

# Fundación Parque Katalapi

Annual Report  
Memoria Anual

# 2024



Katalapi Park Foundation manages the Katalapi Park Nature Sanctuary, a private protected area dedicated to the conservation of native forest, research, and environmental education.





**INDEX**

**04 Letter from the President**

**05 Mission and Vision**

**05 Team**

**06 Environmental Education**

**08 Research**

**10 Conservation**

**11 Management, Partnerships,  
and Communication**

**12 Finances**

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year 2024 began with a significant milestone for the Fundación Parque Katalapi: we hosted the annual meeting of the Chilean Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research Network (LTSER-Chile), thus consolidating our participation in this valuable initiative that aims to promote the development of longitudinal research, deepening the understanding of phenomena by providing a broader perspective and raising new research questions. Furthermore, during the year, two long-term monitoring projects were initiated. On one hand, we enthusiastically welcomed a group of students who set up permanent monitoring plots in the forest, strengthening the research in the area. In November, we also launched the bird monitoring project driven by the Chilean Bird and Wildlife Observers Network (ROC Chile), adding to the efforts that reaffirm Katalapi's commitment as an open space for long-term research.

In the field of environmental education, 2024 was also a year of achievements. We had the opportunity to train more environmental educators than in previous years, through six workshops that reflected our ongoing commitment to outdoor education. A particular highlight was a unique edition of the classic Outdoor Environmental Education Facilitators workshop, this time with a specific focus on the school curriculum and the National Environmental Certification System for Educational Establishments (SNCAE).

A special milestone was receiving the Carolina Hazard Vergara Award, presented by the Ministry of the Environment, in recognition of our work on the project "Bats: Our Nocturnal Allies," funded by the Environmental Protection Fund. This award fills us with pride and motivates us to continue working with dedication and commitment.

However, it was not all smooth sailing. Internally, we went through periods of change that tested our working methods and organizational structure. Nevertheless, we were able to adapt, reconfigure our dynamics, and reconnect as a team. While the usual challenges, such as economic sustainability, remain, we closed the year with a deep conviction in the value of our work. Let us continue to care for, research, and educate with nature at the center.



Luis Julián Corcuera Pérez  
President Fundación Parque Katalapi

## MISSION

To ensure the conservation of Chile's natural heritage through the development of environmental education and the promotion of scientific research in the Katalapi Nature Sanctuary, which contributes to improving the understanding and connection of individuals and communities with nature.

## VISION

To contribute at the national level to the development of environmental education in direct contact with

## OUR TEAM

### Directory

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| • Luis Julián Corcuera Pérez           | President and Founding Partner      |
| • Ana María Teodora Vliegenthart Arntz | Vice-President and Founding Partner |
| • Isabel Margarita Donoso-Torres Labra | Secretary                           |
| • Rebeca Gálvez                        | Treasurer                           |
| • Alfredo Oliver Saldaña Mendoza       | Director                            |

### Team

- |                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Valentina Vergara   | Executive General Administrator     |
| • Francisco Vargas    | Environmental Education Coordinator |
| • Estela Jofré        | Park Ranger                         |
| • Dagoberto Olavarría | Park Ranger                         |

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION in Nature

People and communities connected with nature will give rise to more sustainable societies that conserve the environment. Likewise, learning in nature has countless benefits for educational communities. This is why environmental education is one of the pillars of our work.

