

Table 2: Summary of verbal comments made at the Fish and Game Commission’s (FGC) June 10-11, 2015 Discussion Hearing.

Public verbal comments are matched to Attachment 1, Summary of Public Comments and Responses.

Comment Number	Commenter	Summary of Comment	Response (See response in Attachment 1)
A	The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) Jean Su	CBD was given the opportunity to make a presentation of its reasons for rejecting continued trapping (Option 1) and supporting a full statewide ban on bobcat trapping (Option 2). The PowerPoint presentation was contained in the meeting documents submitted to FGC. A copy of the June 11 PP can be found in Doc 14192.	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 26, 34, 35, 37, 41
1	Fred Stump, District 2 Supervisor Mono County Board of Supervisors (Comments made to FGC on June 10, 2015)	A. Close all of Mono County to trapping. B. Option 1 leaves a significant portion of the County open to trapping, surrounded by large areas that are closed to trapping. C. Population data on bobcats in Mono County is incomplete. D. Data on the take of bobcats in the County show that it has tripled over the last three years and would increase under Option 1. E. Commercial trapping is not compatible with the area’s recreation based economy.	A 3, 4, 5 B. 3, 4, 5 C. 14, 16 D. 41 E. 39
2	Tim Alpers, Mono County Board of Supervisors	A. The Board supports a temporary ban on trapping in all of Mono County until population surveys have been completed. B. A temporary ban should be in effect in and around State and National Parks, National Scenic Areas, as well as State and National Reserves. C. Bobcats are more vulnerable to trapping because they have been concentrated in smaller habitat areas by the drought.	A. 4, 14, 16 B. 3, 4, 5 C. 41, 42

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3	Larry Johnston, District 1 Supervisor Mono County Board of Supervisors	A. Option 1 targets Mono County for bobcat trapping.	A. 4, 41
4	Deanna Dulen, Private Citizen	A. Zones proposed in Option 1 do not address the importance of connecting key habitat areas. B. Mono Basin Scenic Area should be a bobcat refuge for the eastern Sierra.	A. 4, 1, 16, 18 B. 4, 5
5	Steven Ivey, Private Citizen	A. Does not support either option. B. Broad brush closures could set a precedent for future management of other species. C. Don't allow politics or emotion to influence your decision making. Make your decision based on historical data and sound science.	A. 2 B. 26 C. 16, 18
6	Brendan Cummings, Center for Biological Diversity	A. Option 1 leaves out state game refuges and several state park properties.	A. 3, 5
7	Nicholas Thomas, Trapper	A. Trapping is a healthy outdoor activity for young people.	A. 48
8	Tristan Taylor, Trapper	A. Trapping is a good way to get outdoors and stay active. It's a better use of your time than video games.	A. 48
9	Robert Thomas, Trapper	A. No reason to implement restriction on bobcat trapping. B. Population numbers are higher now due to decreased trapping effort. Surveys should be done before implementing regulations. C. Protecting bobcat populations may not be good for other species such as sage grouse.	A. 2, 16, 18 B. 14, 16, 26, 29 C. 29
10	Tim Mc Mullen, Private Citizen	A. Climate change and increased fires are damaging habitat and displacing wildlife populations including bobcats.	A. 42

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11	Sydney Quinn, Friends of the Inyo	A. Bobcats should be protected as part of the public trust. B. Significant portion of eastern Inyo County is planned for solar development which will impact wildlife populations.	A. 1 B. 42
12	Lynn Boulton, Lee Vining Resident	A. Option 1 should include buffer zones around two state park properties, the Tule Elk State Natural Reserve and the Mono Lake State Tufa Reserve.	A. 4, 5
13	Deborah Lurie, Private Citizen	A. A statewide ban would be simpler. B. A ban is an economical way to implement AB 1213.	A. 1, 10 B. 8, 10
14	Joseph Bowling, Trapper	A. The Commission should reject both options. B. We haven't met our obligations to know the effect of either option on red fox, kit fox or sage grouse. C. There has been no outreach to trappers.	A. 2 B. 16, 26, 29 C. 21
15	Kathy Lynch, California Trappers Association, Safari Club International	A. There has been no stakeholder outreach to trappers. B. GPS is the affordable, efficient option to delineate closure zones.	A. 21 B. 27
16	Steve Howe, Trapper	A. Trapping is an effective management tool to control bobcat populations.	A. 29
17	Jana Hofeditz, Project Coyote	A. Supports the complete ban of bobcat trapping in California. B. A single trapper can wipe out the entire bobcat population in a local area. C. Trapping is inhumane.	A. 1 B. 23, 41 C. 22
18	Fauna Tomlinson, Private Citizen	A. Supports ban. B. Bobcats are worth way more alive than dead. C. The Department is spending way too much time trying to appease a tiny minority of trappers.	A. 1 B. 39 C. 30, 32
19	Tom Boo, Friends of the Inyo	A. Supports complete ban. B. State lacks adequate bobcat population data. Surveys done decades ago don't reflect current human population levels and amount of habitat loss.	A.1 B. 14 ,16, 42

