Project Update: October 2013

I did fieldwork in the Argentine Chaco during March and April 2013. There I coordinated a team of rural extension agents to collect social data. My purpose was to gather information on landholder's attitudes and intentions towards conservation of remnant forest fragments. We visited 89 landholdings and administered questionnaires to farmers and ranchers. Back from fieldwork, I analysed data and wrote a manuscript summarising my main findings and its implications for the design of forest conservation interventions. The manuscript was submitted published Conservation Letters and in in June (see http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/conl.12033/abstract). I also presented this analysis at the 2013 International Congress for Conservation Biology held in Baltimore, US, during late July 2013. Currently, I'm preparing a trip to the study area to discuss my findings with stakeholders and decision-makers in meetings and workshops. Also, feedback on questionnaire surveys will be delivered to all survey participants during fieldwork.



Left: Cattle grazing in pastures on cleared areas an increasingly common landscape in dry Chaco forests. Right: Engaging in ranchers' activities during visits to their landholdings aimed at collecting data on attitudes and intentions towards forest conservation.