

Cougar

Cougar AKA Mountain Lion, Puma, Panther, Painter, Catamount, etc. There are over 25 native names and 40 English monikers! (Now you know why scientists refer to species using their Latin names...Felis concolor = translates into 'cat of one color').

Largest cat species in North America. They are 'elusive and solitary'. There is a saying "You only see a cougar if he wants you to see him".

Average males weigh 120 to 150 pounds. Females much smaller, ranging from 75 to 100 pounds. Human contact is rare. In the entire history of this cat, more people have been killed by bee stings **annually**.

Kits are born year around but most common is in the Summer. The kits must remain with their mother a minimum of 9 months if they are to survive.

Territorial.

Carnivores. Preferred prey is small to medium game. Deer, Raccoon, Porcupine, etc.

If hiking/camping in Cougar territory:

Keep your dogs leashed.

If one is seen, DO NOT RUN!

DO YELL & SHOUT

Open your jacket, Raise your arms, Open and close an umbrella quickly...(the goal is to appear bigger)

More information may be found from:

The Mountain Lion Foundation at www.mountainlion.org

The Cougar Fund at cougarfund.org

The above information is simply provided for information purposes. We do not endorse any of the organizations. WWW.AHWF.ORG