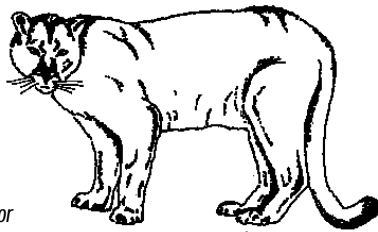


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COUGAR



Scientific name: *Puma concolor*

Also known as puma or mountain lion (or many other names), cougars can live in dramatically different habitats, from snow-covered mountains to tropical rain forests. Cougars are 5 to 6 feet long and stand 2 feet high (or higher) at the shoulder. They weigh between 75 and 200 pounds.



STATUS: Once common across the western hemisphere, the cougar has been eradicated in many areas, and its survival is threatened.



DIET IN THE WILD: Deer. If there are no deer, they eat anything available.

ZOO DIET: AFS Carnivore diet (a specially prepared ground meat).



FUN FACTS: The cougar is found over a wider range than any other mammal in the western hemisphere, except for humans. Cougars keep deer in check. When cougars were removed from the Kabib Desert in Arizona, deer populations grew rapidly until the land no longer could support them and they starved.