
From: Beausoleil, Richard A (DFW) <IMCEAEX_O=WA+2EGOV_OU=DFW_CN=RECIPIENTS_CN=FBE768C3-B8E36309-5FFC2E85-E7FFF11C@dusupply.com>
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2019 3:02 PM
To: Rowan, Ella L (DFW)
Subject: FW: Confidential Input

FYI, see below but don't share. Thanks for engaging

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From: Beausoleil, Richard A (DFW)
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2019 2:22 PM
To: Lee, Kessina (DFW)
Subject: Confidential Input

Hi Kessina,

These are some items for your consideration. I am happy to talk with you if you have any questions.

WDFW Training to Klickitat County– I hope you and enforcement do not consider this option. (1) this is work that WDFW staff does, (2) WDFW is the wildlife mgmt. authority, (3) WDFW has rules in place to avoid providing incentive and to monitor rules and regulations; it's possible that "unsuccessful chases" could easily wind up as kills that get reported under another kill type (general season) so we should try and avoid that potential, (4) we need to know where and when to concentrate WDFW education efforts on addressing the root cause – a dead cat on the tailgate does nothing to solve conflict, one only need to look at NE WA, where we have up to 5 cougars being killed at the same house because preventive methods are not being addressed at each stage, and (5) if WDFW is truly going to educate these folks chasing cougars, we need to talk about each event with them and give input on what the "threat level" was one-on-one.

The current Klickitat situation – we should step back and simply acknowledge the obvious. If WDFW had a great relationship with the Klickitat County Sherriff, we wouldn't be in this situation. I admire the willingness of our WDFW staff to work together with KCSO and stay positive, and I support it. But we need to be careful in our hopes and not be taken advantage of - nor let the resource be compromised.

My take of the current situation in Stevens County is different than what we heard on the phone. Stevens County Deputies and their deputized control agents don't seem to be operating as partners. There is much to learn from this County in what we don't want to see in Klickitat. And the cattleman's association has provided funding for 2 more wildlife removal positions in Stevens. So they are actually moving further away from working with WDFW. These folks and their houndsmen are undermining WDFW officer efforts and overturning their calls in the field - racing to beat them to the next scene so they can create the narrative and ultimately run their dogs FYI - the cattleman's assoc. has paid for billboards that say "call SCSO not WDFW about carnivores". That is not a partnership. Talk to officers on the ground out there if you can, it's a toxic environment, and the detachment is literally falling apart. I'd hate to see that happen in your Region.

Ranchers driving this is a tragedy. Look at the database - cougars kill small domestic prey in areas with poor husbandry practices and the trend is similar throughout the west. They prey upon (1) goats, (2) sheep, and (3) chickens, in that order. Anytime there is a call about cattle predation – it should be immediately suspect. Those are the facts. In my 20 years, 1 calf was confirmed killed by a cougar. So what is it saying if WDFW supports that narrative and doesn't educate on the real source of potential conflict - which is hobby farms.

Anyway, maybe some of this can be of help of you. My general rule is be part of the solution and not part of the problem. I know the critter and I know the goings-on on the ground. Policy and direction is out of my wheelhouse but I'll help you in any way I can. I want you and this agency to succeed – so I am always here for a discussion.

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