

# Mountain Lions at Lake Del Valle?

## Lions in the Wild

Though rarely seen, these elusive cats still roam the hills. Look for tracks, deer kills, scats, and scrapes. Scrapes are the signpost of the male, which consist of small piles of leaves, grasses, and twigs that he scrapes together and on which he urinates.



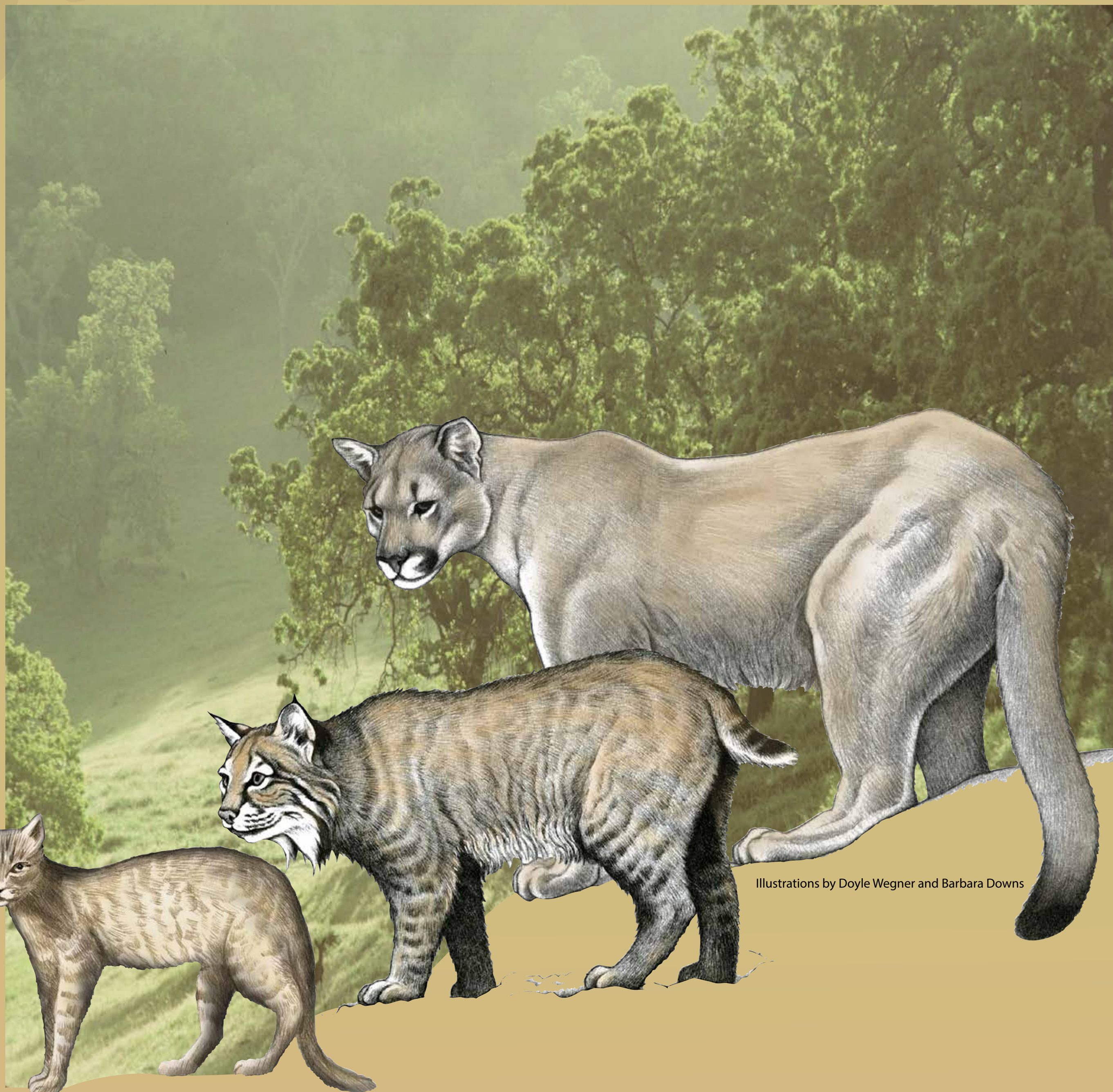
### Killing Machine

The canines are perfectly evolved for killing deer. Spaced to straddle the neck bones, they can sever the spinal chord with one bite.



### Family Time

Mother mountain lions raise litters of 2-4 cubs.



Illustrations by Doyle Wegner and Barbara Downs

EBRPD staff photo

## What Cat was that?

Could it be a domestic cat,  
bobcat or mountain lion?  
Can you tell the difference?

**Mountain lion** (*Panthera concolor*)—is the largest, 5-8 feet long and 80-180 pounds. Tawny with long, thick, black-tipped tail. Young lions are spotted and can be mistaken for bobcats.

**Bobcat** (*Lynx rufus*)—30 inches long and 15-25 pounds, spotted with a short, white-tipped tail.

**Domestic cat** (*Felis catus*)—28 inches long and 5-20 pounds. Color and pattern varies. Most have long tails.