

RSPO

NEW PLANTATION PROCEDURES (NPP)

**COMPANY:
COMPAÑÍA PALMA TICA S.A.**

**Social and Environmental Impact and High
Conservation Value Areas Evaluation System
Summary**

PREPARED BY:



BIO TERRA CONSULTORES AMBIENTALES

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1. Executive Summary

This document presents a comprehensive, participative and independent evaluation of the status of the natural resources and physical and social conditions in the area to be exploited and its influence region, to reduce the project's negative social and environmental impacts as much as possible.

The following information is considered relevant:

Primary forests:

The farms included in the study are immersed within a mosaic of habitats and vegetation clusters resulting from intense activities and anthropogenic developments. The main activity that has degraded the natural ecosystems is extensive livestock practices throughout the national history. Those soils subjected to livestock activities result in new uses of the land, including agricultural activities. Mainly due to this reason, a large percentage of the ecosystems in the area's forests have been subjected to productive activities during history. The ecosystems that subsist are mainly comprised of intervened forest coverage and areas regenerating from exploitation in different degrees, resulting in secondary forests, shrub lands, grasslands, and others.

During the analysis and identification of the ecosystems present in the study area and their influence zones, no primary forests were identified.

Surface needed to maintain or improve one or more High Conservation Values (HCV):

In the 4 farms that are to be used for the new plantations, no High Conservation Value Areas were identified. However, some HCV were identified, which should be protected.

The farms themselves have bodies of water, river bank vegetation, and in some cases show patches of isolated secondary forests, in a very small portion. Most of the land in these farms are covered by scrub and grassland, with no real high conservation potential.

Therefore, conservation and protection of the existing bodies of water and remaining forests is enough to maintain and/or improve the HCV identified in the study.

Peat soil areas

There are no peat soil areas in the farms, as the land is flat on most areas with high precipitation, presenting isolated areas in the horizon with low external drainage or lack thereof. The soil is mostly composed of entisols of alluvial origin, or which have been formed by the rivers of the area, mainly by the Chirripó River that used to run through that area. According to the Soil Usability methodology, MAG-MINAET, the flood risk is classified as non-existent, as a low risk category implies frequent low permanence floods, which do not occur in the area.

Drainage is required to avoid the presence of high water tables. The difference in altitude of the land with regards to the rivers allow draining the root zone for the plantation.

Land in the local communities (indigenous)

Regarding the presence of indigenous communities, it must be stated that the latest statistic census analysis in the country, the study zone holds an indigenous percentage of the population of less than 1.6% of the total population for the canton of Sarapiquí and 1.5% of the total inhabitants of the canton of Pococí. This data is lower than the national figure (2.4%).

To complement the information above, it is pertinent to state that in the study sector located in the Atlantic Huetar Region of the country, the indigenous communities are mainly located in a sector called “South-Caribbean” (canton of Talamanca), and in the “North-Caribbean”, in the cantons of Sarapiquí and Pococí. Therefore, the farms where the new African Oil Palm will be developed have no indigenous settlements.

2. SEIA scope and HCVA assessment

2.1 Organizational information and contacts

Name of the Company	Compañía Palma Tica S.A
Corporate Identification Number	3-101-173999
Legal Representative	Erwin Martin Holmann Pastora
Identification Number	R-155808421015
Telephone	2284-1000
Fax	2221-6371 / 2221-7340
Email	info@numar.net
Company's Environmental Manager	Carlos Playa Cruz



Identification Number	6-0308-0889
Telephone	2777-8125
Fax	2777-0311
Email	caplaya@numar.net

2.2 List of legal documents, mandatory permits and ownership deed related with the evaluated areas

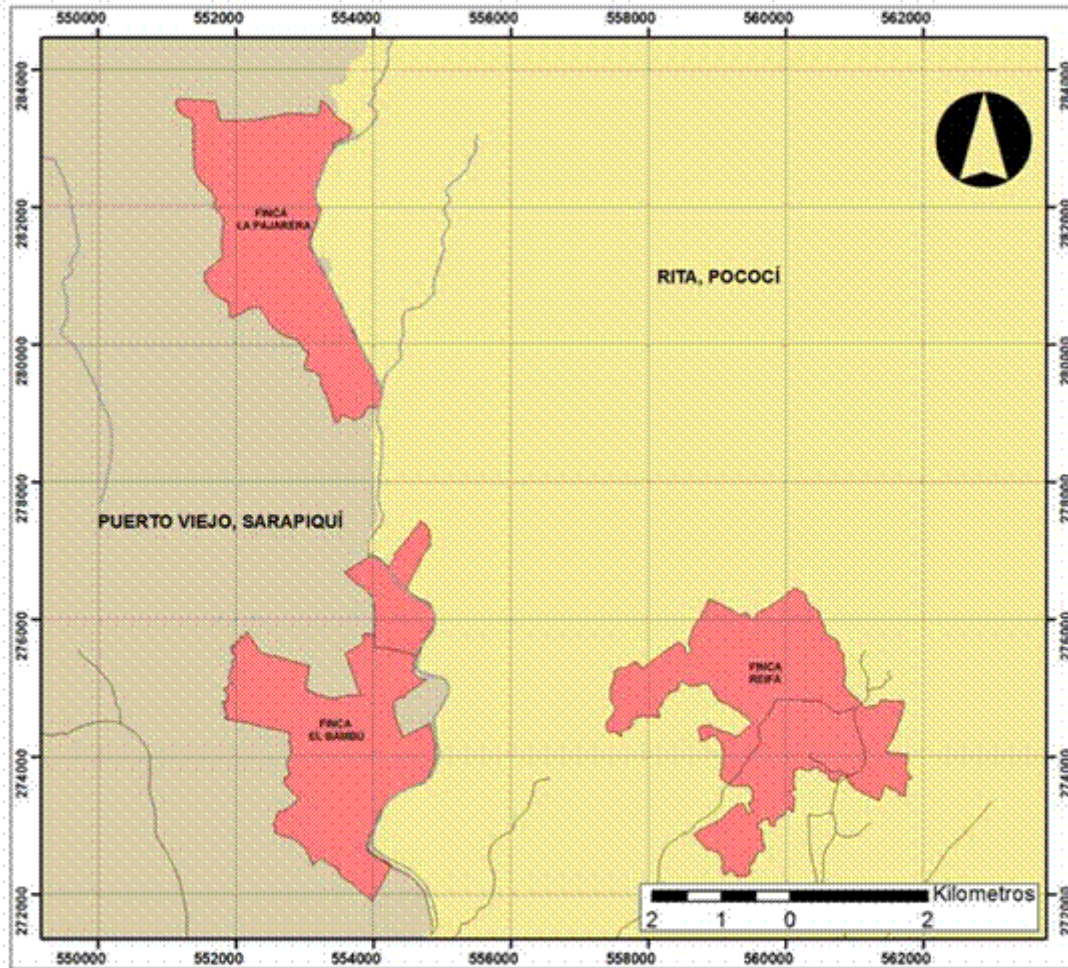
At the present time, Environmental Viability is being processed in the National Environmental Technical Secretariat (SETENA), for the new proposed plantation. The Project has been assigned case number #9077.

