

Myakka Skunk Ape

By: Dr. L.Ongolin Date: July 10, 2076

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<I uploaded this article after seeing what I believe is this creature. We were on a run down by the Myakka River when this soggy plant stood up and ran across the road. Our mage never noticed it and his spirit that was on watch never saw it as a threat. It piped my interest so I looked into it and found this.> Southern Rider

Current Territory

The Myakka Skunk Ape is a creature said to inhabit the U.S. states of Florida, North Carolina, and Arkansas, although reports from Florida are most common.

Brief Description

The Myakka Skunk Ape has been described by eyewitnesses to resemble a pile of Spanish moss. One eyewitness thought she was seeing a pile of soggy grass, until she realized it was so symmetrical. She looked closer and saw it was a creature standing very still. Then the nauseous smell assaulted her nose. <They aren't kidding, I saw one of these critters when out hunting gators, they stink. I mean they FRAGGIN Stink!> Lone Poacher



History

Before the awakening there were several sightings of these creatures all along the South. In the 1970's the United States had an uptick of sightings along the Myakka River, along the coastal areas of North and South Carolina, and in the forests and swamps of Arkansas. <Why is it so many of these creatures have been spotted or 'discovered' when there was no magic>

Questioning Cryptid

<It probably has to do with leylines. Even when the earth had 'no' magic, like during the 5th world, there were magical leylines that let mana flow toward the surface. These magical hotspots were not strong during the times, but they could have been tapped into letting some of the lesser magical awakened creatures stay around much longer or come out of dormancy much sooner than others.> Dr. Magik

In the 1980's a woman was driving on the highway driving north out of Florida in a downpour. She said she saw a pile of grass in the road and pulled over. The pile stood up and looked at



her before it took off. She never saw its face due to the long, wet, matted fur covering its entire body.

As of 1998 the United States National Parks Service considered the Myakka Skunk Ape to be nothing more than an elaborate hoax to bring tourism and para-zoologists to the area. <Of course they said the same thing about sasquatch, and look now suckers!> Jonny Not Law

Even with the USNPS declaring the creature a fraud, sightings, photos and even a video continued to come into the different law enforcement offices in the South Eastern United States. Even after the fall of the US, the CAS continued to have sightings.

From the photos and videos of the creature, it is believed that they are a cousin to the Sasquatch. This means, they may be sapient creatures and that is why they are so hard to find.

Post 2011 (Awakening)

It is thought that since the Awakening that the Skunk Ape has grown in population and area. There is still very little to go on for these creatures since, as of this writing, none have ever been caught or killed and reported.

There was one sighting in the CAS where a farmer reported his chickens and apples going missing overnight. That morning there was a horrific smell in the area. Lone Star wrote it off to wolves and local kids, but the farmer swears there were large, almost human like footprints in his orchard.<That's the Star for ya. Never doing their jobs.> Jonny Not Law

There is an estimate that there are at least 20,000 of these creatures in the Southeastern part of North America. There could be more in other parts of the world, but none have been caught anywhere.

Why Interest

Sapient rights groups want this critter to, if it is found to be sapient, bolster their numbers. With no good census on the sapient creatures, it has been nearly impossible for sapient creatures to find homes, or gain citizenship in different countries or corporations.

Seeing none of these creatures have ever been killed or captured, hunter groups try and go out to be the first to bag one of these beings. <I went out on one of these hunts. We saw a lot of signs of them, but no one saw a single creature. I even smelled it once, it was.... gross> Hunter Joe

Finally, scientific communities want to study these possible cousin to the sasquatch to see what the similarities and differences really are. Can they mimic any sound? Can they use language or only sigh? Until one comes out of hiding or is captured, the world may never know.

Possible similar species

It is believed that the Myakka Skunk Ape is an offshoot of the sasquatch. They seem to be in a relatively small area in North America, but as of 2070's there are reports of similar creatures in South America and along all areas that have a rainforest.

Myakka Skunk Ape

B	A	R	S	W	L	I	C	E	Ess	M/R
7	3	4	6	4	2	5	2	4	6	6M

Initiative: 1D6+9

Limits: Physical 8 Mental 4 Social 5

Powers: Concealment, Enhanced senses (Smell, Hearing, Sight), Dual Natured, Sapience, Noxious Breath

Skills: Perception 5, Running 4, Sneaking 9, Athletics Skill Group 3

Myakka Skunk Apes have a +1 reach. Some may have Adept, Magician, or Mystic Adept qualities. Most have gremlins at level 1.

Gamemasters Note: These creatures are Sapient and live in families. They make their homes in the trees and even in the water of the swamps. These creatures have a natural ability to hide. +2D6 to all concealment rolls while in forest or swamp. They are at a -2D6 in urban environments.