



**The birds of Kuna
Yala (Panama):
Inventory,
ethnotaxonomy and
tourism**

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Fotografía: Mònica Martínez Mauri



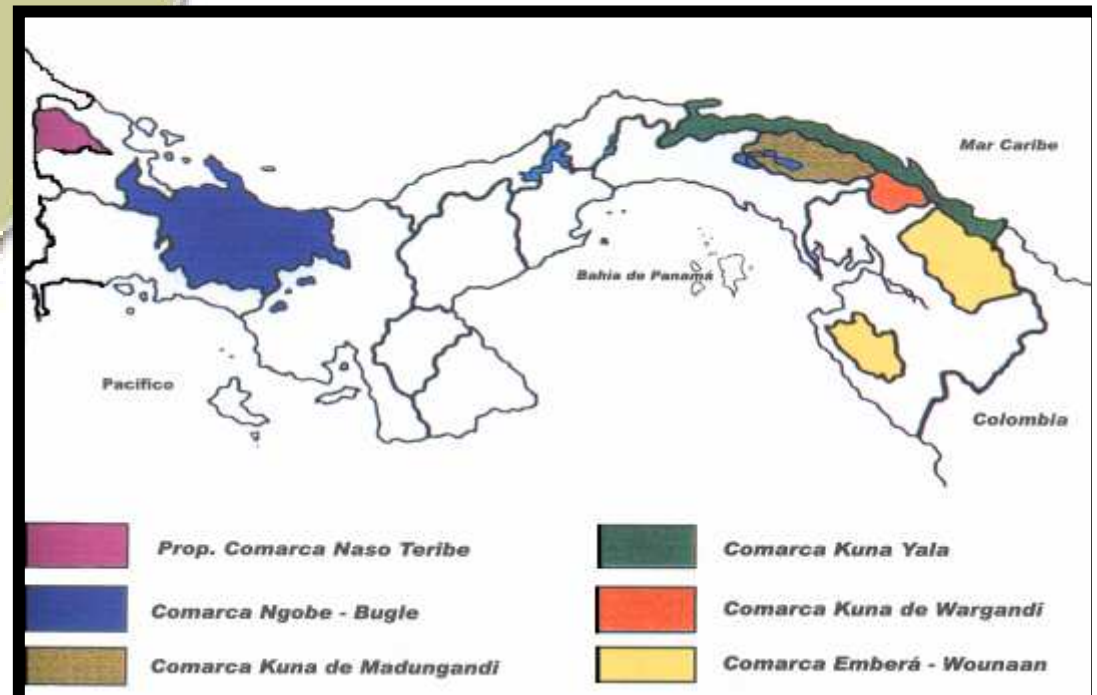
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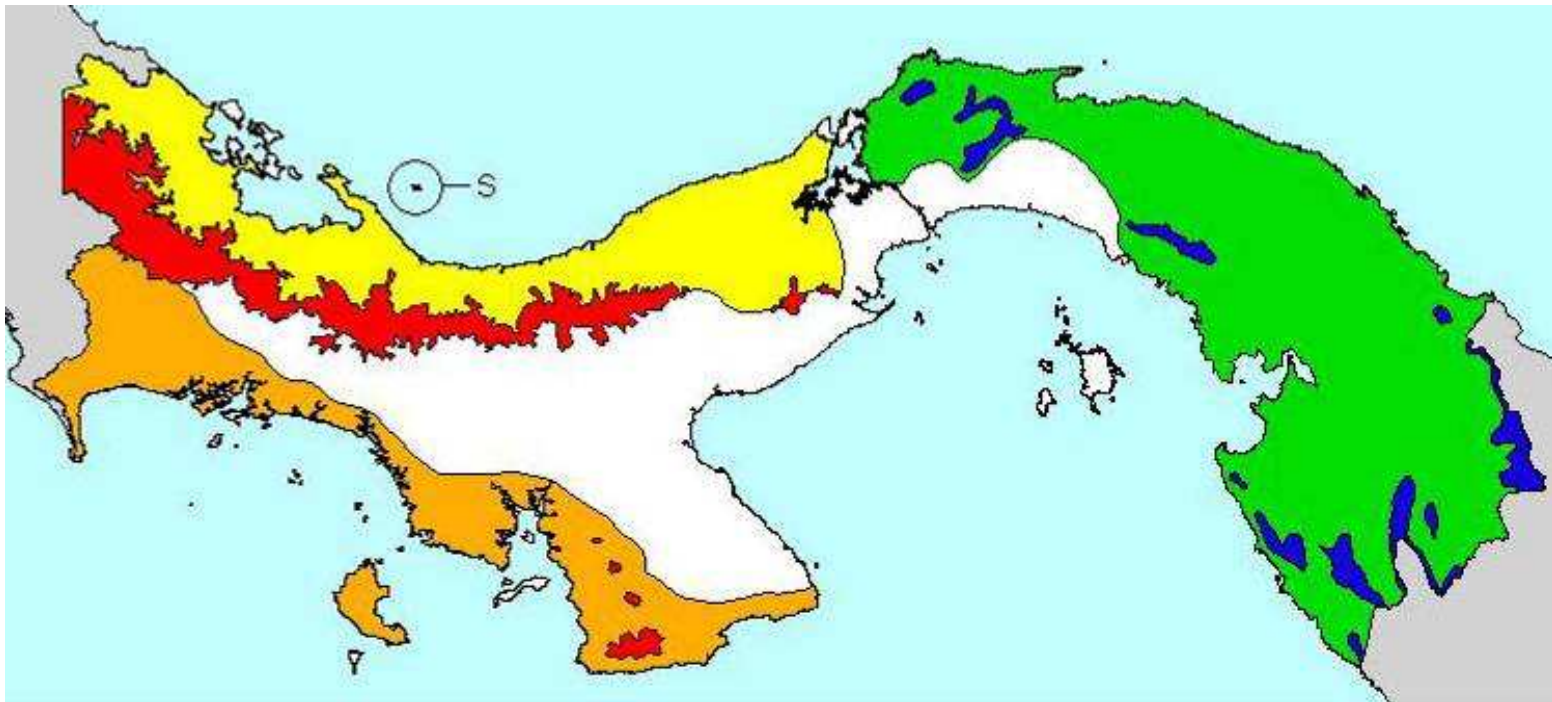


