

# MOUNTAIN LION (*Puma concolor*)



- The mountain lion was original native to much of North and South American in almost all habitats.
- As top predators, they eat rabbits, birds, rodents, deer, and numerous small animals.
- Males, which are larger than females, may be up to 200 lbs. in weight and 8 ft. in length.

*About 6,000 mountain lions live in California!*

- They are solitary animals with enormous home ranges up to 300 sq. miles.
- Mountain lions are found through much of California, mainly in undisturbed mountainous habitats.
- Mountain lions may be known as pumas, cougars or panthers.
- Sacred to many native groups, the Incans even designed the city Cusco in the shape of the mountain lion.

## *Safety:*

- Only 6 fatal attacks have occurred since 1890 in California.
- Hike in groups, keeping small children and pets nearby.
- If you stumble on a mountain lion, face the animal. Calmly, make noise, stay standing, and move your arms to appear larger and threatening. Throw sticks or rocks as a last resort.



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