November 6, 2017

Dear Applicant:

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act FLR/52/2017

On October 6, 2017, The Department of Fisheries and Land Resources (FLR) received your request for access to the following records:

"Please provide all correspondence and documentation relating to cougar or large cat sightings in Newfoundland and Labrador. This can include, but not limited to, emails, data, letters and internal memos."

To be clarified on October 11, 2017 by phone and e-mail to include:

"I'm looking for any references to cougars, black cats and panthers going back 5 years."

Please be advised that a decision has been made by the Deputy Minister for FLR to provide partial access to the requested information. Please note that access to specific information contained within the records has been refused in accordance with Sections 40 (1) Personal Privacy. A full list of relevant legislation is attached. As required by 8(2) of the Act, we have severed information that is exempt from disclosure and have provided you with as much information as possible.

Please be advised that you may appeal this decision and ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the decision to provide partial access to the requested information, as set out in section 42 of the Act (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference). A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner. Your appeal should identify your concerns with the request and why you are submitting the appeal.

The appeal may be addressed to the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
2 Canada Drive
P.O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8
You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the Act (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference).

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Office of Public Engagement's website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.

If you have any further questions, please contact me by telephone at 709-729-3730 or by email at hollyphilpott@gov.nl.ca

Sincerely,

Holly Philpott
ATIPP Coordinator

Right of access

8. (1) A person who makes a request under section 11 has a right of access to a record in the custody or under the control of a public body, including a record containing personal information about the applicant.

(2) The right of access to a record does not extend to information excepted from disclosure under this Act, but if it is reasonable to sever that information from the record, an applicant has a right of access to the remainder of the record.

(3) The right of access to a record may be subject to the payment, under section 25, of the costs of reproduction, shipping and locating a record.

Disclosure harmful to personal privacy

40. (1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant where the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

Access or correction complaint

42. (1) A person who makes a request under this Act for access to a record or for correction of personal information may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting a decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request.
(2) A complaint under subsection (1) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days
(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or
(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16 (2).

(3) A third party informed under section 19 of a decision of the head of a public body to grant access to a record or part of a record in response to a request may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting that decision.

(4) A complaint under subsection (3) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days after the third party is informed of the decision of the head of the public body.

(5) The commissioner may allow a longer time period for the filing of a complaint under this section.

(6) A person or third party who has appealed directly to the Trial Division under subsection 52 (1) or 53 (1) shall not file a complaint with the commissioner.

(7) The commissioner shall refuse to investigate a complaint where an appeal has been commenced in the Trial Division.

(8) A complaint shall not be filed under this section with respect to
(a) a request that is disregarded under section 21;
(b) a decision respecting an extension of time under section 23;
(c) a variation of a procedure under section 24; or
(d) an estimate of costs or a decision not to waive a cost under section 26.

(9) The commissioner shall provide a copy of the complaint to the head of the public body concerned.

Direct appeal to Trial Division by an applicant

52. (1) Where an applicant has made a request to a public body for access to a record or correction of personal information and has not filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42, the applicant may appeal the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request directly to the Trial Division.

(2) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (1) not later than 15 business days
(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or
(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16 (2).

(3) Where an applicant has filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42 and the commissioner has refused to investigate the complaint, the applicant may commence an appeal in the Trial Division of the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request for access to a record or for correction of personal information.

(4) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (3) not later than 15 business days after the applicant is notified of the commissioner’s refusal under subsection 45 (2).
From: Taylor, Hayward
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 2:11 PM
To: McGinn, Jason
Subject: FW: Complaint re panther
Attachments: Complaint siting of big cat Kippens.doc

Hi Jason;
This is the only information I have regarding a Panther sighting.

Hayward Taylor
Chief
Enforcement Division
Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
315 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 2006
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
e. haywardt@gov.nl.ca
t. 709-637-7974
f. 709-637-2975
w. www.stoppoaching.ca
Report Poachers – 1-877-820-0999

The communication is intended for the use of the recipient to which it is addressed, and may contain confidential, personal, and/or privileged information. Please contact us immediately if you are not the intended recipient of this communication, and do not copy, distribute, or take action relying on it. Any communication received in error, or subsequent reply, should be deleted or destroyed.

From: Taylor, Hayward
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 2:02 PM
To: Rodrigues, Bruce
Subject: FW: Complaint re panther

Hi Bruce;
Please see the attached complaint that came into our office.
Regards

Hayward Taylor
Chief
Enforcement Division
Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
315 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 2006
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
e. haywardt@gov.nl.ca
t. 709-637-2574
f. 709-637-2975
w. www.stoppoaching.ca
Report Poachers – 1-877-820-0999

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Hi Hayward;

Attached is a complaint I received late Friday evening regarding a sighting of panther in Kippens approximately two years ago. The caller wanted her sighting to be added to the list of sightings in the province if anyone is doing an investigation regarding this animal.

Thanks!

Maureen George
Administration Officer 1

Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Division
Department of Fisheries & Land Resources
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
115 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 2006
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6M8
e. georgem@gov.nl.ca
t. 709-637-2971
f. 709-637-2975
w. www.stoppoaching.ca
Report Poachers – 1-877-820-0999

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Philpott, Holly

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 1:53 PM
To: Philpott, Holly
Subject: FW: Cougar

This is the most recent info received.
District 16 staff looking into this one.

From: Cross, June
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 1:44 PM
To: Carroll, Colin
Subject: RE: Cougar

Hi Colin,

I have attached the complaint that Deborah sent Tim and I, for our records, this morning. She advised that an officer from Deer Lake is looking into it as the airport is in their district.

Thank you,

June

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 1:12 PM
To: Anderson, Tim <tanderson@gov.nl.ca>; Cross, June <JuneCross@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: Cougar

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Carroll, Colin
Cc: Tompkins, John; Boland, Connie
Subject: FW: Cougar

Hi Colin,

Can you get some more particulars on this for me please.

Tks
Hi,

This was just posted on the Town of deer lake’s Facebook, at the request of the Deer lake regional Airport Authority. Are you guys ware or have any other information about this?

********

Airport authority urging caution after possible cat sighting Thursday morning

The Deer Lake Regional Airport Authority is urging that people use caution after a possible sighting of a large, black cat. Two people were driving along the airport service road Thursday morning when they saw what looked like a large, black cat near the airport entrance. They stopped in an attempt to get a photograph but an approaching vehicle scared the animal away off. The Airport Authority has reported the sighting to the Wildlife division. The Town of Deer Lake urges all residents to be extremely careful, particularly when walking on the trail system.

********

Thanks,
Gary

GARY KEAN
Journalist

The Western Star
A member of the SaltWire Network

P 709.697.4670
M
E thewesternstar.com

www.thewesternstar.com
106 West Street
PO Box 460
Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador

A21167E/
From: "Renouf, Craig" <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 4:57 PM
To: "Kean, Gary" [REDACTED]@thewesternstar.com>
Cc: "Tompkins, John" <jtompkins@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Cougar

Hi Gary,

Please see the statement below in response to your questions regarding possible panther sighting at Deer Lake.

