

FIELD INFORMATION

General Background on Arauco Province and Contulmo Commune



The Arauco Province, in the Biobío Region, borders to the north with the Concepción Province, to the east with Biobío and Malleco, to the south with the Cautín Province and to the west with the Pacific Ocean. It is composed of 7 communes: Lebu, Arauco, Curanilahue, Cañete, Los Alamos, Contulmo, Tirúa.

The Arauco Province is located in an area of few plains, dominated by the Nahuelbuta Mountains on its eastern side. To the west there are a series of hills and valleys that descend towards the ocean. It also has a number of lakes and ponds, including the Lleu-lleu and Lanalhue lakes. There is a vast reserve of native forest, especially in the Nahuelbuta area, with Araucaria, Boldo, and Canelo species, among others. There are also native animal species like the puma, huemul and pudu.

According to the 2002 Census, the province has 158,916 inhabitants, with about 20% rural population. There is a large indigenous population, particularly Mapuche, although unevenly distributed in the communes of the province (more concentrated towards the south). The percentage of communal population that identifies as indigenous is as follows: Tirúa 47.5%, Cañete 20.6%, Contulmo 18.3%, Los Alamos 13.3%, Lebu, 12.7%, Curanilahue 5.4%, Arauco 4.7%.

This Province has historically high poverty levels. According to the latest CASEN survey (2013, traditional methodology), 16.7% of the population are living in poverty and 5% in extreme poverty. This is higher than the regional average (12.3% population in poverty) and national (7.8% population living in poverty).

Specifically the Contulmo commune has a population of 5,515 inhabitants, with a rural population of 50.2%. Regarding the Mapuche population, 84% is located in rural areas of this commune.

The latest CASEN survey (2013) reports 4.4% of the population of Contulmo living in poverty, which places it better than the national and regional average in this issue. However, previous measurements of the same survey (2003, 2006, 2009, 2011) ranged from 20-30%, well above the national average.

1. Campus Arauco

Location : Arauco	Time: 08:00 AM
	<p>Background</p> <p>Campus Arauco is an educational center developed by ARAUCO in partnership with DuocUC (one of Chile's most important technical higher learning institutions), that plays a dual role: a training space for ARAUCO workers and service companies; and a technical training center open to the public that seeks to contribute to vocational training, employment and employability of people in the Arauco Commune and surroundings, with an innovative academic model that links the educational process with practical work experience.</p> <p>In the Arauco Province there are few higher learning providers, so the existence of Campus Arauco opens up this path for many families. Its academic offer is centered on technical careers with high employability that meet the specific needs of the area. According to the SOFOFA, Chile currently has a deficit of 600.000 professional technicians and the Government has set a goal of increasing by 20% graduates in the next 4 years.</p>

2. Lanahue Lake and Elicura Valley

Location: Contulmo	Time: 10:00 AM
	<p>Background</p> <p>Lake Lanahue (in Mapudungun: lanallwe, 'place of lost souls') is located between the cities of Cañete and Contulmo, on the western slope of the Nahuelbuta, and is known for its warm waters. It occupies a depression through which passes the Lanahue fault, where Chile's (and mankind's) biggest earthquakes have originated, such as that of 1960.</p> <p>This lake is approximately 32 km², characterized by the existence of mixed vegetation: native forest Coigües, Tineo and Mañío; some Olivillos and Ulmos on the south side of the lake in the vicinity of the Nahuelbuta; and introduced species such as pine and eucalyptus.</p> <p>The Valley is composed of the Calebu, Elicura and San Ernesto sectors, where three rivers of the same names flow. Historically it has been populated mostly by Mapuche communities, including the Matthew Coliman, John Antil, Ignacio Meliman, Lorenzo Huaiquivil, Juan Caniومان and Antonio Leviqueo Communities, who participate in traditional productive activities such as potato, and vegetable crops (mainly chiles), as well as poultry, sheep and beekeeping.</p>