Simultaneously, the certification for the new proposed African Oil Palm plantations is being processed with the RSPO. For this reason, the present report is being issued.

Once Environmental Viability from SETENA is obtained, the Municipal permit for the development of the proposed activity will be processed.




2.3 Location map – Surroundings and property

LOCATION MAP
Compañía Palma Tica S.A.
Atlantic Division
Scale: 1: 75 000



Symbology

Roads

-  Local
-  Undefined
-  Study area

Location Diagram



Credits:

- Data provided.
- Topographic sheet: Chirripó Atlantic/Sucio River 1: 50 000

Projection: Lambert North C.R.,
Lambert Conformal Conic.
Datum: Clarke 1866.

Created by: Geologist Luis Campos C.

Date: December 2012

2.4 Area for the new plantations and timetable for the new plantations

The following is a chart containing the details of the areas to be planted:

Farm	Farm's area	Area to be planted
Reifa	770,02ha	560ha
Chirriposito	124,22ha	110ha
El Bambú	589,41ha	343ha
Pajarera	635,12ha	600ha
Total	2118,77ha	1613ha

The following chart shows the production timetable proposed:

Productivity curves	Calendar year	Metric tons of fruit/Ha
Year 0	2013	0
Year 1	2014	0
Year 2	2015	6,59
Year 3	2016	14,09
Year 4	2017	25,00
Year 5	2018	26,17
Year 6	2019	27,74
Year 7	2020	28,55
Year 8	2021	29,01
Year 9	2022	27,93
Year 10	2023	28,49
Year 11	2024	30,34
Year 12	2025	32,60
Year 13	2026	31,10
Year 14	2027	31,44
Year 15	2028	28,29
Year 16	2029	28,21
Year 17	2030	28,39
Year 18	2031	28,19
Year 19	2032	27,41
Year 20	2033	25,69
Year 21	2034	24,59
Year 22	2035	24,33
Year 23	2036	23,98
Year 24	2037	22,73

Productivity curves	Calendar year	Metric tons of fruit/Ha
Year 25	2038	21,25

3. Process and procedures evaluation

3.1 Information for advisors and their credentials

Responsibility for the preparation of the studies that support these public notice reports belongs to the environmental consulting firm Soluciones Ambientales Bio Terra S.A., registration number in the National Environmental Technical Secretariat (SETENA) EC-004-2008 (before) and EC-010-2012 (current), valid until June 8th, 2014.

Also, the company is an RSPO accredited company, as a Consultant for the preparation of these studies.

The professional team detailed below complies and transcends the RSPO requirements.

Professionals	Specialty	Identification Number
MSc. Marisol Zumbado Bustillos	Biologist, majoring in Ecology and Sustainable Development. RSPO accredited advisor, in charge of coordination and integration of this study. Team Leader	ID: 1-1143-0899
MSc. Darién Zúñiga Leitón	Biologist, majoring in Ecology and Sustainable Development, specializing in Environmental Management. In charge of the Evaluation of the High Conservation Value Areas.	ID: 1-1135-0269
MSc. Mario Piedra González	Sociologist specializing in Public Health, in charge of Characterization of Social Impacts.	ID: 1-0714-0912
Dr. Carlos Cervantes Umaña	Soils specialist, in charge of the Soil Survey Study for the new plantations proposed.	ID: 3-0248-0297



Professionals	Specialty	Identification Number
Jorge Arturo Vargas Leitón	Professional and specialist in forest and wildlife management. In charge of the most representative bird and wildlife surveys in the various ecosystems.	ID: 1-1217-0510
Lic. Jonathan Arias Garro	Geographer land specialist, responsible for developing zoning maps Conservation Values, vegetation coverage and others.	ID: 3-0380-0274
Dr. Rosa Bustillos Lemaire	Attorney specializing in environmental law, in charge of analyzing and compiling the legal regulations applicable to the Project.	ID: 1-0513-0152

3.2 Evaluation methods (data sources, data collection, dates, programs, places visited)

Methodology used for the characterization of the social and economic impacts

Document review

Several RSPO publications were consulted, in order to understand its origins, objectives and application in various parts of the world where the preparation of new plantations for African Oil Palm cultivation is performed.

Also, several reports, publications and online sources from national institutions and organizations were reviewed, to collect data regarding the Atlantic Huetar Region of Costa Rica, area in which the new plantations will be developed.

Visits to the communities neighboring the Project area

Once the basic conceptual framework and the document information for the project for the study area were defined, two visits were performed to the communities located in the neighboring areas of the new plantation sites.

They included general visits to the different communities in the zone, which show a landscape characterized by the presence of vast extensions of land used as grasslands and banana plantations.

