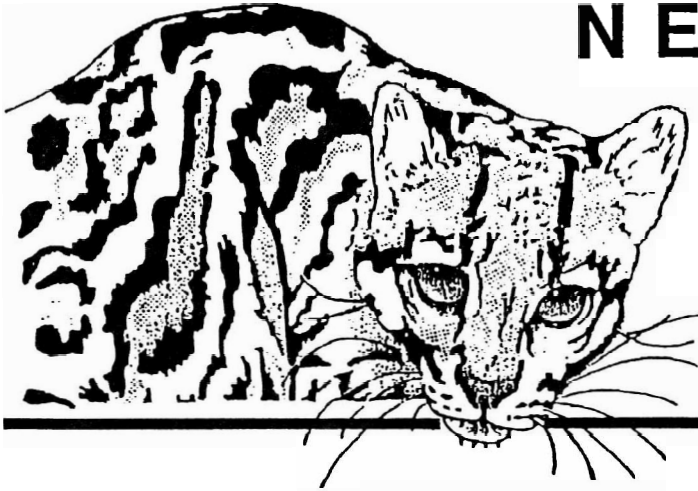
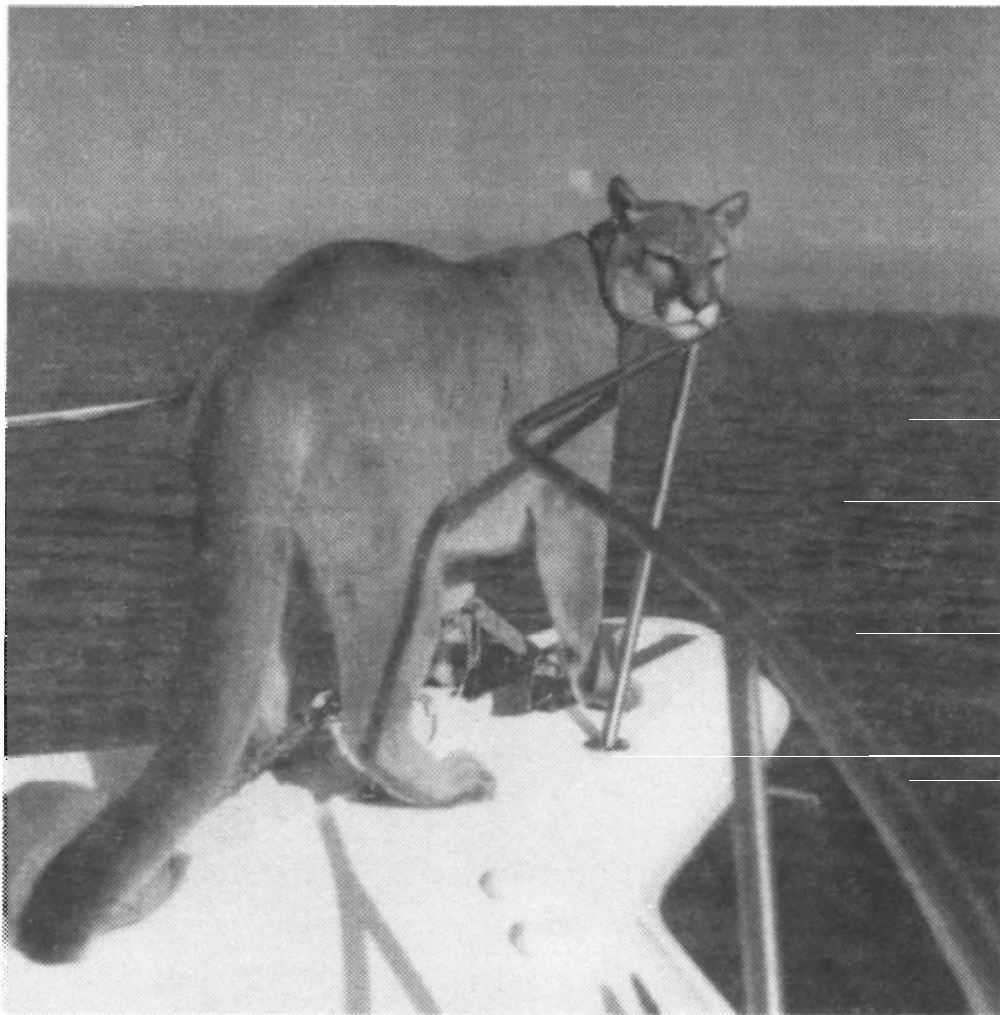


NEWSLETTER



Contents:

Ready....Action Speaks Louder.	Page 3
Odór Control	Page 8
Snow Leopard.	Page 9
Guest Editorial.	Page 10
Convention '96	Page 12
Branch Report.	Page 14
Readers Write.	Page 16
IUCN Red List Update.	Page 17
Presidents Perspective.	Page 23



Cougar shared a day of his life with the BBC recently - see story on page 3



LIOC

Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc.

This Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc. We are a non-profit (Federal I.D. 59-2048618) non-commercial organization with international membership, devoted to the welfare of exotic felines. The purpose of this newsletter is to present information about exotic feline conservation, management and ownership to our members.

The material printed in this newsletter is contributed by our members and reflects the point of view of the author but does not necessarily represent the point of view of the organization. LIOC ESCF, Inc.'s Statement of Intent is contained in our by-laws, a copy of which can be requested from the Secretary. Reproduction of the material in this newsletter may not be made without the written permission of the original copyright owners and/or copyright owner LIOC.

Persons interested in joining LIOC should contact the Term Director in charge of Member Services.

Since the Newsletter consists primarily of articles, studies, photographs and artwork contributed by our members, **we encourage all members to submit material whenever possible.** Articles concerning exotic feline are preferred and gladly accepted. Articles involving other related subject will also be considered. Letters and responses to articles may be included in the Readers Write column. Please submit all material to the Managing Editor.

Founder:	Catherine Cisin	Amaganasett, N.Y. 11930
Editor:	Shirley Wagner	3730 Belle Isle Ln, Mobile, Al. 36619 (334) 661-1342 nites,(334) 433-5418 days Fax(334)433-5422
Officers		
President	Barbara Wilton	7800 S.E. Luther Rd. Portland, OR 97206 (503) 774-1657
Secretary/Treasurer	Sharon Roe	29641 N.E. Timmen Rd., Ridgefield, WA 98642 (206)887-8563
Term Directors		
Member Services	Kelly Jean Buckley	P.O. Box 22085, Phoenix, AZ 85028 (602) 996-5935
Education & Conservation	Scarlett Bellingham	P.O. Box 722, Niverville, Manitoba ROA 1EO, Canada (204) 388-4845 home & fax
Legal Affairs	George Stowers	8 Meadowhill Dr., Farmingdale, ME 04344 (207)622-9201
Advertising & Publicity	Jean Hamil	31307 Debbi, Magnolia, TX 77355 (713)356-2076
Life Directors		
	J.B. Anderson	Rt 4, Box 2190, Lake Rd. 54-37, Osage Beach, MO 65065 (573) 348-5092
	Carin C. Sousa	2960 Bay St., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561 (904)932-6383
	John Perry	6684 Central Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432 (612)571-7918 nites (612)481-2673 days
	Shirley Wagner	3730 Belle Isle Ln, Mobile, AL 36619 (334)433-5418 days 661-1342 nites Fax: (334)433-5422
Branches		
Exotic Feline		
Educational Society	Rod Black	1260 N.W. Perimeter Rd., Troutdale, OR 97060 (503)666-5814
Pacific Northwest Exotics	Steve Belknap	P.O. Box 205, Gresham, OR 97030 Gayle Schaecher(503)663-4137
Sunshine State Exotics	Robert Merkel	4640 S.W. 29th Terrace, Dania, FL 33312 (954)963-3116
Regional Contacts		
Northeast	George Stowers	8 Meadowhill Dr., Farmingdale, ME 04344 (207)622-9201
Southeast	Jean Hatfield	1991 S.W. 136th Ave., Davie, FL 33325 (954)472-7276
Central	J.B. Anderson	Rt 4, Box 2190, Lake Rd. 54-37, Osage Beach, MO 65065 (314)348-5092
Northwest	See Branches	
Southwest	Loreon Vigne	20889 Geyserville Ave., Geyserville, CA 95441 (707)857-3524
Canada	Scarlett Bellingham	P.O.Box 722, Niverville, Manitoba ROA1EO, Canada (204)388-4845

LIOC needs YOU!

READY . . . ACTION speaks louder than words

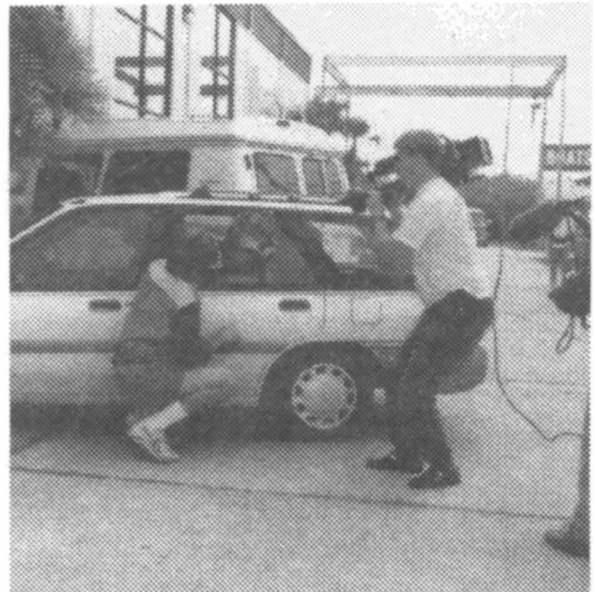
Late last fall, the phone rang. It was Jo calling from Los Angeles. She'd seen Cougar, who is one, in the extremely popular Puma television commercial shown all over Europe, had his 1996 Hollywood Pet Calendar hanging on the wall, and had also recently read about him. With a pronounced British accent, she explained that Helen, her director/producer boss, also British, wanted to film Cougar for an international BBC documentary to be aired in Europe, then in the U.S. Helen wanted to capture the essence of Cougar's and my relationship by filming what was a "normal day" for us. One of the exciting aspects of life with Cougar is that there are no "normal days". We are always experiencing new and different things. As exhilarating as this can be, I felt uncomfortable being filmed writing at my computer, cleaning up after Cougar, feeding him, all in a house still not fully furnished. Therefore, I suggested that Cougar and I could go out for the day.

