

Especial Bulletin:

Violated
nature
and communities in
Resistance

“Socio-environmental effects and conflicts in the Magdalena Medio Region”.

August 2024





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Corporación Regional para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos
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VIOLATED NATURE AND COMMUNITIES IN RESISTANCE

SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND CONFLICTS IN THE MAGDALENA MEDIO REGION

JANUARY – AUGUST 2024

PRESENTATION

The Regional Corporación Regional para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (CREDHOS) and its Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, presents to communities, social and victims' organizations, government entities and the international community, the Special Bulletin "Violated Nature and Communities in Resistance: Socio-Environmental Affectations and Conflicts in the Colombian Middle Magdalena Region", corresponding to the period between January and August 2024. This bulletin is an effort from the comprehensive defense of Human Rights for the monitoring and analysis of socio-environmental conflicts and violations of the collective rights of communities.

Structurally, the bulletin consists of five (5) sections: first, the negative environmental impacts on aquatic ecosystems, which includes aspects such as deforestation and/or occupation of water rings, presence of polluting substances, and decrease of native species; second, the effects and irregularities associated with the hydrocarbon industry; third, the worsening of meteorological phenomena as a manifestation of the climate crisis; fourth, other affectations; and, fifth, the list of socio-environmental conflicts registered between January and August 2024, including those generated before the period covered by this bulletin, but which, due to their dynamics, are considered to be in force – extension of environmental impacts, continuity of community resistance mechanisms in defense of the territory, persistence of human rights violations or absence of environmental justice.

Methodologically, it is guided by descriptive-qualitative parameters. The sources of information are fundamentally primary; journalistic notes, individual and collective interviews, and press releases – from the press, state institutions or companies – which are systematized and contrasted after presentation in the bulletin. Of special relevance are community sources, who provide much of the information and understanding of the facts that escape the public and official sources, highlighting the role of the Regional Coordination for the Defense of Water, Territory and Dignified Life.

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Barrancabermeja, Colombia



1. NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

The following are the negative environmental impacts on aquatic ecosystems in the Middle Magdalena region, especially caused by illegal mining, illegal logging of water rings, agribusiness dumping and the occupation of channels for the extension of buffalo cattle ranching. In the face of these facts, rural, peasant, Afro-Colombian, and artisanal fisher communities are more vulnerable due to the direct relationship between their subsistence/sustainability and the quality/availability of water resources.

1.1. *Illegal mining.* During the pandemic period and in the face of the reconfiguration of the dynamics of the internal armed conflict, in terms of the positioning and territorial control of illegal armed actors, the Middle Magdalena region saw a growth in illegal mining, particularly gold, in aquatic ecosystems. Although it is not intended to associate the illicit exploitation of gold only with the income of illegal armed actors, it is increasingly recognized that it is strongly linked in different ways, whether in the marketing chain, in the financing of machinery, in the control of strategic corridors or in the armed protection of mines. This, in addition, deepens the persecution of ancestral and informal mining historically exercised by mining communities, without distinction from illegal mining associated with the economies of illegal armed actors.

Between January and August 2024, different cases of dismantling and destruction of illegal mines around aquatic ecosystems were found. We have the villages of Llano Grande and Alto Viento in the municipality of Sabana de Torres (Magdalena Medio Santandereano), in the village of La Clara in the municipality of Puerto Nare (Magdalena Medio Antioquia), and in the municipalities of San Pablo, Simití and Santa Rosa del Sur (South of Bolívar), where the National Police deployed an "Operation Shield" against illegal mining.

The negative environmental impacts commonly related to illegal mining in aquatic ecosystems are the alteration of the physicochemical and biological quality of water, the alteration of the landscape, the occupation and deforestation of water roundabouts, and the risk of water shortages for human consumption and domestic use. It should be noted that, in the amalgamation stage – separation of gold from rock or sand – mercury is normally used, a substance with an important level of toxicity for human health and the biotic part of water.

1.2. *Decrease in native species.* There are multiple causes of the decline of native species in the Middle Magdalena region. The physicochemical and biological alteration of water quality caused by the discharge of domestic and industrial wastewater, the spillage of toxic substances or abrupt alterations in the flow of lotic ecosystems is highlighted. Also, the geomorphological transformations and the alteration of water dynamics, the decrease of water mirrors due to accelerated sedimentation processes driven by



the occupation and diversion of channels, the loss of connectivity between aquatic ecosystems and the use of illegal fishing techniques.

