



www.jaguar.org.br

Fundo para a Conservação da Onça-Pintada
Jaguar Conservation Fund

Jaguar News, nº 09

Brazil, October/2007

Density and habitat segregation by ocelots (*Leopardus pardalis*), pumas (*Puma concolor*) and jaguars (*Panthera onca*), in the Carbonera-Carate area, Peninsula de Osa, Costa Rica

We are estimating the density of the ocelots, pumas and jaguars in an area of the Osa Peninsula in Costa Rica utilizing the camera-traps method. Concurrently, we're collecting scats and interviewing the local people to know more about the ecology and people's perception of wildlife.

We are doing the study in this zone because is part of the buffer area of one of Costa Rica's most important national parks - Corcovado National Park, which has no protection status. The area is composed almost in its entirety of private land, where the activities are agriculture, cattle ranching, tourism and conservation. The problem affecting the wild cats in the Osa Peninsula is primarily loss of habitat, poaching of their prey or of the cats themselves for their skins, and the conflicts with man.



Jaguar photographed by camera trap in Carbonera-Carated region, Península de Osa, Costa Rica.

We have found 14 ocelots, eight pumas and one jaguar in an area of 25 km², and aside from the cats, we have photographed 21 other species of birds and mammals. Also, we know now analyzing the pictures that the pumas are moving a lot during the day in comparison to the ocelots.

Aida Bustamante/Ricardo Moreno
Friends of the Osa
abustamante@osaconservation.org