

### LAND APPLICATION CONTINUES

Since the meeting between TICOYA indigenous reserve and the Colombian National Land Agency (ANT) representatives last March 3<sup>rd</sup> (Newsletter 102), there has been regular contact via Whatsapp and Zoom meetings. There have also been live meetings with the municipality of Puerto Nariño about the area in which the five communities are located (number 1 on the map on the next page). The majority of the costs that these events imply (fuel, meals, small recognitions) are paid for by the Small World Foundation and could not have taken place without this support.

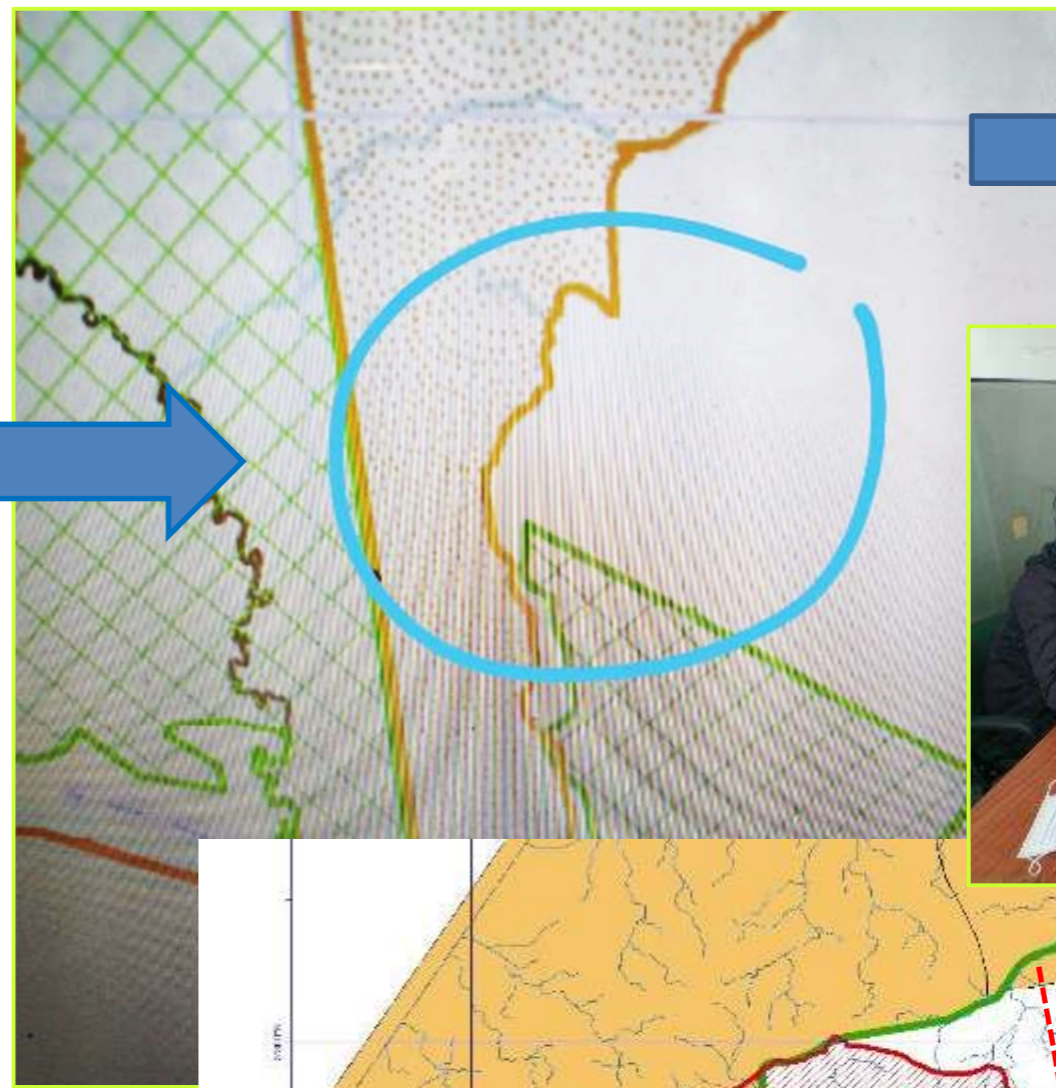
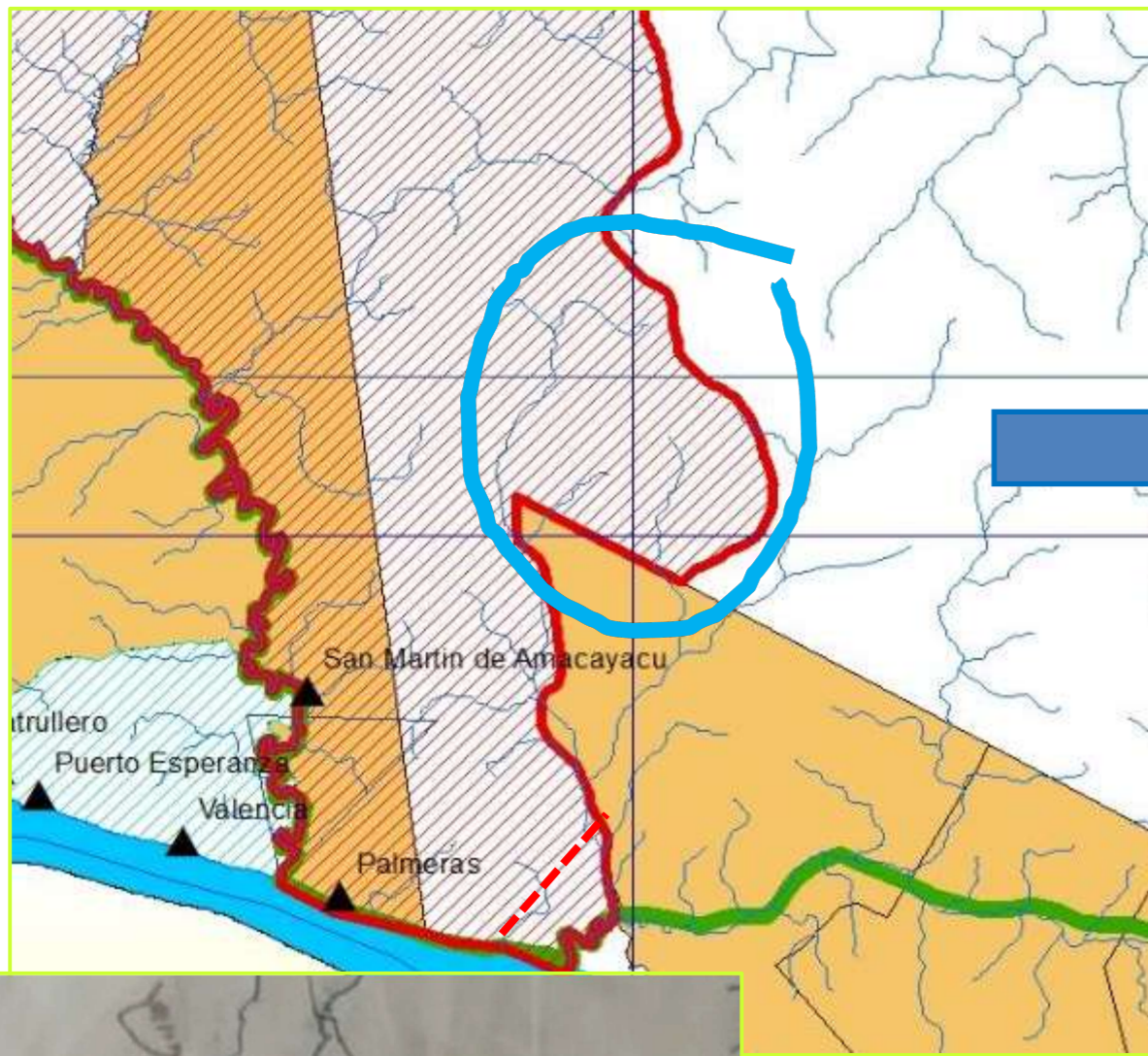
The Whatsapp contact was mostly about an area of land (Ø on the map on the next page) which, as just has become apparent, was removed during the ANT visit to the area in November 2021 due to a supposed conflict that would occur with the neighbouring community of Mocagua if the area of land would continue to be part of the current land application. Despite the many meetings held over the last 15 years in which all (neighbouring) communities such as Mocagua were involved for dialogue, the current community leaders of Mocague apparently felt the need to protest after all, with which the continuation of the TICOYA process supposedly would be threatened.

