

CODELCO AT WORK IN INTAG

Intimidation, social disintegration, environmental degradation and human rights violations



Police protection for illegal occupation of community lands: February 2015 to the present.

Exploration is being carried out in lands owned by the community and used for tourism since 1998.

TO DATE (OCTOBER 2015)

Codelco has four drilling rigs operating **24 hours a day** 7 days a week in this forest, which belongs to the community of Junin and which has been managed by them since 1998 for tourism.

The exploration work is supposed to last four years, but will likely take less time.

It and Enami, the partner in crime, are employing many more people than the exploration warrants.

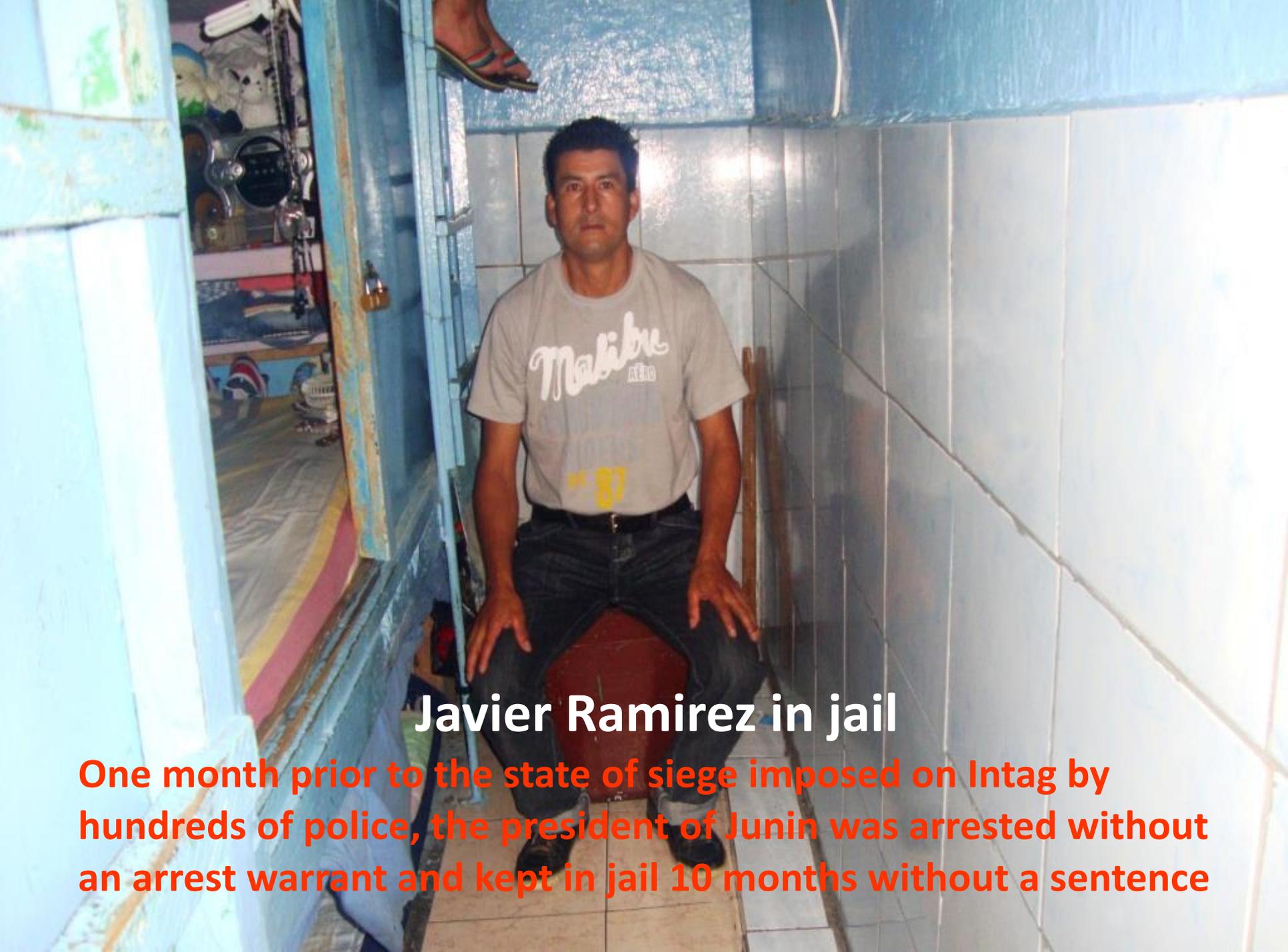
The Ministry of the Environment and the Municipality of Cotacachi have documented several violations of the Environmental Impact Study and Environmental License (wider trails than allowed, cutting of large trees, ETC.) but the work goes on uninterrupted.

