# **Amazon/Deforestation: February has worst rate of alerts for the month since 2015**

CE Noticias Financieras English

February 24, 2023 Friday

Copyright 2023 Content Engine, LLC.

All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2023 CE Noticias Financieras All Rights Reserved

**Length:** 498 words

**Body**

Data from the National Institute for Space Research (Inpe), an agency of the Ministry of Science and Technology, indicate that ***deforestation*** alerts in the Legal ***Amazon*** identified between February 1 and 17 already represent the worst rate for the month since the beginning of the historical series, which began in 2015.

According to information from the Real-Time ***Deforestation*** Detection System (Deter), the volume of ***deforestation*** reached 209 km2 in the period, compared to 199 km2 verified in the month of February last year. The volume is almost double the area deforested in February 2015, for example, when the system captured 115 km2 of devastation.

The Legal ***Amazon*** is an area that corresponds to 59% of the Brazilian territory and encompasses the entire eight states - Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Mato Grosso, Pará, Rondônia, Roraima and Tocantins - and part of the state of Maranhão.

In January, the number of ***deforestation*** had registered a sharp drop compared to the same month in previous years. There were 167 km2 in January 2023, compared to 430 km2 in January 2022. The specialists point out that factors such as strong rainfall can have an influence on the data, besides the offensives against crimes that devastate the forests. Specialists pointed out that at least four months are needed to evaluate the effect of the actions announced by the government on the forest devastation rates.

The Deter system alerts serve as a compass for the ***deforestation*** issue, pointing out the most devastated areas and guiding the actions of agencies such as Ibama and the Chico Mendes Biodiversity Institute (ICMBio).

Last week, in an interview to Estadão, the new president of Ibama, Rodrigo Agostinho, stated that the government's goal is to halve the ***deforestation*** rate verified in the previous year.

Agostinho said that Ibama is back in action, after years of paralysis during the Jair Bolsonaro (PL) administration, but it is necessary to recover the structure of the agency, which has been emptied. Ibama once had 2,000 inspectors in the field. Currently, it has less than 350 agents to supervise the entire country.

The environmental protection and inspection work, said the new president of Ibama, must count not only on resources from the Union, but also from the ***Amazon*** Fund and other agencies that have come knocking on the door of the agency, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), one of the largest funders of environmental projects in the world.

Ibama informed on Thursday evening that the federal base installed two weeks ago in the Palimiú village, on Yanomami land in Roraima, was the target of an attack. Armed criminals broke through the blockade set up on the Uraricoera River and shot at Ibama agents who had boarded one of the boats. The inspectors fired back. In the shootout, one of the miners was wounded. He was arrested by the Federal Police (PF), for attacking public servants and was hospitalized until Thursday night.

**Load-Date:** February 25, 2023

**End of Document**