



SAÍRA NEWS

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Year 2

Vargem Alta - ES

KAETÉS RESERVE

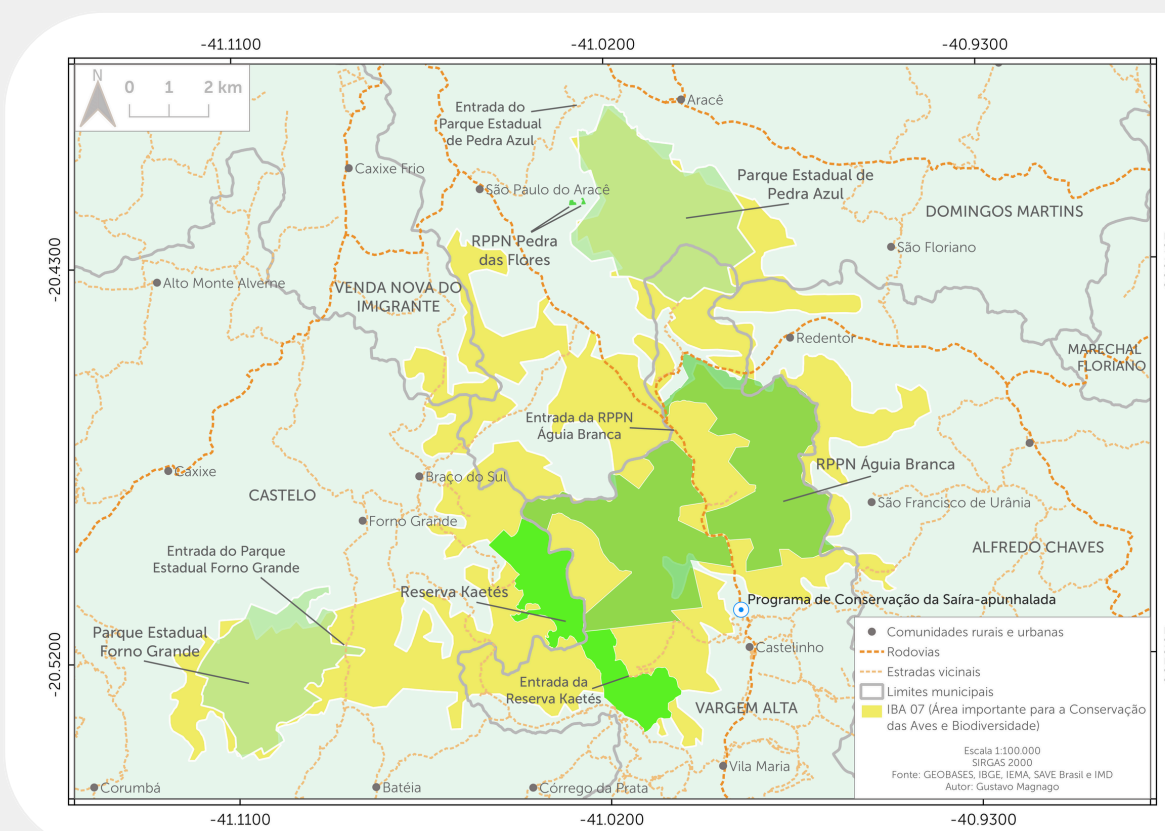


Photo: Gustavo Magnago

Drone image capturing the aerial view of Kaetés Reserve, a Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) located on the borders of the municipalities of Vargem Alta and Castelo, in the state of Espírito Santo, Brazil.

The Kaetés Reserve, established in 2021 by the Marcos Daniel Institute (IMD) with the support of international partners Rainforest Trust, World Land Trust, and American Bird Conservancy, is located on the border of the municipalities of Vargem Alta and Castelo, in Espírito Santo. It ranges in altitude from 1000 to 1230 meters above sea level. The reserve represents the culmination of joint efforts to protect the Cherry-throated Tanager and also harbors another 16 species threatened with extinction, including plants, birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and fish. The Reserve is a Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) recognized by ICMBIO, of a perennial nature.

The Kaetés Reserve protects an area of approximately 667 hectares of Atlantic Forest at high altitude or dense montane rainforest, internationally recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA 07).



On the left, the map highlights the location of the Kaetés Reserve within IBA 07. On the right, the Kaetés Reserve logo.

The area where the Reserve was established is called Mata de Caetés, a term derived from Tupi-Guarani, originally written as Ka'eté, meaning "Dense Forest." By naming the RPPN as the Kaetés Reserve, we not only preserve the history of the site but also convey the message about its rich biodiversity and high degree of conservation and ecological relevance.

