



# Jaguar

*Panthera onca*

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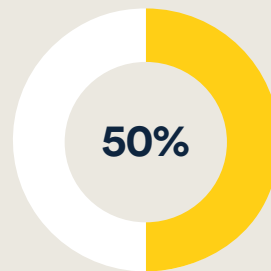
Although jaguar populations are found throughout Latin America, this wild cat — the largest in the Western hemisphere — is threatened by illegal hunting, deforestation, human-cat conflict, and loss of wild prey.



● CURRENT Jaguar Range ● HISTORIC Jaguar Range

#### JAGUAR CONSERVATION STATUS

Least Concern      Near Threatened      Vulnerable      Endangered      Critically Endangered



18

Jaguars exist in 18 countries in Latin America, from Mexico to Argentina

2

Jaguars are extinct in 2 countries: El Salvador and Uruguay

Jaguars have been eradicated from nearly half of their historic range.

## Threats to the Jaguar

- 1 As humans develop land for agriculture and other uses, jaguar habitat is lost or fragmented, isolating populations and jeopardizing the genetic connectivity of the species. This goes hand-in-hand with the effects of climate change — in 2020, devastating wildfires in the Brazilian Pantanal resulted in the deaths of over 17 million vertebrates.
- 2 Jaguars are threatened by direct hunting by humans. Humans retaliate against jaguars because of conflict with livestock or perceived threats to livelihood. However, jaguars are the least dangerous of all wild cats. They are not a threat to humans unless hunted, harassed, or previously baited. There are no cases of wild jaguars systematically hunting and consuming human beings.
- 3 Poaching of natural prey, like deer and peccaries, contributes to population declines and forces jaguars to prey on domestic animals, further fueling human-jaguar conflict.

#### POPULATION

Jaguars occur in 18 countries in the Americas, from Mexico to Argentina. While the rare individual has been spotted in the southwestern US, there has not been evidence of a viable breeding population in the US for over 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) listed jaguars under Appendix I and helped bring the pelt trade to a near halt. Today, humans continue to hunt jaguars, largely due to livestock predation.

The jaguar is listed as “Near Threatened” on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, with a range-wide population trend in decline.

#### SAVING THE JAGUAR

Panthera’s Jaguar Corridor Initiative aims to protect jaguars across their entire 6 million km<sup>2</sup> range.

Panthera is securing and linking jaguar habitat and populations by working with governments, NGOs, and local communities to ensure the Jaguar Corridor maintains physical and genetic connectivity for jaguars, range-wide. We also help manage critical protected areas and advocate for creating protected areas where needed. Finally, in nine 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 jaguar range States have endorsed their support for and recognition of the Jaguar Corridor, including through partnerships to implement the Jaguar 2030 Roadmap.