

Egghead Syringia North breeds 1st ever wougar

BY MAURY CATCH
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In a feat of scientific cunning unrivaled since the discovery of DNA, researchers at Egghead Syringia North have successfully mated a male wolf with a female cougar, giving birth to the world's first wougar.

Erik Egghead, president of Egghead Syringia North, said his researchers decided to cross-breed a wolf and a cougar after learning about ligers in the movie *Napoleon Dynamite*.

"Plus, wolves and cougars just aren't divisive anymore," he said. "The wougar is not only an ungulate-killing machine, but he's adorable with his mixture of puppyish affability and kitten-like mischief. He's sure to be the country's most controversial predator."

Researchers say the male wougar — half feline, half canine — purrs at the moon, prefers tuna-flavored dog treats and frequently chases itself up trees.

Since the wougar's birth last month,

conservation groups have clamored to protect the animal's native range: a 10-by 12-foot fenced enclosure behind the Egghead Syringia North office in Kelly.

"We think the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has, once again, shirked its federally mandated responsibility by not immediately providing this majestic creature protection under the Endangered Species Act," said Jackson Hole Conservation Association executive director Cranz Famenzind. "After all, this is the first and last remaining wougar in existence."

Egghead said the mother cougar and baby wougar are doing well. Unfortunately, the male wolf suffered some "moderate to severe" puncture wounds and lacerations during the breeding process.

"After a heavy dose of hormones and some anatomical surgery," Egghead said, "wolf M-62 appeared willing, if not eager, to gently woo a female mountain lion. However, like cougars valleywide, F-27 likes it rough."