BIRD OBSERVATION TOWER

Have you ever thought about seeing the forest from above? At the Kaetés Reserve, we have an observation tower right in the middle of the forest, towering at an impressive 37 meters in height! You can be right there amidst the trees and at the top of them. We are thrilled about this achievement and want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our partner, Rainforest Trust, who funded the construction of the tower as part of the project to develop the reserve's infrastructure.

This tower was constructed to be safe and stable, allowing the use of telescopes, spotting scopes, and binoculars for birdwatching. The tower is part of IMD's strategy to achieve financial sustainability for the reserve. Now, researchers and birdwatchers will enjoy Mata de Caetés from a different perspective, from above. The tower is not yet open to visitors as we are working on the access trail. Due to the sensitivity of the area, access will be restricted and scheduled.



Image of the bird observation tower amidst the forest, with the peak of the Forno Grande State Park in the background.

SCIENTIFIC TOURISM



S-Rex, an adapted vehicle transporting visitors at the Kaetés Reserve.

At the Kaetés Reserve, scientific tourism is an essential tool for promoting financial sustainability and environmental awareness. Visitors there have the opportunity to actively participate in field activities of the Cherry-throated Tanager Conservation Program, collecting data and monitoring birds in their natural habitat, always under the guidance of the program's team.

This tourism model contributes to financial sustainability for research and also plays a crucial role in raising awareness among visitors. By directly engaging in monitoring activities, visitors develop a deeper connection with nature and gain a better understanding of the importance of the work we carry out in the program. It's not just an incredible experience; it's a meaningful one that fosters appreciation and stewardship of our natural world.

We have an adapted vehicle, a type of open-air safari truck, affectionately called the S-Rex by the team, to welcome visitors and provide an even more immersive and comfortable experience. The S-Rex, specially designed for scientific tourism, allows visitors to enjoy activities safely and comfortably.

INFRASTRUCTURE OF KAETÉS RESERVE

The Kaetés Reserve features infrastructure designed to promote and accommodate research activities and related endeavors, with accommodations intended for researchers, scientists, and field teams seeking to study the region's biodiversity. The accommodations will provide all necessary amenities to ensure a comfortable stay, including work areas, internet connectivity, and communal spaces.

In addition, we provide a house specially designed for the residence of the reserve's caretaker and their family. This residence also plays a crucial role in maintaining and protecting the area, ensuring that there is always someone present to oversee and care for the reserve.

Our construction works are being carried out using sustainable building methods such as the reuse of wood, the use of cement blocks with polystyrene (EPS), which reduces the amount of concrete, reinforcement, water, and sand, while also promoting thermal balance and generating electricity savings.



Finishing work on the research center at the Kaetés Reserve.



On the left, Marcelo and Valdivia with the professionals responsible for the finishing work on the infrastructure works at the Kaetés Reserve. On the right, the caretaker's residence in the final stages of construction.



1ST PLANTING FOR FOREST RESTORATION IN THE KAETÉS RESERVE



Marcelo Renan, Adenilson and Maria Panzin during the first reforestation planting at Kaetés Reserve.

On March 9th, the Kaetés Reserve welcomed a technical visit from students of the State Center for Technical Education (CEET) Giuseppe Altoé, based in Vargem Alta, for an environmental restoration action through the planting of over 400 seedlings of native species of the Atlantic Forest, such as silk floss tree, cambuci, purple ipê, yellow ipê, pink cedar, and others, generously provided by Adenilson and Maria Panzin, in an area of approximately 5000 m² within the Reserve. This initiative also involved the participation of members of the local community and program partners. The event was marked by the first official public visit to the area and significantly, by the first planting effort in one of the reserve's restoration areas.



The CEET Giuseppe Altoé class on a field trip to the Kaetés Reserve.

Simultaneously, another team from the Cherry-throated Tanager Conservation Program, along with professors from the institution, coordinated activities with the students by conducting a field trip, exploring the Interpretative Trail leading to the Observation Tower, culminating in a climb up the Tower for a moment of landscape contemplation.



Students and teachers from CEET Giuseppe Altoé participating in reforestation planting.



Students from CEET Giuseppe Altoé climbing the observation tower.

WITH THE WORD...

"When we began studying the Cherry-throated Tanager in the Mata de Caetés in 2015, we were enchanted by the forest but concerned about the protection of this territory little known to science. We understood that ecosystem protection would be a necessary step for success in conservation efforts. So, we planned and identified priority areas for protection. We sought partners who shared this vision and found international NGOs that supported us extraordinarily, providing financial resources, assisting in the development of IMD, and helping us grow consistently. Today, we celebrate a significant milestone for conservation in Espírito Santo, the Kaetés Reserve, which fills us with pride and increases our responsibility to society, especially to our local community that has welcomed us and now shares our objectives."

Marcelo Renan de Deus Santos - President of IMD



PASSARINHAS E EDUCAR

Birdwatching as a tool for environmental education.