But Helen wanted to film us in the intimacy of our home which presented another problem - besides my vanity: Cougar's territorial nature. It took a little persuasion to convince her that sharing territory with a 240-pound cat was not a good idea.

Helen and her crew, after rescheduling the photo shoot three times for reasons unknown to me, landed at Florida's Tampa International Airport the day before the filming. She was looking forward to a unique story, I wanted the opportunity of telling mine and neither of us would be disappointed. What I didn't expect, though, was experiencing, in the process, a microcosm of our society: the reflection of commonly held opinions, both empathetic and not, regarding animals.

The next morning we were blanketed by

a thick fog which lingered into the first part of the afternoon. While waiting for it to lift, Helen, her crew, Cougar and I strolled down a local strip mall. I followed Cougar into a well-known mobilnet company and asked whether they'd like to be part of an international film documentary.



The employees scrambled for their personal cameras and took turns having their pictures taken with Cougar. I joked that Cougar had come to call his folks, who are always on the run. The manager, Craig (who was all starch - his clothes, as well as his demeanor), eventually appeared and his first question was whether Cougar was tame. I assured him that Cougar was tamer than most of his patrons. Cougar immediately sensed not being wanted and headed for the door, with me obediently behind him.

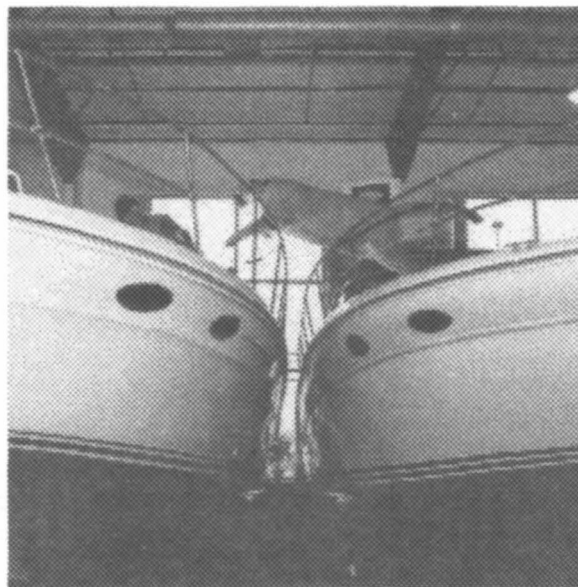
When Cougar and I walked through the door of Gulfwind and strolled past the receptionist, several folks waiting in the lobby

Cougar.....continued

asked if Cougar was there for a big promotion. I answered no, and with a straight face said he was here to help me with my yacht closing. They smiled and asked if they could borrow him later.

Cougar and I then strolled around the gigantic showroom, two sides of which had yachts positioned perpendicularly to the wall - their transoms backed against a boarding platform with their bows pointing to the center of the room. Cougar jumped aboard one of the largest vessels; I followed and sat down beside him on an aftdeck sofa. Several minutes later the stern was surrounded by the curious with their cameras. Then came the inevitable questions. Is he tame? What does he eat? How does he exercise? Then on to more complicated queries, like how am I able to get Cougar to do as I wish? The answer to that is really quite simple - he wants to. I explained that trainers partially starve their animals, then use food to entice the response they want. I'm not an animal trainer. Cougar doesn't know what hungry is. By understanding him though, I know what he wants. After my answer I glanced into an audience of quizzical expressions and decided to demonstrate. Standing up, I walked off the back of the yacht while Cougar remained seated, but followed my every move. I then walked eighteen feet over to the next yacht, boarded it and spun around to sit down. Cougar got up, bounded from the sofa to the edge of the yacht, leaped ten feet, landed next to me, then sat down. I turned to the crowd and said, "because he wanted to."

Helen approached and indicated that they were ready to depart and Cougar, sensing that this departure was going to be longer than my last; stood up so as not to be left behind. I got up, bid farewell to all of Cougar's new acquaintances, stepped down and joined Helen walking to the dock. As we approached our waiting yacht, both diesel engines were running and everyone was on board. I reflected that most animals would now be very uncomfortable, especially cats. After all, we were nearing an unknown boat which was rocking ever so



slightly in the water, the sound and smell of unfamiliar engines was overpowering to Cougar's sensitive ears and nose and strange people were either sitting, standing, walking or climbing all over the yacht. I'd die before betraying his trust.

We all met in the salon for a short lecture by the ship's captain concerning what to do in an emergency and I added a few words on how not to cause one - like don't roll on the floor calling "here kitty, kitty, kitty." Then we got underway and Cougar roamed the yacht as the film crew followed. Bryan, the cameraman, swarmed around Cougar like a horsefly, but cougar didn't seem to mind. Roach, the soundman, was a different story though, for many times he held a boom mike which looked more enticing to Cougar than a carrot....more like a bird. With the boom hanging in front of Cougar, Roach was forced to speed up, keeping his mike safely out of Cougar's reach and Bryan either had to jog alongside, or take pictures of the south end of Roach. Consequently, I wore a portable microphone most of the time.

It was now sunny and eighty degrees, the water was calm with just a slight hint of a breeze. Several wispy clouds were suspended in the sky above us and were occasionally ruffled

Cougar.....continued



by air type craft arriving and departing from both Tampa and St. Petersburg airports as well as McDill Air Force Base. As we passed under various skyline bridges, people leaned out of their car windows to honk and wave. You'd think they had never before seen a mountain lion standing on the bow pulpit of a yacht. Cougar just flicked an ear in their direction, for he was more interested in the dolphin who swam four feet below him, darting inches in front of the boat. He looked intently at their antics, then turned to me with a chirp. I said that I saw them too. Then he chirped louder, as if to ask: "How can they do that?"

I've come to realize the importance of play - where learning is not only fun for Cougar, but for children and adults as well. Unfortunately, few can experience dolphins swimming. That's where a company like Small Town Ideas can help a lot: providing toys that are almost as interesting and stimulating. And you wonder how this company knows what is interesting to an animal like Cougar and the answer is: they asked him.

It wasn't long before we were coasting up to our island destination. The captain maneuvered his craft stern-first to the beach, so that all those who were going ashore would spend as little time as possible in the 57-degree winter water. The film crew's exodus looked like a Congo River scene as they carried their equipment over their heads. Jim yelled for Helen to lean forward, but she reclined back; looking

like a giraffe riding a giraffe. Too bad the cameras weren't rolling. I knew that Cougar, on the other hand, was thinking that a swim would be a refreshing balance to his deck-side sunning, so I walked back to the swim-platform, turned to him and announced that the last one is was a rotten egg. But before my feet his the surface, Cougar dove in. Oh well, I've been called worse.

Cougar quickly swam to the beach as my eyes followed him, but freedom - the knowledge that you can do most anything you wish - is settling and provides an immense mental relaxation. As he was checking out the island, Helen and her crew were preparing and setting up for our island interview. Just as Helen signaled that she and her crew were ready, Cougar was done exploring, so we sat under a palm tree to answer her inquiries.

During the question and answer session we were constantly interrupted by the sound of low-flying aircraft roaring around the three surrounding airfields. Roach would look at his sound meter, shake his head, then we would all wait until he signaled it was quiet enough, and Helen would repeat the question. Then Helen noticed that my hand was swollen and asked why? I explained that Cougar and I were tussling during an afternoon walk. He yanked so hard at his leash while I held onto its loop that my hand was broken in three places. I believe this reflects that exotic animal relationships are



Cougar.....continued

for the few, because it's impossible to get close to anyone without getting hurt - mentally or physically. Consequently, it is a matter of priorities. If an animal has top priority, then the necessary sacrifices are made, allowing the best of what's left of the wilderness to be combined with your love. When priorities are low, animals are placed on display - for sensationalism - which is an unfortunate consequence of development.

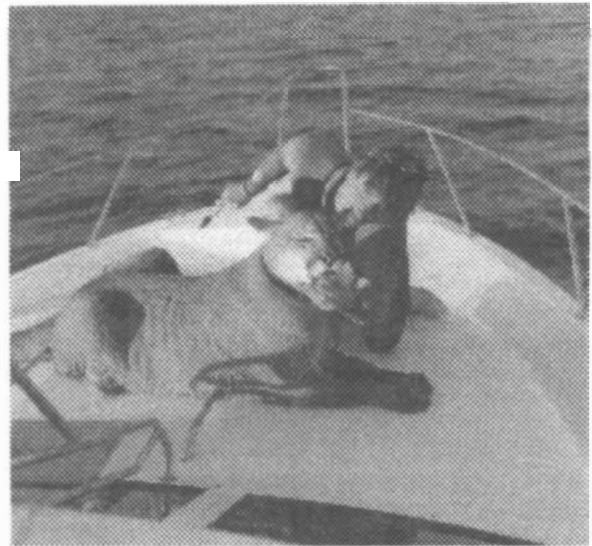
After Helen was done asking questions, which were a thousand times more thought provoking than what I was accustomed to, it was time to depart for sunset shots motoring back to the marina. Cougar just languished under the palm tree. I knew he didn't want to leave and explained to Helen that I'd have to coerce him to the boat.

I tried bribing Cougar with his favorite delicacy - shrimp. I put one in my mouth, got on my hands and knees and backed into the water. Cougar grabbed it out of my mouth and at the same time stepped from the beach into the water. I was almost totally submerged on my second attempt as he snatched the pink morsel from my mouth. At this point however, the water's depth became more significant to Cougar than his appeal for shrimp. I pleaded for him to get on the boat and he responded by wading back to the beach and shaking each paw dry with multiple flicks, leaving me on all fours in three feet of cold water. I did say I wasn't a trainer.

