

# Trophy?

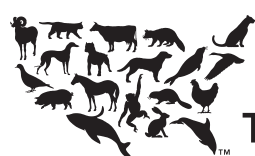


Black bears were once nearly extinct in Maryland. But after a half-century of protection, they made a comeback and established a small population of a few hundred bears in the western part of the state.

For the last three years, however, Maryland has allowed recreational trophy hunters to kill black bears. The first bear killed was an 84-pound, ten-month-old, female cub. Since then, trophy hunters have killed 100 more bears, and for what reason? One man said his wife prompted him so she could have a bearskin rug.

This trophy hunt was demanded by the NRA, and is scheduled to begin again next week. But now it's time for Gov. Martin O'Malley to turn the situation around and restore Maryland's half-century tradition of protecting black bears.

**Call Gov. O'Malley at 410-974-3591 or 1-800-811-8336  
and urge him to cancel Maryland's bear hunt.**



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