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Subject: Concerns over recent harmful wildlife management decisions

To Whom It May Concern:

Nature Alberta is a non-profit organization dedicated to the greater appreciation and conservation of Alberta's natural environment. Nature Alberta is deeply concerned about recent unsound policy changes — made without input or support from wildlife biologists, relevant scientific data, or public consultation — that are detrimental to the integrity of Alberta's wildlife management and to the future of our province's biodiversity. We support the Alberta Wilderness Association and Exposed Wildlife Conservancy's request for the government to rescind all recent harmful wildlife management decisions.

In a recent [letter to Minister Loewen and Minister Schulz](#), Nature Alberta expressed concern, on behalf of our community of members and 9 undersigned nature organizations, over the amendment to the *Wildlife Act* that allows hunting of at-risk grizzly bears. This amendment does not align with the 2020 Alberta Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan, nor with the conservation efforts of a listed Threatened species. The recovery plan prioritizes lowering human-caused mortality, which is contradicted by this new wildlife management decision.

Nature Alberta is alarmed by the changes made to expand the hunting quota on female cougars, the creation of additional Cougar Management Areas with non-zero harvest limits, and permitting the use of off-leash hunting dogs within publicly shared provincial parks. These changes are contrary to the management plan and scientific objectives upon which strict regional quotas were previously based.

Additionally, the removal of trapping limits of sensitive furbearing species — including the data-deficient wolverine — raises significant ethical and ecological concerns. Without reliable population data, allowing harvesting of these sensitive species is irresponsible. [Two recent studies](#) concluded that the previous rate of wolverine harvest was already unsustainable.

These policy shifts do not reflect the values of the majority of Albertans and are not science-based, transparent, nor ecologically sound wildlife management practices. Nature Alberta supports the Alberta Wilderness Association and Exposed Wildlife Conservancy's open request to rescind recent harmful wildlife management decisions.

Sincerely,

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