

RESOLUTION **AGNC 24-003**

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING COLORADO PROPOSITION 127 - PROHIBIT HUNTING OF MOUNTAIN LION, BOBCAT, AND LYNX INITIATIVE (2024)

Whereas, Colorado Proposition 127 seeks to prohibit the hunting of mountain lions, bobcats, and lynx across the state, removing a kev wildlife management tool; and

Whereas, scientific research and wildlife management agencies have long supported regulated hunting as an effective method for controlling predator populations, ensuring a balanced ecosystem, and mitigating human-wildlife conflicts; and

Whereas, hunting plays a critical role in maintaining sustainable populations of these predators, reducing predation pressure on vulnerable species such as deer, elk, and livestock that are vital to both the environment and rural economies; and

Whereas, prohibiting the hunting of mountain lions and bobcats could result in an increase in human-wildlife conflicts, leading to increased risk for communities, livestock owners, and pets, particularly in rural areas; and

Whereas, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) agency already has robust systems in place for ensuring ethical and sustainable wildlife management, including regulated hunting seasons and quotas based on scientific data; and

Whereas, Proposition 127 undermines the authority of wildlife management professionals by replacing sound science with a blanket prohibition that does not take into account regional and ecological differences; and

Whereas, the local economy benefits from regulated hunting activities, which provide revenue through hunting licenses, tourism, and the outdoor recreation industry, supporting many rural communities throughout Colorado; and

Whereas, the prohibition on hunting these species would reduce the ability of CPW to manage wildlife populations effectively, increasing the likelihood of overpopulation, disease outbreaks, and negative impacts on other species;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) opposes Colorado Proposition 127, recognizing the importance of sustainable predator management and the critical role that regulated hunting plays in maintaining balanced ecosystems and supporting local economies.

Be It Further Resolved, AGNC supports the continued use of science-based wildlife management practices and urges voters to reject Proposition 127 in order to maintain Colorado's long-standing tradition of responsible wildlife conservation.

> 18th DATED this day of September 2024.

ATTEST: BOARD OF ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS OF NORTHWEST COLORADO, STATE OF COLORADO

Cody Davis, AGNC Chairman