

INSTITUTO FAUNA BRASIL

ANNUAL REPORT
2024



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We are a non-governmental,
non-profit organization
founded in 2023 with the
mission of contributing to
animal welfare and biodiversity
conservation through science,
education, and socio-economic
development

A NEW BEGGINING

O Instituto Fauna Brasil is a non-governmental, non-profit organization focused on wildlife conservation through reintroduction projects, environmental education activities, and the generation of employment and income for local communities.

Officially, the IFB was founded in 2023, but its history began much earlier. In 2010, under the name Espaço Silvestre, the project to reintroduce the vinaceous-breasted amazon in the Araucarias National Park was launched. This project was pioneering in Brazil, as at the time, there was little discussion about the viability and importance of reintroducing species into areas from which they had been extinct.

Recently, the development of new wildlife reintroduction programs has gained more momentum. One such project is the reintroduction of the brown howler monkey on Santa Catarina Island, a project conceived, discussed, and planned since 2019. With the first releases taking place in 2024, we have started the process of reversing the local extinction that occurred over 260 years ago!

In mid-2023, following studies by the Fauna Floripa Project, a new dream began to take shape: repopulating Santa Catarina Island with predators! The reintroduction of small felids could help restore the ecological balance of the Island.

The IFB also runs a citizen science and environmental education program, which works to raise awareness and bring the local population closer to the projects and their importance for the surrounding ecosystem. Activities are carried out with communities, schools, institutions, and organizations at each release site, aiming for coexistence between humans and wildlife.

In addition, we recognize the importance of encouraging income generation for those involved in the project actions. Currently, IFB organizes *Vem Passarilhar* ("Let's Bird), a birdwatching event held in Florianópolis and the Araucarias National Park region, promoting the practice and culture of birdwatching, which provides well-being and connection with nature for participants, while generating income for local guides.

In 2024, we celebrate our first year as Instituto Fauna Brasil. In this report, you will follow the results of many years of work by a team that has come together even more in this (re)beginning to continue turning dreams into reality.

VANESSA TAVARES KANAAN

President



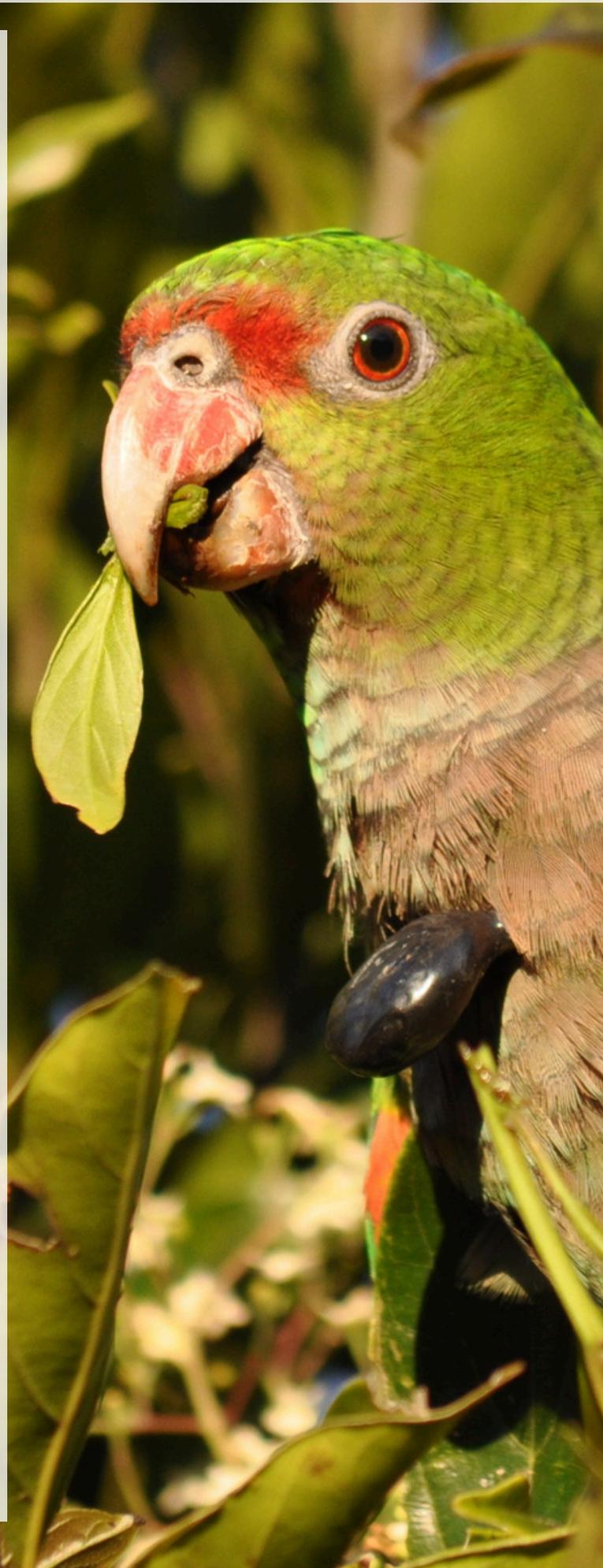
Reintroduction of the Vinaceous-Breasted Amazon at Araucarias National Park

