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# Peru Battles Rising Deforestation as Latest Fire Incident Strikes Apurimac Region

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## BODY

In a concerning trend for Peru's natural landscapes, recent data reveals a consistent rise in deforestation incidents, with the latest fire alert emerging from the Apurimac region. Over the past two decades, Peru has experienced significant tree cover loss primarily due to shifting agriculture, which accounts for the majority of the deforestation drivers. The cumulative loss of tree cover has reached over 1.19 million hectares, with a disturbing net loss of approximately 762,198 hectares after accounting for gains from reforestation efforts. This net loss represents a 0.97% decrease in Peru's tree cover, a worrying sign for the country's biodiversity and ecological stability.

The impact of these deforestation activities extends beyond the loss of tree cover, as they have also resulted in substantial CO2 emissions. Shifting agriculture remains the leading cause, followed by other factors such as wildfires and urbanization, although the latter two contribute to a lesser extent. The latest incident in Apurimac serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing challenge Peru faces in preserving its forests, which are crucial for maintaining ecological balance and supporting local communities.