

## **Registration Form**

### **ACI Latin America and Caribbean Green Airport recognition 2025**



**Submission deadline: September 5, 2025**

*ACI-LAC will send an acknowledgment of receipt via email after receiving each form.*

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#### ● **Participating Airport Information**

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Name: Belo Horizonte International Airport

Airport Group (if applicable): BH AIRPORT

Full name: Evandro Amato Reis

Position: Environmental Analyst

Email: [evandro.reis@bh-airport.com.br](mailto:evandro.reis@bh-airport.com.br) / [sustentabilidade.bha@bh-airport.com.br](mailto:sustentabilidade.bha@bh-airport.com.br)

Project's name: Passage of wildlife at the airport site

Project website (if applicable): <https://youtu.be/cJ5fOvpsblU>

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#### ● **Official/Alternate Representative for ACI-LAC**

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Signature of the official/alternate representative for ACI-LAC:

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Full name:

Position:

Email:

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#### ● **Recognition conditions**

*I accept that the information provided (executive summary and graphics/images) be published at the discretion of ACI-LAC.*



#### **Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions (NbS)**

The **Green Airports Recognition 2025** offers a valuable platform for airports across Latin America and the Caribbean to showcase their successful efforts in biodiversity preservation and the implementation of Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) within the aviation sector. Initiatives may include (but not limited to) wetland restoration and creation, restoring ecosystems, and leveraging NbS for carbon removal. Examples of eligible practices range from in-house horticulture and airport nurseries, plantation for carbon reduction and community benefits, ecological rejuvenation of wetlands, marine life conservation efforts led by airports, and basket of measures for biodiversity.

**Important note:** Projects currently under implementation are eligible, provided they are mature enough to

produce measurable, quantitative outcomes in accordance with the evaluation criteria. Participating airports or airport groups may submit only one (1) project

- **Evaluation**

Each application evaluated must meet the following recognition criteria:

- 1. Involvement of the airport's senior management**

Demonstrate active participation and endorsement from airport senior management during any phase of the project's development or implementation.

- 2. Sustainability Benefit**

Detailed description of the sustainability benefits of the project/program supported by quantitative data and objective sustainability indicators where possible.

Indicate the level to which the project contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

- 3. Stakeholder Engagement**

Present evidence of collaboration with internal teams and external partners—such as government agencies, NGOs, community groups, or industry stakeholders—in the planning and execution of the initiative

- 4. Innovation**

Demonstrate that the project/program exceeds standard industry practices.

In addition, ACI-LAC will present a Special Recognition to the project demonstrating exceptional achievement. To be eligible, the participating airport must hold accreditation at any level within the Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) program.

The weighting of the criteria for special recognition is indicated below:

1. Involvement of the airport's senior management (20%)
2. Sustainability Benefit (30%)
3. Stakeholder Engagement (30%)
4. Innovation (20%)

- **Instructions to participate.**

Complete and submit the form with the project information in MS Word and send to [fmedela@aci-lac.aero](mailto:fmedela@aci-lac.aero) before **September 05, 2025**.

## 1. Summary Executive (maximum 350 words)

Please include an Executive Summary of the project in a maximum of 350 words. In case your project meets the criteria of the ACI-LAC *Green Airport Recognition*, this Executive Summary will be included in the Best Environmental Practices Document that seeks to promote best practices that minimize the impact of airports on the environment, in addition to recognizing the achievements of airports in the region in their environmental projects.

Belo Horizonte International Airport is located within an important environmental conservation area, known as the Lagoa Santa Carste APA (Carste Environmental Protection Area), a place rich in biodiversity, as well as geological, paleontological, archaeological, and hydrological diversity.

The region surrounding the airport is home to an extensive carstic system, with caves, sinkholes, and underground aquifers, which are essential for biodiversity preservation, water supply, and scientific research.

The site is an important archaeological and paleontological site, with remains of extinct megafauna and prehistoric peoples, providing valuable information about the natural and human history of the region and the American continent. The oldest human fossil in the Americas, named "Luzia," was discovered within the protected area, located approximately 3 km from the airport runway. The discovery of this fossil helped reevaluate theories about the origin and migration of the continent's first inhabitants.

Aware of the environmental importance of the airport's location, BH Airport adopts conservation measures fully aligned with local management, including the preservation of 310 hectares of native vegetation, which, along with other preserved areas, form an important ecological corridor for wildlife in the APA Carte de Lagoa Santa region.

During the expansion and implementation of the main highway connecting BH Airport, a wildlife crossing was built under the LMG 800 highway, which runs within the airport site. This wildlife crossing connects two large forest fragments maintained by BH Airport through its legal reserve (green areas that cannot be disturbed). This structure is an important tool for protecting local biodiversity, preventing roadkill and ensuring gene flow among native species.