15 YEARS SINCE THE RETURN OF THE PARROTS

In Brazil and around the world, numerous species face the risk of extinction, including *Amazona vinacea*, commonly known as the vinaceous-breasted amazon. The primary threats to its survival are directly linked to human activities, such as the trafficking of chicks, unsustainable exploitation of pine nuts, and the destruction of its natural habitat.

In 2010, the reintroduction project for the vinaceous-breasted amazon was conceived in the Araucarias National Park, with the goal of repopulating the region with this species, which had been locally extinct, and ensuring the necessary support for the establishment of a viable population.

Since the project's inception, over 500 vinaceous-breasted amazons have undergone rehabilitation for release, with half of these individuals already reintroduced into the wild. In 2024, the focus is on monitoring the released parrots and their offspring born in the wild, as well as environmental education activities and income generation for the local community.



MONITORING PARROTS AND THEIR CHICKS

- We did not conduct any releases of vinaceous-breasted amazons in 2024.
- Monitoring was carried out through active searches, camera traps, citizen science, and the use of thermal drones, an unprecedented methodology in the project.
- We received 53 sightings of parrots through citizen science.
- A total of 114 parrot occurrences were recorded during the monitoring process.
- We made a historical record of the use of nest boxes, with the first births ever recorded in such structures in the history of the project.





EDUCATING AND PROMOTING PARROTS

- We participated in the Teacher Training Week in the cities of Passos Maia and Ponte Serrada, where we distributed Educational Activity Guides to 130 teachers.
- We conducted educational activities in schools throughout the academic year, reaching an audience of 289 students and teachers.
- We presented our results at scientific events such as the I Congress & IV Workshop on Wildlife Rehabilitation, Monitoring, and Conservation, and the Lightning Talks Symposium by The Parrot Release Network, targeting institutions and researchers involved in the release of psittacines in the Americas.
- We distributed educational and outreach materials in approximately 15 communities in the region of the Araucárias National Park.
- We awarded 5 Citizen Scientist certificates to local residents, recognizing their contributions to monitoring and conservation activities.
- We reached over one million people through radio broadcasts, direct actions, and social media.



ENCHANTING THE COMMUNITY AND GENERATING INCOME FOR LOCAL GUIDES

- We organize *Vem Passarilhar* at Parque Nacional das Araucárias—a free, monthly birdwatching event open to the community.
- Over 260 people participated in the events.
- Three local guides were compensated for their services.





Foto: Daniel de Granville

Reintroduction of the Brown Howler on Santa Catarina Island

REVERSING 260 FROM EXTINCTION



Research conducted by the Fauna Floripa Project revealed that the brown howler (*Alouatta guariba*), one of the 25 most critically endangered primate species globally, was extinct on Santa Catarina Island, with the last recorded sighting dating back to 1763.

In 2019, the Wildlife Animal Rescue Center of Santa Catarina (CETAS-SC) housed a substantial number of captive brown howler, with no foreseeable prospects for rewilding. At that time, all individuals of this species on the island were in captivity, with no viable options for reintroduction to their natural habitat.

