

**...Farmers, ranchers legislation**

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- Rural Connectivity: Support legislative efforts to facilitate the installation of broadband and cellular infrastructure in underserved rural communities.

- Sunset Legislation: Ensure that sunset legislation of state agencies related to agriculture or TFB priority issues benefits our members.

“Agriculture and private property rights are essential to all Texans,” John Ross said. “We want to make sure the Legislature hears from Texas farmers, ranchers and private property owners this session to ensure our needs and concerns are addressed.”

For more information about TFB’s advocacy efforts, visit <https://texasfarmbureau.org/advocacy/>.

**TPWD to begin work on mountain lion management plan**

By Jessica Domel

TFB Multimedia Reporter The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has been asked to create a draft mountain lion management plan, including mandatory trap checks and a potential ban on canned hunts.

The request came from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission after the commission heard the final report from the Texas Mountain Lion Stakeholder Working Group.

The group was created in 2022 after Texans for Mountain Lions petitioned the department asking for bag limits, mandatory harvest reporting, required 36-hour trap checks and additional research on the elusive wildcats.

TPWD denied the proposed regulatory actions at the time.

The commission chair directed the formation of the 19-member working group to make recommendations on six topics:

- abundance,
- status,



**Stock Show!** Bronte ISD students Cheyenne Allen, Brittany Crisp, Jaxon Morris, Dakayla Jackson, and Bailey Meyer recently competed at the San Antonio Stock Show Commercial Ewe Show. Jaxon Morris (above photo) and Cheyenne Allen both placed in the top ten.

**Debate!** Bronte ISD students Jaxon Morris and Maelynn Williams (right photo) recently placed second at the District Cross-Examination Debate tournament. This placing earned them a trip to compete at the state contest.

distribution, and persistence of mountain lions in Texas;

development of a mountain lion management plan for Texas;

- harvest reporting;
- trap/snare check standards;
- harvest/bag limits; and
- “canned” hunts.

The stakeholder working group included landowners, livestock raisers, private land managers, trappers, houndsmen, wildlife scientists, wildlife biologists and natural resource professionals.

“We’ve had great participation

in this process,” Joseph Fitzsimmons, stakeholder working group chairman, told the commission. “It goes without saying there’s some very strong opinions on the management of mountain lions in Texas.”

Mountain lions are classified as a non-game animal in the Lone Star State. Texas Farm Bureau policy supports classifying the mountain lion as a predator rather than a game animal.

There is no season or bag limits.

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**Please Pray for our Communities,  
Our County, Our State and Our Country**

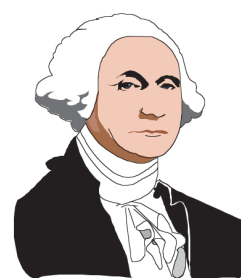


***And Don't Forget to Pray for Rain!***

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In Observance Of  
**Presidents Day**



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