

Informant: Jefferson Tindall, Cherokee
 Interviewed by: J. W. Tyner, 3-28-68
 Transcribed by: Nona M. Kerr

March 28, 1968. We are visiting with Jeff Tindall, 72 year old Cherokee of Oak Grove Community, Adair County, Oklahoma. Mr. Tindall has spent all of his life in Adair County as a farmer, woodsman and hunter. He relates many hunting and wild life stories in his experiences as well as recalling early day events in his life. Mr. Tindall begins this interview telling of wolves that now roam this area.

EARLY DAY OPEN RANGE FOR ANIMALS AND MUCH HUNTING

I can remember there has always been wolves here and a few deer but not like it is now. Well, they got plenty range in this country. All back in there. In fact I know there is bound to be 50 thousand acres or more up there. The man that owns it—he don't care for us hunting there. Not nobody here, now Jim, to hunt much. Way back—well, when I was growin' up everybody like to hunt. Not many people here to hunt now.

(Yeah. I guess you had lots of bobcats then? Do you have any mountain lions yet?)

Well, the last three weeks they been hearin' a strange something, they don't know what it is. I don't think anybody ever seen it. Here last Sunday. I believe it was, a neighbor, his wife and kids were going to church. Had to walk four, five, miles down that canyon. They heard the dogs a hollerin'. He asked me about what it might be. And I didn't know.

STORY: A LITTLE BOY SHOT A PANTHER WITH A SINGLE BARREL SHOTGUN

One of my little school boys not that high shot a panther down here one time. Well, there's a big hollow head of it southwest here, huntin' area they call it. You know there's this hollow in these parts; long, big, and deep, and rugged. And they live right on the top bank of it down there. Kids went to school here and I'd have to go down there and take 'em home in the evening.