

Mountain Lion

Puma concolor



Range: Canada throughout N. and S. America

Size: :102-137 cm(40-64 in)

: 92-123 cm (36-48in)

Weight : :20-70kg(44-154lbs)

:17-42kg (37.4-92lbs)

Tail: 84 cm

Habitat: all terrestrial habitats

Estrus cycle: 46 days

Estrus length: 3-14

Gestation: 90-100 days

Litter: 1-3 usually 2

Weaning : 4months

Sexual maturity: 24-36 months

Social: solitary

Circadian :Nocturnal

Food:small to medium mammals

IUCN: Near Threatened

Subspecies : 6 possibly 7

Longevity: captive 20 yrs wild: 12 yrs

Order: Carnivora Family:Felidae

Mountain lions are known by many names: cougars, pumas, catamount and panther. This is a reflection of its widespread range. Ranging from northern Canada to the southern tip of South America the mountain lion has the largest range of any cat in the Western Hemisphere. However it has been eliminated from eastern North America except for a relic population in Florida. This adaptable cat occupies a variety of habitats. The mountain lion ranges from sea level up to 5800 meters in elevation. It appears it likes a complex habitat for its home range. Mountain lions live in very low densities in some areas as low as 0.37 adults per 100 square kilometers.

Along with the highly variable habitat comes a highly variable diet. In North America deer makes up a large percentage of its diet while in Central and South America smaller mammals like peccaries, armadillos and agoutis are eaten more often.