

# **Exhibit E**

**Supplemental  
Public Correspondence Received as of  
September 11, 2023**

Contest Prohibition for Taking  
Unprotected Mammals

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Amy Patrick <amy@oregonhunters.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 12:33 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** OHA Comments - Coyote contest rulemaking  
**Attachments:** OHA Testimony - Coyote Contest Rulemaking - Final.pdf

Please find the attached written testimony regarding Exhibit E, the coyote contest rulemaking.

Thank you,  
Amy

**Amy Patrick**  
*Policy Director*

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**Oregon Hunters Association**  
"Protecting Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage"



# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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September 11, 2023

Chair Wahl, Members of the Commission, Director Melcher,

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) is Oregon's largest state-centric hunter conservation organization, representing over 11,000 sportsmen and women throughout 26 chapters in the state. Our mission statement is 'to protect Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage' and we have a strong history of supporting science-based wildlife management.

We have concerns regarding the rulemaking language proposed for the Contest Prohibition for Taking Unprotected Mammals and assert that defining a contest as a 'manner of take' in an attempt to regulate an individual's ability to participate in a contest structure is well outside the scope of authority vested in the Commission.

A 'manner of take' can be defined as the immediate operations to an attempt to capture, kill, pursue, hunt, or take possession of wildlife. In Oregon's hunting regulations, 'take' is defined as "means to kill or obtain possession or control of any wildlife." These definitions speak to the immediate actions involved in harvesting wildlife such as the weapon used, whether or not baiting is allowed, and the interval of time between trap checks. A contest structure is not a manner of take but a secondary circumstance that is removed from the act of taking an animal. Regulating an individual's ability to enter a contest, provided the animal was killed legally, is beyond the definition of 'take' and beyond the Commission's scope of authority, making the proposed definition of "Contest" inapplicable.

The rulemaking effort is attempting to justify the proposed ban on contests by defining them as a 'manner of take'. However, as stated above, the accepted definitions of 'take' and 'manner of take' do not support this effort. The Commission does not have the authority to regulate an individual's ability to participate in a contest as it is secondary to the immediate actions of 'take' associated with killing or harvesting an animal.

OHA asks the Commission to respect the boundaries of its ability to set 'manner of take' regulations by not moving forward with this effort.

Thank you,  
Amy Patrick  
Policy Director



September 11, 2023

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
[odfw.commission@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:odfw.commission@odfw.oregon.gov)

**Re: Support for proposed rule to ban wildlife killing contests**

Dear Members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

On behalf of our Oregon members and constituents, the undersigned organizations ask for your support of the proposed rule to ban wildlife killing contests for unprotected mammals in Oregon. Last year, we petitioned the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to adopt a rule prohibiting coyote killing contests in Oregon. While that petition was denied at the December 2022 meeting, we are grateful that the Commission directed ODFW staff to develop a rule to prohibit killing contests for all unprotected mammals. Wildlife killing contests are wasteful, unethical, and incompatible with Oregon’s values of sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for wildlife. We support the Commission’s efforts and share your goal of creating a strong, effective prohibition that includes all unprotected mammals and is consistent with the Commission’s authority and Oregon law.

Eight states—Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington—have prohibited wildlife killing contests. In June, the New York state legislature passed a bill to ban killing contests and it now awaits the governor’s signature. By passing this proposed rule, Oregon would join these states in sending the message that we will not tolerate such cruel and wasteful treatment of our wildlife.

We support the rule for the following reasons:

- I. **Wildlife killing contests undermine modern, science-based wildlife management principles and are not an effective wildlife management tool.**

The indiscriminate killing that wildlife killing contests promote is counterproductive to effective wildlife management. Tenet six of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation states: “[w]ildlife management, use, and conservation shall be based on sound scientific knowledge and principles.”<sup>1</sup> The best available science shows that many wildlife populations depleted by unnatural means simply reproduce more quickly due to the sudden drop in competition for resources and changes to social structure from the loss of individuals.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Today’s Hunter: a guide to hunting responsibly and safely, Kalkomey Enterprises, Inc. at 82 (2015).

