



Dear Friend,

A Utah outfitter of a mountain lion trophy hunt was ordered to report this week to the Federal Correctional Complex in Florence, Colo., to start a two-month sentence for rigged mountain lion hunts.

Wade Lemon admitted that he called in clients to shoot mountain lions—but only after the mountain lions had been tracked by dogs, located, and held in what amounts to a canned hunt.

That's about the same picture of what is happening right now in Colorado. But rather than appeal to a judge, we can appeal to 4.5 million Coloradans to put a stop to the entire, ugly, scandalous practice by voting YES on Prop 127.

Trophy hunting outfitters in Colorado also use dogs with GPS collars to tree cats and hold the mountain lions until the shooter arrives.

A prime example was Derek Wolfe, a former Denver Bronco, who admitted he had to travel a mile to even find the “hunting party” where a cat was held at least an hour for him to shoot.

Like his counterparts in Colorado, Lemon specialized in big game hunts for bear and cougars, and he [boasted on his website](#) of a “nearly 100%” success rate for his mountain lion hunts. Lemon would charge between \$5,000 and \$7,000 for cougar hunts, according to prosecutors.

In Colorado, we know that outfitters do the exact same things:

- Charge upwards of \$8,000 for a head.
- Guarantee almost 100% success.

This outfitter in Utah says he wants to fight a higher-profile felony charge from an earlier hunt in which Donald Trump Jr. killed a bear and mountain lion. That hunt was part of the inauguration of a political group called Hunter Nation. The outfitter is charged with using a pile of grain, oil, and pastries to lure in the poor bear that Trump Jr. then shot.

Dogs also had located and trapped a mountain lion, which had crouched in a small cave for hours before the client was called out, court documents said.

Beth and Merritt Clifton at Animals 24-7 are right to call this guy “the international godfather of unethical hunting.”

But Lemon is not any different from Colorado outfitters of mountain lion hunts, or fur trappers, because they all make a profit, personally, from an industry grounded on unsporting conduct and sheer cruelty.

This is just one more reminder that mountain lion trophy hunts and fur trapping of bobcats are bad for Colorado.

We know that trophy hunting produces orphaned kittens, given that 47% of all lions killed for trophies are females. Cats can breed at any time of the year, and the kittens and juveniles stay with their moms for 18 months for a reason.

Baited cages set across the wild are indiscriminate. We've seen fur trappers shaking out an injured and traumatized eagle from one of their baited cages.

There is no concern for the suffering of animals in an activity centered around killing majestic creatures for their heads and doing it with the crudest and more unsporting tools. What's next for Colorado? Legalizing the running down of wolves with snowmobiles to crush them, or to resume spring bear hunting, or to allow baiting of waterfowl?

Colorado must win this battle not just for wildlife. It must make a statement against cruelty to animals in its ugliest expressions.

There is too much at stake, and we must not lose.

Please donate generously today.

The cats are looking to you for help. You are their only chance to avoid this ritualized cruelty, starting every November and running for a third of an entire year. And it will persist for years unless we seize this opportunity and win the vote on the first Tuesday in November.

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

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