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20	Molly Attell, Project Coyote	A. Adopt Option 2, a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. Trapping is cruel, outdated and scientifically unjustified.	A. 1 B. 22, 34
21	Rebecca Dmytryk, Private Citizen	A. Bobcat population estimates from the 1970s don't reflect current conditions.	B. 16, 42
22	Camilla Fox, Executive Director Project Coyote	A. We support ban. B. The Department's claim that a ban on bobcat trapping will lead to an increase in poaching is pure speculation.	A. 1 B. 12, 13, 33
23	Alex Krevitz, Wildlife Biologist Kunak Wildlife Studies	A. The methods used to kill bobcats would never pass muster in a civilized society. B. People love watching bobcats. C. Bobcats and coyotes are top predators that are crucial for maintaining healthy ecological communities.	A. 22. B. 39 C.34
24	Leah Sturgis, Project Coyote	A. Please ban bobcat trapping. B. Bobcat trapping is inhumane. Cruelty to animals is one of the first signs of psychopathic behavior.	A. 1 B. 22
25	Karen Tracy, Project Bobcat	A. Bobcat populations around Joshua Tree National Park are not adequately protected under AB 1213.	A. 3, 4, 5, 41
26	Esther Shaw, Project Bobcat	A. The people of California would make a huge statement if they put a complete ban on the trapping of bobcats. B. We should send a message to Russia and China that we are more civilized.	A. 35 B. 30
27	Devon Smith, Trapper	A. Bobcats are predators that need to be controlled and trapping works. B. Types of traps are limited to box traps C. Make management decisions based on science.	A. 29 B. 24 C. 16, 18, 26

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28	Douglas Brown, Inyo County Fish and Game Advisory Commission	A. A complete ban would restrict the ability of the Department of Fish and Wildlife to manage bobcat populations. B. Trapping of bobcats also reduces the impact of predation upon other species such as the greater sage grouse. C. The Commission's decisions should be made on the basis of sound science. D. Concerned that a ban will be another nail in the coffin of our outdoor heritage.	A. 29 B. 29 C. 16, 18, 26 D. 18, 48
29	Matthew Duncan, Orange County representative Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife	A. The sanitized numbers in the Bobcat Harvest Assessment don't reflect the reality of the "choke poles" used by trappers to kill trapped bobcats.	A. 22
30	Mike Shaw, Project Bobcat	A. Supports the total ban of bobcat trapping. B. Option 2 would simplify the regulations because you wouldn't have to enforce closure boundaries.	A. 1 B. 8, 10, 13
31	Tom O'Key, Project Bobcat	A. The only science related to bobcats in this proceeding is the use of pheromone lures which greatly increase trapping effectiveness and the numbers of bobcats taken. B. The internet has also greatly increased trapper success; they'll take all they can get.	A. 14, 16 B. 23, 41, 42
32	Dale Pelton, Owner of Villa dei Fiori	A. People come from all over the world to see wildlife in Joshua Tree, including bobcats. B. Bobcat pelts shouldn't be shipped to Russia in support of the boycott placed by the European Union.	A. 39 B. 30
33	Malcolm Clark, Conservation Chair Sierra Club Range of Light Group	A. Supports permanent ban on bobcat trapping. B. State reserve around Mono Lake should be included in the properties protected under AB 1213.	A. 1 B. 4

