

FLORIDA PANTHER GENETIC RESTORATION PROGRESS REPORT

October 1996

TX105 -- On 4 October we confirmed that TX105 had one female kitten. The kitten is now approximately two months old. TX105 has remained roughly within a four-mile radius of her original den site. She probably does not have to venture far to find prey as there appears to be many deer in the area. The water levels in the marshes surrounding the pinelands are still high--forcing deer to take refuge within the higher elevation pinelands and hammocks.

TX108 -- This female Texas cougar continues to use the prairies, hammocks, and pinelands north and south of the main Park road. This may be an indication that she still has kitten(s). During one of our telemetry flights we watched her walking through open prairie but did not see any kittens. We will continue to monitor her movements and will try to verify the existence of kitten(s) at a later date.

Male panther #16 remained mostly within the pinelands of Long Pine Key but recently moved to an area approximately ten miles north of the Beard Center. This is an area of open prairie dotted with small tree hammocks. He may have a deer kill there as we have located him in this area during the last two flights.

Prepared by Lori Oberhofer (10/31/96)

Sonny -
What's the "Scoop"
regarding Oct. Report?
Quarterly?

Release

TX 105 - TX 105 was released July 5, on Long Pine Key (LPK) in Everglades National Park. After release, she moved slowly north for the first week, then returned south to LPK - Hole-in-the-Donut area. She continues to make very short movements remaining in the pinelands of the LPK area. She has used approximately a 10 square mile area since her release. For the first 2 weeks she was located near (less than a quarter mile) male Florida panther number 16 numerous times, but not together.

TX 108 - TX 108 was released July 26, in the same area as TX 105 on Long Pine Key. Like TX 105, she has made short movements mostly northerly, but has remained on the pinelands on LPK. She has used an area of less than 5 square miles. She has not been located near male number 16.