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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ROAD-KILL AND LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS: THE CASE OF *CERDOCYON THOUS* (LINNAEUS, 1766) (CARNIVORA: CANIDAE)

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The road-ecology is an emergent area in ecology that evaluate the impacts of roads on biodiversity. One of the most studied impact is the death of wild animals by the collision with vehicles on roads. Under the perspective of landscape ecology, roads can be an aggressive matrix, causing an increase of the mortality rate and a decrease of the gene flow between populations. One of the most road-killed species on Brazil is *Cerdocyon thous* (the crab-eating fox), a generalist carnivore who inhabits open vegetation and forests. The aim of this work was to understand what landscape characteristics are related to the records of road-killed *C. thous*. The road-kill records were provided by researchers that has been monitoring road-kill in Pantanal, Cerrado and Atlantic Forest areas. Landscape characteristics were measured using maps of vegetation cover of the Brazilian biomes made available at Brazilian Ministry of the Environment's website. Using GIS software, around each road-kill record (n=528) was generated a 4km dissolved buffer, and after, intercept them with vegetation cover map, were measured landscape characteristics. Regression models were created with road-kill rates as dependent variables and landscapes characteristics as independent variables, and after, the best model was select by Akaike Information Criteria (AIC). The best model to explain *C. thous* road-kill included agriculture and pasture (both positively), followed by agriculture alone (positively); and combined with native areas (negatively); and exotic forestry (positively). Thus, land use, particularly agriculture and pasture, can be relevant landscape characteristics to predict *C. thous* mortality on Brazil. As one of the most road-killed species and a least concerned species by IUCN red list, *C. thous* could be used to promote mitigation measures and conservation awareness on the Brazilian highways.

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