



Reappearance of South American Tapir

[Source: NYP](#)

The **South American tapir** (Lowland tapirs) has been spotted in the **Cunhambebe State Park** (Brazil's Costa Verde region) for the first time in **100 years**.

- The last confirmed sighting was in **1914** in the **Serra dos Orgaos National Park** in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**.
- **About Tapir:** It is the **largest land mammal in South America** and has **short legs** and a **rounded body**, with a kind of **flexible trunk**.
 - They are **herbivores**.
 - Known as a "**forest gardener**," the tapir aids **seed dispersal**, and creates **natural trails** that allow **sunlight to reach the forest floor**, enhancing biodiversity.
 - **IUCN Status:** Endangered.
 - South American tapirs are **one of four species** of tapir alongside the **Baird's tapir, mountain tapir and Malayan tapir** found in the forests of **Central and South America** as well as **Southeast Asia**.

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Lowland Tapir

Tapirus terrestris



Baird's Tapir

Tapirus bairdii



Mountain Tapir

Tapirus pinchaque



Malayan Tapir

Tapirus indicus

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