



Dear {{FirstName or "Friend of Cats Aren't Trophies"}},

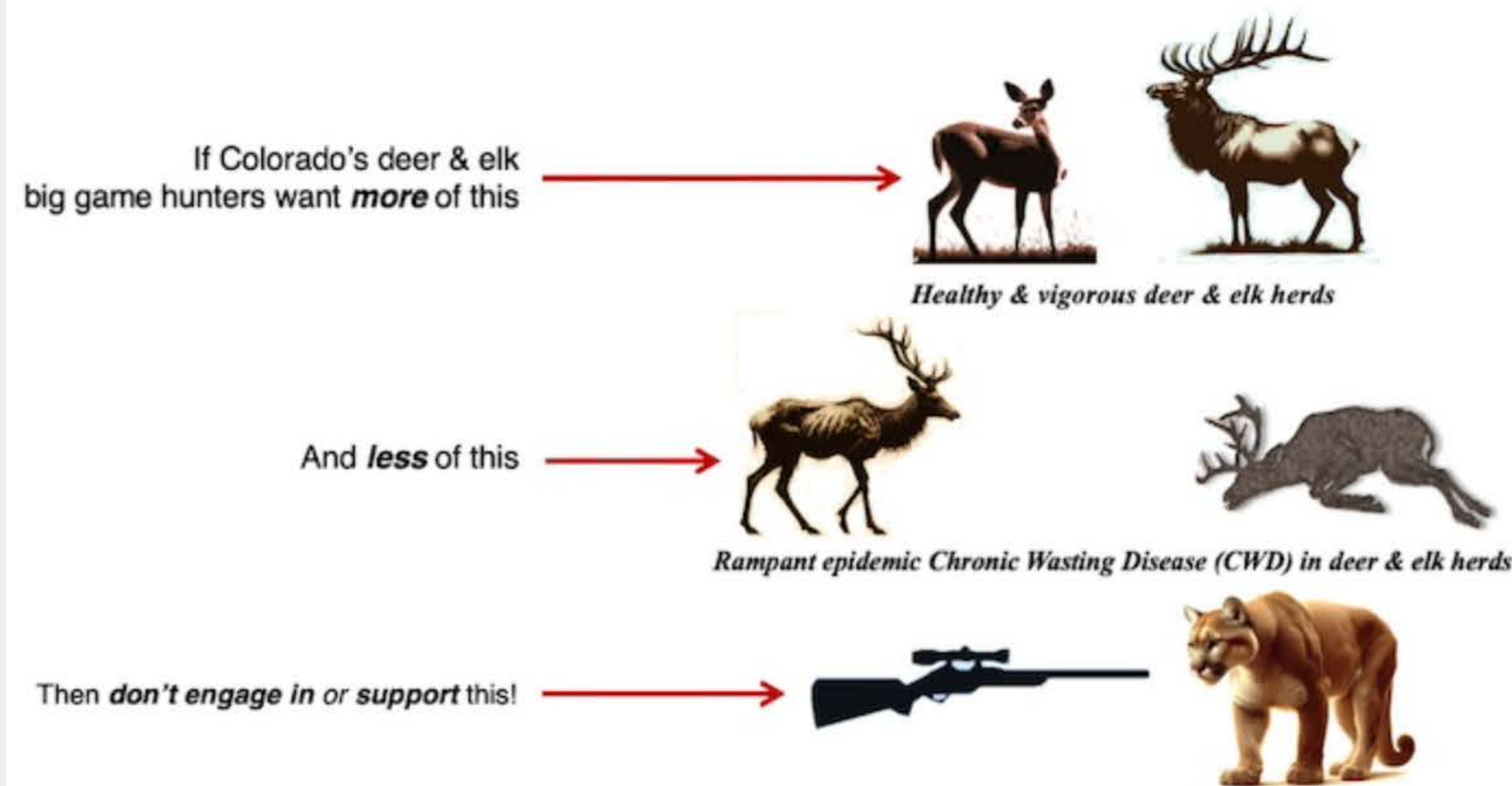
This week, *Cats Aren't Trophies* held a successful [press conference](#) to alert voters to the remarkable role that mountain lions play in curbing the spread of a deadly brain-wasting disease threatening the long-term viability of deer and elk populations in Colorado.

We highlighted a [new report](#) by **Dr. Jim Keen, DVM, PhD**, that showcases the unique, and critical role of mountain lions in combatting the current epidemic of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) now infecting 60% of our deer, moose and elk herds of Colorado.

Dr. Keen and a stellar panel did an incredible job expressing how mountain lions — and bobcats too — are nature's best check against the spread of the brain-wasting disease that has no cure and is always fatal.

And the big message of the day was not lost on anyone:

As apex predators, mountain lions are not dispensable targets for trophy hunters to collect their heads and hides. Neither are bobcats, who equally are designed by nature to stop the spread of disease.



Please donate today!

The new report, ["Big Cats as Nature's Check Against Disease,"](#) explains in clear terms how CWD threatens the health of our wildlife and our forests, along with deer and elk hunting in our state.

As Dr. Keen said so well: "Mountain lions are a best friend to the deer and elk hunter."

It's true. Consider that CWD is currently infecting [42 out of 51 deer herds](#) and 17 of 42 elk herds in the state. CWD is not only poses a great risk to deer and elk hunters and their families, but it also poses a massive economic threat to state agencies and rural economies that depend on deer and elk hunting revenue. Public health officials advise against consuming deer or elk meat from CWD-infected animals because of its potential to infect humans.

Panelist **Dr. Thomas Pool, DVM, MPH, Dipl. ACVPM**, whose peer-reviewed publications include infectious disease intersecting with public health, explained that "Ending trophy hunting of mountain lions in Colorado is critical to maintaining the billion-dollar deer and elk hunting and wildlife watching economies across Colorado."

The press conference also featured **Dr. Elaine Leslie, Ph.D.**, a wildlife biologist in Durango and former chief of biological services for the National Park Service, and **Delia Malone, a working field ecologist on Colorado's West Slope.**

Our serious-minded campaign continues to get out facts from the top scientific experts in the field to the voters of Colorado, but we cannot do it without serious financial support.

We only have a matter of weeks, and the election is just 74 days away.

By protecting lions, we also protect their prey from the spread of a terrible disease that produces "zombie" deer and elk. If we protect mountain lions, bobcats and lynx, we protect other animals throughout Colorado's ecosystems.

Trophy hunting and fur trapping are not conserving anything except cruel methods of killing valuable wildlife for personal, selfish profit.

Invest in the future of Colorado's wild cats and the ecosystems they protect. **Please give generously, we are running out of time to save thousands of these CATs. Today.**

[Watch coverage of our press conference at CBS Colorado here.](#)

You can [watch a recording of the press conference here.](#)

And read the report here: ["Big Cats as Nature's Check Against Disease"](#)

Please donate generously today.

Our campaign can put an end to this cruelty to wild cats, but we need your help to get the word out to millions of voters.

Will you donate today to help our organization fight for bobcats, mountain lions and other animals?

Please donate today!



For the cats,
Samantha Miller
Cats Aren't Trophies, Campaign Manager