Unfortunately, the ANT representatives did not determine that their mission at that moment was just to verify the already agreed to land limits with more modern equipment and not to put these limits up for discussion again. Under that high pressure, the handful of

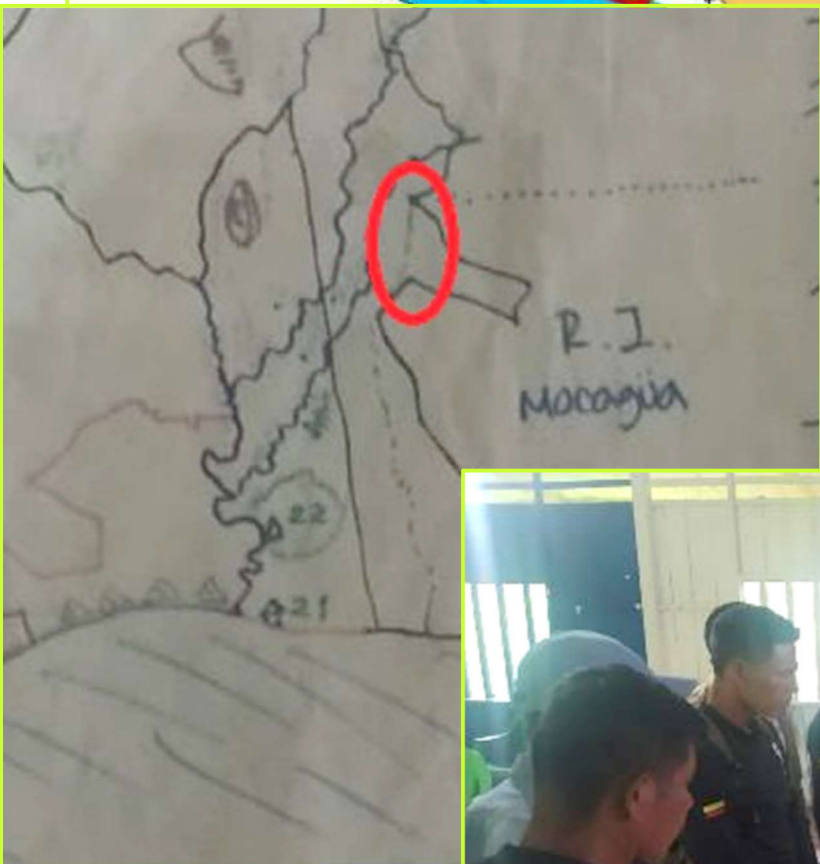
TICOYA reserve representatives surrendered and agreed with the removal (photo bottom left next page). At that moment, there was also an agreement about compensating the land to the north, but this aspect didn't end up being specified in the meeting's minutes.

Last May 25, representatives of the TICOYA reserve traveled to Bogotá for a meeting with the ANT on May 26 about the details of this situation. The dialogue was constructive and well argued. The borders of the ancestral lands of San Martin de Amacayacu and Palmeras as verified by the ANT in November 2021 have already been approved (number 2 on the map on the next page and as was informed by the ANT during the meeting last March 3). This process would once again be delayed if the compensation area in the north would be included right now.

