

Project Update: June 2023

Here is a list of some preliminary results from the project:

- Some people already recognise that jaguars play an important role in regulating wildlife communities and believe that they provide a service by controlling animals that predate on crops.
- People in the communities have varying priorities for the future of their community concerning jaguar conservation, preventing attacks on livestock, preventing maize losses, and gaining ecotourism income.
- The people who value how jaguars can prevent maize losses are generally not the same people who are most concerned about attacks on livestock, even though both groups plant similar amounts of maize. The service of protecting maize that jaguars can provide are not valued by those people who are in conflict with them. However, jaguars protecting maize would be highly valued by many people in the area.
- Most people indicate they would not be opposed to their land being part of a biological corridor for jaguars, especially if attacks on livestock are minimised. People in the area generally want to conserve jaguars.
- However, a significant minority of people do not care if jaguars go extinct in the area and don't want them on their community lands. These people also tend not to be interested in ecotourism. I identified several characteristics of people who have these preferences. This will help understand who would still oppose living near jaguars even if there is success in reducing attacks on livestock and in bringing in ecotourism as a less environmentally damaging form of income.