

27 of January 2021

**Presentation:**

“Recovering America's Ghost Cat: Landscape suitability and population density of ocelots in southern Texas”

Dr. Jason Lombardi is a population and landscape ecologist by training with a multidisciplinary educational background in Conservation and Wildlife Management (B.S.), Forestry (M.S.), and Wildlife Science (Ph.D.). He is currently a Research Assistant Professor in the Feline Research Program at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute at Texas A&M University-Kingsville and a member of the IUCN Species Survival Commission’s Cat Specialist Group. Over the course of his career, Dr. Jason has conducted quantitative ecological studies and analyses on 18 carnivore taxa, small mammals, and other species of conservation in the United States and Mexico, and starting in 2022, Africa. The scientific expertise of Jason Lombardi is rooted in carnivore ecology, conservation and management, population dynamics, wildlife-habitat relationships, urban & road ecology, landscape ecology and remote sensing, and endangered species conservation. He is passionate about asking pertinent questions to improve our understanding of the spatial patterns and processes that influence the dynamic interactions of carnivore populations and communities, their interactions with species (competition, predation, co-occurrence), anthropogenic pressures (urbanization, roads), and natural habitat (e.g., vegetation, landscape structure across multiple spatial scales. His current work is focused on wild felids in southern Texas and northeastern Mexico including 1) ocelot road ecology; 2) ocelot population dynamics in Texas; 3) ocelot habitat suitability to help inform re-introduction efforts; 4) jaguarundi distribution and status in Texas and northeastern Mexico; 5) Carnivore interactions in Mexico.