

City of Vacaville

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MOUNTAIN LION SIGHTED IN LAGOON VALLEY PARK

An expert survival instructor with the United States Air Force has reported seeing a mountain lion at Lagoon Valley Park during a recent exercise with Solano County officials, according to Air Force Chief of Safety Lt. Col. Jeff Cooper

“One of our survival guys was doing a search and rescue exercise with County officials, and he saw it watching some hikers,” Cooper said.

Police and animal control agencies responded to the report but the mountain lion was not located or sighted.

According to the California Department of Fish and Game, there have been only 16 verified mountain lion attacks on humans in California since 1890, six of which were fatal. The Department of Fish and Game recommends that you should not hike alone and that if you encounter a mountain lion, you should keep children close to you, do not approach or run from a lion, do not crouch or bend over, make yourself appear larger, and fight back if you are attacked. For further information on what to do if you encounter a mountain lion, visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/news/news04/04009.html>.

Over the years mountain lions have been spotted in areas around Vacaville. Anyone hiking or running in the Lagoon Valley area or anywhere else in Vacaville is advised to use caution, stay alert and keep children or pets close by.

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