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TCCI ANNUAL REPORT - 2024

TIGER CATS/TROPICAL CATS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

TAKING INTEGRATED ACTIONS FOR SMALL CATS CONSERVATION ACROSS THE AMERICAS

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@TIGERCATSCONSERVATION

@TIGERCATSGROUP4336

WWW.TIGERCATSCONSERVATION.COM

FOREWORD

TCCI... What is this and why is it important to us? What unites us, the deep passion for our small wild cats we all have and the understanding that together, hand in had, we can make a difference and thus fulfill a self-realization of “doing something important,” for the cats, not for our egos. Are we idealistic? Dreamers? ... Yesss, after all, dreams DO come true!

This marks the second official yearly report, which focuses on the year 2024. We have overcome the financial difficulties experienced due to the lack of funds in 2023. Our organization has expanded in terms of initiatives, membership, and registered projects, with a particular emphasis on young conservationists. The global media attention surrounding the publication of tiger-cat species complex paper led to a significant increase in wildlife professionals and projects seeking to join our organization. Their motivation often stems from the desire to meaningfully contribute to conservation or cat conservation, inspired by the TCCI team's efforts. This reaffirmed that we were fulfilling our mission.

Although our substantial growth was positive, it also brought new challenges. We faced the task of managing over 50 projects with conservation measures in place, despite limited funding. We have also started some new approaches to making cats profitable, that is, turning cats from menace to the source of income.

Our determination of small cat conservation remains strong, despite the challenges and burdens, hoping that you can sense the passionate energy we all share for our small wild cats, reflected in the words and images presented in this report.

Namastê

TADEU GOMES DE OLIVEIRA
Founder & Chair - TCCI

WHO WE ARE

TCCI stands for the Tiger Cats Conservation Initiative, which is an assemblage of conservation oriented projects devoted to the tiger-cat species complex and other small cats' conservation action taking throughout the Americas (within the tiger-cats range). TCCI could also have a double meaning, as **"Tropical Cats Conservation Initiative" – TCCI**, as it also benefits all small cats present, which is pretty much the same.

WE ARE TCCI!

TARGETS

Ensure long-term population viability of tiger cats & small felids: threat reduction and mitigation.

Partnerships with landowners to protect habitat patches within their properties and to keep their animals indoors.

Environmental education and community involvment in conservation practices.

Monitoring population trends of tiger cats and other small felids.

Habitat monitoring.

Establish a permanent neutering and vaccination program.

One Health approach to conservation

Training of professionals and non professionals: creating a new generation of conservationists.

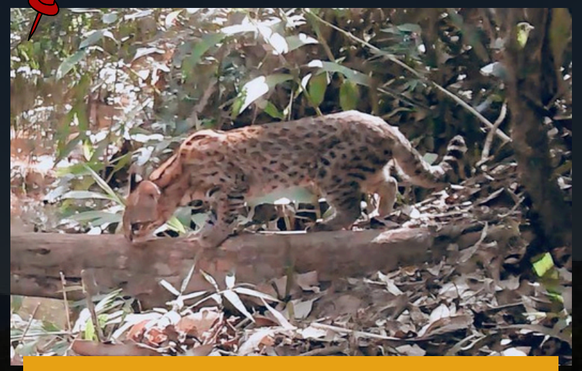
TCCI GOALS

Our actions are built upon "Action" (conservation action taking to reduce threats) and "Vigilance" (monitoring population trends in key conservation areas), with the main goal of minimizing the risk of disease transmission by domestic animals and monitoring the trends of key populations of threatened tiger cats and other small cat species at a continental level. Additionally, we target different local threats at each site (e.g., traffic, conflict mitigation, road-kills) and work on the rehabilitation/training of apprehended small cats for future reintroduction. The project's conservation activities also include environmental education issues, working with the local community, and human perceptions. The ultimate goal is to guarantee long-term (1,000 years) population safe-havens for all tiger-cat species.

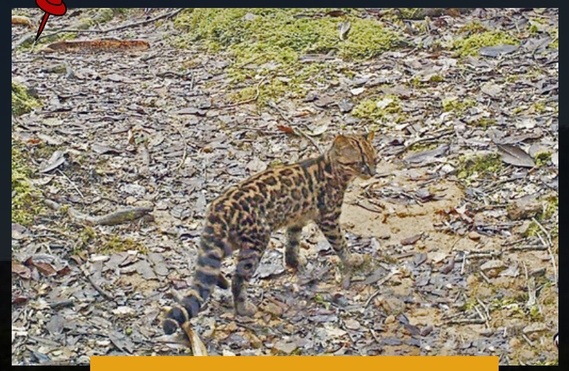
OBJECTIVES FOR 2024

1. To consolidate disease mitigation actions especially where there are ongoing outbreaks of distemper and other diseases.
2. To expand our rehabilitation of wild cat specimens caught on the wildlife trade back into nature taking the one health approach, as well as minimizing retaliation for livestock depredation, and road-kills around key conservation areas.
3. To try new approaches to turning wild cats from menace to a source of income.
4. To continue and expand the population monitoring of clouded, savanna and Atlantic Forest tiger-cats and other felids (margay, jaguarundi, black footed [Pampas] cat and ocelot) in key protected areas (public and private) at a continental level in tropical South America, through camera trapping, also taking into account the effectiveness of measures currently being implemented).

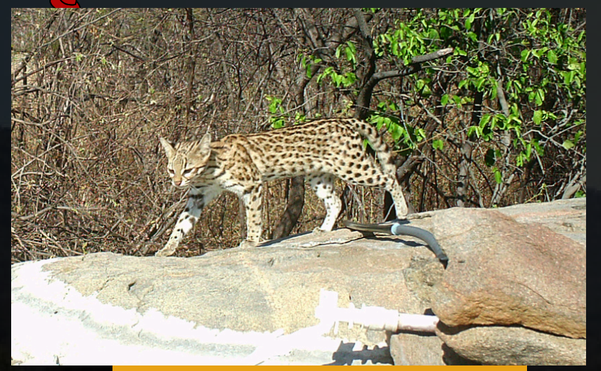
TCCI ALSO STANDS FOR:
TROPICAL CATS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE



ATLANTIC FOREST TIGER-CAT

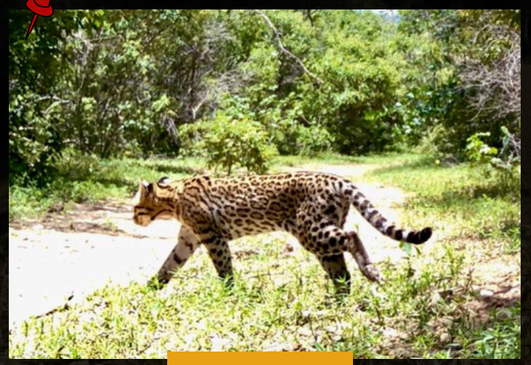


CLOUDED TIGER-CAT



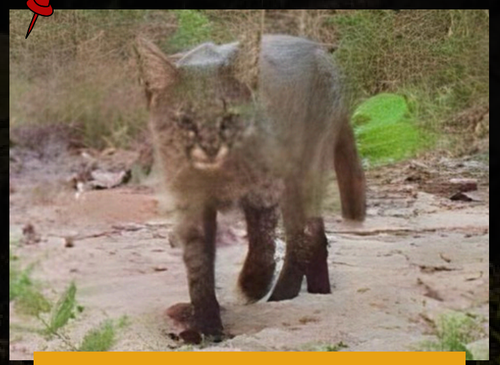
SAVANNA TIGER-CAT

MARGAY



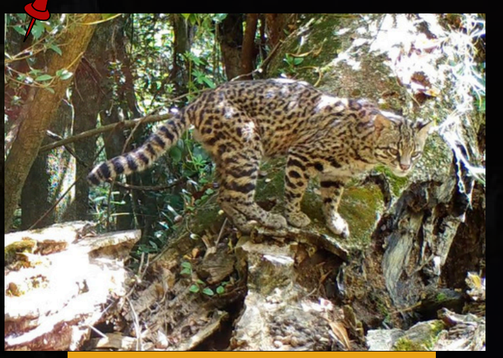
OCELOT

JAGUARUNDI



CERRADO BLACK-FOOTED CAT

PAMPA-CAT



GEOFFROY'S CAT

TCCI ALSO STANDS FOR:
TROPICAL CATS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

TCCI also have a double meaning, as **“Tropical Cats Conservation Initiative”**.

Although our flagship species are tiger-cats, our work and actions also include and benefit all other small cats present in the areas we work in, which is much the same (above).

2,000
DOSES OF VACCINES APPLIED

1,107
ANIMALS VACCINATED

97
ANIMALS NEUTERED

In addition to the various vaccination campaigns of each project separately, carried out throughout the year, we joined forces to promote TCCI's 4th Intercontinental Vaccination Campaign in September. This collective effort brought together participating projects from across the group to carry out simultaneous vaccination campaigns throughout the Americas, increasing visibility and awareness of combating the silent threat of communicable diseases.

Our neutering is concentrated as much as possible on females and was limited throughout most of 2024 because of technical problems with one of our main partners, UEMA's University Veterinary Hospital. We overcame this problem by purchasing our own neutering mobile clinic.

