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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Chad Wilson, Game Mammals Coordinator

DATE: November 14, 2025

SUBJECT: Cougar status report

This report shows the most recent years of population and harvest of cougars. For more in-depth history, see our annual reports. The latest data shows a reduction in population. The cougar harvest was down last year, possibly due to the reduction in population over the last several years.

Population – This represents the minimums and should be used to look at the trend more than anything else.

Year	Pop est	Low pop est	High pop est	Lambda
2018	1748	1659	1908	1.03
2019	1614	1321	1825	0.92
2020	1354	1321	1394	0.84
2021	1274	1118	1373	0.94
2022	1162	1095	1204	0.91
2023	1069	829	1206	0.92
2024	1058	1037	1079	0.99

Harvest

Season	Total
2019-20	664
2020-21	753
2021-22	555
2022-23	579
2023-24	567
2024-25	371

CW