Consultation process

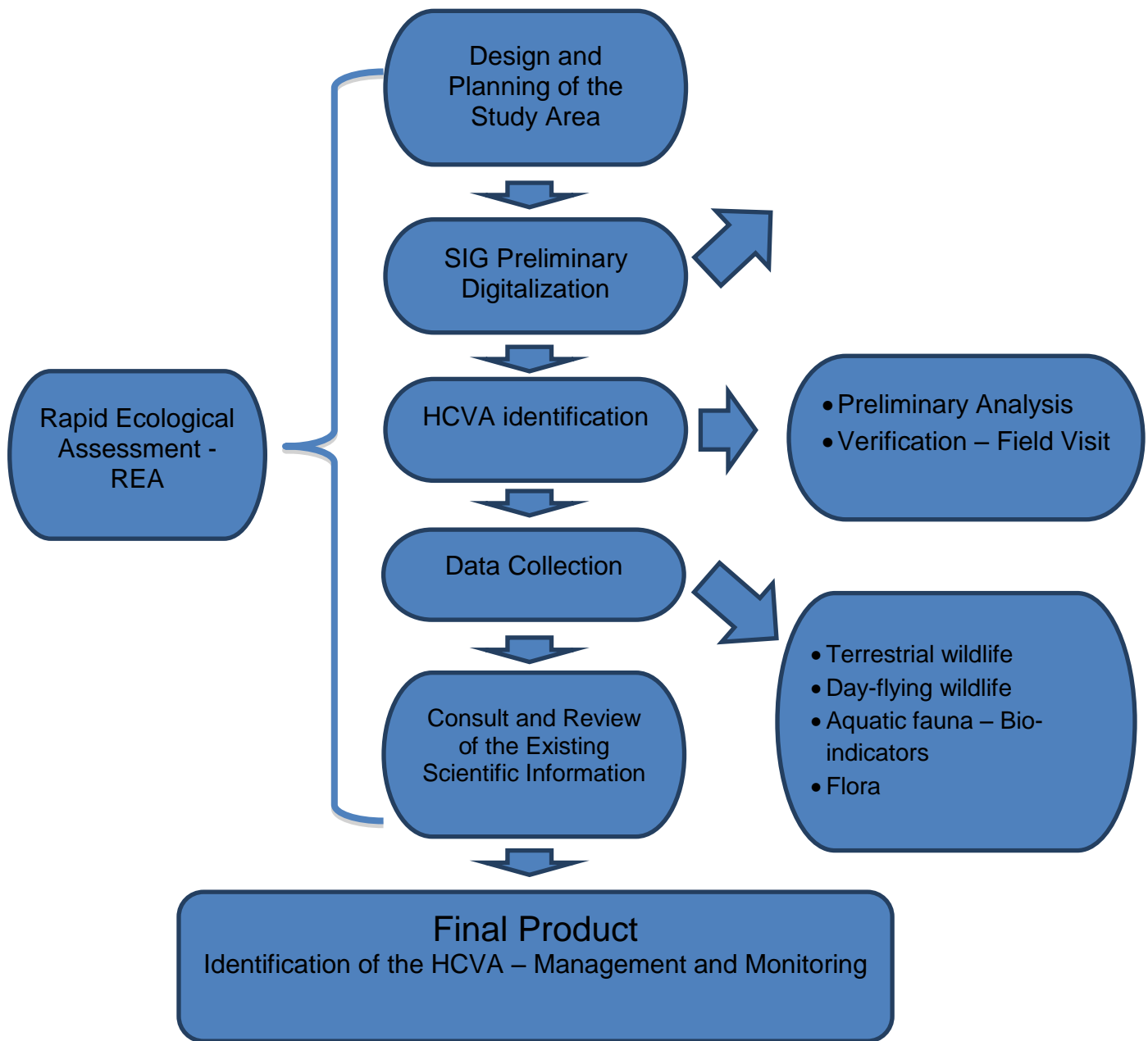
The identification of possible social impacts as a result of the new African Oil Palm plantations arose from two consultation processes: i) with the local inhabitants of the communities located near the farms where the new plantations will be developed, and ii) with the representatives of the government institutions present in the study zone.

Methodology used for soil surveys in the study area

For the exploration survey, the survey methodology used by the Department of Agriculture of the United States will be implemented, as detailed in the Soil Survey Manual, of the Soil Survey Staff, Department of Agriculture of United States, October 1993, which describes the procedures used for the description and mapping of soils. The field methodology used for exploration involves recognition points adapted to the conditions of the sampling area and the physical and graphical units, followed by the use of sampling aimed at specific places, for corroboration purposes.

Methodology used for the Assessment of the High Conservation Value Areas

The following diagram summarizes this methodology:



For the identification of the HCVA, the following methodology was used:


High Conservation Values (HCV)	Methodological Process
<p>HCV1 Forest areas that globally, regionally, or nationally host significant concentrations of biodiversity value (for example, endemism, endangered species).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ HCV1.1 Protected areas ❖ HCV1.2 Threatened and endangered species ❖ HCV1.3 Endemic species ❖ HCV1.4 Critical temporary use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of satellite and aerial images. • Analysis of official government issued information regarding the condition of endemic, threatened and endangered species. • Review of the lists of species contained in national and international treaties. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ CITES ❖ UICN ❖ Wildlife Conservation Act # 7317 ❖ Others
<p>-HCV2: Forest areas that globally, regionally, or nationally host significant forests with a great scenic level contained therein or contained in the management unit in which most, if not all, of the viable population of species occur in natural patters of distribution and abundance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Ecological Assessment (REA) – Field Sampling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Terrestrial wildlife ❖ Day-flying wildlife ❖ Aquatic fauna ❖ Flora <p>Consults with focal and interest groups led by a sociologist.</p>
<p>-HCV3: Forest areas that are located within rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems or host such ecosystems.</p>	
<p>-HCV4: Forest areas that provide basic services in critical situations (i.e., protection of river basins, erosion control).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ HCV4.1 Forests critical for catchments ❖ HCV4.2 Forests critical for erosion control ❖ HCV4.3 Firewall forests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of satellite and aerial images. • Analysis of government databases (SENARA-MINAET). • Consults with focal and interest groups led by a sociologist.
<p>-HCV5: Forest areas essential for satisfying the basic needs of the local communities (i.e., sustenance, health).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of satellite and aerial images. • Analysis of government databases (National Museum – archeological sites database).
<p>-HCV6: Forest areas that are critical for the traditional cultural identity of the local communities (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consults of Indigenous Reserves maps. • Consults with focal and interest groups led by a sociologist.



High Conservation Values (HCV)	Methodological Process
religious significance, as identified with the cooperation of said local communities).	

