Project Update: January 2014

The project has begun with authorisation request to the authorities in rural communities and the presentation of the team with authorities and communities. The working sites have been selected from a previous project (Evaluation of Livestock Depredation by Jaguar and Other Large Carnivorous Mammals in Southern Sierra 2Gran Folded ") supported by the Rufford Foundation. The sites have been chosen as they are characteristic of livestock production areas (goats, sheep and cattle) and where they have registered cases of livestock depredation by carnivores (jaguar, cougar, black bear and coyote).

Work has begun with the installation of 15 camera traps in sites bordering between the states of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, which are areas with a higher incidence of recorded jaguar in the region. The camera traps were installed based on the methodology of the National Census Jaguar in Mexico (CEN Jaguar), modified for specific sampling to pastoral areas. Based on Silver *et al.* (2004)* the camera stations were located where there was evidence of jaguars (tacks, scrapes, past sightings). However, to satisfy the assumption that all animals have at least some probability of being photographed, camera stations were established in areas with little or no jaguar sign when necessary

The next stage is to begin to conduct interviews and surveys to characterise the livestock management in these same pre-selected sites. It is also planned with these surveys and interviews to obtain data from sites livestock depredation by jaguars and other carnivores and start to get biophysical data associated with these predation events.

Left: Preparation camera traps before installing. **Middle:** Installing the camera trap. **Right:** View of a typical ranch where jaguar lives there and livestock production

*Silver, S. C., Ostro, L. E., Marsh, L. K., Maffei, L., Noss, A. J., Kelly, M. J., ... & Ayala, G. (2004). The use of camera traps for estimating jaguar *Panthera onca* abundance and density using capture/recapture analysis. Oryx, 38(2), 148-154.