

TX 106 Gives Birth



Kitten of TX106

Texas cougar 106 gave birth to 2 female kittens early in June on the Picayune Strand State Forest. She is one of 8 original female Texas cougars released in 1995 for the genetic restoration program. We handled the healthy kittens, took biomedical samples and inserted small microchips (transponders) under the skin for positive identification at a later date. They weighed 2.3 and 2.5 pounds respectively. Expect to see updates about these kittens in future Genetic Restoration Progress Reports.

This is TX 106's third litter. Her first litter, in November 1995, produced only one female. Positive sign of this kitten was last confirmed one year later but her present fate is unknown. TX 106's second litter, in February 1998, was comprised of one male kitten. This kitten is presumed dead, possibly killed by male panther #60.

To date, 17 F1 kittens have been produced by 5 TX cougars. Of these, 7 have been collared, 5 are currently too young to be collared, and 5 have fates unknown.



Dr. Noble examines one of TX106's kittens