The deforested area in the last two months decreased in comparison to June. However, if it is noteworthy the increase in the number of detected occurrences in this period. From 5,204 polygons of deforestation registered in May and June, the number rose to 5,314 in July and August, an increase of 73%. This tendency can be explained by the reduction on the average size of deforested areas which in June was 12 ha and in August was just 7 ha.

Besides that, the number of five hotspots in the Xingu river basin between July and August 2019 grew 271% compared to the same period last year, according to NASA.

In July and August, Altamira National Forest (Flona, in Portuguese) also had high deforestation linked to land speculation. The Altamira National Forest is a category of Conservation Unit that does not allow private lands within it. However, the increase in deforestation is up to 3,639 ha which corresponds to 67% of the FES total area. The suppression of native vegetation is the main cause of deforestation, which is one of the most worrying signs of the situation. In addition, it is concerning the increase in forest loss when we compare the deforestation period. From 3,304 polygons of deforestation detected between Federal and State governments, 271% is the increase compared to the same period in 2018.

Between July and August 2019, the 7 fire hotspots in the Xingu river basin between July and August was just 7 ha. However, part of this deforestation is observed in area already occupied inside the CU, in its southwestern portion. In addition, an increase in forest loss due to gold mining and the opening of a clandestine airstrip were detected. They have experienced an increase in violence and land conflicts, in all of them, jeopardizing the physical integrity of the indigenous peoples who live there.

In the basin’s Conservation Units 15,708 ha of deforestation were detected between July and August 2019. Out of the total deforestation detected inside FES (in 2018, 88% happened within properties irregularly registered at CAR). State Forest is a category of Conservation Unit that does not allow private lands within it. In 2018, the Biodiversity and Forest Development Institute (Caidebio, in Portuguese) requested the suspension of CAR records on the FES and in January 2019, the 7th Prosecutor’s Office in Altamira reiterated this request in a letter to the Secretary of Environment and Sustainability of the State. However, until August 2019, none of the records regarding FES were suspended.


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