3.3 Consults with the interested parties (contacted representatives, consult registries and dates)

This consultation process took place in the Barbados community hall, in the community bearing the same name, on January 18th, 2013 from 3:05pm to 5:03pm, with the assistance of 78 individuals. This group of individuals was comprised of representatives from institutions and community leaders. The following is a sample of the process record:

		Registro de Información Externa	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> Código: FO-18-02 Rige a partir de: 12-04-11 Modificación: 1 Página: 1 de 1 </div>			
LUGAR: Salon Comunal Barbados.			
INSTRUCTOR: Carlos Alberto Playa Cruz		FECHA: 18-01-13	DURACION: 3 Horas
TEMAS TRATADOS: Presentación del informe de impactos de procedimiento de nuevas siembras bajo la metodología de RSPO y recepción de objeciones.			
NOMBRE DEL PARTICIPANTE		FIRMA	
Maricela sancho Fernandez		Maricela sancho F 110244292	
Kevin Torres Alvaro		KEVIN TORRES ALVARO 7-194-090	
Romualdo picado cerdas		Romualdo PE 1-517716	
Rodolfo Cubillo jimenez		R.C.J 9-093-997	
Mayela Arley Cubillo		Mayela Arley cubillo.	
Guiselle Venarides cerda		GVC 7144 967	
Vicente Maltéz		vicente maltéz a	
Waldo tubello t		W.T. 6-196-471.	
Elibeth Salas Hernandez		E.S.H 2-411-301	
Jose Mosias Calderón Ferrero		J.M.C.	
Julieta Ramirez Mora		J.R.M 2 348 480	
Mavri Santamaria Ramirez		M.S.R 2 499 586	

3.4 List of reference documents (laws, studies, etc)

Study: Criteria 7.1. RSPO Standard
(Compañía Palma Tica S.A.-Atlantic Division).

Marisol Zumbado Bustillos
RSPO Accredited Team Leader
Biologist, majoring in ecology and sustainable development
Master in Environmental Audit and Management, specializing in management and conservation of natural resources

Biologists Association: 1416
SETENA Consultant: CI-091-2007 (before) / CI-144-2012 (current)

Evaluation of the High Conservation Value Areas (HCVA). Procedure for new plantations

(Compañía Palma Tica S.A. – Atlantic Division).

Darién Zúñiga Leitón
Biologist, majoring in ecology and sustainable development.
Master in Environmental Audit and Management, specializing in integral water management and recovery of contaminated soils.
Biologists Association: 1519
SETENA Consultant: CI-079-2007 (before) / CI-143-2012 (current)

Characterization of social impacts generated by the activity of new African Oil Palm plantations (Compañía Palma Tica S.A. – Atlantic Division)

Mario Antonio Piedra González
Sociologist, M.Sc. Public Health
Sociologists Professional Association: 12-0235
SETENA Consultant: CI-021-1996

Soil Exploration Surveys

(Compañía Palma Tica S.A. – Atlantic Division)

Dr. Carlos A. Cervantes Umaña
Ph.D. Soil Sciences, U of Columbia, Missouri
Soils Specialist.
Agricultural Engineering Association: 1134
Evaluator for Proper Soil Use: No. 44
SETENA Consultant: CI-084-2009

The following table summarizes the associated legislation:

Law	Summary
Municipal Code (7794)	<p>The Municipal Code regulates the regulates the sector, establishes responsibilities, scope of action in a defined territory, includes general relations, inter-municipal, municipal government and standards related to its components, Council meetings and agreements, audit, district councils, the municipal finance, municipal staff, appeals against the acts of the Council and others. Articles 3 (jurisdiction), 4 (autonomy), 9 (shared areas), 13, paragraph or power to regulate urban development, 27 paragraph b, (motions), 44 and 45 agreements procedure , municipal Finance (permits), 153, 154, 157 appeals against agreements, 161 appeals against other municipal acts, are related to the mining activities.</p>
Forestry Law (7575)	<p>Forestry Law No. 7575 establishes standards for the conservation, protection and management of natural forests. Thus, for example, prohibits the cutting of trees "... mangroves, protected zones ..." explicitly identifies the areas of protection (art. 33), among which are the areas around ... springs or streams, and establishes penalties and sanctions for those who invade a protected area (art. 58) or otherwise affect forest resources.</p> <p>The regulation includes a number of definitions, in particular some relating to forestry. Identifies SINAC's organization and establishes the different conservation areas. (Art. 3^o).</p>
Wildlife Conservation Law (7317)	<p>This Law has the main purpose of establishing rules for wildlife protection. The first 9 chapters of the Law refers to the regulations regarding the protection and exploitation of wildlife (permits, export, import, penalties, etc.) Chapter X is of special interest, as it determines the standards for wildlife shelters, some of which show mixed ownership conditions, such Refugio detailed in the Regulation of the Law the remainder of the Act refers to sanctions against the offenses in relation to wildlife.</p> <p>This regulation clearly defines Shelters Mixed Property (Section 84, subsection b). Permitted uses are established, which determine land use and development opportunities. (Art. 85). The rest of the Regulation contains general guidelines.</p>
Biodiversity Law (7788)	<p>The purpose is the protection of biodiversity. Articles 1, 2 and 3 indicate the object, sovereignty and scope. The definitions of Article 7 include on ecosystems, habitats and natural resource. It establishes general principles, objectives, criteria. Chapter II deals with the administrative organization of particular importance for SINAC, III environmental safety, IV conservation and sustainable use of species. Article. 49 is related to land use. The possible and resulting in conservation of species (art. 56 and art. 57) and wildlife areas, among other (art. 58). Chapter V includes the rules associated with genetic and biochemical components, permits, intellectual property, participation, education and environmental</p>

