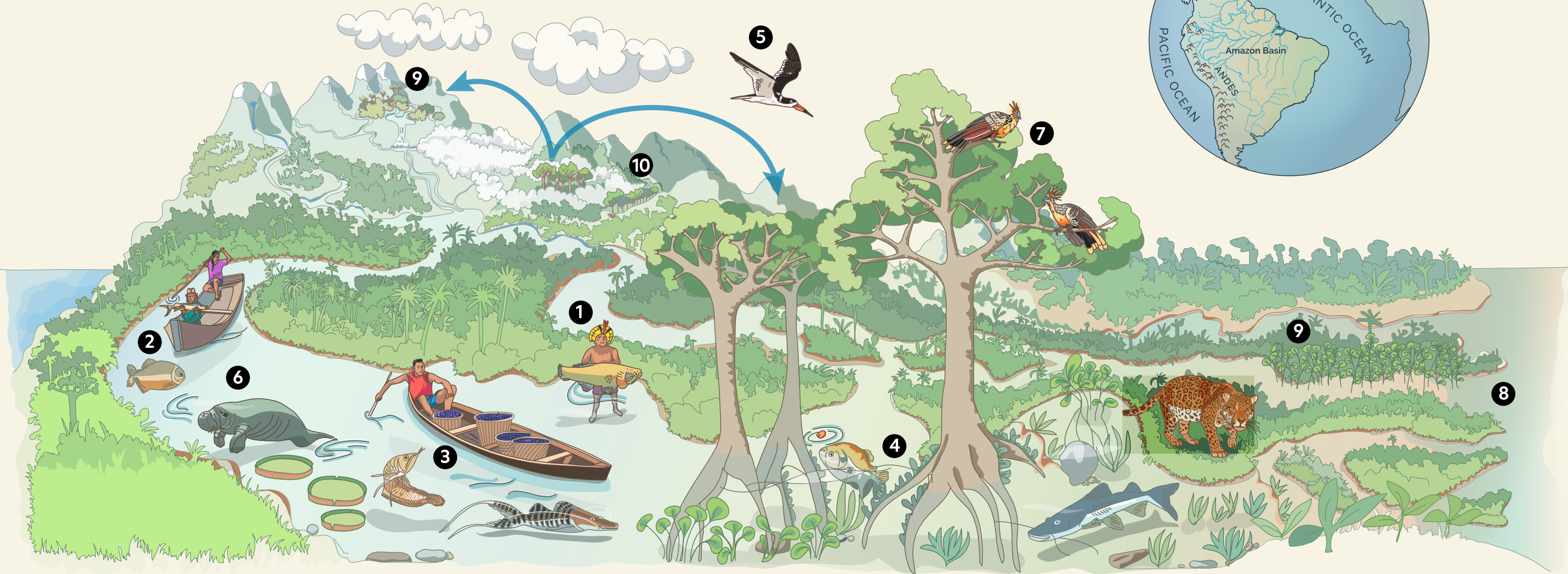


Amazon freshwaters,

a system on which people, biodiversity, and the climate depend



People

- 1 48 million people, including members of 400 distinct Indigenous groups, make their lives along Amazonian rivers.
- 2 Fish consumption is highest here, with some areas estimated at ~550 g of fish / day / person.
- 3 Important local freshwater products like açaí, aguaje, and ornamental fish support economic livelihoods.

Biodiversity

- 4 Forests are fed by these waters and fish that live in them, like the tambaqui disperse tree seeds across flooded forests.
- 5 Birds well known in other places like the Black Skimmer migrate to the Amazon to spend time on the river beach.
- 6 Animals unlike any found elsewhere live here: Amazon manatees are the only freshwater manatee and hoatzins remind us that birds are dinosaurs.
- 7

Global climate

- 8 40% of the Atlantic Ocean's sediments comes from the Amazon, influencing what can live in the ocean and how much carbon is stored.
- 9 Freshwater habitats like paramos, peatland pole forests, and mangroves store more carbon than moist lowland forest of comparable size..
- 10 Aerial rivers not only bring water back to the Western Amazon, but also beyond the Amazon to La Plata River basin, the Pantanal, and the eastern Andes.