MAAP #55: New 2017 “Hurricane Winds” in Peruvian Amazon

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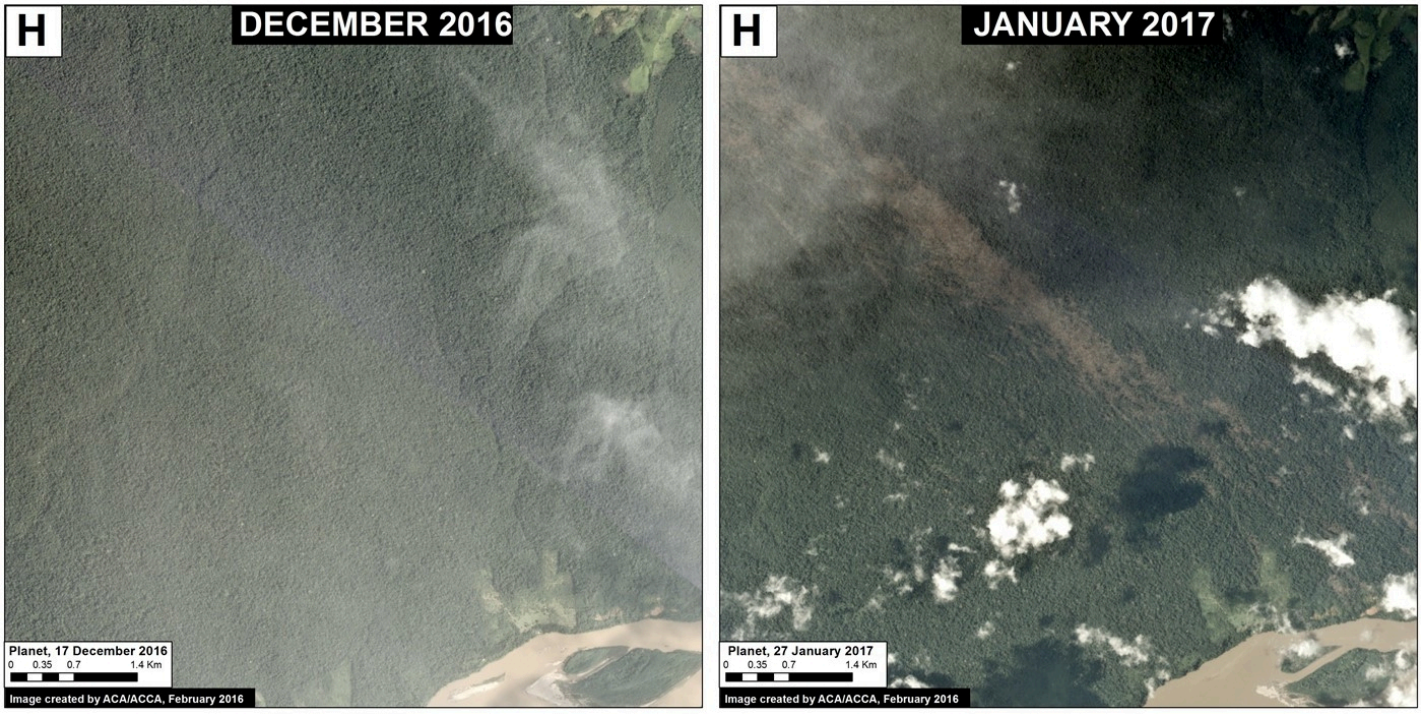
Donate

