

BRAZILIAN AMAZONIA

- GLOBAL, NATIONAL, OR AMERICAN INDIANS HERITAGE?



Jiri MORAVEC, Ph.D.
UJEP, MUP

BRAZILIAN AMAZONIA OUTLINE

- ✘ global biodiversity importance
- ✘ Indian tribal lands
- ✘ economic interests
- ✘ reconciliation of values & interests



QUESTIONS ADDRESSED:

- × **Why is Brazilian Amazonia globally important?**
- × **What are the conflicting values and interests?**
- × **How can these be reconciled?**

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANCE

BRAZILIAN VEGETATION

- ✘ the greatest biodiversity on the planet



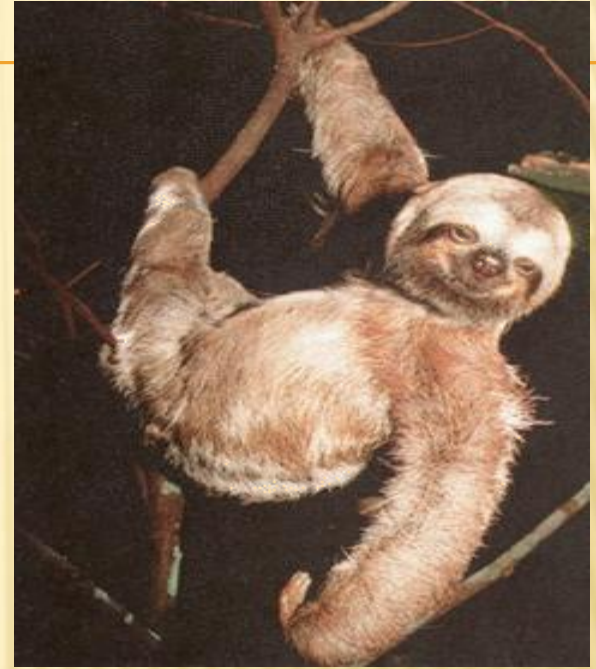
- 55,000 native plant species in six major biomes:
- ✘ Amazon (30,000);
 - ✘ Cerrado (10,000);
 - ✘ Caatinga (4,000);
 - ✘ Atlantic rainforest (10,000),
 - ✘ Pantanal (10,000)
 - ✘ subtropical forest (3,000)

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANCE

AMAZON RAINFOREST

- ✘ the most species-rich biome on the Earth
 - ✘ trees: may grow 1000 species per sq / km
- (compare: total Czech Rep. – 70 native tree species)





BRAZILIAN AMAZONIA

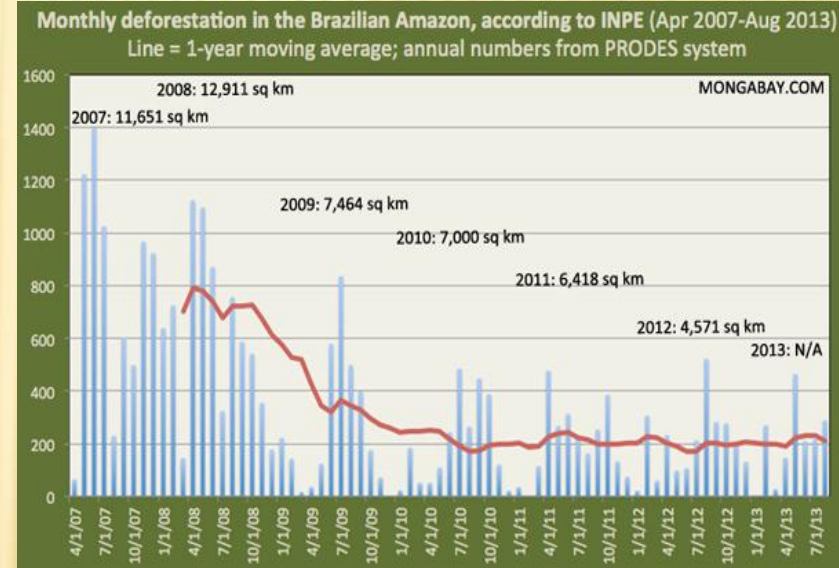
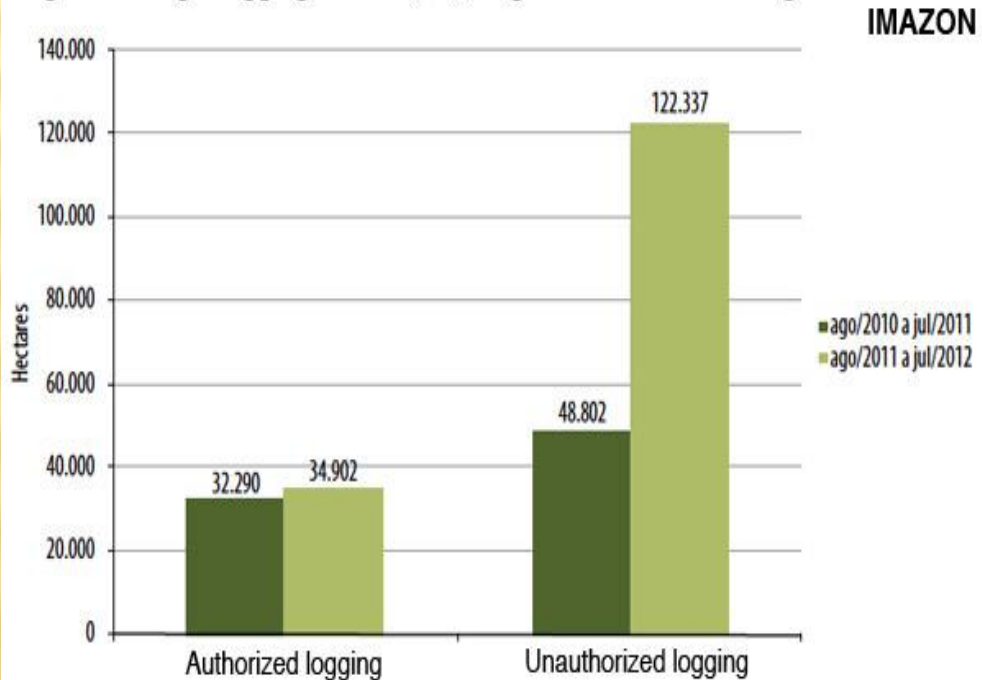
ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

