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# Los Angeles Times

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**Gov. Brown signs bill setting limits on trapping bobcats**

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A bobcat mother and her two cubs near Joshua Tree National Park.  
(Annica Kreuters / February 5, 2013)

By Patrick McGreevy / October 12, 2013

Environmentalists lauded Gov. Jerry Brown on Saturday for his decision to sign a bill that will prohibit commercial trapping of bobcats in California in areas adjacent to national and state parks, national monuments or wildlife refuges in which trapping is currently prohibited.

In signing AB 1213, the governor went further and asked lawmakers to work with the Department of Fish and Game to secure funding for a survey of the state's bobcat population.

"Based on this work, the department and the [Fish and Game] commission should consider setting population thresholds and bobcat trapping tag limitations in its upcoming rulemaking," Brown wrote in a signing message Friday.

A bobcat pelt brought trappers about \$78 in 2009, but has skyrocketed to more than \$700 today, resulting in much more trapping in the state, The Times recently reported.

AB 1213 was supported by the Sierra Club, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Center for Biological Diversity.

Brendan Cummings, senior counsel for the center and a neighbor of Joshua Tree, welcomed the governor's action.

The measure, he said, "is a step toward rewriting the Fish and Game Code from something that treats wildlife as commodities to be killed and sold to something that values these animals as vital parts of a living ecosystem."