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## For Immediate Release

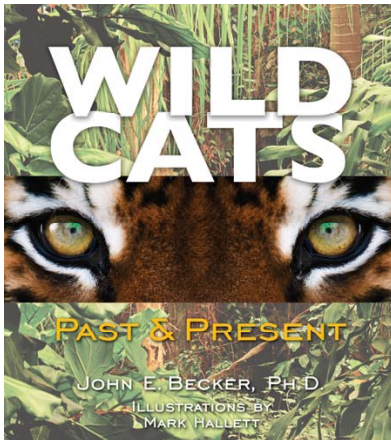
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## Take a Walk on the Wild Side!



Columbus, OH—December 27, 2007—Darby Creek Publishing is living dangerously again as we continue our series of wild animal books with *Wild Cats: Past & Present*; the “purrfect” companion book to *Wild Dogs: Past & Present* and *Pocket Babies and Other Amazing Marsupials*.

So what are you waiting for? Let’s take a walk on the wild side! You’ll meet some of the rarest cats in the world; learn how to “spot” a cheetah, a jaguar, and a leopard; and find out why these fascinating creatures have been worshipped as gods and feared as ravaging monsters for centuries.

All thirty-six species of wild cats make an appearance, as cat expert Dr. John E. Becker shines the spotlight on some of the most amazing creatures on Earth, along with a few of their ferocious ancestors. Categorized by geographic region, Becker shows how felines have adapted to their environment—from the tigers of Siberia to the rare, tiny sand cats that hide in the caves and boroughs of northern Africa.

Yet despite the survival instincts that have kept felines around since the days of the saber-tooth cats, many of these wild cats are among the most endangered animals in the world. As the earth’s population increases, fewer and fewer open spaces remain for wildlife. *Wild Cats: Past & Present* places special emphasis on the ever-shrinking habitat of felines and how conservation groups are working to protect them.

Author, John Becker, is a renowned expert on wild cats. As a writer at the Columbus Zoo, Becker spent time in Africa, the rainforests of Central America, and the Amazon studying cats. He is also a co-founder of the International Society for Endangered Cats where he served as executive director and spent most of his time traveling and talking to people about protecting endangered felines. John is available for interviews and appearances. Please contact the publisher for more information.

**Pub Date: March 2008**

### **Wild Cats: Past & Present**

By John E. Becker, Ph.D.

Hardcover with Jacket

978-1-58196-052-5

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Ages 11 & up

80 Pages

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