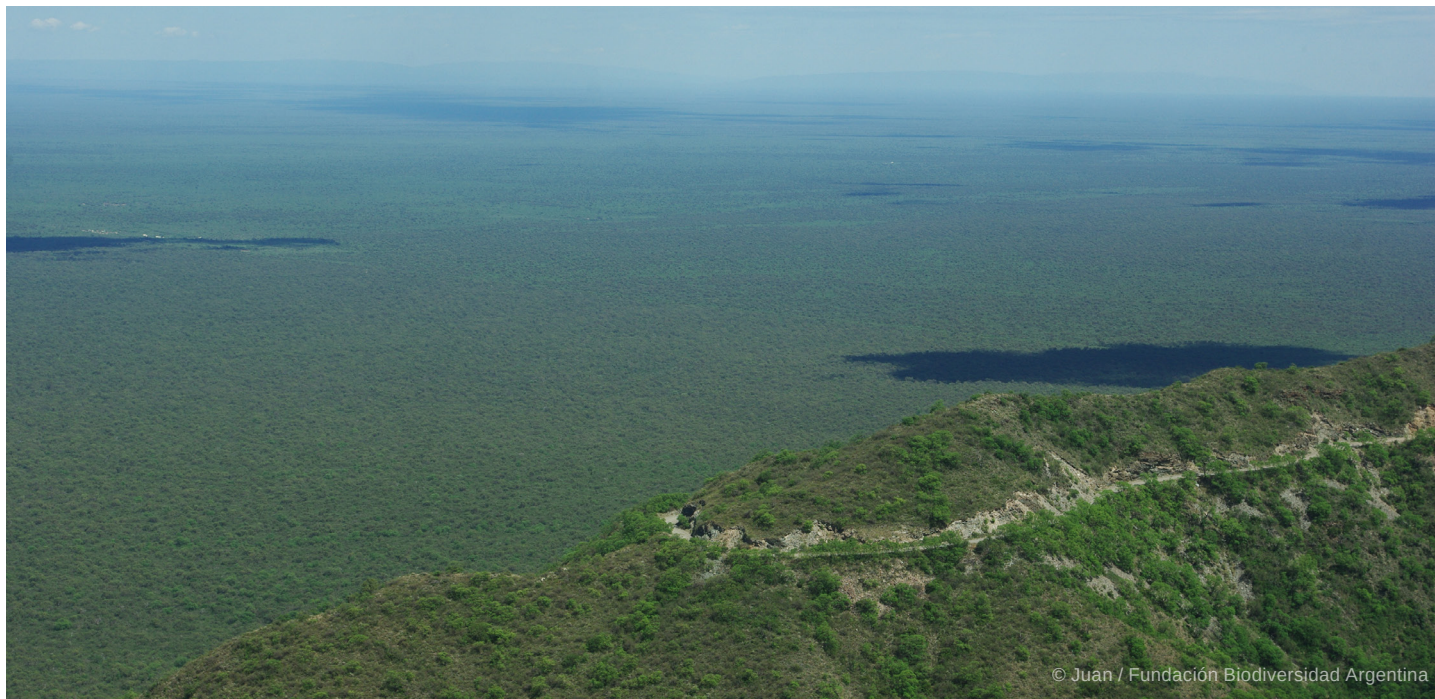
WORLD  
LAND  
TRUST

# Chaco Taguá Biological Corridor

WLT's Buy an Acre project  
in Argentina



# Chaco Taguá Biological Corridor



© Juan / Fundación Biodiversidad Argentina

## Country Argentina

## Partner/Organisation Fundación Biodiversidad Argentina (FBA)

## Biome

Tropical and subtropical grasslands, savannas and shrublands

## Ecoregion

Dry Chaco

## Habitats

Predominantly xerophytic forest (secondary) with further woodland and shrubland areas. Mostly flat plains of around 250 metres above sea level, rising sharply up to 1,000 metres in the Sierras de Guasapampa and Poncho ranges to the east.

## Project summary

In Argentina's Córdoba Province, less than 5% of native forests remain following years of logging, wildfires and urbanisation. The Chaco Taguá Biological Corridor will protect a significant portion of these forests as well as large parts of the Chaqueña, the second-largest forest area in South America, which itself has faced significant deforestation due to agricultural expansion. This project aims to connect and expand two protected areas within Córdoba, preserving threatened ecosystems and allowing native wildlife – including the once-thought extinct Chacoan Peccary – to travel safely across the landscape. Buy an Acre supporters' initial contribution to the corridor will buffer Traslasierra National Park to the north through a 13,136-acre (5,316 ha) land purchase. This will form part of a wider project, with the 18,468-acre (7,474 ha) corridor to the south connecting Traslasierra to Chancaní Provincial Park. If all available properties are purchased, the contiguous protected areas will cover 315,000 acres (127,475 ha).

