## 琉球大学学術リポジトリ

小型ネコ科の保全についての世界規模の取り組み: 現在何が起こっているのか?

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	作成者: サンダーソン, ジム, Sanderson, Jim
	メールアドレス:
	所属:
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## Global conservation efforts for small cats: what's happening?

Jim Sanderson (Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at Conservation, USA)

Research and conservation efforts for large cats such as tigers and cheetahs have enjoyed continued support from the global community. Despite a slow start, increasingly more concern is now being focused on the plight of smaller cats. I will present a summary of conservation efforts on small cats around the world, including those found in Chile. I will discuss current efforts and also suggest where more resources must be directed. I do not believe funding resources are in any way limiting conservation activities. The financial resources are ready. Dedicated conservation efforts that deal with humans and their relationship to wild cats are needed in the field. Sometimes government policy is at fault in the mistaken belief that humans can manage wild nature better than nature can manage itself. Enforcement of already existing laws dealing with illegal skin trade is also required. The importance of "presence" should not be underestimated in thwarting illegal activity.