

Award winning author Jo Deurbrouck worked as a whitewater raft guide in Idaho for twelve seasons, mostly in Idaho, which bills itself “The Whitewater State” or sometimes “The Wild Rivers State.” She remains a frequent wanderer down the rivers, up the mountains, and through the deserts, forests, and canyons of the West. She has contributed to the *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Paddler Magazine*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Spokesman-Review*, *Post Register* and other publications. She holds a M.A. in English from Boise State University. She lives in Idaho Falls with her husband and two dogs.

A meticulous researcher, Deurbrouck’s work is guided by two beliefs. One is that the most useful, compelling and difficult thing a writer can do is attempt to tell the truth. The other is that a single unnecessary word spoils a sentence.

Her previous nonfiction book, which wears the politically incorrect title, *Stalked by a Mountain Lion: Fear, Fact and the Uncertain Future of Cougars in America*, was a revision of a book she coauthored with journalist Dean Miller. That book had an even more hyperbolic title: *Cat Attacks*. Despite the labeling, both were praised for their meticulous research and thoughtful storytelling by game managers, naturalists, and authors like cougar guru Harley Shaw (*Soul of Lion*) and nature writer David Quammen (*Song of the Dodo* and others).