



**Annual Report 2025**  
**Parque Katalapi Foundation**

# Katalapi Park

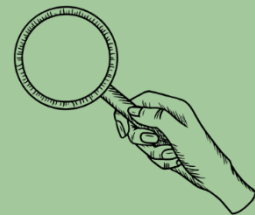
## Foundation and Nature Sanctuary



Conservation



Environmental  
Education



Scientific  
Research

# **INDEX**

**04 Letter from the President**

**05 Mission and Vision**

**06 Team**

**07 Environmental Education**

**12 Research**

**16 Conservation**

**17 Finances**

## Letter from the President

2025 was a year that left us feeling very happy. In environmental education, we welcomed more school students than in any previous year and established partnerships that will help ensure that, in the future, even more students can have educational experiences outdoors. In addition, we took part in the training of more than 100 people who will gain new tools as educators or environmental monitors, contributing to the protection of nature in their territories and workplaces.

In research, the ongoing monitoring work of the Network of Bird and Wildlife Observers (ROC) was consolidated as it completed its first year of operation. We also received special recognition in the international journal *Plant Ecophysiology*.

Most importantly, this was a year of strengthening what we have been building. We grew stronger—just like the forest we conserve.



Luis Julián Corcuera Pérez  
President of the board  
Katalapi Parque Foundation

## **Mission**

To ensure the conservation of Chile's natural heritage through the development of environmental education and the promotion of scientific research at the Katalapi Park Nature Sanctuary, contributing to improving people's and communities' understanding of and connection with nature.

## **Vission**

To contribute at the national level to the development of environmental education in direct contact with nature, enabling a paradigm shift toward sustainability and the conservation of natural heritage.

## Our team

### Board

President	Luis Julián Corcuera
Vice-president	Ana María Teodora Vliegenthart
Secretary	Isabel Margarita Donoso-Torres María Fernanda Landea
Treasurer	Rebeca Gálvez
Director	Alfredo Oliver Saldaña

### Team

General Administrador	Valentina Vergara
Park rangers	Estela Jofré Millar y Dagoberto Olavarría
Social media	Pía Langeheine
Environmental educators	Romina Salinas y Daniela Avilés

*Outdoor*  
**Environmental  
education**



To connect with the forest, to know it, to love it, to care for it. That is what we hope to achieve through environmental education aimed at diverse audiences.

### **School Educational Field Trips**

At Katalapi Park, students enjoy classes in the forest that integrate learning objectives from the school curriculum, with the underlying goal of increasing school motivation and fostering a connection with nature. Children and adolescents touch the soil to learn about erosion or observe the holes woodpeckers make in trees to understand food webs, becoming active participants in building their own learning through real experiences in the forest.

In 2025, 74 educational field trips were carried out, bringing together 1,981 students.

A significant portion of these excursions had the primary objective of increasing student motivation and, in turn, improving school attendance. These activities were funded by the Ministry of Education's Educational Reactivation Program, which in the area is implemented by the Municipal Department of Education (DAEM) of Puerto Montt and the Llanquihue Local Public Education Service (SLEP). Among these, the "Cultivating Attendance" sessions stand out—three events that brought together around 80 students from different schools in the Llanquihue province. These sessions were jointly organized by SLEP Llanquihue and Fundación Brotario. An innovation in 2025 was the introduction of bilingual educational field trips.

## **Scientific Tourism: An Opportunity for Environmental Education**

In 2025, a scientific tourism experience was designed, consisting of accompanying the scientific monitoring of amphibians carried out by researcher Ismael Horta.

The activity was designed using the principles and methodologies of environmental education and represents an opportunity to raise awareness among new audiences.

### **Tools for Driving Change**

We promote environmental education through the training of teachers, conservation professionals, park rangers, educators, workshop facilitators, and community leaders, among others.



In April, September, and November, the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilitators Workshop was held. A total of 50 participants gained new tools to plan environmental education activities using the experiential learning cycle methodology and to lead groups in nature.

In addition, we took part in a regional initiative to train environmental monitors—community agents equipped with tools to promote environmental action in their territories. This initiative was developed by Aguas Arriba and the Ministry of the Environment, in collaboration with Katalapi Park, and included 80 beneficiaries.

### **A Megaphone for Environmental Education**

We seek to promote this vision—that environmental education is the foundation for a more caring and conscious relationship with nature—across different spaces and platforms.



We participated in several community initiatives, building networks and increasing the visibility of our work. For example, we took part in the 5th Coihuín Chamiza Bird Festival and in school fairs at various educational institutions.

We also published an article in the media outlet El Desconcierto, in which we propose nature-based education as a response to the crisis of coexistence in schools:

- [Kong, F. and Vliegenthart, A. \(May 15, 2025\). Healing Schools: Nature as a Pedagogical Key in the Face of School Violence. \*eldesconcierto.cl\*](#)

To share the experience of Katalapi Park, and in collaboration with other educators, an article was submitted to a specialized environmental education journal:

- [Pérez, G., Vliegenthart, A., Ortega, S., Godoy, K., Vergara, V. \(2025\). Environmental Education and Nature: Extinction of Experience. \*Digital Journal of Environmental Education, Ministry of the Environment\*](#)

Finally, the Vice President and Director of Environmental Education, Ana María Vliegenthart Arntz, participated in the First International Forum on Biodiversity Conservation and Human Well-being, organized by the Nature Campus of the University of Concepción—an interdisciplinary meeting aimed at developing solutions to the ecological and social crisis we face.