- ✘ source for pharmaceutical industries (mostly Western countries)
- ✘ source of wood (mostly consumed by Brazilians, mahogany exported)
- ✘ large potential for nature-based tourism



DECLINE IN RAINFOREST COVER

Legal and illegal logging in Pará (ha), Aug 2010-Jul 2011 vs Aug 2011-Jul 2012



BRAZILIAN AMAZONIA



- ✘ global importance of ecosystems and biodiversity
- ✘ world-wide concern about the status of Amazonia forests, biodiversity and climate effect

a wide-spread opinion in Brazil:

- ✘ *foreigners threaten our sovereignty over Amazonia*
- ✘ *conspire to internationalize/take over Amazonia*

WHOSE AMAZONIA?

INDIAN POPULATION IN BRAZIL

Indigenos/Indian population:

- ✘ before European arrival: est. 7 millions
- ✘ reduced by assimilation, and European diseases
- ✘ currently:
150 000 – 800 000 people
incl. about 50 uncontacted tribes



AN OPPORTUNITY ALSO FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION?

INDIAN TRIBAL LANDS

yellow: current Indian reserves

green: under demarcation by FUNAI

red: proposed Indian reserves



BRAZILIAN INSTITUTIONS

- ✘ Federal government
- ✘ State governments
(Amazonas, Rondonia, Acre ...)
- ✘ Municipal government
- ✘ Amazonas Legal
(administrative unit)



ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

Governmental institutions:



- ✘ **IBAMA** - Brazilian Institute of Environment & Renewable Nat. Res.
- ✘ **FUNAI** - National Indian Foundation



Non-governmental:

- ✘ Amazon Working Group Group GTA, other national NGOs
- ✘ International NGOs (WWF-Brazil, Conservation Int'l)



ECONOMIC INTERESTS

- ✗ wood logging
- ✗ livestock pasture and soybeans farming
- ✗ mining (gold w mercury)
- ✗ tourism? CO₂ trade?



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RECONCILIATION OF VALUES & INTERESTS

✘ involvement of local/indigenous people



1. effective communication and negotiation
2. conflict management



RECONCILIATION OF VALUES & INTERESTS

Expanding and reinforcing the system of conservation units

1. - strictly protected areas
2. - sustainable use areas
(intention: multiple use)



RECONCILIATION OF VALUES & INTERESTS

- ✘ poverty alleviation aspects in conservation programs
- ✘ yes - however, need to consider limits of sources and efficiency (*programs in urban favelas are more efficient*)



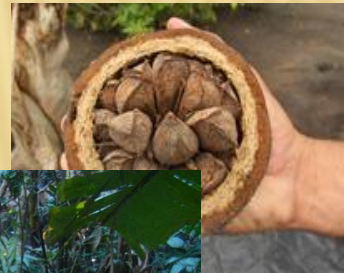
ECONOMIC ASPECTS

- ✘ avoidance of perverse public subsidies/support

(support of clearing of forest for cattle ranching)

- ✘ consideration of long-term effects of large-scale investments on small business operators

(local rubber tappers and Brazil nut collectors, local fishermen, ecotourism operators)



SUSTAINABILITY OF AMAZONIA

- ✘ strictly protected areas surrounded by the protected areas of multiple use
- ✘ indigenous tribal lands can play a vital role (finish demarcation]
- ✘ sustainable development for those that want to protect the environment



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SOURCES

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

JIRI MORAVEC