Few parents are comfortable scolding their offspring in front of company, not to mention while being filmed for an international film documentary.. I walked up to Helen and explained that if it was her wish to leave now, I would insist that Cougar swim back to the boat, but he wouldn't like it. When to shackled to a strict time schedule, I'd just have waited until Cougar would go voluntarily. But since we couldn't delay the sunset, it was time to get Cougar to do something he didn't want to do. This requires dominance....little else will work.

Cougar already knew I wanted him to get on the boat. It was now a matter of getting

across the importance of an early departure. I clicked his leash, which is our way of passing command to me. Then, in a deliberate voice, I told him to get on the boat and lightly yanked him in that direction with my good hand. Without backtalking (hissing), Cougar walked into the water and swam thirty feet to the boat. He circled around to the stern, and with the assistance of the boarding ladder, climbed onto the swim platform. He then stepped up to the rear deck and shortly afterwards I followed, kneeled beside him and whispered what a good boy he was. He purred back that he already knew it and soon we were on our way back.



This day's schedule altered Cougar's daily regime, but I knew it was time for a snack. I say a snack, because for Cougar to eat a meal he has to be totally relaxed. Cougar's best diet would be healthy animals commensurate to his size - deer for him, Mice for Morris - but when processing is involved, nutrients are lost, so I reached into his cooler which had his food mixed with Missing Link Supplement and walked forward. Cougar was licking himself dry on the forward deck. "Are you hungry?" I asked. Cougar broke stride licking to glance up and chirp, yes. Because of his superb diet, his coat cast a sheen in amber rays of the sun, even when wet. I sat down beside him so as not to get between Cougar and the camera, opened the

Cougar.....continued

plastic container, scooped a small bite with a spoon, reached around and offered it to him. Cougar is a civilized cat and always eats from my hand, then licks the spoon clean when he's finished. After several bites, Cougar stepped toward the pulpit and peered down into the water racing underneath him, which now looked ominous as the sun descended to the horizon. Bryan and Roach followed with camera and boom microphone. Cougar looked back over his shoulder as is to say, "The dolphins are gone." In anticipation of his disappointment I had his Small Town Idea Fish - red fins with a blue body (his favorite two colors) stuffed with rawhide bones. He chirped his approval and immediately walked up and swatted the fish so hard it spun around the pole it was suspended from. Toys are extremely important.

The water was now reflecting a magnificent sunset painting as the sun touched the Gulf of Mexico, which appeared to catch fire. The only sound on the foredeck was the saltwater being stirred aside by a pallet-like prow. Cougar sat in repose, like a sphinx, taking in the glory of it all as the camera captured the moment on film.

This had been a good day and Cougar was the perfect animal ambassador. I snuggled next to him and rested my head on his massive hip, which curved up, over and down like a mountain range and together we enjoyed mother nature finish splashing lavenders and magenta on her painting. Contented, I hoped that we conveyed that being wild is learned and also in the eyes of the beholder.



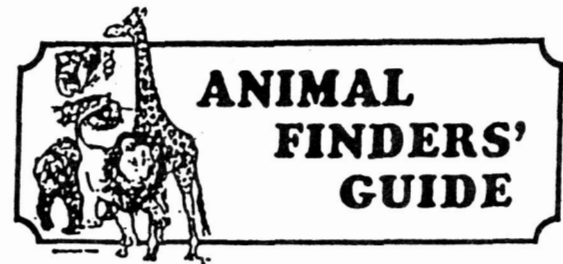
& David

Cougar and David Raber
602 Devonshire St.
Oldsmar, FL 34677
tel/fax: (813) 891-6661

Photos by Pepito Valdes

The Classifieds

All ads in this publication are void where prohibited by law. All transactions are between buyer and seller. All buyers and sellers must have proper licenses and permits for all animals offered for sale or sold. LIOC ESCF Inc. does not necessarily endorse or guarantee the honesty of any advertiser. LIOC ESCF Inc. reserves the right to edit or reject any subscription or ad. No blind animal ads will be accepted: all ads must a) contain name of business or individual, b) state whether the individual is owner or broker, c) show state and phone number or full address. For further information regarding advertising with LIOC ESCF Inc. contact the Term Director for Advertising & Publicity as listed inside the front cover of this Newsletter.



18 Issues a year. Informative articles on exotic animal husbandry. Exotic animals, auctions, products & services advertised. \$25 a year. P.O. Box 99, Prairie Creek, Indiana 47869

Nationwide Hauling at reasonable rates. Enclosed trailer, U.S.D.A. licensed, many references available. Bruce Rendall (919) 639-6458 or fax (919) 639-3566

Moving?

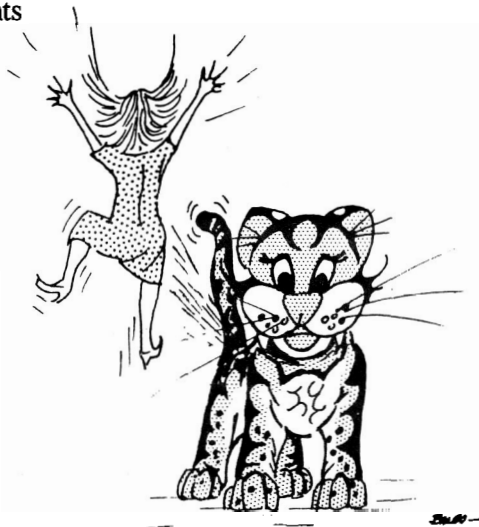


*Don't miss any issues
Notify Member Services Promptly
(See Page 2 for address)*

Methionine For Urine Odor Control

About 25 years ago, when I had four leopard cat sprayers roaming free in a small, carpeted (real bad idea) two-bedroom cottage, I read in the *Siamese News Quarterly* about a veterinarian who had discovered, quite by accident that by administering Methionine (an amino acid) to tom cats, their urine was deodorized. Anytime after that, when he was called upon to board a stud male, he insisted the owners start the cat on this flavorless, odorless product three days prior to bringing him in. I remember he said it took three days to work and that the effects lasted for three days after cessation of the product.

In those days, I had to get a prescription for the capsules and talked my veterinarian into giving me one with unlimited refills. Since I was opening 4 caps a night and sprinkling the powder on the food, I frequently went for more. So frequently, in fact, that the pharmacist looked at me very seriously and said, "You know you're popping an awful lot of these." When I explained they were for the cats, he apparently figured I was a harmless nut and made no more comments



"By George! I think I've got her!"

They were recommended for infants with diaper rash and urine scald so I felt they must be safe enough for the cats. And I never had any adverse reactions, even with long-term use.

When I went about trying to put this information out for the membership, I discovered the company that made the product I had used was no longer in business and I couldn't find another company that put it out. I have finally discovered that health food stores can order Methionine powder, no prescription necessary. Since I no longer have need of it, I have not gotten any and don't know if the powder that is available is the same concentration as that in the capsules I used. It might be worthwhile for some of you to give it a try. I'd start with half a teaspoon, wait the three days and see if you think there's an improvement in the aromas wafting around the catbox or enclosure. If not, try a little more until you come up with an amount that works for you.

Please let us know the results and dosages for a future Newsletter. It was a boon to me at the time and hope it helps you.

Carin Sousa

"In Egypt, the cats...afford evidence that animal nature is not altogether intractable, but that when well-treated they are good at remembering kindness."

Aelian
Roman writer



The Snow Leopard

Part VI

By Ron Eldridge, BVSc

Did you know...that of all the world's great cats, the snow leopard is probably the biggest mystery? The cats are seldom seen by man in the wild because of the inaccessibility of their haunts and their nocturnal habits.

The life span of the snow leopard in the wild is 10-12 years, in captivity however, 15-20 years is common.

The snow leopard has rather a calm and curious attitude. Unlike other felines who often seem nervous and shy, the snow leopard very seldom is seen pacing in the wild or in captivity.

The snow leopard has to contend with extremes of climate and its coat varies from fine in the summer to thick in the winter. The surfaces of its paws are covered by a cushion of hair which increases the surface area, thus distributing the animal's weight more evenly over soft snow while protecting its soles from cold.

Other names for the snow leopard are Ounce, Zig, Safed Cheetah, Burhel Killer, the Grey Ghost and Irbis.

Compared with other cats' the snow leopard's tail is longer in proportion to the actual body size.

Although poaching for skins and killings by herdsmen account for most of the deaths of the "Ounce", avalanches also take their toll on the cats.

Snow leopard skins sell on the black market for about \$60,000 per pelt.

In closing this six part series on the snow leopard, I would like to add these final comments: This species is in a very sharp decline and is being systematically killed or removed from its natural habitat. Its future looks bleak unless sanctuaries can be created to safeguard this extraordinary creature of immense solitude and peace...the "grey Ghost" cat.

In words of biologist George B. Schaller, "*Suddenly I saw the snow leopard. Wisps of cloud moved between us, and she became a ghost creature, appearing and disappearing as if in a dream.*"



Some Thoughts on Captive Animals Versus Wild Environments

It must be a great joy for animals to explore, forage in the fresh grasses, clamber up the trees, sniff all the odors of nature and wander where they will, experiencing new and interesting situations as they go.

I think of this when I tether one of our exotic cats on the lawn where I witness them eating the new grass to clean out their stomachs and enjoy stretching out in the sun on the earth. It is some comfort when I untie them that I also see that they do not mind going back to their caged habitat, one unfailingly trotting there himself without a leash, passing even the birdcages that might otherwise attract him. He feels secure in his environment.

Most have to be fierce to survive. They live in fear in their natural habitat, instinctively knowing the metallic smell of a gun associated with man, and needing to be prepared to attack other predators lest they become prey. Nature has provided defense mechanisms for every creature she created and also provides weapons of tooth and claw to engage in combat for purposes of hunting and killing to eat and survive.

