

The peopling of the

COLOMBIAN AMAZON

A JOURNEY TO THE LOWLANDS

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UNIVERSITY OF ANTIOQUIA

Last Journey Project

23-27 April
2025
DENVER

University of Exeter
UNIVERSIDAD DE ANTIOQUIA 1803
UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE COLOMBIA
erc European Research Council Established by the European Commission

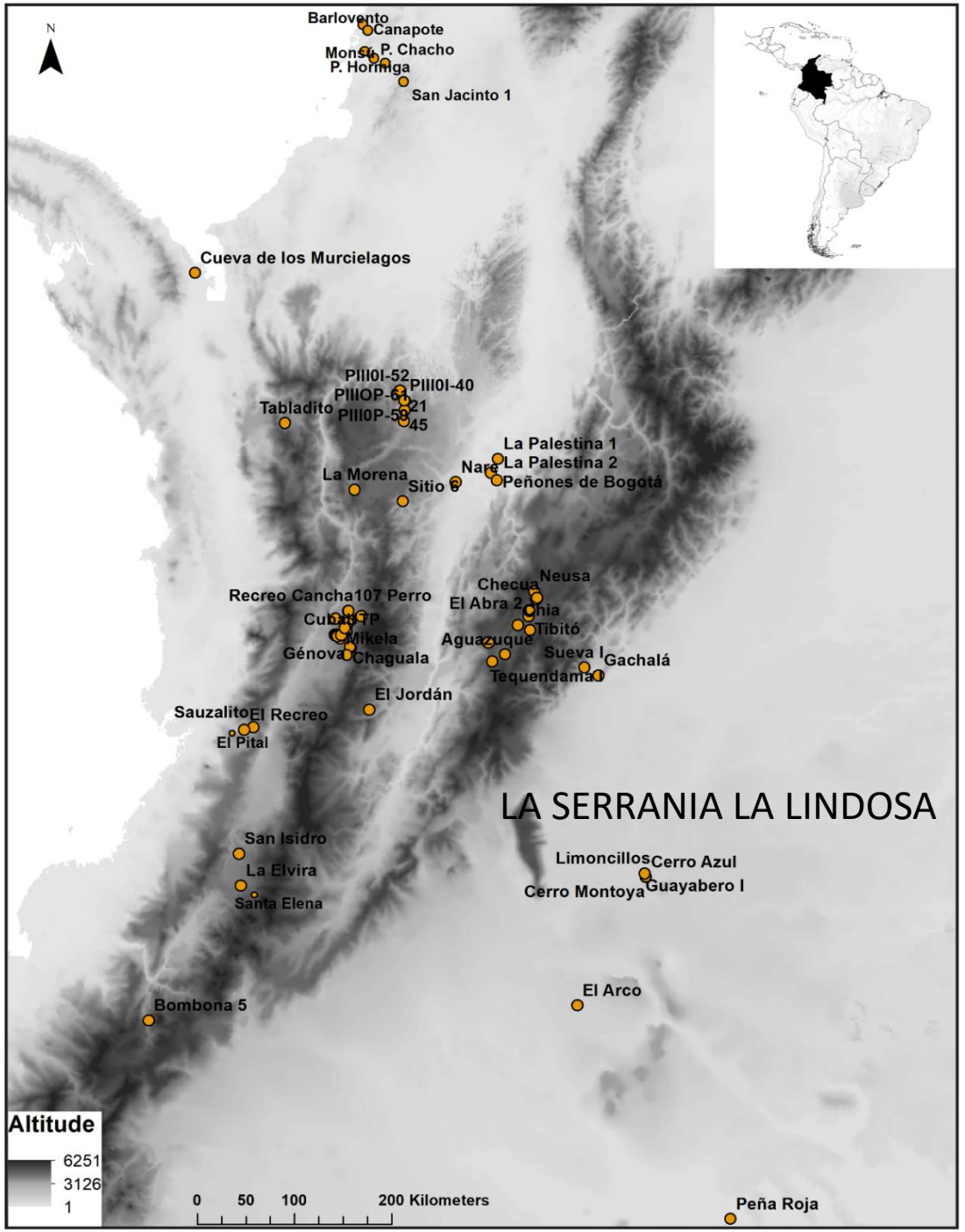
LAST Journey

EARLY PEOPLING OF NORTH SOUTH AMERICA

POTENTIAL ROUTES




N
Cueva de los Murcielagos
Tabladito
PIII0I-40
21
45
PIIIOP-61
Nare
Sitio 6
La Morena
Neusa
Chia
Tibitó
Cuba
UTP
Mikela
Génova
Chaguala
Gachalá
Sueva I
El Recreo
Sauzalito
San Isidro
La Elvira
Limoncillos
Cerro Azul
Cerro Montoya
El Arco
Peña Roja
Legend
Región Amazónica
Región Andina
Región Caribe
Región Orinoquía
Región Pacífica
0 90 180 360 Kilometers
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community


N
Barlovento
Canapote
Monsú
P. Chacho
P. Hormiga
San Jacinto 1
Cueva de los Murcielagos
PIII0I-52
PIII0I-40
PIIIOP-61
21
Tabladito
PIII0P-58
45
La Palestina 1
La Palestina 2
Nare
Peñones de Bogotá
La Morena
Sitio 6
Checua
Neusa
Recreo Cancha
107 Perro
El Abra 2
Chia
Cuba
UTP
Tibitó
Mikela
Aguazuque
Génova
Chaguala
Sueva I
Gachalá
Tequendama
El Jordán
Sauzalito
El Recreo
El Pital
LA SERRANIA LA LINDOSA
San Isidro
La Elvira
Santa Elena
Limoncillos
Cerro Azul
Cerro Montoya
Guayabero I
El Arco
Bombona 5
Altitude
6251
3126
1
0 50 100 200 Kilometers
Peña Roja