3. Treng Treng Elicura

Location : Contulmo	Time: 11:00 AM
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  </div> <div style="width: 50%;"> <p>Background</p> <p>In the Mapuche cosmovision, Treng Treng are sacred sites as they are the physical manifestation of the battle that existed in ancient times between water (Caicai Vilu) and earth (Trentren Vilu), from which rose the Mapuche people.</p> <p>Mapuche tradition says that in ancient times a monstrous serpent appeared, an enemy of man, Caicai Vilu, flooding the lowlands and valleys, and making whales, sea lions and fish out of all those water reached. Some men and animals were saved in the hills of Trentren Vilu, who raised them up to offer refuge to his people. There ensued a great battle, in which Caicai rose the waters up higher and higher, while Trentren responded by rising the hills up higher and higher, until they were so near to the sun that the people started to burn. The situation was untenable and there were very few men left so, to appease Caicai's wrath, they offered a child sacrifice, thus driving the waters back. This is the first Nguillatun sacrifice, and marks the birth of culture and the origin of the Mapuche people as such (with identity).¹</p> <p>Today, Treng Treng are used for ceremonies like the Nguillatun prayers that are the main rites or celebrations of the Mapuche people. These usually involve several communities or lof and are defined as an act of appeal to the supreme deity for His blessing on crops, livestock, climate, health, family, social relations, etc.</p> <p>Treng Treng Elicura has been defined as a High Conservation Value Area by Arauco Forestry, because of the importance of this ceremonial site in Mapuche culture. As part of the conservation plan that has been developed with the community, ARAUCO maintains a usage agreement with the Antonio Leviqueo Community that formalizes their access to this area, in addition to a Native Forest Restoration Plan, also developed in conjunction with the community.</p> </div> </div>	

4. San Ernesto Restoration (High Elicura)

Location : Contulmo	Time: 3 PM
<p>Background</p> <p>In the San Ernesto (2,800 ha) and Elicura (3,100 ha) estates –part of Mininco's forestland– originate the waters of the San Carlos and Proboque Estuaries and the Calebu River, that supply water to the Elicura Valley, home to some 380 families (1,500 people approx.). Moreover, this micro basin is one of those that supplies water to the Lanalhue Lake.</p>	

¹ Díaz, José Fernando: *El Mito de "Treng-Treng Kai-Kai" del Pueblo Mapuche*; Universidad Católica de Temuco, 2007.



The surface of the microbasin that surrounds the lake is owned 55% by individuals, 25% by Mininco Forestry, 9% Arauco Forestry, and 3% by other forestry companies.

In these two properties F.Mininco is implementing a restoration and protection zone enrichment plan that has been validated by the Elicura Valley communities and local stakeholders. Restoration work to date is being done with the Nahuelbuta Restorers Cooperative.

5. Ñocha Malén

Location: Contulmo	3:00 PM
	<p>Background</p> <p>Ñocha Malen (Ñocha woman) is a group of Mapuche craftswomen that make products out of ñocha, a native vegetable fiber from the Nahuelbuta region. They are from the Cañete Commune, and originate as a group in 2012, partnering with CMPC Mininco Forestry to rescue this traditional practice and use it as an entrepreneurship opportunity.</p> <p>Work with these crafters began 10 years ago. The first stage was to ensure the sustainability of the ñocha, helping the artisans to produce the vegetable fiber in their own homes. It was bordering extinction and, thanks to artificial cultivation, today is easily accessible and available in abundance for mapuche crafters.</p> <p>During the second stage, CMPC Mininco Forestry prompted the group to formalize its production and sales strategy with attractive and innovative designs. This year, Ñocha Malen has taken a new step in its development, representing Chile in the global Pet Lamp network, with shows at the La Moneda Cultural Center in Santiago and the International Furniture Fair in Milan.</p> <p>The group is made of 12 craftswomen, two of which –Juana and Mariela Maribur– have received the "Handicrafts Seal of Excellence" award in 2013 and 2015 from the National Council for Culture and the Arts, recognized by UNESCO.</p>

General Background on Carahue Commune



The Carahue Commune (in mapudungún: 'Karawe' means populated place) is located in the Cautín Province, Araucanía Region. It is 56 kilometers from the regional capital, Temuco, and limits to the west by the Pacific Ocean and to north with the Biobío Region.

According to the 2002 census, Carahue has a population of 25,696 inhabitants. The rural population is majority with 55%.

Generally speaking, Carahue presents a rather rugged terrain. The Imperial River stands out as the main feature in the urban setting and determines, to a great extent, the landscape and climate of the commune. The coastal strip takes on the appearance of a coastal cliff, mainly occupied by *lafkenche* communities.

According to the CASEN survey for 2009, Carahue had 33.5% population living in poverty, of which 7.7% is defined as extreme poverty. Based on the reality of local communities, two territorial areas can be identified that necessitate a sustainable forest management approach that integrates local priorities:

- 1) Nahuelbuta Mountains Territory:** Located to the northeast of Carahue, 30 kilometers from the city of Carahue. Here there are remnants of native forest, along with extensive tracts of tree plantations. Families in this area practice traditional farming, combining the production of non-timber products and agricultural products for both consumption and market. There is a significant presence of tree plantations. One of the concerns of local organizations is the protection of the basins of the Centinela and Quiripio Rivers, and the protection of wetlands.
- 2) Lafkenche Coastal Territory:** The coastal area of Carahue, inhabited by *lafkenche* indigenous communities, that spreads over to the Tirúa Commune in the Biobío Region. Families engage in various activities such as seaweed and seafood gathering, in addition to subsistence farming. This territory has scattered tree plantations of a lesser intensity than in the Tirúa Commune. It has a rich organizational life, through its indigenous communities and diver and gatherer organizations, among others. Currently one of its main issues is the request for a marine coastal area for native peoples.

