

Submitter: Brandon Roe  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB769

I believe, as a resident of Oregon for 23 years, that it is important for the people of Oregon to decide, by county, what management practices within that county provide sustainable practices for mammals such as mountain lion. Mountain lion are a resource for both humans and animals, they play an important roll in the ecosystem just as deer, elk, bear, turkey, coyotes etc. so I believe they needed to be managed in accordance to their population. In many counties on the western side of this beautiful state, mountain lion numbers are very close to or above carrying capacity and in turn are affecting ungulates. This is not a science and research backed statement, it is a statement made from observation of time in the field from hunters and ranchers alike. Their insight to the wildlife over 20-50 years in some cases has seen the influx of predators like mountain lions and the decrease of ungulates coinciding. Many, including myself, have regarded the instance of loosing the ability to pursue mountain lion with the aid of hounds as one of many instances where we have lost the ability to help counteract the increase of predation on ungulates, specifically by mountain lions. If we, by county, could retain the ability on how to manage mountain lions, I believe residents as a whole would be in favor of and in support of ODFW actions knowing their voices were heard. The rural parts of Oregon, those in which feel are more on the front lines of the battle with predators like mountain lions, would be heard, valued, and have the ability to have a voice for their part of the state. Giving individual counties of Oregon the tool to manage mountain lions in a way they see fit, is a win for all Oregonians.