Regards,

Craig

Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will be monitoring the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources at 709-637-2025.

From: Kean, Gary [REDACTED]@thewesternstar.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 10:57 AM
To: Boland, Connie
Cc: Renouf, Craig
Subject: Re: Cougar

Hi Connie,

OK. Thanks. I thought I had corrected Craig’s email, but I guess not. Must be case sensitive as I had it in all lower case.

Also, maybe I can talk to someone about what the law is should a hunter with a firearm ever encounter one of these cats, if they are out there. Would they be allowed to just shoot it? I assume they would be required to report having done so and maybe turnover the carcass?

Thanks,

Gary
From: "Boland, Connie" <ConnieBoland@gov.nl.ca>
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 10:50 AM
To: [Redacted] <thewesternstar.com>
Cc: "Renouf, Craig" <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Cougar

Hi [Redacted],

We are checking into this and will be back in touch. I have copied Craig so that you will have his correct address though it's a good idea to send emails to both of us.

Have a great day,

Connie

From: [Redacted] <thewesternstar.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Boland, Connie; Craig Renouf
Subject: Cougar

Hey guys,
I’m following up on the report out of Deer Lake of a possible cougar sighting. Just want to see what your people are saying about this today.

Thanks,
Gary

—

GARY KEAN

Journalist

The Western Star
A member of the SaltWire Network

P: 09.83/4643
E: thewesternstar.com
www.thewebsiterstar.com
108 West Street
PO Box 450
Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador

/AFP 3/7

BE ESSENTIAL

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FORESTRY AND AGRIFOODS AGENCY
FORESTRY SERVICES DIVISION
PROBLEM ANIMAL/COMPLAINT FORM

Person or Agency Reporting:

NAME: Deer Lake Airport Security
PHONE:

ADDRESS: Deer Lake Airport Security

DATE/TIME: 9:35 am Thursday October 12, 2017

RECEIVED BY: D. LeMoine

DETAILED TO: CO Rumbolt

A gentleman on his way to catch a flight at Deer Lake Airport, reported to security about half hour ago that he had seen a large black cat sitting by the guard rail on Airport Access Road. The cat was approximately 50 feet from the intersection of TCH and airport road. Gentleman prepared to take a picture, but another vehicle came and the cat moved away.

LOCATION: approximately 50 feet from intersection of TCH and Airport Access Road, Deer Lake.

DATE/TIME:

Action taken on or before

Date submitted

Signature of Officer

TIME INCURRED:

DEPARTURE: 

RETURN: 
Philpott, Holly

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 1:26 PM
To: Philpott, Holly
Subject: FW: cougars in Newfoundland

Then I am not aware of any confirmed sightings.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2013 3:33 PM
To: Skeard, Francis B.; Carroll, Colin
Cc: Bowers, Wade
Subject: Re: cougars in Newfoundland

They sent the author to us!

From: Skeard, Francis B.
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2013 03:32 PM Newfoundland Standard Time
To: Boland, Connie; Carroll, Colin
Cc: Bowers, Wade
Subject: Re: cougars in Newfoundland

I would suggest forwarding this to Wildlife division.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2013 3:28 PM
To: Skeard, Francis B.; Carroll, Colin
Cc: Bowers, Wade
Subject: FW: cougars in Newfoundland

Hi there,

Are we able to assist this lady?

Connie
Hello Tina,

I'm putting together a map of confirmed cougar sightings outside their normal range for my upcoming book The Cougar, Beautiful, Wild & Dangerous (www.paulawild.ca/in-the-works-the-cougar/).

Could you tell me if there have been any confirmed sightings/tracks/scat of cougars in Newfoundland since 1990 and if so let me know the general location. I apologize for the short notice but need the info by Friday. Any assistance you could provide would be greatly appreciated!

All the best,
COMPLAINT FORM

Violation: □ Fishery    ☐ Wildlife
        □ ATV/Snowmachine    □ Environment    □ MBC
        □ Other

Nuisance Animal Report completed □ Yes    □ No

Name: ___________________________ Phone #: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ Date/Time: ___________________________

Complaint Received By: Mark Gillam          Complaint Detailed To: Corner Brook Detachment

Suspect/Address/Vehicle:

Location: Grindstone Road, Bonne Bay          Date: Ongoing

Details:

Received information from a [redacted] regarding the possible sighting of Mountain Cat near his cabin on October 9
at approximately 21:00. Cabin is located at km [redacted] on land.

Information on the sighting:
- 70-90 lbs in size (judging from the dogs he has owned in the past)
- Back legs were big and muscular
- The animal was muscular
- Head was small compared to body size
- Ears were not tipped
- Sitting down on hind legs and sat approx. 2-3 ft tall
- Dark tan in color
- All one color
- Close fur, not like a coyote
- High on back legs
- Low on front legs
- Lingering around the back of his truck and on his front step of his cabin
- Was not bothered by their presence
- Waited 45 minutes before they left the cabin.

Action (To Be Taken On Or Before) ___________________________

Charges Laid □ Yes    □ No
Date

Signature
Fish & Wildlife Enforcement Officer
TO: Colin Carroll          FROM: Rebecca Parsons
FAX NO.:                  DATE: October 10, 2017
NO. OF PAGES (including cover): 3
SUBJECT: ATIPPA

COMMENTS: Colin, this is everything I have on the file regarding their request.

Rebecca Parsons
COMPLAINT

Name: Keith Park Enforcement officer Address: Town of Deer Lake

Phone: 635-5718 Date: October 3/17

June

Complaint Received By

Tim, Darren, Dion, Bernie

Complaint Detailed To

Summary of Complaint:

Said he received complaints of panther sighting on Glide Lake Road by the spillway.

said a teacher and her husband saw it earlier in September and then again this week-end past.

Said it is about 3 feet high

Action to be taken on or before

Copy with action shown is to be returned to Regional Supervisor. If violation detected just show below, violation report submitted.

Date Submitted

Signature of Officer
From: Carroll, Colin  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:56 AM  
To: Anderson, Tim  
Cc: Parsons, Rebecca; Renouf, Craig  
Subject: Re: Black Panther Sighting

Thanks Tim!

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Anderson, Tim  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:54 AM  
To: Carroll, Colin  
Cc: Parsons, Rebecca; Renouf, Craig  
Subject: Black Panther Sighting

Good Morning;

As per our conversation regarding the reports of the Black Panther sighting. We never received any complaints here at the office in Massey Drive. I received a call from Bruce Rodrigueus from the Wildlife Division. They received the reports from the individual in the Deer Lake area. I have been in contact with Bruce regarding the sighting. I did try to make contact last night with the individual who reported the sighting but no luck in getting in contact with her. I will try to make contact again this evening which she suggested is the best time to reach her from the email she sent Bruce. I am in working with the Wildlife Division regarding setting up some form of study (i.e. Bait station) to try to get some confirmation on the species reported. We will continue to monitor the situation and work with the Wildlife division on this matter.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to give me a call.