VACCINATION AND NEUTERING CAMPAINGS

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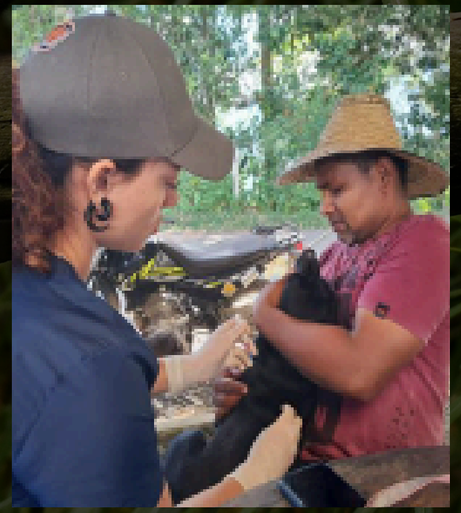

VACCINATION AND NEUTERING CAMPAINGS

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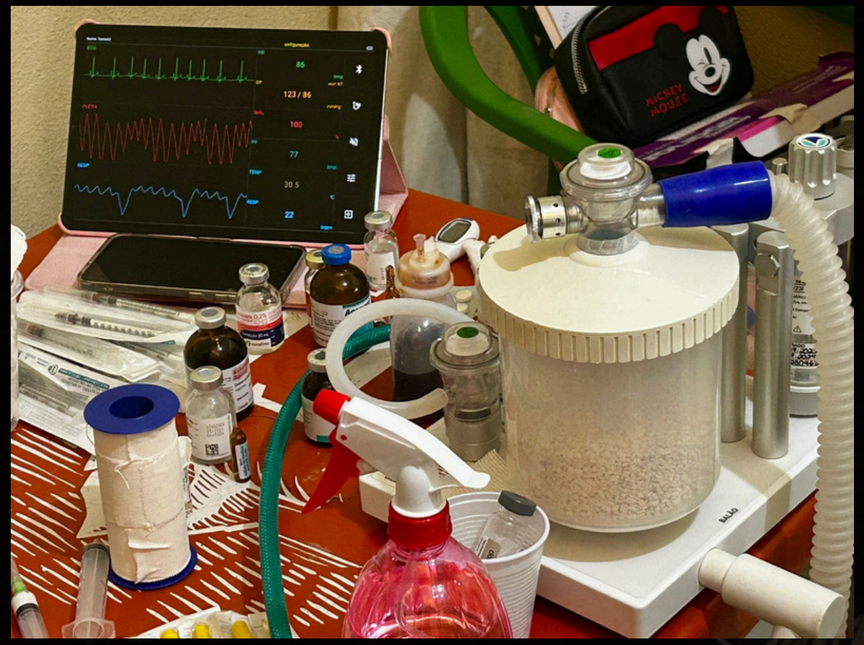

The neutering program in one of our main projects (Mirador project) was slowed down to a series of postponings due to problems with our former partner, the Veterinary Hospital of Maranhão State University (UEMA). In order to avoid further problems, we decided to buy our own equipment and, as such, now we have our own high quality mobile neutering clinic, which we call the "Sheick Mohamed Mobile Vet Clinic" in homage to The Fund (Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund), from which most of the resources came. We use the same equipment and follow the same high standard protocols of UEMA’s Veterinary Hospital.

ENVIROMENTAL EDUCATION:
THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATIONIST

4,565

CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS REACHED THROUGH OUR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACTIONS

77

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS

Building the next generation of conservation-minded people is essential for a sustainable future. Today's children will be leaders tomorrow, and it is essential to involve them from an early age in actions that awaken their interest in and care for their environment.

By directing our efforts to educate and raise awareness among the new generations, we are planting seeds of responsibility and respect for nature. By understanding the importance of conservation, they become agents of change, ready to protect biodiversity, and ensure that natural resources and ecosystems are preserved for future generations.

ENVIROMENTAL EDUCATION

LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

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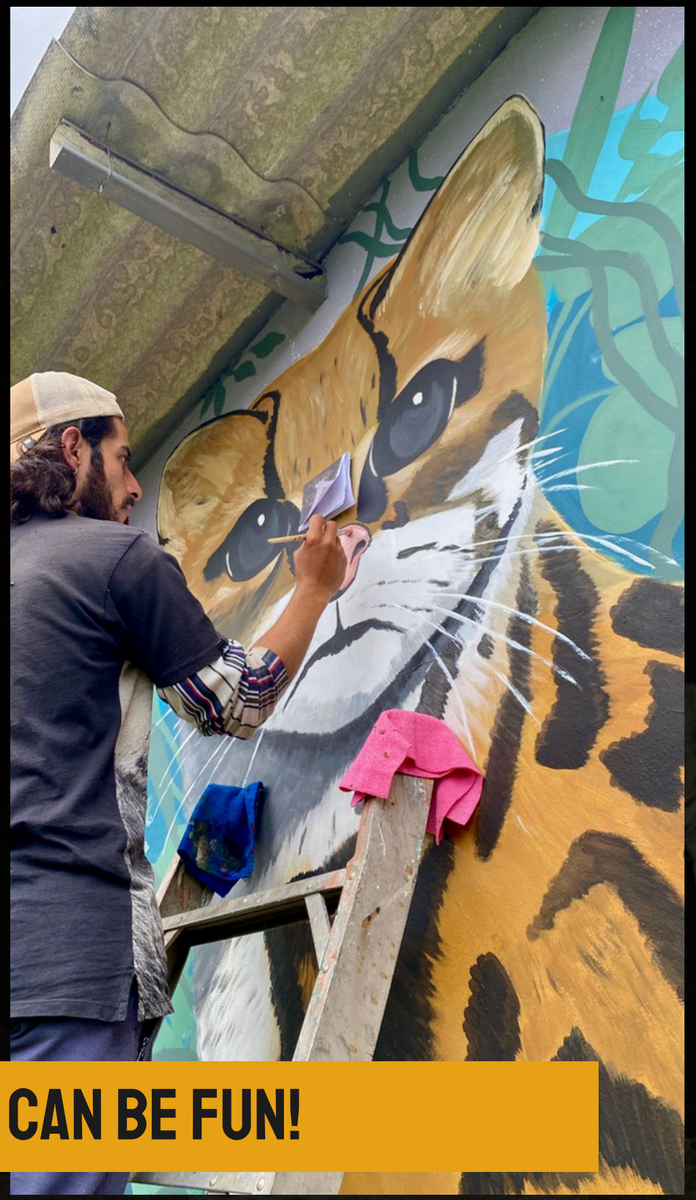
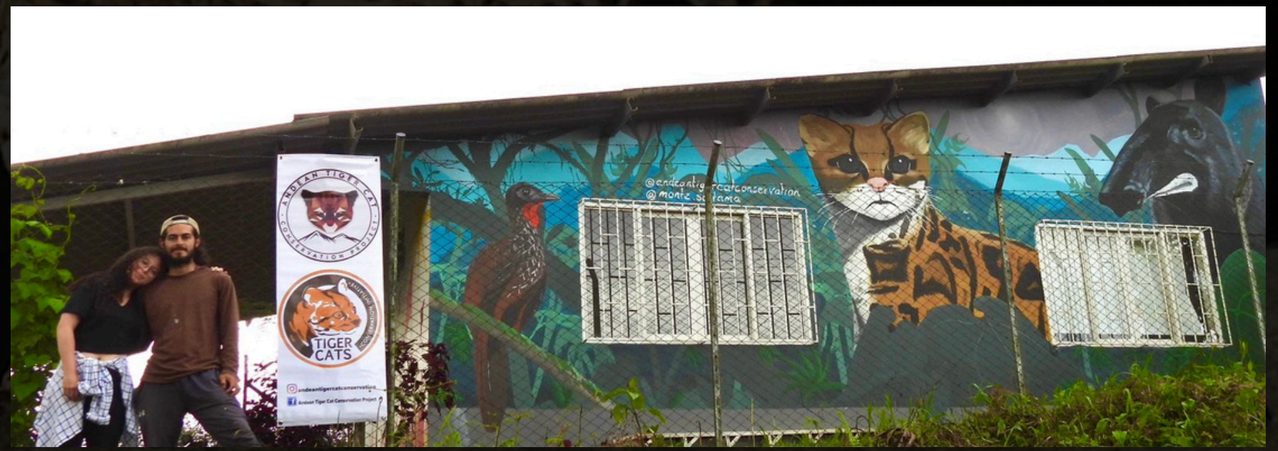
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

MURAL IN LOCAL SCHOOL





LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

One of our most recent projects,
fullfiling its mision from an early age

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The Panamanian connection

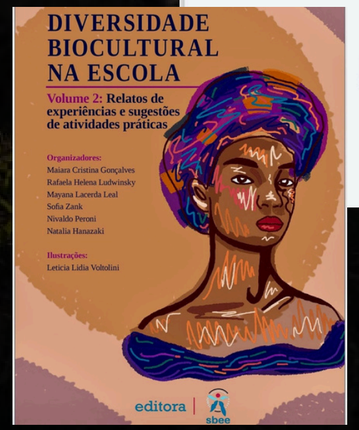
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Community work to build a conservation mindset: We developed a series of games, books, booklets, leaflets, pamphlets, stickers, etc., with a special focus on children of various ages.

+ 4,611

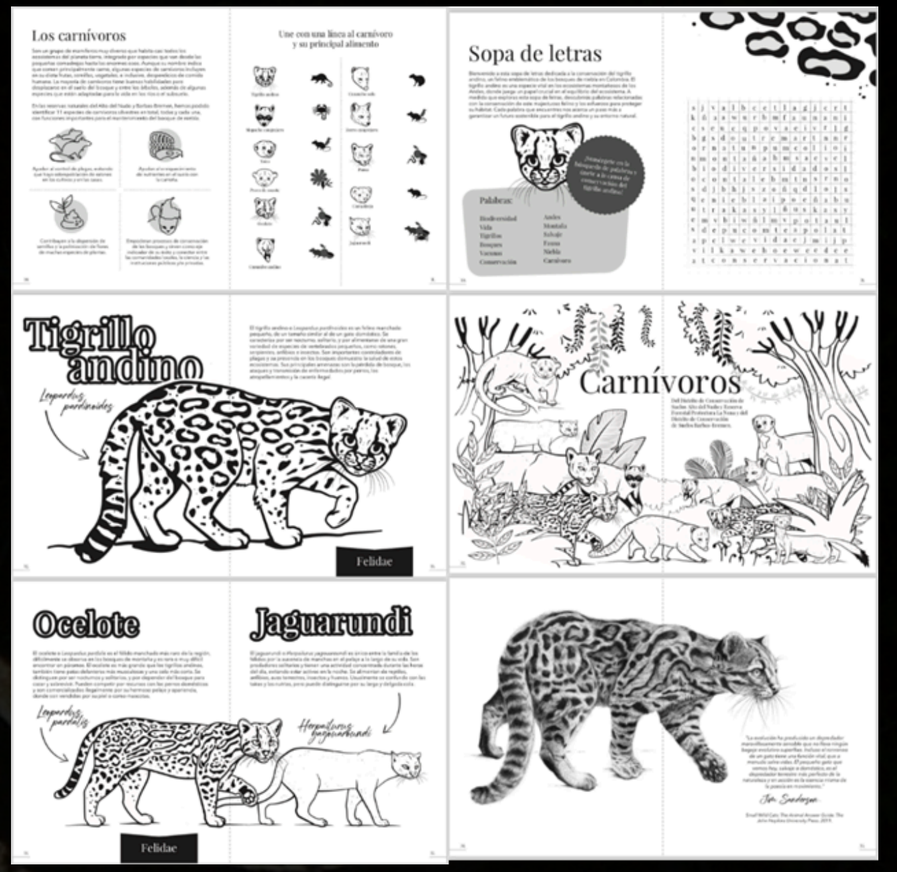
EDUCATIVE MATERIAL PRINTED AND PRODUCED

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

LEARNING CAN BE FUN!