Between January and August 2024, the Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment registered a total of six (6) cases of mass death of fish fauna and other species, two (2) cases of death of endangered species, specifically manatees (*Trichechus manatus*), as well as two (2) cases of manatee stranding, which continue to represent an alert in terms of the analysis of the causes. one (1) case of illegal hunting and commercialization of wildlife, and other cases associated with the decline of native species in aquatic ecosystems (See Table 1).

Table 1. Cases associated with the decrease of native species in the Middle Magdalena region between January and August 2024.

Mass death of fish fauna and other species*					
Cases	Month	Municipality(s)	Ecosystem	Cause(s)	Responsible(s) or presumed responsible(s)
6	January	Sabana de Torres San Vicente de Chucurí Puerto Wilches Barrancabermeja	Sogamoso River	Hydrological alteration caused by the hydroelectric power plant	Isagen
	February	Sabana de Torres Rionegro	Lebrija River	Alteration of the physicochemical and biological quality of the water caused by the discharge of wastewater	Bucaramanga Metropolitan Area
	February	Barrancabermeja	El Llanito Swamp	Hydrological alteration caused by varied factors: alteration of the flow of the Sogamoso River, extension of buffalo cattle ranching and occupation of riverbeds by the hydrocarbon industry	Isagen Ecopetrol Livestock Guild
	February	imitar	Carare River	Indiscriminate illegal fishing	Unidentified
	February	Sabana de Torres San Vicente de Chucurí Puerto Wilches Barrancabermeja	Sogamoso River	Hydrological alteration caused by the hydroelectric power plant	Isagen
	May	Barrancabermeja	El Llanito Swamp	Hydrological alteration caused by varied factors	Isagen Ecopetrol Livestock Guild
Death of manatees					
Cases	Month	Municipality(s)	Ecosystem	Cause(s)	Responsible(s) or alleged responsible(s)
2	January	Barrancabermeja	San Silvestre Channel	Presumably, due to the confluence of different factors that altered the physicochemical and biological quality of the water: discharges from the hydrocarbon industry, transport of agrochemicals by runoff, extension of buffalo cattle in water rounds and climatic drought season	Ecopetrol La Palma Guild Livestock Guild
	February				
Manatee stranding					
Cases	Month	Municipality(s)	Ecosystem	Cause(s)	Responsible(s) or alleged responsible(s)



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2**	March	Aguachica	Chocoviejo Swamp	Occupation and diversion of channels for the extension of buffalo cattle ranching and oil palm monocultures, which has driven sedimentation processes and loss of connectivity between aquatic ecosystems	Livestock Guild La Palma Guild
	May	Puerto Wilches	Caño Peruéano		
Hunting and illegal trade of wildlife					
Cases	Month	Municipality(s)	Ecosystem	Cause(s)	Responsible(s) or alleged responsible(s)
1***	February	Puerto Wilches	Unidentified	Economic purposes	One (1) person captured

*The other species are commonly amphibians and reptiles.

**The two (2) cases correspond to a total of twelve (12) manatees. Three (3) in the Chocoviejo swamp and nine (9) in the Peruéano channel.

Corresponds to eleven (11) euthanized hicotea turtles.

Source: Authors. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

As can be seen in Table 1, the six (6) recorded cases of mass death of fish fauna and other species are concentrated in aquatic ecosystems where historically there have been systematic effects caused by multiple patterns of environmental degradation. In the Sogamoso River, since the construction and operation of the hydroelectric plant, the death of fish fauna has been recurrent due to hydrological alteration, due to abrupt variations in flow and dissolved oxygen. This has had a negative impact on the food and economic subsistence of riverside communities and artisanal fishers and fishers in the municipalities of San Vicente de Chucurí, Sabana de Torres, Puerto Wilches and Barrancabermeja. In addition, rural communities in the municipalities of Sabana de Torres and Rionegro were affected by the alteration of the water quality of the Lebrija River due to the discharge of wastewater from the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga in the climatic season of drought.

In the Carare River, municipality of Cimitarra, indiscriminate illegal fishing progressively displaces artisanal fishing. The communities of artisanal fishers and fishers are also facing the effects of the dumping of mining exploitation in the municipality of Muzo, department of Boyacá. In the El Llanito swamp of the District of Barrancabermeja there is a critical environmental situation because of an accelerated sedimentation process, also associated with the decrease in the flow of its tributaries fed by the Sogamoso River. In addition to the above, there is the occupation and deforestation of water rings, the dumping of domestic and industrial wastewater, and the worsening of meteorological phenomena such as droughts. Figure 1 identifies the location of cases of mass death of fish fauna between January and August 2024.

