

September 6, 2013

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

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is preparing to issue a Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) for live mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) research. Legislation passed in 2012 requires the CDFW to notify the public at least 30 days prior to the issuance of a SCP to qualified researchers desiring to conduct research on mountain lions.

The legislation is described in Section [4810 of the Fish and Game Code](#).

A summary of the proposed research is below. Copies of the DRAFT SCP are available upon request to the CDFW. Please contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Branch-MOUNTAIN LION SCP at: 1812 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.

Prospective Scientific Collecting Permit(s) Issued to:

Felidae Conservation Fund – Entity

Zara McDonald, MBA – Project Director, Capture Supervisor

Dr. Anne M. Orlando, Ph.D – Principal Investigator

Project Title:

East Bay Puma Project

Proposed Effective Date:

October 7, 2013

Executive Summary:

Pumas in the San Francisco East Bay region represent an apparently intact population of an apex predator living close to humans. We propose a long-term ecological research and public outreach program to conserve viable populations of pumas and associated wildlife communities in this developing region, containing a mixture of dense urban, suburban, and rural development interspersed with wild lands. Further development has the potential to increase conflicts with humans, increase puma mortality rates, and to isolate segments of the population making them no longer viable, with potentially negative impacts on ecological functions. The project will provide information needed to ensure the future of pumas in this region, and to guide puma management in

areas with increasing human presence. We will study puma ecology using a combination of intensive field tracking, remote cameras, lightweight GPS collars, GIS spatial modeling, and advanced genetics work at the population and individual levels. Information collected will be used to estimate, delineate and determine the genetic health of the population; create habitat use profiles and rank habitat values across the region; identify barriers to movement and create habitat linkage strategies; study puma behavior at the urban interface; aid in the design of wildlife crossings for highways; and alleviate human-caused puma mortality and puma-human conflict. Linked to this study, we will conduct an education and outreach program in local schools and communities to promote and enable coexistence of humans and wildlife communities, including pumas, in the urban interface.