WORKSHOPS

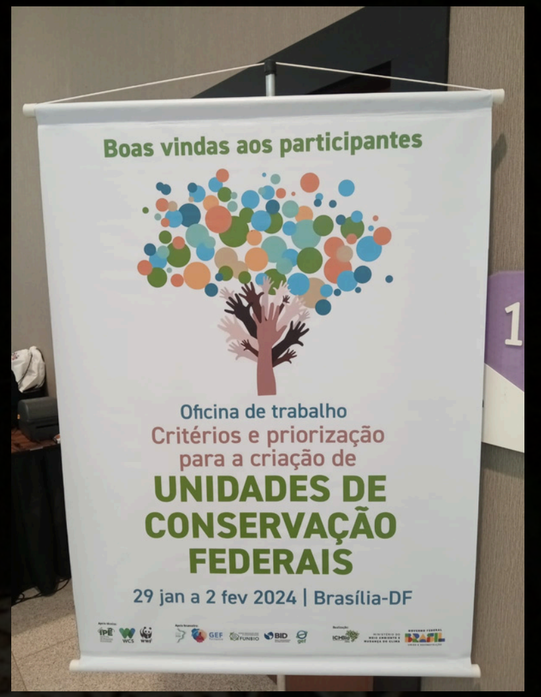
Workshops are essential for raising awareness and building partnerships in the conservation of small wild cats. Together, we can protect and coexist with these incredible species!

WORKSHOPS

Ressident biologist at Reserva Mashpi-Tayra (Ecuador) talks to community members about human-wildlife conflicts.

Biology undergraduate students train park guards at Reserva Mashpi-Tayara (Ecuador) how to use camera traps to monitor mammals.

WORKSHOPS

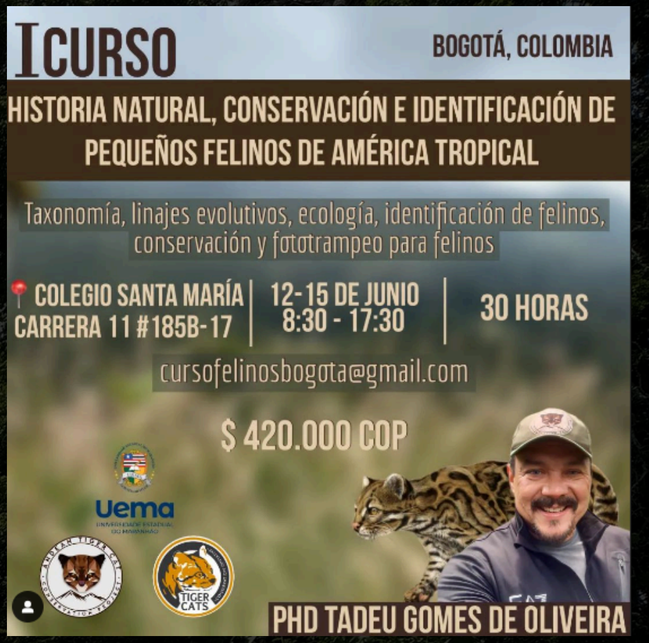


Participation in the workshop 'Criteria and Prioritization for the Creation of Federal Conservation Units,' organized by the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation. In this workshop, through the efforts of biologist and Prof. Dr. Paulo Marinho, a member of the Tiger Cat Conservation Initiative, the processes for establishing at least four federal conservation units in the Caatinga regions of Rio Grande do Norte and Bahia were initiated. These are key areas for the conservation of threatened small wild cats such as *Leopardus tigrinus* and *Herpailurus yagouaroundi*.

WORKSHOPS

Tiger Cats Conservation's participation in events is essential to expanding the reach of conservation actions, strengthening partnerships, and promoting the protection of small wild cats.

WORKSHOPS



Natural history, conservation and identification of small cats of tropical America, Bogota, Colombia

PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

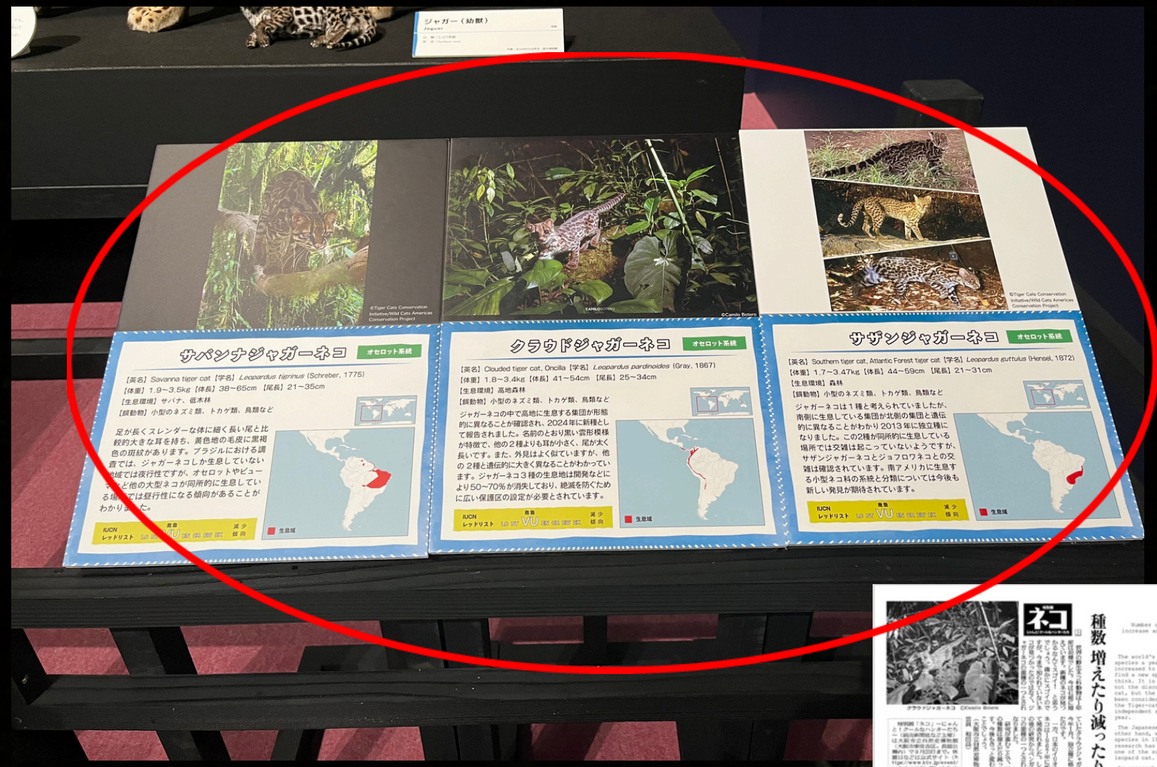
PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

This year we had the second meeting of the small cats working groups of Latin America at La Esperia, Ecuador. It's always good to discuss cat issues with our colleagues, meet new people, make new friends!

It was GREAT to get to know those that support our work from Panthera (left) and Big Cat Rescue (right)! A privilege.

FIELD COURSES & TRAINING FUTURE WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONISTS

CAT EXHIBITION IN OSAKA - TIGER-CATS IN JAPAN



The Kitakyushu Museum of Natural History & Human History of Japan is presenting a cat exhibit introducing to the Japanese people the recently described clouded tiger-cat, as well as the savanna and Atlantic Forest tiger-cats, first in Nagoya and then in Osaka. The exhibit was a major success!

ROAD SIGNS

Installation of road-signs for conservation awareness and prevention of wildlife roadkills.

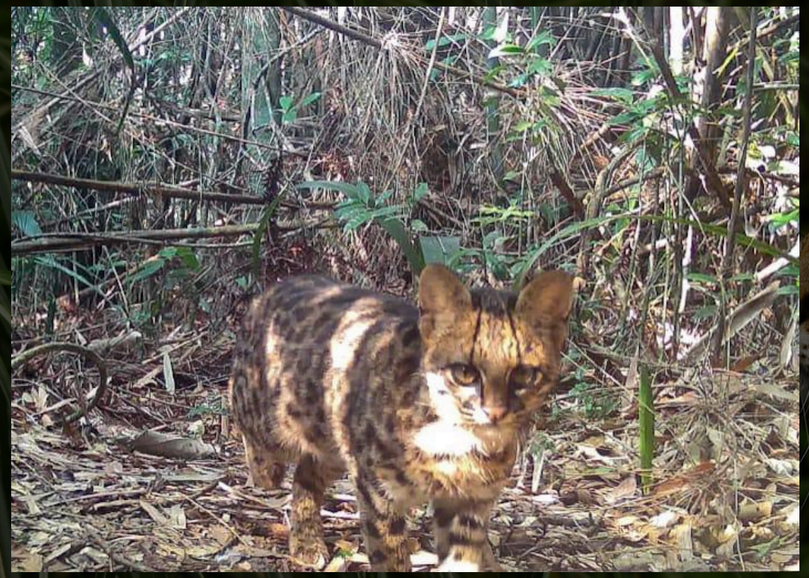
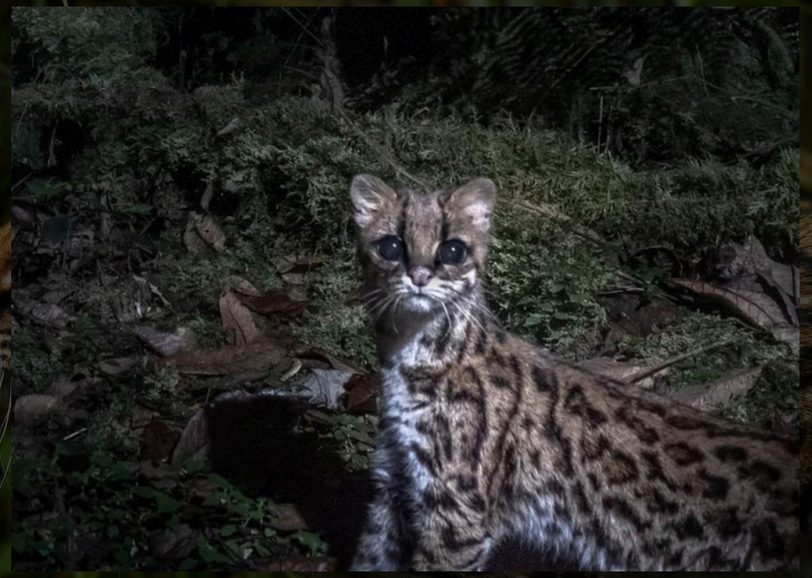
STAYING VIGILANT: POPULATION MONITORING

