

Conservation

- Considered near threatened worldwide
- Threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation over much of their range
- Also threatened by poaching and often killed by ranchers protecting livestock or for their pelts which are trafficked across the globe
- Recovery and restoration efforts are taking place in Arizona and New Mexico

Diet

- Apex Predator
- Consume prey relative to its abundance
- Capybara, giant anteater, turtles, tortoises, cattle, primates, ocelots, fish, crocodilians, and even river dolphins

Behavior

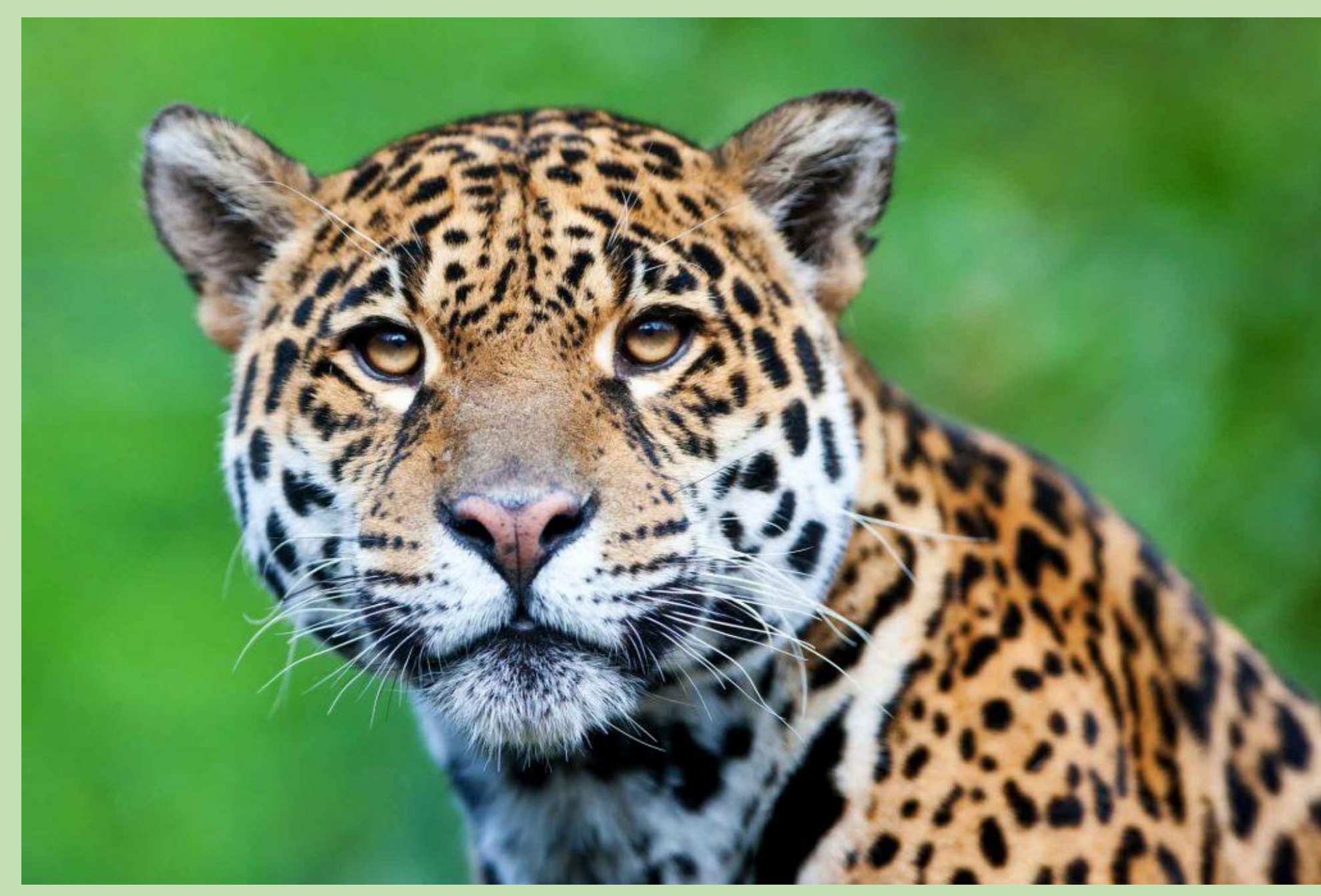
- Live mostly solitary lifestyles
- Rely heavily on indirect communication forms (scent marks, urine, feces)
- Will roar for long distance communication or chuff when greeting or courting
- Spend much of the day lying in the shade or on tree branches
- Most active at night and twilight