1. Parque de los Trenes - Train Park

Location : Carahue	Time: 09:00 AM
	<p>Background</p> <p>During 2012 old train cars and restored locomotives were installed as public space for the city of Carahue. With housing ministry resources, facilities were built and various organizations joined in the use of this space. The Carahue gastronomic group set up a cafeteria, which is now fully operational.</p> <p>Here local products such as avellana coffee and wild fruit based products are offered, linking diverse entrepreneurs at this point of sale, such as avellana gatherers and organic michuñi potatoes, quinoa and honey producers. It was financed by SERCOTEC public resources (Technical cooperation), the Bishopric of Temuco and Mininco Forestry.</p>

2. Puente el Buey – Ox Bridge

Location : Carahue	Time: 09:30 AM
	<p>Background</p> <p>This is the historic pier of the city of Carahue. In the first decades of the twentieth century steamers docked here with grain to supply local mills. The name comes from the animals that transported the loads to the local mills.</p> <p>Currently it is an area for river activities; the facilities are owned by the municipality and its administration is in charge of neighborhood organizations. The current pier is used by city boatmen, which will be the recipients of the new pier that will be installed as part of the project to make the Imperial River once again navigable.</p> <p>The pier will open the river route from the city of Carahue, as part of a system of piers being installed since 2015 in the context of regional investment for company-community relationship building. This project is funded by Mininco Forestry.</p>

3. Molino Walk – Mill Walk

Location : Carahue	Time: 09:40 AM
	<p>Background</p> <p>This mill was built in the 30s, and here the South American Steamship Company in Chile operated. It currently maintains the original parts for its operation. This cultural heritage was the center of economic activity during its time, when the main means of transport were steamers that sailed the Imperial River.</p>

As part of the river route, the design includes an observation deck and outdoor museum with art works by local artists who are interested in enabling this space. The next step is to transform the mill into a museum. This is the third milestone in the river route recovery project.

4. Santa Celia Road

Location : Road	Time: 09:45 AM
<p>Background</p> <p>This sector was part of a local complaint process in the context of FSC-dialogue-agreements, because of a forest operation process that entailed harvesting the entire riverfront. The impact on landscape would have affected the scenic beauty of the area, and thus tourist activity. In light of this, certain agreements were reached, and above all, the necessary dialog was enabled to allow compatibility for diverse activities, outlooks and actors of this territory.</p>	

5. Trovolhue, camino el Peral

Location : Trovolhue	Time: 10:00 AM
	<p>Background</p> <p>This observation point is located seven kilometers from the town of Trovolhue, in an agricultural farm, and provides an overview of changes in land cover generated by tree plantations in the Nahuelbuta Mountains.</p> <p>Here aspects associated with tree plantations may be observed, such as wild fruit gathering sites, basins, native forests and projects that link companies to local communities through beekeeping.</p>

6. Muelle San Pedro

Location : San Pedro	Time: 12:00 PM
	<p>Background</p> <p>This sector, also known as Yekomahuida (place of mountain ravens), is the second pier built as part of the river route recovery project during 2015. Its purpose was to provide an intermediate point on the navigation route for fishing activities , boating and kayaking.</p> <p>The location of the dock was determined so that it might better connect the construction and operation of a Ruka, that is expected to promote traditional Mapuche activities such as food, crafts and medicinal plants (lawen). At the landscape level, this point enables the coordination of the river route with mountain-side activities, mainly activities associated with native forests in smallholder properties.</p>

7. Ruka Yekomahuida

Location : Carahue	Time: 12:00 PM
	<p>Background</p> <p>This Ruka is a family and associative entrepreneurship. Its purpose is to promote the consumption of organic products that a peasant and Mapuche cooperative have been producing; merkén, native potatoes, avellanas, vegetables, among other products. For years its members have worked to adopt organic production techniques in small-scale production: green fertilizer, recovery of organic seeds and crop water use.</p> <p>The Ruka is currently under construction; in its surroundings a garden of lawenes will be built as a way to spread the seed of medicinal plants. Because of its strategic location on the route, it is expected to become an information point for the entire network, offering offering products, information and views that its members share.</p>

8. Nehuentue Dock

Location : Nehuentue	Time: 2:30 PM
	<p>Background</p> <p>The Nehuentue Dock closes the circuit of piers that are expected to be installed on the Imperial River. It will be located at the beginning of the waterfront and is expected to be a point of departure and arrival for river navigation and access to the river and wetlands.</p>