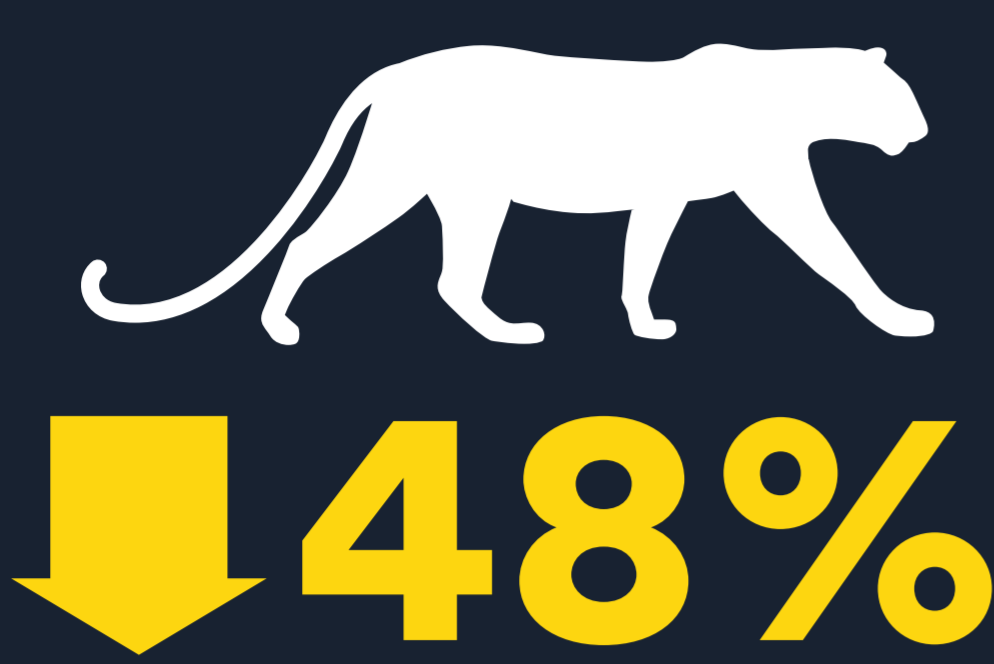




A Perfect Storm for Pumas



A new Panthera study shows that a perfect storm of three wildlife management policies contributed to the loss of nearly half of the pumas in Jackson, Wyoming from 2002-2015.

01: WELCOME BACK WOLVES



Between 1995-1996, wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park.

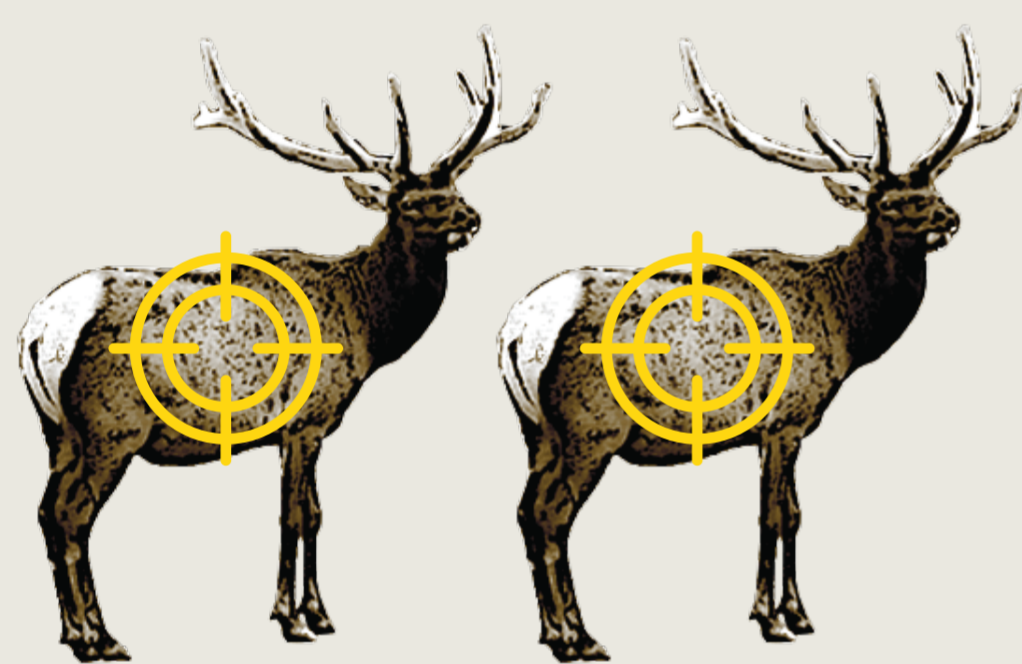


Over the course of the study, wolf populations increased 600%.



This was bad news for puma kittens, 18% of which were killed by wolves.

02: CULLING THE HERD



Around 2000, elk hunting was increased to reduce the Jackson herd from 16,000 to 11,000 animals.



This decrease, and competition with wolves over food, contributed to more pumas dying of starvation, especially juveniles.

03: KILLING CATS



In 2007, Wyoming increased puma hunting on public and private lands. This was meant to reduce the perceived and real threats to people and livestock by pumas.

TURNING THE TIDE

To recover pumas, Panthera guided Wyoming to reduce puma hunting in our study area by 75% over the course of the study.

We also recommend:



Additional reductions in puma hunting in areas where wolves are rebounding and redistribution of elk on the landscape.



That entire ecosystems are considered when wildlife management decisions are made.

Illustrations by Mark Elbroch/Panthera
Images by Mark Elbroch/Panthera, Steve Winter/Panthera



Visit panthera.org to learn more about conserving pumas.