

Bobcat

(*Lynx rufus*)



Flora
Fauna



How to Identify:

- Brownish-red in color with black spots or bars on belly and sometimes on legs and body
- Small ear tufts and white spot on back of ear
- Tail with dark bars on top and white on bottom
- Short legs and small feet compared to larger Lynx

Bobcats can leap 10 feet in one bound! That's quite a distance for a small cat.

Explore Idaho
with Scout the Fox!

Scout



Habitat:

- Live in a variety of habitats including forests, scrubland, and deserts.
- Will make use of shrubs and low growing plants to provide cover.
- Bobcats mark their territories with claw marks on trees, pee, and poop.
- Bobcats are loners and use these invisible fences to keep other Bobcats from moving into their area.

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Fun Facts!

- Bobcats are ambush predators; they need to hide to catch dinner. They will sneak up and pounce on their prey or sit still and wait for prey to wander too closely.
- Bobcats eat mostly small mammals, such as rabbits, hares, mice and squirrels.
- Baby bobcats, called kits, are born in the spring. Usually the mother will have two or three kits but sometimes as many as seven kits are born.
- Kits may play hunt but usually won't be able to catch food on their own until fall. This is when young bobcats venture out to live without their mother.
- Most cats hunt at night. They have large eyes and sharp vision. During the day, cats can see as well as humans; but at night, their vision is six times more sensitive!
- Bobcats are excellent tree climbers.



Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

parksandrecreation.idaho.gov

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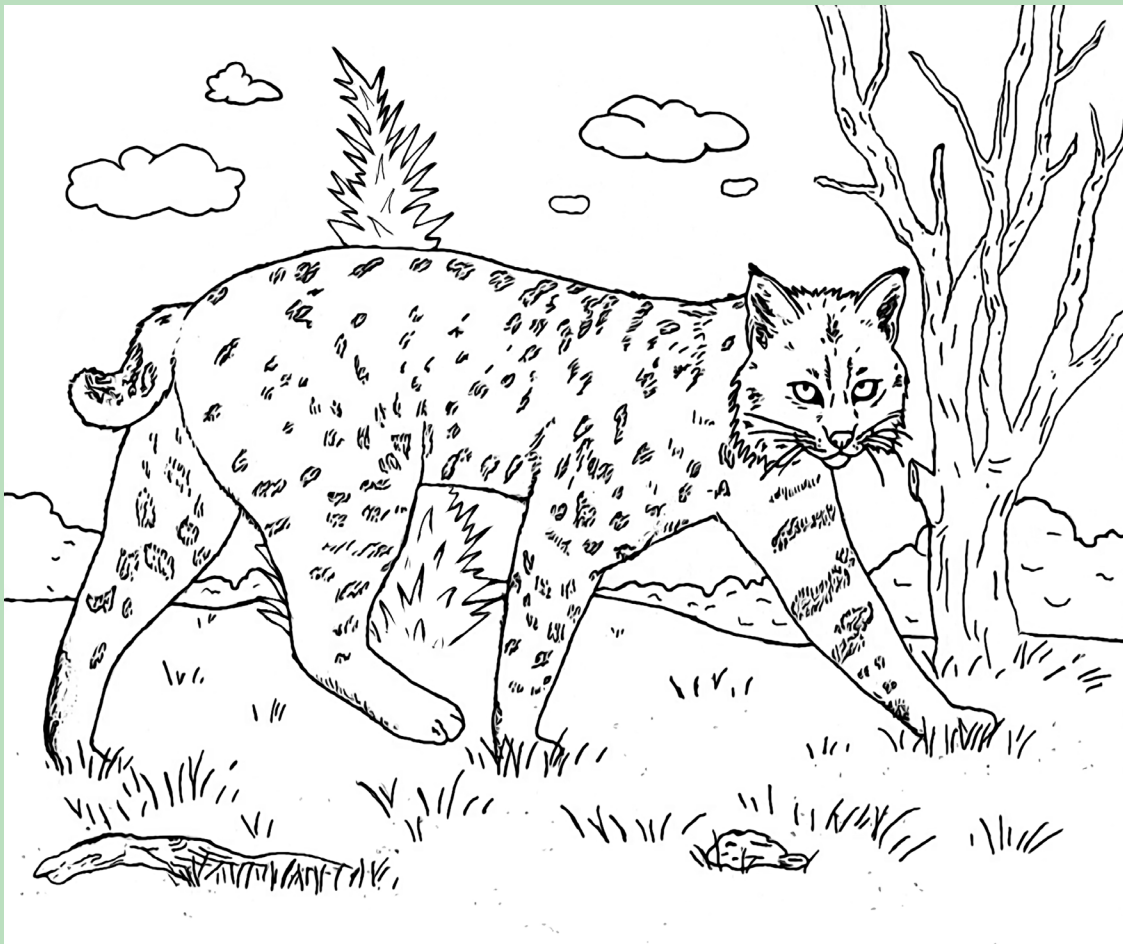


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Help Protect the Bobcat

- Bobcats are generally doing well, with about one million in the wild.
- Threats to these cats include habitat fragmentation and loss of habitat.
- Support conservation of natural areas for all wildlife.
- Poisons used to kill rodents can harm Bobcats that eat rodents.

COLOR ME



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ACTIVITY TIME

1. Look for information on the three wild cats that live in Idaho. Which one are you most likely to see?

2. Take a look at the Bobcat photo, what do you see that would help the Bobcat blend in with their surroundings?

