

Please Speak Out at January CPW Meeting to protect Colorado wildlife

Dear Friend of Cats Aren't Trophies,

I have some amazing news to show how we are growing our multimedia footprint.

Or shall I say pawprint.

Tomorrow, as you brew your morning coffee, please tune into KGNU public radio to hear our new podcast at 8 a.m. titled:

Wildlife First: Where we put wildlife above politics and ignore all the noise.

It airs on the Morning Magazine show. You can find out how best to access it here: Ways to Listen – KGNU Community Radio

The topic: Fur trapping. The message: Time to end it.

It's a compelling show, precisely because one of our opponents to Prop 127 had reached out to me as a CAT, to say that he does not like fur trapping and wants our Colorado Parks and Wildlife commissioners to abandon this activity that is cruel and serves no purpose for wildlife, or for Colorado.

This resonates with me, as our work today, at this moment, is to compel the commissioners to choose wisely for wildlife, and to make the needed reforms from the CATs Prop 127 effort.

Our guest, Bob Dean, a wildlife photographer, makes great points on air saying we can buy synthetic coats and no one needs to buy fur. You will hear me add: the way bobcats and other animals born with fur are killed — injected with acetone and drowned — is appalling.

In this bright moment, let's all take a breath because people on opposite sides actually found common ground. For cats. This is what makes CATs so powerful. We are building bridges and changing minds in real time.

I promise you that our work together to end fur trapping, as well as to end trophy hunting of mountain lions and bobcats, is going to succeed. All we need to do is keep the momentum going, together, as CATs undivided.

Because no one else is doing this specifically targeted work in quite the same powerful way as we are today. We have everything we need for success, and that is at the core, each one of YOU.

You can feel proud, for instance, that at the last CPW commission meeting, we had 77 citizen voices speaking in support of protecting our mountain lions, bobcats and wolves from cruelty, while just 44 voices tried to dismantle wolf restoration.

On the media front, our next Wildlife First guest is lined up and will be a wonderful surprise! I cannot wait to tell you. So hold on until next time. And please send me any ideas for future podcasts. And comments afterward.

I want to thank KGNU for their incredible professionalism in seeing the value of our unique work for wildlife. It is highly unusual for a professional public radio station to run a podcast, at no cost, and they are doing so for us CATs. Because we are so awesome.

Yes, we are.

But we all know this kind of success does not come easy. It takes hard work, dedication, unification, funding, truth and compassion, but most of all heart and soul. Which every CAT, I can attest, has in abundance.

Please know that I see every one of you working incredibly hard, in our CATs meetings and among our weekly committee members. I recognize you have day jobs, families and obligations, but still, you show up to keep us going, with great tenacity and resiliency, somehow finding the time to be here, for CATs, and for the cats. And to speak up for our most needed moral, ethical and ecological goals for Colorado's wildlife. Because it's Wildlife First.

Also here is my oped that ran in the Daily Camera before the meeting, so grateful the editors ran it! **Daily Camera guest opinion**

Please donate to protect Colorado's native cats!

For the cats,
Julie Marshall
Communications Director