Photo: Collection/IMD

Students from Forno Grande School visiting Forno Grande State Park for Passarinhas e Educar environmental education activities.

The 2024 season of Passarinhas e Educar started off on the right foot! Our team has expanded environmental education activities to schools in Castelo and Domingos Martins, municipalities within the direct scope of PCSA. Additionally, the project has already aligned actions with two schools near REBIO Augusto Ruschi, in Santa Teresa. Check out below how it went!



Photo: Collection/IMD

Use of Pickers during the Interactive Lecture activity.



Photo: Collection/IMD

Execution of the Web of Life activity.

During the months of March and April, Forno Grande Municipal School in Castelo and Córrego São Paulo Municipal School in Domingos Martins were included in the project. With a collaborative and receptive approach, the school teams joined our environmental education team to develop the proposed activities, aligned with topics already covered in the classroom.

Throughout the meetings (five in total), students from both schools participated in theoretical and practical activities, as well as visited a Conservation Unit. Forno Grande School visited Forno Grande State Park in Castelo, while Córrego São Paulo School visited Pedra Azul State Park in Domingos Martins. Guided by the PCSA team, students explored natural trails, participated in birdwatching activities, and completed tasks whose methodologies allow the team to effectively assess the impact of project activities on student learning and identify areas for future improvement and curriculum development.



Photo: Arthur Bellon

Execution of the Instablistical activity.



Photo: Collection/IMD

Use of binoculars and field notebooks during the birdwatching activity.

28TH OF APRIL, STATE BIRD DAY, DEDICATED TO THE CHERRY-THROATED TANAGER

It's official! A milestone for Cherry-throated Tanager conservation!

Foto: Acervo/IMD

LEI Nº 12.090

Acrescenta item ao Anexo Único da Lei nº 11.212, de 29 de outubro de 2020, instituindo o Dia da Ave, dedicado à proteção da Saíra-apunhalada e cria a Semana Estadual de Observação de Aves, na forma que especifica.

O GOVERNADOR DO ESTADO DO ESPÍRITO SANTO

Faço saber que a Assembleia Legislativa decretou e eu sanciono a seguinte Lei:

Art. 1º O Anexo Único da Lei nº 11.212, de 29 de outubro de 2020, que consolidou toda a legislação em vigor referente às semanas e aos dias/correlatos estaduais comemorativos de relevantes datas e de assuntos de interesse público no âmbito do Estado, passa a vigorar acrescido de item com a seguinte redação:

“Anexo Único, a que se refere o art. 1º desta Lei

DIA E SEMANA ESTADUAL/CORRELATOS	
DIA	ABRIL
28	Dia da Ave, dedicado à proteção da Saíra-apunhalada.

DIA E SEMANA ESTADUAL/CORRELATOS	
DIA	ABRIL
-	Semana Estadual de Observação de Aves, a ser comemorada, anualmente, no período compreendido entre os dias 22 e 28 do mês de abril, cuja ave símbolo será a Saíra-apunhalada.

(...).” (NR)

Art. 2º Esta Lei entra em vigor na data de sua publicação.

Palácio Anchieta, em Vitória, 16 de abril de 2024.

JOSÉ RENATO CASAGRANDE

Governador do Estado

Protocolo 1303584

Publication in the Official Gazette of the State of Espírito Santo instituting the creation of Bird Day, dedicated to the protection of the Cherry-throated Tanager.

On April 17, 2024, a law was published in the Official Gazette of Espírito Santo defining April 28th as the State Bird Day dedicated to the protection of the Cherry-throated Tanager, and the week of April 22nd to 28th as the State Birdwatching Week, with the Cherry-throated Tanager as the symbol bird. The amendment to the law was proposed by State Deputy Iriny Lopes. This is very significant news for bird conservation in our state.

We would like to express our gratitude to Deputy Iriny Lopes and Governor Renato Casagrande and their teams for their recognition and support of the cause of bird conservation, especially of the Cherry-throated Tanager, a symbol of our biodiversity.

FIELD NOTES

NESTING SEASON

End of the breeding season for Cherry-throated Tanagers.

During the breeding seasons of 2023 and 2024, two nests of the Cherry-throated Tanager were found: one in Mata de Caetés in August, abandoned after the third day of incubation, and another in Santa Teresa in September, which was predated by Black-necked aracari (*Pteroglossus aracari*). The estimated breeding season was from September to March. No other nest was located. The currently known population is 20 individuals, with 15 in Mata de Caetés and 5 in Santa Teresa. We are committed to understanding the challenges faced by the species and improving strategies to increase its reproductive success.



Cherry-throated Tanager feeding chick at Kaetés Reserve.

SIGHTINGS AT KAETÉS RESERVE

Mammals are recorded by camera traps installed in the Kaetés Reserve.

