

Cougar mortality in Washington, 2000-2011, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

	General Hunt				Special Permit Hunt				Landowner/Depredation				Other Mortalities ¹				Yearly Total
	Male Female Unk.			Total	Male Female Unk.			Total	Male Female Unk.			Total	Male Female Unk.			Total	
	Male	Female	Unk.		Male	Female	Unk.		Male	Female	Unk.		Male	Female	Unk.		
2011	52	47	6	105	3	0	0	3	6	1	2	9	1	3	1	5	124
2010	46	54	0	100	33	12	0	45	4	7	0	11	4	5	0	9	165
2009	38	49	2	89	22	12	0	34	6	6	0	12	2	5	0	7	142
2008	52	83	4	139	8	9	0	17	6	8	0	14	11	6	1	18	188
2007	53	53	0	106	27	30	1	58	20	14	3	37*					201
2006	63	65	18	146	22	22	0	44	6	3	1	10*					200
2005	53	55	21	129	24	38	0	62	1	9	1	11*					202
2004	70	45	21	136	23	34	1	58	9	4	1	14*					208
2003	69	65	13	147	30	21	0	51	16	6	2	24*					222
2002	69	48	19	136	30	24	0	54	14	7	0	21*					211
2001	114	96	10	220	5	10	1	16	34	30	0	64*					300
2000	127	74	7	208	11	10	2	23	11	9	1	21*					252

¹ Any known mortality other than by hunting, landowner, or depredation
*Includes "other" types of mortalities

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State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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October 12, 2012

Frederick Hull
Mountain Lion Foundation
Post Office Box 1896
Sacramento, California 95812

Dear Mr. Hull:

This letter is in response to your request dated September 25, 2012 for mountain lion mortality and population information in Washington.

Recently, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) compiled results from six concurrent mountain lion research projects conducted over thirteen years in various locales around the state, and results from these projects place the statewide adult mountain lion population at 2,000 individuals. We estimate the number of lions below two years of age to be roughly 1,500 to 2,000. For management purposes, we focus on adult mountain lion population estimates or those that are greater than two years old, for two reasons: (1) it is very difficult to estimate these young age classes; and (2) the mortality rates among these young age classes is highly variable.

Enclosed is a table showing the mortality data from the 2000-01 season through the 2011-12 season. For clarity, the 2012-13 mortality data is currently ongoing and results will be available after March 31, 2013. You will notice in 2008, Department staff began removing "other" mortalities into its own category for clarity.

We hope you find the information useful. Thank you for your interest in Washington's wildlife.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Ware", is written over a horizontal line.

Dave Ware, Game Division Manager
Wildlife Program

Enclosure