

[Officially extinct: North Carolina cougars are long gone](#) January 31, 2018

Greensboro News & Record

... N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission ... says: "Early records of North Carolina mammals indicate that the Eastern cougar's populations declined throughout the 18th century as a result of persecution, hunting, loss of habitat and the parallel decline of its major prey species, the white-tailed deer. It is thought that by 1900, the Eastern cougar was extirpated throughout North Carolina." ..,