Project Update: June 2015

After three workshops and data analysis we have analysed the relationship between three ecosystem services (carbon stocks, timber and deer) and the trade-offs and synergies that are generated from different forest management practices. The results suggest strong evidence that specific forest management practices and temporal scales influence these relationships, and that forest practices can be modified to generate win-win situations, where local resource users obtain the greatest economic benefits without compromising the ecological sustainability of the system.

A key component of this study has been the involvement of local community members in designing ways to answer questions about how their forest system works and is affected by current interventions; to developing and implementing a monitoring plan, and in incorporating the information generated into decision-making. In a fourth workshop that will take place in August we expect to train community members on the use of cybertracker and use camera traps more efficiently.

I am attaching two photos obtained from the camera traps. The resolution is not so good but they are good results. The community new they had a big cat within their land since they had seen the tracks, they were not sure if it was a jaguar or a puma, but it was not until they installed and monitored the camera traps that they actually found it is a puma.

The first photo is a puma and the second one an ocelot. Photos belong to the community of San Juan Lachao.