Ocelot: 30
Margay: 26
Jaguarundi: 29
Clouded tiger-cat: 14
Savanna tiger-cat: 14
Atlantic forest tiger-cat: 14
Cerrado black-footed cat: 02
Pampa-cat: 01
Geoffroy's cat: 03

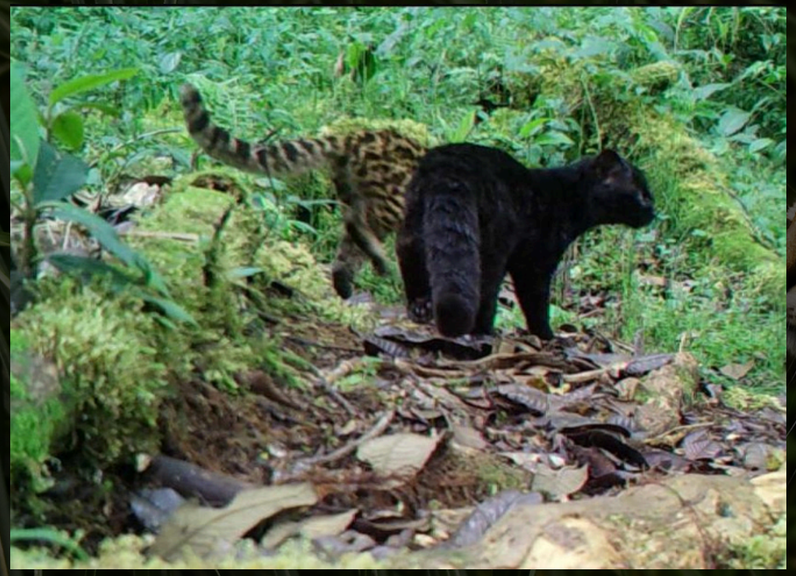
133+ partial estimates of relative abundance (estimate)

9 species of small cats being monitored + jaguar, puma as by-catch

STAYING VIGILANT: POPULATION MONITORING

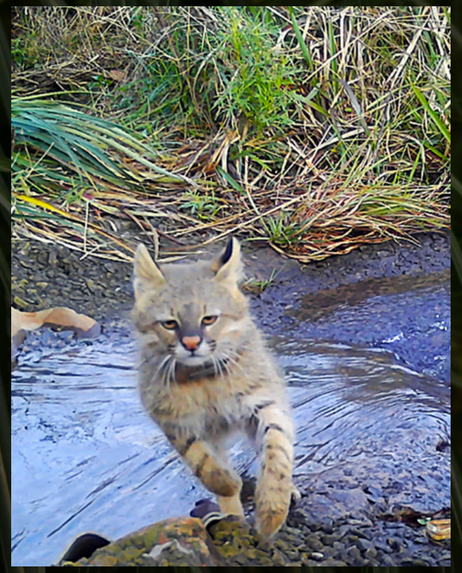



STAYING VIGILANT: POPULATION MONITORING

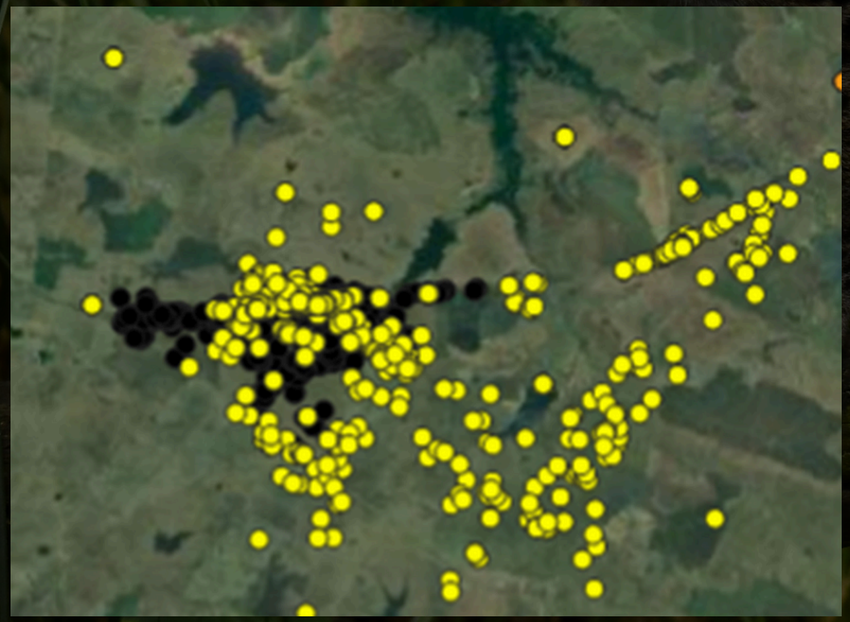


STAYING VIGILANT: POPULATION MONITORING

POPULATION MONITORING OF THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED PAMPA-CAT



- New areas of ocurrence; 73 new camera trap records; only 09 individuals
- Capture and monitoring by radio-collar of two adult individuals (male and female)
- Now we understand the minimum basic habitat requirements for more effective conservation action



STAYING VIGILANT: POPULATION MONITORING

INSTALLED AND MONITORED DRINKING STATIONS IN DRYLANDS

Monitoring of artificial drinking stations managed by the administration of the Jamacaii Refuge Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN)

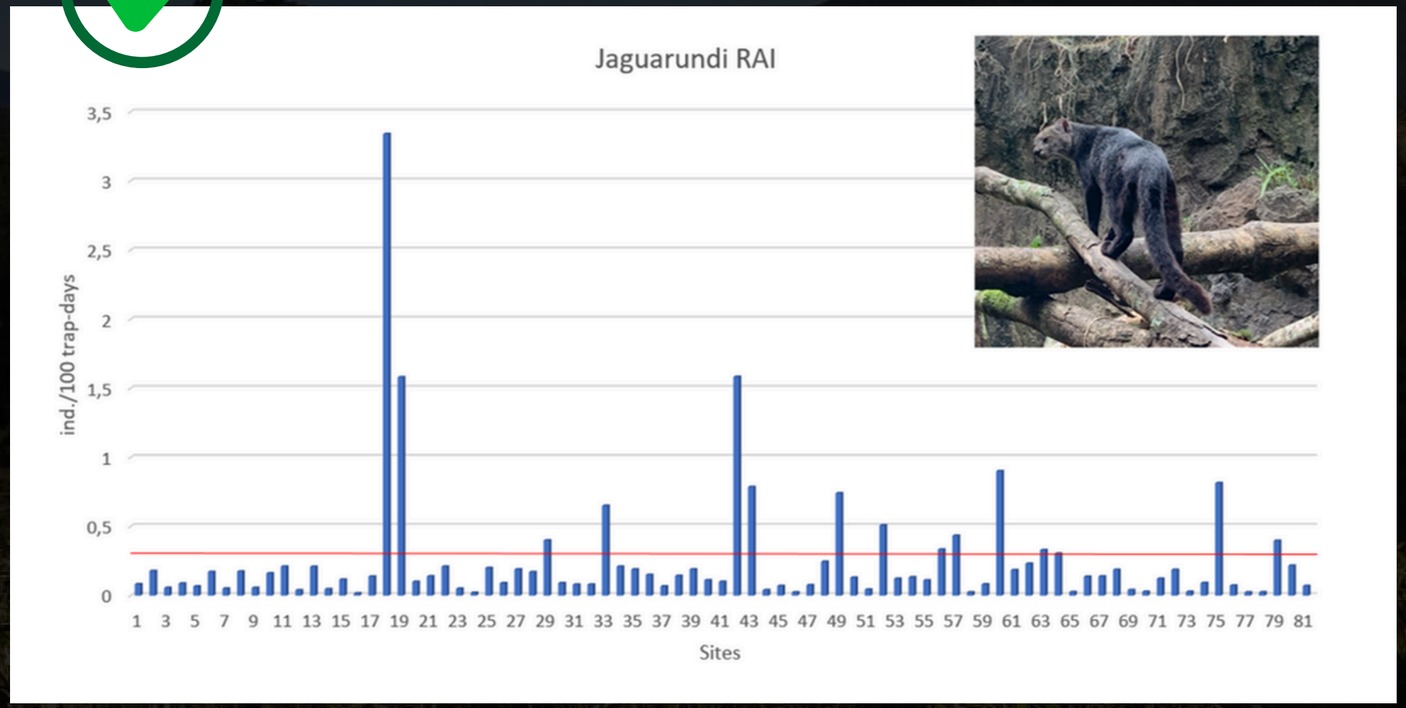
STAYING VIGILANT: POPULATION MONITORING

INSTALLED AND MONITORED DRINKING STATIONS IN DRYLANDS

POPULATION MONITORING

THE IUCN RED LIST
OF THREATENED SPECIES™

Our monitoring is paramount in the Red List Assessments of the small cats of tropical Americas. It was crucial for the RLA of the jaguarundi.



