



# Jaguar

*Panthera onca*



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Photo by: Patrick Meier





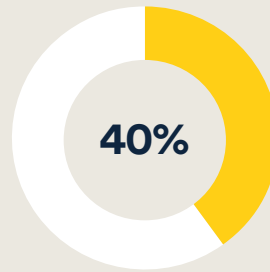
ALTHOUGH JAGUAR POPULATIONS ARE ABUNDANT IN SOME AREAS, THIS WILD CAT – THE LARGEST LIVING TODAY IN THE AMERICAS – IS THREATENED BY ILLEGAL HUNTING, DEFORESTATION, AND LOSS OF WILD PREY.

### JAGUAR CONSERVATION STATUS

Least Concern      Near Threatened      Vulnerable      Endangered      Critically Endangered



● CURRENT Jaguar Range      ● HISTORIC Jaguar Range



Jaguars have been eradicated from 40 percent of their historic range.

18

JAGUARS EXIST IN 18 COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA, FROM MEXICO TO ARGENTINA

2

JAGUARS ARE EXTINCT IN 2 COUNTRIES: EL SALVADOR AND URUGUAY

## Threats to the Jaguar

- 1 As humans develop land for agriculture and other uses, jaguar habitats are lost or fragmented, isolating populations and jeopardizing genetic integrity of the species.
- 2 Jaguars are threatened by direct hunting by humans; for instance, some ranchers kill jaguars in retaliation or because of their perceived threat to livestock and livelihoods.
- 3 Lack of natural prey, like deer and peccaries, due to overhunting by humans, contributes to population declines and forces jaguars to prey on domestic animals, further fueling human-jaguar conflict.

### POPULATION

Jaguars exist in 18 countries in the Americas, from Mexico to Argentina. While the rare individual has been spotted in the US, there has not been evidence of a breeding population in the US in more than 50 years.

During the 1960s and 1970s, the jaguar was heavily hunted for its fur; as many as 18,000 jaguars were killed each year until 1973, when the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) brought the pelt trade to a near halt. Today, jaguars continue to be hunted, mostly due to conflict with humans.

The jaguar is listed as “Near Threatened” on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, though its status is in review and may be elevated to “Vulnerable” in the next year.

### SAVING THE JAGUAR

Panthera’s Jaguar Corridor Initiative is the only conservation program to date which seeks to protect jaguars across their entire six million km<sup>2</sup> range.

Panthera is securing and linking jaguar habitats and populations by working with governments and corporations to ensure development in the Jaguar Corridor allows for safe wildlife travel. We also help manage critical protected areas and advocate to create protected areas where needed. Finally, in 14 of the 18 jaguar range states, Panthera protects jaguar prey, collaborates with local communities to reduce conflict and increase human tolerance, and partners with governments, many of which have publicly pledged their support for and recognition of the Jaguar Corridor.