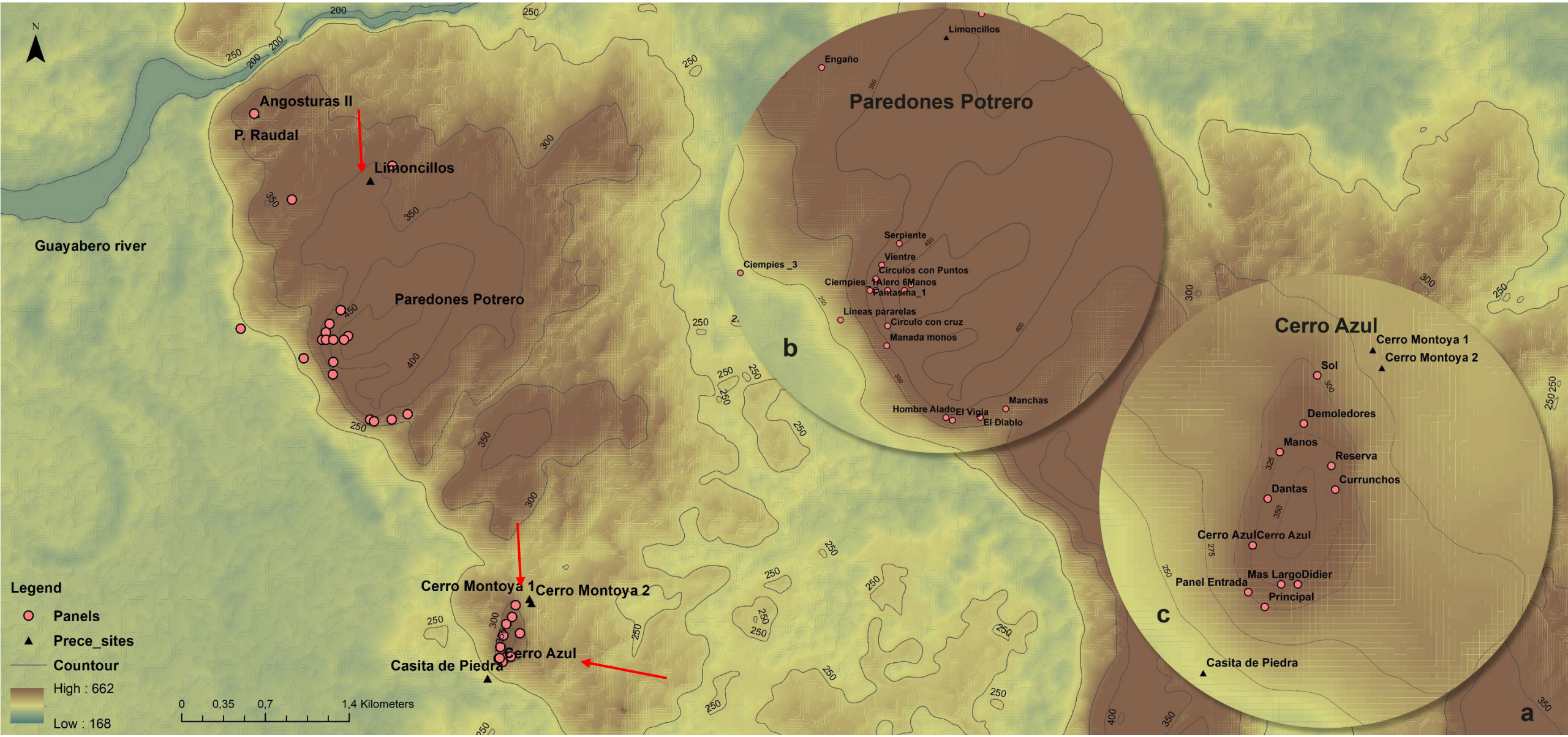
LA LINDOSA LANDSCAPE







PRECERAMIC ROCK SHELTERS AND ROCK ART PANELS



Nuevo Tolima Panel



CERRO AZUL
Rock sheltters



Cerro Azul



Cerro Montoya



Casita de Piedra





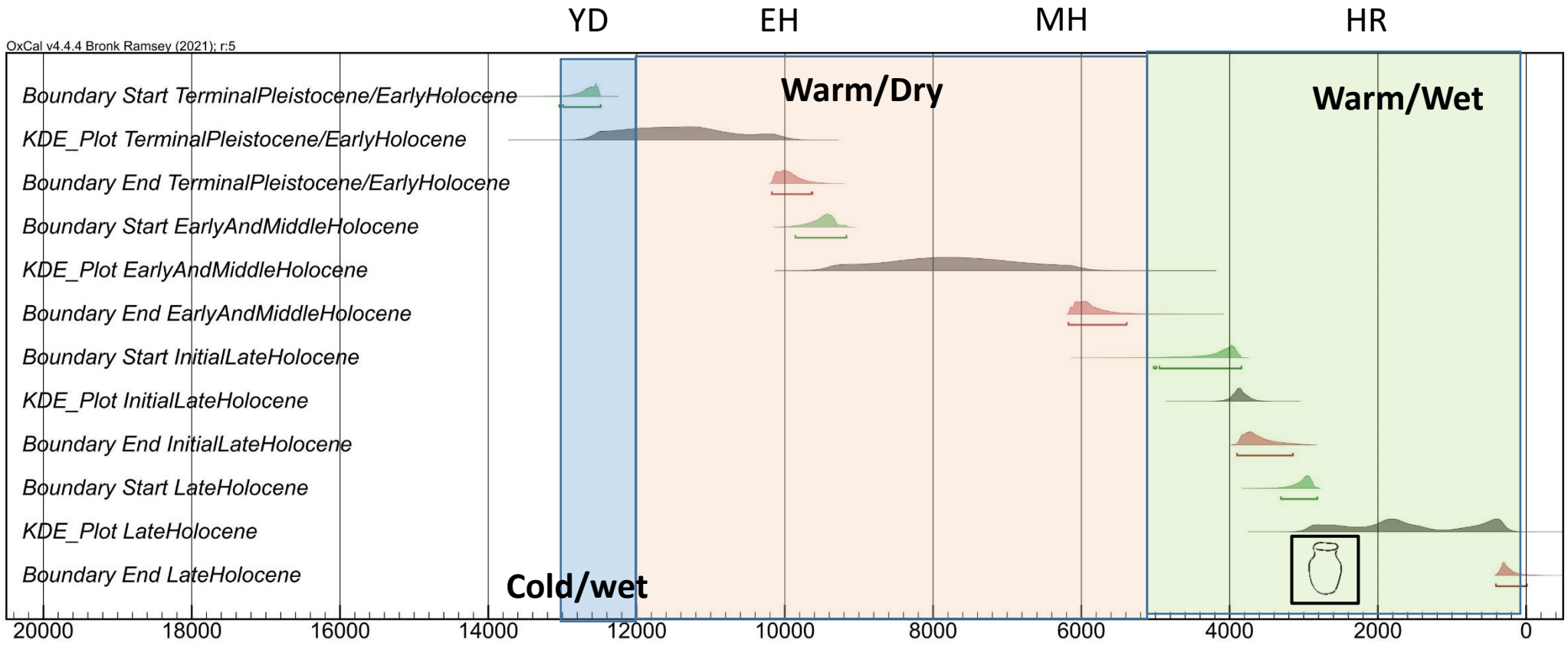
LIMONCILLOS ROCKSHELTER



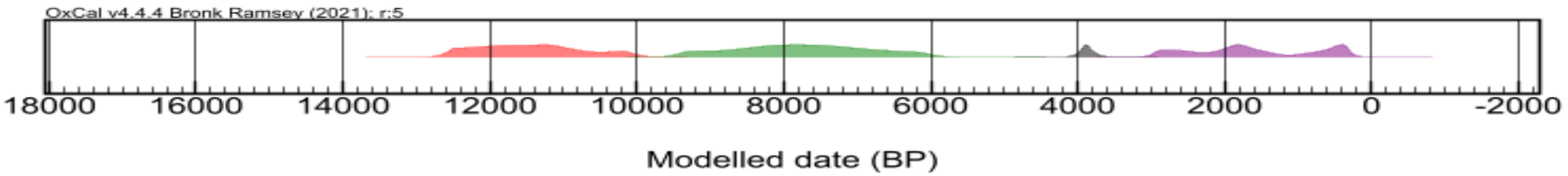
CERRO MONTOYA ROCK SHELTER



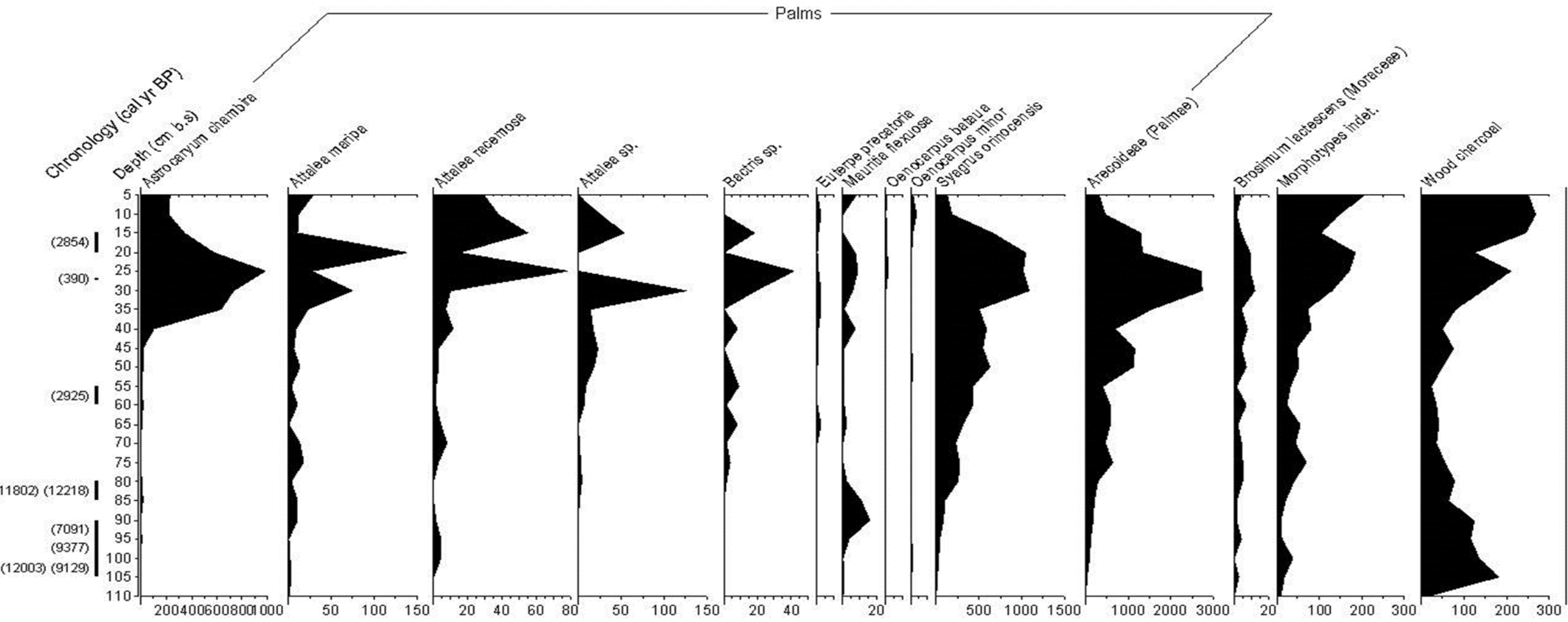
CHRONOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK



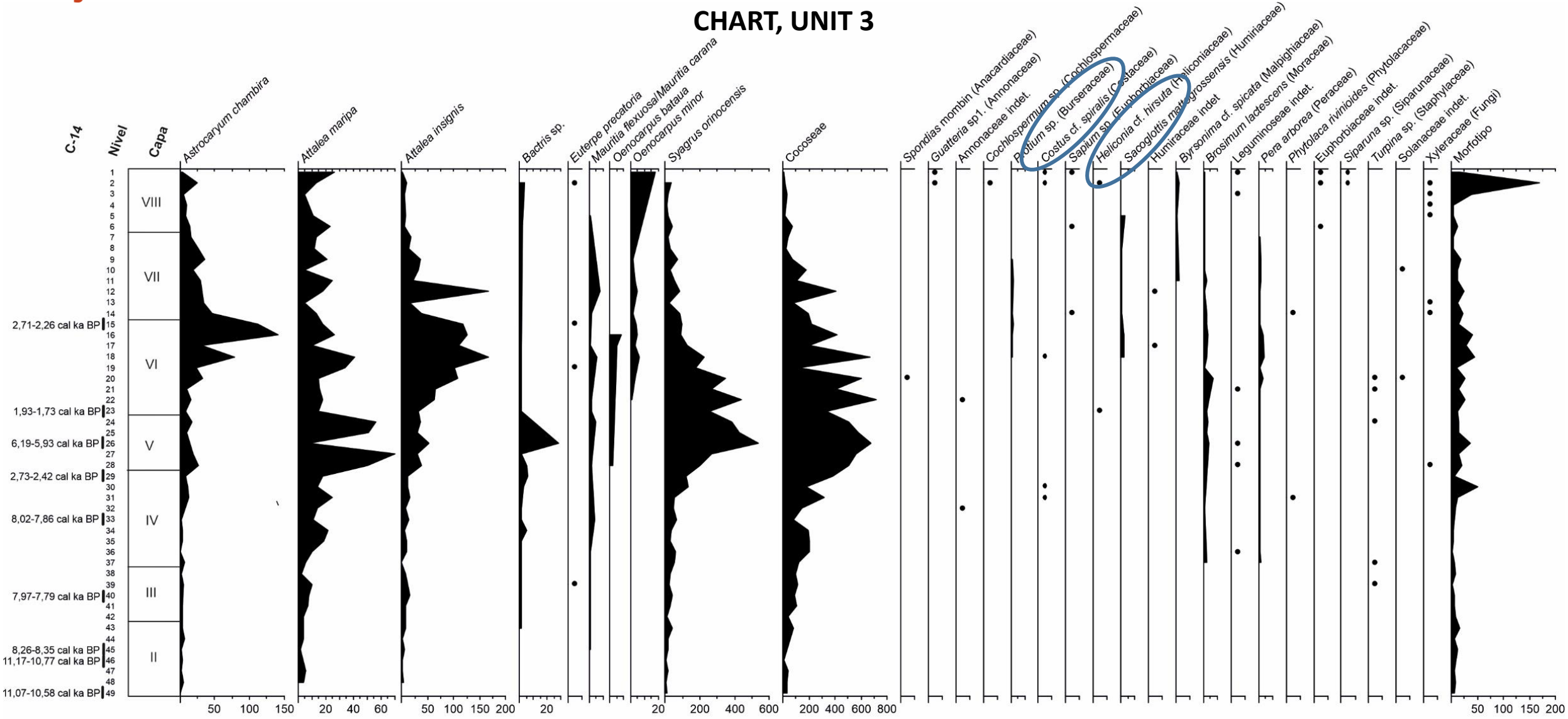
GAP



CERRO AZUL ROCK SHELTER
CHART

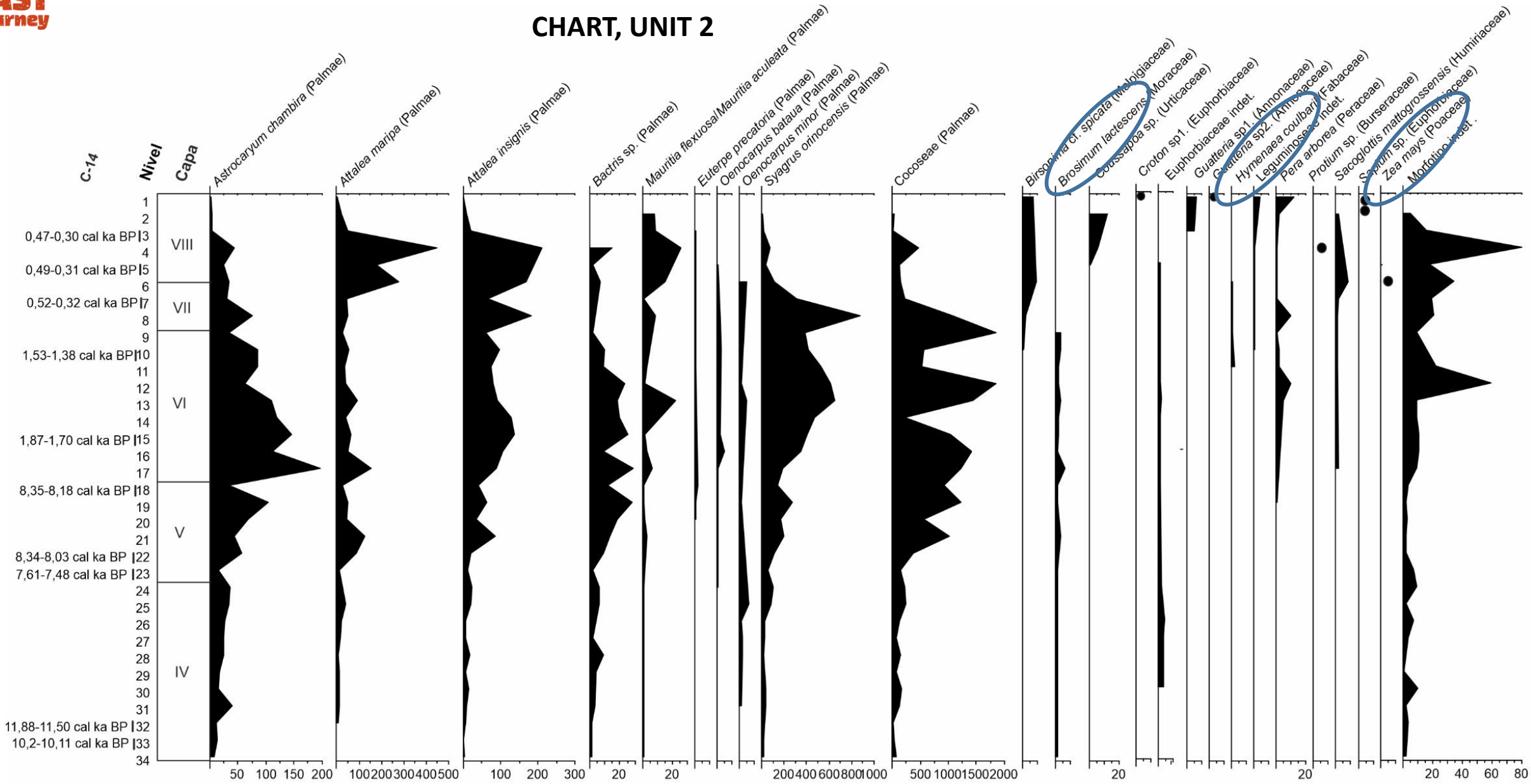


CERRO MONTOYA
CHART, UNIT 3



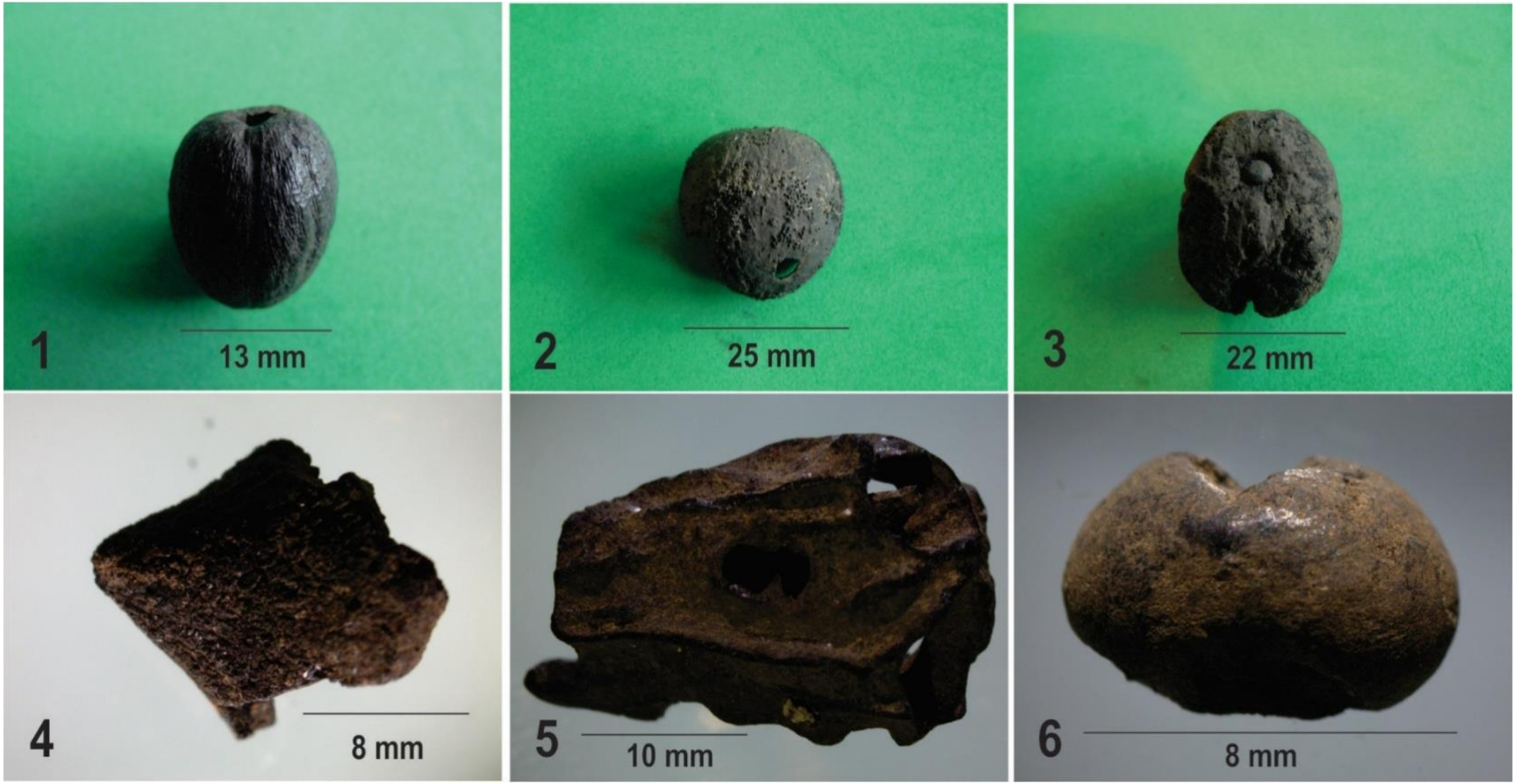
Co. Guav. SJG. Cerro Montoya. Diagrama de Semillas Arqueológicas
Unidad 3. Cuad. E2

CERRO MONTOYA
CHART, UNIT 2



Co.Guav. SJG. Cerro Montoya. Diagrama de Semillas Arqueológicas
Unidad 2. Cuad. B3.

CHARRED SEEDS



1. *Oenocarpus bataua*; **2**. *Syagrus orinocensis*; **3**. *Mauritia flexuosa*; **4**. *Astrocaryum chambira*; **5**. *Spondias mombin;* **6**. *Brosimum lactescens*









Palms in the SLL. A. *Syagrus orinocensis* beginning its fruiting. B. *Attalea insignis* in fruiting.
C. *Attalea maripa* in the process of fruiting. D. *Cananguchal* with predominance of *Mauritia flexuosa*.