RAI - relative abundance index
red line - indicates rarity line by camera trapping

Upcoming, to be headed by TCCI:

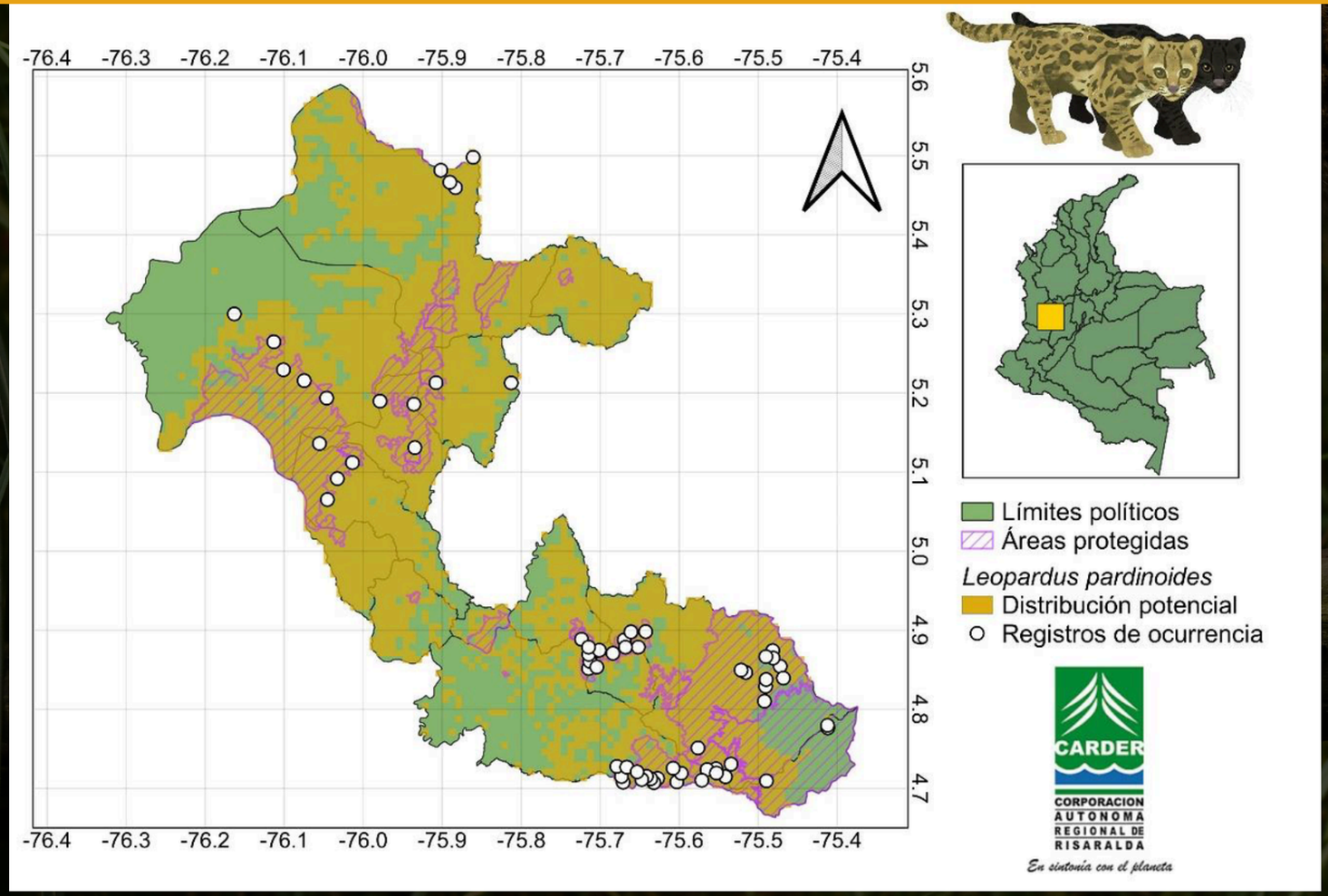
Margay
Ocelot
Savanna tiger-cat
Clouded tiger-cat
Atlantic Forest tiger-cat

HABITAT MONITORING

FIRES CAUGHT ON OUR CAMERA-TRAPS AT MIRADOR STATE PARK

We are monitoring the extent of fires in one of our main areas in the Cerrado savanna's of Mirador State Park: 485 fire spots to date, we are proceeding to estimate the total extent of burnt areas by the end March 2025.

ESTABLISHING PRIORITY AREAS: CLOUDED TIGER-CAT IN CUDINAMARCA, COLOMBIA



SAVANNA TIGER-CAT TAKING CENTRAL STAGE IN THE ELABORATION OF MIRADOR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN.

SAVING THE PARK

- *O "gato-do-mato/pintadinho" (Leopardus tigrinus)*

Figura 8 RVF Leopardus tigrinus (gato-do-mato/pintadinho)

Legenda: (A) *Leopardus tigrinus* (pintadinho ou gato-do-mato-pequeno).
Fonte: Tadeu Oliveira (Pró-Vida Brasil).

O Parque Estadual de Mirador detém posição estratégica mundial na conservação do gato-do-mato/pintadinho (Leopardus tigrinus), uma espécie globalmente ameaçada de extinção. É a única unidade de conservação do mundo capaz de sustentar, por si só, populações ecologicamente viáveis a longo prazo (1.000 anos) desta espécie. Nenhuma outra unidade de conservação brasileira apresenta a mesma relevância para a conservação de quaisquer espécies de pequenos felinos no país. Assim sendo, o Parque Estadual de Mirador em condições ambientalmente adequadas funciona como uma "apólice de seguro" contra a extinção desta espécie.

estão em unidades de conservação. Já uma nota da Secretaria do Meio Ambiente e Recursos Naturais do Maranhão (Sema/MA), de setembro, afirma que ela é crucial para o gato-do-mato-pintadinho *(Leopardus tigrinus)*.

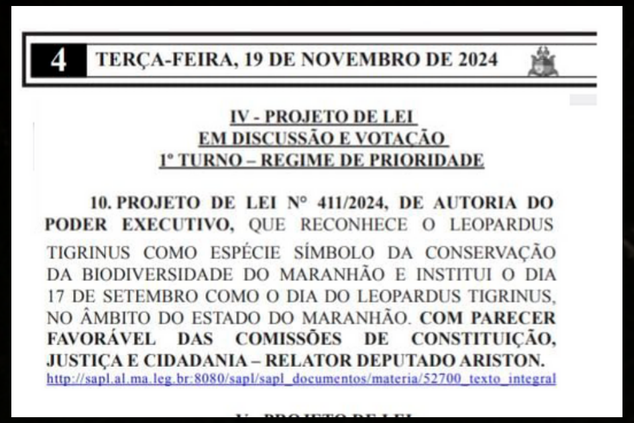
"A espécie está na lista brasileira de espécies ameaçadas de extinção. O Parque Estadual de Mirador é a unidade de conservação mais importante do mundo para essa espécie, pois é a única área capaz de sustentar, por si só, populações ecologicamente viáveis a longo prazo", diz o documento.

área capaz de sustentar, por si só, populações ecologicamente viáveis a longo prazo", diz o documento.

O Leopardus tigrinus está na lista brasileira de espécies ameaçadas de extinção. Foto: Animalia/Tambako the Jaguar/Creative Commons.

The savanna tiger-cat is being used as a flagship species in the legal action of Maranhão State Environmental Secretariat and the state's Legislative Assembly, in order to prevent the proposed changes of a Deputy to alter the boundaries of Mirador State Park, by using as one of the main argument of the park as the area of greatest relevance for the worldwide conservation of this endangered small cat.

IT'S A LAW!!!



4 TERÇA-FEIRA, 19 DE NOVEMBRO DE 2024

IV - PROJETO DE LEI
EM DISCUSSÃO E VOTAÇÃO
1º TURNO – REGIME DE PRIORIDADE

10. PROJETO DE LEI Nº 411/2024, DE AUTORIA DO PODER EXECUTIVO, QUE RECONHECE O LEOPARDUS TIGRINUS COMO ESPÉCIE SÍMBOLO DA CONSERVAÇÃO DA BIODIVERSIDADE DO MARANHÃO E INSTITUI O DIA 17 DE SETEMBRO COMO O DIA DO LEOPARDUS TIGRINUS, NO ÂMBITO DO ESTADO DO MARANHÃO. **COM PARECER FAVORÁVEL DAS COMISSÕES DE CONSTITUIÇÃO, JUSTIÇA E CIDADANIA – RELATOR DEPUTADO ARISTON.**
http://sapl.al.ma.leg.br:8080/sapl/sapl_documentos/materia/52700_texto_integral

For the first time in the world, a globally threatened small felid is officially chosen as the **symbol species for biodiversity conservation!**

The State of Maranhão (Brazil) takes the lead and recognizes *Leopardus tigrinus* as its conservation symbol, also establishing Spetember 17th the official day of the species in the state.

APPROACHES TO CHICKEN DEPREDATION

So far we manage to build only one henhouse in southern Brazil. There is another one that could not be built to date due to lack of local expertise. We curbed this problem by taking an expert to go there.

We have also been applying with good success reimbursement for confirmed chicken depredation in the area of Mirador State Park and in the Taquari Valley. In the Mirador area locals prefer this option, rejecting the henhouses.

APPROACHES TO CHICKEN DEPREDATION

A HAPPY ENDING STORY

Chicken depredation in the Mirador State Park area is not high enough to become a problem. Locals reported that most depredation is due to hawks and refused to adhere to the henhouse concept. However, the reimbursement approach (for confirmed cat depredation) is well received and has been in place since 2023. In early 2024, just outside the park's border, the small property of "Senhor Manuel," the largest chicken owner in the area, sustained six losses without the cat (the culprit caught on our camera in the property) being slaugthered for it's 6 chicken preyed. The tiger-cat remained alive and the proprietor was happy. Unfortunately, his two dogs broke loose and killed all the remaining 30+ chickens. Nevertheless, a happy ending story for the tiger-cat.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT &
PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE LANDOWNERS FOR HUMAN WILDLIFE COFLICTS

TURNING FELIDS PROFITABLE: FROM MENACE TO SOURCE OF INCOME

The setting: local landowners interactions with felid specialists especially during wildlife field work courses.