## Main threats to the area

The ineffective enforcement of Argentina's Forestry Law has resulted in land being cleared within FBA's proposed properties in spite of legal safeguards. Even areas offered the highest level of protection – classified as 'Red' under the Law – have been subjected to illegal land use practices. If conservation action doesn't come, the remaining forests here will remain vulnerable to overexploitation, unplanned urbanisation, the setting of intentional fires, poaching, and indiscriminate logging for charcoal and timber production. Further biodiversity losses from these pressures will likely take a toll on local people too, impacting the quality of the forest resources that communities rely on for their daily lives.

## Global prioritisation

The corridor neighbours the Chancaní y Sierras de Pocho Important Bird Area (IBA), within the Gran Chaco Centre of Plant Diversity.

### Spot-backed Puffbird



### Crowned Eagle



### Chacoan Peccary



### UN Sustainable Development Goals advanced by this project



**GOAL 6:**  
CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



**GOAL 13:**  
CLIMATE  
ACTION



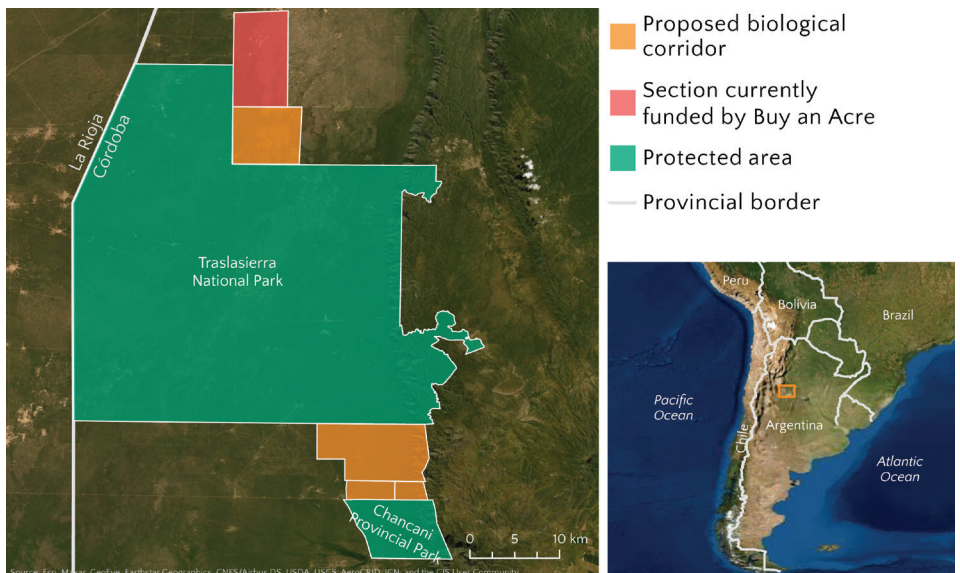
**GOAL 15:**  
LIFE ON LAND



**GOAL 17:**  
PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS

### <sup>1</sup>Footnote

The Red List of Threatened Species, maintained by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), includes categories of Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT) and Least Concern (LC).



### Key species<sup>1</sup>

Chacoan Peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*, EN), Chaco Guanaco (*Lama guanicoe*, LC), Crowned Solitary Eagle (*Buteogallus coronatus*, EN), Yellow Cardinal (*Gubernatrix cristata*, EN), Chalchalero Viscacha Rat (*Salinoctomys loschalchalerosorum*, CR), Berg's Tuco-tuco (*Ctenomys bergi*, VU).

### Biodiversity

This project takes its name from the Chacoan Peccary, or taguá, a boar-like mammal that was thought extinct until the first live individuals were sighted in 1970. Since then, hunting and habitat loss have combined to push the species to Endangered status. According to an IUCN assessment, Chacoan Peccary numbers could halve within just three generations, but FBA's proposed corridor offers hope. The project will link the southernmost population of taguá with those further north, preventing a fate of genetic isolation. The expansion of Traslasierra will also provide further protected habitat for the park's wildlife, including 229 species of bird, 43 species of reptile and amphibian, and 35 species of mammal – such as the Chalchalero Viscacha Rat and Berg's Tuco-tuco, two extinction-facing rodents endemic to Argentina – as well as the only known population of Chaco Guanaco in Argentina.

### Local communities

The properties that make up the proposed corridor are large farming estates (estancias) that will be purchased from private landowners. Surrounding the corridor are around 23 communities, ranging in size from a few families to several thousand inhabitants, who make their living from the land in one of the poorest regions of Argentina. Their productive activities are mainly marginal, subsistence-level livestock (goat) rearing. The Chaco Taguá project will protect the forest upon which these local people depend, with FBA ensuring secondary activities – agriculture, collecting firewood, creating natural dyes, collecting medicinal and aromatic plants – are undertaken sustainably.

### Partner/Organisation

Founded in 1999, Fundación Biodiversidad Argentina (FBA) is an NGO dedicated to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. Since the beginning of our collaboration in 2012, WLT and FBA have worked together in Argentina to secure an important section of Atlantic Forest known as the Emerald Green Corridor (Misiones Province) and the cloud forest reserve of El Pantanoso (Jujuy Province). Outside of WLT support, FBA train local people in biodiversity management; develop management plans for threatened species like the Yellow Anaconda; and promote the sustainable use of Llama, Alpaca, Guanaco and Vicuña wool, among other projects.