Felines (11) <http://www.wotcat.com/wildlife/Mammal/South%20America.html>

1) Colocolo:

**Description**

The Colocolo is a small long-haired cat from Chile. The body is gray with brown stripes broken up into spots. These cats have fairly large pointed ears and a long bushy tail with dark bands. The Pampas Cat (Leopardus pajeros) used to be considered the same species as the Colocolo.

**Other Names**

Oncifelis colocolo

**Size**

Head and body length: 43cm - 70cm (average 57cm). Tail length: 22cm - 32cm. Weight: 3kg - 7kg (average 5kg).

**Habitat**

Open woodland, scrub thicket, forest, semi-arid desert regions, floodplains, mountain slopes.

**Food**

The Colocolo feeds on small mammals and ground birds and eggs. Will take poultry in areas of human settlement.

**Breeding**

Gives birth to a litter of one to three kittens after a gestation of 80 to 85 days.

**Range**

Chile

**Conservation Status**

The conservation status in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals is "near threatened".

**Classification**

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| --- | --- |
| Class: | Mammalia |
| Order: | Carnivora |
| Family: | Felidae |
| Genus: | Leopardus |
| Species: | colocolo |

**INTRODUCTION (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Felidae)**

**“Felidae** is the [biological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biology) family of the **cats**; a member of this family is called a **felid**. The most familiar felid is the domestic [cat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cat), which first became associated with humans about 10,000 years ago; but the family includes all other wild cats, including the [big cats](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_cat).

Extant felids belong to one of two subfamilies: [Pantherinae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pantherinae) (which includes the [tiger](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger), the [lion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lion), the [jaguar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaguar), and the [leopard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopard)), and [Felinae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Felinae) (which includes the [cougar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cougar), the [cheetah](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheetah), the [lynxes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lynx), the [ocelot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ocelot), and the domestic cat).

Felids are the strictest [carnivores](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnivore) of the 13 terrestrial families in the [order](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_(biology)) [Carnivora](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnivora), although the three families of marine mammals comprising the superfamily [Pinnipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinniped) are as carnivorous as the felids.”

Feline, or *felidae*, is the biological family of the cats; a member of this family is called a *felid*. The most familiar felid is the domestic cat. Felids are divided into two subfamilies: *pantherinae*—which includes the tiger, the lion, the jaguar, and the leopard— and *felinae*—which includes the cougar, the cheetah, the lynx, the ocelot, and the domestic cat. Of all the terrestrial families in the order *carnivora*, the felids are the strictest carnivores.

2)Geoffroy’s Cat

**Description**

Geoffroy's cat is a small wild cat from South America. It is similar in size of a large domestic cat. Male cats are slightly larger than females. The fur is silver grey to yellowish-brown with a pattern of small dark brown or black spots all over the body. Thee are two black streaks down each cheek. All black individuals are fairly common. Animals from the northern part of the range have more yellow colour, and animals from the south are more silver grey.

**Other Names**

Oncifelis geoffroyi

**Size**

Head and body length: 42cm - 66cm (average 54cm). Tail length: 24cm - 36cm. Weight 3kg - 5kg (average 4kg).

**Habitat**

Geoffroy's Cat is found from sea level to 3,500m. It prefers dense vegetation near rivers. Also found in open woodland, savanna, marshland. They often climb trees and are good swimmers.

**Food**

Feeds on small mammals such as hares and small rodents. Also eats birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish. It hunts in trees and on the ground.

**Breeding**

The breeding season is from December to May. Females may produce one litter of one to four cubs after a gestation period of 67 - 78 days. The kittens are born in a den in a tree hollow, under rocks or dense vegetation. The young are born blind and eyes open after 8 - 12 days and are weaned at 8 to 10 weeks. They stay with their mother until about eight months when they become completely independent.

**Range**

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay.

**Conservation Status**

The conservation status in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals is "near threatened".

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| --- | --- |
| Class: | Mammalia |
| Order: | Carnivora |
| Family: | Felidae |
| Genus: | Leopardus |
| Species: | geoffroyi |