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

According to the nation's top carnivore biologists, ODFW grossly overstates Oregon's cougars by including kittens-most of which don't survive to adulthood-in their estimates. By so doing, and by using other flawed population-estimation techniques, ODFW creates the erroneous impression that Oregon has by far the highest cougar population in the nation.

Current law already allows state and federal wildlife agents to hunt cougars in the advent of threats to property or public safety and to carry out state wildlife-management objectives. This exemption has been successful in removing individual cougars involved in conflicts with humans, pets, and livestock while retaining the protections the voters want from abusive hunting methods.