The site is rich in biodiversity, a transitional area between the Atlantic Forest and Cerrado biomes. Monitoring by BH Airport has already recorded 15 species of wild mammals typical of the region, including vulnerable species that inhabit these last remaining forests in the northern region of Belo Horizonte.

Since 2023, BH Airport has been carrying out maintenance and monitoring through the installation of camera traps. This monitoring is an important tool for conservation studies and supports scientific work conducted within the protected area of the Lagoa Santa Environmental Protection Area (APA Carste).

## 2. Project Background (maximum 150 words)

Please describe the background of the project or program (Why was it necessary to develop this project/program?)

During the expansion project in the northern region of Belo Horizonte and the access roads to BH Airport, it was necessary to carry out interventions in green areas, including the APA Carste de Lagoa Santa environmental protection area, where BH Airport is located.

This expansion was undertaken with the goal of economically developing the region, but with a commitment to mitigating environmental impacts. One of the mitigation tools was the implementation of a wildlife crossing under the LMG-800 highway, which is within the airport site, under the responsibility of BH Airport.

Since 2023, BH Airport has been maintaining and monitoring the structure, which was built after studies identified the great diversity of wildlife in the airport's surroundings, including vulnerable species.

The wildlife crossing connects remaining forest fragments maintained by the airport, thus preventing roadkill and promoting genetic diversity among wildlife, representing an important project for the conservation of local biodiversity.

## 3. Project scope (maximum 50 words)

Describe the area of implementation of the project, for example: area of operations, terminal, the entire airport, etc ; as well as agents involved in it: airport staff, other *stakeholders* , NGOs , environmental groups, etc.

The wildlife crossing was implemented in partnership with the Infrastructure Department under Highway LMG 800 in an environmentally protected area within the airport grounds. The site is maintained by the Green Areas Department, and monitoring and analysis of the collected data are carried out by the BH Airport environmental team.

## 4. Project Description (maximum 100 words)

Describe how the project was implemented.

The wildlife crossing project was implemented through a collaboration between Belo Horizonte Airport, the Minas Gerais State Highway Department, and the managers of the Lagoa Santa Carste Environmental Protection Area.

Installed under the main highway connecting the airport, the tunnel is approximately 2 meters high and 60 meters long, beneath the LMG 800 highway. It connects two large forest fragments within the airport grounds, allowing the safe movement of animals living in the area.

BH Airport provided technical support, recommending the best location for the structure, and upon completion, was responsible for maintaining and monitoring the wildlife at the site.

## 5. Project results and benefits (maximum 300 words)

Describe the results of the project highlighting its achievements. Please emphasize data, for example: cost savings, recognized environmental benefits, evidence of innovation, etc.

The wildlife underpass located under the LMG 800 highway, at the airport site, is an important environmental conservation tool, allowing the safe movement of wild animals between forest fragments, thus forming an ecological corridor in the environmental protection area (APA Carste de Lagoa Santa).

Monitoring is carried out by the wildlife management team using camera traps installed weekly. The purchase of the equipment was approved by the board of directors within the sustainability department.

After installation, the team has access to images and videos of the animals using the crossing, which allows them to generate reports and indicators, including the species that use it frequently, demonstrating that the animals have adapted well to the structure. After installation, in the first two years of monitoring, an approximately 83% reduction in wildlife roadkills along the highway was observed.

Several wildlife species have been recorded using the pass, including wild mammals typical of the Atlantic Forest and Cerrado biomes, some classified as threatened or vulnerable to extinction. The data obtained by Belo Horizonte Airport is made available and serves as a basis for research and studies related to the conservation of local biodiversity.

Species of have already been recorded: tamanduá-mirim (*Tamandua tetradactyla*), veado-catingueiro (*Mazama gouazoubira*), irara (*Eira barbara*), ouriço-cacheiro (*Coendou spinossus*), quati (*Nasua nasua*), jaguatirica (*Leopardus* sp.), cachorro-do-mato (*Cerdocyon thous*), furão (*Galictis cuja*), tatu (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), two species of gambás (*Didelphis aurita* e *Didelphis albiventris*), capivara (*Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*), tapiti (*Sylvilagus brasiliensis*), morcego (*Chiroptera* sp.) e paca (*Cuniculus paca*).

It's unusual for airports to have facilities like this, and it's an innovative initiative to protect local biodiversity. This project and other environmental initiatives have led to BH Airport being recognized for the third consecutive year as Brazil's most sustainable airport by the National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC), the last year in the socio-environmental category.



