

From: [Ojai Wildlife League](#)
To: [FGC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Rehabbers/Public contact with wildlife
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 10:38:21 AM

Please forward this to the Director of F&W Mr. Bonham, as well as the FWC commissioners.--Thank you.

It is clear after the last CA F&W Commission meeting (April 16) that there needs to be a group of stakeholders convened concerning the care and handling of injured and abandoned bear cubs and mountain lion kittens and other larger wildlife. Now that the state law has changed (SB132) about the DFW's and the public's handling of mountain lions, it only seems appropriate that the state rehabbers and the public at large should work with the Commission to develop more realistic and up to date policies not only for mountain lions but also for bears. Hopefully you will not force us to go to the expense and trouble of getting a separate bill passed concerning bears.

I was disturbed by the presentation at the Apr. 16 meeting in that it seemed to be advocating and rationalizing the old policy of "let nature take its course." This is totally unacceptable, not to mention unenforceable. Attitudes have changed dramatically just in the last 10 years and people are not willing to follow these inhuman and uncaring laws.

Letting hunters run around (or drive around) killing wildlife, is not "letting nature take its course". Therefore it is the height of hypocrisy to deny the rights of those wanting to **save** wildlife because it is not "letting nature take its course." This is clearly an unjustifiable double standard. IT IS A JOKE!

But it isn't funny. Whoever that woman was (Rebecca Dymytrick) who spoke after Julia de Sieno was a disgrace to rehabbers all over the state. She was clearly out of touch with the trials and tribulations that rehabbers and the public have had to go thru to comply with the many restrictions and procedures that have cost the lives of innocent creatures. I'm sure you all remember the incident in Ojai and there have been too many more since then.

It is time the CA DFW and the Commission step up to the plate and move into the 21st Century.

I really did appreciate the attempt of Mr. Rogers and Mr. Sutton to raise this issue.

I hope that it will not be dropped and you will move forward to convene a Rehabbers/Public stakeholders committee to examine and change your current outdated and illegal policies. I know that we all share a deep concern for our wildlife and I have really been impressed with the improvement in the actions of our local wardens in the Ojai and southland areas concerning Bear/human contacts. We just need to get the official policies to coincide with the practices that will best serve the needs and desires of Californians.

If I can be of any assistance concerning this, please contact me.

Sincerely,

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