

March 03, 2009

Collared Jaguar Dies

The jaguar collared by Arizona Game and Fish officials on February 18 was recaptured and euthanized today, according to a <u>press release from the state agency</u>. Veterinarians determined the 16-year-old cat had severe and unrecoverable kidney failure and so put it to sleep.

Officials believe the cat, named Macho B, was the oldest known wild jaguar. He was first spotted in 1996 and estimated to be three years old.

The <u>Center for Biological Diversity</u> said that at least three other jaguars have been seen in the U.S. since 1996. The organization will be in court in Tucson on March 23 for a lawsuit it has filed against the government for lack of a recovery plan and critical habitat for the jaguar.

Officials will perform a necropsy to learn more about Macho B's condition.