Heliconia acuminata



Heliconia acuminata



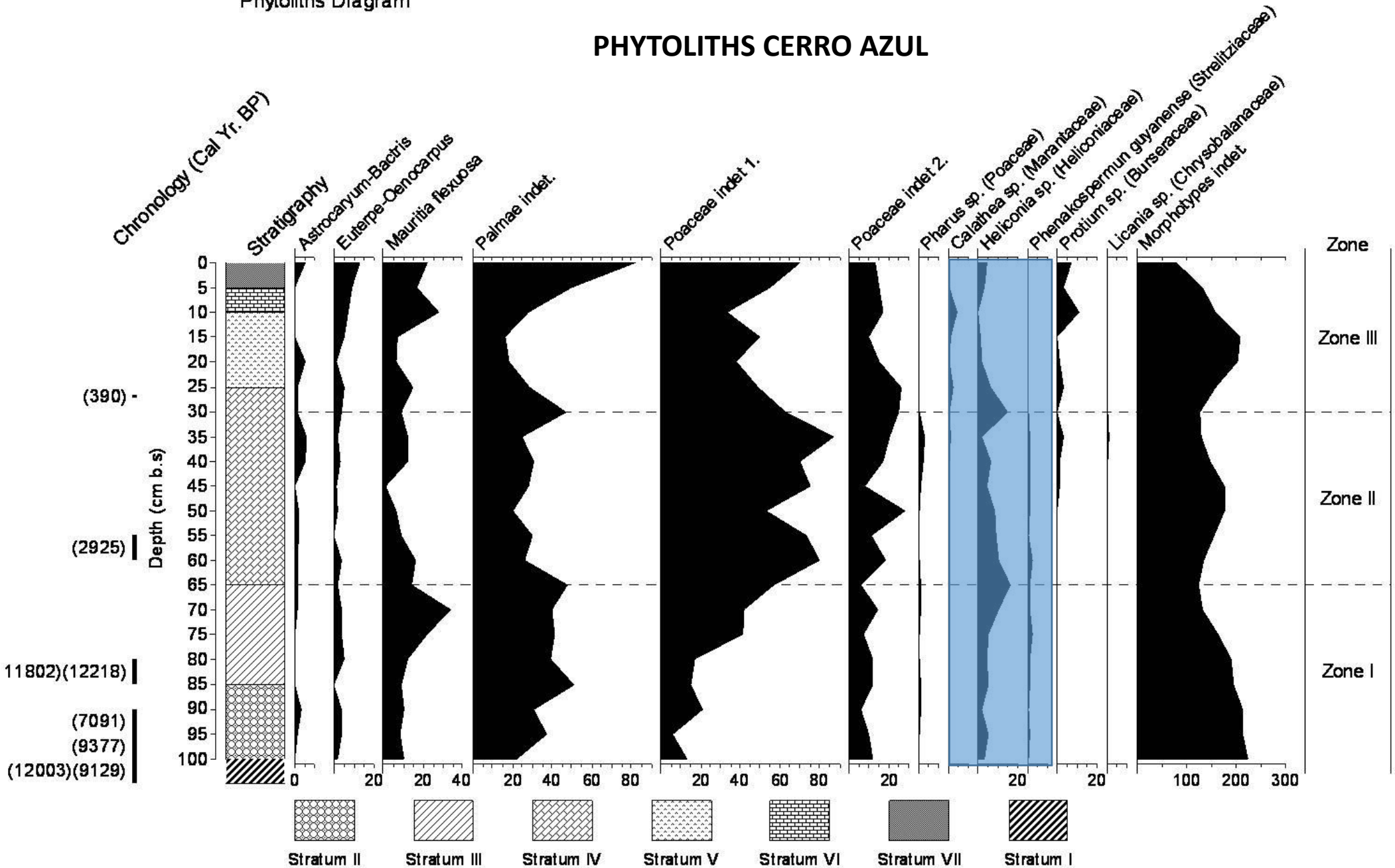
Phenakospermum guyannense



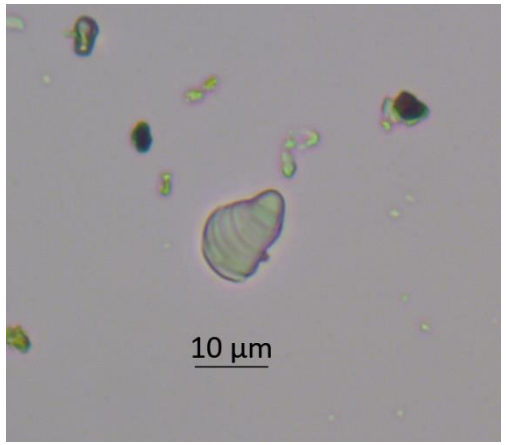
Costus spiralis

Col. Guav. San Jose del Guaviare. Cerro Azul
Excavation Site 3. Unit B. Eastern Profile
Phytoliths Diagram

PHYTOLITHS CERRO AZUL



STARCH GRAINS
Cerro Montoya

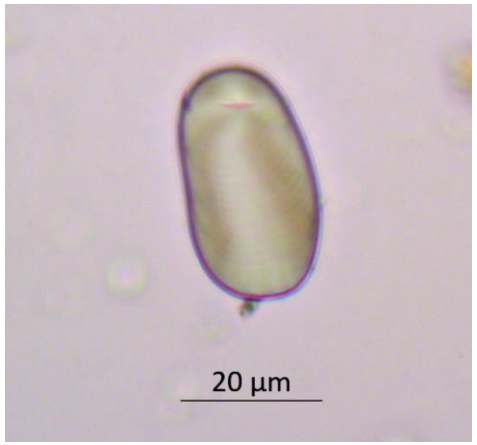


Heliconia cf acuminata
CM Level 17 B3

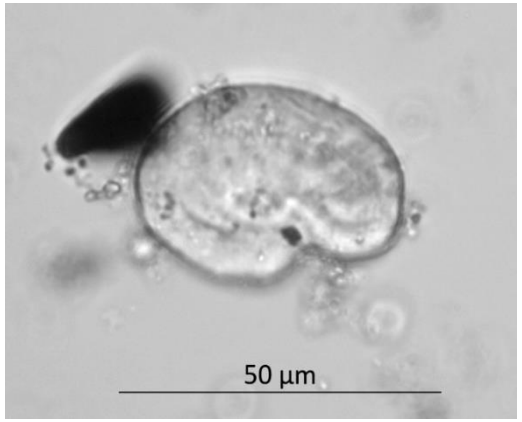


Maranta spp.
