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# Nelson Institute researchers published in international conservation journal

December 3, 2018 | by EMMA HUBLER

The need for more balanced use and preservation of nature is at the center of a position paper published in the latest issue of the international conservation journal [\*Biological Conservation\*](#). Written by co-authors [Adrian Treves](#), [Nelson Institute](#) Professor and Founder of the [Carnivore Coexistence Lab](#), [Francisco Santiago-Ávila](#), Graduate Teaching Assistant and Researcher for the Nelson Institute, and [William S. Lynn](#), Research Scientist at [Clark University](#), the article, titled “Just Preservation,” outlines the increasing concerns surrounding preservation and land use, especially as it relates to generational inequality and the balancing of humans and non-human rights.



Adrian Treves



## Francisco Santiago-Avila

According to Treves, Santiago-Ávila, and Lynn, the interests and wellbeing of youth and future generations, human and non-human, are ignored by today's current conservation method. They argue that the process disregards those without a voice, allowing narrow interests to be heard and dominate decision-making. To address these concerns, the authors propose a non-anthropocentric, democratic process that represents competing interests.

Specifically, the paper defends the need for courts that represent intergenerational equity and the interests of future generations and non-human life. The authors state that this new thinking would allow for a comprehensive, representative worldview to emerge that entitles all life forms to have a say in preservation and land-use decisions. Treves, Santiago-Ávila, and Lynn say there is a responsibility to consider futurity, or future generations, of all human and non-human life, when making decisions concerning consequential environmental problems.

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