

# People and Wildlife in Latin America: Turning Conflict into Coexistence

Silvio Marchini - Research Associate (WildCRU)



**TUE, FEB 26**

**12:45 - 1:45**

**Grinter 376**

Tropilunch is a weekly seminar run by graduate students from the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program. It provides a forum for a range of discussions and presentations related to TCD work and research. Special guests, visiting scholars and practitioners also participate. It happens every Tuesday @ 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. in Grinter 376.

Tropilunch presentations are recorded and posted weekly on TCD's YouTube Channel.

## BIO

Silvio Marchini is a research associate at the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), University of Oxford, and University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and a conservation fellow at Chester Zoo; board member of the IUCN Task Force on Human-Wildlife Conflict, IUCN Conservation Planning Specialist Group, and Jaguar Alliance; PhD in Wildlife Conservation (University of Oxford, UK), MS in Ecology, Evolution and Systematics (University of Missouri-Saint Louis, USA) and BS in Biology (University of Sao Paulo, Brazil). He has taught human dimensions of wildlife management and conservation to students and wildlife professionals in Brazil, United Kingdom, Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, and his current work focuses on ways to upscale the analysis and management of human-wildlife conflicts.

## PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Initially concentrated on the ecological and economic aspects of wildlife damage, the interdisciplinary field of research focusing on human-wildlife conflict (HWC) and ways to turn conflict into coexistence has been gradually shifting to the human dimensions of HWC. There has been, indeed, considerable progress in the understanding of both the ecology and economics of wildlife damage and of the drivers of tolerance and hostility towards wildlife. Nonetheless, this understanding has not translated significantly into management and policy at larger scales. In the meantime, HWC is escalating in the world in general, and in Latin America in particular. This seminar focuses on some of the challenges of turning HWC into coexistence, starting with the very conceptualization of conflict and coexistence, and the proper assessment of the situation. It addresses also how the newly launched People & Wildlife Coexistence Project is taking advantage of a set of project partners in a wide cross-section of ecological, cultural, socioeconomic and political contexts in South America - from tapirs and pumas in agricultural landscapes to jaguars in the Amazon to guanacos in the Andes - to explore ways to upscale the analysis and management of human-wildlife interactions.