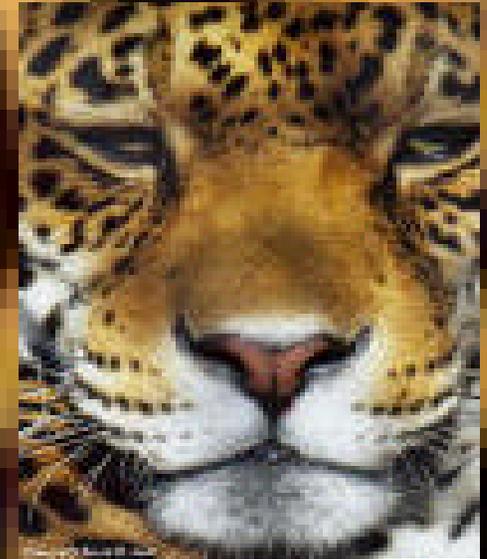
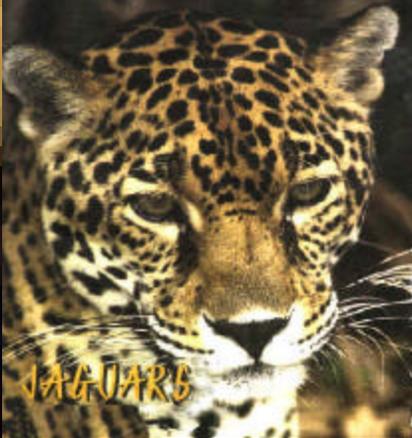


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Jaguar



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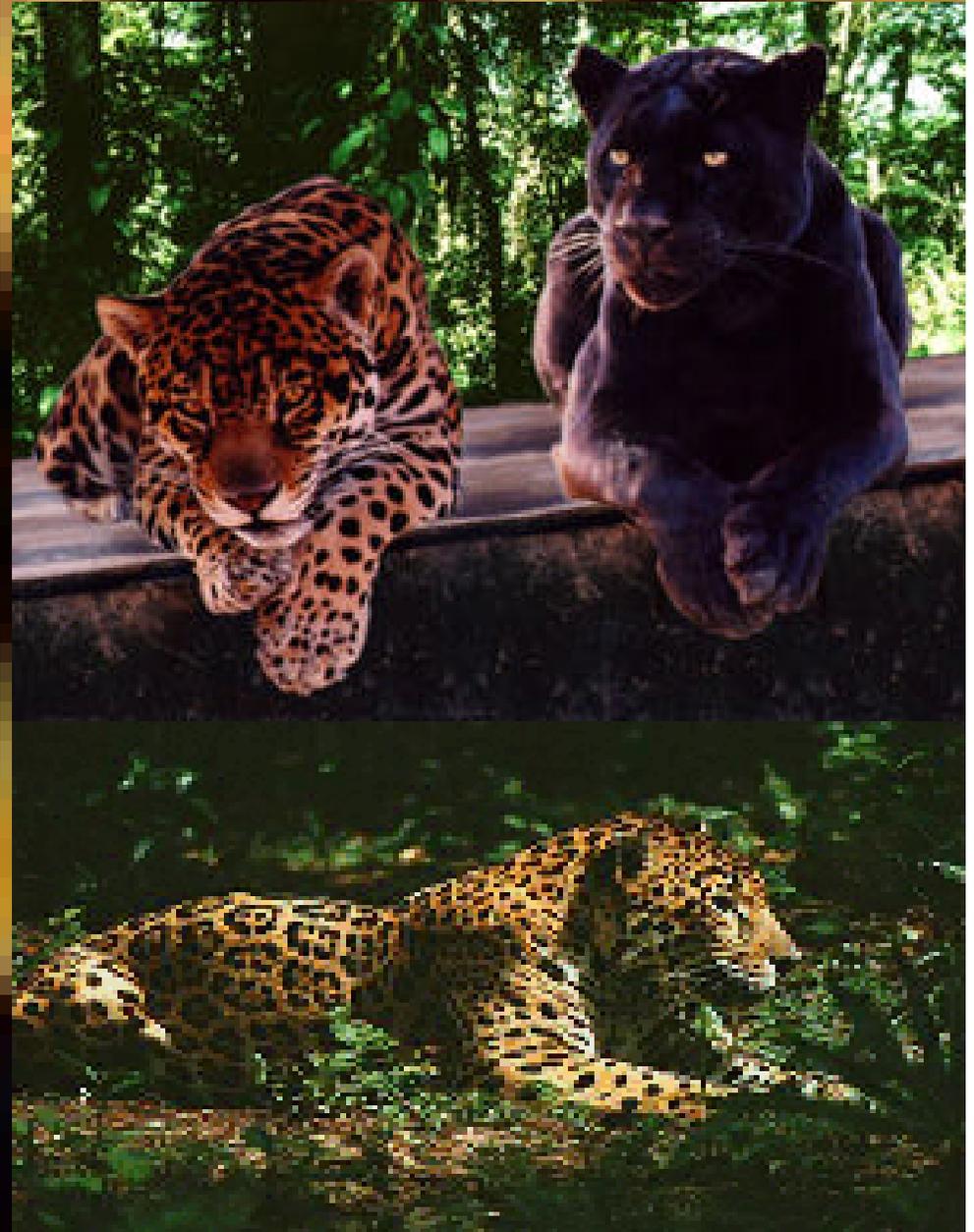
Taxonomy