Soon, drilling will be right next to rivers and streams upriver from the community of Junin, something supposedly prohibited.

This is how the government of Ecuador imposed the mining project on the people of Intag.

May 8, 2014, nearly 300 police from special forces provide security for a handful of paid employees to take samples for the deeply flawed Environmental Impact Study and, for months, intimidated the whole region.





Javier Ramirez in jail

One month prior to the state of siege imposed on Intag by hundreds of police, the president of Junin was arrested without an arrest warrant and kept in jail 10 months without a sentence

Sign clearly reads: Junin Community Reserve, which Codelco ignored

RESERVA
COMUNITARIA
JUNIN

m

Environmental Impact Study supposedly limits trails to only 1.5 meters wide (5 feet).

Part of inspection of drilling sites by Municipality of Cotacachi and volunteers, July 2015



Trees hundreds of years old were logged in primary forests to build camps. The Environmental Impact Study prohibited cutting trees more than 10cm (4 inches) in diameter.

Preparation of mining camp in the midst of primary forest.
Logging was not permitted in the environmental license.



Building camps in primary cloud forest without a building permit from the Municipality



One of several drilling camps set up illegally in land managed and owned by the community for tourism



Waterfalls in community lands and within mining area. Ever since mining started tourism has fallen off drastically

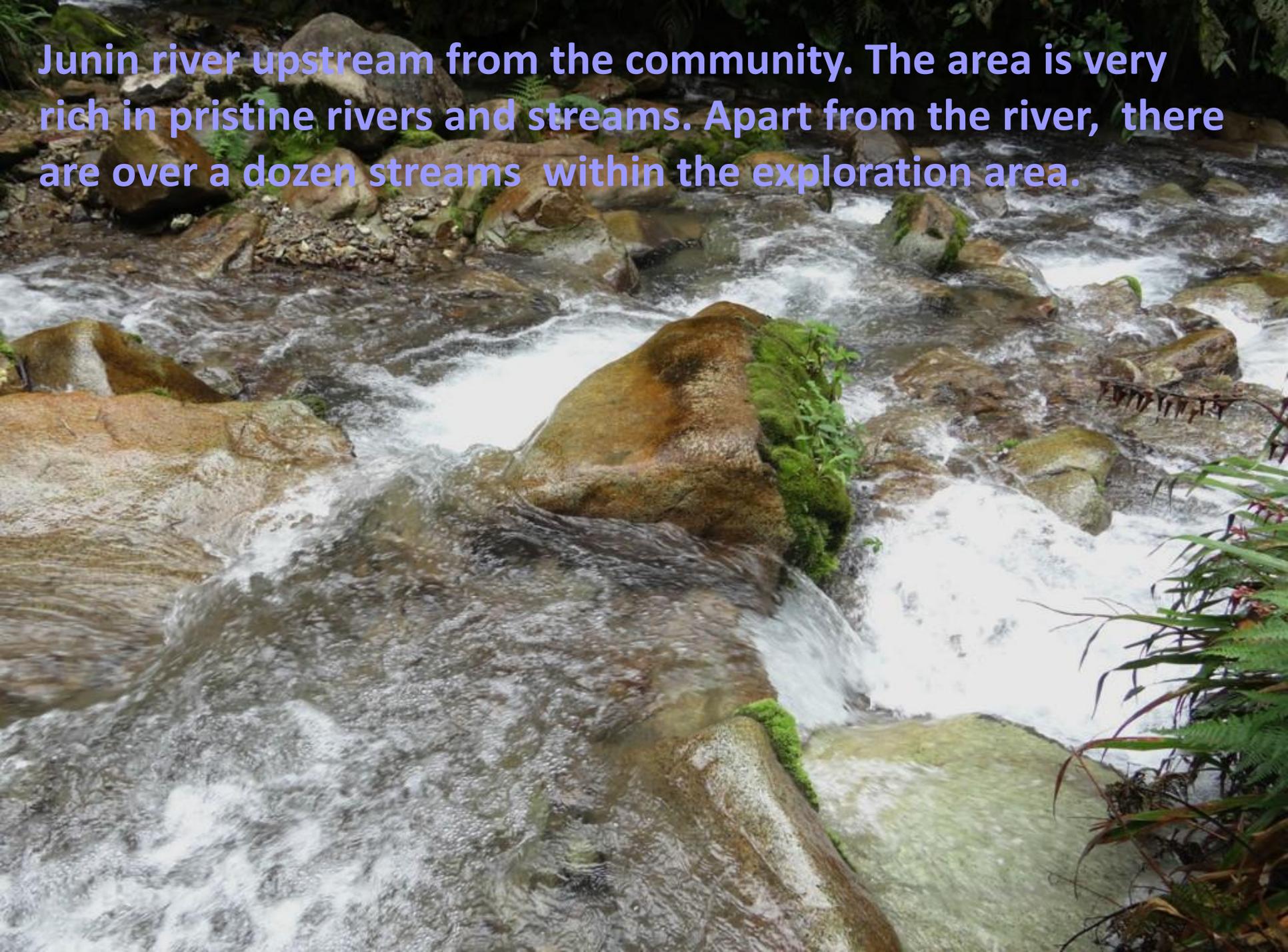


Dozens of mammals and bird species facing extinction live in Junin's cloud forests, including jaguars, andean bears, plate-billed mountain toucans, and the critically-endangered Brown-Faced Spider Monkey. Orchid and amphibian diversity is especially high. The Prince Charles Frog, a new species, was recently discovered in a patch of cloud forest in Intag close to the Junin area.