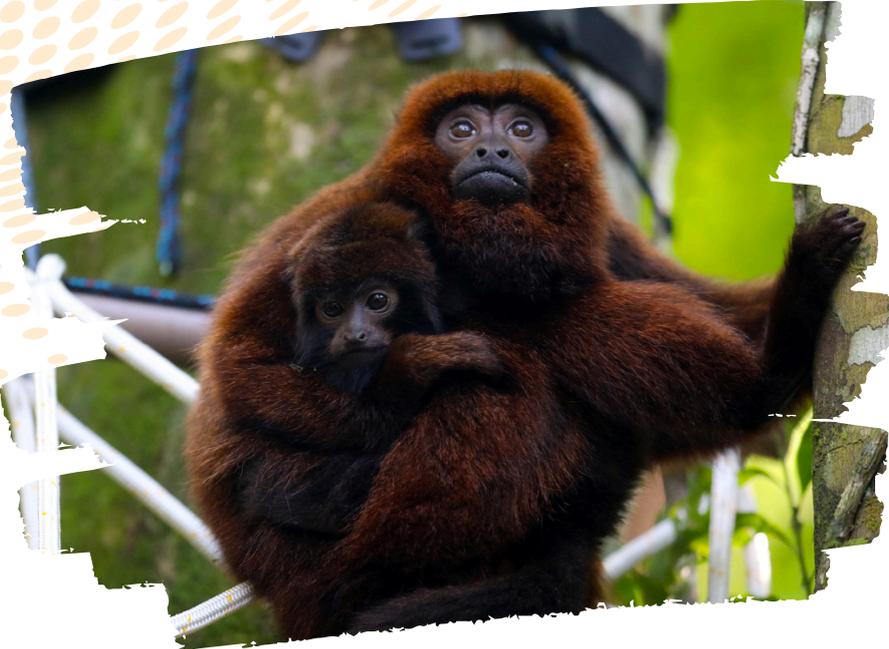
In response to this situation, the initiative to reintroduce this species to Santa Catarina Island was conceived.

Over a five-year period, a rigorous rehabilitation protocol was implemented, which included yellow fever vaccination, and the selection of individuals deemed suitable for release. In 2024, the first releases were successfully carried out, with 16 individuals returned to their native habitat.

The primary objective of this reintroduction is to contribute to the species' conservation, restore key ecological interactions within the local ecosystem, and support the regeneration of forest habitats in the region's protected areas.

RETURNING HOWLER MONKEYS TO NATURE

- We conducted 5 releases of brown howler (*Alouatta guariba*) on Santa Catarina Island during the first half of 2024.



- We combined species conservation with the restoration of the city's Conservation Units: Three releases were conducted in the Rio Vermelho State Park, which is adjacent to the Meiembipe Municipal Wildlife Refuge, and two releases in the Peri Lagoon Municipal Natural Monument.



- We used five methodologies to monitor the howler monkeys: active search, thermal drone, citizen science, passive acoustic monitoring, and camera traps, totaling over 350 hours in the field

SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT HOWLER MONKEYS WITH THE WORLD

- We reached over 100,000 people through posts on our social media platforms.
- We conducted outreach and environmental education activities in person across 16 neighborhoods on Santa Catarina Island, reaching more than 1,500 people..
- We participated in 7 scientific events, presenting our work at the XX Brazilian Congress of Primatology and the I Congress & IV Workshop on Wildlife Rehabilitation, Monitoring, and Conservation.
- We began installing citizen science incentive plaques in the Conservation Units where the howler monkeys are located.
- We held monthly events for wildlife observation in the howler monkey monitoring areas, engaging 595 participants.



HOWLER MONKEYS AS INCOME GENERATORS



- Through a partnership with Yesbird and VesteFauna, products featuring a howler monkey theme were sold. In addition to generating income for small businesses, a portion of the sales revenue (10%) was donated to the project.
- The Vem Passarinhar Floripa event, held in areas of howler monkey monitoring, also served as a source of income for local guides.