When I provide food for each animal with an assortment of that which is fresh and a canned food, ZuPreem, created especially for their optimal health along with the vitamins and minerals they require and a pinch of garlic to combat fleas, I consider what they might have to do to obtain their own meal. They may or may not prevail. They may become injured in the process or their kill could get stolen by a stronger predator. They may not get a kill at all and go hungry for many days or they may encroach on a farmer's livestock and get shot in the process.

What about illness? When my cats are inoculated against disease or tested for parasites I wonder about their demise in the jungle. Certainly suffering must be an aspect of their

lives in the wild, with no one to treat their wounds, medicate them for disease, be there to heal a broken leg, or care for them as they grow old. I have some bobcats that are 22 years old, of which one is deaf and blind. But he still seems to be enjoying himself and others find him very beautiful to this day. His life would have been over long ago if he were not captive-born and reared.

Birthing of cubs in captivity is yet another aspect to consider as a comparison. Those of us who have experienced this, watch for signs of pregnancy in the female. Separate her from the male and make sure she has a comfortable birthing nest in a warm spot. When the cubs are born we can see if they are being cared for or we may find it necessary to bottle-feed. Being equipped with the proper tools to do this, we can carry on using the best vitamin supplements to assure healthy cubs.

In the wild the female has to hide out of fear of her cubs being another creature's dinner and sometimes, even being eaten by their own fathers. There are endless challenges in the raising of cubs. She must hunt for them and herself, often needing to range farther from the den to do this, leaving the cubs vulnerable for longer.

Imagine her heartbreak when, upon returning, she finds her cubs have been eaten or the frustration at not finding enough food for them so that they just starve to death. No wonder we are losing many species as the wilderness shrinks.

A side to this which is not often considered is companionship. Many animals, particularly wild cats, are described as being solitary. In captivity it is obvious that they do enjoy each others company. Although in the wild they may go their separate ways after mating season, it is primarily due to competition for food and territory. In captivity we see the

Thoughts - continued

enjoyment they derive from having another animal close by to cuddle with, play with and groom. An enormous bond can develop between mates that is not able to flourish in the wild.

In much the same way that civilization has altered human behavior in homo sapiens as we learn to relate to others as our needs are met, a so-called *wild* cat begins to find a different perspective in regard to their mates as the rest of their needs are taken care of. Their relationship with humans with whom they've come in contact, particularly those who feed and care for them, is one of respect and even unconditional love. Most animal keepers return this love, treating their charges with kindness, consideration and care. There is always someone to look after them in case of need, shelter, food, illness. I sense that they fully appreciate this and value the friendship of human companionship and the company of their mate in captivity. As one who has lived closely with exotic cats for over thirty years, I can say that my observations are from long experience and the ability to understand the feelings, moods and desires of the exotic feline.

There is something to be said for both lifestyles. Denying the ability to breed captive

animals, particularly ones that are endangered or threatened seems to be a denial of the advancement of our very civilization. Today, when so much more is known about proper diet, housing, and medication than when I first started working with animals, it would seem we, as humans, should be heading for an even greater sharing of our planet with the other animals that live on it. We have the resources and the ability.

My purpose here is to point out that captivity almost guarantees a substantially longer life and one not fraught by the stresses and unpredictability of the wild, particularly of the small exotic cats such as the ocelot, serval, and bobcat, all of which live at Isis Oasis and which I hope to breed so there will still be places where these lovely animals may be observed and understood.

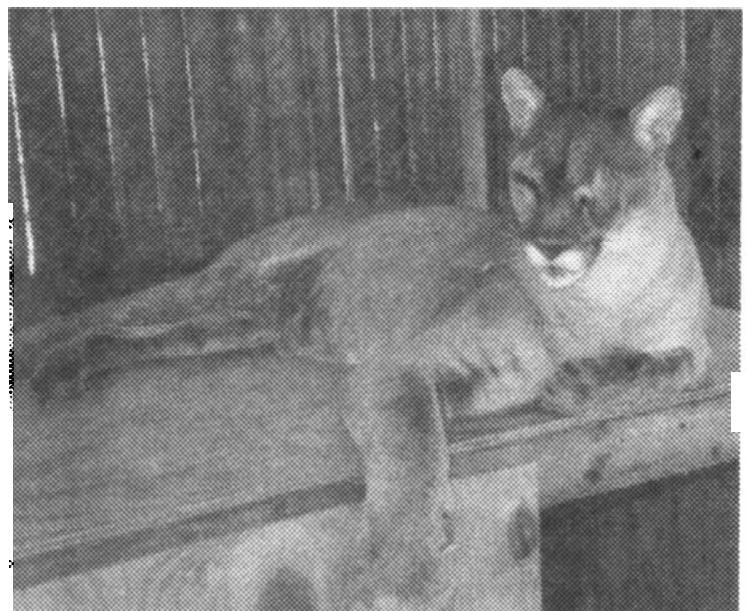
I would be interested to hear other people expound on this subject so new perspectives could be engendered and instilled into the minds of those who think otherwise.

Lorean Vigne
20889 Geyserville Ave
Geyserville, CA 95441
(707) 857-3524

Obituary

Rambo, our 9-1/2 year old cougar, has left us, Toni Gattie writes. At six months old Rambo lost his first eye to glaucoma. When he was four years old he lost his other eye to the same disease. He lived another five years, very content in his surroundings. From age five, Rambo lived with Nubbins a female who is still alive and healthy. We never allowed them to breed for fear of passing on the glaucoma.

Losing Rambo was the worst day of my life.



The Parkwood Inn, Brunswick, Maine is your destination for the 1996 LIOC Convention, August 8-11. CALL 1-800-349-7181 to reserve your special room decorated with Ethen Allen furniture. The Parkwood Inn has 42 rooms, and an elegant lobby constructed in marble and mahogany.

The state of Maine is known as "Vacationland" and August is Maine's prime season. The Parkwood Inn will only hold LIOC's low room rate until July 1, so...HURRY TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS, \$79.00 EACH NIGHT DOUBLE OCCUPANCY. (AFTER JULY 1, the room rate will be \$109.00 each night.) The \$79.00 room rate includes a free deluxe continental breakfast each morning. The Inn doesn't serve "hot breakfast."

The CATS are welcome! (Less than 30 lbs.) The Parkwood Inn requires notice when you make your reservations, as to which cats you are bringing to the convention, and a \$100.00 room deposit, of which \$75.00 is refundable.

IMPORTANT: This information must be sent to George Stowers, our Director of Legal Affairs, 8 Meadowhill Drive, Farmingdale, ME 04344 or call George at 207-622-9201. The state of Maine requires an import permit for every incoming cat, at no cost to you. George will complete the import permit forms for you.

The state of Maine also requires that each incoming cat has its health certificate, adult vaccination for rabies, state or federal possession permits, and that there will be no selling of cats. All incoming cats must go home.

Register for the 1996 LIOC Convention by June 15. Please send \$95.00 payment to LIOC-ESCF, Inc., PO Box 22085, Phoenix, Arizona 85028 (After June 15 the fee will be \$120.00) Your registration fee includes the agenda August 7-11.

Note: Send your choice* of either chicken or lobster for the Friday, Traditional Lobster Bake AND send your choice of either chicken or salmon, for the Saturday Night Banquet Dinner. If you don't choose, you'll get chicken for both events.**

THIS YEAR'S CONVENTION HOST, GEORGE STOWERS, HAS PLANNED THE FOLLOWING AGENDA FOR YOU:

Wednesday, August 7

- * The Hospitality Room will be open for early travelers. You may register for the convention and check in any donated items for the auction. Donating items is optional. These "items" should be exotic cat related, i.e., T-shirts, scarves, clothing, framed pictures, wall art, books, ceramics, mugs, wood carvings, decorative accessories or anything with spots or strips. It's fun to see what people bring from their homes. Of course, your donations are tax deductible.

Thursday, August 8

- * The General Membership Meeting will start around 3:00pm, to allow Thursday morning travelers to attend. Our evening starts with a **DELICIOUS BUFFET DINNER and SURPRISE ENTERTAINMENT**. Your dinner will include, Tossed Green Salad, Potato Salad, Pasta Primavera, Teriyaki Steak, Rice, Seasonal Vegetables, Freshly Baked Breads, Choice of Beverage, and Carrot Cake with Sweet Cheese Frosting.

Friday, August 9

- * We will start our day with a trip to Casco Bay Lines and enjoy a **2-hour ferry cruise to Bailey's Island**. For lunch you will dine by the Sea, enjoying a **"Traditional Lobster Bake"** hosted by the famous Cook's Lobster House. (Send your choice* of either chicken or Lobster.) We will then travel to **Land's End Gift Shop** located at the tip of Bailey's Island. Accommodations have been made for physically challenged individuals. Bailey's Island is accessible via a bridge and the bus driver will return us to The Parkwood Inn. Upon our return, the LIOC board members will gather for the annual board meeting and the rest of the day is free time.

Saturday, August 10

- * The morning will be filled with interesting **guest speakers**. Lunch is on your own. Following lunch, the **LIOC Board Member Candidates** will extol their virtues in an effort to win your votes for the upcoming election. We will have a visit with the **CATS**, and photos may be taken. Then it's **"home movie"** time! You may bring videos of your special exotic cats in action!

The evening's festivities will begin with the **Banquet Dinner**, your choice**, **Flame Grilled Salmon**, charred with dill olive oil and served with citrus butter, OR **Chicken Valdostana**, chicken breast with fontina cheese, proscuitto ham and rosemary butter. Dinner includes a fresh fruit cup, dinner salad, rice, vegetable, beverage, and the Chef's selection of dessert.

Following our dinner the **Auctioneer, aka JB Anderson**, will start the bidding. Bids range from \$1.00 to? I'm sure Priscilla the overstuffed flamingo will surely bring high bids. All funds raised at this auction are for LIOC-ESCF, Inc., and are tax deductible.

Sunday, August 11

- * The final convention **banquet meeting** will include a "HOT" breakfast. You will learn about old business and any new projects from the board and where the 1997 LIOC convention will be held!