Due to intense interaction with the cat team in both areas and accounting for the income generated by regional activities with felids, some local farmers stopped felid retaliatory killing, understanding that the presence of felids on their properties was more profitable than their absence. At the same time, some owners, especially their children and grandchildren, also understand the unique ecological role of these predators in maintaining the natural balance and landscapes, which are vital for rural and ecological tourism in the region. As a result, the number of followers on the social networks of these tourist resorts tripled after the release of images from trap cameras and the field courses taught, consequently increasing the search for accommodation and tourism.

Area #1: Aparados da Serra National Park outskirts-Serra Geral; Atlantic Forest

Species benefited: Atlantic Forest tiger-cat, margay, ocelot, jaguarundi, puma

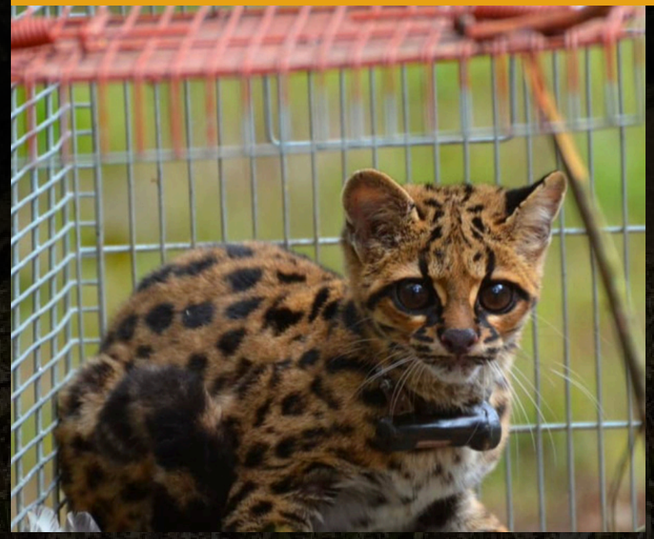
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT &
PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE LANDOWNERS FOR HUMAN WILDLIFE COFLICTS

TURNING FELIDS PROFITABLE: FROM MENACE TO SOURCE OF INCOME

The setting: local landowners interactions with felid specialists especially during wildlife field work courses.

Due to intense interactions with the cat team led by Fábio Mazim and accounting for the income generated by activities with felids, some local farmers stopped raising poultry. They realized that activities involving felid actions (hands-on wildlife field courses) and tourism with small felines are more profitable and generate high moral satisfaction, which must be passed on to future generations. At the same time, the number of followers on the social network of Pousada Santa Rita do Jarau tripled after the release of images from the trap cameras, the courses taught and the recording of the Documentary “Pampa o Bioma Esquecido,” for national broadcast TV, consequently increasing the search for accommodation and tours, leading to the waiting list on the project's agenda.

Area #2: Area of Cerro do Jaraú; Pampas grasslands



Species benefited: margay, jaguarundi, Pampa cat, Geoffroy’s cat

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE LANDOWNERS FOR HUMAN WILDLIFE COFLICTS

TURNING FELIDS PROFITABLE: FROM MENACE TO SOURCE OF INCOME

APARADOS DA SERRA AREA - HISTORIC CONFLICTS:

· Sheep and horse depredation by Puma concolor
· Poultry depredation by *Leopardus guttulus, Leopardus wiedii, Herpailurus yagouaroundi* and *Leopardus pardalis*

REVENUE LOSS TO DEPREDATION (USD)	PROFIT GAINED FROM PROTECTING FELIDS (USD)	NET GAIN (USD)
$ 1,932.77	$ 9,579.83	$ 7,647.,06

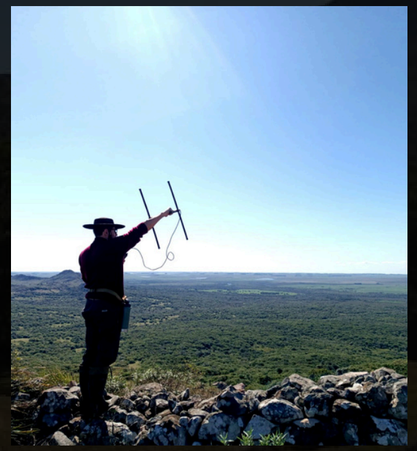
CERO DO JARAÚ AREA - HISTORIC CONFLICTS:

· Poultry depredation by *Leopardus munoai, Leopardus geoffroyi, Leopardus wiedii, Herpailurus yagouaroundi*

REVENUE LOSS TO DEPREDATION (USD)	PROFIT GAINED FROM PROTECTING FELIDS (USD)	NET GAIN (USD)
$ 30.25	$ 3,092.44	$ 3,062.19

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT &
PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE LANDOWNERS FOR HUMAN WILDLIFE COFLICTS

TURNING FELIDS PROFITABLE: FROM MENACE TO SOURCE OF INCOME

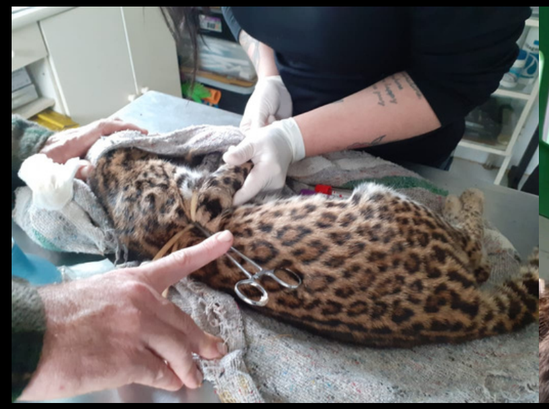


NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH LANDOWNERS FOR FELID CONSERVATION

anjos do sertão

LOOKING FORWARD TO DEVELOPING PRODUCTS WITH A TIGER-CAT STAMP

REHABILITATION AND RELEASE



Through partnership with the Brazilian Institute of the Environment (IBAMA), our rehabilitation program has expanded considerably. We are currently working with the “one health” approach, in which animals are recovered, go through a series of exams, and once deemed fit, are returned to nature and are being monitored with radio collars. Although the focus is on the “4x4" the four most threatened Brazilian small felids (savanna tiger-cat, Cerrado black-footed cat, Atlantic forest tiger-cat, Pampa-cat) in the four most threatened biomes (Cerrado, Caatinga, Atlantic Forest, Pampas), nevetheless we do not neglect ocelot, margay, jaguarundi and Geoffroy’s cat. We are planning to expand to 8 × 8 with support being sought in order to include other species of the Pampas-cat complex and the clouded tiger-cat.

REHABILITATION AND RELEASE

Through the Renaturalization Program of the Instituto Felinos do Aguai, another rehabilitation process has been successfully completed. A male Atlantic forest tiger-cat (*Leopardus guttulus*) received care for several months and showed he was ready to return to his natural habitat. The release took place at the São Francisco Reserve. Each step towards reintegrating these animals is crucial for directly contributing to the preservation of local wildlife.

Savanna tiger-cat

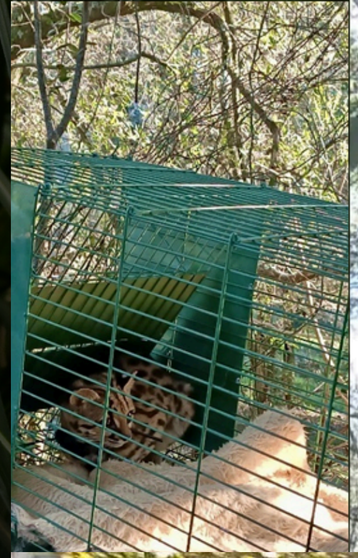
Jaguarundi

For the savannas and semi-arid Caatinga shrub-woodlands we currently have on rehab and behavioral training for future relase and monitoring 7 specimens of savanna tiger-cats and 3 jaguarundis

RESCUE DURING THE CATASTROPHE - RIO GRANDE DO SUL (BRAZIL)

The state of Rio Grande do Sul in southernmost Brazil has suffered severe floods. Needless to say, we have several of our members and projects living there that were highly affected in several ways. However, regardless of the hardships, several joined rescue teams and even ended up saving some small wild cats (not to mention human lives). They are our heroes!

Lajeado, one of the hardest hit areas, has a special meaning for several of us as well because the area was a pioneer in small cat research and conservation.



Margay rescued, rehabilitated, released and monitored during the floods: faring well – photographed days later with preyed dove

REINTRODUCING SMALL CATS BACK INTO THE WILD

Instituto Fauna Brasil is assessing the feasibility of reintroducing small cats based on conservation priorities and determining the source of individuals for translocation. Both Atlantic Forest tiger-cat and margay were deemed suitable for reintroduction back from extinction in Florianópolis island. We have identified the location and confirmed habitat suitability, prey availability, and the presence of rare species (in partnership with Fauna Floripa Project). Target areas have been chosen with guidance from the Municipal Environmental Foundation of Florianópolis where camera traps have been installed. We are still analyzing the frequency of domestic animals and human use in the targeted areas.

IN *field* ACTION!

IN *field* ACTION!

IN *field* ACTION!

IN *field* ACTION!

field IN ACTION!

