

Project Update: March 2016

In December 2015, the field recognition was carried out and the first census of the *Lama guanicoe* population was in this summer season. All the activities were carried out with personnel of the SAG (Agricultural and Livestock Development Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture) and members of the stock breeder's communities.

For the population study, all *L. guanicoe* animals seen along 13 transects were recorded (Photo 1 and 2). , Initially the number of transects proposed was between eight and 12, but we did 13. As initially contemplated, the geographical location of the transects was defined as random, and the observations along these transect were carried out by foot (Photo 3). Because of the geographical and topographical characteristics of the study area, with very steep slopes, rocks and cliffs, the transect length had to be adjusted for accessibility reasons.

At each observation site, a characterisation of the vegetation was performed. Unidentified plant species were sampled and brought back to the lab for future identification.

In addition to animal observations, we also recorded ammunitions found along the transect (Photo 4)



Photo 1 y 2: Guanaco population observed in summer season 2016



Photo 3: Walking through the transect



Photo 4: Ammunition found in the field