Law	Summary
Water Law (276)	<p>impact, as well as procedures, processes and penalties.</p> <p>This Law deals with regulations for the use of public and private waters. (Art. 1). The Law declares as public domain reserves the land adjoining the water collection and regeneration drinking water sites (Art. 31, paragraph a, b). It establishes protection areas around springs, river and stream banks. (Art. 149 and 150). However, the extent of these protection areas was subsequently amended by the Forest Law and Environmental Law. The remaining articles contained in the Law refers to aspects relating to water use, penalties, taxes and state control mechanisms.</p>
Urban Planning Law (4240)	<p>The object of this law is to organize the planning process in the country, within the canton and/or local levels. Art. 1 defines the Regulatory Plan, use of land and zoning. It contains the main components for national planning, indicating the entities responsible entities, such as Urban Department; art. 10 states the powers to act accordingly. Regarding local planning matters (Second Section), Chapter I of the Regulatory Plan indicates that, pursuant to Art. 169, this role belongs to the municipalities (art. 15) and details the components in art. 16, as well as the right to a public hearings contained in art. 17 and art. 18 states the authority to approve proposals. Chapter II refers to the urban development bylaws, the main of which are contained in art. 21, including zoning for use of land and official mapping. Chapter III details the characteristics contained in the zoning bylaws; Chapter IV refers to fractioning; Chapter V includes the official map, Chapter VI refers to urban innovation; Chapter VII refers to construction matters. Section Three states the supplemental provisions regarding entities, expropriation procedures and contributions. The Fractioning and Urbanization bylaws state the details to be considered with regards to density, distance, front of property, etc.</p>
Law for Use, Management, and Soil Conversation (7779)	<p>The object of this law is defined in art. 1: protect, preserve and improve soils with integrated and sustainable management, along with other natural resources, through adequate environmental promotion and planning. Art. 2 defines the objectives; art. 3 refers to matters of public interest. Chapter II refers to institutional organization (MAG and other institutions). Chapter III indicates soil management and conservation associated with plans, conservation and recovery, as well as pollution. Chapter IV regulates the participation of individuals (Committees, hearings, individual obligations, etc), and Chapter V includes infractions and penalties.</p>
General Public Roads Law (5060)	<p>This law classifies the types of roads (national highways and canton roads). Art. 1 classifies them as primary, secondary, and tertiary (Puerto Carillo). Art. 2 states the ownership of roads belonging to the Government and the Municipalities. Articles 3 and 4 detail urban regimes and the width required for roads. Chapter II</p>

Law	Summary
	refers to taxes and contributions. Chapter III refers to general provisions.
General Health Law (5395)	The General Health Law is related to environmental matters, as state supervised public health and the tasks to be executed by the Ministry of Health (Art. 1 and 2). Book I details the rights and duties of individuals regarding their personal health and the restrictions for each individual regarding the health of others and the conservation and improvement of the environment, as well as the professional tasks to be executed and who shall be responsible for their execution. Chapter III refers to the duties of each individual regarding conservation and conditioning of the environment and the restrictions to their activities to benefit conservation. Chapter I refers to drinking water, Chapter II to the obligations and restrictions pertaining collection and disposal of waste; Chapter III refers to mandatory waste water treatment; Chapter IV refers to the duties and restrictions to individuals to avoid contamination to the environment; Chapter V refers to the duties and restrictions for industrial activities. It includes guidelines in occupation health matters and others.

4. Summary of the results for the social and economic impact evaluation

4.1 Summary of the main conclusions regarding social and economic impact for the country, regions and local communities

The main negative aspect in this matter for the social and economic scope is the replacement of production activities, since abandonment or replacement of other agricultural crops could result from the following:

- Strengths and benefits for the producers derived from cultivating African Oil Palm, such as worldwide price stability; ensured market for the product; production contracts (financing, technical counseling) between Palma Tic and the producers.
- Weaknesses and problems relating to the traditional crops in the zone (rice, banana or cacao), such as the difficulty faced when selling the crops in the market, limitations on loans, high production costs.

4.2 Summary of the main conclusions regarding the social and economic impact for the emerging communities (workers, suppliers, etc.)

Economic stability	Generation of job opportunities
<p>The importance of the cultivation and production of African Oil Palm in other zones in the country is well known, for the families and those working directly with the companies in this field, such as Palma Tica or for producers that have production contracts with this company.</p>	<p>The development of new palm plantations will generate job opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct opportunities for those individuals hired to work in the different phases of cultivation for the new plantations (nurseries, land preparation, planting palm, maintenance and harvesting of the product). - Indirect opportunities for those individuals who will be able to develop various activities linked to the creation of the new plantations, particularly with the provision of services (transportation, food and lodging for the workers within this activity). <p>The creation of nurseries for palm plants in the area has provided jobs to women and young individuals in the neighboring communities. The development of new African Oil Palm plantations can boost employment in the studied area.</p>

4.3 Concerns and/or observations presented by the community leaders and comments from the advisor

During the activities performed on January 18th with the community leaders, the following questions arose:

- When would immediate job opportunities be created?
- Are women included in the job opportunities?
- The plot owners will be able to participate as producers?
- Can a small plot owner with 3 hectares be included as a producer?
- Will the Company help with improvements to the community?

The questions presented by the community leaders are mostly focused on social matters, typical to this region, which shows high unemployment levels and it has also been a community mainly dedicated to agricultural activities. Hence, their concerns were more oriented towards to future social and economic benefit that could result from the palm plantations, than the potential environmental impact of the activities.

This information allows to conclude that the community is fully in favor of the development of the new plantations, intending to benefit from them.

5. Summary of the HCVA assessment results

It is important to highlight that neither of the 4 farms in the study showed the presence of HCVA. However, some HCV were identified, with variables that should be considered for protection.

The following chart details the identified HCVs:

Farms		El Bambú			Chirriposito			Reifa			La Pajarera		
Identification		P ¹	PP ²	A ³	P ¹	PP ²	A ³	P ¹	PP ²	A ³	P ¹	PP ²	A ³
HCV1	HCV1.1						✓			✓	✓		
	HCV1.2	✓			✓			✓			✓		
	HCV1.3	✓			✓			✓			✓		
	HCV1.4			✓			✓			✓			✓
HCV2			✓			✓			✓			✓	
HCV3		✓				✓		✓				✓	
ACV4	HCV4.1			✓			✓			✓			✓
	HCV4.2			✓			✓			✓			✓
	HCV4.3			✓			✓			✓			✓
ACV5			✓			✓			✓			✓	
ACV6			✓			✓			✓			✓	

P¹ = Present / PP² = Potentially present / A³ = Absent

With the purpose of preserving said HCVs, the following chart details the environmental measures that should be observed:

Objective	Environmental Impact	Environmental Measure	Application Timeframe	Responsible for implementation
<p>Guarantee protection and maintenance to all the bodies of water and forest coverage present in the farms and their influence areas</p>	<p>Potential impact on the biological environment (forest coverage and bodies of water)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to cutting down any forest species, Article 20 of the Forestry Law No. 7575 must be observed, as well as Articles 14 and 16 of the Forestry Law regulations, Executive Decree No. 25721-MINAE . • Notify MINAET of the presence of endangered flora or fauna species, if found during the project's development . • If possible burrows, shelters or nests of any species are identified, coordinate with specialists and MINAET for relocation . • Ensure no impact on the forest coverage or the water protection zones associated with each of the farms . • Keep strict erosion and sedimentation control practices, mainly regarding surface runoff draining towards the bodies of water associated with the farms . • Promote vegetation recovery plans in the associated water protection zones, in full coordination with MINAET . 	<p>Periodically. However, constant observance of this measures is a must. Water monitoring should be performed every six months.</p>	<p>The Company</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the physical and chemical conditions in the associated bodies of water, twice a year . • Take samples from the bodies of water for benthic macro-invertebrates (biological indicators), twice a year . 		
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Documentation that evidences Free, Previous and Informed Consent (CLPI) from the indigenous communities affected by the development of the Project (RSPO requisite)

As mentioned in the executive summary contained in this document, the study area shows no presence of indigenous communities that could be affected by the development of the new plantations.

Nonetheless, the CLPI process was performed with the representatives of the local community. This process was detailed in section 3.3 of this document.

Data and Quality Sources

Aranda, M. 1981. *Rastros de los mamíferos de México*. Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones sobre Recursos Bióticos. Xalapa, México.

Área de Conservación Tortuguero (ACTo).

Balát, F. 1985. Birds of narrow belts of vegetation along water channels and ditches in the field landscape of southern Moravia. *Folia Zoologica* 34: 245-54.

Bárbaro, V. M., Hernández, A., Elizalde, H. 2005. *Los humedales ante el cambio climático*. Centro Meteorológico Provincial. Instituto Universitario de Geografía. Universidad de Alicante. CITMA Matanzas. Pp. 127-132.

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Bennett, A. F.; K. Henein & G. Merriam. 1994. Corridor use and the elements of corridor quality: chipmunks and fence rows in a farmland mosaic. *Biological Conservation* 68: 155-165.

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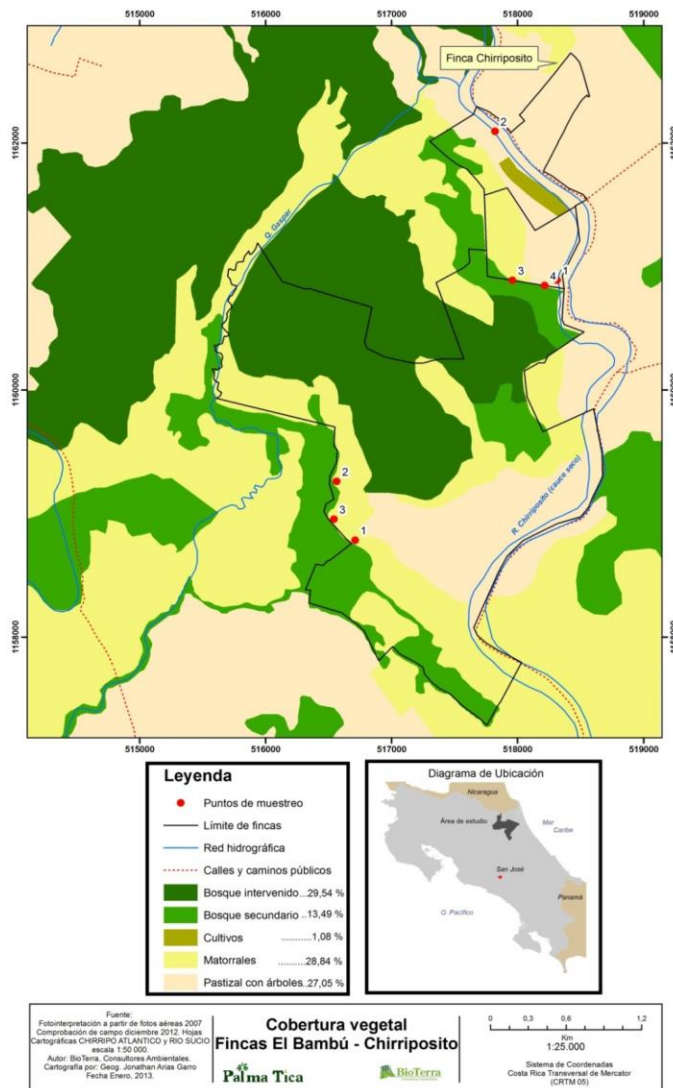
Tools used for the identification of HCVA

Jennings, Steve., R, Nussbaum.; N, Judd & T, Evans. 2003. PROFORST. *Herramientas prácticas para Bosque con Altos Valores de Conservación.* First Edition.