Nearly **2,000** schoolchildren participated in **nature-based learning experiences.**

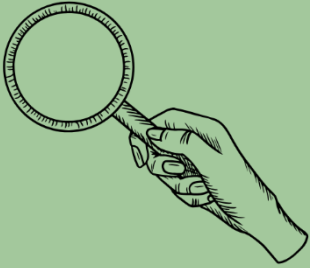
One **agreement** was signed to bring **more schoolchildren to Katalapi.**

More than **100 adults** received **new tools to educate** and make an impact in their communities.



## Scientific research

*for the understanding  
of the native forest*



At Parque Katalapi, we seek a deeper understanding of the native forest and the processes that occur within it. We open the doors of the park to the development of scientific research, have a team of associated researchers, and actively participate in research networks.

### **Open Doors for Research**

During 2025, several projects being carried out at Parque Katalapi were completed. Others were strengthened by expanding their objectives or reinforcing institutional agreements. At the same time, new projects were launched to address emerging research questions.

The FONDECYT Project No. 3220691, “Effect of environmental heterogeneity and size on the functional role of multiple ramets in the capture and transport of resources within a woody genet,” led by Antonio Bartolomé Escandón, PhD, reached completion. This study examined how resources are captured and distributed within a single genetic individual—between a mother tree and its clones—and how factors such as environmental differences and organism size influence this process.

Also in 2025, biodiversity and biogeography researcher Antonio Parra conducted fieldwork as part of a study on species of the genus *Zinagon*. This work will provide a characterization of the millipedes found in Parque Katalapi.

Throughout 2025, vertebrate monitoring led by researcher Ismael Horta—previously focused on amphibians and monito

del monte— was expanded to include carnivorous mammals. Using camera traps, the study aims to document the approximate number of individuals of each species, their activity periods, and movement patterns.

At the end of 2024, the Chilean Bird and Wildlife Observers Network (ROC) set an important goal: to establish a permanent bird banding station at Parque Katalapi, creating a long-term monitoring and research site that also contributes to the training of ornithologists. The data collected regularly over time will enable new research questions about the birds of these forests. In 2025, a collaboration agreement was signed to strengthen this effort. By November 2025, one full year of bird monitoring at Parque Katalapi had been completed, thanks to the dedication and commitment of ornithologists Fernando Medrano, Danae Garrido, Daniel Terán, Sara Saldanha, among others.

To study atmospheric nitrogen pollution across different ecosystems, a new monitoring initiative using rainwater



collectors began in 2025. This important research is led by Dr. Karina Madriaza, a researcher at the Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity of Chile (IEB Chile). The project is funded by the International Long-Term Ecological Research Network (ILTER) and was made possible through Parque Katalapi's participation in the Chilean Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research Network (LTSER), of which we are a member.

With the aim of studying atmospheric nitrogen pollution across different ecosystems, a monitoring program using rainwater collectors was initiated in 2025. This important research is led by Dr. Karina Madriaza, a researcher at the Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity of Chile (IEB Chile). The project is funded by the International Long-Term Ecological Research Network (ILTER) and was made possible through Parque Katalapi's participation in the Chilean Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research Network (LTSER), of which we are a member.

### **Scientific Publications (and Others Not So Much)**

Associated researchers published articles in indexed journals:

- [Lobos-Ovalle, D., Herrera-Mares, A., Lira-Olguin, A. Z., Allendes, J. L., Rodríguez-San Pedro, A., Moreno-Salas, L., Uribe, J. & Silva-de la Fuente, M. C. \(2025\). \*Morphological and molecular data on the bat flies, \*Basilina silvae\* \(Brèthes, 1913\) and \*Trichobius parasiticus\* Gervais, 1844 parasitizing Chilean bats.\* Medical and Veterinary Entomology, 39\(3\), 422–430.](#)
- [Flexas et al. \(2025\). \*What can we learn from the ecophysiology of plants inhabiting extreme environments? From 'sherplants' to 'shercrops'.\* Journal of Experimental Botany, 76\(17\), 4831–4848.](#)

Research carried out at the Katalapi Park Nature Sanctuary was also published:

- [Triay-Limonta, O., Paleo-López, R., Stuardo, C. J., Ugarte, C. S., Valdivia, C. E., & Napolitano, C. \(2025\). \*Effectiveness of seed dispersal by foxes in areas with different human disturbances in southern Chile\*. \*PeerJ\*, 13, e20150.](#)

As part of science communication efforts, associated researcher Ismael Horta published an article in the environmental, outdoor, and science media outlet *Ladera Sur*, sharing his research findings on the remarkable camouflage strategies of amphibians in the temperate rainforest:

