



HB 1258 would eliminate an archaic “hunting mandate” in Colorado statute

Dear Friend of Cats Aren't Trophies,

During the debate over Prop 127, not one Colorado voter we met on the ground said they approve of fur trapping bobcats with smelly bait, just to execute these poor, confined, and frightened animals in traps, then ship their fur off to make coats in China.

This is because fur trapping of bobcats is cruel and totally unneeded for any legitimate purpose. It also has nothing to do with “management.”

No one fur traps to manage the species. Heck, the state has no idea how many bobcats live in the state. And it has no target number for taking them. It's just a free-for-all kill scheme with no rhyme or reason.

It is not sport.

And no one kills bobcats to eat them. Eating a bobcat is like eating a Maine Coon or a Norwegian Forest Cat.

There is nothing to admire or respect in fur trapping for profit. In fact, voters banned that practice, with steel-jawed leghold traps and snares, more than a quarter century ago! Prop 127 was just every so slightly building on what the original voter initiative on trapping intended.

This is precisely why we need to pass HB 1258, because it amends an archaic “trapping mandate” in Colorado statute and refocuses Colorado Parks and Wildlife on handling wildlife policy issues by keeping in mind the values of the entire Colorado electorate and the workings of ecological systems.

It puts science and ethics into 21st-century “wildlife management.”

On March 6, the House Agriculture Committee will have a public hearing. We need CATs supporters to weigh in and let committee members, and all lawmakers, know how you feel about aligning state policies with the values of all Coloradans.

There's no time to waste.

Because trophy hunting and commercial trapping special interests are playing their tricks again. Most of their letters are coming from a California group called HOWL that makes up names and sends in fraudulent letters to lawmakers, pretending that they are writing in as real Colorado hunters. This group has been exposed in the past, but it continues this unethical scheme.

Rep. Tammy Story's bill frees CPW from an unscientific mandate, for all of us -- the six million Coloradans who recreate by hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife watching, climbing, snowshoeing, horse riding, and more and who understand we must have balance and humane treatment.

This hunting mandate language in current law rigs the system in favor of one user group. All Coloradans have a stake in wildlife policy.

Today, please use this legislative contact tool to tell committee members that they must support HB 1258.

We are better together.

Please donate to protect Colorado's native cats!

For the cats,
Julie Marshall
Communications Director