

Dra. María José Bolgeri / Conflict Mitigation Program, Argentina Field Coordinator.

Her love for nature and its animals started very early on, and she therefore did not hesitate to study biology when deciding on a profession. She received a Bachelor in Biology, in the National University of La Plata, Argentina. During the last years of study, she worked as a volunteer on conservation projects developed by the Wildlife Conservation Society in the San Guillermo National Park, where the populations of guanacos, vicuñas, pumas and the possible presence of Andean cats were studied.

Once she finished her degree she focused her doctorate on studying guanaco migrations and the influence of these movements on the predation patterns of pumas in La Payunia Provincial Reserve, south of Mendoza, Argentina. There, at the gateway to Patagonia, she got involved with conflicts between herders and wild carnivores. Currently, she is working to generate actions to improve coexistence between herders and native carnivores, through the Conflict Mitigation Program in a collaboration between AGA and WCS Argentina.