

MS Thesis
Department of Environmental Science and Policy
College of Science
George Mason University

Candidate: Natalia Arcos Cano

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Thesis Director: Dr. Michael Gilmore

Committee: Dr. Brian Griffiths, Dr. Diego Valderrama

ABSTRACT

This master's thesis examined the Adaptive Co-management (ACM) framework within the Maijuna-Kichwa Regional Conservation Area (MKRCA) in Peruvian Amazon, which protects the Maijuna and Kichwa communities' ancestral lands. Despite improvements in resource abundance and community safety, challenges remain in governmental support, communication, and equitable participation. Using Community-Based Participatory Research, I conducted interviews with 36 community members, revealing both successes and areas needing improvement. Findings emphasize the need for continuous evaluation and enhanced stakeholder engagement. Recommendations focus on strengthening ACM's effectiveness and aligning conservation efforts with local needs and wisdom to achieve the MKRCA's biocultural conservation objectives.