<sup>2</sup> F. F. Knowlton, et al., *Coyote Depredation Control: An Interface between Biology and Management*, 52 *Journal of Range Management* 398, 400-402 (1999). Available at: <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/43f7/3adf647447dd472db69c0b4712f1c71fab33.pdf>; Robert Crabtree and Jennifer Sheldon, *Coyotes and Canid Coexistence in Yellowstone*, in *Carnivores in Ecosystems: The Yellowstone Experience* (T. Clark et al., eds, 1999); J. M. Goodrich and S. W. Buskirk, *Control of Abundant Native Vertebrates for Conservation of Endangered Species*, 9 *Conservation Biology* (1995); Elizabeth Kierepka, et al., *Effect of Compensatory Immigration on the Genetic Structure of Coyotes*, 81 *J. Wildlife Mgmt* 1394, 1394 (2017). Available at: [https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/ja/2018/ja\\_2018\\_kilgo\\_002.pdf](https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/ja/2018/ja_2018_kilgo_002.pdf).

This effect is well documented for coyote populations in particular.<sup>3</sup> It has been shown that the indiscriminate killing of coyotes *increases* their populations over time because it disrupts their social structure, which encourages higher levels of breeding and migration.<sup>4</sup> Unexploited coyote populations are self-regulating based on the availability of food and habitat and territorial defense by resident family groups. Typically, only the dominant pair in a pack of coyotes reproduces, which behaviorally suppresses reproduction among subordinate members of the group. But when one or both members of the alpha pair are killed, other pairs will form and reproduce, lone coyotes move in to find mates, coyotes breed at younger ages, litters are larger, and pup survival has been documented to be higher. These factors work synergistically to increase coyote populations following exploitation events.<sup>5</sup> The science is clear: randomly killing coyotes in contests does not reduce their populations. In fact, since 1850 when mass killings of coyotes began, the range of coyotes has tripled in the United States.<sup>6</sup>

State and county wildlife management agencies in Oregon and across the country have recognized that killing contests do not control coyote population size. For example, Randy Comeleo, Program Advisor for the Benton County Agriculture and Wildlife Protection Program, reviewed the relevant scientific literature and concluded that “researchers found that as more predators [are] removed, more livestock[are] killed.”<sup>7</sup> Commissioner Barbara Baker of the Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission observed that under “the North American Model of Wildlife Management . . . wildlife may only be killed for a legitimate, non-frivolous purpose,”<sup>8</sup> and “killing for a game, or killing to win money, is the definition of frivolous.” Director Kelly Susewind of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife echoed this sentiment, noting, “part of my job, and frankly part of my soul, is to promote hunting, to get our youth hunting, to really have this be a core piece of what our society supports. And frankly, that job is a lot harder if we’re condoning these types of contests . . . .”<sup>9</sup> After reviewing a large body of scientific and peer-reviewed literature, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission determined: that indiscriminate, lethal methods of controlling coyotes, such as bounties and harvest incentive programs, are ineffective and counterproductive; that coyotes provide benefits to humans and ecosystems; and that non-lethal measures are the best way to address conflicts with coyotes.<sup>10</sup> Many other state wildlife management agencies—including those in Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, New Hampshire, Nevada, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming—have reached similar conclusions.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> *Id.*; see also S.D. Gehrt, *Chicago Coyotes part II*, 11 *Wildlife Control Technologies* 20-21, 38-9, 42 (2004).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> F.F. Knowlton. 1972. Preliminary interpretations of coyote population mechanics with some management implications. *J. Wildlife Management*. 36:369-382.

<sup>6</sup> Robert Crabtree and Jennifer Sheldon, “Coyotes and Canid Coexistence in Yellowstone,” in *Carnivores in Ecosystems: The Yellowstone Experience*, ed. T. Clark et al. (New Haven [Conn.]: Yale University Press, 1999)

<sup>7</sup> Randy Comeleo, “Using Coyotes to Protect Livestock. Wait. What?,” Oregon State University College of Agricultural Sciences Small Farms Program (Spring 2018) (available at <https://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/using-coyotes-protect-livestock-wait-what>).

<sup>8</sup> See The Humane Society of the United States, “Wildlife management professionals and hunters on wildlife killing contests and predator control,” at 4 (available at [https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/HSUS\\_Statements-wildlife-killing-contests.pdf](https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/HSUS_Statements-wildlife-killing-contests.pdf)).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 2.