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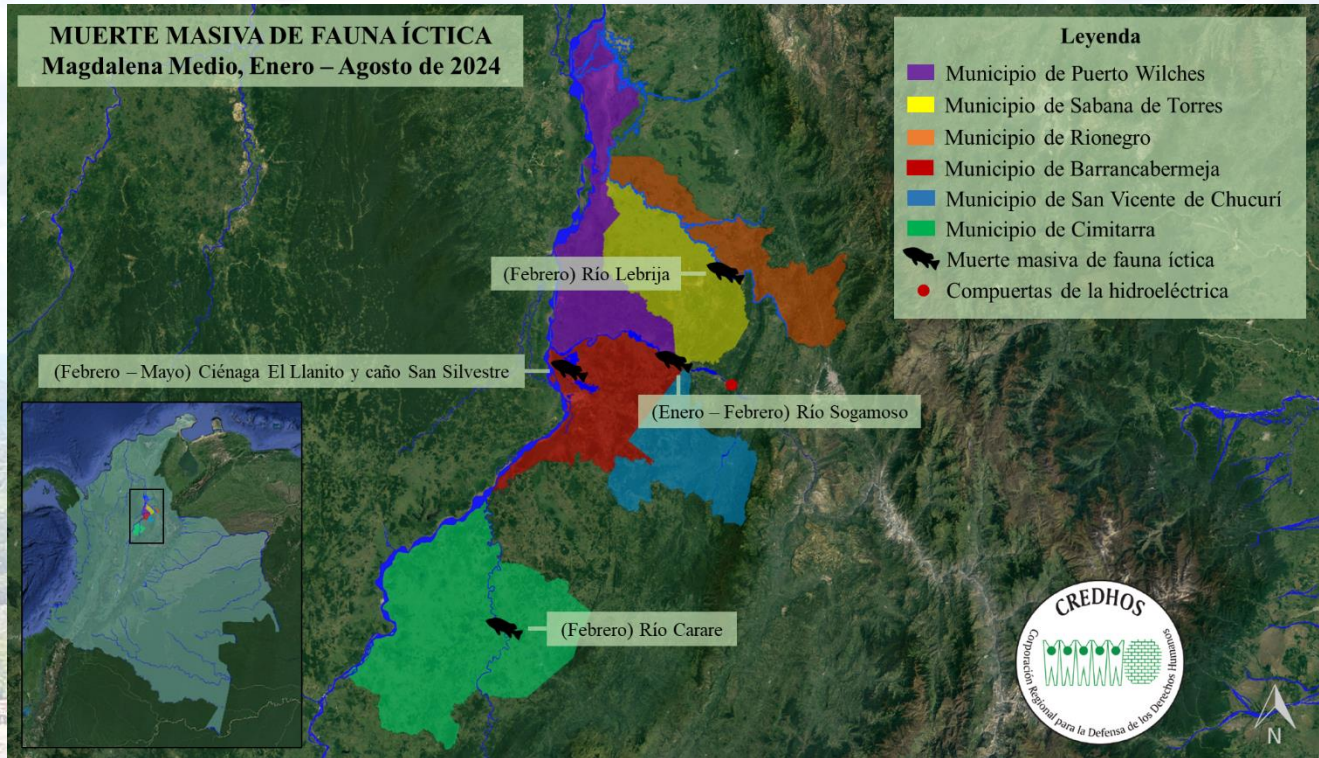
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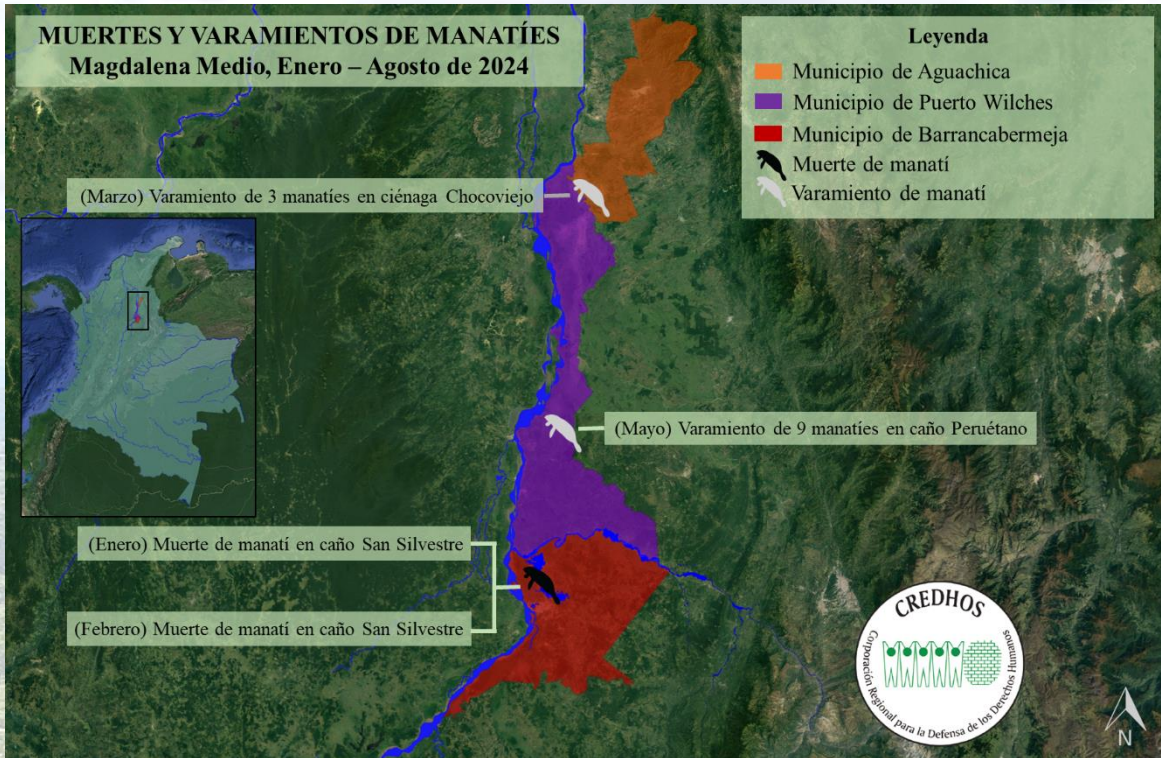
Figure 1. Massive death of fish fauna in the Middle Magdalena region between January and August 2024.



