

To Whom It May Concern.

I AM WRITING IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO TROPHY HUNTING WITH OR WITHOUT HOUNDS/DOGS OR ANY KIND OF HUNTING OF OREGON'S COUGARS.

BELOW IS AN EXCERPT FROM AN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY HUMANE OREGON THAT EXPRESSES MY AND MANY OREGON VOTERS' STANCE ON THIS ISSUE:

*"Hounding is cruel and harmful to all animals involved, with packs of radio-collared dogs chasing the cougar until she retreats into a tree or rock ledge, and enabling the trophy hunter to shoot the cornered animal at close range. Hounding poses significant risk to the hounds, who may end up fighting adult male and mother cougars who choose to fight rather than flee, as well as to young wildlife, including dependent kittens, who may be killed by hounds. Hounds also disturb or kill non-target wildlife and trespass onto private lands. This practice is not fair chase and is highly controversial even among hunters.*

*Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife data shows cougar complaints are at an all-time low, and cougar mortality is at a level twice that of the year before Measure 18 was passed. Oregon ranks fifth highest nationwide for trophy hunting mortality of cougars, even without the use of hounds. Between 2005 and 2014, trophy hunters killed 2,602 cougars, with a steady average of 260 cougars killed annually."*

SEE ALSO THIS LETTER OF OPPOSITION FROM THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES THAT EXPRESSES MY AND MANY OREGON VOTERS' STANCE ON THIS ISSUE:

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/161378>

Kind Regards,

Lisa Brisley