Regards;

Tim Anderson  
Conservation Officer IV, Massey Drive (District 15)  
Forestry and Wildlife Branch  
Dept. of Fisheries and Land Resources  
P.O. Box 2006, Massey Drive Office  
Corner Brook, NL Canada A2H 6J8  
t 709.637.2373  
c 709.640.0195  
f 709.639.1377
Hi Paula,

Please see the statement below in relation recent reports of possible panther sightings in the Deer Lake area.

Thanks

Regards,

Craig Renouf  
Media Relations Manager  
Fisheries and Land Resources  
709-637-2284

**Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:**

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will be monitoring the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources at 709-637-2025.
Hi Don,

Please see the statement below in relation to the reporting of a possible panther in the Deer Lake area earlier this week.

Regards,

Craig

**Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:**

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will be monitoring the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources at 709-637-2025.
Hi Linda,

Please see the statement below in reply to your questions regarding the possible panther sighting in the Deer Lake area.

Regards,

Craig Renouf
Media Relations Manager
Fisheries and Land Resources
709-637-2284

Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources' Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will be monitoring the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources at 709-637-2025.
Philpott, Holly

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:09 PM
To: Byrne, Gerry
Subject: RE: Media Statement - Panther Sighting?

Just checked...there is no evidence panthers have ever been in the province.

From: Byrne, Gerry
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 4:06 PM
To: Renouf, Craig
Subject: Re: Media Statement - Panther Sighting?

OK
Were Panthers ever indigenous to newfoundland?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Byrne, Gerry
Cc: Tompkins, John
Subject: Media Statement - Panther Sighting?

Minister,

Please see below for your approval a media statement prepared in reply to several media inquiries about the possible sighting of a panther over the weekend in the Deer Lake area. The statement would be provided to VOCM, The Western Star, CBC and NTV. The questions were related to confirming the dept. actually received a report of a possible sighting, confirming whether or not it could be a panther and what follow up monitoring is planned by the dept.

John and Lori Anne have reviewed the statement.

Thanks

Craig

Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources' Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will be monitoring the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.
In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources at 709-637-2025.
Hi Lori Anne,

Please see below for your approval a media statement prepared in reply to several media inquiries about the possible sighting of a panther over the weekend in the Deer Lake area. The statement would be provided to VOCM, Western Star and CBC. The questions were related to confirming the dept. actually received a report of a possible sighting and what follow up monitoring is planned by the dept.

John has reviewed the statement.

Thanks

Craig

**Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:**

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will monitor the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Thanks for this Bruce.

Blair Adams, Ph.D.
Director, Forestry and Wildlife Research
Forestry and Wildlife Branch

Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Corner Brook, NL, Canada A1V 2T6

e Blairadams@gov.nl.ca

c 709.424.0412


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From: Rodrigues, Bruce
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair
Cc: Carroll, Colin; Anderson, Tim
Subject: RE: Panther

Hello Craig,

In response to the questions from VOCM:

What could these creatures be? While we cannot discount that an exotic species could be brought on to the Island, to date there has been no conclusive evidence that these reports are actually cougars or black panthers. Black Panthers are a melanistic form of the leopard that naturally occurs in Africa or Asia, or of the jaguar which is native to South America. Both of which are naturally rare in their home ranges. When feasible, these sightings have been investigated, by the Wildlife Division or Forestry offices, and in a number of situations have ended up being determined to be lynx or house cat. Other times signs indicate it could likely have been a young black bear or documented tracks have been similar to coyote.

Do we have a resident population of cougar? There is no evidence to suggest this

Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? Yes (see above)

What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received? In relation to this most recent report, the individual reporting the sighting was contacted directly for details on the sighting and we are following up on this report. The Wildlife Division has been maintaining a file on reported cougar/black panther sightings
With regards to your questions, Craig:

1) The encounter occurred on October 2, 2017 in the area of Glide Brook near Deer Lake. Prior to this the individual [REDACTED] also said she had seen a similar animal on Pynns Brook Road heading into Grand Lake in early September.

2) The report was first emailed by [REDACTED] on October 2 and was forwarded to me on October 3. I called her that night. The report did not come from the Town of Deer Lake.

Any other questions, let me know or give me a call.

Bruce Rodrigues

Ecosystem Management Ecologist

Game and Fur Management

Wildlife Division

Ph: (709) 637-2892

Fax: (709) 637-2032

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>; Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Carroll, Colin <ColinCarroll@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: Panther

Blair/Bruce:

As noted in John Tompkins email I am going to prepare a media statement in response to the questions below. While we are getting additional media interest the response based on the questions below will be good to issue to all media.

Bruce: Can you provide a quick reply to the questions below? I know Blair addressed some of them in his earlier email which I can use.

Additional information I require for preparing the media statement would be: 1) confirming when and where the encounter occurred?, and 2) When was the report filed with our office and by who (online story says it was reported to Wildlife Division by Town of Deer Lake)?

I will start the statement based on the info I have in the meantime.

Give me a shout if you have any questions...637-2284.
Hi Connie,

Linda Swain here at VOCM.

I’d like to speak with someone in-the-know in wildlife about the sightings of large black cats, or panthers in and around central/Deer Lake/Buchans for the last several years.

The latest sightings have been in Deer Lake with a warning going out this week.

What could these creatures be? Do we have a resident population of cougar? Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received?

Linda Swain
VOCM News
726-5660
Pll see below revised statement for approval...just added piece specifically stating there is no evidence confirming presence of panther here.

From: Tompkins, John  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 2:05 PM  
To: Renouf, Craig  
Subject: Re: For Approval: Media Statement

Perfect. Thanks.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Renouf, Craig  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 2:02 PM  
To: Tompkins, John  
Subject: RE: For Approval: Media Statement

How about this?

**Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:**

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will monitor the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports also have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Can we be a little stronger and indicate that there is no indication of the presence of a panther here, and all evidence to date indicates lynx or domestic cats?

Craig, can you please let comms branch know we are drafting a response to media requests here? Thanks.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Renouf, Craig  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:45 PM  
To: Balsom, Stephen  
Cc: Tompkins, John  
Subject: For Approval: Media Statement

Steve,

Please see media statement re: possible panther sighting below. Blair has approved.

Tks

Craig

Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. Conservation Officers plan to monitor the area over the coming weeks.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther. Evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Philpott, Holly

From: Renouf, Craig  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 2:04 PM  
To: Balsom, Stephen  
Cc: Tompkins, John  
Subject: RE: For Approval: Media Statement

John suggested a few edits. I will make and send back for approval shortly.

From: Balsom, Stephen  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 2:03 PM  
To: Renouf, Craig  
Cc: Tompkins, John  
Subject: Re: For Approval: Media Statement

OK for me

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Renouf, Craig  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:45 PM  
To: Balsom, Stephen  
Cc: Tompkins, John  
Subject: For Approval: Media Statement

Steve,

Please see media statement re: possible panther sighting below. Blair has approved.