- ❖ **Kingdom: Animalia**
- ❖ **Phylum: Chordata**
- ❖ **Class: Mammalia**
- ❖ **Order: Carnivora**
- ❖ **Family: Felidae**
- ❖ **Genus: Panthera**
- ❖ **Species: onca**



Physical Appearance

- ❖ name comes from the South American Indian word “yaguara” which means kills its prey with one bound
- ❖ largest cat in the Western Hemisphere and
- ❖ third largest cat in the world
- ❖ one of the four roaring cats
- ❖ short dense fur, golden brown to yellow gold with white on the undersides and face, flanked with large black rosettes
- ❖ inside these rings is a dark spot → difference between the spots on a Jaguar and the spots on a leopard
- ❖ black Jaguars found in dense forests often called Black Panthers



- ❖ **body length: 6-9 feet**
- ❖ **body weight ranges from 125-350 pounds, females 20% smaller than the males.**
- ❖ **jaguars can be melanistic**
- ❖ **spots can still be seen on melanistic jaguar, but only when direct sunlight is shining on their fur**
- ❖ **melanistic individuals occur more in areas where the forests are denser, black coloring would be useful.**
- ❖ **life Span: 15 - 20 years**





- ❖ **found in tropical rainforests, arid scrub, and wet grasslands**
- ❖ **thick forest and wetlands**
- ❖ **prefer dense forests or swamps with a ready supply of water**
- ❖ **avoid open grasslands and open, seasonally dry forests**
- ❖ **a single jaguar needs between 15 and 45 square kilometers of undisturbed habitat to thrive**
- ❖ **historic range: AZ, CA, LA, NM, TX, Mexico, Central and Northern South America**

Habitat



Diet

- ❖ eats small animals: peccaries and capybaras
- ❖ eats tapirs, fish, turtles, spider monkeys, snake eggs
- ❖ eats larger animals such as cattle
- ❖ will catch fish swimming in shallow waters
- ❖ also eats reptiles such as the crocodile
- ❖ has a very powerful jaw and usually kills its prey with one bite
- ❖ bites through the temporal bones (back) of the skull and kill quickly



Birth & Offspring

- ❖ gestation: 95 - 105 days
- ❖ offspring: 1 - 4
- ❖ nurse for 3-4 months and stay with the mother for about 2 years
- ❖ eyes open after 13 days
- ❖ sexual maturity for male 3-4 years
- ❖ sexual maturity for female: 2-3 years

