

From: [Sue Adams](#)
To: [Exhibits HNR](#)
Subject: Comment on HB 3118
Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:09:31 PM

April 2, 2019

Representative Brad Witt, Chair
House Committee on Natural Resources
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Re: HB 3118 Opposition

Dear Chair Witt and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide writer comment opposing HB 3118, which allows the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to appoint agents for the purposes of cougar management.

HB 3118 clearly thwarts the will of the voters of Oregon who have voted twice to provide protections from hounding of cougars through Measure 18. Integral to this measure is the goal of a thoughtful and scientific approach to cougar management involving informed and professional biological expertise.

I believe in a scientific and logical approach to control of dangerous or nuisance wildlife. Mature adult cougars are important in controlling the behavior of younger cougars and mitigating conflicts with humans and domestic animals.

Appointing “agents” to hunt cougars with dogs is counter-productive to the scientific management of cougars. In addition, I feel that the numbers of cougars are insufficient to support additional hunting. Oregon already allows excessive trophy hunting of cougars, with 2,600 cougars taken between 2007 and 2016.

And last, hounding is cruel, unsporting and unnecessary.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Sue Adams

Portland, Oregon

Born and raised in Douglas County, Oregon