Tks

Craig

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On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources' Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. Conservation Officers plan to monitor the area over the coming weeks.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther. Evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Philpott, Holly

From: Cross, June
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:32 PM
To: Carroll, Colin
Subject: RE: Panther

You are welcome,

J

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:24 PM
To: Cross, June <JuneCross@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: Panther

Ok good.
Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Cross, June
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Carroll, Colin
Subject: RE: Panther

Hi Colin,

Tim just speaking with Craig concerning this.

Thank you,

June

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:21 PM
To: Cross, June <JuneCross@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Fw: Panther

Can you check with Tim on this?
Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:34 AM
To: Carroll, Colin; Anderson, Tim
Cc: Rodrigues, Bruce
Subject: FW: Panther
Hi,

Please see Bruce’s comments below.

I am looking to confirm whether or not we conducted a follow up search of the Glide Brook Road area?

Tks

Craig

---

**From:** Rodrigues, Bruce  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 05, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair  
**Cc:** Carroll, Colm; Anderson, Tim  
**Subject:** RE: Panther

Hi Craig,

Some clarification:
Paragraph 1:  
As far as I am aware Conservation officers have not conducted a search of the area. The approach that I have been working with Forestry (Tim) on is we will put trail cameras out in the area of the report but are working out the logistics of this approach at this time.

To clarify your second paragraph:

Most reported sightings do not have any physical evidence or photos and cannot be proven one way or the other. In some instances, though evidence—such as fur samples and pictures—have been available and have proven to be either lynx or cat or in one case a trail camera installed showed a black bear frequenting the area.

Bruce

---

**From:** Renouf, Craig  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>; Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>  
**Cc:** Carroll, Colm <ColmCarroll@gov.nl.ca>; Anderson, Tim <tanerson@gov.nl.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Panther

Please see below my draft media statement. Please advise of any edits required.

Thanks

Craig

**Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:**

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and provided with a description of the animal. Conservation officers conducted a search of the area in question but did not locate the animal.
The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther. Evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated the animals in question was a lynx or cat.

In the meantime Conservation Officers will continue to monitor the area and residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

From: Rodrigues, Bruce  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 10:29 AM  
To: Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair  
Cc: Carroll, Colin; Anderson, Tim  
Subject: RE: Panther

Hello Craig,

In response to the questions from VOCM:

What could these creatures be? While we cannot discount that an exotic species could be brought on to the Island, to date there has been no conclusive evidence that these reports are actually cougars or black panthers. Black Panthers are a melanistic form of the leopard that naturally occurs in Africa or Asia, or of the jaguar which is native to South America. Both of which are naturally rare in their home ranges. When feasible, these sightings have been investigated, by the Wildlife Division or Forestry offices, and in a number of situations have ended up being determined to be lynx or house cat. Other times signs indicate it could likely have been a young black bear or documented tracks have been similar to coyote.

Do we have a resident population of cougar? There is no evidence to suggest this

Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? Yes (see above)

What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received? In relation to this most recent report, the individual reporting the sighting was contacted directly for details on the sighting and we are following up on this report. The Wildlife Division has been maintaining a file on reported cougar/black panther sightings

With regards to your questions, Craig:

1) The encounter occurred on October 2, 2017 in the area of Glide Brook near Deer Lake. Prior to this the individual also said she had seen a similar animal on Pynns Brook Road heading into Grand lake in early September
2) The report was first emailed by on October 2 and was forwarded to me on October 3. I called her that night. The report did not come from the Town of Deer Lake

Any other questions, let me know or give me a call

Bruce Rodrigues  
Ecosystem Management Ecologist  
Game and Fur Management  
Wildlife Division  
Ph: (709) 637-2892
Philpott, Holly

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:26 PM
To: Adams, Blair
Cc: Rodrigues, Bruce; Anderson, Tim
Subject: RE: Media Statement - Panther

Thanks Blair. I will send along for approvals.

Craig

From: Adams, Blair
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 1:24 PM
To: Renouf, Craig
Cc: Rodrigues, Bruce; Anderson, Tim
Subject: RE: Media Statement - Panther

I am ok with this. One minor change in red.

Blair Adams, Ph.D.
Director, Forestry and Wildlife Research
Forestry and Wildlife Branch

www.gov.nl.ca/faa
@FAA_GovNL

Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Corner Brook, NL, Canada A1Y 2T6

e Blairadams@gov.nl.ca
c 709.424.0412


This e-mail and any files transmitted are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 12:45 PM
To: Adams, Blair
Cc: Rodrigues, Bruce; Anderson, Tim
Subject: Media Statement - Panther

Blair,

Please see media statement below for approval.

Tks

Craig

Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:
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The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther. Evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were in fact lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Blair,

Please see media statement below for approval.

Tks

Craig

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In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Dear Craig,

Please see below the email from CBC regarding tomorrow's interview. You will note they would like an interview as well with CBC Gander (7:10 AM) in addition to Corner Brook (7:40 AM). They also may ask about the possible panther sighting...a media statement is going out about this today. We can discuss when I give you a call in a while.

Hi, Craig (copying Connie for e-mail test purposes, as you asked)

Re our phone conversation this morning, please pass along our interview requests to one of your fellow staff members or the minister.

Please get back to me today at 637-1173 (until 1:30pm) or to Gary Moore at 637-1176. He's here until about 4:45pm today.

We are hoping to have someone on the phone for two of our CBC radio shows tomorrow, Fri., Oct. 6.

**TOPIC 1.**
**DUCK HUNTING SAFETY - TWO LIVE INTERVIEW SLOTS:**
CBC GANDER AT 7:10AM  
CBC CORNER BROOK AT 7:40 AM

Our request is in response to the Western Star editorial of Sat., Sept. 30 (link is below), describing an incident in which three duck hunters were shooting on the west end of Pasadena Beach.

20 people, about 12 of whom were children, were on the beach at the time, potentially in danger of being hit by bullets. The editorial further says the hunters were hunting within about 190 metres of homes, and the writer wonders whether charges of "careless use of a firearm" apply.

We essentially want to know whether a formal complaint has been made to the department as a result of the incident, what the rules are regarding safe hunting distance from public areas, and what the penalties are for violations.

Here's the link to the Western Star editorial:

goo.gl/JBJXQH

**TOPIC 2: ALLEGED BLACK PANTHER SIGHTING IN DEER LAKE - TWO LIVE INTERVIEW SLOTS - TIMES TBA**
CBC GANDER  
CBC CORNER BROOK

We want to hear from the department about whether they believe the alleged sighting to be legit, what kinds of habitat and geographical areas the panther is usually seen in, and what, if anything, the department is doing as the result of the alleged sighting.
**IF only one spokesperson is available to talk about both topics, we would like him or her to discuss them on the 7:10 Gander interview and the 7:40am Corner Brook interview.

Thanks,
Brian

On Wed, Oct 4, 2017 at 12:08 PM, Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Hi Brian,

Just following up on our chat from earlier. You noted you were going to send an email with a few more specifics about the questions you had.

Tks

Regards,

Craig

“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”

--

Brian McHugh
Announcer/Operator
Morning Show
CBC Radio
Corner Brook, NL
(709) 637-1173 (w);
Listen to your Morning Show at http://www.cbc.ca/podcasting/index.html?region#nlwcmornshow
Blair,

Please see media statement below for approval.

Tks

Craig

Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. Conservation Officers plan to monitor the area over the coming weeks.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther. Evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were in fact lynx or cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Derrick,

There are reports in the media today about reports of a panther in the Deer Lake area. Based on these reports the The Western Star has asked the following. Can you please provide responses to these questions.

1. Should a hunter with a firearm ever encounter one of these cats, if they are out there. Would they be allowed to just shoot it?
2. I assume they would be required to report having done so and maybe turnover the carcass?

Tks

Craig

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ATIPPA Section 40 (1)

Hi Connie,

OK. Thanks. I thought I had corrected Craig’s email, but I guess not. Must be case sensitive as I had it in all lower case.

Also, maybe I can talk to someone about what the law is should a hunter with a firearm ever encounter one of these cats, if they are out there. Would they be allowed to just shoot it? I assume they would be required to report having done so and maybe turnover the carcass?

Thanks,

Gary

---

GARY KEAN

Journalist

The Western Star

A member of the SaltWire Network
Hi Gary,

We are checking into this and will be back in touch. I have copied Craig so that you will have his correct address though it’s a good idea to send emails to both of us.

Have a great day,

Connie

Hey guys,

I’m following up on the report out of Deer Lake of a possible cougar sighting. Just want to see what your people are saying about this today.

Thanks,

Gary

—

GARY KEAN

Journalist
“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”
Hi,

Please see Bruce’s comments below.

I am looking to confirm whether or not we conducted a follow up search of the Glide Brook Road area?

Tks

Craig

---

From: Rodrigues, Bruce
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 11:07 AM
To: Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair
Cc: Carroll, Colin; Anderson, Tim
Subject: RE: Panther

Hi Craig,

Some clarification:
Paragraph 1:
As far as I am aware Conservation officers have not conducted a search of the area. The approach that I have been working with Forestry (Tim) on is we will put trail cameras out in the area of the report but are working out the logistics of this approach at this time.

To clarify your second paragraph:
Most reported sightings do not have any physical evidence or photos and cannot be proven one way or the other. In some instances, though evidence—such as fur samples and pictures—have been available and have proven to be either lynx or cat or in one case a trail camera installed showed a black bear frequenting the area.

Bruce

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From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:53 AM
To: Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>; Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Carroll, Colin <ColinCarroll@gov.nl.ca>; Anderson, Tim <tanderson@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Panther

Please see below my draft media statement. Please advise of any edits required.

Thanks

Craig
Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

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The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther. Evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated the animals in question was a lynx or cat.

In the meantime Conservation Officers will continue to monitor the area and residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

From: Rodrigues, Bruce
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair
Cc: Carroll, Collin; Anderson, Tim
Subject: RE: Panther

Hello Craig,

In response to the questions from VOCM:

What could these creatures be? While we cannot discount that an exotic species could be brought on to the Island, to date there has been no conclusive evidence that these reports are actually cougars or black panthers. Black Panthers are a melanistic form of the leopard that naturally occurs in Africa or Asia, or of the jaguar which is native to South America. Both of which are naturally rare in their home ranges. When feasible, these sightings have been investigated, by the Wildlife Division or Forestry offices, and in a number of situations have ended up being determined to be lynx or house cat. Other times signs indicate it could likely have been a young black bear or documented tracks have been similar to coyote.

Do we have a resident population of cougar? There is no evidence to suggest this

Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? Yes (see above)

What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received? In relation to this most recent report, the individual reporting the sighting was contacted directly for details on the sighting and we are following up on this report. The Wildlife Division has been maintaining a file on reported cougar/black panther sightings

With regards to your questions, Craig:

1) The encounter occurred on October 2, 2017 in the area of Glide Brook near Deer Lake. Prior to this the individual (Linda Roberts) also said she had seen a similar animal on Pynns Brook Road heading into Grand lake in early September

2) The report was first emailed by Linda Roberts on October 2 and was forwarded to me on October 3. I called her that night. The report did not come from the Town of Deer Lake
Any other questions, let me know or give me a call

Bruce Rodrigues
Ecosystem Management Ecologist
Game and Fur Management
Wildlife Division
Ph: (709) 637-2892
Fax: (709) 637-2032

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>; Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Carroll, Colin <ColinCarroll@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: Panther

Blair/Bruce:

As noted in John Tompkins email I am going to prepare a media statement in response to the questions below. While we are getting additional media interest the response based on the questions below will be good to issue to all media.

Bruce: Can you provide a quick reply to the questions below? I know Blair addressed some of them in his earlier email which I can use.

Additional information I require for preparing the media statement would be: 1) confirming when and where the encounter occurred?, and 2) When was the report filed with our office and by who (online story says it was reported to Wildlife Division by Town of Deer Lake)?

I will start the statement based on the info I have in the meantime.

Give me a shout if you have any questions...637-2284.

Tks

Craig

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:23 AM
Hi Connie,

Linda Swain here at VOCM.

I’d like to speak with someone in-the-know in wildlife about the sightings of large black cats, or panthers in and around central/Deer Lake/Buchans for the last several years.

The latest sightings have been in Deer Lake with a warning going out this week.

What could these creatures be? Do we have a resident population of cougar? Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received?

Linda Swain
VOCM News
726-5660
Thanks Bruce. I will check to confirm whether or not CO’s have checked out the area and adjust the statement accordingly.

Craig

Hi Craig,

Some clarification:
Paragraph 1:
As far as I am aware Conservation officers have not conducted a search of the area. The approach that I have been working with Forestry (Tim) on is we will put trail cameras out in the area of the report but are working out the logistics of this approach at this time.

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Thanks

Craig

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animal. Conservation officers conducted a search of the area in question but did not locate the animal.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. In those instances the presence of a panther was not confirmed as the animals in question were identified as other wildlife such as lynx, domestic cat, coyote or young black bears.

In the meantime Conservation Officers will continue to monitor the area and residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

From: Rodrigues, Bruce
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Any other questions, let me know or give me a call

Bruce Rodrigues
Ecosystem Management Ecologist

Game and Fur Management

Wildlife Division

Ph: (709) 637-2892

Fax: (709) 637-2032

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>; Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Carroll, Colin <ColinCarroll@gov.nl.ca>
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Tks

Craig

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:23 AM
To: Renouf, Craig
Subject: FW: Panther

From: VOCM Feedback [mailto:feedback@vocm.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:05 AM
Hi Connie,

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Bruce

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Craig

Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources’ Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and provided with a description of the animal. Conservation officers conducted a search of the area in question but did not locate the animal.

The department has received similar reports of panther like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. In those instances the presence of a panther was not confirmed as the animals in question were identified as other wildlife such as lynx, domestic cat, coyote or young black bears.

