



State of California - Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Wildlife Branch
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244
<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov>

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



November 27, 2024

Public Notice of Intent to Issue a Permit for Mountain Lion Research in California

Legislation passed in 2012 requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to notify the public at least 30 days prior to the issuance of a Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) to qualified researchers desiring to conduct research on mountain lions.

The legislation is described in Section [4810 of the Fish and Game Code](#), and [Title 14, Section 650\(e\)\(3\)\(C\) of the California Code of Regulations](#).

A summary of the proposed research is below. Copies of the DRAFT permit are available upon request to CDFW. Please contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Branch- MOUNTAIN LION SCP at 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

Prospective Scientific Collecting Permit Issued to:

Dr. Julie K. Young – Utah State University

Executive Summary:

Investigation of Non-Lethal Techniques for Managing Mountain Lion Depredation:

Mountain lion depredation on domestic animals is a growing source of conflict in California. This problem is particularly acute in exurban and rural areas, such as the Sierra Nevada foothills, where human migration from metropolitan areas in the Sacramento Valley and coast has resulted in rapid land-use change and the expansion of housing developments into wildlife habitats. Depredation permits for lethal removal of mountain lions remain a controversial solution to these conflicts, and as such, managers require a means of mitigating wildlife damage while minimizing the lethal removal of native species, along with a willingness of livestock owners and ranchers to use such tools. Unfortunately, most of the nonlethal deterrents for addressing depredation have no scientific data supporting their efficacy for reducing depredation, especially damage caused by mountain lions. We propose to experimentally investigate the efficacy of several non-lethal deterrents for reducing mountain lion depredation in this mixed-use environment. Results will aid CDFW biologists and livestock owners of the best methods for preventing or reducing depredations.

Activities will be conducted in El Dorado, Sierra, Placer, Nevada, Calaveras, and Amador counties. Non-lethal hazing activities will include pursuit with hounds, loud noises, paintballs or bean bags. Deterrent methods will include visual or auditory deterrents, turbo fladry, and visual barriers. Any treed individuals during hound pursuit will be hazed via loud noises or using paint balls or bean bags.

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870