Submitted by Kelly Jean Buckley



January 21, 1996

EXOTIC FELINE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

In the absence of Sandy Hammersly, who is on vacation, Barbara Wilton called the Membership Meeting to order. It was announced that Rod Black is currently in Florida and, depending on his future plans, there may be a seat on the Board of Directors opening.

We had a small group of founding members present as well as a group of new members from the Seattle area. The enthusiasm they brought to the meeting was refreshing and set the tone for a very positive and enjoyable gathering.

Ethel Hauser reported that the Christmas centerpieces she took upon herself to create with the help of Barbara and Corrine brought in \$194.50 to be donated to the Ken Hatfield veterinary scholarship fund when it is officially established.

Barbara gave a detailed treasurers report and we reviewed the location of the items belonging to E.F.E.S. that have not yet been returned.

The attending members voted on a previous decision of the Board to raise the annual dues to \$10.00 to cover the cost of mailing out meeting notices so that work parties will not be necessary to raise additional money. If the membership decides that funds are needed for a special project in the future, we can vote on a specific work party.

A current copy of the Bi-Laws will be given to all new members upon payment of dues, and copies will be available to all members at regular meetings. We will be discussing and amending the 'Bi-Laws' at the next membership (business) meeting, so give some thought as to improvements you would like to see made. If you would like a copy of the 'Bi-Laws', before the next meeting please mail a self-addressed legal size envelope with .55 postage to:

Shirley Malar
9405 NE 149th Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98682

It was decided that monthly meetings put too much responsibility on the people who attend all the meetings and therefore the meeting schedule has been amended as follows:

April	(Guest Meeting)	Marshall Center
June	(Membership Meeting)	Field trip to visit Donna Amos and Wildlife Safari in Winston
August	LIOC Convention	
September	(Guest Meeting)	Washougal Wildlife League LaCamas Lake

Meetings will remain on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Meeting minutes of the previous meeting will be mailed to paid members with the notice of the next meeting.

New members were asked what they would like to get out of this club and will be prepared to discuss this further at the next meeting. They asked if there was a directory available listing E.F.E.S. members specifying the kind of cat they have experience with and a phone number to contact those members. Shirley will be working on this project, so please send the following information to Shirley's address above if you would like to be listed in the directory. **Please check your name and mailing address on your envelope and take this opportunity to make any corrections which may be needed.**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax / E-Mail:

Exotic cats currently owned:

Exotic cats experienced in handling:

Do you have breeding animals or produce kittens?

Are members welcome to contact you to discuss problems?

Would you be interested in having a membership (business) meeting
at your home?

Other comments:

(If you do not currently own cats, please indicate what cats you are particularly interested in or would 'like to own').

*** If you do not want all of the information published in the directory, (example: address) please note.**

Jan Merris shared some of the experiences she has had with "Cat Scams" people tried to pull on her because of advertising her kittens openly to the public in the Oregonian, and suggested that members try to avoid this type of selling. The directory should be helpful in this respect.

If there are members who would like to submit advertising for cat related products, items, or services please contact Shirley Malar additional information.

Colette's article on 'kitten care' presented to the club at a previous meeting, will be published as a handout to be given to all members. Since calcium deficiencies have been a consistent problem for many owners, information on supplementation will also be available as a standard handout to all members.

Nominees for officers were selected from the people who had expressed an interest in continuing membership in E.F.E.S. and continued to support the group. The following members have been nominated for positions in E.F.E.S.:

PRESIDENT: ETHEL HAUSER / HERB WILTON
VICE PRESIDENT: SANDY HAMMERSLY / HERB WILTON / JAN MERRIS
SECRETARY: SHIRLEY MALAR / (UNOPPOSED)
TREASURER: BARBARA WILTON / PAT PARKER

An appointed position has been created to help deal with any problems between members that affect the functioning of the club. This position is called 'MEDIATOR', and as such the person in this position will be responsible for trying to fairly resolve problems within the club. We are very fortunate to have someone with excellent skills in this area to act as our first mediator. Gary Carder, a new member, is a practicing family counselor in the Seattle area.

There was a flurry of last minute ticket sales for the "Cats of E.F.E.S Quilt" donated by Colette and Bob Griffiths as a fund raiser for the club. Joanne Gunzer's name was drawn from the barrel. Joanne is a member of our local group who lives in Redmond, OR.

The 'consolation raffle' was held immediately afterward and almost nobody went home empty-handed. We all left with a positive feeling about the future of E.F.E.S. and the enthusiasm the new members contributed was contagious.



Shirley Malar, Secretary

Readers write....



My Phoebe (serval) was getting an attitude at about 10 months of age. She had a chunk of toy caught in her intestine last month. As a past veterinarian technician, I assisted in its removal. She was totally helpless for about 8 hours and during that time I kissed, petted, held and talked to her. When she became fully awake, her entire attitude toward me had changed. If your cat develops an attitude, I don't suggest surgery, but a tranquilizer and an overdose of TLC might work?

Doug & Kay Bednarski
(810) 664-5784



ED NOTE: Medication without a vet's recommendation is NEVER recommended. Illness is often signaled by a change in attitude - your cat may become aggressive, or just want to be left alone. Growing up and relating to you at an "adult" level as they leave kittenhood is also a prime motive for an attitude change. Look at every alternative before even considering drugs!

New Red List Categories for Wild Cats

by Kristin Nowell and Peter Jackson

Revised criteria for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals have been applied to the 35 species of wild cats and their subspecies by the co-authors of *Wild Cats: Status Survey and Conservation Action Plan* and were submitted in September to the IUCN Species Survival Commission.

Summary

Critically Endangered (10)

- Asiatic cheetah, *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus* Griffith, 1821
- Florida panther, *Puma concolor coryi* Bangs, 1899
- Eastern cougar, *P.c. cougar* Kerr, 1792
- Arabian leopard, *Panthera pardus nimr* Hemprich and Ehrenberg, 1833
- Amur leopard, *P.p. orientalis* Schlegel, 1857
- North African leopard, *P.p. panthera* Schreber, 1777
- Anatolian leopard, *P.p. tulliana* Valenciennes, 1856
- Amur tiger, *Panthera tigris altaica* Temminck, 1844
- South China tiger, *P.t. amoyensis* Hilzheimer, 1905
- Sumatran tiger, *P.t. sumatrae* Pocock, 1929

Endangered (11)

- Northwest African cheetah, *A.j. hecki*, Hilzheimer, 1913
- North African serval, *Lynchailurus serval constantinus* Forster, 1780
- Iberian lynx, *Lynx pardinus* (Temminck, 1827)
- Iriomote cat, *Prionailurus bengalensis iriomotensis* Imaizumi, 1967
- Asiatic lion, *Panthera leo persica* Meyer, 1826
- Caucasus leopard, *P.p. ciscaucasia* Satunin, 1914.
- Sri Lankan leopard, *P.p. kotiya* Deraniyagala, 1956
- North Chinese leopard, *P.p. japonensis* Gray, 1862
- Javan leopard, *P.p. melas* G. Cuvier, 1809
- Tiger, *Panthera tigris* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- Snow leopard, *Uncia uncia* (Schreber, 1775)

Vulnerable (9)

- Cheetah, *Acinonyx jubatus* (Schreber, 1775)
- Bornean bay cat, *Catopuma badia* (Gray, 1874)
- Scottish wildcat, *Felis silvestris grampia* Miller, 1907
- Kodkod, *Oncifelis guigna* (Molina, 1782)
- Andean mountain cat, *Oreailurus jacobitus* (Cornalia, 1865)
- Philippine leopard cat (undescribed)
- Flat-headed cat, *Prionailurus planiceps* (Vigors and Horsfield, 1827)
- Clouded leopard, *Neofelis nebulosa* (Griffith, 1821)
- Lion, *Panthera leo* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Near Threatened (6)

- Asiatic golden cat, *Catopuma temminckii* (Vigors and Horsfield, 1827)
- Pakistan sand cat, *Felis margarita scheffeli* Hemmer, 1974
- Oncilla, *Leopardus tigrinus* (Schreber, 1775)
- Red manul, *Otocolobus manil ferrugineus* Ognev, 1928
- Fishing cat, *Prionailurus viverrinus* (Bennett, 1833)
- Jaguar, *Panthera onca* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Least Concern (19)

- Caracal, *Caracal caracal* (Schreber, 1776)
- Jungle cat, *Felis chaus* Schreber, 1777
- Sand cat, *Felis margarita* Loche, 1858
- Black-footed cat, *Felis nigripes* Burchell, 1824

- Wildcat, *Felis silvestris* Schreber, 1775
- Jaguarundi, *Herpailurus yaguarondi* Lacepede, 180
- Ocelot, *Leopardus pardalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- Margay, *Leopardus wiedi* (Schinz, 1821)
- Serval, *Leptailurus serval* (Schreber, 1776)
- Canada lynx, *Lynx canadensis* Kerr, 1792
- Eurasian lynx, *Lynx lynx* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- Bobcat, *Lynx rufus* (Schreber, 1776)
- Pampas cat, *Oncifelis colocolo* (Molina, 1782)
- Geoffroy's cat, *Oncifelis geoffroyi* (d'Orbigny and Gervais, 1844)
- Manul, *Otocolobus manul* (Pallas, 1776)
- Leopard cat, *Prionailurus bengalensis* (Kerr, 1792)
- African golden cat, *Profelis aurata* (Temminck, 1827)
- Puma, *Puma concolor* (Linnaeus, 1771)
- Leopard, *Panthera pardus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Data Deficient (5)

- Chinese mountain cat, *Felis bieti* Milne-Edwards, 1892
- Texas jaguarundi, *Herpailurus yaguarondi cacomilli* Berlandier, 1859
- Texas ocelot, *Lynchailurus pardalis albescens* Pucheran, 1855
- Caucasian lynx, *Lynx lynx dinniki* Satunin, 1915
- Rusty-spotted cat, *Prionailurus rubiginosus* (I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1831)

Justification

Cheetah, *Acinonyx jubatus* (Schreber, 1775)

Old Red List ranking: Vulnerable;

