

MAY 2021



EMERGENCY AMAZON FIRE FUND

FIRE OUTBREAKS IN THE AMAZON

In the summer of 2019, WWF launched an emergency fund in response to the fires raging in the Amazon. At their peak in August, there were 30,901 fire outbreaks recorded – three times that of August 2018 – and by the end of the season, more than 12 million hectares were burned between Brazil and Bolivia. The fires were likely exacerbated by intense deforestation, prolonged droughts, and warmer temperatures as a result of climate change.

WWF formed the Emergency Fund for Amazon Fires to drive critical resources to the people at the front lines of the dramatic fires, specifically to local civil society organizations that represent and work with indigenous peoples, local governments and fire brigades, and local communities to protect the Amazon. Every dollar donated went to partners on-the-ground. This is our third report on those funds.

For more information, visit worldwildlife.org/AmazonFireFund2021



THE EMERGENCY AMAZON FIRE FUND

SPRING 2021 UPDATE

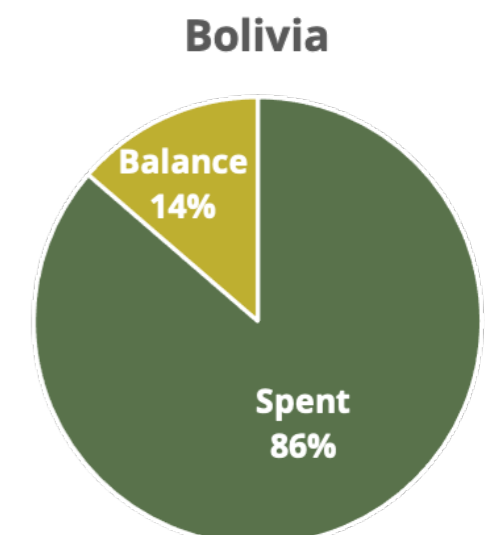
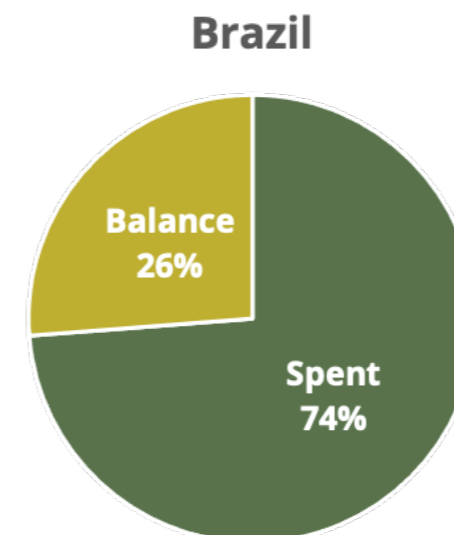
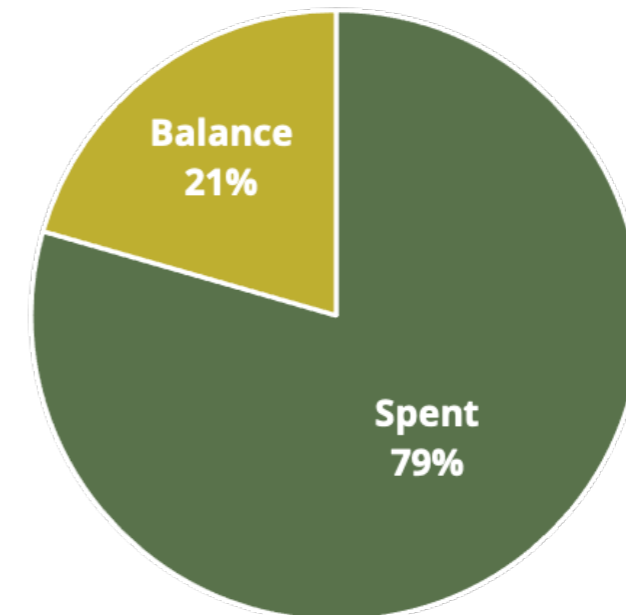
As of May 2021, **\$1,390,408** of the Emergency Fund for Amazon Fires has been spent in Bolivia and Brazil in direct response to the fires. Funds supported a range of activities and equipment, including:

- Firefighting equipment including gloves, protective goggles, dampers, coastal pumps, machetes, chainsaws, water pumps and hoses
- Food, water, and medical supplies for impacted communities
- Communication radios and GPS
- Car rentals and fuel to deliver supplies to remote areas
- Equipment and training for fire risk management

The COVID-19 pandemic has delayed the closing of this fund. The health risks associated with in-person activities, particularly in remote communities, delayed or prevented implementation of many planned activities. However, project work plans were adjusted for the new scenario, and in most cases the expected results and objectives were achieved despite the delays. In some places, lockdown measures have recently been relaxed, and our local partners were able to take necessary safety measures to enter communities and continue implementing project activities. However, in some places, direct interaction is still too risky but a necessary component to finalize activities.

In the coming months, our team in the Amazon will continue to support recovery programs and prepare for future fire seasons.

The Emergency Amazon Fire Fund





THANK YOU

We thank you, our generous donors, for your support. With your help, we have been able to provide support to communities in the Amazon that were impacted by the 2019 fires and left even more vulnerable through the COVID-19 pandemic. These fires serve as a firm reminder that conservation progress is fragile but crucial to build resilience to a changing climate. WWF continues to work towards securing and protecting ecosystems in the Amazon for people and nature.

