

Range & Habitat

Central and South America, in tropical forests. Humid, late second growth forests.



Diet

Mostly arboreal mammals. Some birds and reptiles. Typically, marsupials, but dependent on regional differences in prey availability.

Conservation

Human modification of habitat has the greatest effect on species density and presence. Habitat fragmentation and deforestation are the main problems facing this species. Competition with other neotropical felid species and low tolerance for disturbance are other obstacles.

Reproduction

Breeding occurs year-round. Gestation is 81-84 days. 1-2 young per litter. Only one pair of nipples, so most likely to have single offspring.

Communication

Olfactory and vocal communication are most important for this species. Vocalizations provide information on an individual's emotional state. Both male and female individuals will spray to mark their territory.

Adaptations

Nocturnal and almost completely arboreal. Tarsal joint rotates 180 degrees allowing headfirst descent of trees. Mimicking abilities, also evidenced in other neotropical felids, increase success in catching prey.



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Leopardus wiedii

Order: Carnivora
Family: Felidae

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