

### **Hector Alexis Luque Machaca / Collaborator Member**

Passionate about wildlife, especially carnivores, Hector began his biology studies in 2010 at the Universidad Nacional del Altiplano in his hometown of Puno, Peru. During his university years, he embarked on several trips to the Peruvian Amazon, where he realized the need for greater research and conservation efforts in Peru's high Andes. He decided to write his undergraduate thesis describing puma diet, habitat selection, and conflicts with peasant communities in the Salinas and Aguada Blanca National Reserve in the Peruvian Andes. This motivated him to focus his interests on the study of high Andean carnivores and their conservation.

Hector contributed to the development of high Andean fauna research proposals and biological education, with emphasis on the Andean cat. He has also contributed to the establishment of Regional Conservation Areas. In 2017, Hector was awarded a scholarship to study Wildlife Conservation and Management at the National University, Costa Rica, where he currently resides.

Today, he is in the final stages of his master's degree and is very motivated to contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in the Peruvian Andes and other regions of the world.