CM Level 33 E2





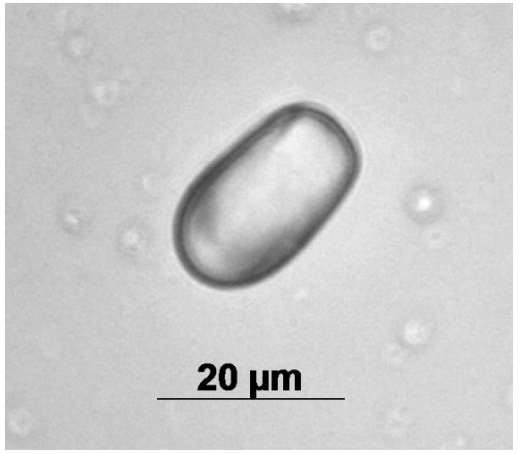
Costus/Calathea/ Heliconia cf psittatacorum/
CM Level 33 E2



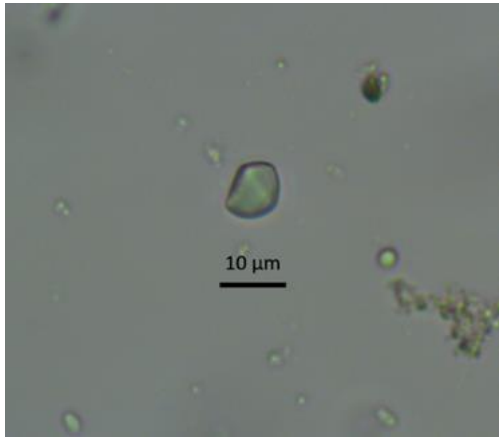
Fabaceae
CM Level 27 11.5 ka cal BP



Heliconia cf psittacorum
CM Level 21 9.4 ka cal BP



Costus/Calathea/ H.
CM Level 24 A2 10.4 ka cal BP



Bactris spp.
CM Level 19 1.9 ka cal BP



Unidentified plants



Looks like Maize?



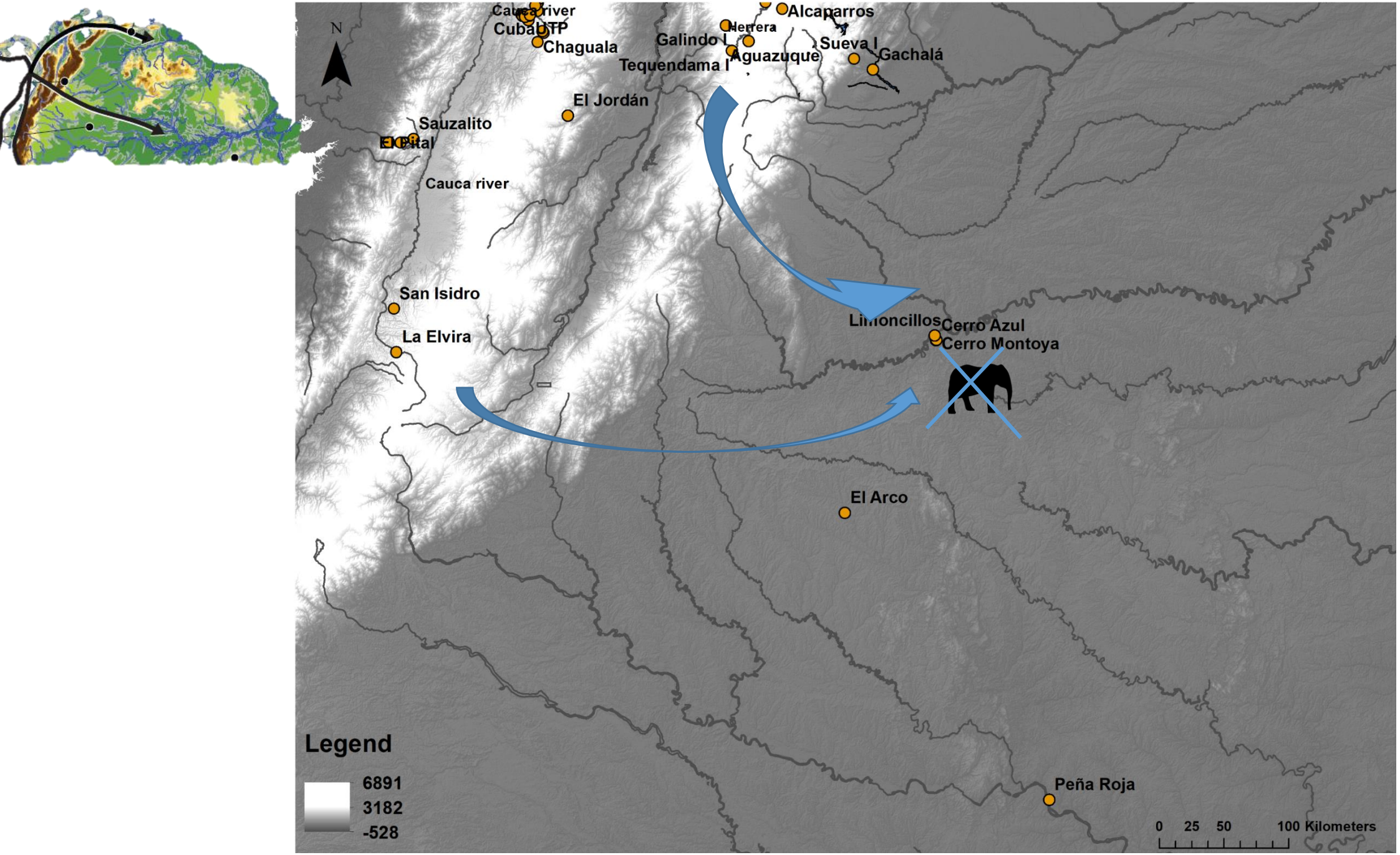
Bunch of palm fruts?



fruts?