Reintroduction of Small Felids on Santa Catarina Island

AN ISLAND WITHOUT WILD FELIDS

Foto: Daniel de Granville



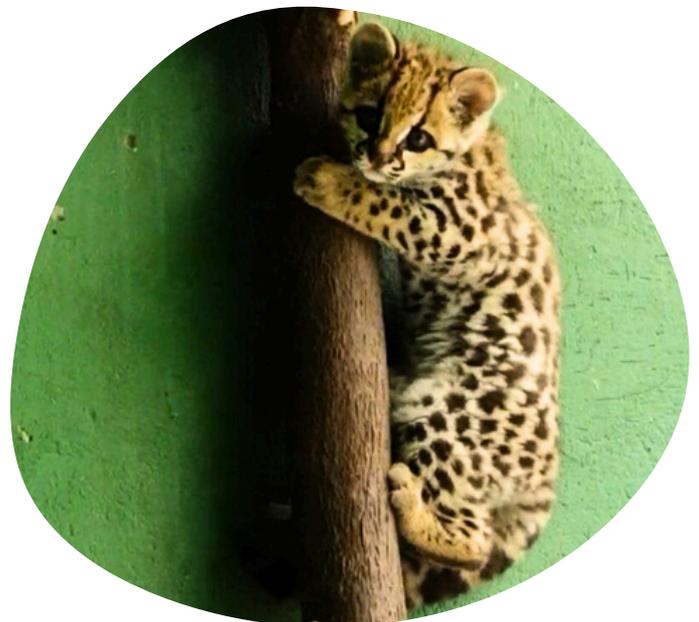
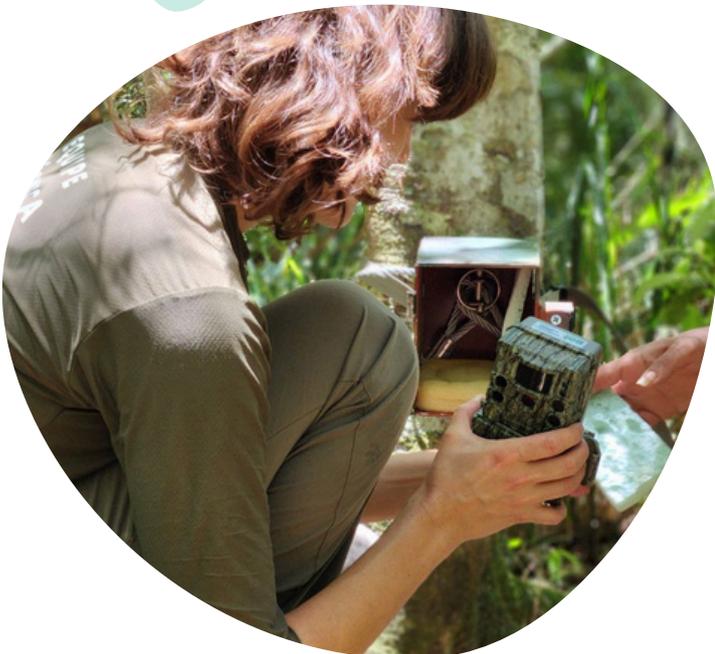
Historically, Santa Catarina Island hosted six species of wild felids, all of which are now considered locally extinct. In 2024, we initiated a project to assess the feasibility of reintroducing small felids to the island, with the goal of reintroducing apex predators, which are crucial for restoring the health of the region's ecosystems. Our focus is on the southern tiger cats (*Leopardus guttulus*) and the margay (*Leopardus wiedii*), species that play a critical role in ecological balance.

The project aims to evaluate the feasibility of translocating these species based on conservation priorities, determining the origin of individuals for release, and analyzing suitable release sites on the island. Furthermore, we seek to generate and disseminate scientific information about small wild felids to a broad audience, contributing to the knowledge and awareness of local wildlife. Another key aspect of the project is to support sustainable economic activities related to biodiversity conservation and the responsible management of natural resources.

This is only the beginning of a larger dream. Upon completing this phase, we aim to proceed with the release of these important predators on Santa Catarina Island, with the objective of restoring ecological balance and ensuring the conservation of species and habitats in the region.

THE ISLAND IS READY TO WELCOME BACK THE SMALL FELIDS

- We have confirmed the feasibility of reintroducing the two small felid species studied, with particular emphasis on the southern tiger cats (*Leopardus guttulus*), which is considered a priority. Santa Catarina Island could play a crucial role as a key area for protecting this species from hybridization with other populations in southern Brazil.
- We determined that the individuals for release will come from rescues and undergo a rigorous rehabilitation process before being reintroduced into the wild.
- Based on data from the Fauna Floripa Project, we identified priority locations that offer suitable habitat, an adequate prey base, and the absence of rare species that could be impacted by the return of felids, which are essential for the region's ecological balance.
- To monitor these areas, we have installed camera traps in target zones to collect detailed information on the local wildlife.
- Additionally, we continue to assess the frequency of domestic animals and the impact of human activity in the selected sites as part of our strategy to ensure the long-term viability of reintroducing these species.



