



April 1, 2025

Subject: Arizona dog hunting petition - updates

Partners, Thanks again for helping to focus the hunting community on the attacks coming to Arizona from the anti-hunting radicals. We are trying to make a good showing at the April 11th AZ Game and Fish Commission Meeting and could use your help to engage the community.

- **Details** - 8am, Friday April 11th, AZGFD Headquarters, 5000 W Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ - agenda [here](#)
- **Item for action** - The Commission will consider 2 petitions (attached) from Center for Biological Diversity and other activist organizations seeking to 1) remove a pursuit only season for bears, lions, and raccoons from the list of tools that the Commission and Department can use, and 2) remove dogs as an allowed method of take for beard, lions, rabbits, tree squirrels, predators, and fur-bearers
- **Why** - Arizona law provides for citizens to petition agencies and ask for rule updates. As long as the petition meets basic criteria set out in statute and regulations, the Department is obligated to put it on the agenda for the Commission's consideration. ***The petitions being on the agenda do not reflect any support for them by the Department or the Commission.***
- **What to Expect** -
 - The Commission will hear the proponents make their case, they will hear from the department, and they will hear from any member of the public, including you!
 - The Commission will vote to either 1) deny the petition, 2) defer the petition until a regularly scheduled rulemaking update, or 3) direct the Department to initiate a rulemaking to do what the petitioners asked.
 - **The Commission will not adopt the petition.** The commissioners have made their individual feelings very clear in multiple public settings including the December, January, and March Commission meetings, as well as legislative hearings.
 - **The other side will turn out at the meeting.** They are prepared to show up en masse and make emotional arguments against the use of dogs in hunting.

- **What You Can Do -**

- Turnout to:
 - Show the **Commission that we support their reliance on science the Department's professionals** in managing wildlife for us.
 - Show the anti-hunting crowd that **we are watching them, and we are ready for their fight**
 - Show that regardless of the anti-hunting attacks on specific areas of hunting, **all types of hunters will come to the fight**. Although many of us don't hunt with hounds, we are all willing to stand up to defend this type of pursuit.
- Speak to the commission with a brief 1 minute statement thanking them for what they do and supporting their inevitable decision not to alter our current hunting regulations.

Thanks again. Please let me know if you have questions or suggestions.

Chuck

Chuck Podolak

President

Conserve and Protect Arizona

conserveandprotectaz.org

Protecting Arizona Wildlife - *By actively engaging in the political process we defend the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation against extremists who attempt to destroy long-held science-based conservation.*