



June 5, 2024

MT Fish and Wildlife Commission  
FWComm@mt.gov

Subject: Response to Commissioner Jeff Burrows proposed mountain lion quota changes.

Dear FWP Commission,

The Montana Wild Sheep Foundation (MTWSF) would like to offer our support for Commissioner Jeff Burrows proposed mountain lion quota changes in region two.

We would like to make specific mention of Bighorn sheep wmu 250. Bighorn Sheep numbers in wmu 250 are low primarily due to predation by mountain lions. With help from our region two conservation committee member and members of MTWSF we were able to take three mountain lions during the 2023/2024 season that were occupying bighorn sheep wintering grounds. We will continue to work with our members to target cats on bighorn wintering grounds in an effort to alleviate predation by the big cats on our struggling sheep herd of wmu 250.

The recent regulation changes to Mountain lion quotas in wmu 250 have enabled hunters to target cougars in wintering grounds of bighorn sheep, deer and elk. We feel that the proposed quota numbers strike a balance that allows hunters to help manage predators and prey on the landscape.

Thank you, Commissioners, for your ongoing dedication to Montana's wildlife.

Sincerely,

Ty Stubblefield  
Executive Director  
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation