

3 Longneck Road

Isle of Sheppey

Kent

ME12 200

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you because I would like to draw your attention to some of the issues with keeping large wild cats in captivity and away from their natural surroundings.

Firstly, when these animals are removed from the wild, they may be separated from their natural surroundings and the habitat that is most suited to their needs. Large cats like to roam for miles, search the lands and have plenty of space. When they are locked in cages or in enclosures at the zoo it can have a negative impact on the cat's mental health and well-being. They have been known to pace up and down the side of their enclosures, which is a sign of stress and unhappiness. Most species of wild cat like to live a solitary life, being kept with other cats can also cause discomfort for the animals.

I understand that sometimes these animals are at threat of being hunted, killed in the wild and some are even close to extinction. However, many research shows that once in a zoo or captivity, these animals will never be able to safely return to the wild. They lose their instinct to hunt and become vulnerable and at risk of many threats that they are simply unprepared for. Should it really be our choice about where these fascinating beasts belong?

I know that there are many fair arguments for both sides, but I honestly believe that we should allow these animals to thrive in the wild and in their natural habitats. I urge you to consider my points and will look forward to hearing your response.

Yours Faithfully,

A.Barton

(Nature Specialist)