

Submitter: Mary Anne Ericson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB769

I stand in opposition to any expansion of trophy hunting of Oregon's cougars, including by the use of dogs.

Hounding would likely increase livestock predation by cougars because it would further disrupt cougars' social structure. As with most predators, when you disrupt their social structure by killing key animals, this leads to more rather than less conflict with livestock, people, and pets.

I have followed the controversy over hounding in Wisconsin and have heard testimony from many citizens about what a nightmare it is: how hounds often trespass on private land disturb and kill non-target wildlife.

This bill panders to a small special interest group in Oregon at the expense of the majority and of our native wildlife. I urge you not to move forward with this inhumane and undemocratic bill.