Source: Authors' elaboration based on Google Earth. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

Again, the death of two (2) manatees in January and February 2024 in the San Silvestre channel alerted the ecological state of this important aquatic ecosystem. In 2023, the death of two (2) manatees was also recorded in the San Silvestre channel. The death of bioindicator and endangered species – according to the Red Book of Mammals in Colombia – worries the communities that defend their habitat, where different patterns of environmental degradation converge. In addition, the stranding of twelve (12) manatees, three (3) in the Chocoviejo swamp in the municipality of Aguachica and nine (9) in the Peruétano channel in the municipality of Puerto Wilches, once again evidenced the consequences of the occupation and diversion of channels for the extension of buffalo cattle ranching and oil palm monocultures. Figure 2 identifies the location of manatee deaths and strandings between January and August 2024.

Figure 2. Manatee deaths and strandings in the Middle Magdalena region between January and August 2024.



Source: Authors' elaboration based on Google Earth. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

Finally, one (1) case of illegal hunting and attempted commercialization of eleven (11) hicotea turtles (*Trachemys callirostris*) was registered in the municipality of Puerto Wilches, also an endangered species due to its widespread trafficking in Colombia. A case that was not included in Table 1 but that also deserves special attention corresponds to the proliferation of parasites in the fish fauna of the San Silvestre channel, alerted to the environmental authorities by the communities of artisanal fishers and fishers.

1.3. Oil palm agribusiness. Although the negative environmental impacts of the oil palm agribusiness extend to the earlier section, in terms of the decrease of native species due to the environmental degradation of natural ecosystems, here emphasis is placed on the public complaint registered in March, in which no death of species was known. The complaint corresponds to the dumping of wastewater from the palm fruit oil extractor of the Palmeras de Puerto Wilches S.A. company on the La 13 stream, where the perceptible alteration in the color and smell of the water was alerted. In February 2023, rural communities in the municipality of Puerto Wilches reported the death of fish fauna in the La 13 creek due to spills from the extractor.



1.4. *Illegal forest use of water roundabouts.* The illegal logging of water rings is recurrent in the Middle Magdalena region. Although this bulletin presents two (2) cases manifested by the rural communities of the Middle Magdalena of Santander, we recognize that this problem systematically extends to different subregions and aquatic ecosystems. The first case corresponds to the deforestation and commercialization of tree species from the water ring of the Carare River in the municipality of Cimitarra, alerted in February.