Jaguar

Panthera onca

Myles Stinnett



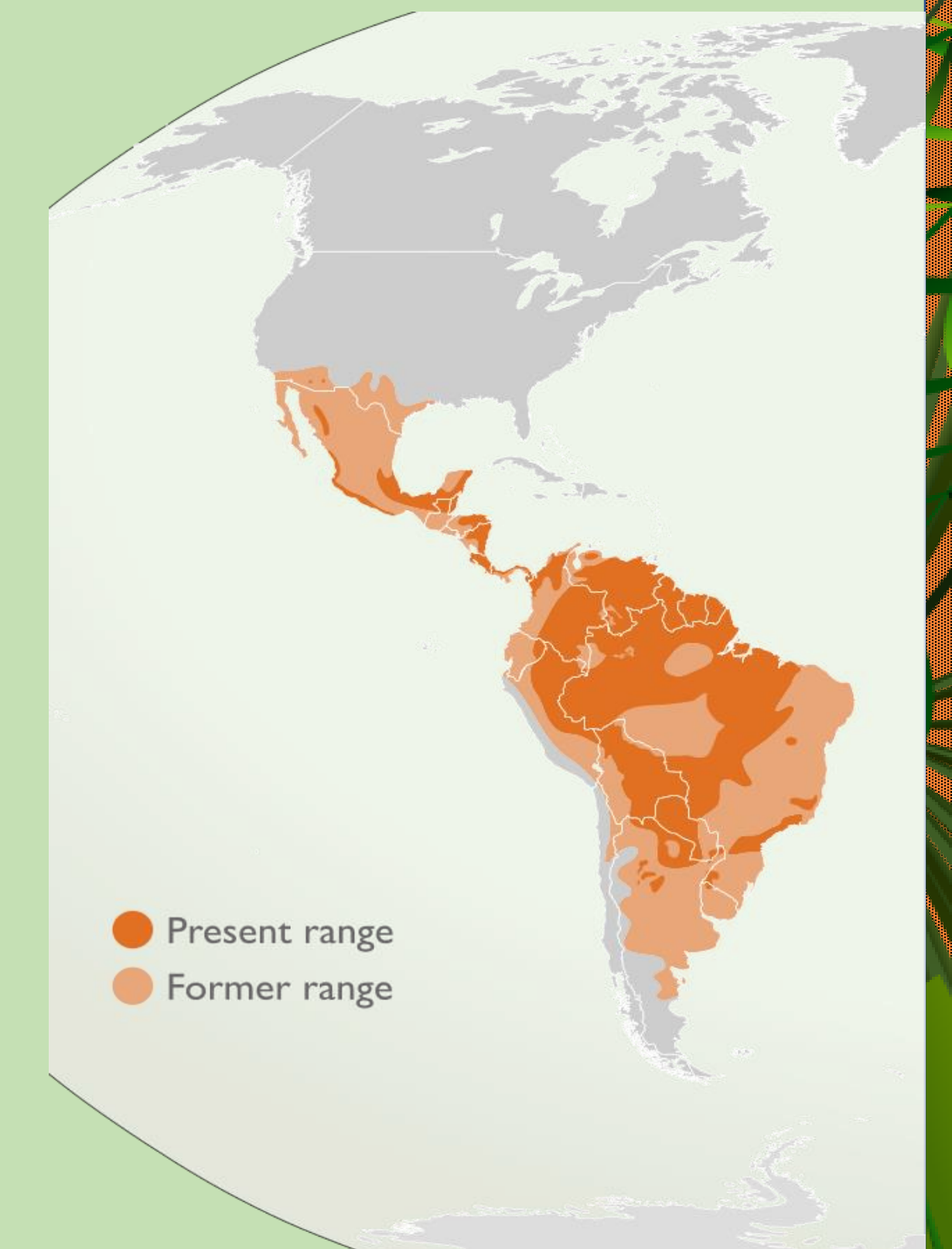
Reproduction

- Induced ovulators though may be spontaneous on occasion
- Average estrous period is 6.5 days and average pregnancy length is 98 days
- Typically give birth to up to 4 cubs
- Cubs leave mother after around 18 months



