



## Strategies for its conservation

**SEDNAMP** through its park management is implementing a series of strategies to mitigate these threats through the proactive involvement of local stakeholders and populations.

**Ordering activities.** Whether for fishing, collecting, boating, seaweed, tourism and the exploitation of aquatic resources, the ordering of these activities through management plans is essential to ensure that its impact on the ecosystem is minimized. In this way, the management of the Paracas, San Fernando and System of Guano-producing Islands, Islets and Headlands National Reserves are identifying sectors for direct resource use and tourism through their processes of zoning.

Also, part of the local planning processes has involved registering fishermen, fishermen and tour guides that operate within the regulations established by the SEDNAMP in many cases turning them into voluntary park guards.

**Formation of Management Committees.** The management of each protected area implies participation of local and regional governments, public and private



## To what we face, you threaten

In the last 50 years marine ecosystems have experienced accelerating losses of marine life. This has particularly affected countries like coastal zones. After making the booby crisis, among the principal threats are:

- Pollution from human activities along coasts
- Illegal hunting of threatened species
- Killing of Guano producing birds
- Inappropriate fishing including use of explosives

sector, and especially the local population to form the Management Committee. This coordination mechanism, allows the direct support of local stakeholders in the management of the protected area in various fields.

Strengthening of participative management. Meetings and multiplier workshops are organized in the area of each Protected Area in order to promote engagement and organize the work of the committees.

**Volunteer ranger programs.** Undoubtedly one of the actions that most effectively involve the local population in the conservation of ANP are volunteer programs. These allow students, graduates, and widely local people to support the work of rangers in biological monitoring, patrols, environmental education, among other actions in which they are trained by the SEDNAMP. It is worth highlighting a case that has occurred in the National Reserve of Paracas and the System of Guano-producing Islands, Islets and Headlands, where fishermen themselves and tour operators, have been incorporated as volunteer rangers; they realize that becoming involved with the conservation of protected area, which is the source of income, will ensure their sustainable use for future generations.



## Use to live well

One of the priorities of SEDNAMP is to change the perception that protected areas are irregular spaces that only protect flora and fauna without allowing the development of the communities living within these areas.

Therefore, since its creation, SEDNAMP has promoted the sustainable use, primarily of aquatic resources and landscape, of coastal marine protected areas by local populations. The main activities include:

- **Small-scale fishing.** Fishermen have registered artisanal fishermen who exploit natural resources in ancestral ways, promoting the respect of closed seasons and minimum catch sizes.
- **Exploitation of Guano.** In coordination with ANP officials, guards may be harvested under an annual license harvesting plan.
- **Collection of stranded algae.** Registered collectors may harvest marine algae washed up on the shoreline under a plan.
- **Ecotourism.** SEDNAMP's rangers act as guides on boat tours and on-site plans to control tourism activities within the protected areas which ensure that impacts are minimized and that populations of flora and fauna are not threatened by the activity.



Gobierno del Perú  
PROGRESO PARA TODOS

## Peru, a sea of life

### SEDNAMP

The National Service for Natural Protected Areas by the State



PERU Ministerio del Ambiente  
Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado



## The start and importance of conserving coastal-marine Protected Areas

Peru has one of the most productive seas in the world, supporting thousands of species of fish and fauna, the most heterogeneous fauna of the sea, diverse natural resources that ensure the sustenance of a large proportion of the national population.

However, its over-exploitation, pollution and loss of legal framework regarding maritime activities meant that for many years the sea in Peru was not properly protected.

As a consequence, in the same year (2009) that the Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado (SEDNAMP) National Natural Protected Areas Service, a technical specialized agency directly attached to the Ministry of the Environment, was established, the second coastal-marine protected areas, the San Fernando National Reserve, was declared.

Only a decade of marine laws, the priority to include the Islands within the SEDNAMP National System of Natural Protected Areas was realized with the declaration of the National Reserve System of Guano Islands, Islets and Headlands, the first marine biological corridor established in the Pacific of South America.

