



# IWC

## INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS, INC.

### PRESS RELEASE October 15, 2017

The State of Arizona Game and Fish Department and IWC member, is under attack from the HSUS and its agenda disguised as the Arizonians For Wildlife organization. HSUS is backing the anti-hunting group to ban the hunting of mountain lions, bobcats and other wildlife by trying to get them removed from the state's list of huntable species. If passed mountain lions and bobcats, along with jaguars, ocelots and lynx, would be called "wild cats," and be prohibited from hunting or trapping. If successful the election would take place November 6, 2018.

The proposal would allow for the taking of wild cats when a life is in imminent danger, or in cases of livestock depredation. It would require however, that a mountain lion or bobcat could be killed only under certain circumstances. Each state has the authority and obligation to its citizens to manage and protect all wildlife resources to a sustainable level for future generations. This proposal would prohibit the Arizona Game and Fish Department from doing their job and protecting the wildlife resources through sound scientific management practices and force the use of unscientific management practices based on nothing but emotions that have proven to be destructive to wildlife!

Whether one chooses to hunt or not, we all know the simple fact that safe, legal and ethical hunting is wildlife management 101. As society encroaches on wildlife habitat, wildlife suffers, therefore management **MUST** become mandatory in order to keep species numbers in check and balance with the carrying capacity of the land.

The International Wildlife Crimestoppers (IWC) Association firmly stands with the Sportsman's Alliance analysis and the Arizona Game and Fish Department as well as every other state wildlife department trusted with the care and management of fish and wildlife. It is our duty to protect all wildlife species through all management means that is best for the wildlife itself.

***Lewis Rather***

Executive Director

International Wildlife Crimestoppers