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34	Miriam Seger, Private Citizen	A. If a ban is not adopted in August, will need to nominate additional private and public preserves and Prop 117 lands for protection in 2016. B. The Department should include these additional costs in their estimate of trapping program costs.	A. 1, 4, 5 B. 7
35	Bob Fisher, Private Citizen	A. Supports a statewide ban.	A. 1
36	Karen Ferrell-Ingram, Mono County Landowner	A. Supports a complete ban. B. Partial ban would create additional trapping pressure on Mono County.	A. 1 B. 4, 41
37	Stephen Ingram, Private Citizen	A. Statewide ban is more enforceable and economically feasible. B. A partial ban would put a target on Mono County. C. It's thrilling to see these cats in the wild, living free.	A. 1, 6, 8, 10 B. 4, 41 C. 34, 39
38	Valeree Woodard, Private Citizen	A. Commercial trapping is barbaric and promotes the sale of bobcat pelts and "parts."	A. 22, 30
39	Lynn Cullens, Mountain Lion Foundation	A. Questions whether case investigation costs can be accurately estimated for either option. B. Enforcement costs should be equal under both options. Submitted 559 letters in support of full ban (Doc 79).	A. 6, 8, 10, 12 B. 8, 12, 13
40	Ilene Mandelbaum, Mono Basin Resident	A. Supports a complete ban on bobcat trapping. B. Protection should be extended to the Mono Basin Scenic Area and the Mono Lake Tufa Reserve. C. Recouping costs is no justification for continuing trapping.	A. 1 B. 4 C. 6
41	Duane Rossi, Trapper	A. Bobcats are the number 1 predator of bobcats. B. Stop night hunting of bobcats.	A. 29 B. 42
42	Victoria Fuller, Joshua Tree Resident	A. Supports a ban on bobcat trapping. B. Zones don't meet the intent of AB 1213 to ban trapping.	A. 1 B. 3, 5, 16

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43	Paul Freitheim, Owner of East Side Sierra Shuttle	A. Trapping bobcats is an anachronism. B. Seeing a bobcat in the wild is an experience of a lifetime for tourists.	A. 22, 30, 35 B. 39
44	Josh Brones, Al Taucher Conservation Coalition	A. Steel leg hold traps are not allowed in California. B. Bobcat trapping does not threaten bobcat populations. C. Even without trapping the number of bobcats that would die would remain the same due to compensatory mortality.	A. 22, 49 B. 16, 18 C. 16, 18
45	Caitlin Woit, Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping.	A. 1
46	Bill Gaines, California Houndsmen for Conservation, California Bowmen Hunters, Also spoke for Mark Hennelly, California Waterfowl Association	A. Opposes both options. B. Legal trappers are the eyes and ears of the Department in the field. C. A statewide ban would benefit poachers by eliminating their competition. D. The California Waterfowl Association oppose both options. E. Trapping predators such as bobcats has been an important tool for protecting sensitive water birds such as the California clapper rail.	A. 2 B. 49 C. 49 D. 2 E. 29
47	Guy Tomlinson, Private Citizen	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping.	A. 1
48	Zach Tomlinson, Private Citizen	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping.	A. 1
49	Lisa Cutting, Mono Lake Committee	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. Requests that bobcat trapping be banned in the Mono Basin to protect its ecological value.	A. 1 B. 4
50	Randall Massaro, National President, Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. Opposed to exporting our wildlife heritage to Russia.	A. 1 B. 30

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51	Apache Running Hawk Dan Lugie, American Indian Movement, Apache Nation, First Nations People	A. Stop trading with Russia and China.	A. 30
52	JoJoe Pulido, Tarasco Indian Nation, Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife	A. Urges that all measures be taken to stop trapping. B. We need to be stewards of the animal kingdom.	A. 1 A. 35
53	Rudy James, Federal Tribal Judge of Alaska	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping.	A. 1
54	Connie Howard, Private Citizen	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. The future is in non-consumptive use of wildlife.	A. 1 B. 35, 39
55	Trish Swain, Trailsafe NV, League of Humane Voters NV	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping.	A. 1
56	SP Parker, Sierra Mountain Center	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. Seeing a bobcat is a once in a lifetime experience for tourists and don-consumptive tourism is much more economically important than trapping.	A. 1 B. 39
57	Duncan King, Mono County Resident	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. Ecotourism is a huge economic driver compared to trapping.	A. 1 B. 39
58	Scott Tyler, Private Citizen	A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. Trapping is an inhumane and ineffective means of managing predator populations.	A. 1 B. 16, 22

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59		A. Supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping. B. California is looked upon as a leader in wildlife conservation. C. Viewing wildlife is fast becoming an economic engine in California.	A. 1 B. 35 C. 39
60	Don Molde, Private Citizen	A. Nonhuman predators don't destroy wildlife. B. Need to weigh trapper opportunity against the public interest in making your decision.	A. 40, 44 B. 10
61	Rick Bulloch, APECS	A. Opposed to a statewide ban on bobcat trapping and Serious concerns about Option 1. B. GPS and smaller closure areas should have been the choice. C. Legal trappers are the eyes and ears of the Department; we should be concerned about the poachers. D. The value of recreational bobcat viewing is overstated; these animals are secretive and rarely seen in the wild.	A. 2, 16 B. 16, 27 C. 49 D. 39