

From: Roger Trout <rtrout62@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 5:03 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Cc: LeeAnne Mila; Myrna Tow
Subject: Fwd: Mountain Lions

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From: **Roger Trout** <rtrout62@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 27, 2024 at 4:37 PM
Subject: Mountain Lions
To: <LeeAnne.Mila@edcgov.us>
Cc: <myrna.tow@edcgov.us>

Hello LeeAnne,

I hope you are doing well. I have a few thoughts on the issue of cougars in the County that I would like to share with you. I would also appreciate it if you could deliver this to the Fish and Game Commission tomorrow.

First, the data that you provided in your presentation appears to justify your conclusions, but there does not seem to be a clear "cause and effect" relationship to me. For example, are the incidences of cougars predation on livestock a result of more cougars (or different cougar behavior) or could it be that there are more livestock in the County? Is increased cougar predation a clear sign of population increase or is the cougar population simply moving to where the food is?

Second, I have always thought that the major fires in the County would have an impact on the location of deer and thus cougars. Would it be possible to correlate your data to some of the large fires in the County such as the Cleveland fire, King fire, Caldor fire, etc. Similarly, have fires in other County's resulted in correlated deer/cougar populations/predation?

Finally, I have heard that deer populations have possibly been declining. Do you or CDF&W have population estimates of deer? If so, I think that would be an important data point to correlate as well.

I really appreciate all the work that you, staff, and the Fish and Game Commission has done on this matter. However, I would suggest that you receive some feedback from a group that might have some differing opinions such as the Mountain Lion Foundation. It would provide the Board a broader range of opinions and could produce alternative recommendations.

Thank you,

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