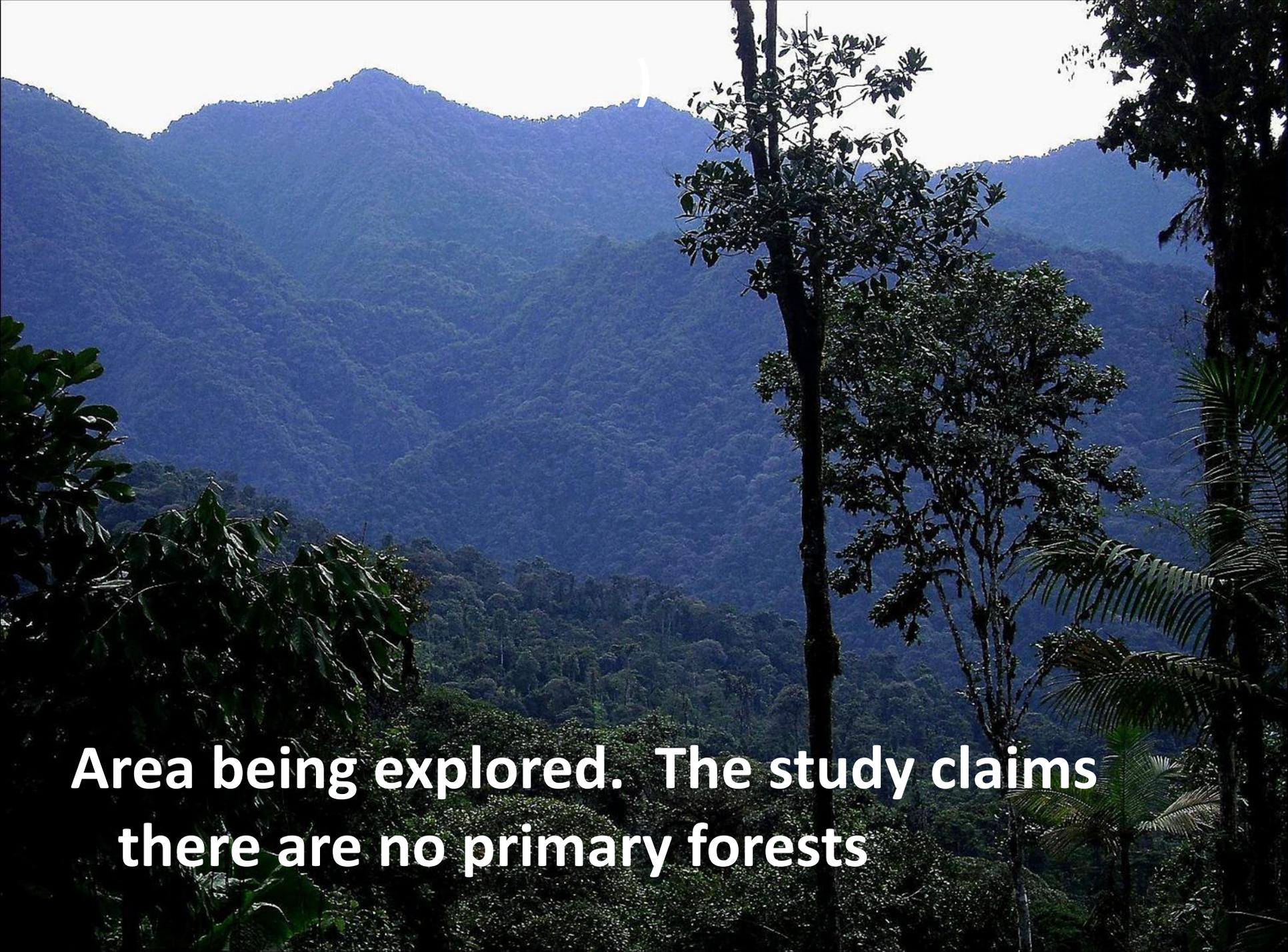


Junin river upstream from the community. The area is very rich in pristine rivers and streams. Apart from the river, there are over a dozen streams within the exploration area.



