

Project Update: June 2014

I have completed the first block of camera trapping and successfully photo captured two adult jaguar individuals and a juvenile one. However, overall levels of biodiversity are low with several sampling locations displaying no biodiversity at all which is a very alarming result and a consequence of intensive agriculture. I am starting setting cameras for my second block tomorrow. I have also conducted several interviews trying to understand people's narratives of landscape change and gathering their knowledge on the consequences of oil palm expansion in the area, and on potential solutions to optimise different objectives in the area (biodiversity conservation, food security, water availability, employment). Current oil palm expansion is perceived as not sustainable with negative impact on water availability, aquatic ecosystems, soils, biodiversity, and society. Solutions mentioned so far range from education to incentives for multi-crops farms to limiting the size of plantations to stricter environmental laws and fighting corruption.