## 6. Graphics and Images (maximum 4)

Include a maximum of 4 graphs, including tables or photographs, with a brief description. This information will also be included in the Best Environmental Practices Document.

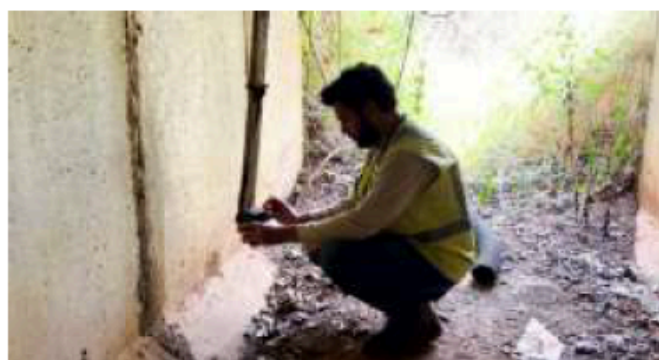
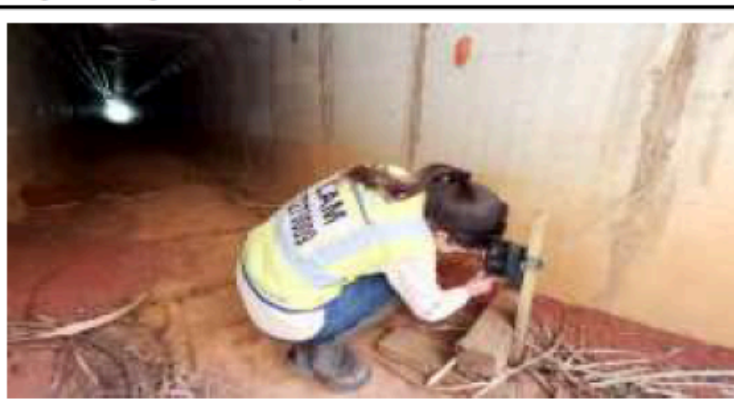
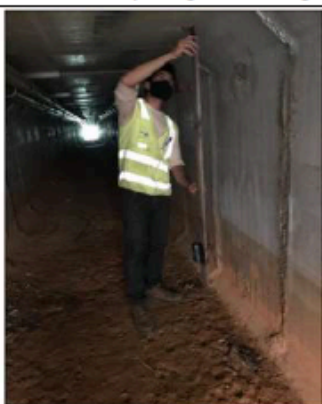
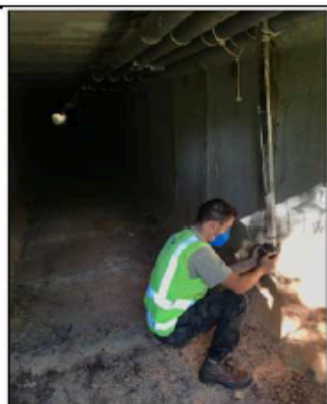
<https://youtu.be/cJ5fOvpsbLU>

| BH Airport Wildlife Passage Project  |                                                                   |                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Year<br>Months - Period July to June | Number of records of wild animals run over on the LMG 800 highway | % reduction in roadkill after implementation of wildlife crossing |
| 2022/2023                            | 6                                                                 | -                                                                 |
| 2023/2024                            | 5                                                                 | 17%                                                               |
| 2024/2025                            | 1                                                                 | 83%                                                               |

The wildlife crossing installed under the highway connecting the airport is an important tool for protecting local wildlife, as it connects two large forest fragments, allowing wildlife to move without the risk of being run over, thus fostering genetic variability among species. The structure also allows for the creation of an ecological corridor within the environmentally protected area (APA Carste) where the airport is located.



Wildlife passage connecting two large forest fragments at the airport site.



Installation of equipment for monitoring wildlife on site (trap cameras).



Records of wildlife individuals using the wildlife crossing structure.

| Groups of registered animals | Species                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mammals                      | <i>Cercopithecus thomasi</i> , <i>Chiroptera</i> sp., <i>Coendou spinosus</i> , <i>Cuniculus paca</i> , <i>Dasyurus novemcinctus</i> , <i>Didelphis alviventris</i> , <i>Didelphis aurita</i> , <i>Eira barbara</i> , <i>Galictis cuja</i> , <i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i> , <i>Leopardus sp.</i> , <i>Mazama gouazoubira</i> , <i>Nassua nassua</i> , <i>Sylvilagus brasiliensis</i> , <i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i> |
| Reptiles                     | <i>Tupinambis merianae</i> , <i>Tropidurus</i> sp.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

OBJETIVOS DE DESENVOLVIMENTO SUSTENTÁVEL

