



SANTUARIO FUTALEUFÚ

A unique conservation project
in the Futaleufú River Valley
a space for everyone to share in the beauty
of the magnificent Futaleufú River

FUTALEUFÚ, CHILE

Project Contact: Liz McGregor
Email: santuariofuta@gmail.com
Phone: 1-917-488-5976 cellular EEUU




What is the SantuaRio?

SantuaRio Futaleufú (the Futaleufú River Sanctuary) is a much needed idea and a once in a lifetime opportunity. The Futaleufú River Valley in Northern Patagonia is at a delicate place in its development. When development of pristine, rural areas occurs too quickly and without supervision, natural resources and precious landscapes can be negatively impacted and altogether lost in the haste and excitement. The time to protect the uniquely beautiful landscape along the Futaleufú River is now. An important and critical contribution to the Valley can be made today; one that will have a lasting impact on the Futaleufú of tomorrow.

The concept is to create a protected sanctuary Park on over 4 hectares (approximately 10 acres) of riverfront land located on the most frequently visited section of the Futaleufú river, the section known as “Bridge to Bridge”. **SantuaRio Futaleufú** will welcome locals and visitors alike and invite everyone to experience the raw natural beauty of the Futaleufú.

- **SantuaRio Futaleufú** will have a similar look and feel to the trail system at Parque Pumalín – simple, beautiful, clean – and seeks to follow the same model of protecting and respecting the natural world.
- The layout is simple.
 - There will be a well-defined parking area along the main road (Ruta 231) with an information kiosk with a map and safety guidelines (Park rules).
 - The main trail will extend from the parking area near the road down towards the river and create a circular route through old forest, continuing along the river and then returning back to the trailhead. Along this main trail, there will be select viewing platforms for up-close, but safe and discreet views of the river as well as a few well-placed benches for resting and picnics. Informational placards will be placed along the trail intermittently with descriptions of distinctive natural features, flora and fauna and native old growth trees, for example.
 - There will be a shorter trail off the main loop that will be wheelchair accessible and have a viewing platform and benches.
 - Bathrooms (much like the well maintained bathrooms at Puma Verde Market in El Amarillo) will be available to the public near the parking area. There will be garbage receptacles available at the trailhead and in the parking area.
 - A Park Ranger (a reliable local family) will act as guardians of the Park and take care of regular maintenance.
 - The Park will be offered as a day time destination.
 - Potential future plans for a small campground (2-3 sites) exist.

Key:

