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Title: Chame (Dormitator latifrons) Aquaculture in Cojimies Estuary: An Option for Livelihood Diversification in Rural Ecuador

Author(s): Rafael Elao¹, Maria Haws², and Maria D. Herrera³

1. EcoCostas, Guayaquil, Ecuador
2. University of Hawai‘i, Hilo, US
3. Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island, RI, US

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Abstract: Poverty and population growth threaten the biodiversity of the Cojimies Estuary and its watershed. Within the estuary lies the Mache-Chindul Reserve, where people live almost exclusively on fishing, shellfishing, subsistence agriculture shrimp farming, wood cutting and breeding livestock. People here have few alternatives for income generation, lack basic services and infrastructure, and have low levels of education. Combined, these factors lead people to worry more about meeting basic needs than about how their livelihoods impact biodiversity. Meanwhile, open access fishing, mangrove-cutting and illegal logging of tropical forests have led to widespread biodiversity loss. [Note: this excerpt is first paragraph of publication.]

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