

Survival



We are the global movement for tribal peoples' rights. We help them defend their lives, protect their lands and determine their own futures.

Uncontacted Indians on the Brazil-Peru border

Timeline

May 2008

Survival releases aerial photos of uncontacted Indians in the western Brazilian Amazon.

January 2011

Survival and the BBC release new aerial photos and footage of the uncontacted Indians. The news is covered by hundreds of major media outlets worldwide and the footage is viewed by millions of people.

Survival launches campaign urging the Peruvian government to stop all illegal logging on uncontacted tribes' land.

February 2011

Peru's authorities announce they will work together with Brazil to stop loggers entering isolated Indians' territory along the countries' joint border.

June 2011

Survival reveals secret plan of INDEPA (Peru's Indian Affairs Department) to abolish the Murunahua Reserve because it 'does not believe there are uncontacted tribes living there.'

An Upper Amazon Conservancy report finds five active logging camps inside the Murunahua Reserve and two recent sightings of uncontacted Indians close to the Brazil border in Peru.

Following this news report and a Twitter campaign by Survival supporters, Peru's Culture Ministry publicly announces that the Murunahua reserve will not be closed and says it plans to do more to protect uncontacted tribes.

July 2011

Heavily armed drug traffickers ransack FUNAI protection post on Upper Envira River. FUNAI abandons the post leaving uncontacted Indians even more vulnerable.

August 2011

Binational expedition (FUNAI/CPI-AC/FENAMAD) finds new signs of uncontacted Indians in border area.

September 2011

Ashaninka Indian expedition uncovers evidence of illegal logging in Peru and Ashaninka territory in Brazil.

March 2013

ProPurus, indigenous organizations ORAU and ACONADIYSH, and the National Parks authority SERNANP find new evidence of uncontacted Indians in the Murunahua Reserve (houses, food remains, palm woven bags).

March 2014

Brazilian and Peruvian authorities sign agreement to improve cross-border coordination, to safeguard the welfare of the uncontacted Indians.

Uncontacted Indians near Xinane river photographed from plane.

June 2014

Brazilian officials warn that uncontacted Indians face imminent “tragedy” and “death” following a dramatic increase in the number of sightings on the Brazil side of the border.

Survival launches urgent action campaign. Thousands of supporters urge Presidents of Brazil and Peru to protect uncontacted tribes’ land as their only means of survival.

Seven uncontacted Indians make contact with a settled indigenous Ashaninka community and government agents in Acre state, Brazil, and develop an acute respiratory infection.

July 2014

The Indians report that they were fleeing violent attacks in Peru. They are treated for flu and reportedly make a full recovery, before returning to their community in the forest.

Brazilian government announces it will reopen its monitoring post which was abandoned in 2011 after it was overrun by drug traffickers.

FUNAI releases rare video footage of the first contact. New accounts of horrific violence against the Indians emerge. Experts call for the urgent protection of uncontacted Indians’ land, to prevent “extermination” and “genocide”.

August 2014

Around two dozen more uncontacted Indians, from the same tribe, make contact with the Ashaninka and the government agents. They report fleeing attacks by invaders in Peru.

Brazil’s Ministry of Health announces that the Indians are in good health and are residing at the government’s Xinane monitoring post.

Over 11,000 people have sent messages to both governments as part of Survival’s urgent action campaign.