

Snow Leopard

Panthera uncia



Range: Central Asia

Size: :100-125cm(40-64 in)

: 86-113 cm (36-48in)

Weight : :22-50kg (44-154lbs)

:30-42kg (37.4-92lbs)

Tail: 105 cm

Habitat: alpine sub-alpine

Estrus cycle: 15-39 days

Estrus length:2-12

Gestation: 94-98 days

Litter: 1-5 usually 2

Weaning : 10 weeks

Sexual maturity: 24-36 months

Social: solitary

Circadian : crepuscular

Food: ungulates, pika, livestock

IUCN: Endangered

Subspecies :0



Order: Carnivora Family:Felidae

One the most beautiful cats in the world the snow leopard possesses a thick coat. The black rosettes are found on the dorsal side on top of a gray ground color. On the legs and head the rosettes are replaced by solid spots. They have many adaptations for life in the snowy mountains.

Snow leopards have remarkable facial features to suit their cold environment. Round, short ears reduce heat loss and a wide, short nasal cavity heats the chilled outside air before it reaches the sensitive lungs. Extra large paws help keep the cat from sinking into the snow.

They act just like a pair of snowshoes. Snow leopards have short front limbs and long hind limbs that are used to launch the cat up to 30 feet (6 times its body length) in a single leap. In addition, robust chest muscles aid in steep mountain climbing, and allow the snow leopard to easily keep up with its wild prey. A long, thick tail helps the snow leopard keep its balance and acts as a scarf to help warm the cat's body during the night.