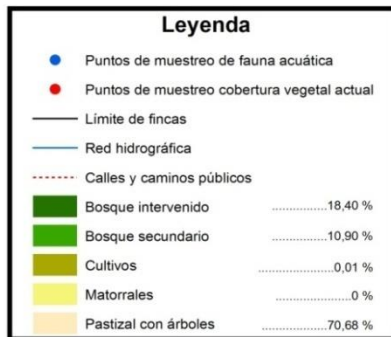
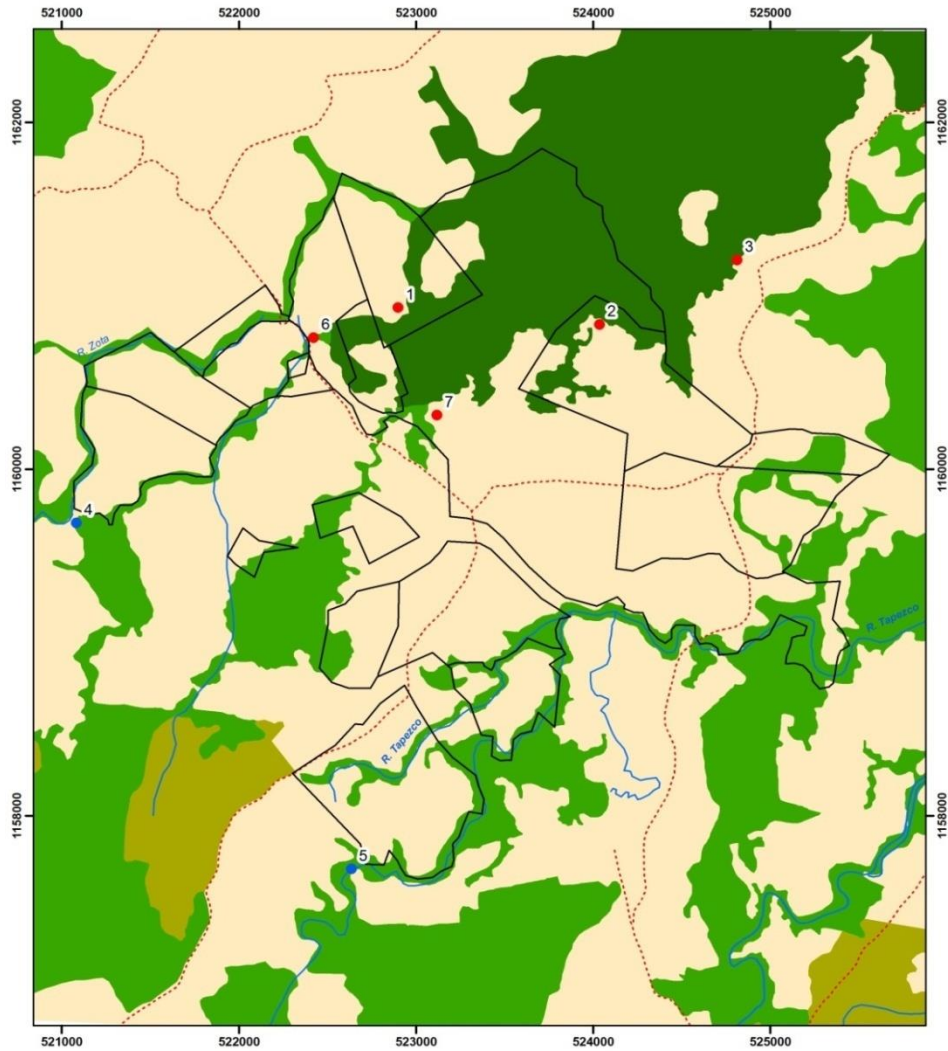
Decisions regarding the condition of the HCVA and associated maps

As has been stated, the farms in this study do not include identified HCVA. However, vegetation coverage maps are presented below, for each of the farms and the zoning according to the identified HCVs:

Vegetation coverage map for El Bambú and Chirriposito Farm



Vegetation coverage map for Reifa Farm



Fuente:
Fotointerpretación a partir de fotos aéreas 2007
Comprobación de campo diciembre 2012. Hojas
Cartográficas CHIRRIPO ATLANTICO y RIO SUCIO
escala 1:50 000.
Autor: BioTerra, Consultores Ambientales.
Cartografía por: Geog. Jonathan Arias Garro
Fecha Enero, 2013.

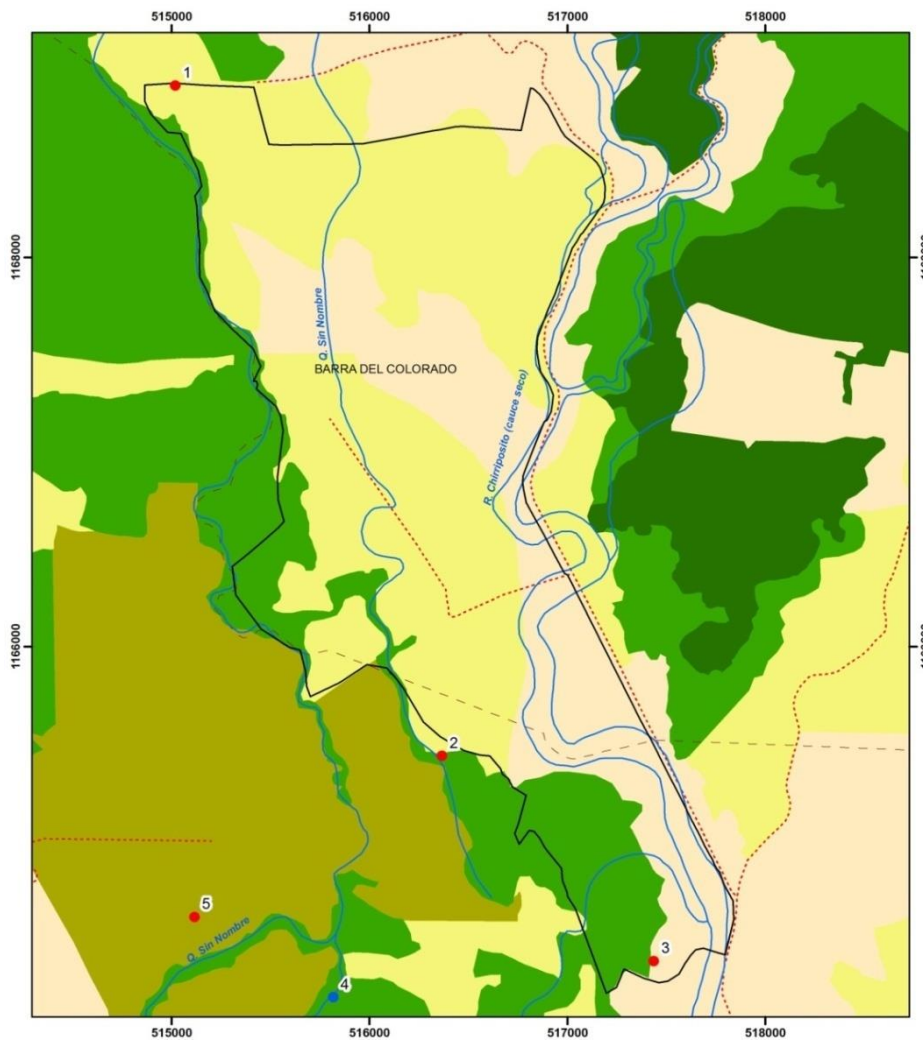
**Cobertura vegetal
Finca Reifa**

Palma Tica 

0 0,25 0,5 1
Km
1:25 000

Sistema de Coordenadas
Costa Rica Transversal de Mercator
(CRTM 05)

Vegetation coverage map for La Pajarera Farm

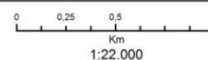


Fuente:
Fotointerpretación a partir de fotos aéreas 2007
Comprobación de campo diciembre 2012. Hojas
Cartográficas CHIRRIPO ATLANTICO y RIO SUCIO
escala 1:50 000
Autor: BioTerra, Consultores Ambientales.
Cartografía por: Geog. Jonathan Arias Garro
Fecha Enero, 2013.

