

SAVING PAUTE'S NATURE WITH "WILDLIFE FRIENDLY" TOURISM

Background

- Paute is a city with around 25,000 people in the province of Azuay, Ecuador. (1)
- Paute is located approximately 45 minutes away from their city of Cuenca by car. (1)
- Paute is situated in highland paramo habitat; the surrounding paramo is home to many endangered, threatened, and endemic species of plants and animals. (2)
- One species of animal that utilizes the paramo habitat around Paute is the iconic Andean Condor, which is threatened according to the IUCN. (2)



Why visit Paute?

- Paute is rich in history and culture, with fantastic local cuisine and authentic colonial architecture. (1)
- The paramo landscape around Paute is full of outdoor recreation opportunities and its natural beauty is unmatched. (1)
- Paute is a safe area with friendly local people and a laid-back atmosphere.

Opportunity To Grow

- Tourism in Paute has potential to grow in a "wildlife friendly" manner.
- Paute already has an existing plan to grow tourism, but we propose to expand it. (3)
- "Wildlife friendly" tourism could take different forms, such as:
 - Hotels and restaurants that serve food minimizing harmful impacts to wildlife.
 - Establishing wildlife viewing tours (e.g. birdwatching tours).
- We hope that the growth of "wildlife friendly" tourism will incentivize the local community to protect the natural surrounding areas.



Photo Sources

- 1) ebird.org
- 2) www.paute.gob.ec
- 3) goecuador.net
- 4) nationalgeographic.com

Web Sources

- 1) www.paute.gob.ec
- 2) www.iucn.org
- 3) www.paute.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/pdyot.pdf