

November 2018



## *Cameras & Cats*

With no doubt, wildlife photography is one of the most challenging, yet rewarding forms of nature photography. Sebastian Kennerknecht and Karen Saucedo had one goal in mind...to capture the enigmatic "black jaguar." Fortunately, our camera traps have captured more than one of these beauties over our past 2-years of research in the cloud forest.

To capture a wild cat image that conveys an emotional connection between the viewer and the animal, Sebastian uses DSLR camera traps.

After long hours hiking, we reached station P7, where the black jaguar roams. Next, we searched for the perfect angle and composition. Following a complex set-up of lights, cables, and after many trials, we left hoping the jaguar would choose that trail, so Sebastian could capture another stunning picture, only this time, for Kaminando's jaguar project.

In the end, we did not get that jaguar image. However, the passion and enthusiasm to capture an image of a black jaguar remains... Sebastian will return! For striking pictures of cats from around the world, visit:

<https://www.pumapix.com/>



### **Upcoming Events:**

- November 24th we will check cameras with students and volunteers.
- We will meet with the Indigenous Guna Yala People to plan our future collaboration.
- We plan to scout for new areas in the forests of Panama to expand our camera trap study.

## *Making Movies*

In September, Kaminando was asked to participate in the SF Green Film Festival's Reel Science Challenge. We teamed up with filmmakers Sarinah Simons and Kristin Tieche (<http://www.selvavision.com/>) to create a 2-minute film about our work with jaguars, and how they may be affected by climate change. Studies show that global warming is a cause of irreversible change in habitat availability for big cats. We plan to make a longer version to create awareness of the plight of the cloud forest and jaguars, we will keep you posted!

## Oakland Zoo & Kaminando

We are honored to have been selected as one of the Oakland Zoo's Quarters for Conservation partners for 2019! Over the past several months, Kaminando has already participated in the zoo's Grand Opening of the California Trail (where you will now find a stunning jaguar living in the hills of Oakland), Earth Day and Lion Appreciation Day. We look forward to a fun year of activities, events and collaboration.

## Wildlife Conservation Network

One of the most celebrated wildlife events of the year takes place in San Francisco, CA! The Wildlife Conservation Network Fall Expo is where to find some of the most passionate wildlife lovers and protectors...Kaminando was proud to partake in the special event this year, we exhibited a table to promote our hard work in Panama.

It was a successful day making great contacts and conversation...many were interested in our Jaguar Challenge Tour, volunteer opportunities and student program.



## Collaborations

Kaminando has formed a partnership with Northern Arizona University's Rocky Mountain Research Lab. Together, with Dr. Sam Cushman and Ho Yi Wan, we are using novel methods to analyze data to better understand the distribution and movement of jaguars in Panama. To create a management plan that addresses the pervasive forest degradation and poaching, our preliminary results indicate the need for more like studies throughout the country. Our sponsors and donors are making it possible to accomplish our vision.

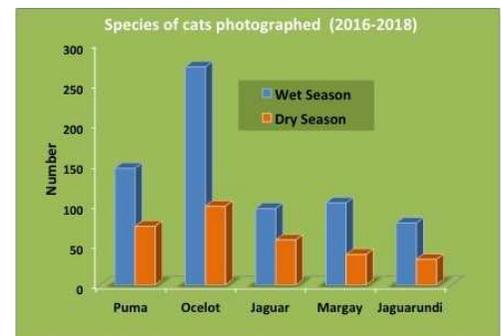


## More to do...

Over the last two years, our camera traps have captured more than 8,000 pictures and videos of five cat species (jaguar, puma, ocelot, jaguarundi, and margay), and many other species of mammals, birds, reptiles, etc... Jaguars alone accounted for 152 pictures. Based on individual spot (rosette) patterns, we are busy figuring out how many different jaguars roam our study area.

In August, we were prepared to capture and GPS-collar two jaguars and two pumas. However, to our surprise, the Panamanian wildlife agency informed us that we could not proceed as planned. This was an unfortunate turn of events for the future of jaguar conservation in the region.

We are diligently working with the agency to better understand their decision, and move forward with our plans soon...Stay tuned!



## Kaminando Habitat Connectivity Initiative

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### We want to thank our sponsors for their support!

The Mamoni Valley Preserve

The Laney Thornton Foundation

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The Oakland Zoo

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Donate at: <https://kaminando.org/>

Let's keep jungles and jaguars connected!



### *Adopt a Jaguar!*

*Give a gift that will help protect the future of jaguars. Your symbolic adoption supports Kaminando's efforts to protect wild jaguars and their habitat in Panama.*

*\*Contact us for more information.*