<sup>10</sup> North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, *Coyote Management Plan 11*, 21-28 (2018). Available at: [www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Learning/documents/Species/Coyote%20Management%20Plan\\_FINAL\\_030118.pdf](http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Learning/documents/Species/Coyote%20Management%20Plan_FINAL_030118.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, *Coyote*. Available at:

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/wildlife/Pages/Coyote.aspx>; Kentucky Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources, *Coyotes in the Suburbs*. Available at: <https://fw.ky.gov/Wildlife/Documents/KASpring17coyotes.pdf>; Travis Dufour, *Living with Coyotes*, Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Wildlife Division - Private Lands Program. Available at: [http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/publication/34726-living-coyotes-low-res/living\\_with\\_coyotes\\_low-res.pdf](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/publication/34726-living-coyotes-low-res/living_with_coyotes_low-res.pdf); Bill White, *The Bounty Hunter*, Missouri Dept. of Conservation (Aug. 21, 2012). Available at: <https://mdc.mo.gov/blogs/more-quail/bounty-hunter>; New Hampshire Fish and Game, *Eastern Coyote*. Available at: <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/wildlife/profiles/coyote.html>; Nevada Dept. of Wildlife, *Coyote*. Available at: <http://www.ndow.org/Species/Furbearer/Coyote/>; National Wildlife Control Training Program, *Coyotes*. Available at: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/publications/nuisance/coyotes.pdf>; Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, *Controlling Coyotes*

## II. Wildlife killing contests undermine the integral role that wildlife play in healthy ecosystems.

All wildlife species play an important role in our ecosystems. Coyotes, for example, provide a range of free, natural ecological services to our environment and urban and rural communities.<sup>12</sup> They help to control disease transmission by keeping rodent populations in check, consume carrion, remove sick animals from the gene pool, disperse seeds, protect ground-nesting birds from smaller carnivores, increase the biological diversity of plant and wildlife communities, and protect crops and gardens.<sup>13</sup> ODFW itself states:

Coyotes play an important role in the food chain by controlling mice, rats and other rodents and scavenging on dead wildlife that otherwise could spread disease. Rodents make up the bulk of the coyote diet in both urban and rural settings. Many areas, such as cemeteries and golf courses, have reported declines in damage associated with gophers once coyotes appeared. Coyotes also help to control geese in urban areas and on agricultural lands where flocks can forage and destroy young crops.<sup>14</sup>

## III. Wildlife killing contests do not prevent—and may even increase—conflicts with humans, pets, or livestock.

Killing contest proponents have claimed, without evidence, that contests are needed to reduce conflicts with livestock. However, killing contests are not effective at removing individual, problem-causing animals.<sup>15</sup> Most killing contests target coyotes in woodlands and grasslands where conflicts with humans, livestock, and pets are minimal. Studies have found that indiscriminate killing of coyotes fragments their social groups and can create ecological voids, which may be filled by smaller predators with higher population numbers who in turn may prey on livestock.<sup>16</sup> In a signed statement, more than 70 conservation scientists made the following finding about the effect of indiscriminately killing coyotes on livestock depredation:

Some advocates of coyote killing contests (WKC) believe they are necessary or beneficial for effective management of livestock depredation. We indicated that coyote killing contests are unlikely to have this effect. The reason why is that most individual coyotes do not participate in livestock depredations. Consequently, effective management of depredation requires (1) targeting the offending individual(s), and (2) intervening close to the site where the depredations occurred as well as responding in a timely manner. **Coyote killing contests do not represent the kind of targeted effort required for effective management**