In the meantime Conservation Officers will continue to monitor the area and residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Hello Craig,

In response to the questions from VOCM:

What could these creatures be? While we cannot discount that an exotic species could be brought on to the Island, to date there has been no conclusive evidence that these reports are actually cougars or black panthers. Black Panthers are a melanistic form of the leopard that naturally occurs in Africa or Asia, or of the jaguar which is native to South America. Both of which are naturally rare in their home ranges. When feasible, these sightings have been investigated, by the Wildlife Division or Forestry offices, and in a number of situations have ended up being determined to be lynx or house cat. Other times signs indicate it could likely have been a young black bear or documented tracks have been similar to coyote.

Do we have a resident population of cougar? There is no evidence to suggest this.

Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? Yes (see above)

What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received? In relation to this most recent report, the individual reporting the sighting was contacted directly for details on the sighting and we are following up on this report. The Wildlife Division has been maintaining a file on reported cougar/black panther sightings.

With regards to your questions, Craig:

1) The encounter occurred on October 2, 2017 in the area of Glide Brook near Deer Lake. Prior to this the individual (Linda Roberts) also said she had seen a similar animal on Pynns Brook Road heading into Grand Lake in early September.

2) The report was first emailed by Linda Roberts on October 2 and was forwarded to me on October 3. I called her that night. The report did not come from the Town of Deer Lake.

Any other questions, let me know or give me a call.

Bruce Rodrigues

Ecosystem Management Ecologist

Game and Fur Management

Wildlife Division

Ph: (709) 637-2892

Fax: (709) 637-2032
From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>; Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Carroll, Colin <ColinCarroll@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: Panther

Blair/Bruce:

As noted in John Tompkins email I am going to prepare a media statement in response to the questions below. While we are getting additional media interest the response based on the questions below will be good to issue to all media.

Bruce: Can you provide a quick reply to the questions below? I know Blair addressed some of them in his earlier email which I can use.

Additional information I require for preparing the media statement would be: 1) confirming when and where the encounter occurred?, and 2) When was the report filed with our office and by who (online story says it was reported to Wildlife Division by Town of Deer Lake)?

I will start the statement based on the info I have in the meantime.

Give me a shout if you have any questions...637-2284.

Tks

Craig

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:23 AM
To: Renouf, Craig
Subject: FW: Panther

From: VOCM Feedback [mailto:feedback@vocm.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:05 AM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: Panther

Hi Connie,

Linda Swain here at VOCM.

I’d like to speak with someone in-the-know in wildlife about the sightings of large black cats, or panthers in and around central/Deer Lake/Buchans for the last several years.
The latest sightings have been in Deer Lake with a warning going out this week.

What could these creatures be? Do we have a resident population of cougar? Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received?

Linda Swain
VOCM News
726-5660
Fyi...

Bruce refers to 'cougars' or panthers...

---

From: Rodrigues, Bruce  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 10:29 AM  
To: Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair  
Cc: Carroll, Colin; Anderson, Tim  
Subject: RE: Panther

Hello Craig,

In response to the questions from VOQM:

What could these creatures be? While we cannot discount that an exotic species could be brought on to the Island, to date there has been no conclusive evidence that these reports are actually cougars or black panthers. Black Panthers are a melanistic form of the leopard that naturally occurs in Africa or Asia, or of the jaguar which is native to South America. Both of which are naturally rare in their home ranges. When feasible, these sightings have been investigated, by the Wildlife Division or Forestry offices, and in a number of situations have ended up being determined to be lynx or house cat. Other times signs indicate it could likely have been a young black bear or documented tracks have been similar to coyote.

Do we have a resident population of cougar? There is no evidence to suggest this

Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? Yes (see above)

What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received? In relation to this most recent report, the individual reporting the sighting was contacted directly for details on the sighting and we are following up on this report. The Wildlife Division has been maintaining a file on reported cougar/black panther sightings

With regards to your questions, Craig:  

1) The encounter occurred on October 2, 2017 in the area of Glide Brook near Deer Lake. Prior to this the individual [REDACTED] also said she had seen a similar animal on Pynns Brook Road heading into Grand lake in early September
2) The report was first emailed by [REDACTED] on October 2 and was forwarded to me on October 3. I called her that night. The report did not come from the Town of Deer Lake

Any other questions, let me know or give me a call

Bruce Rodrigues
From: Renouf, Craig  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:52 AM  
To: Adams, Blair <BlairAdams@gov.nl.ca>; Rodrigues, Bruce <brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca>  
Cc: Carroll, Colin <ColinCarroll@gov.nl.ca>  
Subject: FW: Panther

Blair/Bruce:

As noted in John Tompkins email I am going to prepare a media statement in response to the questions below. While we are getting additional media interest the response based on the questions below will be good to issue to all media.

Bruce: Can you provide a quick reply to the questions below? I know Blair addressed some of them in his earlier email which I can use.

Additional information I require for preparing the media statement would be: 1) confirming when and where the encounter occurred?, and 2) When was the report filed with our office and by who (online story says it was reported to Wildlife Division by Town of Deer Lake)?

I will start the statement based on the info I have in the meantime.

Give me a shout if you have any questions...637-2284.

Tks

Craig

---

From: Boland, Connie  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:23 AM  
To: Renouf, Craig  
Subject: FW: Panther

---

From: VOCM Feedback [mailto:feedback@vocm.com]  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:05 AM
Hi Connie,

Linda Swain here at VOOM.

I'd like to speak with someone in-the-know in wildlife about the sightings of large black cats, or panthers in and around central/Deer Lake/Buchans for the last several years.

The latest sightings have been in Deer Lake with a warning going out this week.

What could these creatures be? Do we have a resident population of cougar? Could these sightings be something else like Lynx or coyotes? What information or reports have conservation officers/wildlife received?

Linda Swain
VOOM News
726-5660
Hi Linda,

Just wanted to acknowledge receipt of your questions regarding the panther and advise I am following up with staff.

Thanks

Craig Renouf
Media Relations Manager
Fisheries and Land Resources
709-637-2284
Thanks Colin.

The plan is to prepare a media statement in response to anticipated media calls. There have been two media requests so far.

Craig

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 9:04 AM
To: Renouf, Craig; Adams, Blair
Cc: Balsom, Stephen; Tompkins, John; Boland, Connie
Subject: RE: Media Request - Panther sightings?

I have spoken to our CO in Forestry, who indicated that Wildlife Division got the call and we are working with them (Bruce Rodriguez) now on a solution. I should have an update related to this shortly from the CO.

Colin

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Adams, Blair
Cc: Balsom, Stephen; Tompkins, John; Boland, Connie; Carroll, Colin
Subject: Media Request - Panther sightings?

Hi Blair,

Please see below a media request from CBC radio stemming from a Town of Deer Lake facebook post reporting a possible encounter with a panther by two residents. The story is also now on the VOCM website.

I have spoke with Colin who is checking to confirm there was a report filed with staff and what action has been taken. In the meantime is there someone you can identify to speak with the media about this? I understand there were similar reports a few years ago but nothing was confirmed.

Please advise.

Tks

Craig
From: Boland, Connie  
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 7:19 AM  
To: Renouf, Craig; Tompkins, John  
Subject: Fw: Panther sightings?

