

Reserva de la Biosfera Calakmul



WAYNE NICHOLAS
BLUE-WINGED WARBLER

The Calakmul Biosphere Reserve lies just north of the Guatemala/Mexico border, and encompasses almost 1.8 million acres of some of Mexico's best remaining tropical forest. The area hosts numerous neotropical migrants, and many of the Yucatan's endemic birds. There are also extensive Mayan archeological sites in the area. The Reserve represents the most extensive area of tropical forest in Southeastern Mexico, and together with the tropical forest of Guatemala and Belize is considered the second most important tropical forest in the continent after the Amazon.

LOCATION: Calakmul is located in the Mexican State of Campeche, and borders with the State of Quintana Roo to the East, and with the Country of Guatemala to the south.

SIZE: 721,957 ha (1,787,022 million acres)

HABITAT: Tall, evergreen tropical forests and low deciduous tropical forest, flood forest known locally as 'Ak'alche', and associated seasonal water holes and savannas. The predominant human activities are seasonal agriculture and ranching. The majority of the reserve is made up of tropical forest which is somewhat undisturbed.

BIRDS: More than 350 species of birds have been recorded in the reserve, of which 25% are migrants. A little more than 70% of all of the birds in the Yucatán that are considered endangered are found in Calakmul. Among these species, the following are identified as common in the area: King Vulture, Great Black Hawk, Ornate Hawk-Eagle, Great Curassow, Ocellated Turkey, White-crowned Parrot, Black-and-White Owl, Keel-billed Toucan, and Chestnut-colored Woodpecker. Common migratory species are Wood Thrush, Yellow, Blue-winged, Tennessee, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Worm-eating, Swainson's, and Kentucky Warblers.

CONSERVATION: The Federal Government manages the Reserve through its National Commission of Natural Protected Areas. It is also partially funded by the Global Environmental Fund from the World Bank. For more than 10 years, Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan and The Nature Conservancy have been working together to support the management and conservation of

this important tropical forest. Currently there is strong collaboration among local and international research and conservation institutions such as the Center for Studies of the Southern Frontier of Mexico, the National University of Mexico, the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor and the German Agency GTZ.

Site Partner:

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