

Lively Lynx

The medium-sized Canadian lynx, also known as Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), has a population of less than 10,000. It is found in Alaska, Canada, and northernmost parts of the United States. Long, dense fur, triangular ears with black tufts at its tips, and large, snowshoe-like feet are some of its distinguishing features. Canada lynx are between 11 and 37 pounds and 48-56 cm (19-22 in) height at the shoulder. Lynx are proficient climbers and swimmers. Robert Kerr published the first account of Canada lynx in 1792. Although three subspecies have been proposed, it is generally believed that this species is monotypic.

Canada Lynx are a very unique species. It's very similar to the bobcat, but you can tell the difference in its tail. Lynx are completely black tipped, and bobcats have a white ring below it. Lynx are also over twice the size of a house cat! This may surprise you, but the black tufts on lynx's ears actually enhance hearing! When you look at them, they look more like they're just for show. If you were to look at a picture of a lynx, 1st thing you would notice is their giant feet. Why are they so big? They act as natural snowshoes, keeping them from sinking into snow. I bet you're wondering, why is are Canada Lynx threatened?

Canada Lynx was listed as threatened in 2000. The habitat of Canada Lynx has been becoming smaller and smaller from logging and urbanization. It is also because of overtrapping, however currently you need a special license to kill a lynx. There are other reasons too, like lynx being run over, but habitat loss and hunting are the main reasons. It kinda seems like we are helpless when it comes to endangered animals. But there are ways we can help.

There isn't very much information about how to save Canada Lynx. But there are a few things we can do. This won't apply to most of you reading this, but drive extra carefully. An animal's biggest obstacle is roads, especially busier ones, like highways. Make sure not to run over anything or anyone. Never purchase products made from threatened or endangered species. The more you support people who kill threatened and endangered species, the more motivation they have to continue. Protect wildlife habitats. The easiest way to do this is to do your research on what things are made of. For example, don't buy a table if it's made from wood from rainforest. Always remember, harassing, shooting, trapping, or forcing a threatened or endangered animal into captivity is cruel and illegal. They are living things too, and don't deserve to be harrassed.

In conclusion, Canada Lynx are unique, and threatened species. They should be saved because they are important for regulating animal populations, specifically the population of their prey. So do your part to save the Lynx, by driving safely, purchasing products friendly to the animal, and never, ever be cruel to wildlife.

Resources:

"Canada Lynx." *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*,

www.fws.gov/species/canada-lynx-lynx-canadensis?aggregated_published_date=%7B%22from%22:null,%22to%22:%222023-05-13T04:59:59.999Z%22%7D.

"Canada Lynx." *Endangered Species Coalition* , 2020,
www.endangered.org/animals/canada-lynx/#:~:text=Canada%20lynx%20numbers%20have%20declined,construction%2C%20recreational%20developments%20and%20urbanization.

"Cottage Life." *15 reasons the Canada lynx is such an amazing animal*, 2023,
cottagelife.com/outdoors/15-reasons-the-canada-lynx-is-such-amazing-animal/.