DISCUSSION




N
Cauca river
Cubal TP
Chaguala
Alcaparros
Herrera
Galindo I
Aguazuque
Sueva I
Gachalá
Tequendama I
El Jordán
Sauzalito
El Pital
Cauca river
San Isidro
La Elvira
Limoncillos
Cerro Azul
Cerro Montoya
El Arco
Peña Roja
Legend
6891
3182
-528
0 25 50 100 Kilometers


Tupi-Guarani Expansion

SIMBOLIC LANDSCAPE



Inhabited landscape



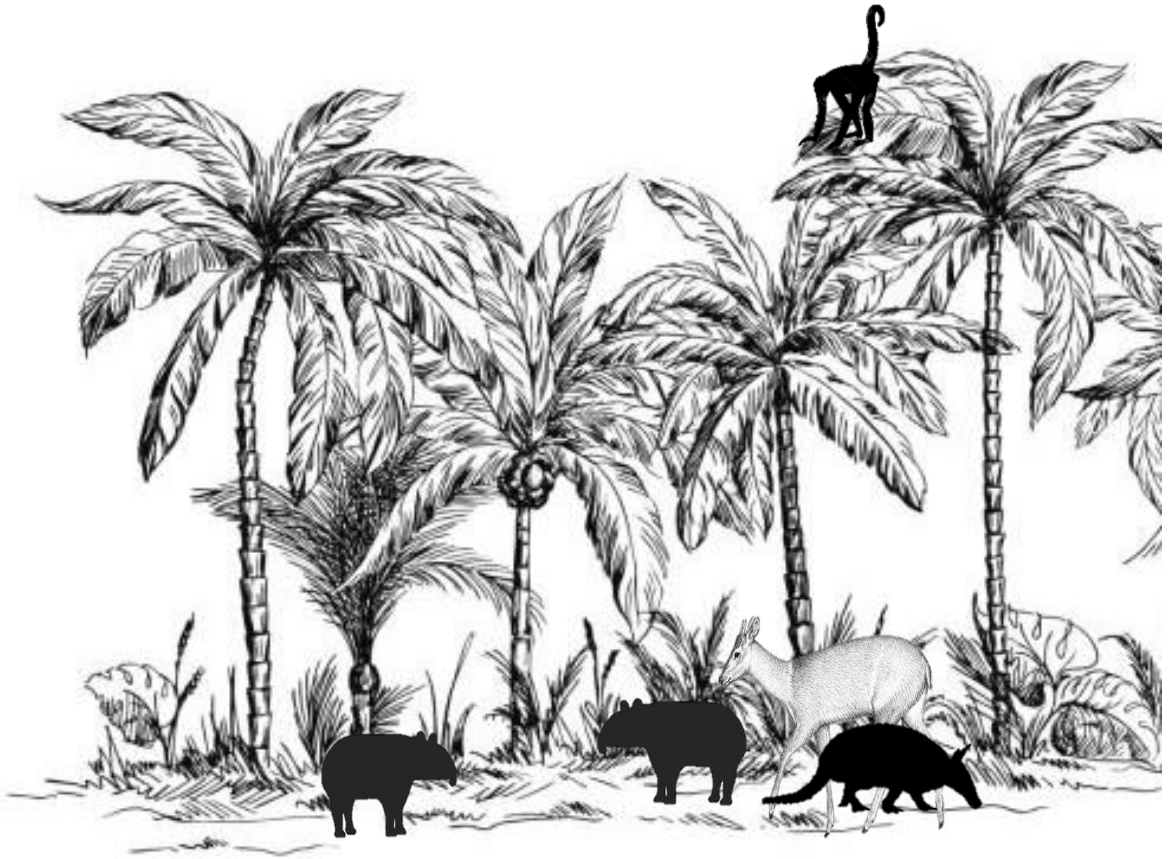
A HUMAN LANDSCAPE

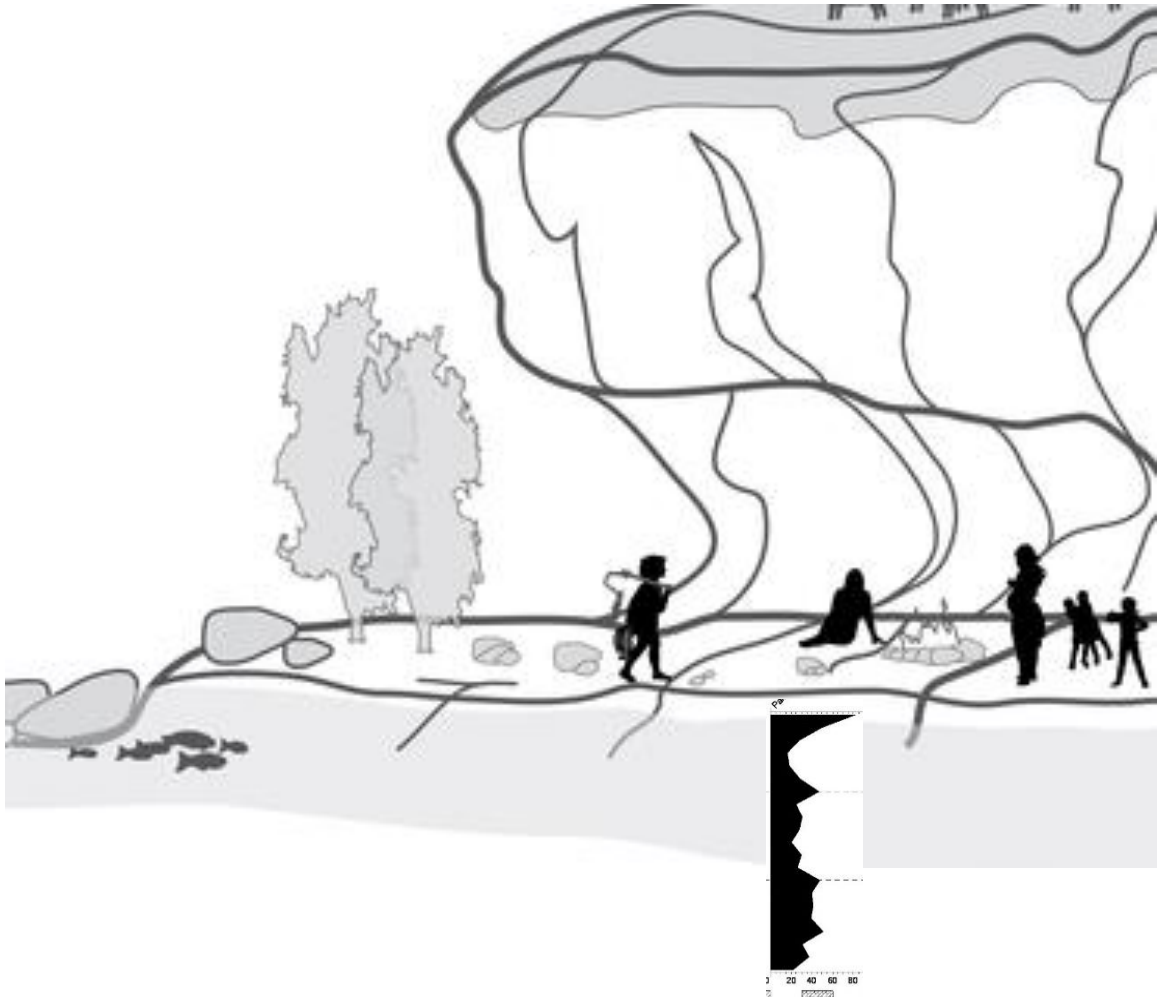
Managed Landscape



INHABITED LANDSCAPE AND THE PALMS'USE

"Palm gardens"





