



Sadly, some storm clouds brewing across Arizona aren't bringing rain to a thirsty landscape. They are building to mobilize a force to take away our outdoor passions, in varying degrees and with varying methods.

Sportsmen's Alliance Vice President Brian Lynn posted on June 16, 2017, "Divisiveness will be the downfall of the outdoors heritage. Animal-rights organizations prey upon differences of opinion in our ranks, and use it to justify their legislation, court arguments and ballot initiatives. Their sway with non-hunting voters only increases when we repeat similar statements and narrow-minded opinions."

He goes on to say, "The catch-all phrase for conveying a totality of evil in the outdoors, "trophy hunting" has become the animal-rights movement's go-to descriptor to stop everything from lion hunting in Africa to black bear hunting in Kentucky. The media echoes the use of trophy to paint any hunting as nothing more than a pursuit of heads, horns and hides. As planned, non-hunters are almost immediately swayed to stand against whatever act the words were uttered against." You can read his full article here...

<http://bit.ly/2tA92LX>

Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter Director Sandy Bahr recently testified under oath in a lawsuit trying to overturn two bills signed by Governor Ducey that changed the requirements for citizen initiatives on Arizona ballots.

An article in the July 12, 2017 edition of the AZ Capitol Times says, "Sandy Bahr, director of the Grand Canyon Chapter of the Sierra Club, said she already is working with other groups to put two measures on the 2018 or 2020 ballots. One would make it easier for people to register to vote. The other would outlaw so-called "trophy hunting" of wild animals." You can read it for yourself here...

<http://bit.ly/2tzOQto>

The first salvo this year came from Senator Steve Farley(D) from Tucson, with the introduction of AZ Senate Bill 1182. Fortunately it didn't get out of committee, but one might say, my words, "the cat was let out of the bag".

SB 1182 was written to eliminate the hunting and harvest of all "felids" aka cats,

including cats that are already protected, and one that hasn't even been seen in Arizona. "PROTECTED FELID" MEANS ANY BOBCAT, CANADA LYNX, JAGUAR, MOUNTAIN LION OR OCELOT." You can read the bill here...

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/53leg/1R/bills/sb1182p.pdf>

Senator Farley said in a blog post earlier this year, "There are only 2500 mountain lions left in AZ, and without their predation of their natural prey of elk, and deer, those prey populations will grow out of control, endangering rural roadways and becoming a serious problem. Leg traps and hounding are still used in a high percentage on these wild cats and leave them in horrible pain before their deaths."

Senator Farley went on to say, "I'm representing my constituents, including a number of wildlife biologists who have approached me in the topic with alarm, and have included the Humane Society of the U.S. on the topic. I'm happy to hear your side of the story as well."

The Senator was asked in the blog to provide his sources for information and name the biologists he referenced. He did neither, but on June 5, 2017 he announced he is running for Governor in 2018.

<http://bit.ly/2uKECWM>

Earlier this year, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) published a very slick fluff piece entitled "State of the Mountain Lion, A Call to End Trophy Hunting of America's Lion". You can read all about it here...

<http://bit.ly/2gT4lKt> Page 40 of the pdf goes into their synopsis of Arizona.

So to tie it all together, HSUS then affords you the opportunity to not only fight "trophy hunting", but you can save thousands of mountain lions in the process! They invoke Cecil the lion, distort the facts, and give people numerous ways to "donate" and "take action". See for yourself...

<http://bit.ly/2tQa4hU>

As you digest all this information, please share it with your friends and family, and help us begin the education process with voters who might not hunt or fish, but have no problem with our passions. These are the people (voters) that will make the difference in years to come on whether or not we can continue to sustain our hunting and outdoor heritage. The true "conservationists" are sportsmen and women, not the anti-hunting, animal rights and enviro-litigant crowd. Hunting and angling has put back billions of dollars into conservation efforts both in our state and across the country. That is part of the message we need to sell to the non-hunting and angling public in order to dispel the myths being perpetuated by these groups and people.

