

Pitman, R.L. & Mazzolli, M. 2007. Jaguar persistence in the fragments of the Atlantic Coastal Forest, Southeastern Brazil. Wild Felid Biology and Conservation Conference. WildCru, Oxford.

Brazil's Atlantic Coastal Forest is the second most endangered tropical forest in the world and only 5% of this ecosystem remains. Thirty percent (30%) of the ecosystem is uneffectively protected. The largest and best protected track of the Atlantic Coastal Forest is found in Southeastern Brazil, where the jaguar's population were surveyed by recording of tracks and scats during 1995-1997, giving a rough estimate of 1 jaguar per 100km², and where local extinction of the species in some areas (Superagui National Park) was documented. The expectations under the impacts at that time, was that the jaguar's population wouldn't last for the next 10 years. However, surveys realized 10 years latter (2006) shows that jaguars still persist in the area. We show through GIS data that during these 10 years other protected areas were created in the region. The protection increased on the already existent protected areas. These measurements might be responsive for the jaguar persistence in the area, but are unlikely to be enough to ensure jaguar survival if specific measures are not implemented.