

SHASTA COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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September 24, 2014

California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth St Room 1320
Sacramento, Calif. 95814

Gentlemen

The Shasta County Cattleman's Association at its September 23, 2014 board meeting approved a motion to contact the Commission before its October meeting and request that the Commission take no action that would restrict the taking of Coyotes by establishing, seasons, bag limits or method to taking. At present time California's ranching community is dealing with the possibility of having to deal with the spurious calling of wolves being treated as a endangered species, an exploding mountain lion population, and now a call to regulate the take of coyotes.

As ranchers we see the results of exploding predator populations that occur because of laws and regulations that make it harder and harder for ranchers and farmers to feed and cloth this nation. Mountain lions kill the states deer herds, kill our calves and stock dogs. They are pretty much unchallenged in Calif. and because of restrictions on take have ever increasingly expanded their territory and competition for food. Bear populations have exploded and they too are losing their fear of human and livestock. Although not well known or discussed bears will kill calves and fawns at will. The last of the predators' is coyotes and we have been able to somewhat keep their populations in check, however restricting take and making it more difficult to manage coyote populations on a case by case basis (ranch by ranch) will increase depredation on our cattle herds.

The Shasta County Cattleman's Association feels strongly that if it isn't broke do not fix it. We would ask that the Commission take no action to restrict the taking of Coyotes.

Thank you

Rick Fischer, Vice President
Shasta County Cattlemen's Association