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in Tennessee (Jan. 2003). Available at: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/twra/documents/coyotecontrol.pdf>; Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, *Living with Wildlife*. Available at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/coyotes.html>; West Virginia Dept. of Natural Resources, *Eastern Coyote Impacts Of The Eastern Coyote On Wildlife Populations*. Available at: <http://www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/CoyoteResearch.shtm>; Dave Rippe, *Predator Control and Wildlife*, Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., *Habitat Extension Bulletin*: No. 57 (July 1995). Available at: <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Habitat/Extension%20Bulletins/B57-Predator-Control-and-Wildlife.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> Fox, C.H. and C.M. Papouchis, *Coyotes in Our Midst: Coexisting with an Adaptable and Resilient Carnivore* 9 (2005). Available at: [http://www.projectcoyote.com/Coyotes\\_In\\_Our\\_Midst.pdf](http://www.projectcoyote.com/Coyotes_In_Our_Midst.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> S. E. Henke and F. C. Bryant, *Effects of Coyote Removal on the Faunal Community in Western Texas*, 63 *Journal of Wildlife Management* 1066 (1999); K. R. Crooks and M. E. Soule, *Mesopredator Release and Avifaunal Extinctions in a Fragmented System*, 400 *Nature* 563 (1999); E. T. Mezquida, et al., *Sage-Grouse and Indirect Interactions: Potential Implications of Coyote Control on Sage-Grouse Populations*, 108 *Condor* 747 (2006). Available at: [http://repository.uwyo.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=zooology\\_facpub](http://repository.uwyo.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=zooology_facpub); N. M. Waser et al., *Coyotes, Deer, and Wildflowers: Diverse Evidence Points to a Trophic Cascade*, 101 *Naturwissenschaften* 427 (2014).

<sup>14</sup> "Living with Wildlife: Coyotes," Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living\\_with/docs/living\\_with\\_coyotes.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/docs/living_with_coyotes.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> Adrian Treves et al., *Predator Control Should Not Be a Shot In the Dark*, 14 *Front Ecol Environ* 380, 381 (2016). Available at: [http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves\\_Krofel\\_McManus.pdf](http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Krofel_McManus.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> Id.

of livestock depredations. Moreover, indiscriminate killing of predators is likely to exacerbate risks to livestock. The reason is that killing social carnivores like coyotes can lead to the disruption of coyotes social and foraging ecology in ways that increase the number of transient individuals. These transient individuals that have not been acculturated (aversively conditioned) to living in areas with livestock may be more likely to kill livestock.<sup>17</sup>

Additionally, exploited coyote packs are more likely to have increased numbers of pups and feeding young is a significant motivation for coyotes to switch from killing small and medium-sized prey to killing sheep.<sup>18</sup>

In 2018 the Oregon State University Extension Program in *Oregon Small Farm News* published an article titled, "Using Coyotes to Protect Livestock. Wait. What?" The article underscored that lethal control of coyotes only increased livestock losses. The article also explained that coyotes with no record of livestock depredation, and who have established themselves in a territory that overlaps with sheep pastures, can prevent livestock losses by excluding coyotes from neighboring packs which may have learned to kill sheep.<sup>19</sup>

As ODFW itself has explained:

Prevention is always the best medicine when it comes to avoiding, minimizing or correcting problems with coyotes. By far the greatest number of conflicts between humans and coyotes are those in which the animal has become habituated to a residential area by the behavior of human beings. Nine times out of ten, these problems arise because people have attracted the coyote by giving it access to food or shelter. Giving a wild animal food is never a good idea. Fortunately, most of these situations are easily prevented or corrected by removing food sources and access to shelter.<sup>20</sup>

Furthermore, common arguments about the impacts of predator-livestock conflict are widely exaggerated. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture ("USDA"), only 0.39% of cattle and sheep losses were attributable to any species of carnivores (including coyotes, wolves, unknown predators, and

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<sup>17</sup> Statement in Opposition to Wildlife Killing Contests: Signed By More Than 70 Conservation Scientists. Project Coyote (May 23, 2019) (emphasis added). Available at <http://www.projectcoyote.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/SAB-Letter-Against-WKCs-2019.05.23-FINAL.pdf>. See also F.F. Knowlton, et al., *Coyote depredation control: An interface between biology and management*, 52 *J. Range Mgmt.* 398 (1999); J.D.C. Linnell et al., *Large carnivores that kill livestock: do problem individuals really exist?*, 27 *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 698 (1999); P. Stahl and J.M. Vandel, *Factors influencing lynx depredation on sheep in France: Problem individuals and habitat*, 4 *Carnivore Damage Prevention News* 6 (2001); K.M. Blejwas et al., *The effectiveness of selective removal of breeding coyotes in reducing sheep predation*, 66 *J. Wildlife Mgmt.* 451 (2002); A. Treves et al., *Wolf depredation on domestic animals: control and compensation in Wisconsin, 1976-2000*, 30 *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 231 (2002); A. Treves and L. Naughton-Treves, *Evaluating lethal control in the management of human-wildlife conflict*, in *People and Wildlife, Conflict or Coexistence* 86 (R. Woodroffe et al., eds., 2005); E. Bangs and J.A. Shivik, *Managing wolf conflict with livestock in the northwestern United States*, USDA National Wildlife Research Center-Staff Publications 550 (2001); A. Treves et al., *American black bear nuisance complaints and hunter take*, 21 *Ursus* 30 (2010); K.A. Peebles et al., *Effects of remedial sport hunting on cougar complaints and livestock depredations*, 8 *PLoS ONE* e79713 (2013). Available at: <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0079713>; R.B. Wielgus and K. A. Peebles, *Effects of Wolf Mortality on Livestock Depredations*, 9 *PLoS ONE* e113505 (2014).