LAST Journey

Palms and rhizomes harvesting illustrations



Palm concentration in the current forests of La Lindosa



Disturbed forest Illustration



Rhizomes harvesting illustration



CURRENT FAUNA







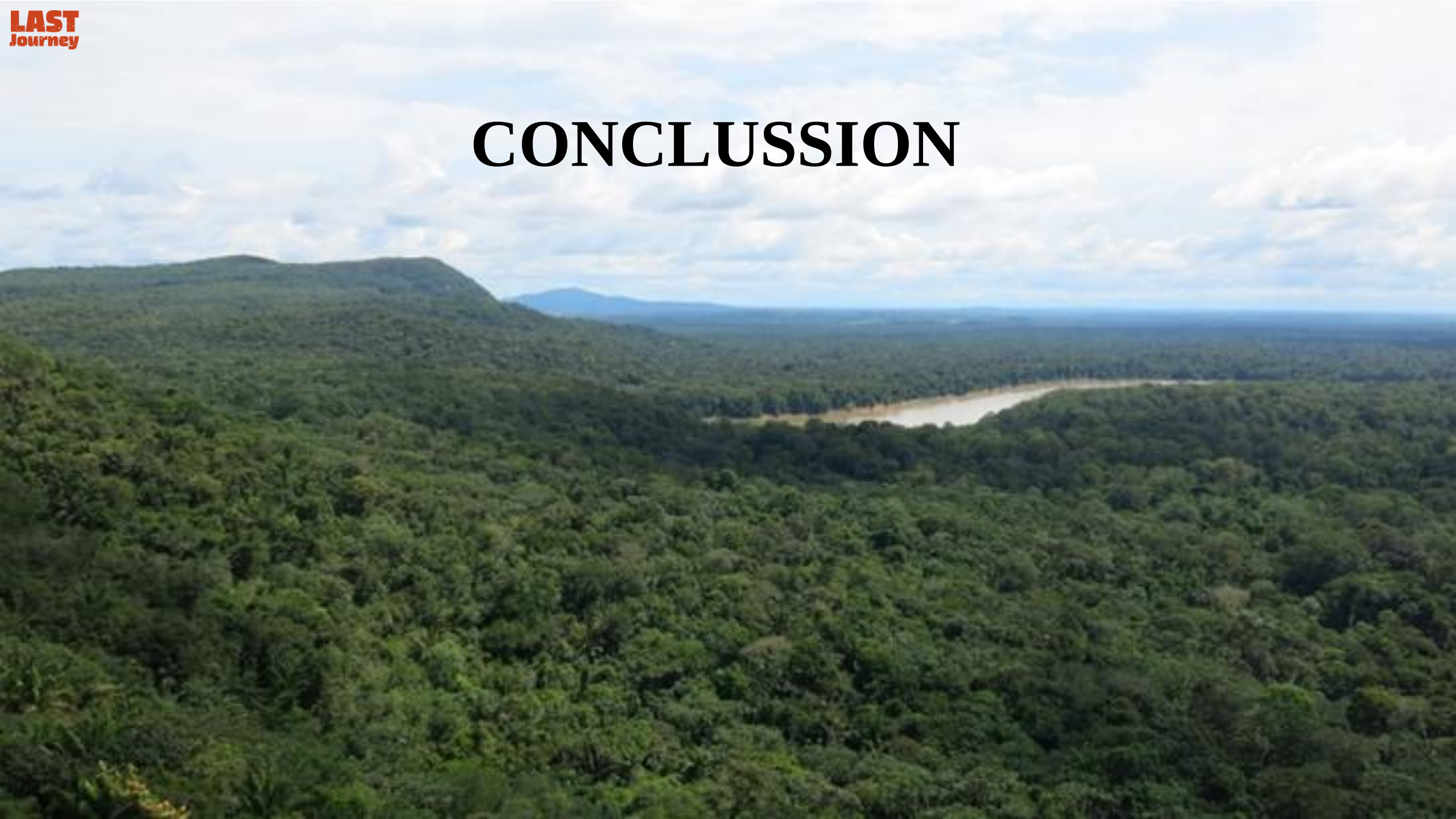




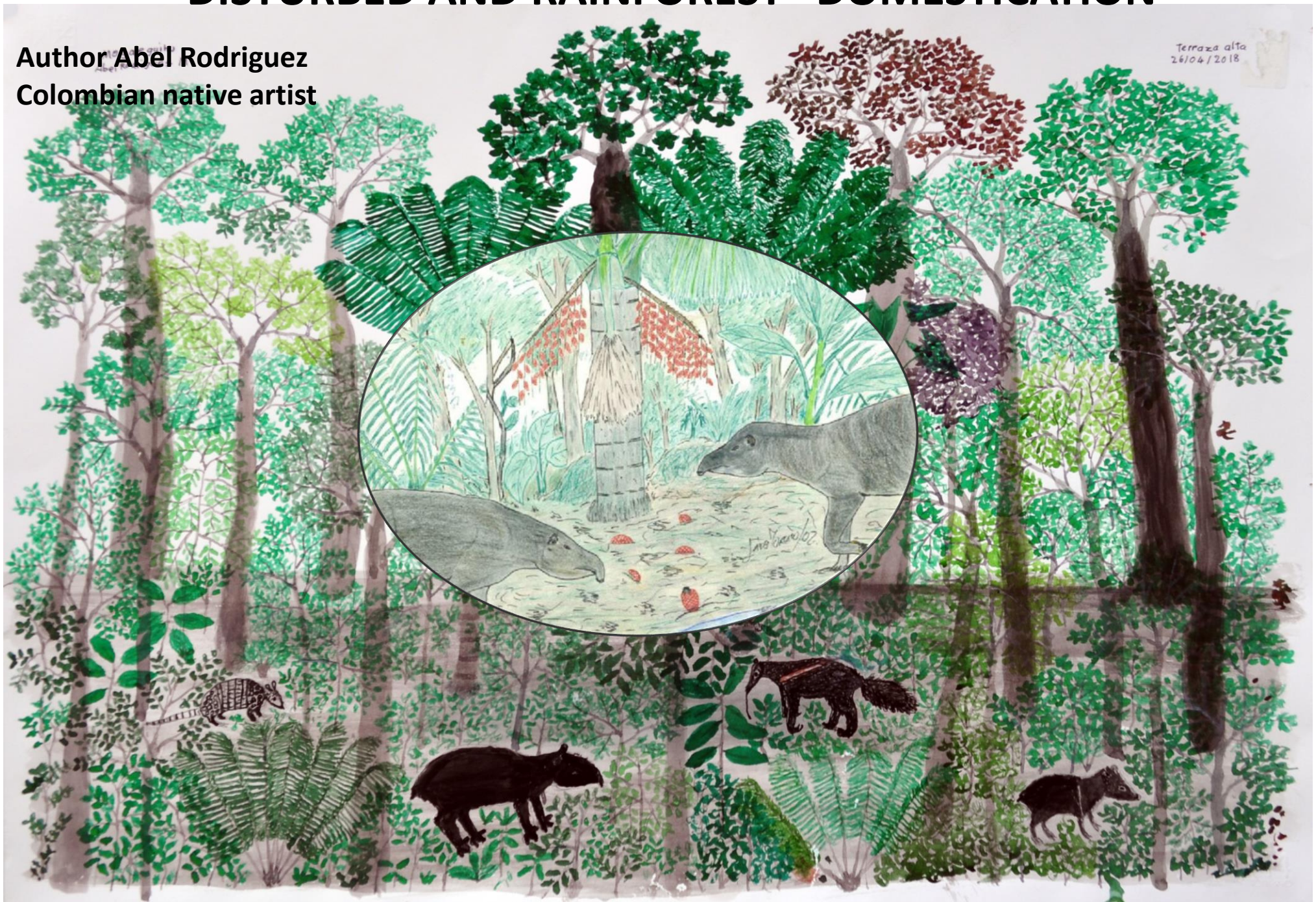


- manipulation of tree products
- management of forest comp.
- anthropogenic burning
- cultivation of edible plants
- detoxification of plants
- hunting arboreal, semi-arboreal, and terrestrial tropical game.

