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For Immediate Release

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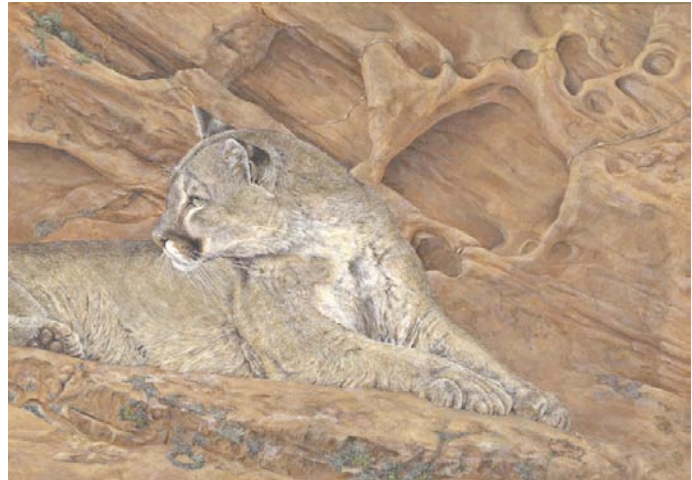
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Peu'tookoop: Great Cat of the Southwest

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Southern Nevada Artist and Naturalist Sharon K. Schafer Heads to Africa – to Explore Maasailand and the Mara Predator Project

Boulder City, Nevada – Renowned Nevada artist and naturalist Sharon K. Schafer, well known for her Mojave Desert themed art, is off to see a different type of desert, the East African Desert. From June 12 - July 2, 2009, she will be on safari in the Maasai Mara of Kenya. Sharon invites the public to join her on this trip by visiting her daily blog from her wilderness camp in east Africa.

It will be Schafer's first time visiting Africa. "As a wildlife biologist and wildlife artist, I have always dreamed of visiting the area. I am looking forward to the challenge of trying to capture and share the essence of the region through my photographs, sketches, and paintings."

Schafer's adventure will take her to Serian Camp set along a secluded valley flanking the Mara River and bordering the Masai Mara National Reserve. During her stay, she will be involved in the Mara Predator Project that is a scientific monitoring study of lion populations in the area. Researchers are trying to better understand lion populations so conservation methods can be applied.

Schafer will be blogging from camp to share her adventures and observations. To catch the blog, visit www.skydance-maasailand.blogspot.com.

Schafer is best known for her love and understanding of the Mojave Desert and its inhabitants and for sharing that passion with others through her paintings, photographs and multimedia presentations that she frequently gives to the public. She will be developing a multimedia program and museum exhibit reflecting her memories and images of exploring Maasailand.