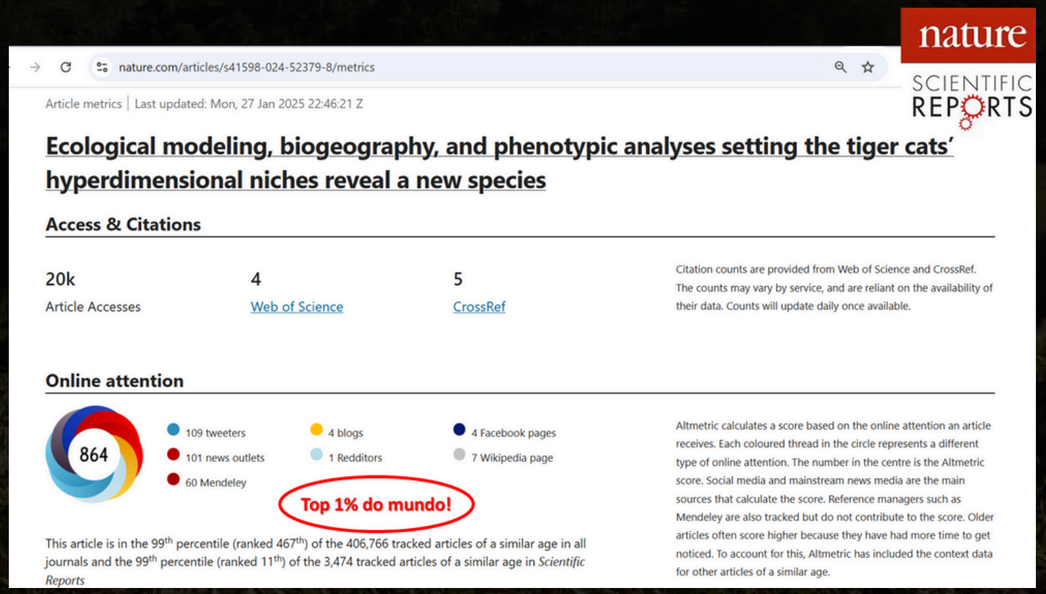
IN *field* ACTION!

IN *field* ACTION!

IN field ACTION!

IN *field* ACTION!

TIGER CATS TAKING THE WORLD BY STORM!



Published on January 29, 2024, our paper on the tiger cat species complex formally introduced a new felid species to the world and showed that all tiger-cats are in dire conservation needs, having already lost >50% to >68% of their original area. One year later, according to Nature.com's website, we reached the top 1% of media attention of all papers published since Altmetrics was established (all-time ranking #11 in Nature's Scientific Report), with >20,000 visualizations, most of which by the general public, far more than academics! News media around the globe (printed and online) literally on every continent. From newspapers such as Miami Herald to the pages of Mongabay, Terra da Gente, Ladera Sur, Sci News, Revista da FAPESP, Punnett's Square, and on and on, reaching the web and printed pages of National Geographic! However, that was not all, trending topic on Tweeter/X, being presented in a cat exhibit in Osaka, Japan by the Kitakyushu Museum of Natural History; the pages of National Geographic, US National Public Radio. In all, the conservation message was very clear and straightforward, and was beaufully caught by most media outlets.
This is conservation science!

https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-024-52379-8

TCCI ON WORLD MEDIA!

Miami Herald

'Cryptic' creature lurking in cloud forests of Colombia is an 'enigmatic' new species

BY BRENDAN RASCIUS
FEBRUARY 05, 2024 3:26 PM

Pesquisa FAPESP

ZOOLOGIA

Gatos-do-mato dos Andes e da América Central são diferentes dos brasileiros

Complexo que inclui Leopardus tigrinus e L. guttulus ganha espécie nova, L. pardinoides, todas ameaçadas de extinção

CAMPINAS E REGIÃO EPTV

TERRA DA GENTE

De subespécie à espécie: pesquisadores identificam novo gato-selvagem

Nomeado de gato-nebuloso, animal ocorre em florestas de altitude acima de 1.500 metros na Costa Rica e Panamá. Revelação é fruto de trabalho de mais de duas décadas.

Por Fernanda Machado, Terra da Gente
19/02/2024 11h10 · Atualizado há 2 meses

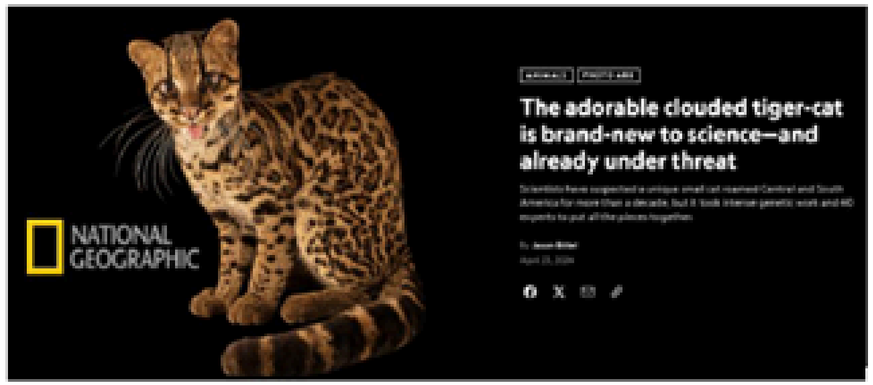
Por Alexis Cerqueira Gois
Via nexperta

Nova espécie de gato-do-mato é descoberta por brasileiro na região dos Andes

30/04/2024 às 18:00 • 2 min de leitura

Atualizado em 30/04/2024 às 18:00

MEGA CURIOSO



The adorable clouded tiger-cat is brand-new to science—and already under threat

Scientists have suspected a unique small cat roamed Central and South America for more than a decade, but it took intense genetic work and 60 experts to put all the pieces together.

By Jason Bittel
June 25, 2024

Mongabay Series: Almost Famous Animals, Global Forests

A tiger cat gains new species designation, but conservation challenges remain

by Sean Mowbray on 1 April 2024

LADERA SUR

CIENCIA Y BIODIVERSIDAD · VIAJES Y DESTINOS · MEDIO AMBIENTE · DEPORTE Y OUTDOOR · ARTE, CULTURA Y PATRIMONIO

Al rescate de los tigrillos de Latinoamérica: Descubrimiento de nueva especie cambia todo lo que sabíamos sobre la conservación de estos felinos

Ciencia y Biodiversidad

SCI NEWS

Scientists Identify Cryptic New Species of Tiger Cat

Jan 30, 2024 by Natali Anderson

« Previous | Next »

Published in: Biology, Featured

Tagged as: Andes, Argentina

In 2013, the oncilla (*Leopardus tigrinus*), a species of small spotted cat from the Americas, was split into two species: the northern tiger cat (*Leopardus tigrinus*) and the southern tiger cat (*Leopardus guttulus*). New research led by the Universidade Estadual do Maranhão shows that the oncilla is in fact three separate species.

Pets e Curiosidades

Pesquisadores identificam novo gato-selvagem

Estudar as espécies de gato-selvagem que compõem o complexo tigrinus não é tarefa fácil

C&G PET FOOD

Por Equipe Cães&Gatos
12 março 2024 | Última atualização - 09:57

Radio interview:

Fundación Laverde Biodiversa

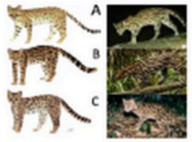
TCCI ON WORLD MEDIA!

The adorable clouded tiger-cat is brand-new to science—and already under threat

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/clouded-tiger-cats-new-species-latin-america

A tiger cat gains new species designation, but conservation challenges remain

https://news.mongabay.com/2024/04/a-tiger-cat-gains-new-species-designation-but-conservation-challenges-remain/



Scientists Identify Cryptic New Species of Tiger Cat

https://www.gunnettsquare.com/2024/04/controversy-of-tiger-cats.html

Scientists Identify Cryptic New Species of Tiger Cat

https://www.sci.news/biology/leopardus-pardinoides-12649.html

Gatos-do-mato dos Andes e da América Central são diferentes dos brasileiros

https://revistapesquisa.fapesp.br/gatos-do-mato-dos-andes-e-da-america-central-sao-diferentes-dos-brasileiros/

Al rescate de los tigrillos de Latinoamérica: Descubrimiento de nueva especie cambia todo lo que sabíamos sobre la conservación de estos felinos

https://laderasur.com/articulo/al-rescate-de-los-tigrillos-de-latinoamerica-descubrimiento-de-nueva-especie-cambia-todo-lo-que-sabiamos-sobre-la-conservacion-de-estos-felinos/?source=portada&widget=3-big-destacado&item=1

De subespécie à espécie: pesquisadores identificam novo gato-selvagem

https://g1.globo.com/sp/campinas-regiao/terra-da-gente/noticia/2024/02/19/de-subespecie-a-especie-pesquisadores-identificam-novo-gato-selvagem.ghtml

Conservationists unite to tackle Latin America's dog threat to wild cats

https://news.mongabay.com/2023/04/conservationists-unite-to-tackle-latin-americas-dog-threat-to-wild-cats/

Wissenschaftler identifizieren kryptische neue Arten der Tigerkatze

https://germanic.news/wissenschaftler-identifizieren-kryptische-neue-arten-der-tigerkatze/

Une nouvelle espèce de chat-tigre découverte !

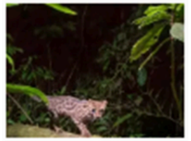
https://www.caminteresse.fr/animaux/une-nouvelle-espece-de-chat-tigre-decouverte-11192526/

'Cryptic' creature lurking in cloud forests of Colombia is an 'enigmatic' new species

- https://www.caminteresse.fr/animaux/une-nouvelle-espece-de-chat-tigre-decouverte-11192526/
- https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/article285094257.html
- https://www.islandpacket.com/news/nation-world/world/article285094257.html

