



# WELCOME TO THE FIRST WDA LATIN AMERICA SECTION NEWSLETTER!

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## *EDITORIAL*

*Volume I, Issue I – April, 2015*

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Let's look back to when we first started... The Latin American Section was created during the 2010 annual conference, held in the city of Puerto Iguazú – Argentina, with the participation of students, researchers and professionals working in the field of wildlife health and conservation in several Latin American countries and WDA colleagues from all over the world. A year later, the WDA Latin American Section was officially created, during the Quebec conference, in Canada.

The first biennial WDA Latin America meeting was held in September 2013, in the city of São Paulo, Brazil. Leading experts involved in research and field work in South America, shared their knowledge through lectures, and oral and poster presentations. This year, we are very excited to see new and current colleagues during our second biennial meeting, to be held in Bogotá, Colombia (see further information bellow). This is a very important moment for our us; we have more members than ever before and our expectation is to keep gaining new ones and expanding our activities in the coming years!

We all know how important it is to expand our knowledge on wildlife diseases in the North, Central and South Americas. This is continuously brought to our attention through the compelling and innovative research developed by our members and colleagues in these regions of the world. We are all united towards the same concept: One Health. But in order to achieve all these goals and take steady steps towards the future, we need your help. We look forward to working with you and urge you to get involved in this bright new chapter. Be an active part on the Latin American WDA Section and encourage new members to do the same!

We hope you have enjoyed your reading. Suggestions and comments are always welcome and appreciated. Please feel free to contact us at: [wda.latinamerica.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wda.latinamerica.newsletter@gmail.com). For more information about our section please visit: [http://www.wdalatinoamerica.org/?page\\_id=2](http://www.wdalatinoamerica.org/?page_id=2).



I Biennial Conference of the WDA Latin America Section, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2013.

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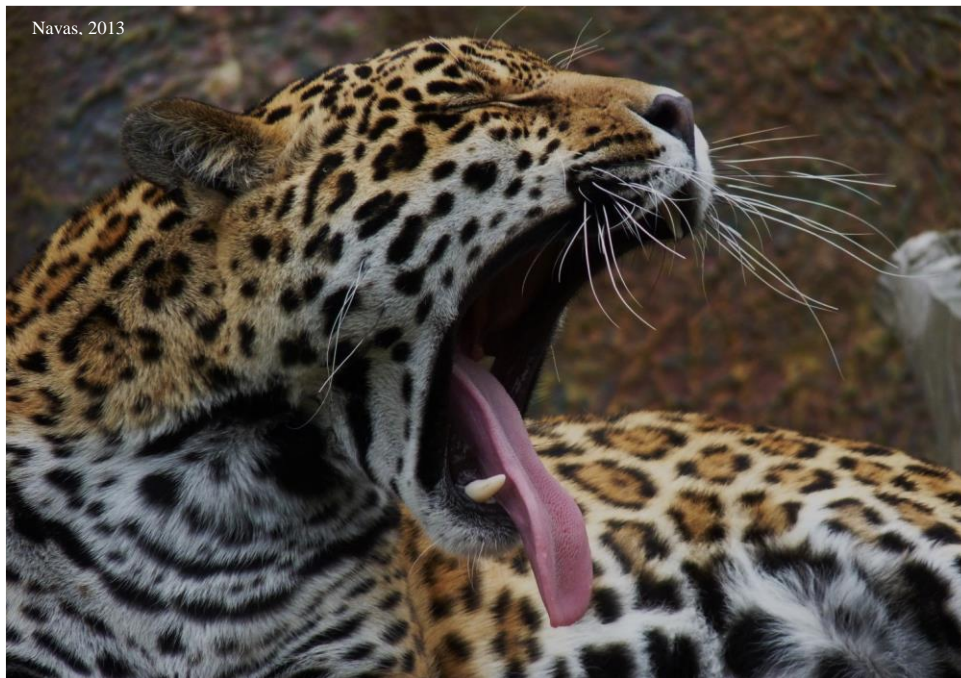
## CONSERVATION SPACE

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We would share some great news:

Starting on February 18th, 2015, we have a new member in the Panthera's Jaguar Corridor Initiative: Colombia! But what exactly is it?

The Panthera's Jaguar Corridor Initiative is a transnational project linking different populations of these big cats, living alongside humans, in areas ranging from Argentina all the way up to Mexico. The jaguar (*Panthera onca*) is the largest cat in the Americas. The largest populations are currently limited to the Amazon forest, and face innumerable threats. In order to enhance the protection of this species, an alliance emerged in 2014 to create the Panthera's Jaguar Corridor Initiative, led by:



- **Panthera**, the world's leading wild cat conservation group, which aims to secure the future of big felines;
- **The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)**, now supporting conservation projects to protect jaguars for over 15 years;
- **WWF (World Conservation Organization)**, which works to protect the Amazon forest through the "Living Amazon Initiative", a program focusing on indigenous lands and protected areas;

It also has the support of several other organizations worldwide:

- **In Brazil:** Traffic South America, Alexander von Humboldt Institute, INPA, and Instituto Mamirauá;
- **In Colombia:** Omacha Foundation, National University of Colombia and Tropenbos;
- **In Ecuador:** Universidad Catolica Pontificia del Ecuador and Universidad San Francisco de Quito.

The goal of this project is to conserve the natural habitat of the jaguar, connect forested territories along 13 Latin American countries, and improve and educate the life quality of human communities that share the same territories with this American Icon.

From our end, we wish the Panthera's Jaguar Corridor Initiative a long and successful life!!!

### Sources:

<http://www.wwf.org.co/?221731/Planes-para-el-futuro-del-jaguar-en-la-Amazonia>

<https://www.minambiente.gov.co/index.php/component/content/article/noticias/1673-corredor-biologico-asegurara-supervivencia-del-jaguar-en-colombia>

<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/20384/el-jaguar-esta-amenazad>

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## **BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, BOGOTÁ, 2015.**

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### **General topics to be held at the Second Biennial Conference of the Wildlife Diseases Association Latin America Section WDA-LA.**

Dear Members,

We would like to invite you to submit your research abstracts to our Second Biennial Conference of the Wildlife Disease Association, Latin American Section (WDA -LA), to be held on September 24th through 27th, 2015, in Bogotá, Colombia. Organized by the WDA -LA, the Association of Wildlife Veterinarians (VVS) and the University of La Salle, with the participation of national and international speakers:

- **Marcela Uhart**, DVM, UC Davis, USA
- **Gerardo Suzán**, DVM PhD, UNAM, México
- **José Luiz Catão Dias**, DVM PhD, USP, Brazil
- **Nicole Gottdenker**, DVM PhD, UGA, USA
- **Fernando Nassar**, DVM, ULS, Colombia
- **Diego Soler-Tovar**, DVM MSc, ULS, Colombia
- **Salim Mattar**, PhD, IIBT, Colombia
- **Nubia Matta**, PhD; UNAL, Colombia
- **Claudia Rodríguez**, Ministry of environment, Colombia

Workshops and social activities will be open for registration in a few weeks.

### **Register and participate**

**More information:** [www.wda.veterinariosvs.org](http://www.wda.veterinariosvs.org)

### **Important dates:**

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** April 30, 2015.

**Notifications:** June 14, 2015.

**Tutorial for abstract submission:**  
<http://www.wda.veterinariosvs.org/como-presentar-un-resumen-a-la-conferencia-wda-la-2015/>

**Payment available at:**  
<http://www.veterinariosvs.org/producto/2-encuentro-wda-la/>

We look forward to seeing you in Bogotá!