More than 1,000 schoolchildren learned by exploring the forest

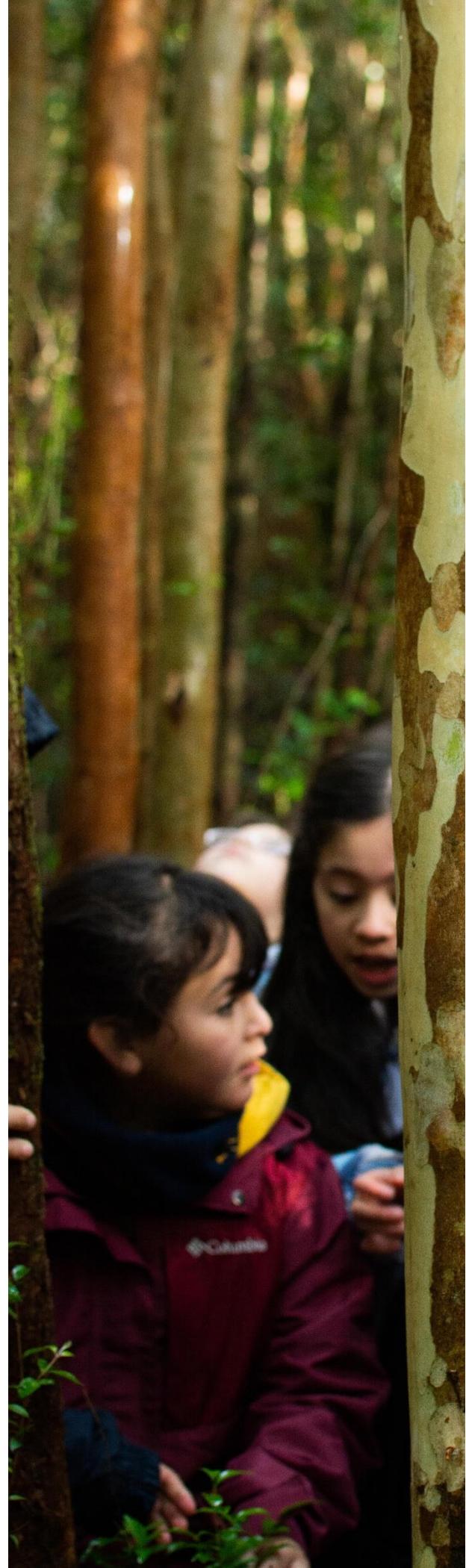
The educational excursions consist of guided walks through native forest to address a topic related to forest conservation and the objectives of the school curriculum. Throughout the 2024 school year, we hosted 49 educational excursions, welcoming a total of 1,086 students from preschool to high school, representing 18 different educational institutions. In addition, we innovated by designing an excursion titled Ecoleaders, aimed at encouraging students to get involved in the environmental management of their school within the framework of environmental certification.

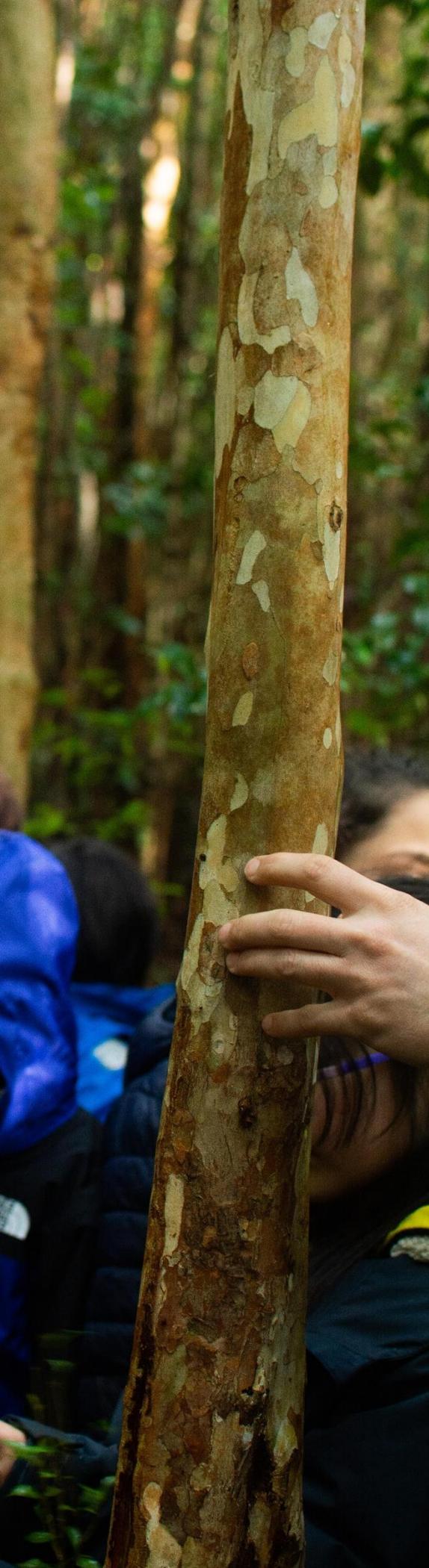
More than 80 new environmental educators

At Katalapi, we train environmental educators because we believe in their multiplying effect: each new environmental educator can make an impact in new places. Thus, 86 people acquired tools for outdoor environmental education using experiential methodologies. In 2024, we offered the training workshop Didactics of Outdoor Environmental Education and three editions of the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilitators training workshop. We also ventured into a special edition of the latter, with an emphasis on the national curriculum. In addition, we provided other workshops requested by companies and institutions.

Arachnids, the Silent Heroes

Non-charismatic fauna — the ones nobody wants and whose images aren't printed on mugs or t-shirts — are also part of ecosystems and must be conserved, as arachnids.





