

**Jaguar Conservation Team (JAGCT)- Habitat Subcommittee Summary Notes**  
Animas, New Mexico  
July 15, 1999

**Meeting Opened** – ca. 2:00pm

**Ground Rules** for the meeting were presented.

**Review of last meeting's minutes**

Corrections were discussed during the Conservation Team meeting regarding comments in the draft notes referring to USFWS involvement in the development of a Recovery Team. The role of the Habitat Subcommittee and the Conservation Team in regards to the development of a Recovery Team was clarified during the Conservation Team meeting. The Habitat Subcommittee has clearly defined goals and work products that must be the focus of their efforts.

Corrections to the spelling of Congressman Skeen's name were noted.

**Status of Last Meeting's Action Items**

Sarah was not able to attend this meeting, however, she did provide examples of recovery plans to Meira by mail as requested.

Recovery Team questions were clarified during the Conservation Team meeting.

Mike Pruss provided jaguar location data to Michael Robinson.

Michael Robinson provided historic jaguar kill citations to Mike Pruss.

Gary Helbing was unable to attend the Habitat Subcommittee meeting, but did provide a hard copy of human population density data for Cochise County after the Conservation Team meeting.

No further information on funding availability has been gathered.

During the Conservation Team meeting, the USFWS agreed to look into the availability of funds to assist in the translation of the Mexico City Jaguar Workshop findings.

**Mapping Progress (Strategy 5.D.)**

The Conservation Agreement directs each cooperating state wildlife agency to produce a state-specific map delineating land ownership patterns overlaid with suitable jaguar habitat, insofar as such habitat can be delineated at that time for the purpose of evaluating opportunities for jaguar habitat management. Our subcommittee has identified the area that this map represents as the jaguar study and voluntary cooperative effort area. Currently, general land ownership maps for

Arizona and New Mexico are available to the general public. Simply creating a new map with land ownership patterns would be of little use for jaguar management. Although jaguar habitat is little known for Arizona and New Mexico, resulting in a difficulty in mapping it, our current efforts are directed toward creating a GIS map that includes parameters identified in our Habitat Criteria document (attached). The general concept is to overlay one to two layers for each parameter resulting in an accumulation of overlapping parameter measures in areas that may be most important to the jaguar. We are continuing to try to locate additional data for New Mexico and Old Mexico to complete a map for the entire area that directly affects our Conservation Team. Unfortunately, some parameters can not be easily gathered, especially for Mexico.

The subcommittee agreed to continue the mapping work along the current methodology.

### **Funding**

Jim deVos in AGFD Research may have information on NAFTA funding.

USFWS may have funding for international projects.

### **Other Comments**

We still have a need to know more about what is going on in Mexico with the jaguar.

We need a proposal if we are going to go after money.

The Gila Wilderness has habitat that may be great for jaguars.

Reintroductions may be hard on animals, and there may be conflicting recreational uses in some areas.

### **Next Meeting**

Michael Robinson agreed to find a location for our next subcommittee meeting in late October. The meeting will be in Silver City, NM on October 21, 1999 from 10am to 1pm. The meeting is at the New Mexico State University library in Conference Room A. From AZ or the Bootheel, take Hwy 90 from I-10 at Lordsburg north to Silver City. Once in Silver City, take a left on College Avenue and follow it approximately one mile up hill until you see university-looking buildings on your right. You must park on the street, and walk across the university parking lot to the student center building. Take the stairs either within or on the side of this building up to the library.

### **Action Items**

Don will contact Raul to see if he is interested in drafting a study proposal for habitat work in Mexico, and will contact Joe Skeen's office to discuss this option.

Mike Pruss will contact Terry Johnson and discuss the appropriateness of Conservation Team support for this effort.

Everyone was encouraged to provide Mike Pruss with appropriate agenda items for the next meeting. If there are any questions as to what is appropriate, refer to the Conservation Strategy document, section 5, subsections A-G.

If you have an action item, please be prepared to discuss it, or if you are unable to attend, please make arrangements with Mike Pruss for that information to be presented to the group.

**Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at ca. 3pm.