Good morning,

Please see below from CBC. We have had reports over the years, all around this time of year. We can check with our guys when we get in.

Have a great day,

Connie

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Paula Gale [redacted]  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:09 AM  
To: Boland, Connie  
Subject: Panther sightings?

Hi Connie,
I'm requesting an interview from wildlife about panther sightings - for CBC radio.

there have been a number of these over the past few years. cougar sightings too.

The town of Deer Lake is warning people about them.

here's that:
https://www.facebook.com/townof.deerlake/posts/1544280155610670

there's a lot of speculation and confusion out there.

thanks.. please let me know asap.

Paula

--
Paula Gale  
Associate Producer  
CBC St. John's Morning Show  
709-576-5132 or [redacted]
Philpott, Holly

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Companion, Lori Anne
Cc: Tompkins, John
Subject: RE: Media Statement - Report of Panther

Yes. I will add the info. and send along to Minister for approval.

Tks

Craig

From: Companion, Lori Anne
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 3:30 PM
To: Renouf, Craig
Cc: Tompkins, John
Subject: Re: Media Statement - Report of Panther

should we give contact info - email and telephone number?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Companion, Lori Anne
Cc: Tompkins, John
Subject: Media Statement - Report of Panther

Hi Lori Anne,

Please see below for your approval a media statement prepared in reply to several media inquiries about the possible sighting of a panther over the weekend in the Deer Lake area. The statement would be provided to VOCM, Western Star and CBC. The questions were related to confirming the dept. actually received a report of a possible sighting and what follow up monitoring is planned by the dept.

John has reviewed the statement.

Thanks

Craig

Media Statement from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources:

On October 2, 2017 the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources' Wildlife Division received reports from a resident of Deer Lake about the possible sighting of a panther in the Glide Brook Road area. Wildlife officials have spoken with the resident and were provided with a description of the animal. There is no evidence confirming the presence of a panther here, however, Conservation Officers will monitor the area over the coming weeks as a precaution.
The department has received similar reports of panther-like wildlife from various locations throughout the province over the past few years. Investigations into these reports have not confirmed the presence of a panther as evidence such as hair samples collected during these investigations indicated some of the animals in question were lynx or domestic cats.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Wildlife Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.
Hi Blair,

Please see below a media request from CBC radio stemming from a Town of Deer Lake facebook post reporting a possible encounter with a panther by two residents. The story is also now on the VOCM website.

I have spoke with Colin who is checking to confirm there was a report filed with staff and what action has been taken. In the meantime is there someone you can identify to speak with the media about this? I understand there were similar reports a few years ago but nothing was confirmed.

Please advise.

Tks

Craig

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 7:19 AM
To: Renouf, Craig; Tompkins, John
Subject: Fw: Panther sightings?

Good morning,

Please see below from CBC. We have had reports over the years, all around this time of year. We can check with our guys when we get in.

Have a great day,

Connie

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

Hi Connie,
I'm requesting an interview from wildlife about panther sightings - for CBC radio.

there have been a number of these over the past few years.. cougar sightings too.
The town of Deer Lake is warning people about them.

here's that: https://www.facebook.com/townofdeerlake/posts/1544280155610670

there's a lot of speculation and confusion out there.

thanks.. please let me know asap.

Paula

--
Paula Gale
Associate Producer
CBC St. John's Morning Show
709-576-5132 or
Phlpott, Holly

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Carroll, Colin
Cc: Quinton, Diana; Evans, James W; Soper, Leah R.
Subject: RE: cougar

Here is what I have:

Reported a cougar.
An anonymous caller reported a cougar
An individual from Maine reported seeing a large cat.

We can state:

Other than an individual from Maine reported seeing a large cat; an anonymous caller reported seeing a cougar.

From: Carroll, Colin
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 2:46 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Cc: Quinton, Diana; Evans, James W; Soper, Leah R.
Subject: Re: cougar

was one... Other was a camper.
Leah Soper can assist

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 2:34 PM
To: Carroll, Colin
Cc: Quinton, Diana; Evans, James W
Subject: FW: cougar

We cannot identify the caller, correct?

From: Kean, Gary [gkean@thewesternstar.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 2:33 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Cc: Quinton, Diana
Subject: Re: cougar

Was one of them an American who camped out near Lundrigan Drive in Corner Brook earlier this week? What were these callers reporting, if not a sighting?

Gary
From: "Boland, Connie" <ConniBoland@gov.nl.ca>
Date: Thu, 19 Jun 2014 16:50:21 -0000
To: Gary Kean <gkean@thewesternstar.com>
Cc: "Quinton, Diana" <DianaQuinton@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: cougar

We received three calls. No other caller (besides [REDACTED]) claimed to have seen what they thought was a cougar.

From: Kean, Gary <gkean@thewesternstar.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 2:10 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Cc: Quinton, Diana
Subject: Re: cougar

How many calls did you receive? I was told the man I'm trying to locate who said he saw something may have called. The woman who he spoke with said she called.

Were there any other reports (other than [REDACTED] the previous week) of anyone who actually claimed to have seen what they thought might have been a cougar?

Thanks,
Gary

Hi Gary,
We are not able to provide an interview however you can use this statement from the Department of Natural Resources:

The Department of Natural Resources received and responded to several reports since June 13 however the department cannot confirm whether or not the animal was a cougar. The department is monitoring the area.

Connie

From: Kean, Gary [redacted]@thewesternstar.com
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 1:32 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: Re: cougar

Hi Connie,

Am I going to hear from you guys today? I'm done at 3.

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
[redacted]@thewesternstar.com
Twitter: @WS_GaryKean
Fax: (709) 634-9824
www.thewesternstar.com

From: [redacted]@transcontinental.ca
Date: Thu, 19 Jun 2014 10:33:24 -0230
To: "Boland, Connie" <ConnieBoland@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: cougar

Hi Connie,

Will someone be able to talk to me today? I'll be back in the office in about 15 minutes and there until about 3 (minus a lunch break).

Thanks,
Gary

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 18, 2014, at 2:44 PM, "Boland, Connie" <ConnieBoland@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

It may not be today – the majority of Conservation Officers are in the field. This would fall under NR.
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: Re: cougar

Thanks. I’m only here for another hour or so today, so I need something as soon as you can get it. Had been dealing with Deborah Thomas, but she tells me this is your jurisdiction.

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
www.thewesternstar.com

From: "Boland, Connie" <ConnieBoland@gov.nl.ca>
Date: Wed, 18 Jun 2014 17:06:45 +0000
To: Gary Kean
Subject: RE: cougar

Hi,

I will check into this for you.

Connie

From: Kean, Gary
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 2:35 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: cougar

Connie,

Can you tell me if someone went out to look for any sign of the cougar reported last night/this morning.

My sources tell me wildlife officials received two calls. One from the man who said he saw it and another call this morning – likely from the lady I interviewed who spoke with the man who claims he saw it.

Can you confirm that there was a call made from the eyewitness himself last evening? I’m trying to locate him, but haven’t had any luck yet. All I have so far is this woman’s account of what he told her.

