



### Conclusion

The Bellavista Reserve is typical of this area's landscape. Approximately 40% of the reserve is primary montane cloudforest, 40% has been selectively logged for timber, and the remaining 20% is pasture with some regenerating forest. Because of the area's proximity to Quito (30 km distant) the forest is being rapidly clear-cut to create cattle pasture. As a result, the landscape is composed of pristine cloudforest, selectively cut forest, forest edge, managed forest, road, cow pasture, and cow pasture with living fence posts. At present, an increasing percentage is open with few dense stands of bromeliad-covered trees. Most trees appear as emergents, surrounded by a dense ground-cover consisting of bamboo, vines, shrubs or grasses. Furthermore, landslides are common—the area is dotted with landslide scars, providing ample suitable habitat for *U. segmentata*. Although the nearest areas previously considered suitable for *U. segmentata* are volcanoes east of Quito—c.60 km distant—the area immediately surrounding Bellavista is now a mosaic of forest patches with many open areas. It is possible that recent deforestation and increased landslide activity may have made this area more suitable for *U. segmentata*, or increased ornithological activity has made it more

likely that it would be found. This latter possibility is feasible as, prior to Bellavista lodge opening in 1993, no tourist facilities existed on the Mindo–Nono road between Quito and Mindo.

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