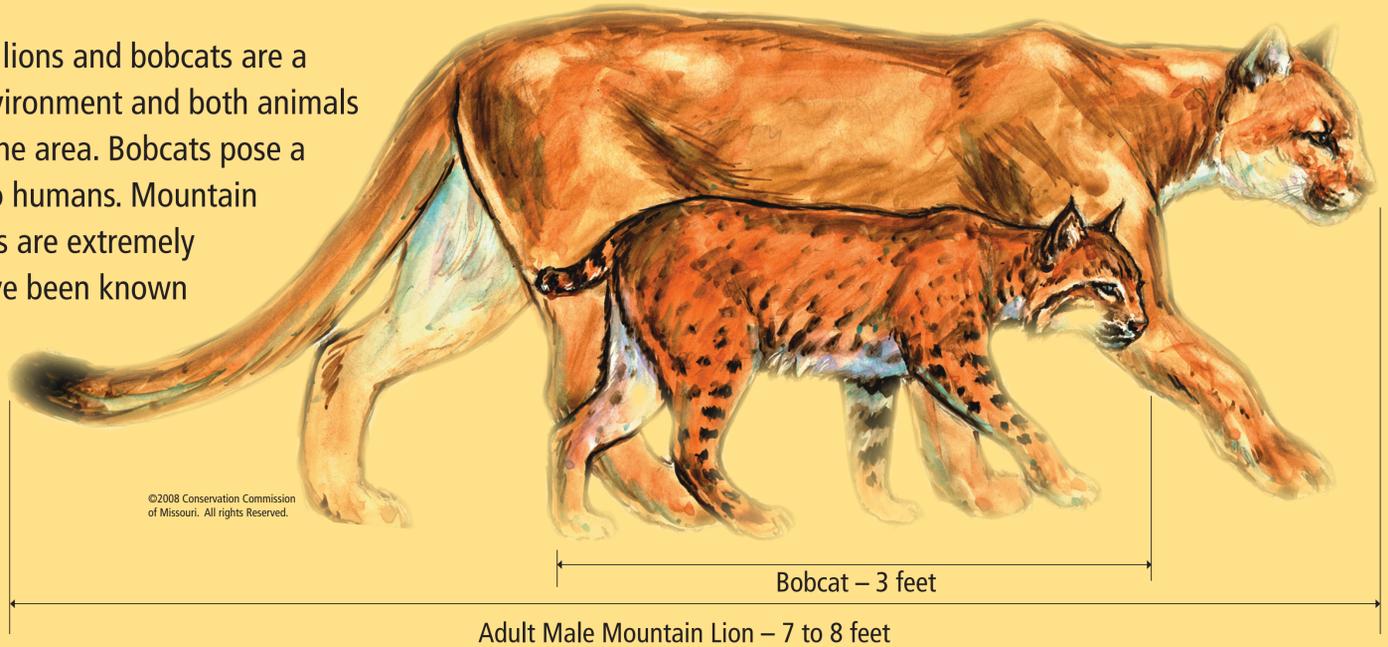


MOUNTAIN LION

or BOBCAT?

CAUTION: Mountain lions and bobcats are a natural part of this environment and both animals have been sighted in the area. Bobcats pose a very low risk (if any) to humans. Mountain lion attacks on humans are extremely rare, however they have been known to stalk and attack people, especially small children. The following is important information you should know when visiting the area.



Identifying / Physical Appearance: **Mountain Lion or Bobcat?**

Mountain Lion	
Size:	Average 75 to 150 pounds.
Tail:	Very long tails , at least half as long as their body length.
Ears:	Small, rounded, wide-set, and buff-colored with black-tips.
Color:	Mainly one color (buff or tawny gold) with tipped ears and tail. One exception: cubs are spotted.
Fur:	Short fur all over.

Bobcat	
Size:	Average 15 to 30 pounds.
Tail:	"Bobbed" tails , usually not more than 7 inches in length.
Ears:	A very distinct tuft of hair on top of each ear, which makes the ear looked pointed.
Color:	Spotted or striped, but from a distance can appear mostly light brown
Fur:	A ruff of fur on their cheeks. Round-looking face.

Safety Tips: **What to do if you encounter a mountain lion.**

Do
Go in groups, with adults supervising children. Keep children close to you, within your sight at all times.
Stand tall and face the animal. Make eye contact. Back away very slowly and give the lion room to escape.
Look as large as possible. Raise & wave your arms slowly and shout firmly in a loud voice.
If you have small children with you , pick them up if possible without bending over or turning away from the lion – or put children behind you. Tell children not to run.
Fight back if attacked. Use anything you have – jacket, backpack, bike, hat, branches, or even your fists. Self-defense efforts such as these have been successful.

Don't
Do not hike, bike, run or walk alone on the trails. Note: Dawn and dusk are especially active hunting times.
Do not approach a lion. Most mountain lions will try to avoid confrontation.
Do not run from a lion. Running may stimulate a mountain lion's instinct to chase a moving target.
Do not crouch or bend over. A person squatting or bending over looks smaller, and like a four-legged prey animal.
Do not turn your back. Mountain lions prefer to ambush their prey, often from behind.

To report a mountain lion sighting, call the Ventura Police Dept. at 805.650.8010

— In case of emergency, call 911 —