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## Marine Jewels

### San Fernando National Reserve:

This relatively new coastal-marine protected area was reorganized from Reserved Zone to National Reserve (protected area where direct use of resources is permitted) in 2010. This has allowed the process of zoning and the development of the park management plan, which will order and guide the management of the protected area during the next five years.

Within the reserve, the beds of macroalgae harbor a diversity of animal abundance has proved to be stable over time. However, any changes caused in this community can have a direct negative impact on this marine biodiversity.

The reserve is home to 328 species of fauna and vascular plants, of which 46 are endemic and 25 are considered threatened. One of the specialties of San Fernando is that, despite its location on the coast of Peru, both the Akodon Condor and Guanaco, species more frequently associated with the High Andes, are frequently found there.

#### Additional Facts:

- The reserve contains evidence of human occupation by fishermen and collectors, and their use of natural resources during 4,000 years.
- The reserve has exceptional potential for ecotourism and is now actively promoting it.
- Access to the reserve along the coast is only possible in 4WD vehicles, converting a visit in an unforgettable experience.



### Paracas National Reserve

Between the coastal desert and the cold waters of the Peruvian current, more than 1,000 species coexist along one of the most beautiful coastlines of Peru, in the Paracas National Reserve, the first coastal-marine protected area, not only for its ecological values, but also for the opportunities for sustainable development that it could offer the local communities.

It has the privilege of being the habitat of numerous water birds such as the Humboldt Penguin, Peruvian Diving Petrel and guano producing birds including the Peruvian Sooty Gull, Cormorant and Peruvian Pelican as well as marine vertebrates such as turtles, dolphins, sea lions and octopuses. All of which live and breed in Paracas.

In pre-Incan times, these lands were inhabited by people of the Paracas culture, ancient Peruvians who fished and wove textiles. They left a great cultural legacy that persists in the reserve. It is one of the most important sites for fossils of a variety of fauna and flora dating from 325 to 11 million years of age.

#### Additional Facts:

- Between 1997 and 2000, landing of marine invertebrates in the sector of Laguna Grande alone fluctuated between 4,626 and 20,373 tons. This amount corresponds to the entire commercial landings of marine invertebrates along the Peruvian coast.
- Fishing activity, principally marine invertebrates, generates employment for some 600 independent fishermen.
- The main scallop producing bank within Peru is located within the independence bay within the protected area.
- The diversity of phytoplankton and the resultant commercial biomass of scalloches and sandies, forms the basis of the ecological pyramid and food chain, and also Paracas one of the most productive seas in the world.
- The Convention on Biological of International Importance recognized the Paracas National Reserve as BIA/MIA-SEAN 1999 for its importance, especially for migratory populations of Hispaniolan species are the Humboldt Penguin, Peruvian Diving Petrel, Blue Tails, Chilean Hamming, Peruvian Tern and the two species of Petrel, the South American Sea Lion and South American Fur Seal.



### Islas and Puntas Guaneras:

Conserving a representative sample of the biological diversity of the south-eastern temperate Pacific (Peruvian Humboldt Current), this important marine biological corridor is used by the coastal guano-producing birds of the country as breeding, roosting and migration sites.

The 22 guano producing islands and islets and 11 headlands which make up the system protect unique stocks of fish and marine invertebrates of great commercial value as well as mammals such as the sea lion and marine otters.

In November 2010 a grant that now seeks to reduce an 18% budget allocated within the reserve, as a consequence of which scientific research to improve knowledge and monitoring of Peruvian marine biodiversity is considered one of the principal objectives of the Protected Area.

#### Additional Facts:

- The areas within the Reserve are considered key areas for the high pelagic and benthic biodiversity they shelter.
- The management of the protected area has prioritized the promotion of ecotourism resulting in more than 145 thousand visitors in 2010.