New Red List ranking: Vulnerable

Justification

The total number of cheetahs was estimated to be 9-12,000 by the Namibia-based Cheetah Conservation Fund in 1991 based on literature review and mail questionnaire survey. Cheetahs are illegally killed for their pelts and persecuted in response to predation on livestock. In Namibia, which has one of the largest national cheetah populations, the government problem animal control officer estimated in 1987 that the population had declined by at least half over the past 10 years to 2,500 due to trapping and shooting

Distribution

Algeria; Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Egypt (extinct?); Ethiopia; Iran; Kenya; Libya (extinct?); Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Morocco; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Pakistan (extinct?); Senegal (extinct?); Somalia; South Africa; Sudan; Swaziland; Tanzania; Togo; Uganda; Western Sahara (extinct?); Zaire; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Subspecies: Asiatic cheetah, *A.j. venaticus* Griffith, 1821

Old Red List ranking: Endangered;

New Red List ranking: Critically Endangered

Justification

Iranian biologist B. Dareshuri estimates that fewer than 50 cheetahs remain in Iran, down from possibly 200 in the mid-1970s. This subspecies is extinct in every other former Asian range state, from Saudi Arabia north to Kazakhstan and east to Pakistan and India

Distribution

Iran

Subspecies: Northwest African cheetah, *A.j. hecki*, Hiltzheimer, 1913

New Red List ranking: Endangered

Justification

Biologist K. de Smet estimates "several dozen" cheetahs in the mountains of southeastern Algeria. New cheetah records have recently been reported from southern Morocco. Populations centered on Air and Termit mountains in Niger estimated at 150 by Millington and Anada in 1991

Distribution

Algeria; Egypt (extinct?); Libya (extinct?); Morocco; Niger; Western Sahara (extinct?).

Caracal, *Caracal caracal* (Schreber, 1776)
Least concern

Subspecies: Turkmenian caracal, *C.c. michaelis*, listed as Rare in the old Red List. Not listed now because the population is not isolated from the Southwest Asian caracal *C.c. schmitzi*, and may not be a valid subspecies

Bornean bay cat, *Catopuma badia* (Gray, 1874)
Old Red List: Insufficiently Known; New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

Almost nothing is known about the Bornean bay cat, so application of the criteria is difficult. Records consist of a few skins and sightings over the past 100 years, and all are from montane tropical rainforest in Borneo, a habitat type about 46,000 km² in extent. At a potential density of one breeding adult per 5 km, this yields a population of under 10,000. Fragmentation caused by deforestation may isolate populations – note, however, that not a single sub-population has been identified. Future research proposed in the Cat Action Plan should greatly improve understanding of species status

Distribution

Indonesia (Kalimantan); Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak)

Asiatic golden cat, *Catopuma temmincki* (Vigors and Horsfield, 1827)

Old Red List: Indeterminate; New Red List: Near Threatened

Justification

The Asiatic golden cat is found in tropical forests of continental and insular Southeast Asia, which suffered a 10-15% deforestation rate over the 1980s as estimated by the FAO. The golden cat is a medium-sized cat which can take small livestock, and it is hunted for its bones for traditional Oriental medicines. There is little data on the species; it has never been studied in the wild. It could possibly qualify as Vulnerable, but there is too little information to base this on

Distribution

Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia (Sumatra); Laos; Malaysia (Peninsular); Myanmar; Nepal; Thailand, Vietnam

Chinese mountain cat, *Felis bieti* Milne-Edwards, 1892
Old Red List: Insufficiently Known;
New Red List: Data Deficient

Distribution

China

Jungle cat, *Felis chaus* Schreber, 1777
Least concern

Sand cat, *Felis margarita* Loche, 1858
Old Red List: Insufficiently Known;
New Red List: Least concern

Justification

Although the current lack of knowledge about the species status and biology makes an assessment premature, the sand cat appears to be one of the least threatened felid species. Although it has been frequently described as rare, this may be a result of its harsh environment and nocturnal, subterranean, and secretive habits. Its preferred habitat is not being lost or degraded; if so-called "desertification" is a real phenomenon, it could actually benefit the species

Distribution

Afghanistan (?); Algeria; Chad; Egypt; Iran; Iraq (?); Israel; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Libya (?); Mali (?); Mauritania (?); Morocco; Niger; Oman; Pakistan; Qatar; Sudan (?); Syria (?); Turkmenistan; United Arab Emirates; Uzbekistan; Western Sahara (?); Yemen

Subspecies: Pakistan sand cat, *F.m. scheffeli* Hemmer, 1974

Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Near Threatened

Justification

Despite early reports that the sand cat population of Baluchistans Chagai Desert was devastated by commercial collectors within 10 years after foreign collectors became aware of its existence (T. Roberts 1977, H. Hemmer 1977), more recent information indicates that the sand cat still occurs widely in the area (P. Paillat pers. comm. to S. Biquand 1993). The first radiotelemetry study of sand cats in Israel indicates a relatively high density of 22 individuals per 100 km², which suggests that the population may be greater than 10,000. Continued decline due to exploitation for the pet trade is unlikely. However, there is still too little information to conclude that the Pakistan sand cat is not threatened

Distribution

Afghanistan (?); Pakistan

Black-footed cat, *Felis nigripes* Burchell, 1824
Least concern

Wildcat, *Felis silvestris* Schreber, 1775
Least concern

Subspecies: Scottish wildcat, *F.s. grampia* Miller, 1907.
Recognized by Hattenorth (1957) as the only valid subspecies in the European *silvestris* group of wildcats
New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

A comprehensive four-year survey by the Nature Conservancy Council of Scotland (1988) mapped the distribution of the wildcat in Scotland, and reported that 30% of sub-populations had declined in recent years, compared with only 8% reported as increasing. Wildcats occur in only about 5,000 km² of northern Scotland, having been extirpated from the rest of Britain in the 19th century. Persecution was found to have been widespread, and was considered to be a significant threat to small, isolated populations. Following publication of the report, legal protection was extended to the wildcat. However, the wildcat continues to be compromised by hybridization with domestic cats. Genetic and morphological studies have found hybridization to be a frequent phenomenon (80% of 42 specimens in one 1992 study), with only a few "pure" populations remaining in the remotest areas of northern and western Scotland. It should be noted that wildcats in these areas inhabit treeless habitat very different from the forests it occupies elsewhere in Europe

Jaguarundi, *Herpailurus yagouaroundi* Lacepede, 1809
Least concern

Subspecies: Texas jaguarundi, *H.y. cacomitli* Bertandier, 1859
Data Deficient

Ocelot, *Leopardus pardalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Least concern

Subspecies: Texas ocelot, *L.p. albescens* Pucheran, 1855
Data Deficient

Oncilla, *Leopardus tigrinus* (Schreber, 1775)
Old Red List: Insufficiently Known;
New Red List: Near Threatened

Justification

This species has never been studied in the wild, and there is little understanding of its habitat requirements. It has been found in montane cloud forest, subtropical forest highlands, and semi-arid thorny scrub, but appears to be absent from the lowland rainforest of the Amazon basin, which forms a refuge for its close relatives, the ocelot and the margay. It was trapped in large numbers for the fur trade in the 1970s and early 1980s (84,500 skins reported exported from Paraguay in 1983; 675 skins seized in Brazil from Paraguay in 1991). Deforestation rates in Central America and tropical Latin America ranged from 7-15% over the 1980s, according to FAO, perhaps resulting in similar population declines

Distribution

Argentina; Bolivia (?); Brazil; Colombia; Costa Rica; Ecuador; French Guiana; Guyana; Nicaragua (?); Panama (?); Paraguay (?); Suriname; Venezuela

Margay, *Leopardus wiedi* (Schinz, 1821)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known; New Red List: Least concern

Justification

The margay is no longer trapped in large numbers for the commercial fur trade, and the 4,000,000 km² Amazon basin rainforests provide a substantial refuge buffering against losses due to deforestation elsewhere.

Serval, *Leptailurus serval* (Schreber, 1776)
Least concern

Subspecies: North African serval, *L.s. constantinus* Forster, 1780
New Red List: Endangered

Justification

Relict populations of North African servals, which are likely to have been isolated from sub-Saharan populations for at least 6,000-7,000 years, may still be found in the humid scrub and mixed woodlands of Morocco's Atlas mountains and northern Tunisia and Algeria. The last confirmed record from Algeria is of an animal killed by a French hunter in 1936, which was said to be the last in the area. There have been scattered reports of serval occurrence in northern Algeria during the 1980s, but zoologists have been unable to confirm them

Distribution

Algeria (extinct?); Morocco (extinct?); Tunisia (extinct?)

Canada lynx, *Lynx canadensis* Kerr, 1792
Least concern

Eurasian lynx, *Lynx lynx* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Least concern

Subspecies: Caucasian lynx, *L.l. diinniki* Satunin, 1915
Old Red List: not listed; New Red List: Data deficient

Iberian lynx, *Lynx pardinus* (Temminck, 1827)
Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

The population in Spain is estimated at 1,200, including sub-adults, with only about 350 breeding females, and probably no more than 100 animals in Portugal. The population is extremely fragmented, with nine distinct sub-populations in Spain and three in Portugal. One sub-population is large, with some 800 animals; the remainder have only 13-63 animals. The population is declining due to habitat loss and decline of the main prey species, the European rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, due to disease. A continuing decline of at least 20% within the next 10 years is quite possible unless comprehensive conservation measures are implemented. Small population size is a proven threat to the Iberian lynx: it has disappeared from 91% of the areas less than 1,000 km² in size, which were estimated to have harbored it in 1960. At present, only two sub-populations occupy areas larger than 2,000 km²

Distribution

Portugal; Spain

Bobcat, *Lynx rufus* (Schreber, 1776)
Least concern

Pampas cat, *Oncifelis colocolo* (Molina, 1782)
Old Red List: Indeterminate; New Red List: Least concern

