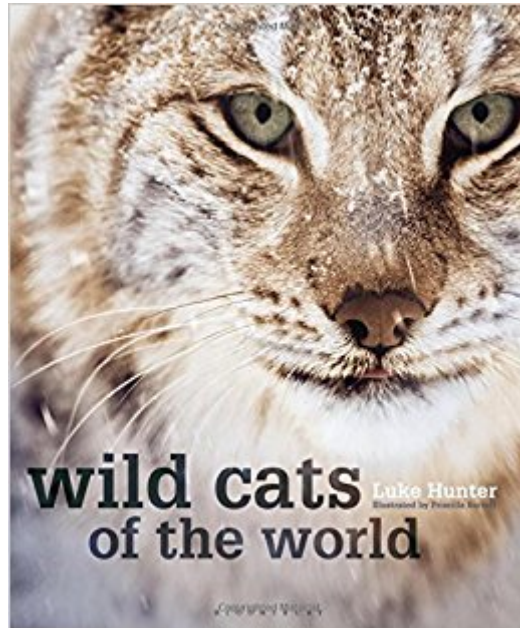




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Wild Cats Of The World



Synopsis

From the rabbit-sized Black-footed Cat of southern Africa to bear-killing Amur tigers of the Russian Far East, the 38 members of the Cat Family include some of the world's most fascinating and magnificent species on earth. Supremely adapted for the kill, all cats are obligate carnivores; they survive only by preying upon other animals, and they have become one of evolution's most successful predatory lineages of mammals. *Wild Cats of the World* explores the spectacular Cat Family in unprecedented depth. Drawing on thousands of scientific papers and direct observations in the field, each species is profiled at length, covering all aspects of felid behaviour and ecology. The book is profusely illustrated with colour plates, black-and-white sketches showing important aspects of cat life, and accurate images of every species' skull. Over 400 spectacular photographs are included, many of them showing extremely rare and little-known cats published here for the first time. Each profile includes an up-to-date range map and explains the most current science on how cats are classified and related to each other, including some very recent, surprising discoveries. Despite their great evolutionary success, the challenges facing felids in the modern world are profound. Only one, the ubiquitous domestic cat, does not require dedicated conservation action to ensure survival for the next century. The book also explores the current conservation issues facing wild cats, the increasingly perilous status of many species, and how they can be saved.

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA (October 13, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1472912195

ISBN-13: 978-1472912190

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 22.4 x 258.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #168,158 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Cats, Lions & Tigers](#) #136 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Mammals](#) #145 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Wildlife](#)

Customer Reviews

'This is a must-have cat book: an absolute gem'. Stephen Mills, BBC Wildlife magazine
"This is a true encyclopedia of wild cats, and a stunning accomplishment by Dr. Luke Hunter." - National Parks Traveler
"Thirty-six feline species, many of them rare, are described and illustrated in this attractive large-format book." - Booklist
"Cat enthusiasts--and anyone who appreciates wildlife and the wonders of evolution--will be enchanted by a comprehensive new book that shares the secrets of the felids." - National Geographic Cat Watch
"A well illustrated overview of the World's felids." - The Birdbooker Report

Luke Hunter is the President and Chief Conservation Officer of Panthera, the global wild conservation organization that he helped to create in 2006. His current projects include the longest running ecological studies on African leopards, reducing human-lion conflict in Africa, and working with the Iranian Department of Environment to conserve Asiatic cheetahs and Persian leopards. He has contributed to over 140 scientific papers and popular articles. *Wild Cats of the World* is his seventh book. .

Beautiful photographs of cats, with more technical information included as well (status, range, lineage, etc.). This is a wonderful book for anyone concerned with our shrinking populations of wildlife, especially the wild feline relatives of our beloved house cats.

I am an artist, these pictures are stunning!

Great book. Very technical in spots, but a person does get a feel about the type of cat that's being discussed and what makes it special.

When the book was announced, I had great expectation that it would be an update of the homonym book written by Mel & Fiona Sunquist in 2002, presenting not only color photographs and illustrations but also detailed information about ecology, systematics, morphology, evolution and genetics of Felidae. However, when I had my copy in hand, my expectations went up in smoke. The book is not bad, but is far from being an excellent and comprehensive book; it is beautifully produced, with very impressive pictures with excellent photos of the animals in wildlife and beautiful illustrations of different species, which have been used in the book "Field Guide of the Carnivores of the World" (written by the same authors), and the language used in the book was clearly made to achieve the non-specialist readers. Despite all this, there are some issues that can be corrected in a

possible 2nd edition, for example, the scientific name of jaguarundi (the correct is *Panthera onca* and not *Panthera tigris*) and the correct authorship of the two *onca* species. The authorship of *Leopardus tigrinus* (Northern *Onca*) is the German naturalist Johann Christian Daniel von Schreber, who described the species in 1775 under the name of *Felis tigrina*. In the book, they put Schreber as the author of other species of *onca*, *Leopardus guttulus* (Southern *Onca*), but this latter species was originally described by Reinhold Friedrich Hensel in 1872, who name the species as *Felis guttula*. Moreover, contrary to the book, Trigo et al. (2013) are not the authors who described *L. tigrinus*, but they revalidated *L. guttulus* as a full species based on molecular characters (*L. guttulus* was traditionally considered as a subspecies of *L. tigrinus*). This question seems silly, but it is a taxonomic error and probably this error will spread. It would be something like how to change the father's name of someone: John has a father who is called Peter and Joseph has a father who called Paul, but someone started to say that the name of John's father is Paul and the name of Joseph's father is Richard. Anyway, if you're looking for more detailed and complete information, I highly recommend the following books: "Wild Cats of the World" by Mel Suquist & Fiona Sunquist (2002); "Wild Cats: Status Survey and Conservation Action Plan" by Peter Jackson & Kristin Nowell (1996); "Biology and Conservation of Wild Felids" by David W Macdonald & Andrew J Loveridge (2010); "The Natural History of Wild Cats" by Andrew Kitchener (1991).

Wonderful book. Very happy with it.

A-okay

Yes, I got it. It was greatly packed. Thank you.

Quick Version: Wow, wow, wow, and wow. Visually stunning and incredibly informative. Like to learn everything there is to know about the 38 species of wild cats? Then get this book. Long version: This book covers the 38 species (including the Southern *Tigrina*!) with the latest information there is about each species. Each species has the following topics covered: Taxonomy and phylogeny, description, distribution and habitat, feeding ecology, social and spacial behavior, reproduction and demography, and status and threats. The text is incredibly in-depth, though written in a way that allows easy reading even for non-scientists. Each species is introduced by a beautiful full body

drawing which makes identification easy, along with a range map, and skull drawing. Then come the pictures -- they are simply stunning. Even if you were to only flip through the book for the pictures, it would be money well spent. Most pictures are of cats in the wild, instead of captivity (which is often incredibly hard for the smaller species), and when they were taken in captivity, they are clearly marked as such. Some of the species have pictures which I have never seen published before (like the African Golden Cat). When pictures aren't available to illustrate a certain behavior, beautiful black and white drawings do so instead. It's simply stunningly organized and designed. I would say this book is as much appropriate for children learning about the different wild cat species for the first time as well as seasoned biologists who want to know the latest information on the cat species. I'm definitely buying a few more copies to hand out as gifts.

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