

# Habitat use by *Oncifelis guigna* and *Pseudalopex culpaeus* in a fragmented forest landscape in central Chile

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Native forests in Chile have been replaced by exotic plantations, generating a mosaic of forest fragments immersed in a matrix of plantations and farms. This landscape change could affect habitat availability for native carnivores such as *Oncifelis guigna* (Felidae) and *Pseudalopex culpaeus* (Canidae). We determine the potential impact of native forest fragmentation on these species, assessing habitat use by these carnivores. The study was carried out in continuous forest (150 ha), native forest fragments (< 10 ha) and surrounding pine plantations in central Chile (35°59' S, 72°41' W). We placed scent-stations (SSs) in three types of habitat from January to August 2000, setting a total of 620 SSs to determine habitat selection. We characterized structure and composition of 100 m<sup>2</sup> of vegetation around every SS, and measured its distance to nearest native forest patch, road and bottom creek. *O. guigna* preferred habitats with dense bush cover, far from roads and close to large patches of na