**Cobertura vegetal
Finca La Pajarera**

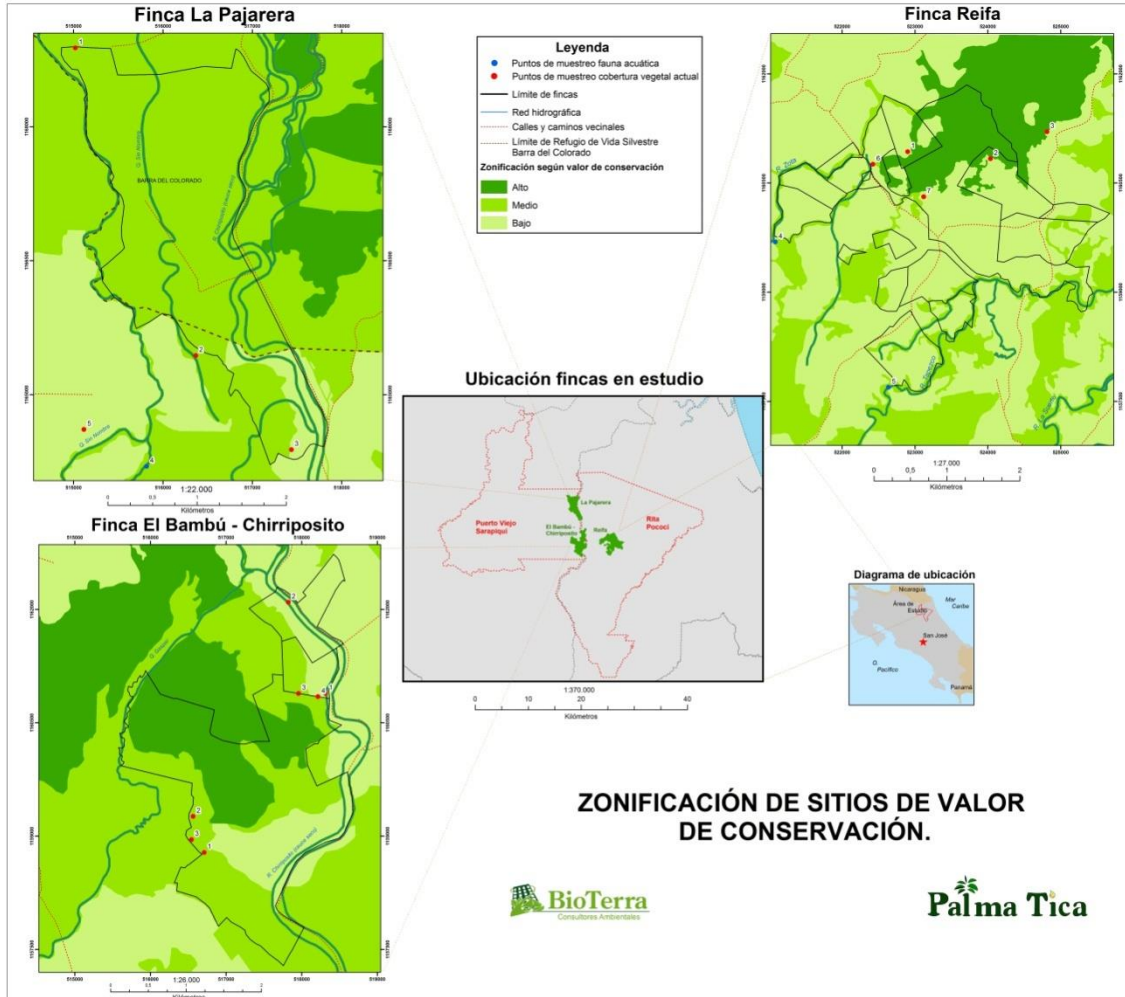
Palma Tica

BioTerra



Sistema de Coordenadas
Costa Rica Transversal de Mercator
(CRTM 05)

Zoning map according to the HCV identified



<p>CONTENIDOS:</p> <p>Como cartografía básica se utilizó: red calles públicas y caminos vecinales, red hidrográfica y Fincas objeto de estudio.</p> <p>Para la zonificación de Sitios de Valor de Conservación se consideraron restricciones de la cobertura de Hios (ley 7575), parches de bosque según ley (7575), Decreto Ejecutivo N° 34433-MINAE, Plan de Manejo del Refugio de Vida Silvestre Barra del Colorado (RNVSB/C).</p> <p>A demás se consideró la cobertura vegetal a partir de fotointerpretación fotos aéreas 2007 actualizadas con base en comprobación de campo en diciembre del 2012.</p>	<p>ELABORADO POR: BioTerra, Consultores Ambientales</p> <p>ELABORADO PARA: Compañía Palma Tica S.A</p> <p>CARTOGRAFÍA: Geog. Jonathan Arias Garro</p>	<p>ESCALA: Indicada</p> <p>FUENTE: Fotointerpretación a partir de fotos aéreas 2007 Comprobación de campo diciembre 2012. Hojas Cartográficas CHIRRIPI-ATLANTICO y RIO SUCO escala 1:50 000.</p> <p>FECHA: Enero, 2013.</p>	 <p>Proyección CRTM 05 Trasversal de Mercator para Costa Rica 2005 Meridiano central -84 Factor de Escala: 0.9999 Datum: WGS 1984</p>
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6. Internal Responsibility

Bio Terra Consultores Ambientales, an RSPO accredited company specializing in the environmental field and RSPO fully assumes responsibility for the studies summarized on this public notification reports, with regards to the content of said reports.

Nothing further, receive my regards,

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Team Leader
Bio Terra Consultores Ambientales*