

^{FW}
ODFW HAS NEVER HELD TO THE LETTER OF THE LAW REGARDING M18 AND INFACIT STARTED KILLING MORE COUGAR THAN BEFORE M18, MAKING IT MORE UNSAFE FOR ALL OREGONIANS AND LIVESTOCK. AS A RESULT OF HUMAN INTERFERENCE, WE HAVE INCREASED COUGAR CONFLICT.

⁴¹¹⁹
~~HB 3119~~

WE ALREADY HAVE A BILL OF VERY HIGH STANDARDS FOR THE HUNTERS ALLOWING THEM TO KILL COUGAR WITH HOUNDS. THEY NEED TO PASS A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK, HAVE NOT ABUSED ANIMALS OR VIOLATED ANY ODFW LAWS. HB 4119 OPENS UP MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR POACHING AND ANIMAL ABUSERS. IS THAT THE KIND OF OREGON WE WANT??

- 55,000 CATTLE DIE EACH YEAR IN OREGON. MOST BY DISEASE AND WEATHER. ONLY 3000 FROM PREDATORS OF WHICH PET DOMESTIC DOGS KILL MORE LIVESTOCK THAN COUGARS AND BOBCAT COMBINED.
 - COUGAR CONFLICTS INCREASED IN 1992 AFTER ODFW INCREASED THE KILLING OF COUGAR.
 - KILLING MORE COUGAR MAKES IT LESS SAFE FOR OREGONIANS AND LIVESTOCK.
- ODFW Dr. Jackson at a public meeting announced ODFW stats show killing more cougar creates more cougar conflict and livestock issues. Killing less cougar creates less cougar conflict issues. This finding is in alignment with all world-wide big cat specialists and biologists.
- IT TOOK APPROXIMATELY 47 YEARS FOR OREGON'S COUGAR POPULATION OF 200 TO REBOUND FROM ODFW'S BAD COUGAR MANAGEMENT PLAN TO A POPULATION OF ABOUT 3000.

Cougar are gone in all but 13 States where their numbers and genetic pools are not healthy.

Oregon's cougar is losing weight and showing genetic signs of stress and social structure breakdown from the overkilling of them via bad policy making, ODFW's flawed Cougar management plan, wrong computer model counts and unchecked poaching.

It was an arbitrary number and not a number based on an accurate count, a sustainable population, or based on science - it was a number picked via politics to start the cougar computer model count. It is a wrong count. We have less cougar than California who have had a decades ban on killing cougar and Washington's cougar population has dropped like a rock due to applying the same hunting policies as Oregon. A good boss is one that can tell the truth. **It is time ODFW start telling the truth because the real boss is the public who owns the land, wildlife, and the money paid to ODFW. BETWEEN THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT, THE**

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ODFW, WE HAVE MORE BILLS TO

KILL COUGAR THAN SUSTAIN THEM AND WE ALREADY HAVE A BILL ALLOWING HUNTERS TO USE HOUNDS TO KILL COUGAR. WE DON'T NEED ANOTHER.

- **CATTLE OPERATIONS ARE COMPENSATED IN MANY WAYS SUCH AS TAX BREAKS, RENTING PUBLIC LAND AT \$1.65 A HEAD A YEAR, AND COMPENSATION FOR PREDATOR KILLS OFTEN DONE BY COYOTE AND NOT COUGAR OR WOLVES.**
- **LOSS OF INCOME TO OREGON BY POACHERS ARE IN THE MILLIONS ACCORDING TO OREGON STATE POLICE STATS.**
- **COUGARS (AND WOLVES) GENERATE MORE INCOME FROM WILDLIFE WATCHERS THAN HUNTING THEM BRINGS IN ACCORDING TO STATS ACCUMULATED AT ODFW AND OREGON'S TRAVELING STATS AND FEDERAL STATS. WILDLIFE WATCHERS EXCEED INCOME TO OREGON BY MILLIONS OVER WHAT HUNTING BRINGS IN. PLEASE SEE STATS AT: <http://orecat.org/LICENSETOPROTECT.aspx>**

COUGAR ECONOMICS OR "LICENSE TO PROTECT" IS A BETTER WAY TO MANAGE OREGON'S COUGAR (AND WOLVES) AND BRING IN A MORE SUSTAINABLE INCOME TO RURAL OREGONIANS. But most of all License To Protect gives every Oregonian an opportunity to be an overseer to our great natural predators and connects every Oregonian to good land ethics. PLEASE SEE THE WORLDWIDE SUPPORT FOR LICENSE TO PROTECT AT: <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/Saving-Wolf-Saving-Cougar-Oregons-Last-Stand/> THESE ARE THE FOLKS THAT COME TO OREGON AS TOURISTS AND THE FOLKS IN OREGON BENEFITING FROM THEM.

PLEASE DO NOT VOTE IN HB ⁴¹¹⁹~~3119~~, IT DOES NOT HAVE THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OR SAFETY FACTORS OREGONIANS DESERVE. PLEASE INSTEAD SUPPORT LICENSE TO PROTECT TO BECOME THE LAW IN OREGON.

THE VOTERS VOICE HAS VOTED AND YET DURING A SHORT LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND AMONG OREGON'S FINANCIAL CRISIS, RURAL SCHOOL FUNDING ISSUES, AND FLOODING ISSUES; ANOTHER FRIVOLOUS COUGAR BILL TAKES TIME AND MONEY AWAY FROM THESE PRESSING MATTERS. ANY BILL DIRECTED AT KILLING COUGAR AND ESPECIALLY KILLING COUGAR WITH HOUNDS IS A DIRECT SLAP IN THE FACE TO THE PUBLIC.

Teddy Roosevelt stated:

- "Defenders of the short-sighted men who in their greed and selfishness will, if permitted, rob our country of half its charm by their reckless extermination of all useful and beautiful wild things sometimes seek to champion them by saying the 'the game belongs to the people.' So it does; and not merely to the people now alive, but to the unborn people. The 'greatest good for the greatest number' applies to the number within the womb of time, compared to which those now alive form but an insignificant fraction. Our duty to the whole, including the unborn generations, bids us restrain an unprincipled present-day minority from wasting the heritage of these unborn generations. The movement for the conservation of wild life and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose, and method."

**THE VOTERS HAVE WISELY VOTED.
DO NOT SUPPORT HB ⁴¹¹⁹~~3119~~ OR ANY
KILLING BILL WITH REGARD TO
COUGAR.**