The second case corresponds to the illicit use of the water ring of the La Guerra creek in the village of La Ye de La Caoba in the municipality of Sucre, alerted in May. The wood that is being exploited from the water ring of the La Guerra stream, is initially transported on tertiary roads, and then taken through the Horta River in rafts, to the village of La India in the municipality of Landázuri, where it is processed in a sawmill for commercialization.

2. EFFECTS AND IRREGULARITIES OF THE HYDROCARBONS INDUSTRY

Three (3) cases of environmental damage associated with the hydrocarbon industry were registered in the municipality of Barrancabermeja between January and August 2024 (See Table 2). The first case in March, in the village of Campo 5 in the township of El Centro, where the spill of crude oil and contaminated water from the La Cira 5803 well occurred. Seventeen (17) families – approximately 50 people – were evacuated by the companies Ecopetrol and SierraCol Energy, in view of the risk generated by the emergency that, in addition to the negative environmental impacts on the biotic and abiotic components, generated damage to homes and productive projects. It is estimated that the leak of crude oil and water reached a height of one hundred (100) meters.

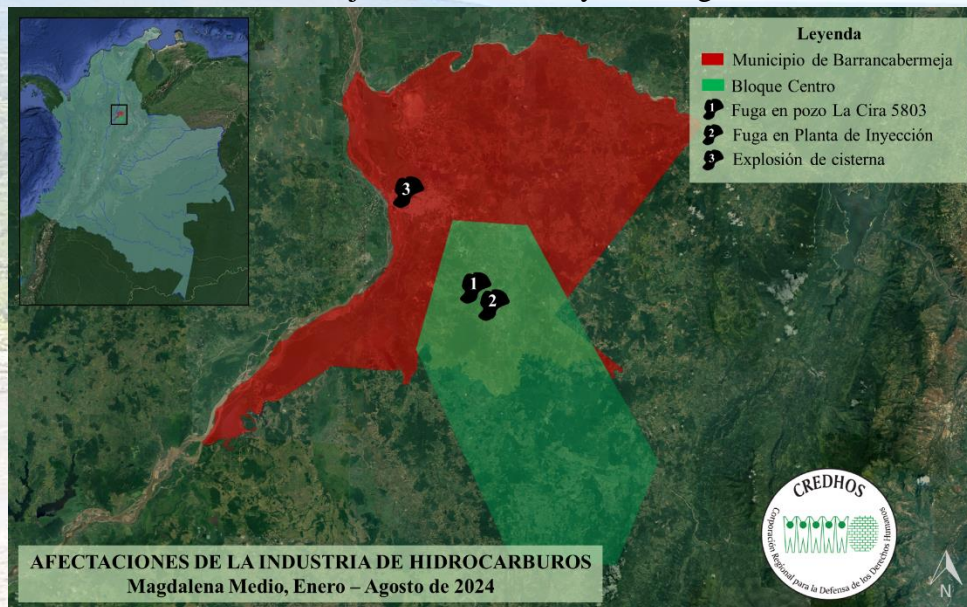
The second case was registered in April, also in the village of Campo 5, after an emergency at the Water Injection Plant 3 (PIA 3), which generated a leak of contaminated water. The third case occurred in July in the La Libertad neighborhood, when the tanker of a cargo vehicle that was in the Multinsa company exploded, causing the asphalt spill. Figure 3 identifies the location of the three (3) cases of environmental damage associated with the hydrocarbon industry in the municipality of Barrancabermeja.

Table 2. Environmental effects associated with the hydrocarbon industry in the municipality of Barrancabermeja between January and August 2024.

Leaks and spills						
Month	Municipality	Vereda/Barrio	Field/Block	Well/Plant	Substance	Responsible
March	Barrancabermeja	Vereda Campo 5	The Cira-Infantas	La Cira 5803 Well	Crude oil and contaminated water	Ecopetrol SierraCol
April				Water Injection Plant 3		
July		La Libertad Neighborhood	Not applicable	Not applicable	Asphalt	Multinsa

Source: Authors. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

Figure 3. Environmental effects associated with the hydrocarbon industry in the municipality of Barrancabermeja between January and August 2024.



Source: Authors' elaboration based on Google Earth. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

3. EXACERBATION OF METEOROLOGICAL PHENOMENA: MANIFESTATION OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS

This section is divided according to the two (2) climatic seasons: drought and rain. In the climatic season of drought, the deepening of two (2) effects is highlighted: the increase in forest fires and the rationing of water for human consumption and domestic use. In the rainy climatic season, the impact of floods in the Middle Magdalena region is emphasized.