Our monitoring cameras have been recording a great diversity of wildlife, especially mammals such as pumas, oncillas, opossums, coatis, and armadillos, as well as lizards, in addition to a huge variety of birds observed daily by the team. These records highlight the importance of using appropriate methodologies for wildlife monitoring and the crucial role of the Kaetés Reserve in protecting these species.



Onça-parda, tatu e mão-pelada registrados pelas armadilhas fotográficas na Reserva Kaetés.

INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATIONS

RENEWAL OF PARTNERSHIP WITH ALUPAR

We celebrate the renewal of Alupar's sponsorship of PCSA for another 12 months. In a meeting at the company's headquarters in São Paulo on April 19th, with the presence of João Eduardo Pinheiro, Executive Director, Rosiane Melo, and Marina Giannotti, Marcelo Renan and Yhuri Nóbrega, directors of IMD, the results of the last sponsorship period were presented and the agreement for continuity was closed. Alupar is a company we are proud to associate with and work together for the conservation of the Cherry-throated Tanager. Our gratitude and recognition for the partnership since the beginning of the program.



Marcelo Renan, President of IMD, between Rosiane Melo on the left and Marina Giannotti from ALUPAR.



Valdivia Rocha, social mobilizer of PCSA, receiving the title of Citizen of Vargem Alta.

TITLE OF CITIZEN OF VARGEM ALTA

Our social mobilizer, Valdivia Rocha, received the title of Citizen of Vargem Alta from the city council for her outstanding environmental services to the municipality. Granted unanimously, this title represents the community's recognition of her dedication and commitment to building bridges between the Cherry-throated Tanager Conservation Program and the community. We are very proud of Val's wonderful work and extend this recognition to the entire program team.

ALINHAMENTO INSTITUCIONAL: PCSA X REBIO X VALE X IDAF

The new phase of Passarilhar e Educar is underway with the selection of two new schools in the municipality of Santa Teresa, ES, located near the Augusto Ruschi Biological Reserve (REBIO), one of the territories of the Cherry-throated Tanager. In partnership with environmental educators from REBIO and the Espírito Santo Institute of Agriculture and Forestry Defense (IDAF), we aim to promote integration between Passarilhar e Educar and conservation efforts in the region.



Meeting to align environmental education actions.



Aula inaugural da III turma do Ser Mata Atlântica (2024).

III SER MATA ATLÂNTICA (2024)

In March, the III Continuing Education for Environmental Educators of Vargem Alta was launched, with the participation of 15 teachers from the municipal education system. The project, of an ongoing nature, follows the same format as the two previous editions, with a provision of 10 theoretical and practical classes held at different locations according to the topic to be addressed. The proposing institutions, Instituto Marcos Daniel, Vargem Alta Municipal Government, and Águia Branca Environmental Reserve, remain united in this important project.

VII BIRD BANDING COURSE



Photo: Collection/IMD

The 7th Bird Banding and Moulting Cycle Analysis Course - Itamonte/MG.

Between March 17th and 23rd, our biologists Wesley Johnny and Carlos Hartur participated in the VII Bird Banding and Moulting Cycle Analysis Course. The course took place at the Alta Montana Institute, located in the city of Itamonte, MG, in the central region of the Mantiqueira Mountains. The event was organized by Professor Gonçalo Ferraz from UFRGS (Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul) and the Mantiqueira Bird Observatory (OAMA).

II FESTIVAL ÁGUAS E FLORESTAS

The Program team attended the 2nd Water and Forests Festival, celebrating nature and sustainability in Venda Nova do Imigrante, ES. The festival featured various activities, including displays of sustainable initiatives and successful environmental management cases from local actors. One of the highlighted attractions was the "Caetés Birds" Photographic Exhibition, presented in digital format. The event provided an opportunity to showcase our work to the attending audience.



Photo: Collection/IMD

Attendance at the 2nd Festival Águas e Florestas in Venda Nova do Imigrante.



Photo: Collection/IMD

One of the selected drawings in the Day of Drawing a Bird campaign.

DAY OF DRAWING A BIRD

On April 8th, the Day of Drawing a Bird was celebrated, and PCSA took part in a very cool initiative in partnership with the Parque das Aves on social media. People from various places submitted their bird drawings, which were posted on Instagram and the Bird Park's blog. The Cherry-throated Tanager made an appearance in two drawings by students from the public schools of Vargem Alta. Check out all the selected drawings at this [link](#).



Photo: André Alves

Team of the Cherry-throated Tanager Conservation Program on the day of the first reforestation planting at Kaetés Reserve.

Thank you for reading!

If you have any questions, ideas, feedback, or if you'd like to share something, we're here for you. Find us on social media!

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REALIZAÇÃO



PROJETOS



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