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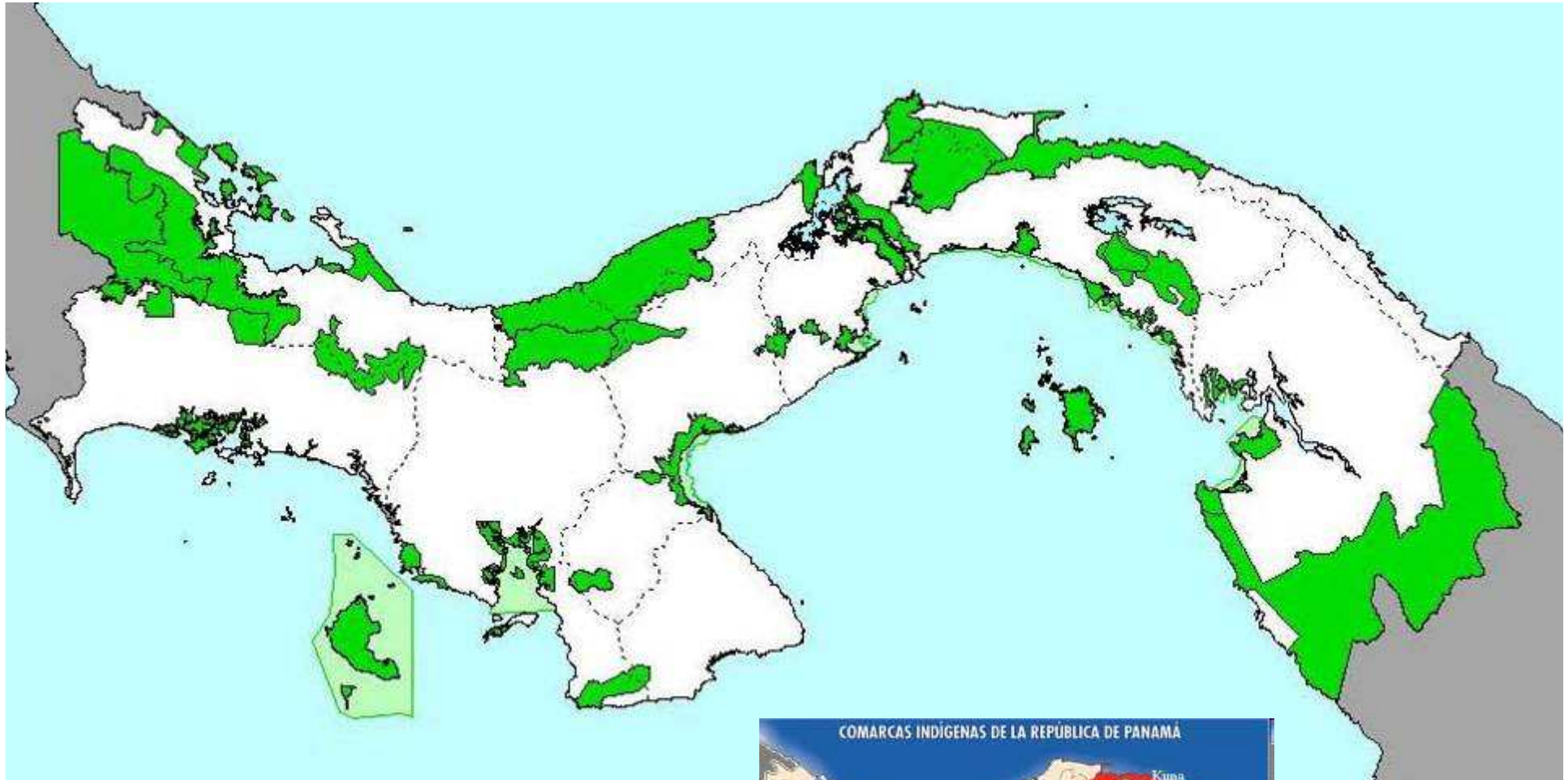


