

PROJECT COYOTE

F O S T E R I N G C O E X I S T E N C E



Talking Points about Wildlife Killing Contests:

- **Nevada should join neighboring states (Arizona, California, Colorado and New Mexico) in enacting commonsense prohibitions.** Contest participants from other states are now coming to Nevada and killing wildlife that should be enjoyed and appreciated alive by Nevadans.
- **Eight states across the country have prohibited wildlife killing contests.** As awareness of these barbaric events spreads, Americans are increasingly demanding an end to this bloodsport.
- **The majority of Nevadans believe people should coexist in harmony with wildlife.** According to [a study by Dietsch and colleagues](#) (including Project Coyote Science Advisory Board member [Dr. Jeremy Bruskotter](#)), 85-95% of Nevadans believe coyotes should be managed with non-lethal coexistence practices.
- **Killing contests are a bloodsport like dogfighting and cockfighting.** Killing coyotes for thrills and prizes—with no respect for their intrinsic or ecological value—is senseless violence and waste.
- **There is no scientific evidence that indiscriminately killing coyotes reduces their populations, increases populations of game animals like deer, or protects livestock.** Randomly killing coyotes disrupts their pack structure, which can increase their populations and increase conflicts between coyotes, humans, and domestic animals. Preventing conflicts by utilizing humane, non-lethal solutions is more effective.
- **Wildlife targeted by contests play an important ecological role in healthy ecosystems.** For example, coyotes reduce rabbit and rodent populations, scavenge animal carcasses, and increase biodiversity.
- **Hunters in Nevada support this ban.** Clark County Commissioner James Gibson, when speaking of killing contests, stated, “We have been hunters in our family, and we have friends all around us that do, and not a one of them would ever go out to see how many they can kill or something so they can win a prize. That’s not what I think of when I think of hunting.” Commissioner Gibson is one of many hunters who are backing the resolution and pushing for a statewide ban.
- **This bill is not a ban on hunting and does not impact other laws.** Individuals will still be allowed to hunt coyotes and other wildlife according to state laws. Following the example set by neighboring states, the language of a potential ban can make clear that it will not prohibit fishing tournaments.
- **Killing contests damage the reputation of responsible hunters by violating fundamental hunting ethics.** Countless animals are injured or orphaned during killing contests. The events also put non-target species at risk.
- **Nevada’s wildlife is managed in trust for all Nevadans.** Allowing individuals to wantonly kill wildlife as part of a cruel bloodsport is a grave violation of the state’s duty in this regard.