

Senda Darwin Biological Station: Long-term ecological research at the interface between science and society

Estación Biológica Senda Darwin: Investigación ecológica de largo plazo en la interfase ciencia-sociedad

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Senda Darwin Biological Station (SDBS) is a field research center immersed in the rural landscape of northern Chiloé island (42° S), where remnant patches of the original evergreen forests coexist with open pastures, secondary successional shrublands, Sphagnum bogs, Eucalyptus plantations and other anthropogenic cover types, constituting an agricultural frontier similar to other regions in Chile and Latin America. Since 1994, we have conducted long-term research on selected species of plants (e.g., *Pilgerodendron uviferum*) and animals (e.g., *Aphrastura spinicauda*, *Dromiciops gliroides*) that are considered threatened, poorly known or important for their ecological functions in local ecosystems, and on ecosystems of regional and global relevance (e.g., Sphagnum bogs, North Patagonian and Valdivian rain forests). Research has assessed the responses of species and

ecosystems to anthropogenic land-use change, climate change, and the impact of management.

During this period, more than 100 s