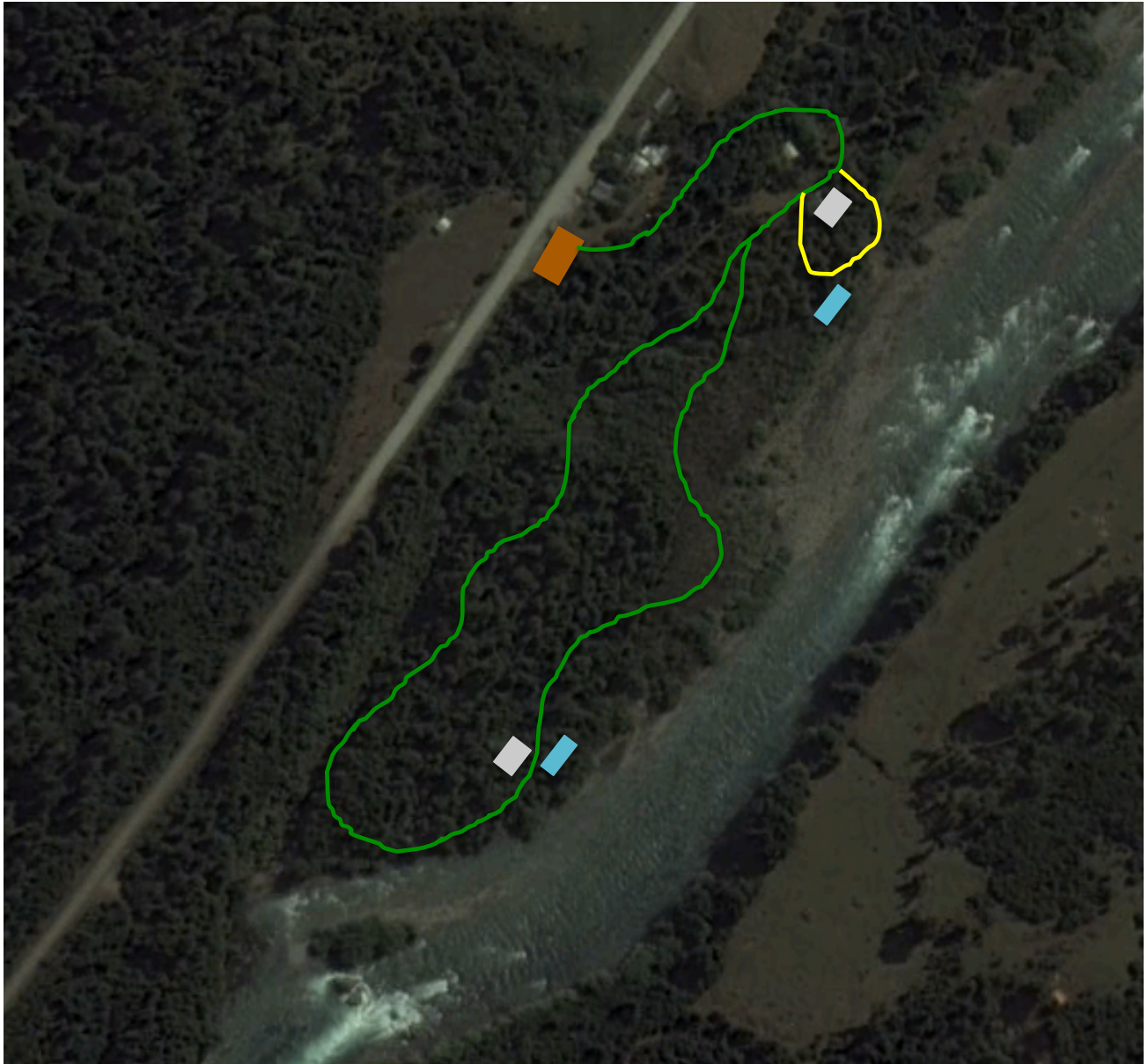
-  Parking area
-  Picnic tables
-  Viewing platform



Main trail



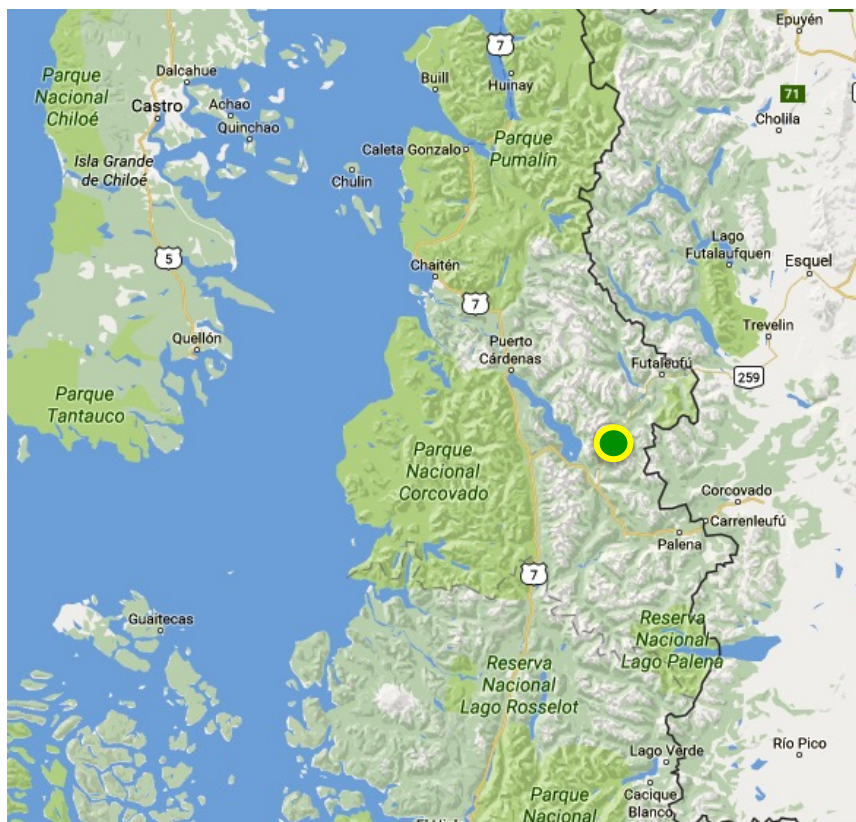
Accessible trail



 = location of SantuaRio Futaleufú



*Satellite view of the Futaleufú River Valley and surrounding area, Google Maps



*Map view of the Palena Region and surrounding area, Google Maps

What needs to happen?