PANAMA: ENDEMIC BIRDING AREAS

105 endemic species

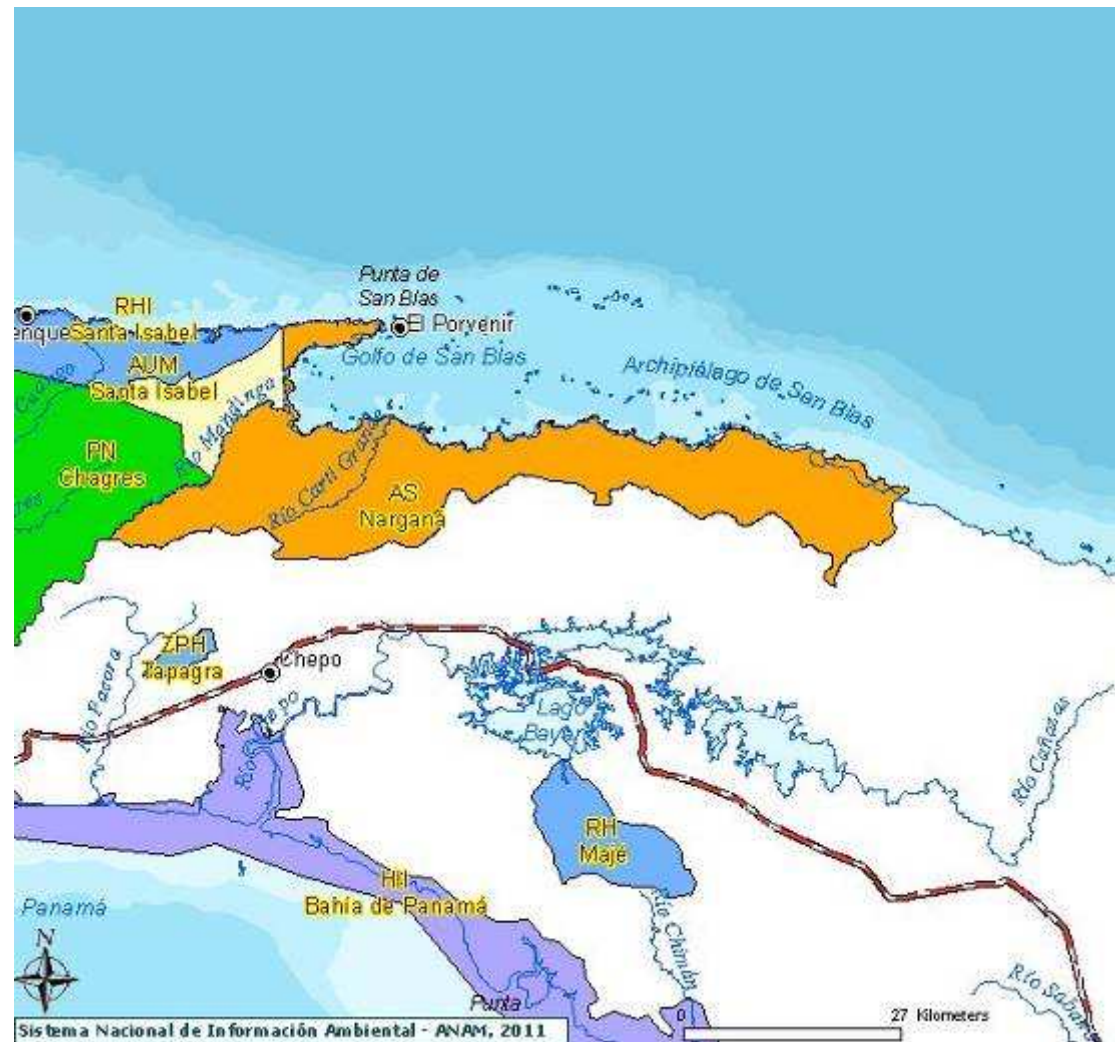


IMPORTANT BIRDING AREAS IN PANAMA



Área Silvestre de Narganá

9°24' N 78°54' O
0-899 m
87,800 ha



The project:

- To build up a biological inventory of the birds of the region
- To document the traditional knowledge of the Kuna people regarding their cosmology, their traditional ways of survival and use of natural resources.
- To promote ecotourism in the region, develop guiding and checklists and train local guides.



Inventory

- 378 species (identified by biologists)
- Scientific interest:
- Danger of extinction:
 - Green macaw (*Ara ambiguous*)
 - Speckled Antshrike (*Xenornis setifrons*)
- Habitat in danger:
 - Plumbeous Hawk (*Leucopternis plumbea*)
 - Crested Eagle (*Morphnus guianensis*)
 - Great Curassow (*Crax rubra*)
- Endemic:
 - Blue-and-gold Tanager (*Chlorospingus tacarcunaeson*)



ethnotaxonomy

- List of 157 Kuna bird names
 - common name
 - Ritual name (Father of birds, scientific kuna name)
 - Example: Brown Pelican – olosaggiliginya - gorgi



Kuna perception of birds

- Myths
- Tabous
- Animism (Descola 2005, 2009)
 - similar interiority
 - different physicality