I was also told that someone was sent out to the area in question this morning (or last night).

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
The statement below is approved in response to Gary's original email.

The Department of Natural Resources received and responded to several reports since June 13 however the department cannot confirm whether or not the animal was a cougar. The department is monitoring the area.

Connie,

Can you tell me if someone went out to look for any sign of the cougar reported last night/this morning.

My sources tell me wildlife officials received two calls. One from the man who said he saw it and another call this morning – likely from the lady I interviewed who spoke with the man who claims he saw it.

Can you confirm that there was a call made from the eyewitness himself last evening? I'm trying to locate him, but haven't had any luck yet. All I have so far is this woman's account of what he told her.

I was also told that someone was sent out to the area in question this morning (or last night).

Thanks,
Gary

---
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
[the western star.com] [the western star.com]
Twitter: @WS_GaryKean
Fax: (709) 634-9824
www.thewesternstar.com
Fine with me.

Is there any update on this? Gary is asking to speak with someone today – can we prepare a statement. Below is what I suggested yesterday:

The Department of Natural Resources received several reports since June 13 however the department cannot confirm whether or not the animal was a cougar. The department is monitoring the area.

Hi Connie,

Will someone be able to talk to me today? I'll be back in the office in about 15 minutes and there until about 3 (minus a lunch break).

Thanks,
Gary

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 18, 2014, at 2:44 PM, "Boland, Connie" wrote:

It may not be today – the majority of Conservation Officers are in the field. This would fall under NR.

Thanks. I’m only here for another hour or so today, so I need something as soon as you can get it. Had been dealing with Deborah Thomas, but she tells me this is your jurisdiction.
Hi,

I will check into this for you.

Connie

Can you tell me if someone went out to look for any sign of the cougar reported last night/this morning.

My sources tell me wildlife officials received two calls. One from the man who said he saw it and another call this morning – likely from the lady I interviewed who spoke with the man who claims he saw it.

Can you confirm that there was a call made from the eyewitness himself last evening? I'm trying to locate him, but haven't had any luck yet. All I have so far is this woman's account of what he told her.

I was also told that someone was sent out to the area in question this morning (or last night).

Thanks,
Gary
Philpott, Holly

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 3:13 PM
To: Carroll, Colin; Quinton, Diana; Evans, James W
Subject: FW: cougar

Gary is asking if we received calls last night please see below. Can we respond:

The Department of Natural Resources received three reports since June 13 however the department cannot confirm whether or not the animal was a cougar. The department is monitoring the area.

From: Kean, Gary [mailto:__________________________@thewesternstar.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 3:03 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: Re: cougar

I know the woman called you guys this morning. Really want to know if buddy that said he saw it did last night.

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
[__________________________________________]@thewesternstar.com
Twitter: @WS_GaryKean
Fax: (709) 634-9824
www.thewesternstar.com

From: "Boland, Connie" <ConnieBoland@gov.nl.ca>
Date: Wed, 18 Jun 2014 17:14:11 +0000
To: Gary Kean <__________________________@thewesternstar.com>
Subject: RE: cougar

It may not be today – the majority of Conservation Officers are in the field. This would fall under NR.

From: Kean, Gary [mailto:__________________________@thewesternstar.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 2:38 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: Re: cougar

Thanks. I'm only here for another hour or so today, so I need something as soon as you can get it. Had been dealing with deborah Thomas, but she tells me this is your jurisdiction.

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Hi,

I will check into this for you.

Connie

Connie,

Can you tell me if someone went out to look for any sign of the cougar reported last night/this morning.

My sources tell me wildlife officials received two calls. One from the man who said he saw it and another call this morning – likely from the lady I interviewed who spoke with the man who claims he saw it.

Can you confirm that there was a call made from the eyewitness himself last evening? I'm trying to locate him, but haven't had any luck yet. All I have so far is this woman's account of what he told her.

I was also told that someone was sent out to the area in question this morning (or last night).

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
@thewesternstar.com
Twitter: @WS_GaryKean
Fax: (709) 634-9824
www.thewesternstar.com
"This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender."
Hi Tim,

Did we receive anything on this – please see request from media below.

Connie

From: Kean, Gary [Email Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 2:35 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: cougar

Connie,

Can you tell me if someone went out to look for any sign of the cougar reported last night/this morning.

My sources tell me wildlife officials received two calls. One from the man who said he saw it and another call this morning – likely from the lady I interviewed who spoke with the man who claims he saw it.

Can you confirm that there was a call made from the eyewitness himself last evening? I’m trying to locate him, but haven’t had any luck yet. All I have so far is this woman’s account of what he told her.

I was also told that someone was sent out to the area in question this morning (or last night).

Thanks,
Gary

---
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL

Twitter: @WS_GaryKean
www.thewesternstar.com

---
ATIPPA Section 40 (1)
Colin,

Please see below – did we receive the calls as Gary indicates?

Connie

ATIPPA Section 40 (1)

From: Kean, Gary  @thewesternstar.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 2:35 PM
To: Boland, Connie
Subject: cougar

Connie,

Can you tell me if someone went out to look for any sign of the cougar reported last night/this morning.

My sources tell me wildlife officials received two calls. One from the man who said he saw it and another call this morning – likely from the lady I interviewed who spoke with the man who claims he saw it.

Can you confirm that there was a call made from the eyewitness himself last evening? I’m trying to locate him, but haven’t had any luck yet. All I have so far is this woman’s account of what he told her.

I was also told that someone was sent out to the area in question this morning (or last night).

Thanks,
Gary
--

Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL

ATIPPA Section 40 (1)

Twitter: @WS_GaryKean

Fax: (709) 634-9824
www.thewesternstar.com
Philpott, Holly

From: Boland, Connie
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 11:16 AM
To: Carroll, Colin
Subject: FW: cougar

Please see below...any reports or are we looking into this?

From: Thomas, Deborah
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 11:14 AM
To: Quinton, Diana
Cc: Boland, Connie
Subject: FW: cougar

Are you guys actually looking into the possibility of it being a cougar?

From: Kean, Gary
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Thomas, Deborah
Subject: cougar

Hi Deborah,

We had a story last week about a possible sighting of a cougar in the O’Connell Drive area of Corner Brook. I just spoke with a lady who told me a tourist passing through Corner Brook stopped her while she was walking her dog in the Lundrigan drive area of Corner Brook and told her he had just seen one.

She said this man seemed quite believable, apparently had no knowledge of last week's sighting and seemed to know the difference between a lynx and "a mountain lin" as she said he referred to it as.

Anyway, just wondering if someone is available to talk to me about if there is an effort to try and confirm these reports or look for any signs this animal might be around. I am only working until 3 p.m. today, so hopefully someone can be made available before that.

Thanks,
Gary
--
Gary Kean
Reporter
The Western Star
Corner Brook, NL
[Email Redacted]
Twitter: @WS_GaryKean
Fax: (709) 634-9824
www.thewesternstar.com

ATIPPA Section 40 (1)