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Executive Director Sonke Mastrup California Fish and Game Commission P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090 fgc@fgc.ca.gov

January 29, 2015

Re: AB 1213

**Bobcat Trapping** 

Dear Commissioners:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., founded in 1952, represents 45 resident and homeowner associations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles. The Federation's mission is to encourage and promote those policies and programs which will best preserve the natural topography and wildlife of the mountains for the benefit of all the people of Los Angeles. The Federation supports a statewide ban on bobcat trapping.

The Federation thanks Commissioner Richard Roberts for recommending a complete ban on the trapping of bobcats and applauds his long-range thinking.

Bobcats are an essential part of the environment and play an important role in the balance of nature. This valuable native species catches thousands of rodents a year and helps keep them from overrunning our neighborhoods. If we had more bobcats, we wouldn't need to use toxic rodenticides.

The most practical, simplest, and most environmentally sound policy would be to establish a complete ban on bobcat trapping throughout the state. There is no justifiable rationale for killing bobcats for the economic benefit of a few trappers. In Southern California we are striving to create more wildlife corridors to promote essential genetic biodiversity to preserve mountain lions, bobcats and other animals.

The Federation urges the Commission to enact a statewide ban on the trapping of these beneficial bobcats.

Sincerely,

Marían Dodge Marian Dodge