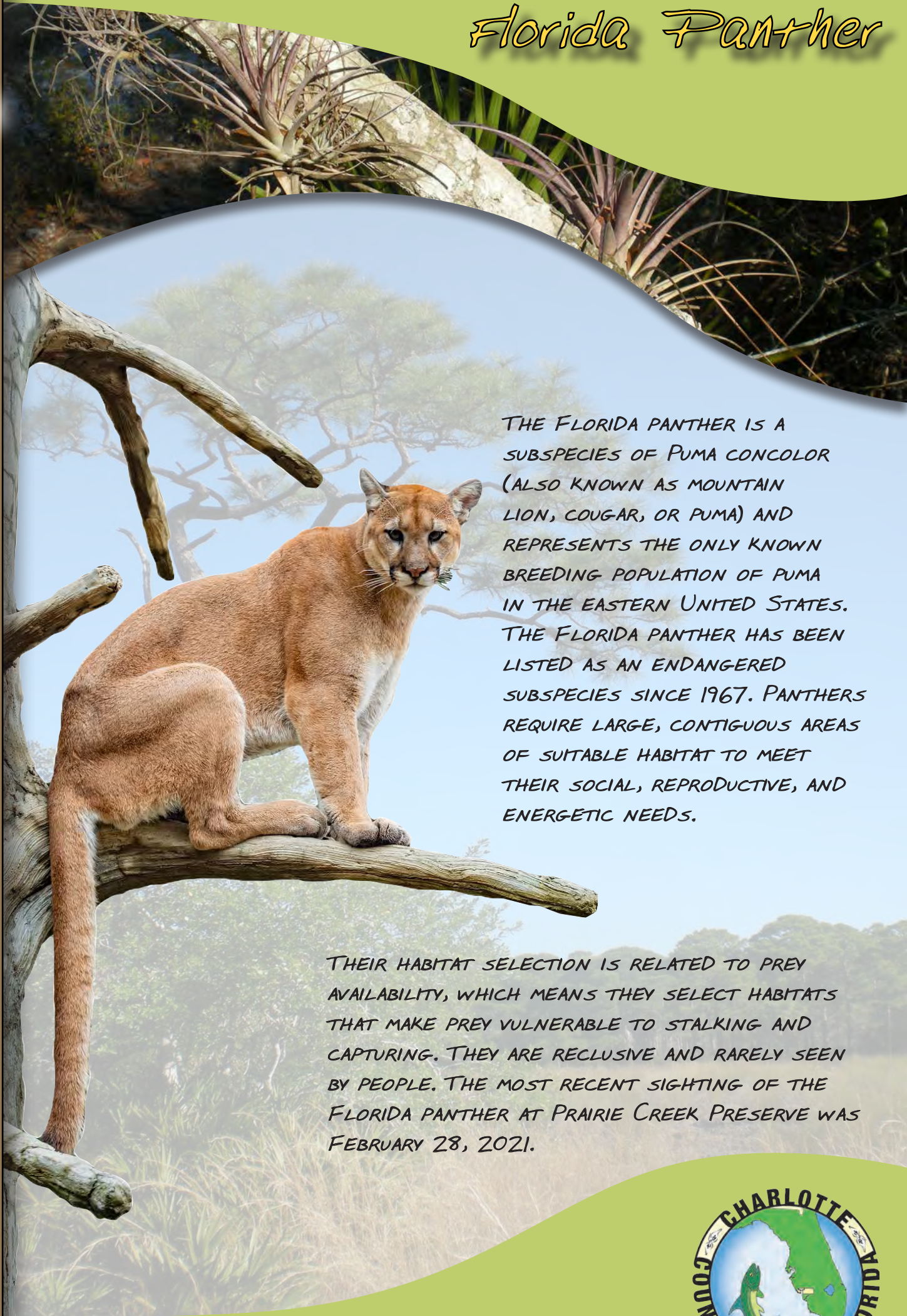




# Florida Panther

## POINT OF INTEREST



THE FLORIDA PANTHER IS A SUBSPECIES OF PUMA CONCOLOR (ALSO KNOWN AS MOUNTAIN LION, COUGAR, OR PUMA) AND REPRESENTS THE ONLY KNOWN BREEDING POPULATION OF PUMA IN THE EASTERN UNITED STATES. THE FLORIDA PANTHER HAS BEEN LISTED AS AN ENDANGERED SUBSPECIES SINCE 1967. PANTHERS REQUIRE LARGE, CONTIGUOUS AREAS OF SUITABLE HABITAT TO MEET THEIR SOCIAL, REPRODUCTIVE, AND ENERGETIC NEEDS.

THEIR HABITAT SELECTION IS RELATED TO PREY AVAILABILITY, WHICH MEANS THEY SELECT HABITATS THAT MAKE PREY VULNERABLE TO STALKING AND CAPTURING. THEY ARE RECLUSIVE AND RARELY SEEN BY PEOPLE. THE MOST RECENT SIGHTING OF THE FLORIDA PANTHER AT PRAIRIE CREEK PRESERVE WAS FEBRUARY 28, 2021.





# Florida Scrub-Jay

POINT OF INTEREST

THE FLORIDA SCRUB-JAY IS THE STATE'S ONLY ENDEMIC BIRD, WHICH MEANS THEY ARE FOUND NOWHERE ELSE. THE SPECIES IS FEDERALLY LISTED AS THREATENED, IN LARGE PART DUE TO LOSS OF HABITAT AND DECADES OF FIRE SUPPRESSION THAT ALLOWED SCRUB HABITAT TO BECOME OVERGROWN. AS THE STATE'S HUMAN POPULATION HAS GROWN, DEVELOPMENT HAS INCREASED, AND THE SCRUB-JAYS' CHOICE HABITAT HAS BECOME MORE LIMITED.



SCRUB-JAYS ARE NON-MIGRATORY