That is why the General Center for Parents and Guardians of Colegio Nuevo Horizonte carried out this project entitled “Arachnids, the Silent Heroes”, with the support of FPK and researchers Darko Cotoras and Ismael Horta, and funded by the Environmental Protection Fund of the Ministry of the Environment.

The project aimed to promote knowledge and appreciation of arachnids within the school community. To this end, they conducted educational activities for students, trained the teaching staff in environmental education tools, and produced educational materials, such as an audiovisual capsule about the arachnids of Katalapi Park.

#### **Te falta Sur (Missing the Outdoors)**

This project, carried out by a team from Universidad San Sebastián and funded by the university’s own Outreach Fund, seeks to incorporate into student training an understanding of how vital it is to have access to natural spaces in daily life and professional practice. Thus, medical students discussed the salutogenic role of contact with nature; architecture students planned infrastructure for protected areas; and political science students studying environmental governance identified gaps in environmental regulations for protected areas. In addition, all of them experienced moments of connection with nature.

Recognition of our work

In March 2024, we received the Carolina Hazard Vergara Award for the project “Bats, Our Nocturnal Allies”. Through this award, the Ministry of the Environment recognizes the best project funded by the Environmental Protection Fund in the region.

## Composition, structure, and function of forest ecosystems.

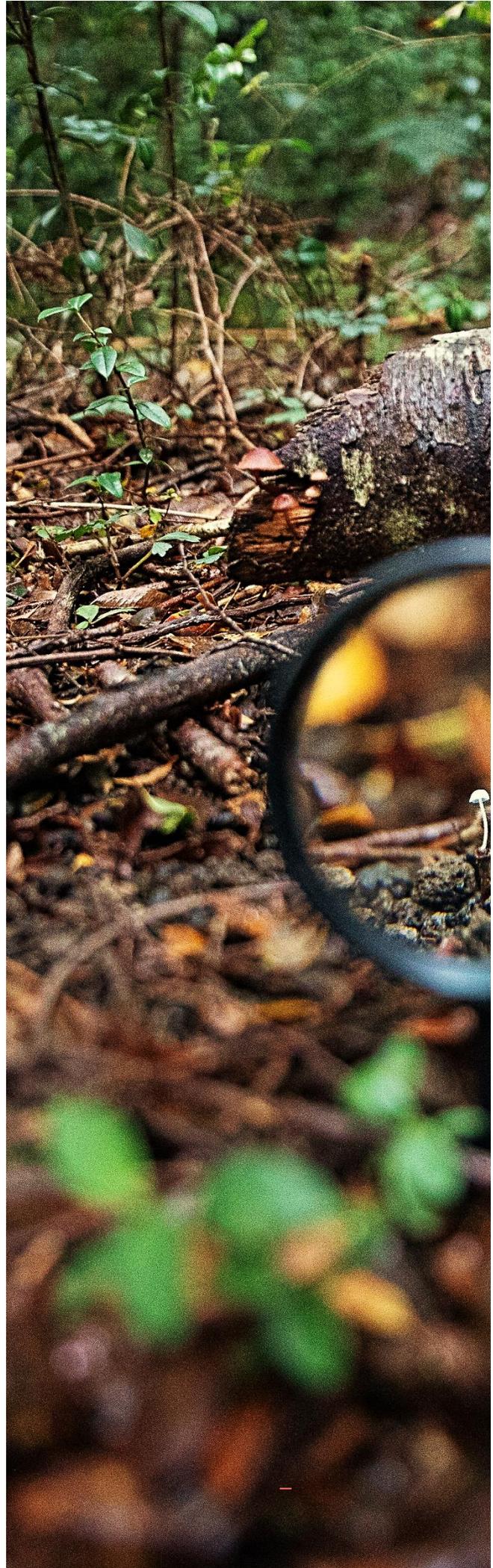
A group of volunteer ornithologists from the Chilean Bird Observers Network and Chilean Wildlife (ROC) launched a new station for bird banding and wildlife data collection. These data will contribute to the study of bird demography and physiology.

Additionally, researcher Antonio Parra initiated a study on myriapods. This research will help delineate species within this group of invertebrates known as millipedes.

The Parque Katalapi team and its associated researchers published articles in indexed journals:

Lobos-Ovalle, D., Herrera-Mares, A., Lira-Olguin, A., Allendes, J., Rodríguez-San Pedro, A., Moreno-Salas, L., Uribe, J., & Silva-de la Fuente, M. C. Morphological and molecular data on the bat flies, *Basilia silvae* (Brèthes, 1913) and *Trichobius parasiticus* (Gervais, 1844) parasitizing Chilean bats. *Medical and Veterinary Entomology*.

