Wild cats are persecuted across their range as humans move into or adjacent to their habitats. Our ability to respond to human-wild cat conflict is impeded by the fact that the activities that drive conflict are often labeled as ‘economic development’, especially so within the world’s poorest economies.

Our work engages human actors predisposed for conflict with wild cats to understand their perceptions of Guyana’s six wild cat species to determine how different groups view wild cats and how perceptions vary across space.

In this talk, we utilize the potential for conflict index (PCI) as a measure of gold miners, loggers, cattle farmers and indigenous peoples perceptions of wild cats and draw inferences for wild cat survivability in Guyana and wider Latin American settings.