

María José Villegas / Collaborator Member

Veterinarian with a steadfast dedication to wildlife conservation. Her involvement began in 2018 as a volunteer in AGA's Carnivore Conflict Mitigation program, where she became involved in research on the Andean cat and its activity patterns in the Coquimbo region of Chile.

Since then, María José has maintained her dedication to wildlife, working as an assistant professor of a wildlife clinic and as a doctor and thesis student at UFAS (UNAB's Wildlife Rehabilitation Unit).

She has internships in zoos outside Chile and in the country with a Master's degree in Animal and Veterinary Sciences at the University of Chile and a scholarship for the Diploma in Wildlife Management and Conservation, highlighting her commitment to continuing education. Her work experience is focused on the conservation and management of wildlife, especially mesomammals, collaborating with public and private entities.

In addition, she is a registered veterinarian in Chile and plays an active role in the Chilean Association of Wildlife Veterinarians (AMEVEFAS), working closely with colleagues and experts in promoting the health and conservation of the country's wildlife.