

Project Update: September 2012

During the winter season we made the following advances on the project:

1. Land use and land cover maps for 1986 and 2006, with the following land-cover categories: dry forests, moist forests, crops and pastures (including bare soil), water and grasslands.
2. 24 diversity assessment sites (12 in dry forests and 12 in moist forests) were sampled for bird and mammals.
3. 60 above-ground biomass assessments in circular plots distributed in different types of forests within the limits of the watershed.
4. Advances in a manuscript of spatial patterns of deforestation and forest recovery and its relationship with demographic and socio-economic changes for the period 1986-2006.

For the summer season we expect to

- Re-sample biodiversity sites (December 2012- January 2013).
- Complete above-ground biomass assessments (20-25 circular plots left) (December 2012).
- Obtain above-ground biomass maps (January 2013).
- Finish and publish the on-going manuscript (November 2012).



Above-ground biomass assessments



Bird assessments



Mammal assessments



Left: *Piaya cayana* (Squirrel Cuckoo). Right: *Euphonia chlorotica* (Purple-throated Euphonia).



Picumnus cirratus (White-barred Piculet). Right: Although not part of the objectives, we made a little workshop with students of a local mountain school which let us stay for 7 days in one of the winter expeditions.