

Project Update: August 2014

From July 2013 to March 2014 prey was augmented in the study area with the release of 35 peccaries and the establishment of artificial feeding sites. Our camera trap data indicate that the relative abundances of prey before and after augmentation was significantly increased. We investigated a total of 116 prey kill sites - 57 before prey augmentation and 59 after augmentation from locational data of four puma and two jaguars with GPS collars. We are currently analysing scat collected during the study, to compare diet before and after prey augmentation. On February 28th 2014, the collared female jaguar was unlawfully killed. With our GPS data, investigators were able to immediately locate her burned remains. The investigation is ongoing and we hope the person responsible is prosecuted. Science needs to provide alternatives to decrease predation on livestock by predators and we hope the results of this study will provide that.



Left: Deer at feeding site. Right: Peccaries released at the study area, spotted by camera trap at the feeding sites.