

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

September 16th, 2017. I was elk hunting in the John day wilderness, while hiking back to the truck in the dark I came across a pair of glowing green eyes 20 yards ahead of me at a creek crossing. I yelled "get out of here" and "hey", the cougar was unfazed and did not move until I threw a stick at it.

I went back the next day and found a half burried deer at the spot of the encounter. My best guess is the cougar was sitting on a fresh kill and chose to not leave the kill site.

I shared this story as a testimony that it can be terrifying to come face to face with a cougar. Perhaps they have lost some sense of fear of humans since measure 18 passed in 1994.

The cougar population has exploded, contributing to the decline of the deer herds. The reality is hunting with dogs is the only effective way to manage the cougar population.

I urge you to pass SB 769.

Thank you,

Daniel Marshall