

Global ICCA database
Pilon Lajas, Bolivia

Basic data

Site Name (in local language and in English)	In Spanish: Reserva de la Biosfera y Territorio Comunitario de Origen Pilon Lajas Pilon Lajas Biosphere Reserve and Indigenous Territory
Country (include State and Province)	Beni, Bolivia
Area encompassed by the CCA (specify unit of measurement).	400,000 hectares
GIS Coordinates (if available)	The Area lies between latitudes 14°25' and 15°27' South and longitudes 66°55' a 67°40' West
Whether it includes sea areas (Yes or no)	No
Whether it includes freshwater (Yes or no)	Yes
Marine (Y or N)	No
Concerned community (name and approx. number of persons)	Asunción de Quiquibey, Gredal, Bisal, Corte, San Bernardo, San Luis Chico and San Luis Grande. 1300 indigenous person
Is the community considering itself an indigenous people? (Please note Yes or No; if yes note which people)	Yes, in 4 ethnic groups: Tsimane, Mosenen, Tacana, and Esse-Ejja
Is the community considering itself a minority? (Please note Yes or No, if yes on the basis of what, e.g. religion, ethnicity)	Yes, based on ethnicity
Is the community permanently settled? (Please note Yes or No; if the community is mobile, does it have a customary transhumance territory?)	Yes
Is the community local per capita income inferior, basically the same or superior to national value? (please note how confident you are about the information)	Yes. Available data for the region shows that rural per capita income is lower than the national average.
Is the CCA recognised as a protected area by governmental agencies? (Yes or no; if yes, how? If no, is it otherwise recognized?) If yes, legal document? Establishment date?	Yes, as a Biosphere Reserve by a National Supreme Decree No. 23110. It was established on April 9, 1992
Conflicts with land tenure, natural resource use?	Potential land tenure invasion and colonisation schemes affecting boundaries of the indigenous territories by colonists coming from the Highlands region in particular. Interest in timber resources by illegal loggers

What is the main management objective (e.g. livelihood, cultural, spiritual...)	Conservation of natural and cultural components. This is complemented by management objectives related to sustainable livelihoods through the implementation of NTFPs and community-based tourism
By definition, a CCA fulfils a management objective. To which IUCN management category do you consider it would best fit (this does not imply that the management objective is consciously pursued by the concerned community, but that it is actually achieved)	Category VI: Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural resources

Additional qualitative information

1. Main ecosystem type	Montane cloud forests and humid forest.
Description of biodiversity & resources (ecosystems, species, functions) conserved by the CCA	Pilon Lajas is likely to harbour an exceptionally rich flora and fauna, and is probably a hotspot for endemic species. Estimates suggest that Pilon Lajas may harbour between 2,000 and 3,000 plant species. As of this writing, 73 mammal, 485 bird, 58 reptile, 36 amphibian, and 103 fish species have been recorded in the reserve. However, Area-wide, systematic inventories of Pilon Lajas' biodiversity have yet to be conducted
Description of local ethnic groups and languages spoken	Tsimane, Mosen, Tacana, and Esse-Ejja. Spanish and the indigenous language of each ethnic group
Broad historical context of the CCA	The Pilon Lajas Biosphere Reserve was created in 1992 by a national supreme decree comprising an area of approximately 400,000 hectares. In 1997, the government titled the land as Indigenous Territory (TCO)
Governance structure for the CCA (who takes management decisions, how?)	The Tsimane-Mosen Regional Council representing the indigenous communities living in the Area and the Director of the Biosphere Reserve takes management decisions in a joint process
Length of time the governance model has been in place	Less than 10 years with a new approach of shared management since 2006
Land and resource ownership in the CCA	Land and resources of the indigenous territory are owned by the indigenous communities based on the TCO legal framework recognised by the Bolivian Law
Type of land use in the CCA	Small-scale subsistence agriculture, non-timber forest products management and traditional uses
Existence of written or oral management plans and specific rules for the use of natural resources in the CCA	Yes. Management Plan, Tourism Plan, Land Zoning and other management instruments
Map and zoning of the CCA (please attach if available and relevant,)	Yes, Maps inserted in the text. No zoning plan in this document
Relevant pictures with captions	Yes

(please attach if available)	
Major threats to biodiversity and/or the CCA governance system	<p>Heavy pressure for land and natural resources in the surrounding areas has made land invasions the principal threat to the protected area. In fact, if deterioration continues at its current pace, it is feared that its most accessible areas will be colonized and many important conservation targets will disappear over the mid-term. Social conflict, population growth, illegal timber exploitation, poaching, unauthorized fishing, the landless peasant's movement, and a number of infrastructure development projects. Indigenous peoples know that there may be threats by colonisations and they require, therefore, the application of land zoning plans respecting the boundaries of the indigenous territory. Indigenous peoples are worried about the infrastructure development projects that may take place in the medium term in the region</p>
Local CCA-relevant features, stories, names, rules and practices	<p>The most significant and relevant features are the indigenous tourism enterprise MAPAJÓ and the functioning of the Tsimane-Mosten Regional Council</p>