

JAGUAR
(*Panthera onca*)

STATUS: U.S. population endangered (62 FR 39147; July 22, 1997) without critical habitat. Non-U.S. population endangered (37 FR 6476; March 30, 1972) .

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: Largest species of cat native to the Western Hemisphere. Muscular, with relatively short, massive limbs, and a deep-chested body. Cinnamon-buff in color with many black spots. Weight ranges widely from 40-135 kg (90-300 lb). Length is 2.4 m (7.8 ft) from head to tail tip.

HABITAT: Found near water in the warm tropical climate of savannah and forest. Rarely found in extensive arid areas. Individuals in Arizona have been found in Sonoran desertscrub up through subalpine conifer forest.

RANGE: Historic: Southwestern United States including California, Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana, south through Texas and into central South America. In Arizona: mountainous parts of eastern Arizona to the Grand Canyon.

Current: Central Mexico and into central south America as far south as northern Argentina. There are no known breeding populations in the U.S. Individuals may cross into Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The most recent clearly documented individual was observed in Cochise County in 1996.

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Loss and modification of habitat, shooting and predator control have contributed to its decline.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: In Arizona: National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, various Native American nations, the State of Arizona, and private.

NOTES: Protected from international trade by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Listed as a species of Wildlife Special Concern by the State of Arizona.