

Centre for Biodiversity, Chile.

Vision

The Chilean environment is spectacular in its level of endemism - the proportion of its flora and fauna that are found nowhere else on earth. Pressure from forestry, agriculture and development continues to reduce and fragment this Global Biodiversity Hotspot. Urgent action is required to reverse this trend of ecosystem degradation.

The Centre for Biodiversity seeks to provide support to conservation in Chile through education and research on temperate rainforest biodiversity and sustainable development.

In collaboration with the Catholic University of Chile, Macaulay Institute and Oxford University, the Centre is advancing knowledge on Chilean native fauna and its dynamics in the fragmented interface habitats between wilderness and human development. This work, with support from the Darwin Initiative Programme aims to establish innovative science-based solutions for biodiversity conservation.



Xolmis pyrope pyrope

AN INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR CONSERVATION

Our challenge is to turn this ongoing partnership into a permanent facility where Chilean and international research students can work together



Rhinoderma darwini

A CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH

on biodiversity issues and sustainable development; where

conservation biology field courses can be directed, and where we can produce quality environmental data and balanced analysis of environmental problems.

What we do

We work to provide local solutions to issues with global relevance. The catchment of the Rio Tolten hydrological system is a natural laboratory where high-elevation Araucaria forest mixes with ancient Valdivian rainforest in a dramatic landscape of rivers, lakes and volcanoes.

The catchment faces many challenges if it is to sustain both its human population and a biodiverse environment.

For our research, the catchment is a microcosm of the rainforest ecoregion, reflecting the tensions between the developed central valley and a thin strip of endangered wilderness which runs the length of the Southern Andes. The Centre undertakes field-based research



Chloraea magellanica

to international standards, with an agenda directed by a steering committee of leading conservation scientists. A strong emphasis at the Centre is the creation of GIS products that link interdisciplinary scientific data to the protected area planning process.

LOCAL RELEVANCE WITH GLOBAL RESONANCE

Work with us

The Centre for Biodiversity is a not-for-profit institute dedicated to research and training which supports conservation of the Chilean temperate rainforest. There are several ways to get involved in this work: 1. as a volunteer field ecologist; 2. as a research student; 3. through residential short courses in conservation biology.

All of these activities are set up within a framework of collaboration agreements with universities both within and outside Chile. Thesis objectives are developed with course supervisors. On-site academic supervision is provided, as well as regular meetings by internet with home country supervisors.

Please contact us to explore any of these options!



Chusquea quila



Polythysana cinerascens

SCIENCE BASED SOLUTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

The Centre for Biodiversity was formed in 2004 by Parques para Chile, a Chilean NGO dedicated to the protection of native fauna and flora.

Parques para Chile has a broad portfolio of conservation projects, including the Namoncahue Biological Corridor, a public-private conservation initiative created to preserve the integrity of an important tract of remnant primary temperate rainforest in the heart of Chile's Araucanía lake district.

The Centre provides scientific support to conservation initiatives within Chilean forest ecosystems, creating a framework for sustainable development and biodiversity management. In collaboration with several leading universities, we seek to catalyze new approaches to integrated development and conservation in this Global Biodiversity Hotspot.

Lapageria rosea

Persea lingue



CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY

CHILE

Education and research to support the long-term conservation of Chilean native forest fauna, flora and landscape.

CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY

CHILE



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