Yours in Conservation,

Jim Unmacht Executive Director

PS...here's what HSUS had to say about our Grand Canyon Bison...

<http://bit.ly/2vLCIrm>

**Don't Miss The Summit**



Arizona Sportsmen For Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) invites you to join us for the 1st Annual Sportsmen's Summit and Banquet.

The Summit's program will include updates about AZSFWC activities and issues, AZSFWC Member and Affiliate Organizations, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Commission.

After the Summit's program, there will be a Social Hour, which will be followed by a Ribeye Steak Dinner with all the fixings. After dinner there will be a Fundraiser with an Auction, Blitzes, Bucket Raffle, and a Silent Auction.

**ARIZONA SPORTSMEN FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
2017 SPORTSMEN'S SUMMIT  
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 2:00 PM  
SATURDAY - AUGUST 5, 2017**

**BEN AVERY CLAY TARGET CENTER**  
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**azsfwc.org**

**JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON AND EVENING FULL OF INFORMATION AND FUN!  
SEE YOU THERE!**

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**Members**

**Welcome to our newest member, Arizona Outdoor Adventures!** We are happy they are on board along with the following:

1.2.3.Go...	Anglers United	AZ Antelope Foundation
AZ Bass Federation-Nation	AZ Big Game Sportsmen	AZ Bow Hunters Association

AZ Bass Federation Nation	AZ Big Game Super Raffle	AZ Bowhunters Association
AZ Catfish Conservation Assoc	AZ Chapter NWTF	AZ Chapter SCI
AZ Council of Trout Unlimited	AZ Deer Association	AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
AZ Elk Society	AZ Flycasters Club	AZ Houndsmen's Association
AZ Outdoor Adventures	AZ Outdoor Sports	AZ Shooting Sports Education Foundation
AZ Taxidermy Association	Back Country Hunters & Anglers	Christian Hunters of America
Coconino Sportsmen	Kahuna's Kids	Mohave Sportsman Cub
Outdoor Experience 4 All	Shoot Right	South Eastern AZ Sportsmen Club
SRT Outdoors Inc	Southwest Wildlife Foundation (YVRGC)	The Bass Federation Arizona
TRCP	Valley of the Sun Quail Forever	White Mountain Lakes Foundation
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*Where family memories are made*

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[servicearizona.com](http://servicearizona.com)

Seventeen dollars (\$17) of each twenty-five (\$25) special license fee will go to AZSFWC's conservation fund. AZSFWC will review and approve all grants from the special license plate program revenues. These grants will fund important outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and on-the-ground wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement projects.

These plates can be purchased online and can also be personalized. To order an AZSFWC Conservation License Plate go to: <http://www.servicearizona.com> Click on "Personalized/Specialty Plates" then if you wish to personalize it, check its availability. Once you have verified the availability of your personalization, or if you only want to order the AZSFWC Conservation Special Plate, click on "Order My Plate". Order your plate as a sequential shelf plate for \$25.00 per year or as a personalized plate for \$50.00 per year.

Here is another helpful link when ordering your special license plate. You can have many of your questions answered here:

<https://servicearizona.com/webapp/vehicle/plates/showInfoPage.do>

The AZSFWC Conservation Plate gives all Arizonan's an opportunity to contribute to programs that benefit our wild creatures. ***Step up and support "Wild Arizona".***

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation is a 501-c-3 not-for-profit organization whose mission is to educate and inform sportsmen, wildlife conservation organizations throughout the state and the public at large on important issues related to wildlife and wildlife habitat and to provide, via grants or other sources, funding to conserve Arizona's wildlife populations through habitat enhancement initiatives. The AZSFWC is responsible for managing the conservation license plate program (Wildlife Conservation Habitat Fund). The fund is derived from the sale of wildlife conservation license plates and member organizations as well as non-member organizations are eligible to apply for those funds.