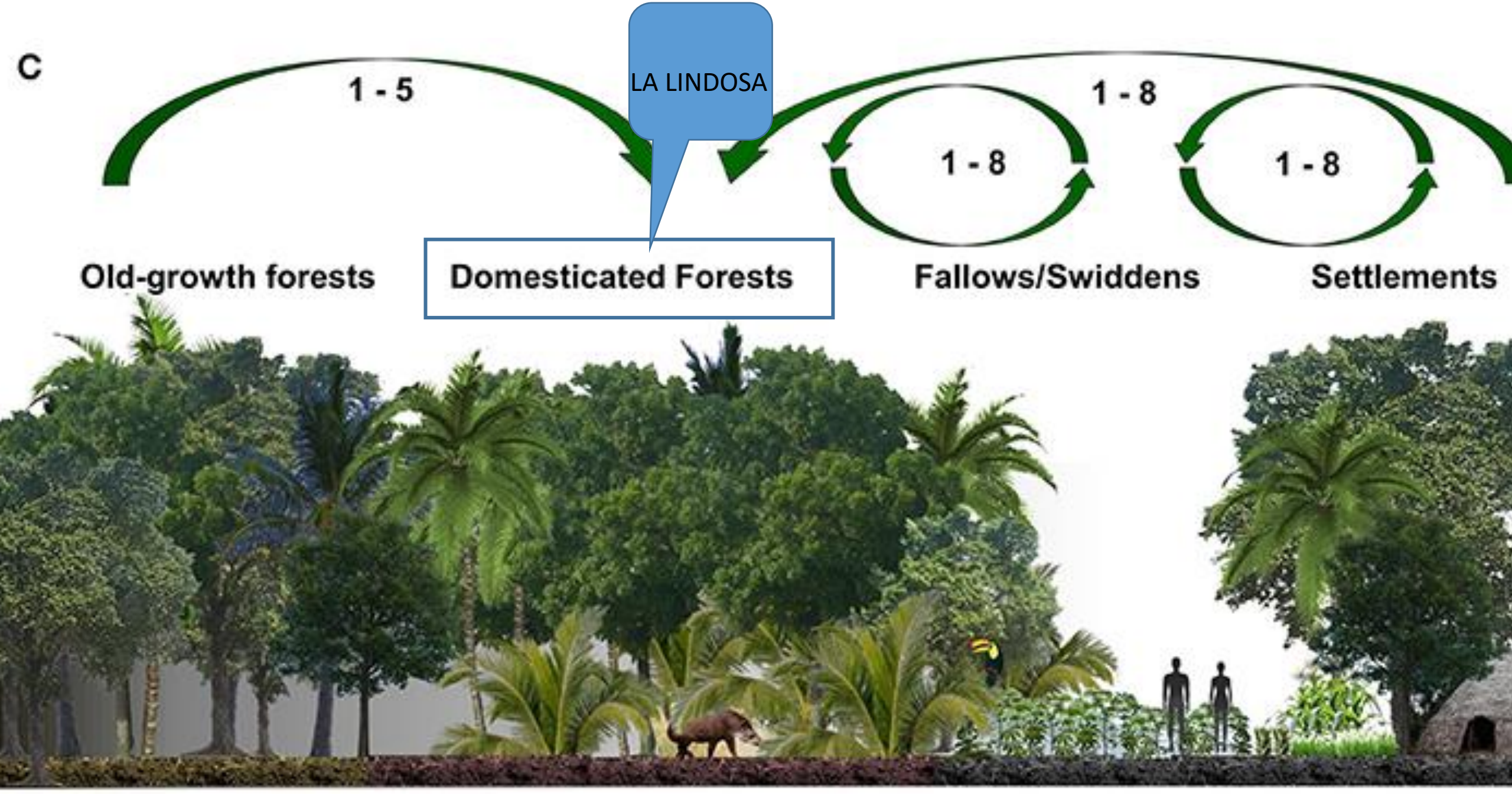
CONCLUSSION



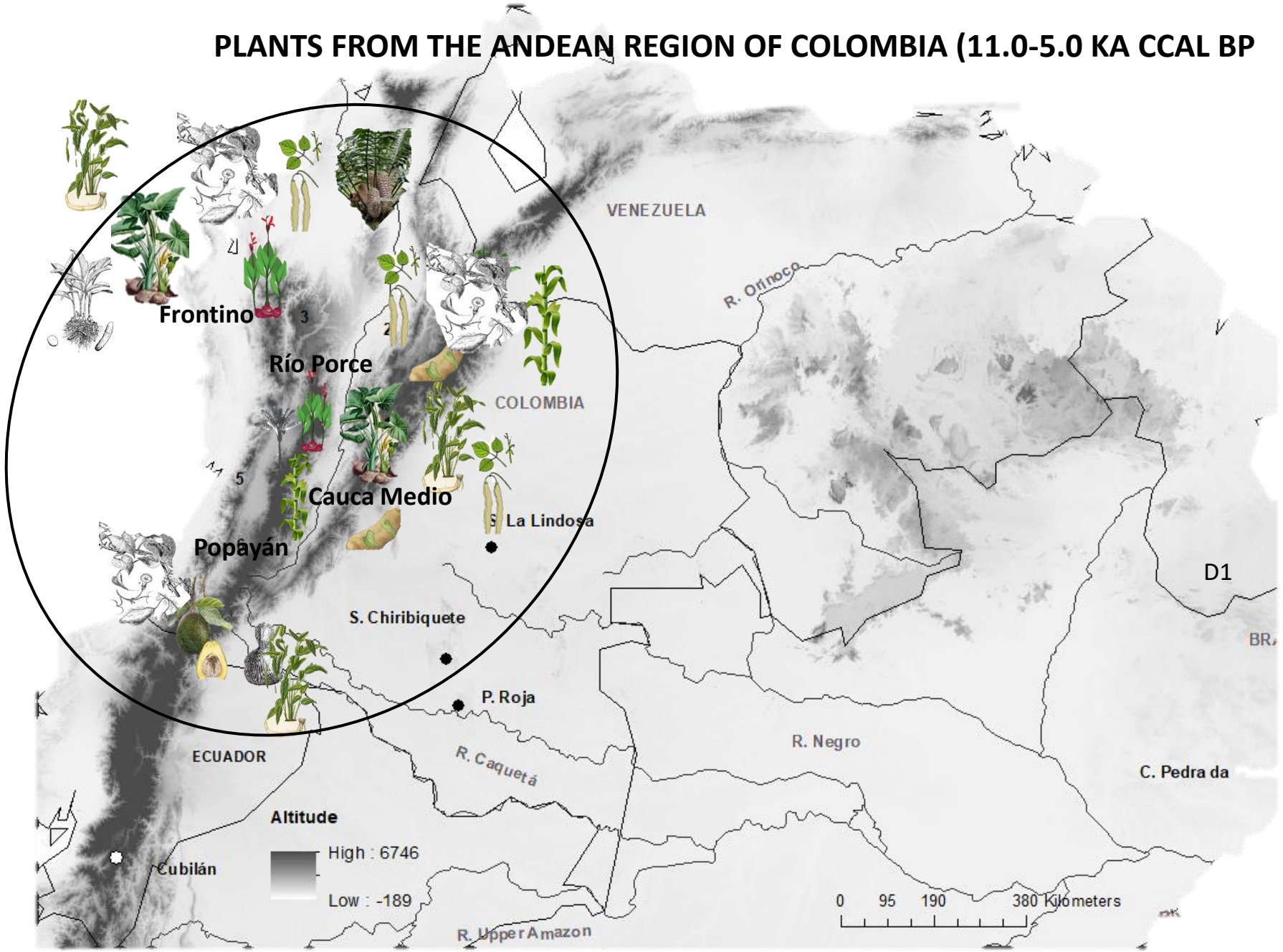
DISTURBED AND RAINFOREST “DOMESTICATION”



Tomado de How People Domesticated Amazonian Forests
Levis et al. 2018. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution



PLANTS FROM THE ANDEAN REGION OF COLOMBIA (11.0-5.0 KA CCAL BP




THANK YOU!