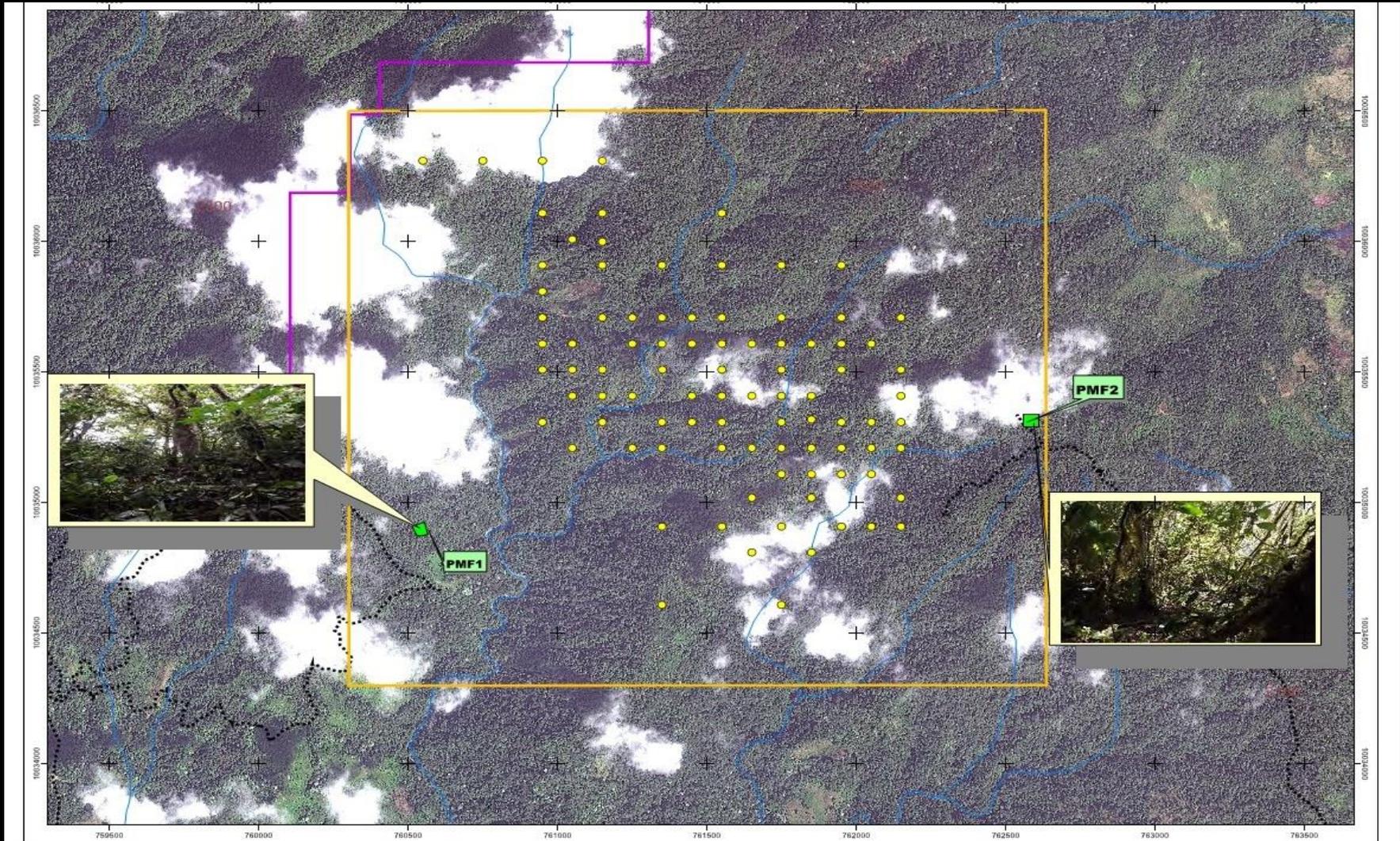


One of several bore holes left over from the 1990s still contaminating the JUNIN River



**Area being explored. The study claims
there are no primary forests**

This is the exploration area and where the 90 bore holes are planned to be drilled (**yellow dots**) The government says there are no primary forests.



Partial list of abuses and illegalities committed to date

- i. Violation of Constitutional right to Prior Consultation
- ii. Arrest and illegal jailing of Junin's President, Javier Ramírez (April 2014)
- iii. Occupation by hundreds of special forces police (May 2014)
- iv. Violation of right to freely circulate and freely associate
- v. Wide-scale intimidation of people during months by the police in order to "socialize" the Environmental Impact Study.
- vi. Environmental Impact Study with serious errors and omissions
Illegal occupation of community reserve
Construction of camps without the necessary Municipal permits
- vii. Violation of the Environmental Licence, including logging trees more than 10cm in diameter (4 inches)
- viii. Insufficient or nonexistent monitoring of contamination.
- ix. Social conflicts and grave psychological impacts

A quick reminder of what is at stake **(based on a very small copper mine)**

- i. Relocation of four communities and hundreds of people**
- ii. Increase in crime**
- iii. “Massive deforestation” (direct quote)**
- iv. Drying up of the local climate (term used in the study was local “desertification”)**
- v. Contamination of pristine rivers and streams with lead, arsenic, cadmium and other heavy metals**
- vi. Impacts to dozens of mammals and birds facing extinction, including the Andean Bear and a critically endangered spider monkey**
- vii. Impacts to the Cotacachi Cayapas Ecological Reserve**

CODELCO·ENAMI FUERA DE INTAG! DESISTETE... MADE NO S...

Junin, 8 de abril 2013



The Andean Bear is one of dozens of mammals and birds facing extinction within the mining area



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