

## **PRIT RECOVERY CRITERIA SUB-TEAM PROBLEM STATEMENT**

**Current panther recovery criteria are strong in probability of persistence and provide for redundancy in population structure; however, several key factors should be addressed in either refinement of existing or creation of new criteria.**

**These are:**

- Population size is difficult to estimate effectively.
- Demographic criteria are incomplete (need more than one, identify most important).
- Geographically pertinent population units need reassessment; Spatial structure of the populations needs to be defined.
- Resiliency, redundancy and representation need to be more clearly considered.
- Alternative pathways to recovery need to be considered.
- Threats-based criteria are inadequate (includes habitat).
- Recovery criteria need to acknowledge uncertainty and be responsive to new information (be adaptive).
- Landscape for recovery (political, actual panther population range, consideration of historical range).

### **DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION:**

**To have approved, objective and measurable recovery criteria that provide multiple pathways to measure recovery success that are recognized as science informed (consider SMART)**

#### **FUNDAMENTAL CRITERIA**

1. 95% probability of persistence over 100 years for the Florida panther (i.e., suitable resilience and redundancy); and
2. Sufficient distribution to provide representation; this would be achieved with two viable populations for down listing and three populations delisting.
  - NOTE: Define “viable” and “population”