

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
January 17th, 2024

Likely your season is winding down as far as Trapping and Hunting but on our side it is ramping up to epic proportions.

While we have been diligently engaging in all aspects of the upcoming ballot initiatives to Ban the Harvest of Mountain Lions and Bobcats we also have to deal with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission and the Legislative Session which started up in early January.

There are so many moving parts to all of these issues that full-time engagement, dialog and strategizing is not only imperative but mandatory. Literally 60 to 80 hours per week is spent by myself with the help of many others from our coalitions to remain in the game and on the landscape. At one time what was thought to be volunteer capacities then took as much time as a part-time job then a full-time job and now two full-time jobs. If you don't believe me give me a week of your time and you will see just how deep this subject has become.

Without boring the average reader with the logistics, one needs to recognize just what it might take, in this landscape to not only save what we have but to help sustain it for the future.

The nationwide hunting and angling community is coming together to support us and the Coloradans for Responsible Wildlife Management to defeat these measures while still being able to plant a flag at the CPW Commission and the golden dome at the Capitol.

If you have been paying attention, great. If not, when will you? If you have not donated to support the cause or have not reached out to see how you could help or not engaged to find out what is going on and help spread the word about why we cannot allow such attacks to succeed, then shame on you. This fight is for you. This fight is literally the do or die. If you think 1996 and Amendment 14 was bad watch what happens if these measures pass this November. I've heard people say that 1996 was the end, but I am here to tell you that we have still been doing the same thing only at different levels with different restrictions and/or regulations since 1996. The CTPHA has remained, has represented and has sustained what we strive to fight for. Our numbers have grown. Our relevance on the landscape has grown. Our engagement has grown. Our funding has grown. We still have the Stock Show, the Fur Auction, Banquets, Conventions and most importantly partners at multiple levels that have supported each and everything that we have engaged in over the last 15 years. I have been President going on the last 10 years. Our family has dedicated countless hours, time and money to not only support this organization and what it stands for and to make sure that we are not the lone tree on a hilltop and that we are actually part of the forest and many other trees.

Our progress throughout the last decade has not only been remarkable but given the landscape and the sentiment of the issues that we have to deal with, we are in a great spot no matter what the naysayers think. No matter what the decenders quote. No matter what the defeatist attitudes and drama queens continually gripe and bitch about.

With the Fur Ban Issue in Denver that Denver City residents will vote on and the Mountain Lion and Bobcat Ballot Measures that all of Colorado will vote on, and we might very well lose, but it won't be from a lack of trying. It will not be from a lack of partnership. It will not be from a lack of funding, strategizing and fighting, but it could be from a lack of support from the very individuals that it will all effect.

There are many things that one can do, but doing nothing is not an option ,and sitting on the sidelines and playing arm chair quarterback it not a tactic, it is an excuse.

Go to coloradotrapp.com

Go to savethehuntcolorado.com

Stay updated on the C.R.W.M Instagram or the Coloradans for Responsible Wildlife Management Facebook and the Colorado Trapper and Predator Hunters Facebook.

We will be at tons of events and already have been. We are fighting at multiple levels and will continue to do so. We are part of multiple alliances that are supporting our efforts. **Are you?**

The 2024 Outdoorsmans Days will be August 9th and 10th in Florence, Colorado..... go to coloradooutdoorsmandays.com

“If you find something that you care about, don’t let it go but more importantly don’t let it be taken away”
Dan Gates