

## Florida Panther Genetic Restoration Quarterly Report

January, February, March 1998

TX 108 TX 108 has utilized hardwood hammocks and pineland prairies in her confined movements near Long Pine Key, Everglades National Park. Since this female Texas Cougar was fitted with a new radio collar on 15 Dec 1997, her movements have been closely monitored. During an attempt to capture TX 105's kitten, two (2), three-week-old kittens were found near Turkey Hammock on 11 Feb 1998. It was confirmed within the next week that the kittens belong to TX 108. There was a male and a female kitten, each weighing approximately three pounds. There were visual observations of TX 108 on 18 Mar 1998 and 30 Mar 1998 walking in the sawgrass outside some small hardwood hammocks. The kittens were not with her on either occasion.

TX 105 This female Texas Cougar predominantly occupied Long Pine Key, Everglades National Park. This cat has been making extensive movements also, ranging from just southwest of Homestead General Airport to several miles southwest of the Dan Beard Center. Visual observations of TX 105 were on 9 Jan 1998 and 6 Mar 1998. TX 105's juvenile kitten (approximately 18 months old) is presumed to have dispersed. There has not been a visual observation of her kitten since 7 Feb 1997. An attempt to capture this juvenile kitten will be made in the future.

Panther #61 Panther #61 has utilized the eastern portion of Long Pine Key, Everglades National Park. She has extended her movements to the rocky glades area to the west of Homestead General Airport. This 21-month-old F1 progeny of TX 108 and Panther #16 has been occupying hardwood hammocks in Long Pine Key as well as the Hole-in-the-Donut area to the south and east of the Dan Beard Center.

Panther #16 This 12 year old male has used all of Long Pine Key in Everglades National Park. He has extended his movements to three miles northwest of Homestead General Airport and frequents the Hole-in-the-Donut area south of Long Pine Key. In addition, #16 visited the far western portion of Long Pine Key and the far eastern portion approaching Royal Palm Road. Panther #16 was located in the same hammock as TX 105 on 26 Mar 1998. Panther #16 was also located very close to Panther #61 (his daughter) on 2 Jan 1998, 18 Mar 1998, and 20 Mar 1998.

Prepared by Jason Osborne (04/06/98)

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