

Relevant Information

Medellín, February 14th, 2019

After normalization of the flow rates of the Cauca river, EPM will continue to work in the medium and long term for compensation of the environmental impairments

- Economic activities started to resume on the Cauca river
- The river's flow rates correspond to those typically present in dry seasons of each year, as it's happening at the moment
- EPM is working in conjunction with national, departmental and municipal authorities to determine the compensation measures of the impact generated after the second intake gate closure

With flow rates that are considered normal for this time of year on the Cauca river, between the jurisdiction of Puerto Valdivia and the municipality of Nechí, EPM began determining and implementing social and environmental compensation and recovery activities in relation to the Ituango hydroelectric project, after completing the second catchment gate and advancing the mitigation actions of the impact for the past week

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The spillway is continuing to operate and increasing its flow, which this morning is recording at 542.1 cubic meters per second (m^3/s) and with a 404.0-meter reservoir level above sea level, while the indicators record stability on all the elements of the Ituango hydroelectric project.

In relation to the flow of the river as it passes through each of the municipalities, the situation is already normal for the dry season and what follows is now to continue accompanying the communities through the social and environmental recovery plan associated with the project.

Recovery Plan

Initially, with the accompaniment of the Department of Social Prosperity, a social evaluation of the communities of Bajo Cauca will be conducted. Meanwhile, the Humboldt Institute and the National Acumen Authority (Autoridad Nacional de Acuicultura y Pesca, AUNAP) will accompany the environmental recovery process and ecological restoration.

This work will provide continuity for monitoring activities from last year to understand the evolution of economic activities in the area, as well as the assessment of the socio-political environment and Human Rights, and to provide attention to requests from local traders.

In addition, expert tables will be installed to validate viable compensation alternatives. Likewise, local fish stations will be strengthened to develop the reproduction technology packages of the low basin of the Cauca river.

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AUNAP advised EPM to safeguard the fishing genetic resource, after the analysis of the populations. This entity will endorse a possible fish re-population for the Cauca river basin.

Current flow rates in cubic meters per second (m³/s)

Project Discharge Flow	Puerto Valdivia Station	Apaví Station	Margento Station
	Puerto Valdivia	Tarazá - Cáceres	Caucasia - Nechí
569.3	657.7	726.1	537.4

There were no variations in Nechí river flow

Thanks to the input of EPM's Porce II and Porce II packages in the confluence of the Nechí and Cauca rivers between Caucasia and Nechí municipalities, the flow was always above its historical levels for a summer period throughout the week. This contributed to the maintenance of environmental balance and the protection of the area's swamps.

Over the past seven days, with close to a thousand people distributed into groups, tasks were advanced related to the rescue of fish in the river, close and direct information to

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the community and local authorities, supply of drinking water in populations that have encountered problems in their aqueduct system, protection of the La Mojana swamps and monitoring of economic activities, among other work fronts.

Social and Environmental Care

1. Rescue of Fish

478,022 fish rescued and immediately released.

Loss of **85,248** fish, weighing 878 kilograms in total (for every 5 fish rescued 4 were returned to their natural habitat). Most of them were small in size and not migratory.

In coordination with Emvarias, the dead fish were prepared with the proper techniques for this type of waste in the Humagá reservoir and the La Pradera landfill.

2. Drinking Water Supply

2,288 cubic meters of drinking water has been distributed to the people in the municipalities located downriver from the project.

Population served: **74,000 people.**

Service has been provided to **100%** of the requests.

A motor pump was installed at the mouth of the Caucasia aqueduct on the Man river.

Support in the movement of the barge in the floating mouth of the Nechí aqueduct.

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There has been no shortage in **rural areas**. The jurisdictions and rural townships of the Man river, Puerto Belgium, Puerto Santo, Jardin, Isla la Amargura, Piamonte, Caño Pescado, Correntoso, Barrio Chino and Villa Socorro have been permanently serviced.

3. Protection of swamps

There was no impact in any swamp in the area.

Inspection and permanent monitoring of potential disconnections, levels and drainages of swamps **(16 total)**.

Temporary intervention in **10 swamps** with handcrafted works in order to avoid draining the swamps, which were required at: Colombia, Viejo river, La Habana, Palanca, La Ilusión, Palomar, La Estrella, El Aguacate, La Coquera and Margento. By reestablishing the flow of the river, the dismantling of these structures will result in ecosystems recovering their natural and connectivity with the Cauca.

Cleaning and maintenance of the main swamps and basins.

4. Management of Solid Waste

878 kilos of biomass processed for its appropriate disposal by Emvarias.

Inspection of the river banks has started to collect waste and improve the environmental quality of the Cauca river.

Collection of **48.22 tons** of waste (vegetable material) on the Cauca river and 220 kilograms of ordinary waste.

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34-point water quality measurements were performed permanently (16 on the Cauca river and 18 in the swamps).

5. Affectation on Financial Activities

Normalization of fluvial transport.

The main extraction points of building materials work normally.

Attention to **complaints and claims** in a constant and timely manner with regard to Human Rights.

Payment of lost profits and damages to those who demonstrate their affectation.

Constant accompaniment and permanent socialization with the communities.

Permanent monitoring with the National University on evolving economic activities.

Formulation and implementation of productive projects based on the Bajo Cauca vocation, with accompaniment of the municipalities.

Eggplant, chili and banana cultivation is seen near the Cauca river. With the recovery of the river level, the farmers can now pump water for irrigation.

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