3.1. Drought: forest fires and water rationing. Since January, forest fires have been recorded in different municipalities of the Middle Magdalena region, initially in the District of Barrancabermeja. Among the most affected municipalities are Santa Rosa del Sur – where one (1) person was also killed in January in the village of La Fortuna in the village of Los Canelos – Puerto Boyacá, Cimitarra and Puerto Wilches – where the incineration of more than thirty (30) hectares of oil palm monoculture was also recorded in the month of March.

In the village of El Llanito in the District of Barrancabermeja, the most critical forest fire in the region was shown between the end of February and mid-March. This was concentrated around the San Silvestre channel and affected more than 2,500 hectares, of which it is estimated that 30% corresponded to primary forest. In addition, the death of dozens of fauna species was recorded. Due to the magnitude of the emergency, the District Mayor's Office of Barrancabermeja declared a public calamity on March 5, 2024, through Decree 071. In addition, the environmental authority determined a state of alert for exposure to harmful levels of particulate matter – a comparable situation occurred in the municipality of Yondó also in March.

Another effect of the drought was the extension of water rationing for human consumption and domestic use. First, they were registered in the Santander municipalities of El Carmen de Chucurí, San Vicente de Chucurí, Landázuri, Puerto Parra and Sabana de Torres. In the municipality of San Vicente de Chucurí, the interruption at the end of January of the rural aqueducts of fifteen (15) villages was recorded. The municipalities and rural areas that faced critical rationing or interruption of the aqueduct service were Cimitarra – due to the drastic decrease in the flow of the Agua Fría and La Toroba streams – Sabana de Torres – decrease in the flow of the San Isidro stream – where a public calamity was also declared in March, and the village of Los Laureles in the township of El Centro. Barrancabermeja District.

In the case of the village of Los Laureles, rural communities proved by blocking the main access road to the township of El Centro, denouncing alleged irregularities by Ecopetrol in the management of the aqueduct. The conflict derived from the shortage of drinking water in that village dates back years. In a public statement, Ecopetrol said that the interruption in the aqueduct service was due to the decrease in the flow of the La Llana River and the increase in sediments that obstructed the intake. Likewise, in the District of Barrancabermeja, the abrupt decrease in the water level of the San Silvestre channel and the El Llanito swamp negatively affected the subsistence economies of the communities of artisanal fishers.

3.2. Rain: floods and forced displacements due to environmental factors. During May and June 2024, the floods generated by the overflow of different lotic ecosystems generated forced displacements due to environmental factors, especially in rural areas. At the beginning of May, in the municipality of Montecristo, South of Bolívar, a minor (1) of age from the village of Las Delicias disappeared after the



sudden rise of the Caribona River. The overflow of the La Colorada River in the village of El Centro, District of Barrancabermeja, caused the impact of productive projects, infrastructural damage to homes and loss of belongings. In rural areas of the municipalities of Sabana de Torres and Puerto Wilches, the effects were similar. In the case of the municipality of Puerto Wilches, again one of the most critical sectors was the overflow of the Magdalena River in the sector known as Sitio Nuevo. It is estimated that between 2022 and 2023 floods from the Sitio Nuevo sector affected approximately 4,500 people.

Other municipalities seriously affected were Cimitarra – overflow of the Carare River – San Vicente de Chucurí – overflow of the Opón, Oponcito and La Colorada rivers – and Yondó – more than a thousand families affected. In April 2024, the Constitutional Court proposed recognizing forced displacement for reasons related to the climate crisis, requesting the Congress of the Republic for a regulatory framework for the protection of victims. Unfortunately, today we see how forced displacement due to environmental factors is concentrated in subregions historically affected by the internal armed conflict.

4. OTHER EFFECTS

- ***Suspension of the collection and final disposal service of solid waste in Southern Bolívar.*** At the end of January, the Regional Sanitation Company of Southern Bolívar issued a communication suspending the collection and final disposal of solid waste in the municipalities of Santa Rosa del Sur, San Pablo, Simití and Cantagallo, due to threats and extortion by the Gaitanista Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AGC). This meant that the military presence around the Regional Sanitary Landfill of Southern Bolívar, found in the village of Sabanas de San Luis in the municipality of Simití, was prioritized in the face of a health emergency.
- ***Explosion in a coal mine in the municipality of Landázuri.*** On February 15, an explosion occurred at the El Arracacho coal mine in the village of La Soledad, municipality of Landázuri, due to the alleged accumulation of flammable gases, causing serious injuries to two (2) mining workers. In November 2023, six (6) workers had already died after the explosion of a coal mine in the village of Buenos Aires. These two (2) events that were recorded in a period of three (3) months show the risk faced by the working population of the coal mines of the Magdalena Medio Santanderean who, in many cases, conduct their work in irregular environments lacking safety measures.



5. SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS

In this section, the socio-environmental conflicts registered between January and August 2023 are exposed. A total of five (5) socio-environmental conflicts were recorded in the Middle Magdalena region, in which some type of collective action or community resistance mechanisms occurred in defense of their natural resources (See Table 3).

Table 3. Socio-environmental conflicts in the Middle Magdalena region between January and August 2023.

Municipality	Cause of the conflict	Actors		Intensity of the conflict*	Class actions	Human Rights Violations in the Context of Collective Actions	Responsible for human rights violations
		Unions – Companies – Institutionalality	Community				
01. Vereda Los Laureles, Corregimiento El Centro, District of Barrancabermeja	Drinking water shortages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecopetrol • District Administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural communities 	Moderate	Protests and blockades on the Barrancabermeja – El Centro urban area	They did not register	Not applicable
02. Corregimiento El Llanito, Barrancabermeja District	Environmental degradation of the San Silvestre channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecopetrol and strategic allies • District Administration • CAS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federation of Artisanal Fishermen, Environmentalists and Tourists of the Department of Santander 	High	Popular action in defense of collective rights and interests	Stigmatization and accusations	Economic associations of the hydrocarbons sector (contractors)
					Issuance of Urgent Action	Threats	Illegal armed actors
03. Corregimiento Bocas del Rosario, Puerto Wilches Municipality	Occupation and fencing of the Makencal wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle ranchers and landowners • Municipal Administration • CAS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Artisanal Fishermen and Peasant Producers of Bocas del Rosario – Los Collongos 	High	Complaints to the environmental authority and municipal entities	Stigmatization and accusations	Institutions of the Municipal Administration
					Occupation of appropriated wetland areas by ranchers and landowners	Threat	Ranchers and landowners
						Collective forced displacement	Paramilitaries
04. Municipality of Cantagallo	Degradation of swamp complexes and impact on subsistence food and economic fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Administration • CSB • Cattle ranchers and landowners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afro-Colombian Federation of Artisanal Fishermen of the Municipality of Cantagallo 	Moderate	Popular Action in Defense of Collective Rights	Stigmatization	Municipal Administration
05. Veredas La Cristalina, Aguas Claras, Cristales La Ye, Diamante and Payoa Cinco, Municipality of Sabana de Torres	Environmental degradation and land occupation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PetroSantander • Police Inspection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural communities 	High	Local organization	Stigmatization and accusations through lawsuits	PetroSantander and Police Inspection
						Violation of the right to privacy	PetroSantander
						Threat	Illegal armed actors

