

Dear Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

I would like to ask you to please reinstate Wild life services agenda item 5H.

Now more than ever during these trying times the residents of Mendocino County could use one less thing to worry about.

So many of us have had to go without help, support and services while the Wild Life program was set aside.

I strongly feel that any rancher, or landowner you speak to makes many attempts to live with nature, they don't want to blatantly kill everything in sight. That is why they have chosen to live in the remote areas as they do, because they love nature.

All of the old timers and ranchers I've ever met, know how to read and communicate with Wild life better than anyone I've ever met. They defend and protect Mother Nature and all of its creatures from harms way. The last thing anyone wants to do is kill.

However when you are trying to ranch and raise large herds of domestic livestock you have to look out for the best interest of your herd. Many of the non-lethal proposals may sound great, however they are not realistic or practical for larger scale operations.

We as Mendocino County residents really need the help and guidance from the Wild Life services to protect each other, our families, our livestock, domestic animals, as well as Mother Nature.

Having the help and knowledge from our County trappers has helped educate us personally on a few different occasions. Along with Fish and Wild life officers.

Our family has gone through the loss of losing entire 4-H projects, and breeding projects. Our bee hives were destroyed a few years in a row. We've dealt with lions attacking our horses, and killing our goats. The bears have ripped walls off a fully enclosed solid concrete floor and hardy paneled sided chicken pens. We have rebuilt our chicken pens a few years in a row.

The bears that did all of the damage, crossed over four different fences, hot wire fencing, and a small pack of livestock dogs to kill and destroy our property and animals.

We as a family have gone to great measures to try to live with Wild life, we have done research and spent a LOT of money to try to keep everyone safe.

Our livestock guardian dogs work very hard every night to protect our animals.

We have had three different occasions when the County trapper actually had to kill. One time a mountain lion came while we were feeding and took off with one of our goats as our small boys were playing and our dogs were barking. That lion sat in a tree about 300 yards from the barn for 12 hours stalking us and our kids. Two different bears that have been going up and down the road from neighbor to neighbor killing, mauling and destroying anything in their paths. Ended up with a fatal ending as well.

The trapper said that their behavior was very aggressive and not of normal tendencies. Once he was able to get close he could see from the coat that they were either sick or injured.

All three of these times non-lethal approaches were tried. All three times there was truly no other answer to protecting our kids. We have to have this option available if we need it.

On the daily/weekly basis we have encounters with coyotes, bears lions Ect. We don't kill them all. In fact if they leave us alone we leave them alone.

If any of you are questioning the reinstatement of 5H and our Wildlife services I would like to invite you out to tour and visit the ranches and farms of this County.

I would like to ask you to come see everything we try to do, to live with Wild life.

I'd like to ask you how safe is it to have a Mountain Lion roaming the streets of Fort Bragg?

Please reinstate fish and wildlife services and protect the residence of Mendocino County.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

Stacey Anderson  
[haywirefarm@gmail.com](mailto:haywirefarm@gmail.com)  
[707-964-2690](tel:707-964-2690)