CHARLOTTE COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES STAFF HAS IMPLEMENTED EFFORTS IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE FLORIDA SCRUB-JAY IN NUMEROUS WAYS; SUCH AS DEVELOPING THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY SCRUB-JAY HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (HCP), ACQUIRING CONSERVATION LANDS, MANAGING NATURAL HABITATS, AND MONITORING THEIR CURRENT STATUS AND POPULATIONS.





# Pine Lily

## POINT OF INTEREST

THE PINE LILY IS A BEAUTIFUL LILY FOUND IN MOST WET PINE WOODS, AND PRAIRIE CREEK IS NO EXCEPTION TO THAT. THEY ARE CURRENTLY LISTED AS THREATENED AND PROTECTED UNDER LAW IN FLORIDA. THE PINE LILY'S FLOWER IS THE LARGEST OF ANY NORTH AMERICAN LILY.



PINE LILIES THRIVE IN CONDITIONS INHOSPITABLE TO OTHER LILIES



IN FLORIDA, THERE CAN BE SPORADIC SPRING AND FALL FLOWERING. THEY ARE PRIMARILY POLLINATED BY THE ENDEMIC SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY.





## Netted Pawpaw

# POINT OF INTEREST

THE NETTED PAWPAW, ALSO KNOWN AS COMMON PAWPAW, IS ONE OF FOUR SPECIES OF PAWPAW FOUND IN SOUTH FLORIDA, AND THE MOST COMMON. THEY ARE FOUND IN FLATWOODS, PINELANDS, OLD PASTURES AND SCRUBS THROUGHOUT FLORIDA, AND PARTS OF GEORGIA NEAR THE FLORIDA LINE.



THEIR BLOOMING SEASON RUNS FROM MID-WINTER (FEBRUARY IN SOUTH FLORIDA) TO MID-SPRING (APRIL INTO PERHAPS VERY EARLY MAY). THEY PRODUCE A PLUM-SHAPED GREENISH-YELLOW BERRY THAT PROVIDES A SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF FOOD FOR WILDLIFE, SUCH AS GOPHER TORTOISES.



GOPHER TORTOISE

