



## PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS

### How to photograph through mesh/chain-link fencing:

Recommendations:

**Lens:** 70-200mm (or 75-300 125-300 etc.)

**Aperture:** f/5.6 (or larger if possible.)

**Shutter Speed:** at least 1/200 sec or faster if using a 200mm (minimum shutter speed = 1/focal length.)

**Focus:** Single-Point auto-focus or Manual focus

Auto Focus: (AI-servo mode Canon) (AF-C in Nikon)

**ISO & WB:** Advice given on the day.

When safe to do so, and according to H&S instructions, get as close as you can - ideally with the end of your lens hood touching the fence (For glass protection, we recommend a rubber lens hood or a UV filter/protection filter.) The longer the lens, the more chance you have of getting a clean image when standing back too. Here, at The Big Cat Sanctuary, a 200 mm should suffice.

Focus past the mesh on the Cat by ideally using single-point auto focus. Or try manual focus. This will help ensure that your camera does not focus on the fence instead of the Cat.

Using a large aperture (f/5.6 or larger), zoom in on your subject. Because of this shallow depth of field, the further away the Cats are from the mesh, the softer the fence will become. With the Cat a good distance away from the mesh, the mesh/soft areas will completely disappear. Listen to instruction on when to focus on the cat i.e. focusing on the eyes (at eye level if comfortable) as they walk back towards you.

The smaller mesh has been installed for your safety, when taking photographs within some of the stand-off areas (leopards/Jaguars etc). This can be a challenge for photographers but is achievable. If you need further help with your particular camera settings, please ask on the day. Advice on ISO/WB will be given at each enclosure.