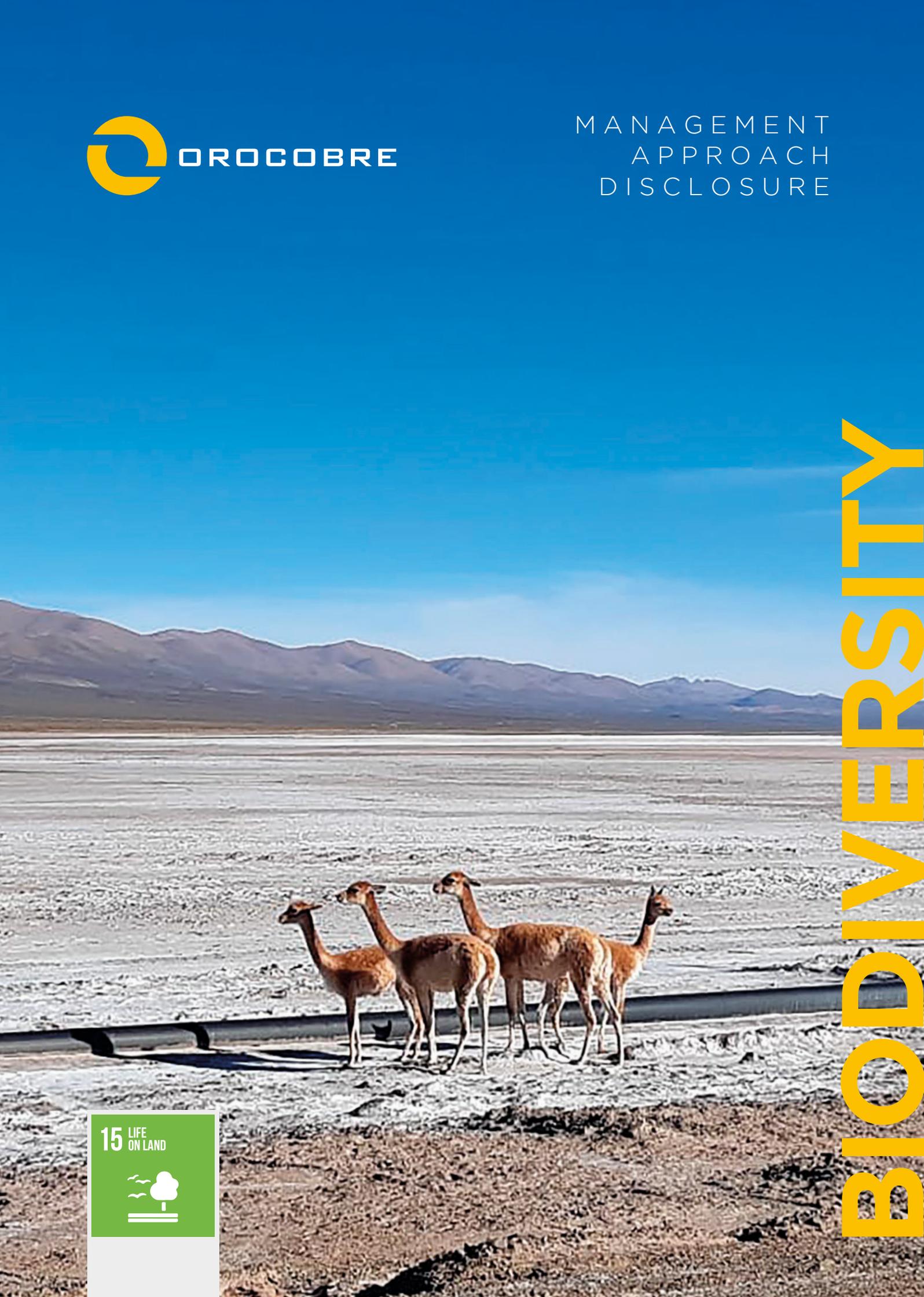




MANAGEMENT  
APPROACH  
DISCLOSURE



BIODIVERSITY



# Biodiversity\*

<b>Related GRI Contents</b>	103-1; 103-2; 103-3
<b>Related Sustainable Development Goals</b>	<a href="#">SDG 15</a>
<b>Related Performance Data</b>	<a href="#">Environment</a>
<b>Related Management Approach Disclosures</b>	<a href="#">Community Engagement</a>
<b>Related Case Studies</b>	<a href="#">Sustainable vicuña shearing</a>
<b>Other related documents</b>	<a href="#">Environmental Policy</a> ; <a href="#">Sustainable Development Policy</a>
<b>Future Commitments</b>	+ Incorporate our environmental data for Olaroz Lithium Facility and Borax Argentina in Intelex with monthly entry of information provided by respective data-owners, to increase information consistency and quality.
<b>Related Material topics</b>	Environmental Management

## Strategic significance

As part of the Orocobre's broader commitment to the environment and natural resource management, we aim to monitor, maintain, enhance, and conserve local biodiversity and ecosystems in the regions where we operate.

