



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains

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March 31, 2015

Executive Director Sonke Mastrup
California Fish and Game Commission
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Re: Agenda Item 29

Dear Fish and Game Commissioners:

The Santa Susana Mountain Park Association strongly supports the banning of the trapping of bobcats in the state of California. We support a state-wide ban, instead of designating certain closure zones as provided for in AB 1213, the "Bobcat Protection Act", which implemented a closure zone for bobcat trapping surrounding Joshua Tree National Park, and allows for future designations.

The survival of bobcats is critical for our ecological system. Our natural resources and wildlife are public assets and not for the profit of the few.

If a statewide ban is not implemented, the public will nominate areas of concern for inclusion for bobcat protection. And, trapping fees must be raised substantially in order to make trapping fiscally self-sustaining, as required by law. Additionally, in lieu of a statewide ban, buffer zones around protected areas must consider the territory and linkage needs of the bobcat population.

We respectfully request that you fully implement the ban on bobcat trapping in California immediately, as provided for in AB 1213, and that you consider the simpler and more economical solution of a statewide ban.

Sincerely,

Teena A. Takata
President, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

About **Santa Susana Mountain Park Association:**

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association is a 42 year-old non-profit organization based in Chatsworth, Los Angeles, California.

We represent approximately 700 members and concerned citizens, and we partner with many organizations to promote ecological and recreational quality in Southern California.

SSMPA's mission is to preserve and protect the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, and surrounding open space.

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