- [Horta, I. \(April 25, 2025\). \*Colors and Strategies: The Fascinating Camouflage of Amphibians in the Southern Forests of Chile\*. \*Ladera Sur\*](#)

### **Meetings to Share Science: The Plant Ecophysiology Colloquium**

From January 13 to 16, 2025, the 18th International Plant Ecophysiology Colloquium was held—an event dedicated to fostering dialogue among researchers and sharing scientific advances. The colloquium regularly features presentations by renowned academics in plant ecophysiology, including José Ignacio García-Plazaola (UPV/EHU, Spain); Beatriz Fernández-Marín (UPV/EHU, Spain); Marilyn Ball (ANU, Australia); Jeroni Galmés (UIB, Spain); Bruce Osborne (UCD, Ireland); Jaume Flexas (UIB, Spain); and Jie Liang (ANU, Australia).

### **Building Networks and Teams**

In 2025, José Grau, PhD, joined Parque Katalapi as an associated researcher. This dedicated molecular biologist

became part of a team that includes Ismael Horta (Veterinarian) and Dante Lobos (Veterinarian).

Additionally, in September 2025, we participated in the annual meeting of the Chilean Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research Network (LTSER-Chile), held at the Atacama UC Station in Alto Patache. Luis Corcuera, president of the board of Fundación Parque Katalapi, is a member of the LTSER board.

.

## Forest conservation



In the conservation model of Katalapi Park, the forest has been restored primarily by allowing ecological processes to act on their own: the area was fenced to prevent herbivory, and tree cutting was halted.

In addition, some areas were reforested, increasing the forest's diversity with species such as alerce (*Fitzroya cupressoides*) and coihue (*Nothofagus sp.*).

The process of ecological succession has been remarkable. In just three decades, the forest has become diverse and resilient. But at the beginning of 2025, a record from one of the camera traps filled us with joy and showed that we are on the right track: a pudu was spotted feeding in the forest of Katalapi Park



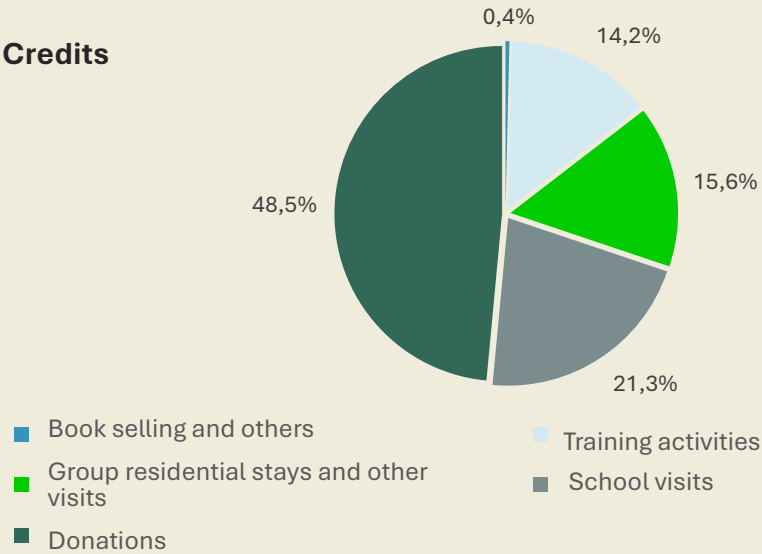
TC049-Ismael Horta Pizarro - Med. Vet. Fauna Silvestre 02-22-2025 20:48:14

# Finances

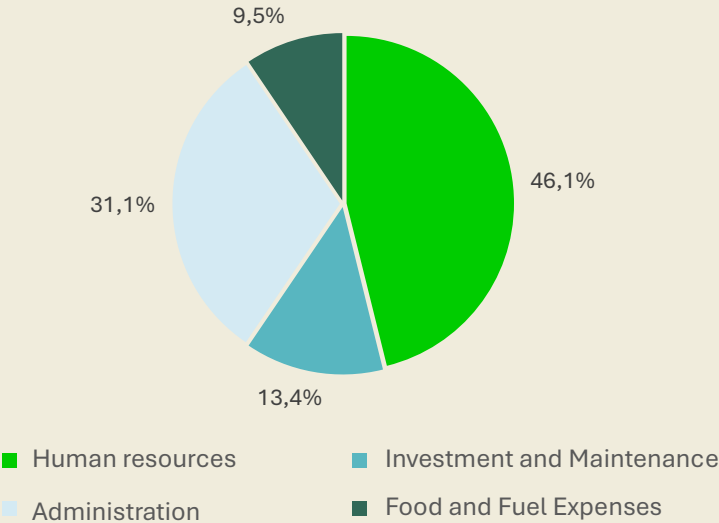
The management of a nature sanctuary not only requires conserving the forest, but also maintaining the infrastructure that supports conservation, scientific, and environmental education activities. During 2025, investments were made in infrastructure maintenance: improvements to the electrical system and the renovation of the park ranger’s house flooring.

Below is a summary of the financial balance.

## Credits



## Charges



If you would like to donate or learn more  
about our work, please write to  
[reservas@parquekatalapi.cl](mailto:reservas@parquekatalapi.cl)

