
SENATE BILL 5133

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Roach and Rossi

Read first time 01/13/1999. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to cougar hunting; and amending RCW 77.16.360.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.16.360 and 1997 c 1 s 1 are each amended to read as
4 follows:

5 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 77.12.240 ((and
6 77.12.265)) or other provisions of law, it is unlawful to take, hunt,
7 or attract black bear with the aid of bait.

8 (a) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the
9 killing of black bear with the aid of bait by employees or agents of
10 county, state, or federal agencies while acting in their official
11 capacities for the purpose of protecting livestock, domestic animals,
12 private property, or the public safety.

13 (b) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the
14 establishment and operation of feeding stations for black bear in order
15 to prevent damage to commercial timberland.

16 (c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the
17 director from issuing a permit or memorandum of understanding to a
18 public agency, university, or scientific or educational institution for
19 the use of bait to attract black bear for scientific purposes.

1 (d) As used in this subsection, "bait" means a substance placed,
2 exposed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise used for the
3 purpose of attracting black bears to an area where one or more persons
4 hunt or intend to hunt them.

5 (2) Notwithstanding RCW 77.12.240 or any other provisions of law,
6 it is unlawful to hunt or pursue black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx
7 with the aid of a dog or dogs.

8 (a) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the
9 killing of black bear, cougar, bobcat, or lynx with the aid of a dog or
10 dogs by employees or agents of county, state, or federal agencies while
11 acting in their official capacities for the purpose of protecting
12 livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety.
13 (~~A dog or dogs may be used by the owner or tenant of real property~~
14 ~~consistent with a permit issued and conditioned by the director under~~
15 ~~RCW 77.12.265.))~~

16 (b) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the
17 director from issuing a permit or memorandum of understanding to a
18 public agency, university, or scientific or educational institution for
19 the use of a dog or dogs for the pursuit of black bear, cougar, bobcat,
20 or lynx for scientific purposes.

21 (c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit a
22 county legislative authority from authorizing or allowing a person to
23 hunt cougar with dogs on real property located within the county.
24 Prior to adopting such an ordinance, the county legislative authority
25 must provide full legal notice of a public meeting, and hold a public
26 hearing to take testimony from interested persons concerning the
27 proposed ordinance.

28 (3) A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this section is
29 guilty of a gross misdemeanor. In addition to appropriate criminal
30 penalties, the director shall revoke the hunting license of a person
31 who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this section and a hunting
32 license shall not be issued for a period of five years following the
33 revocation. Following a subsequent violation of subsection (1) or (2)
34 of this section by the same person, a hunting license shall not be
35 issued to the person at any time.

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