

Mountain Lion Policy

Education Analysis Awareness

The Safety and Security Department is gathering, tracking, and analyzing all Mountain Lion Sighting Reports. Email notifications, sign postings and calls to Rental Agencies are made as appropriate. We would like all Sea Ranchers to call Security at 785-2701 as they see a Mountain Lion. Security will obtain all the information on the Mountain Lion sighting (date, time, description, location) and the Director will take action.



- ❖ More than half of California is mountain lion habitat. Mountain lions generally exist wherever deer are found. They are solitary and elusive, and their nature is to avoid humans.
- ❖ Mountain lions prefer deer but, if allowed, they also eat pets and livestock. In extremely rare cases, even people have fallen prey to mountain lions.
- ❖ Mountain lions that threaten people are immediately killed. Those that prey on pets or livestock can be killed by a property owner after the required depredation permit is secured.
- ❖ Moving problem mountain lions is not an option. It causes deadly conflicts with other mountain lions already there. Or the relocated mountain lion returns.

Education: Staying Safe in Mountain Lion Country

- Reference: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/keep-me-wild/lion.html>
- Mountain lions are quiet, solitary and elusive, and typically avoid people.
- Mountain lion attacks on humans are extremely rare. However, conflicts are increasing as California's human population expands into mountain lion habitat.
- Do not hike, bike, or jog alone.
- Avoid hiking or jogging when mountain lions are most active—dawn, dusk, and at night.
- Keep a close watch on small children and keep them close by when walking the trails.
- Do not approach a mountain lion.
- If you encounter a mountain lion, do not run; instead, face the animal, make noise and try to look bigger by waving your arms; throw rocks or other objects. Pick up small children.
 - (A new study is out that states that running may be effective - The Effects of Human Age, Group Composition, and Behavior on the Likelihood of Being Injured by Attacking Pumas by Richard G. Coss, E. Lee Fitzhugh, Sabine Schmid-Holmes, Marc W. Kenyon and Kathy Etling)
- If attacked, fight back.
- If a mountain lion attacks a person, immediately call 911.

Education: This is a Bobcat (on bluff trail between Sea Stack and Fish Rock). Some confusion still exists between identifying bobcats and the mountain lions, especially when they are running through the brush and meadows. This bobcat is walking casually down the trail, note the short tail.



Analysis:

The Safety and Security Department gathers information on mountain lion sightings and maps the sightings.

Awareness:

When a mountain lion has been sighted, signs will be posted to alert residents about a recent sighting. An Info Alert will be sent out when there are several sightings in a short period of time.

If you see a mountain lion, contact Security at 785-2701.