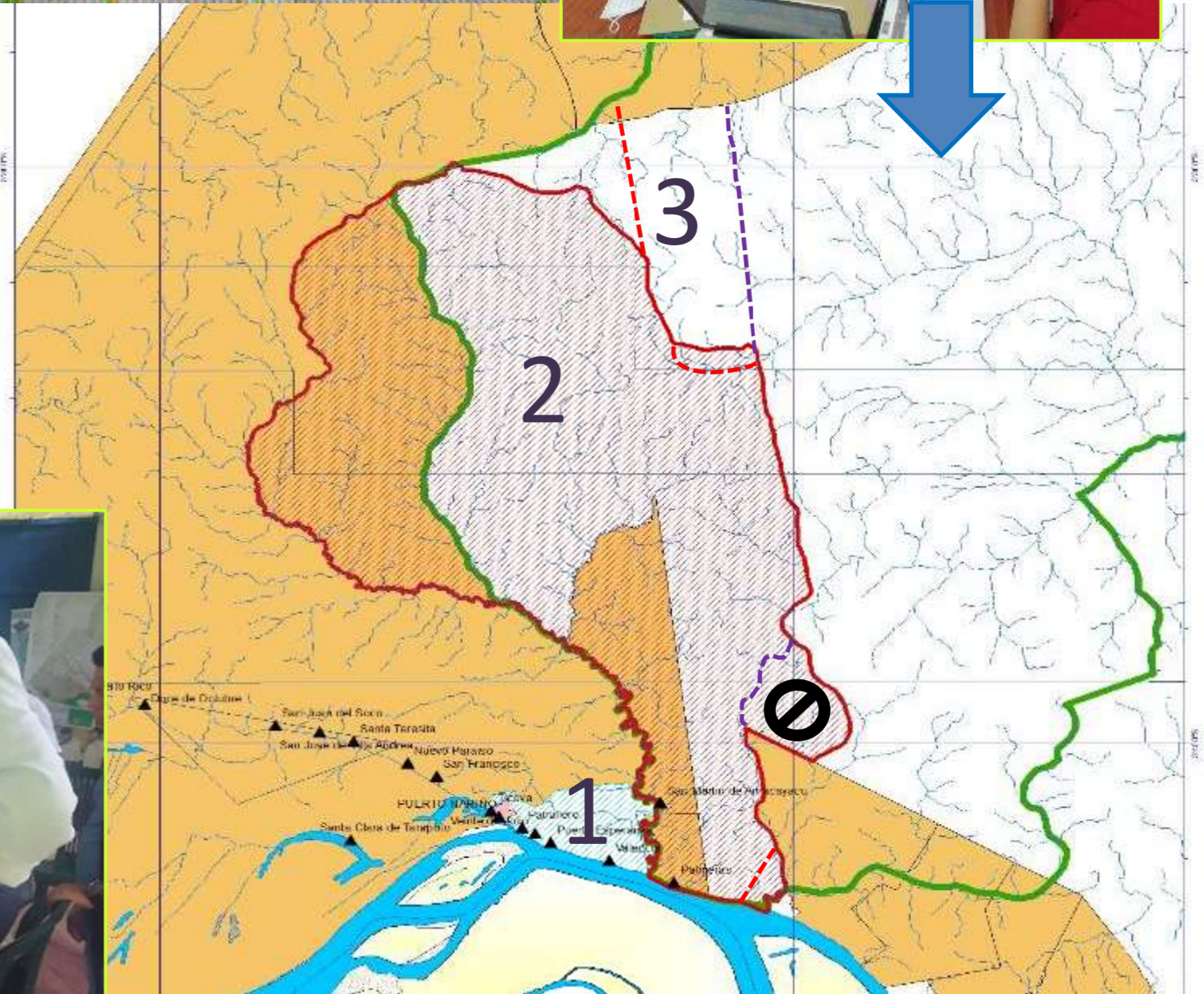
The ANT creatively proposed that this compensation area in the north (number 3 on the map on the next page) can be included in the TICOYA reserve together with the ongoing application process of the area of the five communities around Puerto Nariño. Thus was concluded the meeting on May 26.



26 May 2022



November 2021



## **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER GRANT FOR BIRD PROJECT IN SAN MARTIN DE AMACAYACU**

A National Geographic Explorer Grant of about €10.000 was awarded to a new project of the Environmental Guard of San Martin de Amacayacu last April: "Boosting Indigenous knowledge for autonomous Rainforest Design (BIRD)". The project aims to connect Tikuna people of the older generation with the younger generation (divided in a group of kids and of adolescents) by organizing activities focussed on local bird species and their role in Tikuna indigenous culture. While talking about birds and their ecosystem, there will be plenty of bridges made to nature management in the ancestral lands in general and that's what the project is ultimately about.

The planned activities are making a nice and sellable photo and information book of the at least 20 most prominent birds of the region, doing rainforest expeditions to take photographs and taking the younger generations into the rainforest and making at least five traditional pelazón bird masks. The expected result are also nature management measures to promote bird presence in the area, such as planting trees that provide

seeds, flowers or nesting opportunities. Hopefully, the project can start in August.



## **SWF PRESENTATION NETHERLANDS**

The Small World Foundation presentation by Heike van Gils and José Gregorio Vásquez last Saturday June 11 in Baarle-Nassau was received with a lot of enthusiasm. Around 100 people could hear first hand about the current state of events concerning San Martin's ancestral land application.

---

**Would you like to support the Tikuna indigenous community of San Martin together with the Small World Foundation, and stay informed about local developments in this remote corner of Colombia?**

Please transfer 15 euro yearly (or more!) to the following bank account in the Netherlands:

Account name: Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION

SWIFT/BIC Code: RABONL2U

IBAN code: NL28 RABO 0132 7262 03

Or check out the online contribution module on: [www.smallworldfoundation.org/?page\\_id=68](http://www.smallworldfoundation.org/?page_id=68)

Please DON'T FORGET TO INFORM US ABOUT YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS!!

([smallworldfoundation@hotmail.com](mailto:smallworldfoundation@hotmail.com))

The contributions will be spent exclusively on the development and realization of local initiatives in San Martin de Amacayacu in the Colombian Amazon. No wages are being paid to anyone. The expenses will be mentioned as much as possible in the newsletters.

For more information about this initiative, please check the website:

**[www.smallworldfoundation.org](http://www.smallworldfoundation.org)**.