Justification

The pampas cat has a very large range in South America, and is found in a variety of habitat types, absent only from the tropical and temperate rainforests. New records from Brazil extend its known range throughout the cerrado dry woodlands of central Brazil. The cat is unlikely to be threatened because it is widely distributed, tolerant of altered habitat (including secondary growth, forest plantation, and the fringes of agricultural and settled areas), and international trade in its pelt has ceased. However, the taxonomy of this cat is very controversial. It has been suggested that the pampas cat actually consists of three separate species, and that the Chilean taxon, divided into two subspecies, may be vulnerable due to its restricted geographic range. Molecular analysis is needed to support this classification

Geoffroy's cat, *Oncifelis geoffroyi* (d'Orbigny and Gervais, 1844)
Least concern

Kodkod, *Oncifelis guigna* (Molina, 1782)
Old Red List: Indeterminate; New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

The kodkod has a restricted range in the temperate moist forests of southern Chile and Argentina, estimated roughly at 160,000 km². Given an average guesstimated density of one adult per 10 km² there would be 16,000 adults, including 8,000 mature individuals. Probably no subpopulation is larger than 1,000, and continuing decline is probable outside protected

areas due to deforestation – only 36% of Chile temperate rainforest protected, and logging increasing for export to Japan

Distribution

Argentina; Chile

Andean mountain cat, *Oreailurus jacobitus* (Cornalia, 1865)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known; New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

The Andean mountain cat has never been studied and appears to be rare. Its high Andean habitat is naturally fragmented, with little likelihood of migration between populations isolated by deep, well-watered and long-settled river valleys. Its extent of occurrence is not well understood due to the paucity of records, but there may well be fewer than 10,000 breeding adults, and it is unlikely that there are any sub-populations with more than 1,000 individuals. Decline may be due to decline in prey species (mountain chinchillas *Chinchilla spp.* and viscachas *Lagidium spp.*)

Distribution

Argentina; Bolivia; Chile; Peru

Manul, *Otocolobus manul* (Pallas, 1776)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known; New Red List: Least concern

Justification

Although the manul is another little-studied cat, it has a wide range across Central Asia (roughly estimated at nearly 5,000,000 km²), and so it is unlikely to be threatened with extinction

Subspecies: Red manul, *O.m. ferrugineous* Ognev, 1928

New Red List: Near Threatened

Justification

The manul has disappeared in recent years from much of its former habitat in the area of the Caspian and Aral Seas. It is considered rare to uncommon in Afghanistan, and the isolated population in Baluchistan is likely to be very small. Threats include trapping for furs, and poisoning of its pika prey

Distribution

Afghanistan; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Iran; Kazakhstan; Pakistan; Turkmenistan; Uzbekistan

Leopard cat, *Prionailurus bengalensis* (Kerr, 1792)

Least concern

Subspecies: Iriomote cat, *P.b. Iriomotensis* Imazumi, 1967

Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

There is controversy over whether the Iriomote cat is a unique island subspecies of the most common cat in Asia, or a distinct species. At any rate, it exists as a single small population of less than 100 mature individuals. Although the population is thought to have remained stable since studies commenced in 1982, threats include tourism development, clearance of favored lowland habitat for agriculture and cattle raising (government subsidized), road kill, competition from a growing population of feral cats, and risk of disease transmission from these and other imported animals

Distribution

Iriomote Island; Japan

Subspecies: Philippine leopard cat (undescribed)

New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

Philippine biologists have suggested that the leopard cats of Panay, Negros and Cebu, which are separated from the Sunda Shelf by deep water channels, may be a different and endemic

subspecies of the Philippines in comparison to the population found on Palawan, which would be expected to have a closer relationship with the Indonesian island subspecies. The state of the forests of the Philippines is the worst in tropical Asia. The leopard cat has possibly been extirpated from Cebu, which is largely deforested, and has probably been eliminated from most of its former range on other islands within the past 15-20 years, according to W. Oliver

Distribution

Philippines

Flat-headed cat, *Prionailurus planiceps*

(Vigors and Horsfield, 1827)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known;

New Red List: Vulnerable – A2c

Justification

Although the flat-headed cat has quite a substantial range in tropical Asia (estimated at over 1 million km²), its actual area of occupancy is much smaller as it is strongly associated with wetlands, including swampy areas, oxbow lakes and riverine forest. Water pollution and forest clearance for settlement threaten the species through most of its range. Deforestation rates in tropical Asia amounted to 13-15% forest loss over the 1980s, according to FAO; these rates are higher along water ways and probably have resulted in similar declines in flat-headed cat populations

Distribution

Brunei; Indonesia (Kalimantan, Sumatra); Malaysia; Myanmar (?); Thailand

Rusty-spotted cat, *Prionailurus rubiginosus*

(I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1831)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known; New Red List: Data Deficient

Justification

The rusty-spotted cat has long been considered rare in India and Sri Lanka, so that its distribution is not well understood. However, recent records from villages and city outskirts indicate some tolerance of modified habitat. More study is needed to clarify whether this species qualifies as Vulnerable

Distribution

India; Sri Lanka

Fishing cat, *Prionailurus viverrinus* (Bennett, 1833)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known;

New Red List: Near Threatened

Justification

The fishing cat is a cat of tropical Asian wetlands like its relative, the flat-headed cat. However, it has a much wider range, and is generally perceived as more common, so that it probably does not yet qualify as Vulnerable, although the threats are the same

Distribution

Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia (Java, Sumatra); Laos; Malaysia (Peninsular); Myanmar; Nepal; Pakistan (extinct?); Sri Lanka; Thailand; Vietnam

African golden cat, *Profelis aurata* (Temminck, 1827)

Old Red List: Insufficiently Known; New Red List: Least concern

Justification

Although the African golden cat is a little known species, it has too large a range, much of it still good quality, throughout the African tropical rainforest to be considered threatened

Puma, *Puma concolor* (Linnaeus, 1771)
Least concern

Subspecies: Florida panther, *P.c. coryi* Bangs, 1899
Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Critically Endangered

Justification

The Florida panther has been reduced from a wide range in the southeastern U.S. in the 19th century to a population of 30-50 animals in southern Florida, which carry genes from South American subspecies. One sub-population went extinct in 1991. Florida panthers are threatened by physiological impairments ascribed to inbreeding depression and by road kill. Despite massive government investment, the subspecies prognosis has not greatly improved over the last decade

Subspecies: Eastern cougar, *P.c. cougar* Kerr, 1792
Old Red List: Endangered;
New Red List: Critically Endangered, possibly Extinct

Justification

The puma disappeared from eastern North America by the early 20th century due to deforestation, prey decline, and direct persecution. Although numerous sighting reports have suggested that the subspecies may not be completely extinct, only a few have been authenticated, and if any animals remain it is likely that there are less than 50

Clouded leopard, *Neofelis nebulosa* (Griffith, 1821)
Old Red List: Vulnerable; New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

Although the clouded leopard has a wide range in tropical Asia, it is threatened by high rates of deforestation (15% in continental Southeast Asia over the 1980s) and by high levels of hunting for its pelt. Clouded leopard pelts are frequently seen in markets throughout Asia, particularly in China. That a 20% decline in numbers of breeding individuals has occurred over the past 15 years, given these factors, is possible

Distribution

Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia (Kalimantan, Sumatra); Laos; Malaysia; Myanmar; Nepal; Taiwan (extinct?); Thailand; Vietnam

Lion, *Panthera leo* (Linnaeus, 1758)
New Red List: Vulnerable

Justification

Throughout most of Africa, lions are becoming increasingly rare outside protected areas. The lion has disappeared from large areas of its historic range in Southwest Asia and North Africa over the past 150 years. Lions are conspicuous, large and social, and are thus very vulnerable to extirpation, especially by poisoning carcasses, by local people who do not want lions nearby. While lions are well represented in many protected areas, there is still quite likely to have been a 20% decline in overall numbers over the past 19 years (three generations)

Distribution

Angola; Benin; Botswana, Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Congo; Ethiopia; Gabon; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Ivory Coast; Kenya; Lesotho; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania (extinct?); Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Rwanda; Senegal; Somalia; South Africa;

Sudan; Swaziland; Tanzania; Togo; Uganda; Zaire; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Subspecies: Asiatic lion, *P.l. persica* Meyer, 1826
Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

While the Asiatic lion is currently increasing, not declining, it exists as a single population of only about 300 animals (including sub-adults), and is vulnerable to extinction through stochastic events

Distribution

Gir Lion Sanctuary, India

Jaguar, *Panthera onca* (Linnaeus, 1758)
New Red List: Near Threatened

Justification

Outside the Amazon basin rainforests, the jaguar is declining in most other habitats. It has been virtually eliminated from much of the drier norther parts of its range in the U.S. and Mexico, as well as the pampas scrub grasslands of Argentina and throughout Uruguay (where pumas are still found). The species has probably already lost significant elements of its intraspecific diversity, and the trend continues. While commercial exploitation for their skins is no longer a factor, jaguars still face local extirpation at the hands of cattle ranchers. Deforestation rates over the 1980s in Latin America were the highest in the world (15%), and fragmentation of forest habitat isolates jaguar populations so that they are more vulnerable to the predations of man. People compete with jaguars for prey. The jaguar nearly qualifies as vulnerable under A1c,d – but not quite, because of the large numbers protected in the Amazon basin stronghold

Distribution

Argentina; Belize; Bolivia; Brazil; Colombia; Costa Rica; Ecuador; French Guiana; Guatemala; Guyana; Honduras; Mexico; Nicaragua; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Suriname; Venezuela

Subspeciation in the jaguar, which has not been examined since Pocock (1939), is in urgent need of evaluation. Potential candidates for the Red List include the southern, northern, and Peruvian/Ecuadorian coastal forms

Leopard, *Panthera pardus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Least concern

Subspecies: Caucasus leopard, *P.p. ciscaucasia* Satunin, 1914.
Probably synonymous with North Persian leopard, *P.p. saxicolor* Pocock, 1927

Old Red List: Endangered (*saxicolor*);
New Red List: Endangered (*saxicolor* + *ciscaucasia*)

Justification

Leopards in this region are unlikely to number more than 2,500. They are declining due to habitat loss and persecution, and are confined largely to montane areas. (Turkmenistan, with one of the largest national populations, estimated at 130-150)