- The land has recently been purchased. We are grateful to have received a loan that enabled us to purchase the land outright. We will reimburse the loan by including the purchase price in our fundraising goals.
- An online crowd-source fundraising campaign will be launched in August 2018. This approach will allow for swift distribution and prompt awareness of the campaign. It also allows for individual donors and organizations, small and large, to contribute online. If everyone who has ever kayaked or rafted the Futaleufú River would contribute \$10, we could make this happen. And we can make this happen... together.
 - The individuals or groups who will help to make this happen care about river and land conservation. Specifically, those people or organizations that are concerned about the future development in the Futaleufú River Valley. The money raised will be used as described in the table below.

Amount	Description of Purpose	Funded by date
\$110,000	Land Purchase and associated fees (loan)	December 2017
\$20,000	Associated Legal and Administrative Fees	October 2018
\$40,000	Trail development & construction of park features	December 2018
\$25,000	Park Ranger annual salary (full time high season, part time maintenance low season)	March 2019

- The fundraising goal of \$195,000 will cover the cost of the land purchase, the development of the trails and the construction of park features, associated legal and administration fees and one year of an annual salary for the Park Ranger including maintenance. The Park is planned to be ready for use by December 2019.
- The River is for everyone and it is hoped that the local community along with anyone who has ever traveled to Futaleufú, or dreams to, will contribute to the effort.
- **SantuaRio Futaleufú** will serve as a successful model for future conservation projects in the valley.

Let's DO it!

- An existing conservation/environmental non-profit organization is being sought, to act as an fiscal sponsor and umbrella organization for the project to receive funds, guide and oversee the project. The consideration creating a non-profit organization specifically dedicated to the **SantuaRio Futaleufú** is possible if that direction is more viable.
of
 - We seek an organization that has had success in creating similar projects and has working knowledge of what is needed in every aspect including legal.
 - The fundraising effort has begun, but any funds raised will not be distributed until the non-profit is in place and funding can be directed appropriately.
 - The vision for the style and design of **SantuaRio Futaleufú** is inspired by the Tompkins Conservation model of Parque Pumalín and Parque Patagonia. In this project, we share Conservacion Patagonica's commitment to the establishment of newly protected areas, to promoting healthy communities and creating beneficial economic opportunities for the local community of Futaleufú and to inspire a deep care and respect for the natural world.
- At this time, the primary project coordinator is Liz McGregor. Liz first arrived to Chilean Patagonia on a NOLS semester in January 1991 and spent over 6 years documenting the construction of the Carretera Austral and the town of Villa O' Higgins, all with an eye on the impact of future development. Since then, she has spent nearly 20 years photographing, filming, working and living seasonally in the Futaleufú River Valley. She has had the privilege of getting to know many of the local families over the years and has been given the rare opportunity of purchasing this piece of land. Once the land is purchased, a legal declaration of the land as having conservation status will be made. The plan is to designate the land as an official Nature Sanctuary by the Chilean government and, as is the Parque Pumalin model, to eventually become a public park maintained by the Chilean government.
- The local people of Futaleufú, like most Chileans, are very proud of their land, culture, heritage and community. The international whitewater outfitters, guides and residents that come to the river valley every summer share this love of the Futaleufú with the locals. What a wonderful way to bring these communities even closer together... by creating something lasting and meaningful.
- A Park of this kind would allow the greater Futaleufú community to promote this deep sense of value and enduring love for their river, land and culture and, in turn, protect and preserve the pristine health and beauty of the Futaleufú.
- The local neighbors have all demonstrated interest and a high level of support. They are enthusiastic about the project, as are the many international outfitters and individuals in the valley.

If you are interested or know someone who could help with the realization of **SantuaRio Futaleufú**, please contact...

Project Coordinator: Liz McGregor

Email: santuariofuta@gmail.com

Phone: 917-488-5976 (US cell phone)

Skype: lizmcgregor

*This proposal comes in a spanish language version as well.