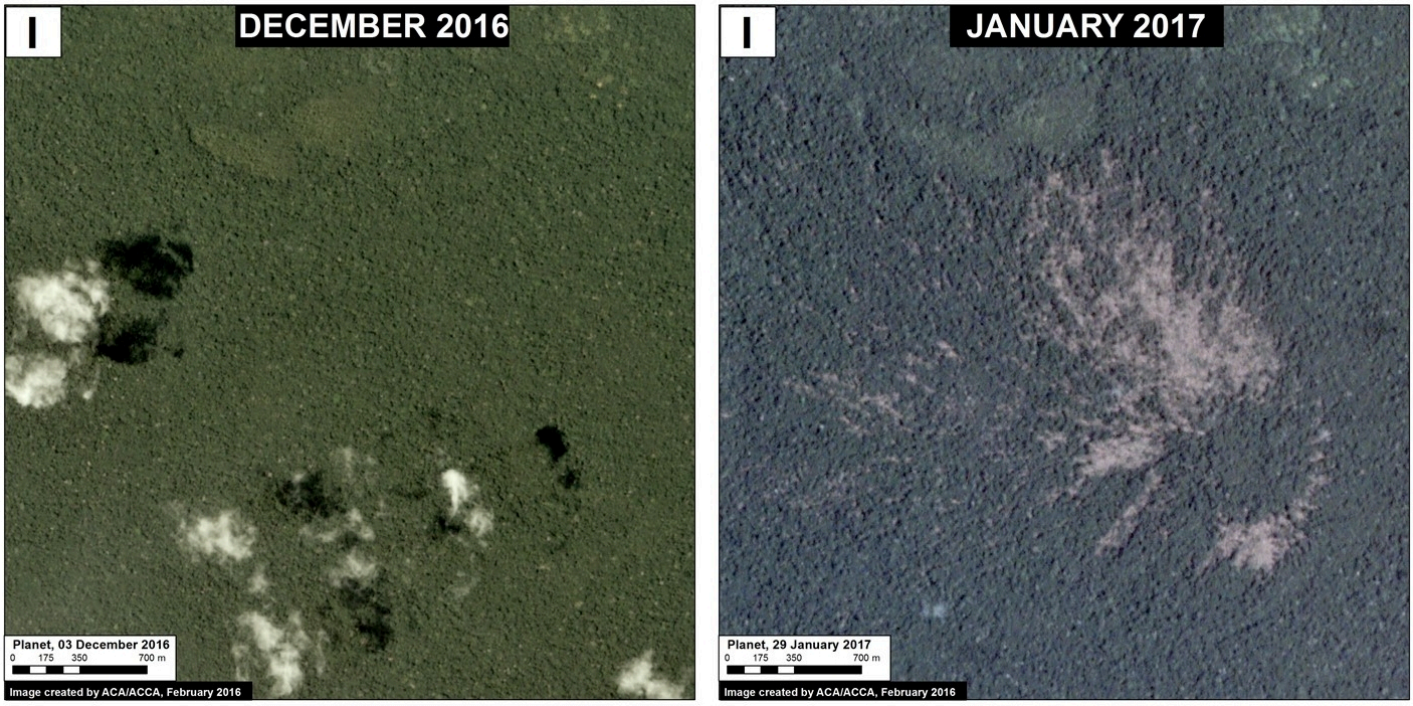
In the previous MAAP #54 (https://www.maapprogram.org/2017/blowdown/), we described the phenomenon of natural forest loss due to “**hurricane winds**,” showing several examples from 2016 in the Peruvian Amazon. Strong winds from these localized storms can knock down hundreds of acres of forest at a time.

In January 2017, GLAD tree loss alerts (http://glad.geog.umd.edu/alarm/openlayers.html) indicated two new hurricane wind events in the southern Peruvian Amazon (Madre de Dios region). Below, we show high-resolution images of these cases. The first is a large hurricane wind event that knocked down 780 acres (Image 55a). The second is an event of 185 acres that took place within a forestry concession (Image 55b).



(https://www.maapprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/MAAP_Perdi_Naturales_H_2017_m_v1_en-e1488825211616.jpg)