A JOB THAT RELIES ON PEOPLE

- We carried out a range of community engagement initiatives, including door-to-door outreach and the distribution of educational and informational materials, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of conserving small wild felids.
- We also initiated the development of the *Santa Catarina Island Environmental Education Activity Guide*, which will be used in the region's school systems to support the integration of environmental education into the formal curriculum.
- Our scope of action expanded with our integration into the Tiger Cats Conservation Initiative (TCCI), strengthening international partnerships focused on wild felid conservation. Additionally, we created the Santa Catarina Island Small Wild Felid Protection Network, a collaborative project that brings together experts from various institutions to unite efforts in protecting these species.
- To ensure broader information dissemination and community engagement, we began publishing weekly content on our social media platforms, promoting continuous dialogue and accessible, interactive environmental education.



NEXT STEPS

The project continues to advance with a cautious and evidence-based approach, aiming to conduct monitored experimental releases in the future. This represents an initial step toward addressing outstanding scientific questions and laying the groundwork for the successful reintroduction of small wild felids to Santa Catarina Island.



**Let's Go Birdwatching Floripa
and Araucárias National Park**

INSPIRING WONDER THROUGH BIRDSONG



Vem Passarilhar is an initiative launched in 2014 at the Bird Observatory of the Butantan Institute and has since expanded across Brazil. Its goal is to connect people with the natural environment around them while promoting the monitoring of wildlife through citizen science. We have brought *Vem Passarilhar* to Santa Catarina to inspire local engagement and foster appreciation for the region's biodiversity.!

OUR ACTIONS

We organize monthly *Vem Passarilhar* (Let's Go Birdwatching) events in Florianópolis and in the region of the Araucárias National Park, covering the municipalities of Ponte Serrada and Passos Maia in the state of Santa Catarina. These events are free and open to the public, welcoming participants of all ages.

For each edition, we engage trained professionals to lead the birdwatching excursions, thereby creating opportunities for local employment and income generation, while also facilitating the dissemination of scientific knowledge through expert guidance.

Most events take place in areas used for wildlife monitoring as part of species reintroduction projects. This contributes directly to the ongoing tracking and monitoring of reintroduced howler monkeys and parrots, through the active participation of the public in citizen science efforts.

This approach not only strengthens the community's connection to nature but also supports the advancement of scientific research related to the region's native fauna.



- 12 editions
- 5 professional guides contracted
- Over 500 participants



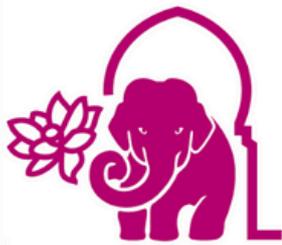
- 8 editions
- 3 professional guides contracted
- Over 250 participants

In addition, we maintain a WhatsApp community with nearly 440 members who engage in daily interactions, sharing knowledge and experiences related to Brazilian avifauna.

**OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE SPONSORS
AND SUPPORTERS OF 2024 FOR HELPING US
TURN DREAMS INTO REALITY.**



ZGAP
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Yes Bird
Log Nature
Kentfaith
Brazil Birding Experts

Transparency

The Instituto Fauna Brasil is a non-profit organization, founded in 2023, with a core principle of transparency in its activities and financial management.

Committed to the clear and accessible dissemination of all financial and operational data, we publish comprehensive annual reports that are available for public consultation. These reports ensure that our actions and the allocation of resources are monitored openly and responsibly.

The governance of the Institute is structured to ensure the effective management of the resources entrusted to us. Our governance model is based on participatory management. Instituto Fauna Brasil is composed of a General Members' Assembly, which is the highest governing body of the institution, made up of members and board members. The General Members' Assembly is primarily responsible for approving activity reports and financial statements, as well as electing the members of the Board of Directors and the Audit and Advisory Boards.

The General Assembly also plays a strategic role, discussing the institution's action plan, goals, guidelines, and performance indicators, always with the aim of strengthening our activities and ensuring the continuity of projects..

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The Board of Directors is responsible for implementing the decisions made by the General Members' Assembly and the Audit Board, ensuring that daily operations are carried out according to the approved principles and guidelines.

The Audit Board, in turn, serves an internal auditing role, tasked with evaluating financial operations and ensuring compliance with the institution's bylaws.

