

Project Update: January 2012

The jaguar and puma capture campaign.

During September and October 2011, we developed a jaguar and puma capture campaign in the north of Misiones Province. We placed 16 foot snares traps in the areas with higher jaguar densities. We use fish and play-back with calls of jaguars or preys to attract the animals to the traps. We recorded the activity in the traps using camera traps with infrared flash. We recorded the presence of two jaguars and at least three pumas many times near the traps. However, only two times a cat entered to the trap (one jaguar and one puma) but unfortunately the traps failed and the animal escape. We also recorded ocelots, opossums, peccaries and foxes entering to the traps, but none of these animals were captured, showing that the methodology is selective to big cat species. We will try to capture jaguars and pumas again in June 2012.