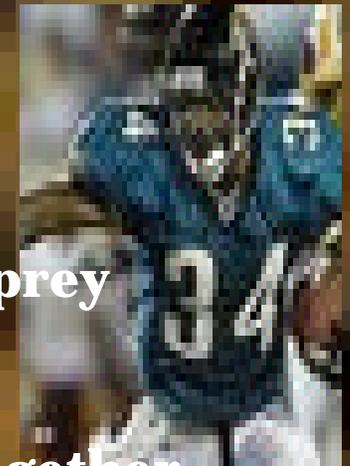




Behavior

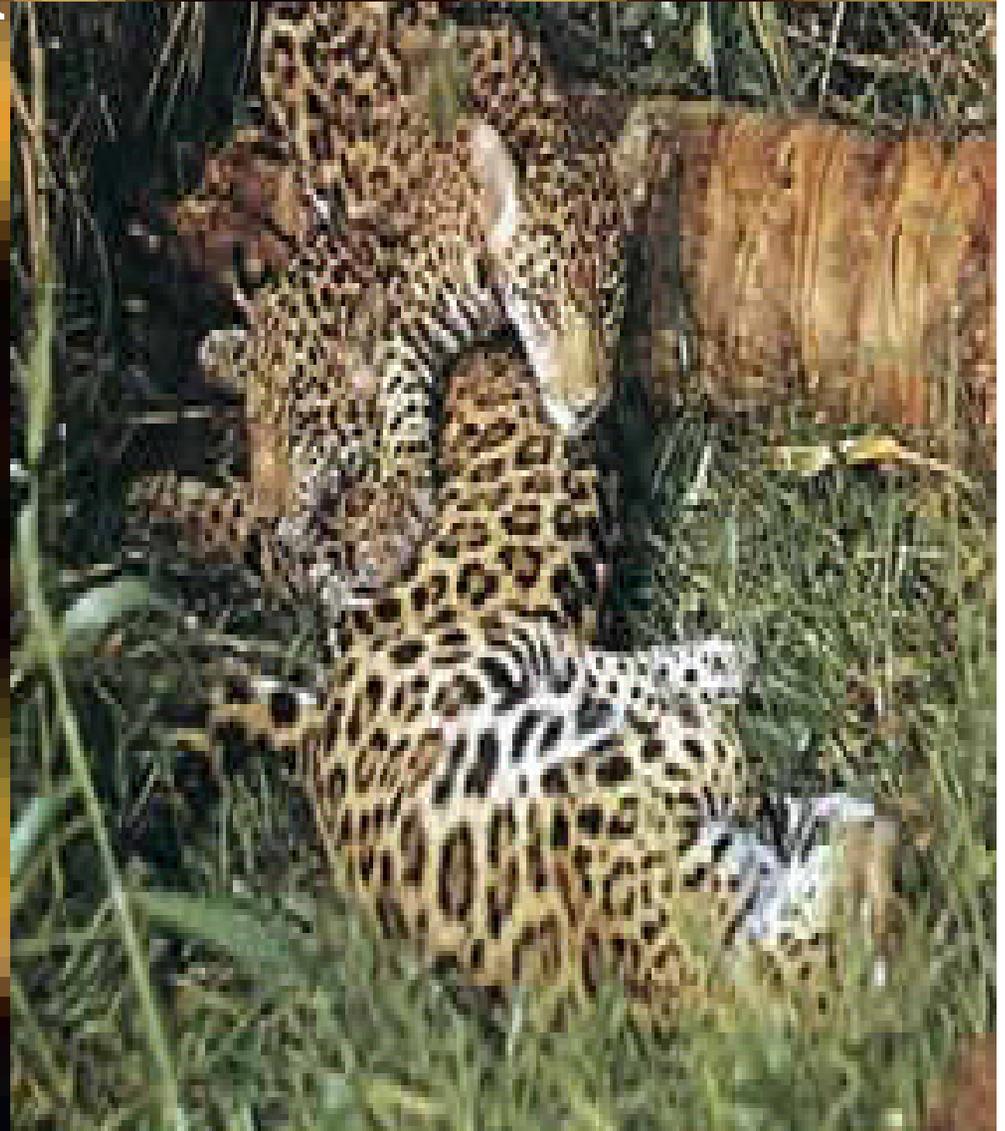


- ❖ territorial, mark territory with urine and tree scrapes
- ❖ arboreal
- ❖ excellent swimmers
- ❖ roars, grunts and mews
- ❖ hunt on the ground at night, prey is stalked or ambushed
- ❖ hunt in trees during the day
- ❖ solitary animals only come together to mate



Reproduction

- ❖ **females remain in estrus for 22 - 65 days**
- ❖ **mating is usually non-seasonal, but cubs are likely to be born in the wet season, corresponding to increase in prey**
- ❖ **female jaguar attracts the attention of area males by leaving scent signals on trees in the form of urine**
- ❖ **chemicals in the urine signal to the male that the female is ready to mate**



Status Details

- ❖ **population size estimated at below 50,000**
- ❖ **declining trend due to persecution and degradation of habitat and prey**
- ❖ **date first listed as endangered--July 22, 1997**
- ❖ **status in: AZ, NM, TX, Mexico, Central and South America**
- ❖ **estimated 15,000 jaguars remain in the wild.**
- ❖ **lost two-thirds of their original range in Mexico and Central America and one-third in South America**
- ❖ **in Mexico they can be found in the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve and the Maya Biosphere Reserve (a rainforest that extends into Guatemala and Belize) and in the states of Tamaulipas, Colima, Nayarit and Chihuahua**
- ❖ **roam the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary in Belize**