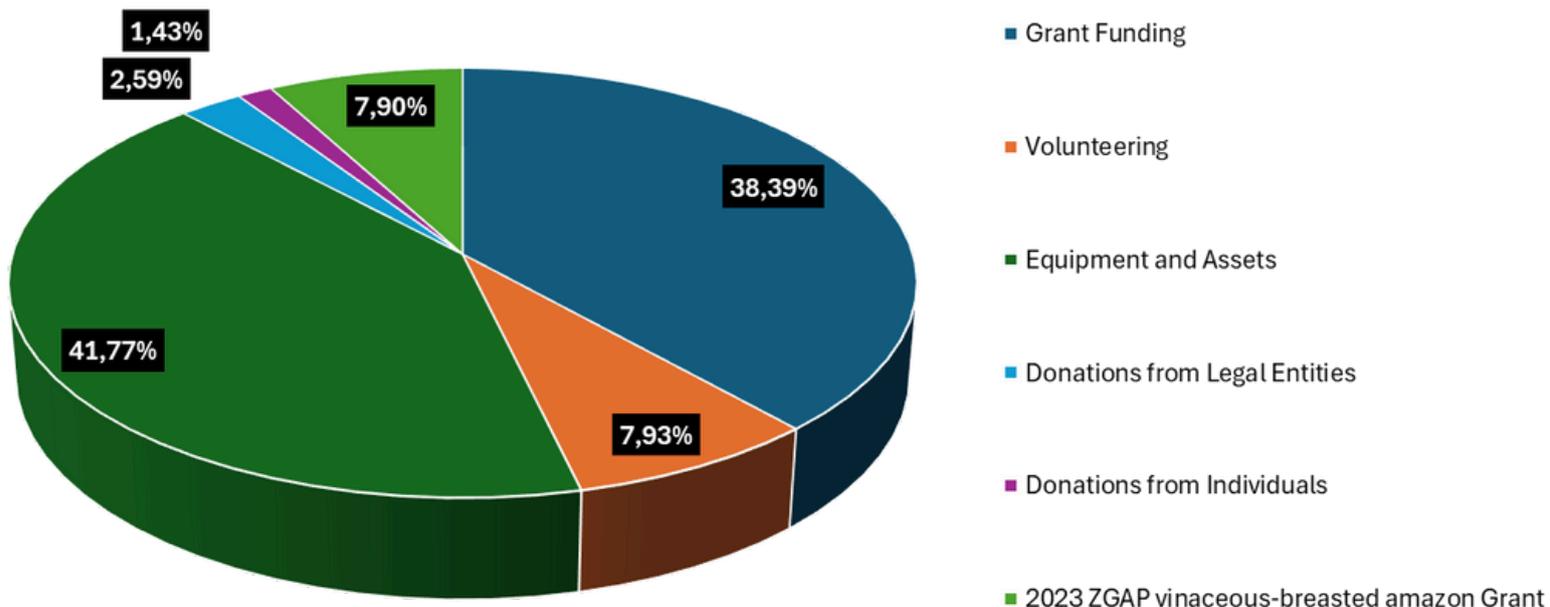
With a robust governance structure and a constant commitment to transparency and financial responsibility, Instituto Fauna Brasil continues to strive for excellence in its activities, with the goal of generating positive impacts for Brazilian wildlife and society.

2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Revenue 2024

Category	Percentual	Value
Grant Funding	38,39%	R\$ 431.154,17
Volunteering	7,93%	R\$ 89.000,00
Equipment and Assets	41,77%	R\$ 469.059,55
Donations from Legal Entities	2,59%	R\$ 29.074,62
Donations from Individuals	1,43%	R\$ 16.048,79
2023 ZGAP vinaceous-breasted amazon Gran	7,90%	R\$ 88.689,63
Total	100,00%	R\$ 1.123.026,76

Revenue 2024



Expenses 2024		
Category	Percentual	Value
Institutional Expenses	2,67%	R\$ 8.721,56
Let's Go Birdwatching	1,96%	R\$ 6.376,73
Brown howlwer monkey	40,85%	R\$ 133.202,72
Vinaceous-breasted amazon	48,22%	R\$ 157.227,97
Small wild cats	6,29%	R\$ 20.516,34
Total	100,00%	R\$ 326.045,32

