

2019 Mammals Team - February 27, 2019

The 2019 Mammals Team is excited about tracking mammals this year in Costa Rica.

In 2017, we were asked to conduct studies of Big Cats. We will be doing this by use of trail cameras. Approximately 20 of these cameras will be set up around our reserve to keep track of GPS locations of Ocelots, Pumas, Margays, and Jaguars to name a few. Our data will go into the database at Panthera; the largest Big Cat conservation organization.

Also we will be keeping track of rare, smaller mammals by use of havahart traps and Radio telemetry.

We will also be using plaster of paris to make solid samples of footprints of rare and endangered mammals.

Below are some instructions for our equipment:

Receiver (The unit attached to the antenna that receives signals from the transmitter the instructions)

1. Put the cable into the ANT slot
2. Set the channel to the key number
3. Set the fine tune to 1
4. Flip switches on
5. Adjust the fine tune

Transmitter (The unit the mammal wears as a collar)

1. Use the sound of the receiver to guide you to the transmitter

Camera traps

1. Once the camera is has batters and a SD card in it turn it on
2. Select weather you want it to take photos(down on the D pad), videos (up on the D pad) while in setup mode
3. Switch the camera to on
4. You will have a 10 second grace period to close it, put the camera in place, and leave the area
5. To set the camera in place use the straps in the back to tie it up in the desired direction
6. The camera will take photos when the motion sensor is set off
7. Mark the location of the camera

Plaster of Paris

1. Slowly mix the powder with water in a separate container
2. Stir the mixture(make sure there are no air bubbles)

3. Pour the mixture into the animal print
4. Let it settle
5. Slowly dig it up