Distribution

Afghanistan; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Georgia; Iran; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan; Uzbekistan

**Subspecies: Sri Lankan leopard, *P.p. kotiya*
Deraniyagala, 1956**

Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

The Sri Lankan leopard population was estimated in 1982 by C. Santiapillai et al. at 400-600 based on densities of one adult per 20-30 km² in remaining forest habitat. They believe numbers have fallen by 75% since the turn of the century

Distribution

Sri Lanka

**Subspecies: North Chinese leopard, *P.p. japonensis*
Gray, 1862**

Old Red List: Vulnerable; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

The northern Chinese leopard population is unlikely to number more than 2,500 breeding adults; it is severely fragmented with no population likely to be larger than 100 animals; and they are declining due to habitat loss and persecution

Distribution

China

**Subspecies: Javan leopard, *P.p. melas* G. Cuvier, 1809
Old Red List: Indeterminate; New Red List: Endangered**

Justification

Based on density estimates of one adult per 5-10 km² (both of these estimates are rather high), Santiapillai and Ramono (1992) estimated the Javan leopard population at 350-700. Java is a densely crowded island, so that the leopard population is very fragmented

Distribution

Indonesia (Java and Kangean islands)

**Subspecies: Arabian leopard, *P.p. nimr*
Hemprich and Ehrenberg, 1833**

Old Red List: Endangered;
New Red List: Critically Endangered

Justification

Leopards are confined chiefly to montane areas in the Arabian peninsula. Populations are small and fragmented, and there are unlikely to be more than 200 leopards remaining

Distribution

Oman; Saudi Arabia; United Arab Emirates; Yemen

**Subspecies: Amur leopard, *P.p. orientalis* Schlegel, 1857
Old Red List: Endangered;
New Red List: Critically Endangered**

Justification

The Amur leopard lost 80% of its range between 1970-1983 (the equivalent of three generations). The total number of adults in Russia has been censused at 29-31. In China and the Koreas, the Amur leopard is probably on the verge of extinction

Distribution

China; Korea; Russia

**Subspecies: North African leopard, *P.p. panthera*
Schreber, 1777**

New Red List: Critically Endangered

Justification

The leopard may be extinct in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. There are only a handful of unconfirmed reports and sightings over the past 10 years

Distribution

Algeria (extinct?); Morocco (extinct?); Tunisia (extinct)

**Subspecies: Anatolian leopard, *P.p. tulliana*
Valenciennes, 1856**

New Red List: Critically Endangered

Justification

Only a very small, highly-fragmented leopard population persists in southwestern Turkey, subject to continuing habitat loss and persecution

Distribution

Turkey

Tiger, *Panthera tigris* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

There are probably no more than 2,500 breeding adult tigers left in the wild. There are no subpopulations estimated to contain more than 250 mature individuals, and there is a continuing decline all over the range due to poaching, persecution, and habitat loss. Three subspecies have become extinct since the 1950s (Caspian, *P.t. virgata*, Bali *P.t. balica* and Javan *P.t. sondaica*)

Distribution

Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia (Sumatra); North Korea (extinct?); Laos; Malaysia (Peninsular); Myanmar; Nepal; Russia; Thailand; Vietnam

**Subspecies: Amur tiger, *P.t. altaica* Temminck, 1844
New Red List: Critically Endangered**

Justification

In Russia, the number of tigers in 1994 was estimated at 150-200, down from 250-430 in the mid-1980s. Commercial poaching pressure has been intense from 1992-1994; hopefully it is slowing under increased protective measures. These tigers live essentially as a single population. If Amur tigers continue to exist in China or North Korea, the total number of this subspecies would still be less than 250

Distribution

China; North Korea (extinct?); Russia

**Subspecies: South China tiger, *P.t. amoyensis*
Hiltzheimer, 1905**

New Red List: Critically Endangered

Justification

The population is thought to number fewer than 50. Once found throughout southern China, the remnant population is now highly fragmented in the mountains of Hunan, Jiangxi, Fujian and Guangdong, with most habitat blocks less than 500 km² in size. Breeding and recruitment is likely to be strongly impaired under these circumstances

Distribution

China

**Subspecies: Sumatran tiger, *P.t. sumatrae* Pocock, 1929
New Red List: Critically Endangered**

Justification

The Sumatran tiger is suffering from poaching and loss of habitat. A 1992 estimate put the tiger population in five major reserves at 400, with up to 200 elsewhere on the island with poorer prospects of survival. The population could have suffered from the recent intensification of commercial poaching for bones for Chinese medicine. It is likely that there are fewer than 250 breeding adults remaining in Sumatra, with no single population being larger than 50 breeding adults

Snow leopard, *Uncia uncia* (Schreber, 1775)
Old Red List: Endangered; New Red List: Endangered

Justification

Estimates of the total snow leopard population vary from 4,500 to 7,500 individuals, but the number of breeding adults is likely to be only around 2,500. Snow leopard populations are naturally fragmented by the nature of their high alpine habitat; only a few large parks are estimated to hold populations of 50 breeding adults. Snow leopards are threatened by commercial hunting for their pelts and bones, by retaliation for livestock raiding, and by over-hunting of their wild prey species (large ungulates have been hunted out of many areas of the high central Asian mountains)

Distribution

Afghanistan; Bhutan; China; India; Kazakhstan; Kyrgystan; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; Russia; Tajikistan; Uzbekistan



President's Perspective

I am so looking forward to Convention this year! I have never been to Maine and I know there are a lot of new members there who I am anxious to meet. That is the best part of Convention. When I arrive at the hotel, my friends are arriving too. Some I have met before and some I havent. The four or five days of Convention are far too short. There is always

someplace to go and something to do if only sitting around the hospitality room and being with people you can discuss the joys and woes of belonging to an exotic. The great thing is everyone knows what you're talking about!

Interesting and knowledgeable speakers add a new dimension. Is there a topic you'd like discussed? Would you like a question box? Give me your ideas. This is your convention. If is your 1st, 2nd or 20th, we should always be able to learn something.

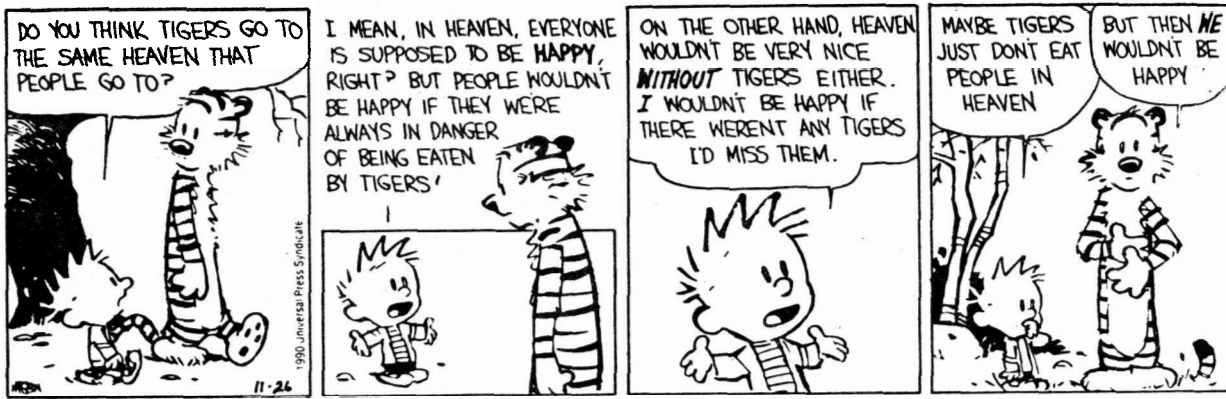
LIOC ESCF has come a long way since the "good old days". Medical knowledge has improved considerably. It used to be practically non-existent. We have learned by trial and error about diet, breeding artificial insemination, housing, security and disease and I am looking forward to more advances.

As a member of the Convention Committee, we want the convention to be what you want. What speakers would you like to hear? Topics? Let us know. You are very important to LIOC ESCF.

See You at Convention

Barbara Wilton
BARBARA WILTON

CALVIN and HOBBS



1996 LIOC Cat Census

SMALL CATS		BIG CATS		HYBRID CATS	
2	Black Footed Cat	1	Cheetah	78	Bengal (Leopard Cat/Domestic)
111	Bobcat	123	Cougar	1	Bobcat/Jungle Cat
43	Caracal	10	Jaguar	5	Bobcat/Lynx
42	Chaus (Jungle Cat)	11	Leopard	3	Bobcat Pixi
11	Fishing Cat	13	Asiatic Leopard	7	Chaus/Domestic (Jungle/Dom.)
61	Geoffroy	1	African Leopard	3	Caracal/Lynx
2	Gordon Cat	6	Amurian Leopard	6	Safari (Geoffroy/Domestic)
5	Indian Desert Cat	11	Snow Leopard	7	Savannah (Serval/Domestic)
9	Leopard Cat	1	Chinese Leopard	The 1996 LIOC cat census totals 891 CATS! These totals include cats that have been reported by their owners on membership renewal forms, and do not include cats whose owners have not filled out the "how many cats do you have?" form. Thank you for your participation! We could be especially accurate if you would include your cat's sub-species on your renewal form, i.e., Bengal Tiger or Siberian Tiger, rather than listing "Tiger" and Canadian Lynx or Siberian Lynx, etc., rather than listing "Lynx." Submitted by: Kelly Jean Buckley	
3	Clouded Leopard	2	Black Panther		
33	Canadian Lynx	17	Tiger		
4	Eurasian Lynx	11	Bengal Tiger		
2	Irkutsk Lynx	17	Siberian Tiger		
29	Siberian Lynx	25	Lion		
13	Margay				
24	Ocelot				
5	Oncilla				
5	Rusty Spotted Cat				
125	Serval				
2	Pallas Cat				
1	Temmincki Golden				

"Sweetie" is a 40 pound, female Canadian Lynx. She will be two years old in June and lives in Minnesota with LIOC members Mark & Mary Natzel.

