# **Deforestation in the Amazon drops 61% in the first month of the Lula administration**

CE Noticias Financieras English

February 10, 2023 Friday

Copyright 2023 Content Engine, LLC.

All Rights Reserved

Copyright 2023 CE Noticias Financieras All Rights Reserved

**Length:** 413 words

**Body**

***Deforestation*** in the ***Amazon*** fell 61% in January, the first month of President Lula's administration, compared to the same period in 2022, according to an official report published Friday.

Satellite monitoring detected 167 km2 of destroyed forest in January in the Brazilian area of the world's largest rainforest, according to preliminary data from the National Institute for Space Research's (INPE) DETER satellite surveillance system.

Equivalent to more than 22,000 soccer fields, the deforested area showed a drop from the 430 km2 in January 2022, during the administration of former president Jair Bolsonaro, INPE indicates.

During Bolsonaro's administration, an ally of the climate change denier agribusiness, the average annual ***deforestation*** in the ***Amazon*** increased 75.5% compared to the previous decade.

The decrease in the devastated area may be a reflection of a "resumption of the environmental defense agenda," said environmental NGO WWF-Brazil in a statement, although it is still "too early to talk about a reversal of trend."

"It is necessary to restructure with maximum urgency the Action Plans for Prevention and Control of ***Deforestation*** and Burning. It is important that Brazil resumes its environmental leadership role in the international scenario", highlighted Frederico Machado, conservation specialist at WWF-Brazil, who called the policies of the last years "anti-environmental" and "criminal".

Experts assure that ***deforestation*** is directly related to the advance of large farms and land-grabbers, who destroy the forest for cattle and plantation farming.

President Lula, 77, has promised to resume environmental protection programs, strive to meet the goal of zero illegal ***deforestation*** by 2030, and ensure that Brazil ceases to be a "pariah" in climate issues.

Lula appointed Marina Silva to the Environment Ministry, a renowned environmentalist who was in charge of the portfolio between 2003 and 2008, when Brazil managed to significantly reduce ***deforestation***.

The minister acknowledged to AFP that the environmental reality in Brazil is "much worse" than expected.

The country is in contact with some Western powers, such as France, to help with resources and add to the efforts of the ***Amazon*** Fund, whose main donors are Norway and Germany.

In addition to the fight against ***deforestation***, Lula's government is facing illegal mining with an operation to expel invaders from Yanomami land, the largest indigenous reserve in the country, on the border with Venezuela.

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2023

**End of Document**