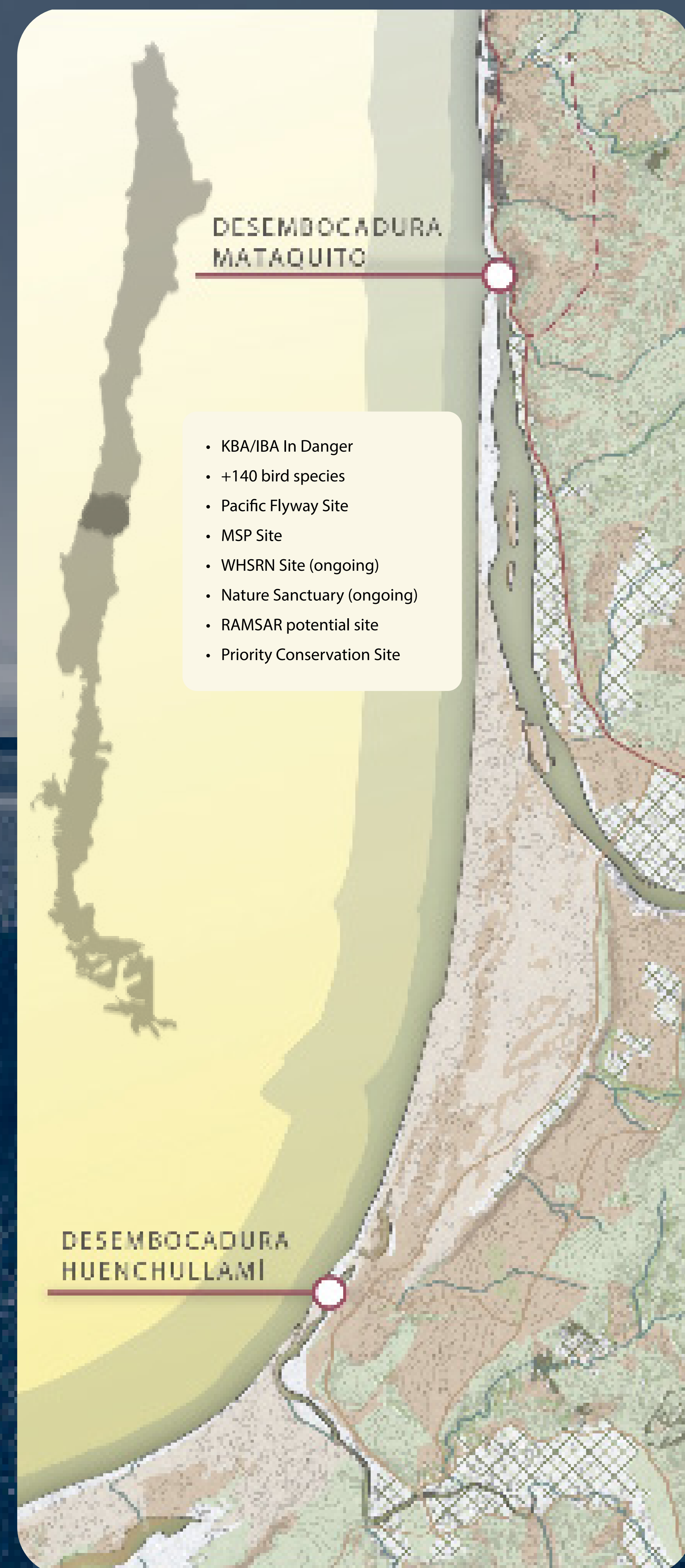


Building Resilience for Mataquito & Huenchullamí Coastal Wetlands in Maule Region, Chile



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THREATS

HUMAN DISTURBANCES

- Uncontrolled recreation and tourism
- Motorized vehicles, recreative fishing, illegal hunting
- Pollution from visitors, domestic, agricultural and industrial effluents
- Coastal Highway
- Free-Ranging Dogs



Although it is prohibited by Law, there are not enough strong regulations and enforcement to prevent motorized vehicles to enter critical habitats in the beach and dunes.



The pervasive presence of dogs, whether free-ranging or without a leash, is a permanent threat for birds in the site, specially during the nesting season of American oystercatcher and Snowy plover.

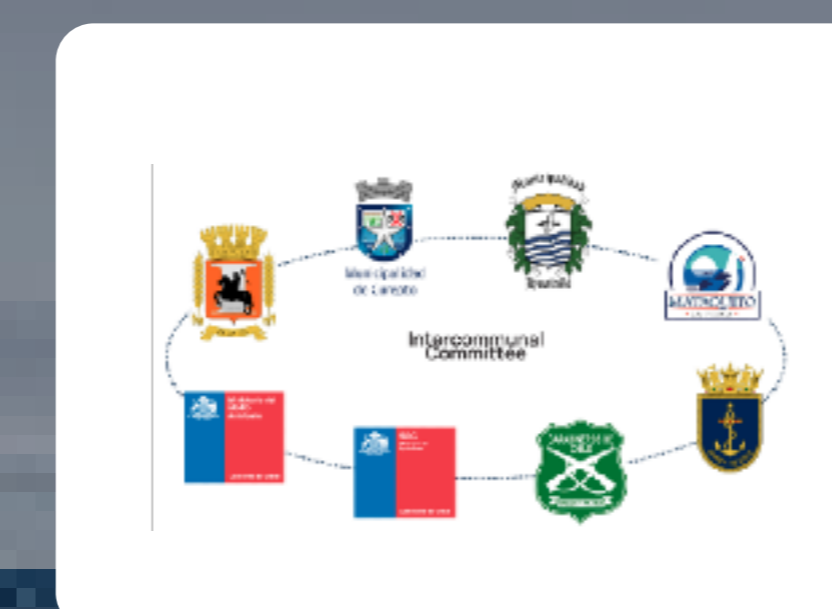
PROPOSED SOLUTION

Articulate conservation professionals, government and local organizations around the co-construction of capacities for the conservation of shorebirds and the well-being of human communities in the site.

This will be achieved through the following 4 specific objectives:

1. STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE

- Institutional bridging: Inter-institutional Committee.
- Community engagement: Building networks, trust and social capital among key stakeholders and community.
- Financing strategies: Leverage additional resources from philanthropy, government and corporate sources. Refugia Foundation has already raised 10k USD.



2. ENACTING CONSERVATION

- Protected area designation: Nature Sanctuary or other.
- Municipal Ordinances: Restricted uses, enforcement and management plan.
- Master Plan: Zoning for conservation-compatible uses.



3. BUILDING CAPACITIES

- Education: Local schools engagement through art, workshops and beach cleaning + educators sensitizing public through in situ interventions.
- Birdwatching & Tourism: Workshops + Tourism service design with fishers and local operators.
- Local Leaders Empowerment: Hiring local professionals and training sentinels as enforcers.



4. COLLECTING DATA

- Biodiversity: eBird, iNaturalist, nest & chicks summer monitoring, black rail monitoring.
- Habitats: Ecosystem services analysis (InVEST).
- Water quality: 7 parameters are bimonthly monitored in 4 different points across the wetland.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

