

# Entering the World of the Predator

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There are five large wildlife predators remaining in North America that pose a real threat to the typical outdoor enthusiast engaged in hunting, fishing, camping, or just enjoying the great outdoors. These individuals range from families going to state or national parks, a Boy Scout going to camp, or people simply enjoying a nature hike. The five predators in North America are: brown bears, black bears, mountain lions, wolves and alligators.

What makes large wildlife predators so fearful to us is that we are potential prey. Human beings do not like the idea of being consumed by animals. Large predators can attack and kill humans relatively easy, even if an individual is armed with a weapon or other defensive tool. Usually, if an unsuspecting person survives an attack, it is because the predator terminates the aggression. We can do things that might encourage a large predator to stop the attack, but it is ultimately up to them.

North America is home to several species of pit vipers and one type of elapid. These are all venomous snakes and pose a real threat to anyone entering the outdoors. The pit vipers that are native to North America are rattlesnakes, copperheads and water moccasins. The only venomous snake in the elapid family native to North America is the coral snake. The coral snake is related to the Old World cobras, mambas and kraits.

Knowing what to look for to predict an unintended encounter and what

to do if an encounter is inevitable, can indicate the difference between a tragedy and an enjoyable outing. By gaining an understanding of large predators, a life and death situation can be avoided. Animals are very unpredictable, but the biology and ecology of these animals remain fairly constant. If you understand the biology of animals and how they exist in a specific area you can, with relative certainty, predict the way they will act.

There are techniques and skills that the outdoor enthusiast can employ to minimize the risks of a potentially deadly encounter with a large predator. It starts with the knowledge of the probability of an unintended encounter, and knowledge of the animal encountered. It is as straightforward as being prepared and having a plan. Knowing what to look for to predict an unintended encounter, and knowing what to do if an encounter is inevitable, can mean the difference between life and death.

This publication includes:

1. the pertinent biological data to predict and prevent an unintended encounter with dangerous predators;
2. specifics of the techniques on how to prevent an unintended encounter and what to do after an attack of a dangerous predator begins;
3. information to potentially increase the chance of survival of an individual, or at least minimize the extent of the injuries to an individual by a dangerous predator.

There have been greater than usual amounts of attacks on people

by dangerous wildlife predators. There have been numerous black bear and brown bear attacks in the Northwestern United States, mountain lion attacks on the West Coast, and several alligator attacks in the Southeastern United States. This year has been exceptional in the amount of attacks by different types of wildlife predators.

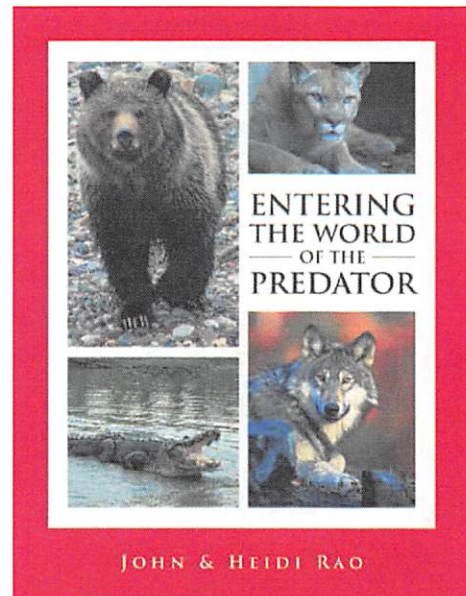
Our new book, *Entering the World of the Predator*, combines biology of the animal and survival techniques for a person who has an unintended encounter with a large wildlife predator. This publication will create interest from anyone entering the field where large wildlife predators are present. We have worked closely with the Boy Scouts of America and this is a topic we are frequently asked to present to groups heading to remote areas where these wildlife predators roam. In our travels to wilderness areas to research this topic, the most frequently asked questions overheard from visitors talking with wildlife or park personnel are how to survive an attack by a bear, mountain lion, etc.

This information is what people are asking for. There are no other publications on the market today that address all of the dangerous predators contained within one book. This research includes the techniques to survive an attack from a black bear, brown bear, mountain lion, wolf, alligator and venomous snakes.

By understanding the environment, habits, and biology of the dangerous animals in the area as well as the techniques that can be used to prevent encounters with predators can greatly reduce the chance of a deadly encounter.



Heidi and John Rao



## Fourth Annual Patrick Williamson Memorial Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot-Out and First Annual Archery Competition



**Saturday, April 12, 2014**

**Wilderness Gun Club, #7 Teurlings Drive  
Lafayette, LA 70501**

This annual event is the sole fundraiser held by the foundation. With no paid staff and no overhead, 100% of proceeds go to the causes and organizations selected by the foundation. The shoot-out consists of 17 stations, 100 targets through both wooded and open areas. The archery competition consists of 10 stations and 30 targets.

Patrick Williamson grew up in Broussard Louisiana and attended St. Cecilia's Elementary and St. Thomas More High School. After studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Patrick served in Operation Enduring Freedom and was killed when his Stryker vehicle hit and improvised explosive device (IED). To honor his memory and serve the community and veterans, Patrick's mother, Sybil Williamson, established the Patrick Williamson Memorial Foundation.

For shoot details go to [www.patrickwilliamson.org](http://www.patrickwilliamson.org)