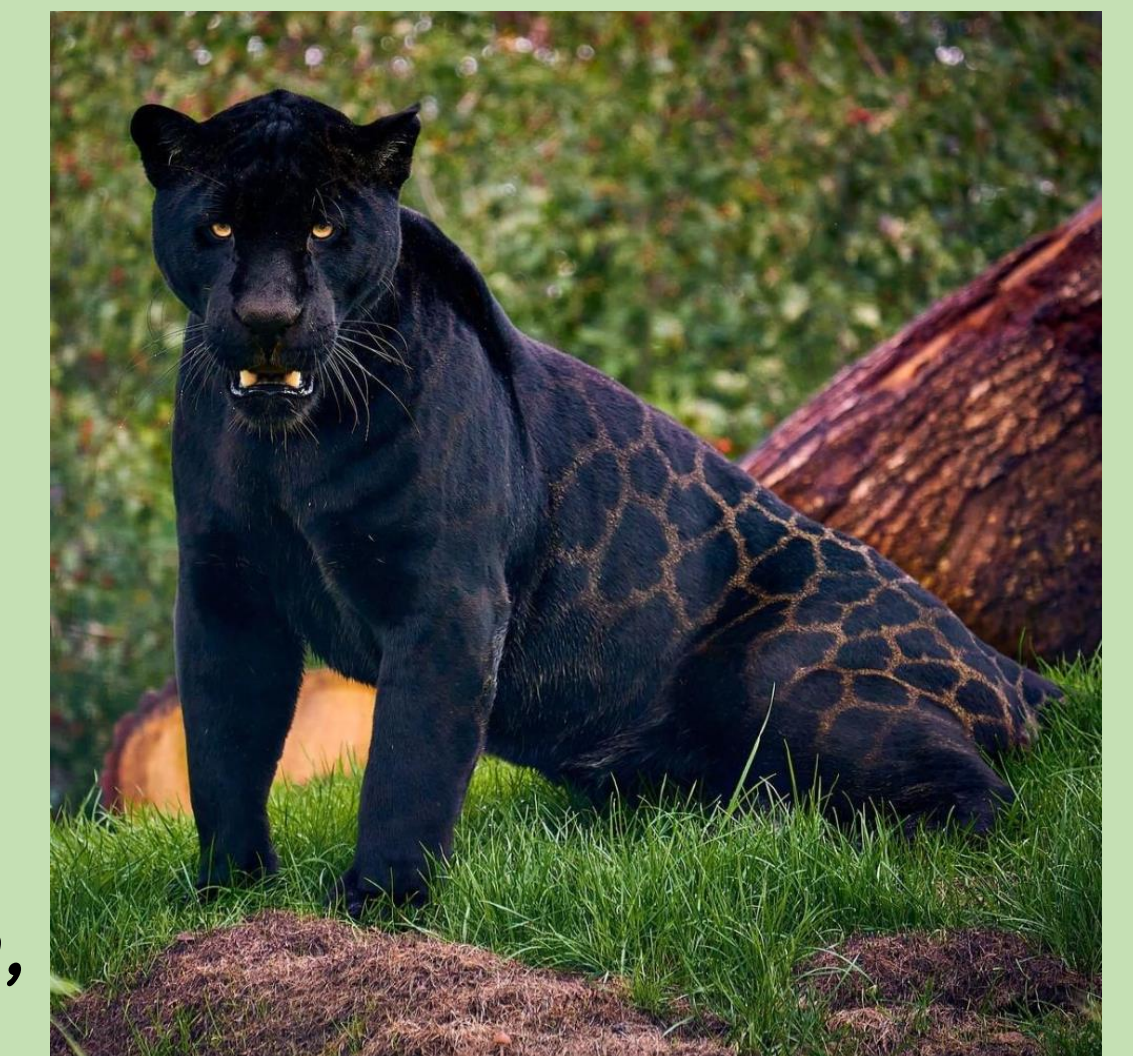
Habitat and Range

- Prefers dense forests near water
- Also found in shrublands and grasslands
- Found mostly in Central and South America with isolated populations in Mexico and the Southwest United States



Form and Function

- Mostly cursorial, sometimes scansorial
- Excellent sprinters and climbers
- More robust limb bones compared to other big cats
- Jaguar rosettes have spots in them, leopard rosettes don't!



- Melanism may also occur