



CATs is not going anywhere. Our native cats need us

Dear Friend of Cats Aren't Trophies,

Today I want to confirm that CATs is not going anywhere. Our website is still up, our resolve is firm, and our roadmap is set. We want to end the highly commercialized trophy hunting and commercial trapping of our native cats.

I want to start by extending my deepest appreciation to every single CATs member and acknowledge the past year of intensely hard work together. We formed not just a political committee, but a movement!

I was at the CATs den we call headquarters in Boulder last weekend, and people on the street were coming up to me to express sorrow that we lost and to ask how they can help move our work forward.

This is inspiring! A true Army of the Kind, as my hero Cleveland Amory coined the phrase.

If Cleveland airlifted burros out of the Grand Canyon, away from sharpshooters, we can indeed protect cats from ruthless shooters who wait until they are trapped in trees after being attacked by packs of dogs. And we can save bobcats from killers, too.

Dozens of CATs Advocates Attend CPW Meeting

On Friday, about 40 CATs volunteers attended CPW's meeting, where they spoke eloquently and from the heart to let our commissioners know we are not going anywhere and will continue to exercise our democratic freedoms to responsibly protect our wildlife. Because cats are not the private property of trophy hunters and fur trappers.

We expressed our disapproval in hounding, as that flouts CPW's own fair chase policy, given that Colorado trophy hunting guides are paid \$8,500 to send dog packs out first to contain a mountain lion in a tree for shooting like fish in a barrel. The shooter is not part of the hunt and follows behind just to shoot the animal who has nowhere to go. And that it is a guaranteed kill.

Commissioner Dr. Karen Bailey, an ecologist, stated on record Friday that she heard us.

The commissioner is interested in investigating this further, noting that holding a cat in a tree with dogs, waiting for the shooter to catch up, would indeed violate CPW's own policy.

The commissioners also heard from a former CPW, their own former carnivore manager, that hunting is not necessary for "population control" because lions are self-regulating. This confirms, even from

an opponent of our reform, that mountain lions do not need this annual assault that results in 500 adults dead, and countless kittens orphaned.

CATs will continue to press CPW to invest more heavily in allowing mountain lions to fulfill their proven role as ecosystem engineers, who boost the health of deer herds and whole ecosystems. We will also note that hounding and orphaning of lions are unacceptable outcomes from the highly commercialized, unsporting trophy hunts that are now conducted — and that have nothing to do with proper management of lions or bobcats.

Please donate to protect Colorado's native cats!

For the cats,
Julie Marshall
Communications Director