

LYNX

RANGE:

Alaska, Canada and Northern United States

HABITAT:

Forested and mountainous regions

SIZE:

Head to Rump: 33 in. – 43 in.

Tail: 4 ½ in. to 6 ½ in

Weight: Males, 20-30 lbs. and Females, 18-24 lbs.

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

10 – 20 years

Have been known to live 21 years + in captivity

DIET:

Wild: Mammals from mice to deer, birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and large insects.

Zoo: Feline diet, mice, chicks, smelt

BEHAVIOR:

- Are solitary animals by nature.
- Very territorial
- Most active in the early morning and late afternoon; sleep mid-day and at night.
- Acts as a sanitation crew; feed on sick, weak animals.
Removes ailing individuals from the breeding stock and benefits health of prey animals as a whole.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Lynx is a medium-sized cat with a short tail, long legs, a beard, and tapered ears with tufts.
- Tufts act as antennas; if tufts are cut off, there is a significant decrease in the ability to hear.
- Some are spotted, others are solid. Fur coloration ranges from yellowish-gray to reddish-cinnamon.

STATUS:

Vulnerable. Eliminated in much of former range because of valuable fur and thought to be a pest, harming game animals.

theZOO

L O U I S V I L L E



photo by Jack Drake

Order:	Carnivora
Family:	Felidae
Genus:	Lynx
Species:	canadensis