



Cats Aren't Trophies

Protecting Colorado's mountain lions, bobcats & lynx

CATs is a diverse statewide coalition seeking a ballot measure to ban trophy hunting of mountain lions and fur trapping of bobcats in Colorado. Lynx are included as a rare wild cat species of Colorado because they can get injured and killed in baited bobcat traps.

Trophy hunting of mountain lions and bobcats is cruel and unsporting — a highly commercial, high-tech head-hunting exercise that doesn't produce edible meat or sound wildlife management outcomes, but only orphaned cubs and social chaos among the surviving big cats.

Greetings from the frontlines of the CATs campaign!



We are thrilled you've signed up to help ban the trophy hunting of mountain lions and the trapping of bobcats in Colorado. You are essential to ensuring the ballot measure's success.

We will use CATs newsletters to provide critical updates and opportunities to volunteer as we move toward the November 2024 vote.

Starting next month, we will begin to offer webinars, trainings, and materials for you to engage. Until then, thank you for helping this ballot measure move along as smoothly as a mountain lion's purr.

The Grand Kickoff was a success



CATs spokesman Mark Surls prepares to speak at a public lands rally in Denver last month.

CATs members have been working hard behind the scenes for months to make sure trophy hunting special interest groups did not catch wind of what was coming ... and we wildly succeeded.

As the trophy hunting lobby, backed by the deep pockets of the NRA, scrambled to respond to our state ballot measure filing, the CATs campaign kicked off with an opinion piece by three of our members: Pat Craig of The Wild Animal Sanctuary; Christine Capaldo, a veterinarian in Southwest Colorado; and Dave Ruane, a fair-chase hunter. We are pleased to share that we were published in newspapers across the state including Denver, Greeley, Longmont, Fort Morgan, Boulder, Erie and Lafayette. This insightful and thoughtful piece was followed by favorable news articles that were published in newspapers in Denver and in Grand Junction. You can read them all on our website on our [Press page](#).

CATs also has a social media presence on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and we encourage you to share, follow and support our posts across the state, the country, and with friends and family.

We Are Hearing You

We want to thank you for signing up, and we are thrilled to be getting such a terrific response from Coloradans across the state.

NEXT STEPS

1

Volunteer Training

November 2023. We will be reaching out in November with dates and times for virtual training.

2

Signature Gathering

January 2024. We plan to start gathering signatures in January and will need all hands on deck to ensure our measure makes the ballot.

3

Share your CAT Stories

CATs wants to hear about your positive personal stories about mountain lions, bobcats and lynx, as well as see your photographs and videos and share them on our website and social media:
julie@catsarenttrophies.org.



With our collective knowledge and experience, we must show Colorado that big changes are needed at the ballot to protect mountain lions and bobcats from cruel and unethical "hunts" in Colorado.

Thank you!

OCTOBER SPOTLIGHT Jabez W. (Bill) Churchill



"Regarding mountain lions, bobcats, wolves, and other species identified as principal predators, like the buffalo, of whom the Lakota once said 'numbered more than the stars,' they haven't now, for a long time. Hopefully, the subculture of trophy hunting will make themselves extinct before their trophies."

— Words spoken by poet laureate Jabez W. Churchill, participant (Sundancer) in Lakota ceremony in Colorado, who is known to run into mountain lions while gathering bear root and spring water in remote places without much human presence. "To feel welcome there is very special," Bill told the CATs campaign



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