- ❖ **disappeared from the US' bordering states with Mexico, El Salvador, Argentina and Uruguay**
- ❖ **in Arizona, there have been at least 64 jaguars killed since 1900**
- ❖ **only 4 % of the area most important for jaguar conservation is effectively protected in Mexico**





Threats



- ❖ Deforestation → fragments jaguar populations and makes them more vulnerable to continuing persecution by man
- ❖ poaching
- ❖ pest control → shot on sight especially in areas possessing cattle ranches
- ❖ once heavily hunted for their skins
- ❖ Man-made habitat loss
- ❖ agriculture
- ❖ urbanization
- ❖ continue to be hunted illegally



Subspecies

<i>Panthera onca arizonensis</i>	Arizona
<i>Panthera onca centralis</i>	Central America
<i>Panthera onca goldmani</i>	Mexico, Belize
<i>Panthera onca hernadesi</i>	Mexico
<i>Panthera onca onca</i>	Amazon Rain Forest
<i>Panthera onca palustris</i>	Southern Brazil
<i>Panthera onca paraguensis</i>	Paraguay
<i>Panthera onca peruviana</i>	Peru, Ecuador
<i>Panthera onca veraecrusis</i>	Texas

- * <http://endangered.fws.gov/>
- * <http://www.thebigzoo.com/Animals/Jaguar.asp>
- * <http://www.redlist.org/search/details.php?species=15953>
- * <http://www.lioncrusher.com/animal.asp?animal=53>
- * <http://www.co.pima.az.us/cmo/sdcp/sdcp2/factsheets/jaguar.html>
- * <http://www.felidtag.org/pages/Educational/FactSheets/jaguar.htm>
- * <http://www.123spot.com/AnimalDirectory/jaguars2.htm>
- * <http://www.promotega.org/asu00004/jaguarsyoung.html>
- * <http://www.calakmul.org/html/learn.html>
- http://zoo.org/educate/fact_sheets/jaguar/jaguar.htm