While the Olaroz Lithium Facility is not located within a national or international protected area, the 18,000-ha site is located within the Olaroz-Cauchari Reserve, in the province of Jujuy. This reserve was created in 1981 with the primary goal of protecting the Vicugna vicugna (vicuña) species. Vicuñas are native to the Puna and high Andes regions of South America, and are found in Peru, north-western Argentina, Bolivia, and northern Chile. The fibre from Vicuñas is very high quality being very fine and much sought after, and the historic hunting of vicuñas and export of these fibres resulted in the species becoming endangered. As a result, international agreements such as the Convention for the conservation and management of the vicuña (Vicuña Convention) were implemented to promote the sustainable management of the species, for the benefit of local communities. Vicuña populations have recovered significantly and the species is now classified as a species of 'least concern' on the IUCN's Red List of Endangered Species. Article II of Provincial Law 3820 established the reserve as a multi-use area in which agricultural, mining, and scientific-technical research programs could be carried out.

Borax Argentina sites at Sijes and Tincalayu, are located in the Andes Reserve in Province of Salta (Executive Order No. 303/80). The Sijes site is also located within a Vicuña Reserve (Provincial Law No. 6709/93).

Biodiversity management remains a constant focus at our operations and we have not identified any significant impacts.

## Impact boundary

This management approach disclosure refers to the activities of both Sales de Jujuy (Olaroz Lithium Facility) and Borax Argentina.

Orocobre considers the biodiversity impacts not only on its zone of operations, but also in the surrounding areas. For example, we conduct a full evaluation and control any possible impact that brine extraction might have in other parts of the Salar, and also consider the risk of animal vehicle collisions associated with travel to and from our sites.

We also investigate the ways in which local communities might be able to support, promote and leverage the region's biodiversity to generate revenue and contribute to long-term sustainable livelihoods.

(\*) This Document is part of Orocobre's Sustainability Report and should be understood as part of itself. Understanding Sales de Jujuy as Sales de Jujuy S.A., SDJ or Olaroz Lithium Facility and Borax Argentina as Borax Argentina S.A or BRX.

## Management approach

Orocobre is committed to preserving local biodiversity and to ensuring controls are in place to monitor potential impacts. In accordance with our commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we also seek to promote [SDG 15: Life on Land](#) through the preservation and promotion of biodiversity in the Company's operating regions.

Orocobre's commitment to biodiversity and land use is outlined in the following corporate policies:

- [Environmental Policy](#)
- [Sustainable Development Policy](#)



### Management Systems

The main biodiversity impacts of our operations relate to the risk posed by traffic on fauna and the dangers that this could represent. Both Olaroz Lithium Facility and Borax Argentina have various precautionary measures in place to manage this, including restrictions on vehicle movements, employee training on wildlife preservation and warning signs on maximum speeds in sectors with animal presence, such as near rivers.

Other practices the Company adopts to ensure minimal land-use impact include restrictions on surface disruption, strict requirements for new road construction and preventive maintenance of roads to limit erosive processes. We avoid construction of new roads around existing paths, to avoid any unnecessary removal of native flora. At Olaroz Lithium Facility the evaporation pond system was designed to conform to the local topography to minimise land-use impact and limit future impact following end of life remediation.

### Monitoring and Reporting

The biodiversity baseline is used to conduct an in-depth Environmental Impact Assessment on operations. At Olaroz Lithium Facility, the biodiversity baseline was developed in 2010. Every three months, we conduct participatory environmental monitoring to identify and manage any potential impacts and then every two years, we update the Environmental Impact Report. In Borax Argentina, the most recent EIA was conducted between 2016 and 2017 (Winter-Summer), for the two sites in the Puna: Tincalayu and Sijes. The EIA for Campo Quijano was conducted in 2018. Our ongoing EIA monitoring has not identified impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem characteristics or ecological processes.

### Responsibility

At an operational level, responsibility for biodiversity management sits with the Environmental Superintendent and the Health, Safety and Environment Manager.

Orocobre's Shared Value team also supports engagement and responsibility on biodiversity, undertaking stakeholder engagement projects in local communities, as well as supporting the Company's participatory monitoring activities.

For more information about participatory monitoring and biodiversity projects refer to the [Community Engagement](#) disclosure and the [Vicuña Shearing Program](#) case study.

### Accountability

The Corporate Health, Safety and Environment Manager is accountable for the biodiversity performance of the company.

### FY20 update

There were no significant changes to the Company's biodiversity management approach or performance in FY20.

At the Olaroz Lithium Facility, participatory monitoring continued on a quarterly basis with no identified impacts or trends emerging in the evaluations. The latest Environmental Impact Assessment was submitted in 2018, and during this fiscal year, the 2020 update was prepared. In Borax Argentina, we observed improved vegetation cover on site at Campo Quijano, following the closure of a section of land to grazing animals. Both colonising species and then native flora species returned to the site which will now support increased biodiversity in the area over time.

A vehicular collision accident was recorded near our operations in Sales de Jujuy, where one of our vehicles had an accident with a vicuña, which suddenly entered the road. As a result of this event, prevention activities related to the movement of animals on roads and highways were incorporated into the defensive driving program for staff on site. Notices were also installed to promote precaution for drivers and increase awareness of wildlife care on site.