

Juan Carlos Huaranca. / Active Member

One of the groups of animals that attracted his attention since his childhood were carnivores, such as lions and tigers. In his years as an undergraduate student he was fortunate to be able to observe (albeit accidentally) several species of native carnivores, such as foxes and small cats, even without being able to recognize the species. As his career progressed, he had the opportunity to do an internship in Argentina with colleagues who work with Andean Cat. There he learned much more about this species and was fortunate enough to make his first sighting of the Andean cat. From there and being a member of AGA, he has coordinated several projects focused on obtaining information about the Andean cat in different locations in Bolivia. Currently he is developing his PhD in Science with a mention in Conservation and Natural Resources Management in Chile. His PhD thesis focuses on evaluating the effects of livestock on Andean cat populations. During the following years he will focus on the development of projects that will help diminish the effect of threats on the Andean cat, mainly mining and cattle grazing. In addition to strengthening knowledge of the distribution and local perceptions of the Andean cat, its habitat and associated species.