

Dear supporters and friends,

Around the world, Biome's partners are working every day to protect some of the planet's most extraordinary landscapes and wildlife. In this newsletter, we share stories from the field, exciting news from our partners, and an invitation to meet the people working on the front lines of conservation.

### You're invited!



This year, we're offering four opportunities to meet Biome partners and hear directly from the people protecting nature on the ground.

[Our first conversation, on April 8](#), brings together rangers from Peru, Cambodia, and Kenya. Come listen to their stories, ask questions, and show that we care about the people whose commitment makes conservation possible.

[Register here](#)

### More elephants return to Uganda after 40 years

[A large announcement from our field partners in Kenya](#): For the first time in more than 40 years, elephants have naturally returned to the Ugandan side of Mount Elgon. They are recolonizing their ancestral range that was lost for decades. This milestone reflects years of collaboration between local communities, conservation partners, and government agencies to restore habitat and support safe elephant movement across the Kenya–Uganda border.



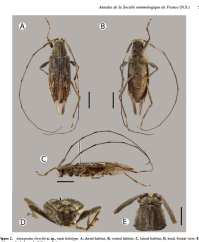
### Reflections from four months in Brazil with the Kayapó Project



Claire Wigglesworth '25 is a Lewin Fellow at Dartmouth University working with the Kayapó Project's Associação Floresta Protegida (AFP - Protected Forests Association) in Pará, Brazil. [Read about her first four months](#) and how she plans to spend the rest of her fellowship year.

### Newly discovered species named after Biome's Board Chairman

Scientists working across Biome-supported biological stations in Peru have published the first-ever checklist of long-horned beetles for the Cusco region—adding dozens of new records and describing several species previously unknown to science. One of these newly described species, *Anisopodus forsythi*, was named in honour of [Adrian Forsyth, Biome's board chairman](#), recognizing his decades of leadership in tropical ecology and conservation.



### Why Madagascar? — The unlikely start to a project

We get asked this question a lot. However, it's safe to say that there is no other country like Madagascar, in all the widely recognized bad ways but also good ways. Madagascar has the largest percentage of endemic species of any country in the world: around 90% of all its plant and animal species occur nowhere else on earth. But it's more than that. [Read Kevin and Claudia's account](#) of why and how they got a new conservation organization started in Madagascar's priority region for conservation.

## More project highlights

**At last: a bumper year for [hooded grebes in Patagonia!](#)** Following several years of breeding failure in this region of climate extremes, we are happy to report a successful breeding season, with a record 12 active nesting colonies and strong hatching success that produced 146 chicks. This is remarkably high for a small population of just over 700 birds. There was a good supply of milfoil, an aquatic plant that grebes use to construct their nests, and guardians started earlier than usual to ensure there were no mink at the breeding sites.

At [Playa Salinas Grandes in Nicaragua](#), project staff recorded an increase in the “*arribadas*” (arrivals at the nesting beach) of the Vulnerable olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*). A positive sign for this community-led conservation effort.

**Volunteer power!** In 2025, control of exotic species was carried out on 100 hectares of invaded grasslands at [Reserva Natural Rincón de Santa María in Argentina](#). If that doesn't sound like very much... The work is rough and laborious, as the crew navigates through dense undergrowth to clear vegetation using machetes or chainsaws. Project staff, volunteers and park rangers planted 500 native seedlings (raised in the project's nursery) during a 20-day campaign. And 456 native plants (complete with identifying QR codes) were delivered to local community members.

In [Malawi's community-led fisheries management system](#), which we have helped establish, confiscated illegal fishing gear in 2025 included 300 kilometers of monofilament netting, and fishers are increasingly using larger mesh nets, which is bolstering fish recruitment.

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## New: Biome introduces the Ranger Fund

Across Biome's landscapes, conservation depends on the people on the ground who protect wildlife, monitor ecosystems, prevent illegal activities, support communities, and help build the future of conservation. Yet these frontline professionals are too often underfunded and under-equipped. [Biome's new Ranger Fund](#) will provide long-term support for training, equipment, and livelihoods, helping retain skilled local talent and strengthen conservation where it matters most.

[Join the Ranger Fund](#)

As we focus on our 2026 program work, we want to thank you for making this work possible through your generous support.

Thank you, and I hope to see you on [April 8](#).



With gratitude,  
Ana Mandri, Executive Director  
**Biome Conservation**