



Oregon Bow Hunters

Dear Senator's

I want to voice our support for HB 2624. There are over 30,000 people that enjoy hunting with a bow every year in Oregon. As V.P. of Oregon Bow Hunters our membership would like to see sound predator management tools returned to ODFW. ODFW has not fabricated cougar population numbers, 6,000 cougar we feel this is a low number. ODFW management objective for cougar is 3,000. At 6,000 cougar will kill 360,000 deer and elk a year.

The State of Oregon in 2011 only met Management Objectives for Deer and Elk in two Units. Deer and Elk numbers have been on a decline as a result of the Passage of measure 18 in 1994. In 2003 total Cougar harvest was 248 cats, the harvest has increased ever year. In 2012 harvest was close to 600 cats. Simple proof Cougar are on a steady increase in Oregon.

My family spends over 800 dollars a year on Oregon hunting tags and license Fees. These fees coupled with excise tax on arrow, ammo and gun

go to Fund sound science based game management in this state. Now ODFW is using over 600,000 dollars to remove cougar with the use of dogs to restore deer and elk in game units throughout the state. Our membership would gladly pay to have the opportunity restored to them to hunt with dogs to achieve the same goal. This is where we feel that the Oregon Government in 1994 failed every hunting base conservation group and ODFW. By allowing the Portland voting public to dictate game management issues rather than ODFW. ODFW has repeatedly asked to have all management tools returned to them for Predator management.. Fact: If one of the three Portland counties had not been counted in 1994, measure 18 would have failed by 35% of the vote. Please do not allow the effort to Be blocked..

Thank you for you time..

Wayne Endicott V.P. Oregon Bow Hunters