Rau, R., Fuentes, N., Gallardo, J., Henríquez, C., Garrido, D., & Lobos-Ovalle, D. (2024). Ornitholimnological study in the Reloncaví Sound, northern Patagonia, Chile. *El Hornero*, 39(1), 3–3.





Cursach, J. A., Araos, F., Valencia, C., Ruz, D., Barrientos, M., & Delgado, C. (2024). Ethnobiology and climate change in marine wetlands of southern Chile. *Letras Verdes, Latin American Journal of Socio-Environmental Studies*, (36), 43–60.

- Ponce, M., Gómez, F., Ojeda, S., Rodríguez-Gómez, G., Orellana, J., & Fontúrbel, F. (2024). The relative importance of local versus regional habitat structure variation on the abundance of two generalist mutualists along a forest disturbance gradient. *Global Ecology and Conservation*, 54, e03160.

#### **Plant Ecophysiology**

In January 2024, two significant events for the sciences took place at SNPK. As has become customary, scientists from different countries and continents gathered for the 17th International Colloquium on Plant Ecophysiology. Additionally, SNPK hosted the annual meeting of the Chilean Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research Network (LTSER-Chile).

## Biodiversity Conservation

The SNPK preserves nearly 25 hectares of native forest. Currently, a passive conservation management model is being implemented—meaning a model in which the forest is left to its natural processes, allowing ecological succession to occur—along with some elements of active conservation.

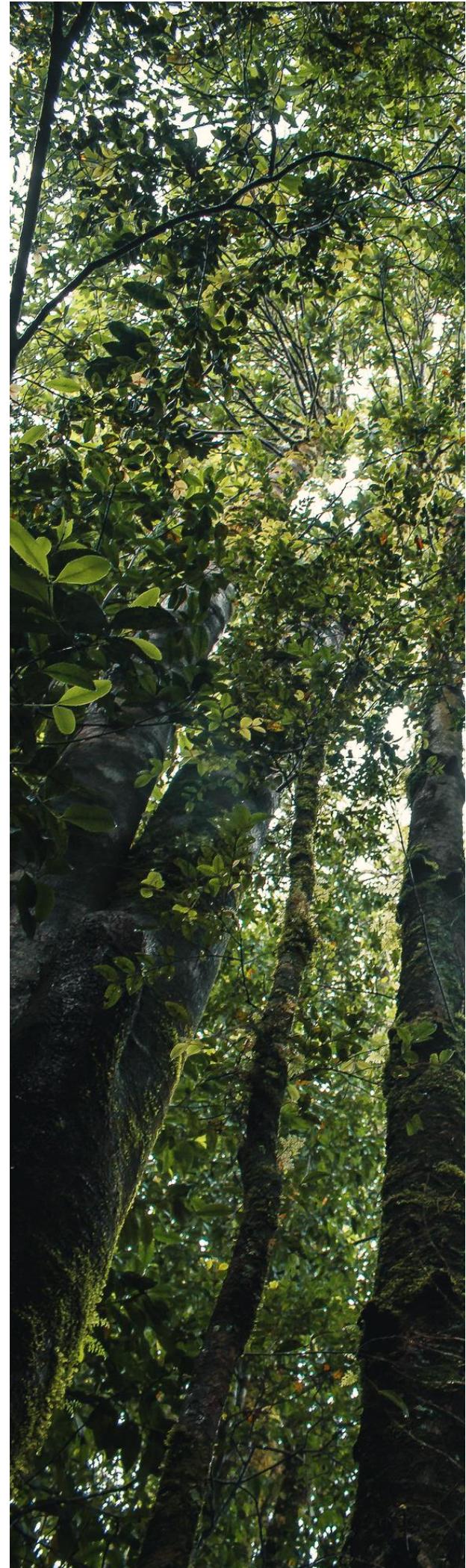
### **Water Quality Monitoring**

Water quality is monitored by the General Water Directorate (DGA), which conducts two annual samplings in the Tepual River and the Chapito Lagoon in Los Lagos, finding high water quality. These monitoring efforts provide information about the conservation of the SNPK's hydrobiological system, which is composed of watercourses and micro-wetlands.

### **Identifying the Biodiversity of the Katalapi Nature Sanctuary**

Through a project funded by the Wikimedia Chile Microfunding Program, a group of visitors was invited to identify the biodiversity of the SNPK and record it on the open citizen science platform iNaturalist.

Additionally, tasks such as trail, fence, and infrastructure maintenance were carried out to provide safe conditions for visitors and reduce threats to forest conservation.



