

Submitter: Mark Brown
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB769

Cougars have become way over populated throughout Oregon. Their numbers have sky rocketed over the last decade while the deer and elk numbers have plummeted. Without the aid of hunting them with dogs not nearly enough of them are harvested, therefore their populations keep growing. They have become a serious problem. Though it is important to have them as part of the eco system, their populations have gotten out of hand. The deer, elk, and other small animals populations have suffered severely. Yes, hunters kill some throughout the year but not nearly enough to sustain a healthy cougar population. They are making their way into town, and into peoples backyards. Killing house cats and dogs, along with peoples live stock. They no longer have a fear of dogs because it's been so many years since they've been run by dogs. They are making their way into town and peoples yards because the deer and elk populations have gotten so low that it's hard for them to find a meal. It is time for a change. It is time to bring back hound hunting for cougars.