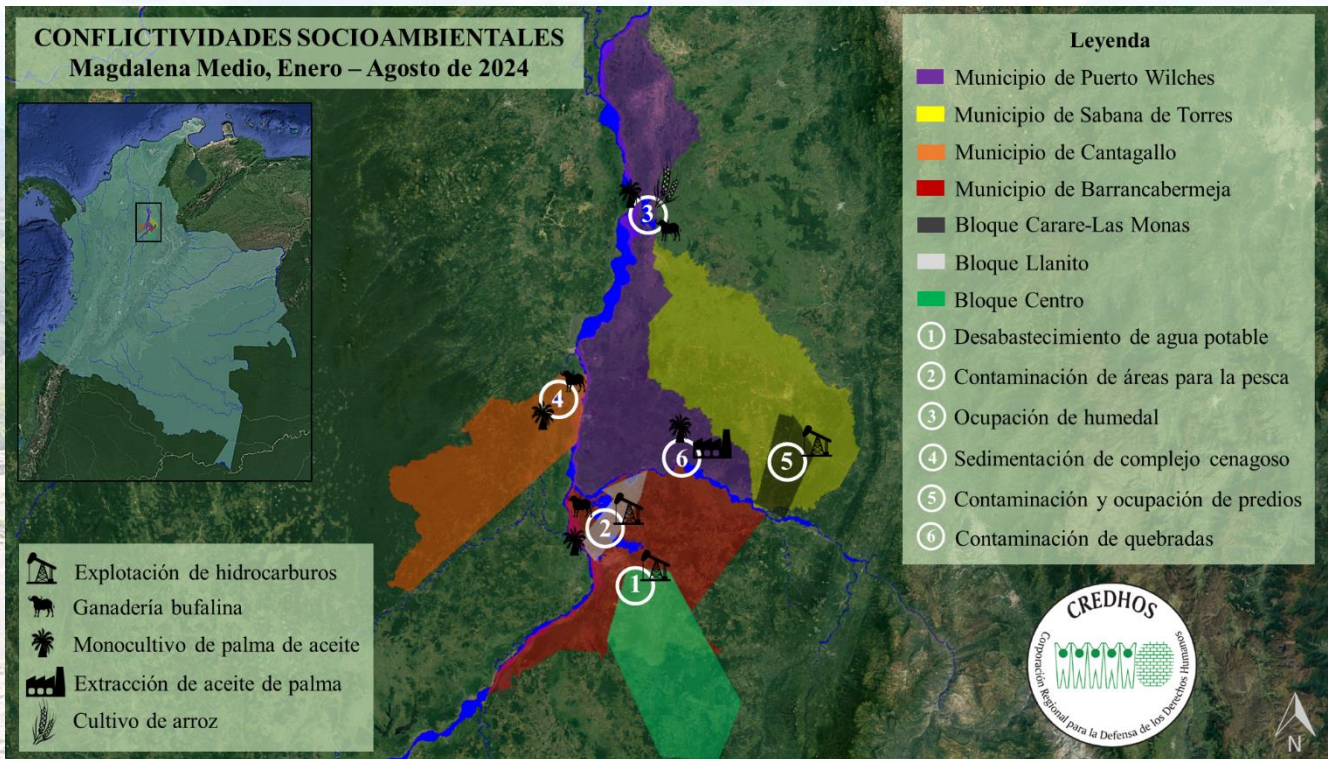


06. Puerto Cayumba, Puerto Wilches Municipality	Contamination of the Cayumba and Cayumbita streams	• Palm companies	• Rural communities	Casualty	Local organization	They did not register	Not applicable
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Source: Authors. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

* Latent conflicts are those where there is not yet a visible mobilization; low-intensity conflicts are those where there is only a degree of local organization; medium-intensity conflicts include visible mobilizations through collective actions and peaceful protests; and high-intensity conflicts include some form of violence.

Figure 4. Socio-environmental conflicts in the Middle Magdalena region between January and August 2024.



Source: Authors. Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, 2024.

6. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

According to the systematization of the environmental effects in the Middle Magdalena, by the Observatory of Human Rights, Peace and the Environment, between the months of January and August 2024, the systematicity of patterns of environmental degradation associated with the dominant economic activities in the region is evident: mining and exploitation of hydrocarbons, agribusiness, extensive livestock and energy generation. Negative environmental impacts continue to degrade important natural ecosystems and undermine their ecosystem services. Rural, peasant, Afro-Colombian and artisanal fishing communities are the most affected.

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The region's aquatic ecosystems are being degraded by the deforestation of water rings, the occupation of floodplains, the dumping of wastewater and industrial water, and the diversion of riverbeds. We see how the confluence of different effects on rivers, streams, streams and swampy complexes a negative impact on economic and food subsistence had, especially of communities of fishers and artisanal fishers, as the massive death of fish fauna was recorded on several occasions. In addition, the progressive increase in illegal mining around aquatic ecosystems poses a greater risk to the conservation of natural habitats and water supply.

The death of two (2) manatees, an endangered species, alerted to the ecological state of the San Silvestre channel, where one of the most critical forest fires in the region was also concentrated. Likewise, the stranding of twelve (12) manatees proved once again the serious consequences of the accelerated sedimentation processes driven by agribusiness and buffalo cattle ranching. On the other hand, the hydrocarbon industry was once again affected, specifically in the District of Barrancabermeja, where in one of the cases several families were displaced due to the risk posed by the emergency caused by the leakage of crude oil from a producing well. These are facts that increase the ecological debt of the exploitation of hydrocarbons with the communities of the Middle Magdalena region.

The worsening of meteorological phenomena as a manifestation of the climate crisis manifests the vulnerability of the region. The spread of forest fires, the shortage of water for human consumption and domestic use, the loss of subsistence economies, and forced displacements due to climatological factors, meant an impact on the guarantees for the permanence in the territory of the communities of the region. In some subregions where serious consequences of the worsening of the climatic seasons of drought and rainfall were recorded, dynamics of the internal armed conflict are concentrated that increase the risk of mass displacement of communities.

Finally, about the monitoring of socio-environmental conflicts, the communities of the Middle Magdalena region continue to defend their natural resources through different mechanisms of community resistance, against the interests of appropriation and exploitation of large companies and economic associations. During these conflicts, the violations of the human rights of those who defend their territories do not cease.

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