

Re: Support for SB 769 – Local Cougar Management with ODFW Oversight

My name is Dean Pollman and I own a 14,000 acre ranch in Grant County. I've owned it for five years. We have cameras throughout our property and we see lots of cougars on cameras but have never seen one when we ride around and walk and hunt. As you know, cougars are very stealthy. When I first got to the ranch we had approximately 300 head of deer and the estimates are now closer to 100. The ranch across the street is a recreational hunting ranch and also has cameras – they see cougars all the time but have never visually spotted one. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife did a fawn study three years ago where mortality of fawns was 51-52% killed by coyotes, with the rest killed by other predators and a fawn survival rate of about 21%. It doesn't take a scientist to figure this out – you have the information, use it. The only way you are able to control the cougars is with hounds. Please let the counties do the voting on cougar control.

Sincerely,

Dean Pollman  
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