

It's been an exciting quarter for Rainforest Foundation US! In this edition of our newsletter, you'll learn about [Rainforest Alert](#): our community-based forest monitoring program that's now scientifically backed to reduce deforestation on indigenous peoples' lands. The new peer-reviewed study examining Rainforest Alert, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, shows that when indigenous peoples adopted satellite data and smartphone technologies, they reduced illegal forest loss on their lands by 52% in a single year. Another story gives you an intimate look at the indigenous patrollers (also known as "community monitors") who are personally responsible for defending the forest. Finally, you'll read about a recent delegation of indigenous leaders who traveled to Washington, D.C. to advocate for more direct climate financing to indigenous communities.

While the climate crisis continues to deliver fearsome destruction worldwide this summer, we're optimistic that the work of our indigenous partners will be a key part of the solution.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Pelletier  
Executive Director of Rainforest Foundation US

## NEWS FROM THE GROUND



### New science backs community forest protection

A new peer-reviewed study finds that indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon equipped with satellite-based deforestation data and smartphones can be a powerful force in the battle against deforestation.

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### Meet the Forest Patrol

Meet the heroes behind the heartening data: a deeper dive into the courageous men and women who have taken on the risk of defending these rainforests against illegal invaders.

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### International delegation of indigenous leaders visit DC

In July, leaders of the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities, a Rainforest Foundation US partner, traveled to Washington, D.C. where they met with the US Department of State, the US Treasury, the White House Council of Indigenous Affairs, the government of the United Kingdom, and others, to emphasize the need for indigenous communities to receive direct access to climate finance in the intensifying fight against climate change. As a result, the United Kingdom pledged to provide new funding for indigenous peoples' land rights and concrete support from the US government is still pending, with follow-up meetings scheduled at the Department of State.

## IN THE NEWS

**BBC:** ["Climate change: Technology boosts efforts to curb tree loss in Amazon"](#)

**France24:** ["Satellite data helped indigenous Peruvians save rainforest: study"](#)

**Thompson Reuters:** ["Peru's indigenous tribes use tech tools to track Amazon deforestation"](#)

## GET INVOLVED

### Test your knowledge

QUESTION: What is the leading cause of deforestation in the Amazon?

ANSWER:

**A**

Clearing new lands for crops and pastures

**B**

Logging for timber and other forest goods

**C**

Building new roads and dams



*"I donated because I'm a nature lover and I've read about the terrible fires in Brazil, destroying the Amazon. I've read about the indigenous peoples who are trying to maintain their way of life, but are being killed or threatened by loggers and ranchers. I've read that the government is giving those people the green light to take more forest for their businesses."*

*Rainforest Foundation US is rated highly on Charity Navigator, and was praised by other rating organizations as well, so I felt confident that my donation would be used efficiently."*

- Kirsten from Monkton, MD

For over 30 years, Rainforest Foundation US has worked to address climate change and safeguard biodiversity by promoting the rights of indigenous peoples and protecting rainforests from further destruction. Continue to support our efforts to protect and defend the rainforest by making a contribution to RFUS today.

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