Species New to Science

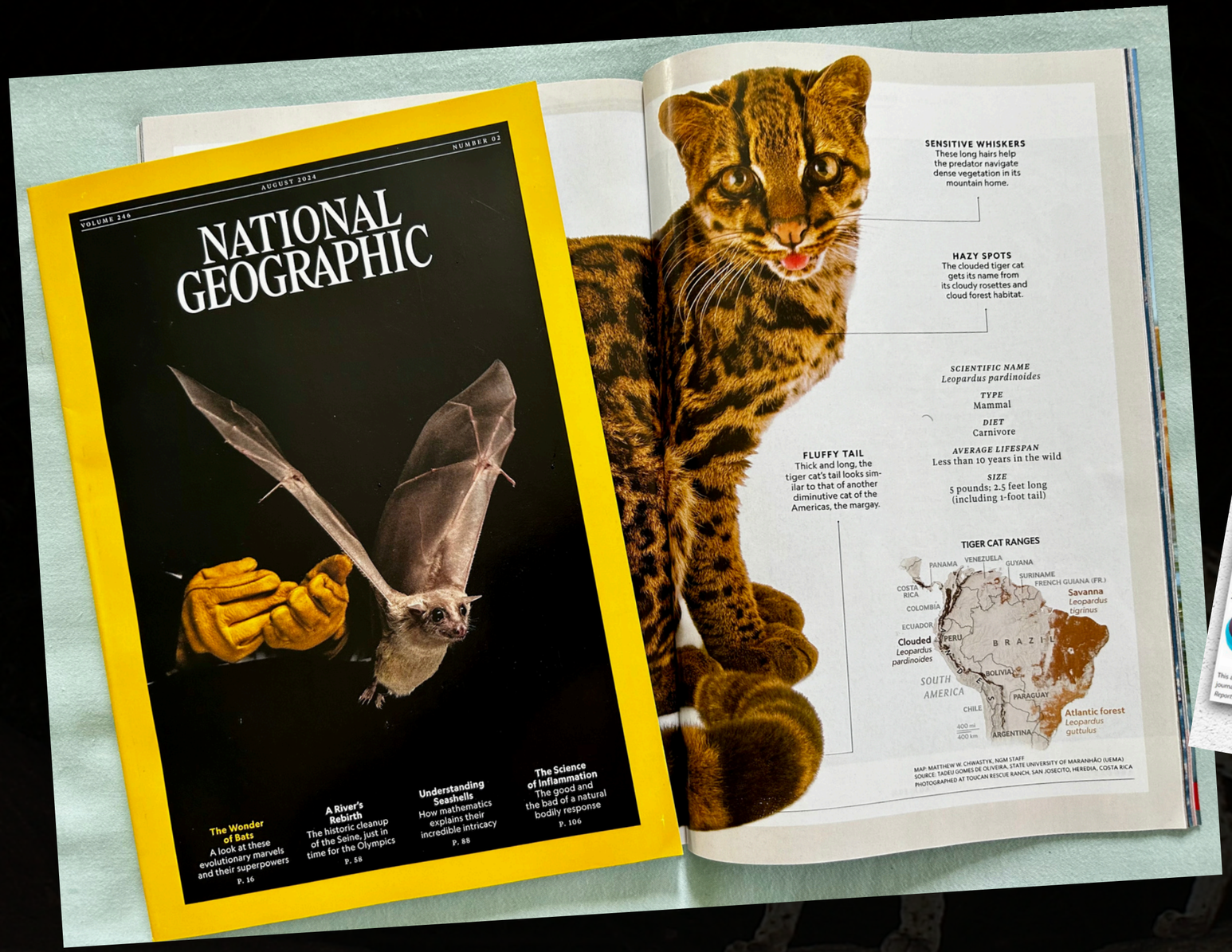
https://novataxa.blogspot.com/2024/01/pardinoides.html



Pesquisadores identificam novo gato-selvagem

https://caesegatos.com.br/pesquisadores-identificam-novo-gato-selvagem/

TCCI ON WORLD MEDIA!



TCCI ON MEDIA!

FaunaNews

O FAUNA NEWS ▾ FAUNA EM RISCO ▾ SERVIÇOS PÚBLICOS NOTÍCIAS ▾ COLUNAS ▾ PROJETOS ▾ CONTATO QUERO APOIAR

Pesquisadores confirmam presença do gato-maracajá-peludo na Chapada do Araripe (CE)

Primeiro registro da espécie no Ceará aconteceu em 2013. É a segunda vez que um felino desse é encontrado no Estado.

05 DE JUNHO DE 2024 CE

Ricardo Melo, Tacyane Grebos

Gato-maracajá peludo encontrado na Floresta Nacional do Araripe-Apodi (CE) - Foto: Patrícia F. Rosas-Ribeiro

O registro inédito de um **gato-maracajá-peludo** (*Leopardus wiedii*) na **Chapada do Araripe**, no Ceará, foi publicado dia 21 na revista

MONGABAY

Features Videos Podcasts Specials Articles Shorts Donate

Elusive jaguarundi inspires biologists to share data across Latin America

RUTH KAMNITZER

30 MAY 2024 CENTRAL AMERICA ALMOST FAMOUS ANIMALS

MONGABAY

Features Videos Podcasts Specials Articles Shorts Donate

Tadeu de Oliveira, founder of the Wild Cats Americas Conservation Project, setting camera traps for a long-running research project on small cats, including the jaguarundi. Jaguarundis are active during the day, so are sighted more often than other wildcats, but this doesn't mean they're common, researchers say. Image courtesy of Wild Cats America Conservation Project.

The invisible threat

The results of the latest IUCN assessment won't be out until later this year, but Tadeu de Oliveira, a professor at Maranhão State University in Brazil and co-founder of the Wild Cats Americas Conservation Project, says that the jaguarundi faces multiple threats. He calls the species the "neglected kid in the

eco nordeste | Jornalismo para sustentabilidade

Últimas Especial Opinião Podc

Visão geral da vegetação da Chapada do Araripe | Foto: Barbara Praxedes

O trabalho publicado pela equipe ajuda a entender melhor a distribuição e o estado de conservação da espécie no Ceará e na Caatinga brasileira e sugere que ações estratégicas de conservação devem ser adotadas urgentemente nas diferentes esferas. Entre estas ações, prioridade para a criação de áreas protegidas, a redução de ameaças diretas e o desenvolvimento de pesquisa ecológicas sobre a espécie na região, já previstas no Plano de Ação Nacional para a Conservação dos Pequenos Felinos, desenvolvido pelo ICMBio e do qual três dos membros do estudo fazem parte.

INTERVIEWS

ON AIR

PROJETOS de conservação se unem para proteger onça parda

Especialista afirma que na região, em áreas protegidas, já é possível flagrar indivíduos da espécie

FLORESTA ecologicamente saudável

FAUNA nas Encostas do Pico São Francisco

COLABORAÇÃO

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

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NEWSLETTERS SIGN IN NPR SHOP

NEWS CULTURE MUSIC PODCASTS & SHOWS SEARCH

SCIENCE

LISTEN & FOLLOW

Tiger-cats, sea squirts and beetles, oh my! Meet some species identified in 2024

DECEMBER 31, 2024 · 5:00 AM ET

By Jonathan Lambert

Clouded tiger-cat

Biologist Tadeu de Oliveira remembers well the email that sparked his decade-and-a-half effort to propose a new species of tiger-cat.

"Knowing them so deeply as I do, I knew this was not just some sort of variation," he said. "I knew it would go deeper, way deeper."

De Oliveira, a tiger-cat expert at Maranhão State University in Brazil, has spent many hours looking at the two described tiger-cats that prowl South America. But the photos in that email, from camera traps in the Andes mountains, struck him as different. The house-cat-sized creature in these photos had more irregular spots, seemingly thicker fur, and just moved differently than the known species, he told NPR.

He teamed up with over 40 other scientists to formally describe the clouded tiger-cat (*Leopardis pardinoides*) as a new species. The investigation revealed the clouded tiger-cat as genetically and geographically distinct from the other two species, the northern tiger-cat and southern tiger-cat. While those species stick to the lowlands of savannahs and coastal forests, the clouded-tiger cat is only found in the mountains of Central and South America.

INTERVIEWS

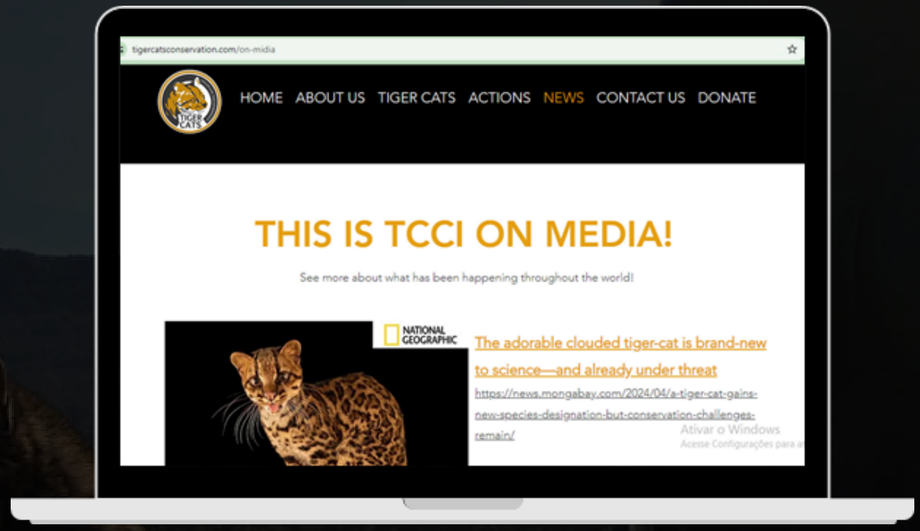
19:36
JORNAL DA CIDADE
SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

JMTV
19:12
GATO DO MATO É RECONHECIDO COMO SÍMBOLO DA BIODIVERSIDADE
Projeto de lei foi aprovado na Assembleia Legislativa do Maranhão

(98) 99101-4632
BOM DIA
06:41
TADEU DE OLIVEIRA
biólogo e professor da UEMA
WILD CATS

BOM DIA
06:49
IMPACTOS DAS QUEIMADAS
Fauna e flora ameaçados pelas queimadas
ao vivo

TCCI ON MEDIA!



MAIN CHALLENGES

The most challenging aspect relates to the allocation of funds for the number of participating projects (> 50) and the ever-increasing need for conservation action. We have managed this with some local-level partnerships, usually with local authorities in the vaccination campaigns, where we sometimes managed to get some vaccines and due to some funding from specific projects. However, there is still one major problem: the astonishing numbers of dogs and cats that reach the otskirts of some of our monitoring sites. In only one of these, the total number of doses exceeded 600!

We were only able to accomplish all that was reported through additional funds from several local (national) partners. Several Brazilian partners, such as CETAS/IBAMA, contributed immensely through equipment and logistical support for some specific projects/sites, while additional partnerships gathered us with logistical support, vaccines and other supplies, and personnel. This applied not only to Brazil, but also to all other countries where we have projects.

Another caveat relates to the lack of salaries to allow several members to be better dedicated to their projects' conservation actions; there is no easy way to solve this problem. We keep on going...

THIS IS TCCI !!!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

re:wild

صندوق محمد بن زايد
للمحافظة على
الكائنات الحية
The Mohamed bin Zayed
SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

PANTHERA

SWCCF
SMALL WILD CAT CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

OUR PARTNERS