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October 8, 2014

The Honorable Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell &
Members of the APHAR Committee
City of Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Public Comment Council File 13-1580

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell and Members of the APHAR Committee:

National Wildlife Federation respectfully submits this letter to show our strong support of City of Los Angeles Councilmembers Koretz and LaBonge's proposed motion to further limit the use of rodenticides, and to educate potential users on the dangers of these poisons, particularly to children, pets and wildlife.

National Wildlife Federation stands with Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife, Center for Biological Diversity and many other non-profits in support of further efforts to end use of anti-coagulant rodenticides in the city of Los Angeles.

California has already shown leadership in limiting the use of anti-coagulant rodenticides with new regulations prohibiting the purchase of these poisons by the general public. However, certified private and commercial users may still employ these rodenticides, including the use of anti-coagulant rodenticides in city parks, facilities and open spaces managed by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks.

With a preponderance of scientific evidence from a variety of sources¹, including National Park Service and UCLA biologists, showing that secondary poisoning of carnivores with rodenticides in and around the city of Los Angeles and other areas in Southern California is common, National Wildlife Federation supports the City of Los Angeles' efforts to further control or eliminate the use of these dangerous anti-coagulant rodenticide poisons, and to continue public education about the dangers to humans and wild and domestic animals from these poisons.

National Wildlife Federation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit conservation policy, advocacy and education organization dedicated to the protection of wildlife. We represent 4 million supporters nationwide, and 14,000 supporters in the City of Los Angeles.

Together, we can inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future.

Sincerely,

Beth Pratt, California Director

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¹ <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2193/2005-615/abstract>
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/education/rodenticide/>
<http://www.urbancarnivores.com/archives/>
<http://www.nps.gov/samo/parknews/gp-lion-exposed-to-poison.htm>
<http://www.nps.gov/samo/naturescience/bobcats.htm>
<http://www.urbancarnivores.com/poisons/>
<http://www.clawonline.org/>
<http://www.audubonmagazine.org/articles/conservation/poisons-used-kill-rodents-have-safer-alternatives>
<http://www.losfelizledger.com/article/wildlife-sampling-reveals-high-incidence-of-rat-poisoning/>