A. Vázquez

C. López

Inaiduli

Kandur Dummad

R. Harris

R. Tejada

Descola's scheme

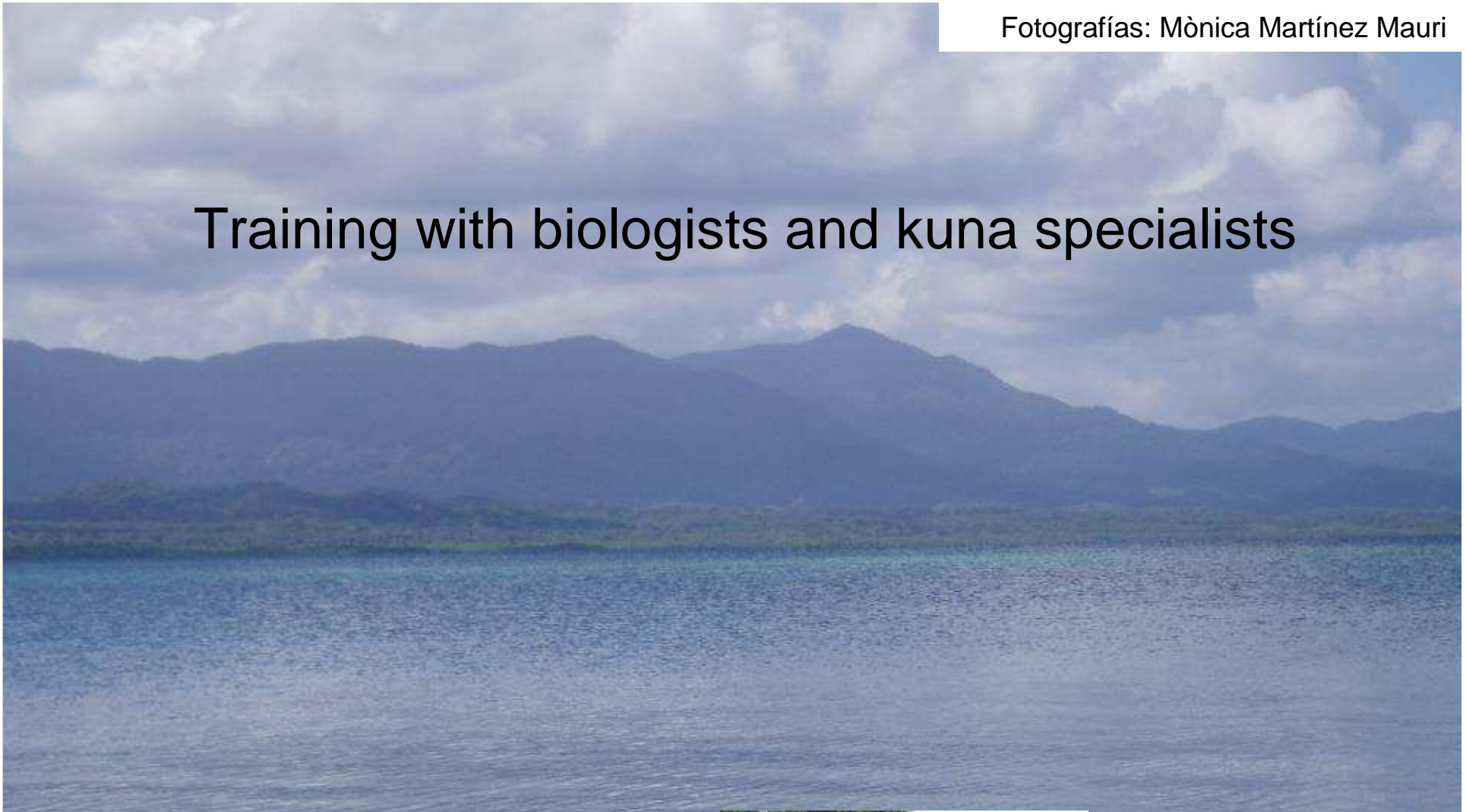
- *Animism*, the reverse of naturalism.
- For animists, “all the classes of beings endowed with an interiority similar to that of humans reputedly live in collectives that possess the same kind of structure and properties,” but “these collectives, that are all integrally social and cultural, are also distinguished from one another by the fact that their members have different morphologies and behavior.” The “so-called natural and supernatural domains” are “peopled by collectives with which human collectives maintain relations according to norms that are deemed common to all.” Among other things, they all “exchange signs.”

Ecotourism

- Workshops with young people
- March 2011, july-august 2011
- CD Guide



Training with biologists and kuna specialists



New project: 2012-2014:

Fortalecimiento de guías en observación de aves

<http://blogs.uab.cat/aves>