Image 55a: Data: Planet

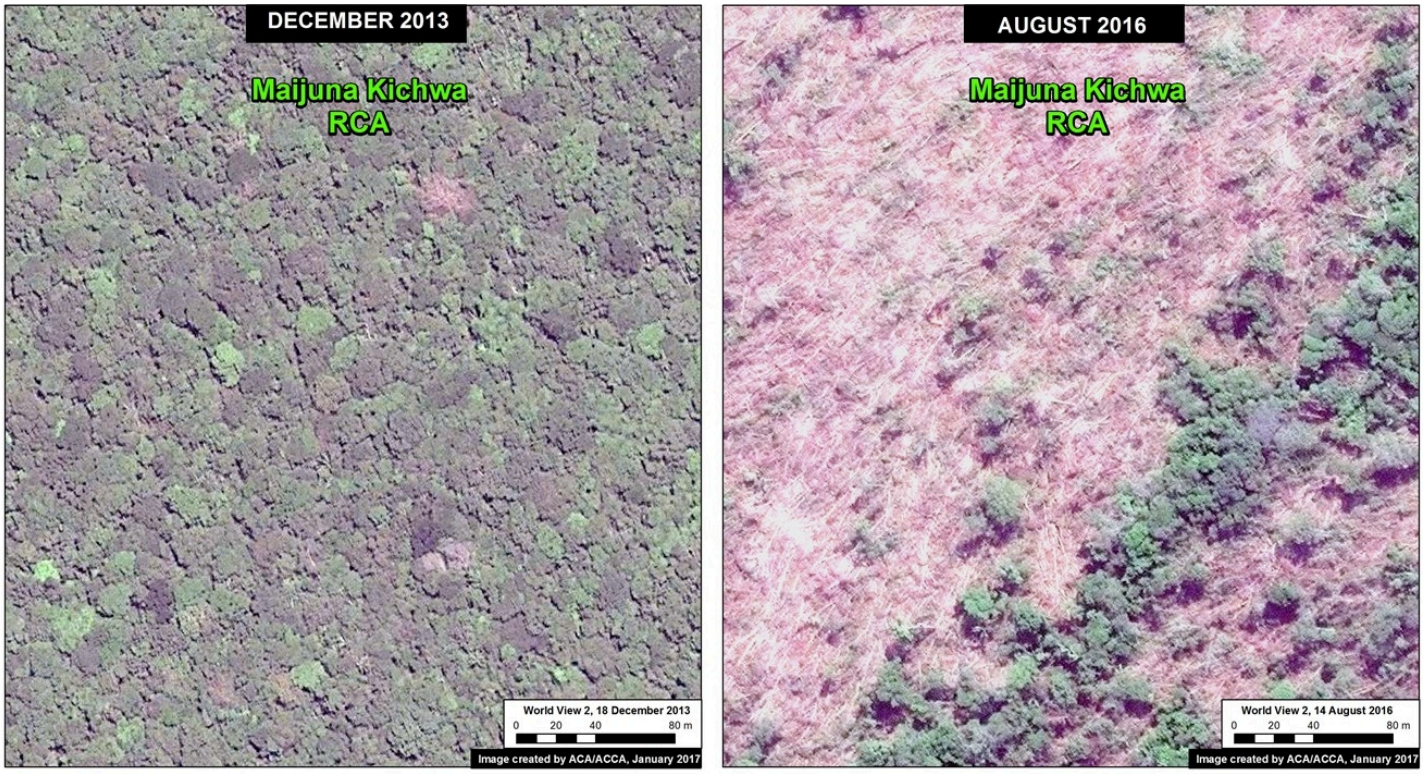


(https://www.maapprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/MAAP_Perdi_Naturales_I_2017_m_v1_en-e1488825250966.jpg)

Image 55b: Data: Planet

Very High Resolution View

We also show a new **very high resolution image** (0.5 meters) of one of the hurricane wind events in 2016 in the Loreto region (example B of MAAP #54 (https://www.maapprogram.org/2017/blowdown/)). Image 55c shows the following pattern: fan-shaped pattern of forest loss with a defined orientation following the direction of the storm winds. It is worth mentioning that this event occurred within a protected area, Maijuna-Kichwa Regional Conservation Area.



(https://www.maapprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/MAAP_Perdi_Naturales_B2_2017_m_v1_en-e1488825293178.jpg)

Image 55c. Data: Digital Globe (Nextview)

Reference

Planet Team (2017). Planet Application Program Interface: In Space for Life on Earth. San Francisco, CA. https://api.planet.com (https://api.planet.com/)

Citation

Finer M, Novoa S (2017) New 2017 “Hurricane Winds” in Peruvian Amazon. MAAP: 55.