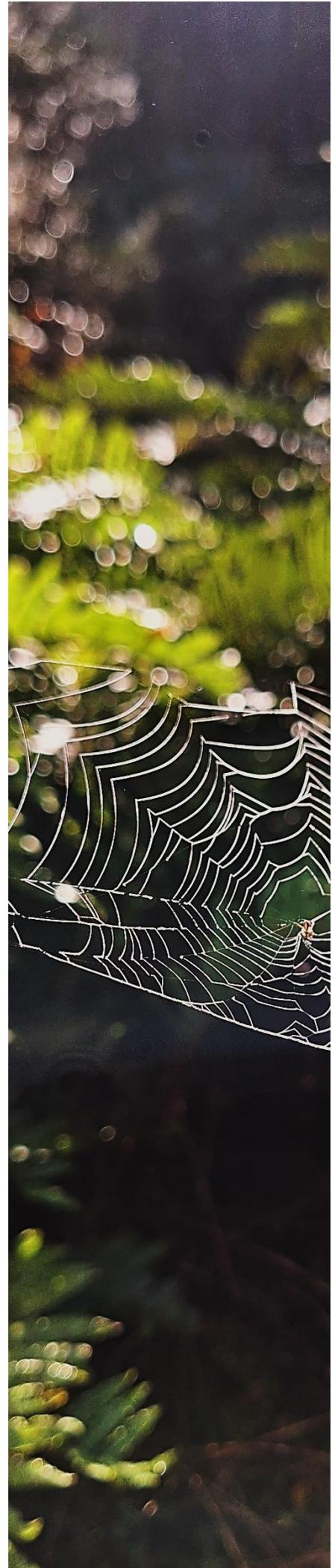
## NETWORKS

FPK is part of various collaborative networks involving actors from the different areas in which it operates, such as education, conservation, research, and even the third sector.

At the end of 2024, we joined a network called Red por el Aprendizaje Los Lagos, which seeks to address the current crisis in the education system, expressed in low learning outcomes and high dropout rates. Our contribution is to highlight how contact with nature can help improve learning outcomes, increase motivation, and reduce school dropout. Additionally, our director Ana María Vliegenthart was invited to participate in the seminar “Local Ecological Knowledge as a Basis for Culturally and Regionally Relevant Education” in Purranque, where she highlighted the value of nature-based education—especially in this context, where outdoor play can serve as an antidote to the problem of overexposure to screens.

Various communication platforms allow our message to reach a wider audience. Ana María Vliegenthart participated in the program Viaje Silvestre, hosted by Rolando Sabath on Radio Ventisqueros de Chile Chico 102.1 FM. The episode was titled “Educating in Nature: Awareness and Social Transformation.”

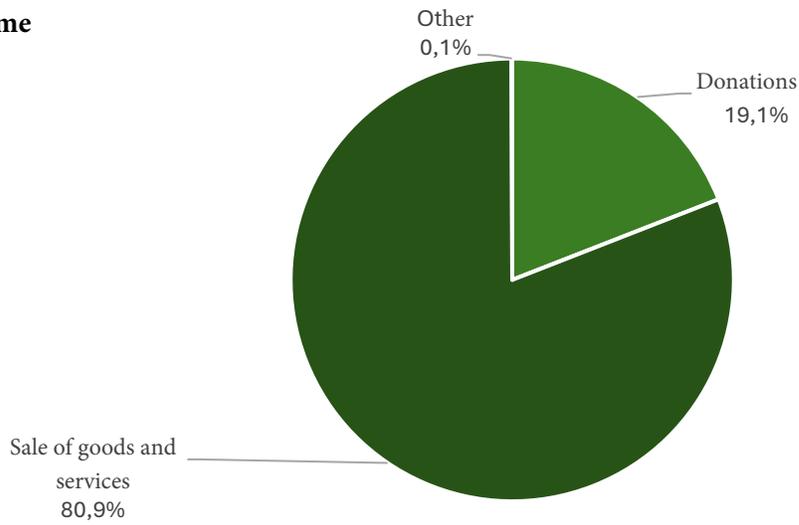
The program Kimlú, Scientists of Tomorrow is an educational documentary series that showcases the experiences of children and adolescents in camps organized by, or in collaboration with, Fundación Ciencia Joven. One of these camps took place in Parque Katalapi and was featured in episode 7 of the series, titled “In the Jungle.”



## FINANCE

The preparation of this financial statement has been guided by the standardized format for non-profit organizations in Chile, FECU Social.

### Income



### Expenses

