



*Dear Friend of Cats Aren't Trophies,*

With less than 45 days until the first ballots are mailed out to Colorado voters, the powerful trophy hunting lobby has reached into its deep pockets to launch a massive misinformation campaign against our ballot measure that would prohibit trophy hunting and fur trapping of mountain lions, bobcats, and Canada Lynx.

Our opposition is led by the head of the Colorado Predator Hunters and Fur Trappers Association, although he operates under the guise of a front group called “Coloradans for Responsible Wildlife Management” and “Colorado’s Wildlife Deserves Better.” But, make no mistake, he’s a trophy hunter and fur trapper, and he’s getting funding for his disinformation campaign from Safari Club International and people and organizations of that same ilk.

These wildlife thrill-killers have the gall to deny they kill the animals for their heads and beautiful fur coats.

They ask us to forget that they sell the furs of bobcats to the highest bidders, mainly to fur buyers in China. And they will say the darndest things to get to keep their “trophies.” They say that it’s not trophy hunting, even though their entire culture is built around taxidermy of the animals they kill, taking pictures of their “trophy Toms,” and entering the animals into the trophy hunting record books where they can.

They are running from trophy hunting and hound hunting because they know they can’t win if the public understands who they are. For these guys, it’s all about an “extreme makeover” before the ballots are cast by Coloradans.

They know 88% of Coloradans oppose killing lions with packs of hounds. They know 77% disapprove of trophy hunting of lions.

Like Teddy Roosevelt noted well over a century ago, “No American beast has been the subject of so much loose writing or of such wild fables as the cougar.”

It’s so easy to show what they are truly all about. A simple Google search of Colorado outfitters reveals that unethical wealthy trophy hunters will pay big bucks to watch an outfitter send out the hounds to trap a cat up a tree, then walk up and shoot the terrified animal from a close range when it has no chance of escape.

This is cruelty. Plain and simple.

The real-life testimonials of mountain lion trophy hunters say it all: “It was my bucket list, a dream hunt ... I kill lions because they kill deer that I like to hunt...” and it goes on and on.

Right now, media is sharing their fake voice, suggesting a need to tree lions, in order to see if they are female. Allegedly this is so hound hunters will not kill female mountain lions, but state data shows that 47% of lions trophy hunted last season were female! Females are shot because they just don’t care if they kill males or females. It doesn’t matter to them that they are orphaning cubs when they shoot a mother with kittens in her den.

When you watch the videos of this so-called hunt, you will see emaciated dogs, bone-thin, chasing and attacking any lion that survives the fall off the tree limb after a trophy hunter takes their shot. Bloody battles ensue. Dogs get hurt and the lion always dies.

Decades ago, the citizens of Colorado passed a ballot measure to stop the use of hounds in black bear hunts with a 70% majority vote. Today, we know even more about the sentience of wild animals and have made strides in enforcing anti-cruelty laws for domestic dogs. If it’s wrong to hound bears and shoot them out of trees, it’s wrong to do that exact same type of hunting focused on lions and bobcats.

This issue deserves and demands your sense of URGENCY.

This is the first ballot measure to protect wildlife in a generation. And it’s the first one ever in Colorado to halt cruelty to native wild cats. By winning this vote, we can spare wild cats the torment and the cruelty of these high-tech hound hunts..

Please dig deep so that we can win. Don’t allow the trophy hunters and fur trappers to pull a fast one on voters and trick the electorate with their “extreme makeover” on the eve of the election.

Please donate generously today. The cats are looking to you for help. You are their only chance to avoid this cruelty starting in late November and that 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*