<sup>18</sup> F. F. Knowlton, et al., *Coyote Depredation Control: An Interface between Biology and Management*, 52 *J. of Range Mgmt.* 398, 403 (1999). Available at: <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/43f7/3adf647447dd472db69c0b4712f1c71fab33.pdf>; B. R. Mitchell et al., *Coyote Depredation Management: Current Methods and Research Needs*, 32 *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 1209 (2004).

<sup>19</sup> At <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/animals-livestock/sheep-goats/using-coyotes-protect-livestock-wait-what>

<sup>20</sup> "Living with Wildlife: Coyotes," Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living\\_with/docs/living\\_with\\_coyotes.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/docs/living_with_coyotes.pdf)

dogs).<sup>21</sup> The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has noted that based on USDA data, dogs pose an equal or greater risk to sheep, goats, and cattle when compared to coyotes.<sup>22</sup> Disease, illness, birthing problems, and weather constitute the overwhelming cause of livestock mortality.<sup>23</sup> Prevention—not lethal control—is the best method for minimizing conflicts with coyotes.<sup>24</sup> Eliminating access to easy food sources, such as bird seed and garbage, supervising dogs while outside, and keeping cats indoors reduces conflicts with pets and humans. Practicing good animal husbandry and using strategic nonlethal predator control methods to protect livestock (such as electric fences, guard animals, and removing dead livestock) are more effective than lethal control in addressing coyote-human conflicts.<sup>25</sup>

#### IV. Wildlife killing contests do not increase populations of game animals.

The best available science indicates that indiscriminately killing coyotes or other wildlife species is not an effective method for increasing game species abundance.<sup>26</sup> Rather, the most important management tools to increase game species are to decrease harvest of female ungulates<sup>27</sup> and protection of habitat.<sup>28</sup> In light of that science, many state commissions and agencies, including those in Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming, have concluded that reducing predator numbers will not enhance populations of ungulates, small game animals, and game birds.<sup>29</sup> For example, the Pennsylvania Game Commission found: “the

<sup>21</sup> See U.S. Dept. Agriculture, Cattle and Calves Death Loss in the United States Due to Predator and Nonpredator Causes, 2015 (2015). Available at:

[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle\\_calves\\_deathloss\\_2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/general/downloads/cattle_calves_deathloss_2015.pdf); U.S. Dept. Agriculture, Sheep and Lamb Predator and Nonpredator Death Loss in the United States, 2015 (2015). Available at: [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/nahms/sheep/downloads/sheepdeath/SheepDeathLoss2015.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/sheep/downloads/sheepdeath/SheepDeathLoss2015.pdf)

<sup>22</sup> North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Coyote Management Plan 10 (2018).

<sup>23</sup> Id.

<sup>24</sup> Fox, C.H. and C.M. Papouchis. 2005. Coyotes in Our Midst: Coexisting with an Adaptable and Resilient Carnivore. Animal Protection Institute, Sacramento, California.

<sup>25</sup> Adrian Treves et al., Forecasting Environmental Hazards and the Application of Risk Maps to Predator Attacks on Livestock, *BioScience* 61, no. 6 (2011); Philip J. Baker et al., Terrestrial Carnivores and Human Food Production: Impact and Management, *Mammal Review* 38, (2008); A. Treves and K. U. Karanth, Human- Carnivore Conflict and Perspectives on Carnivore Management Worldwide, *Conservation Biology* 17, no. 6 (2003); J. A. Shivik, A. Treves, and P. Callahan, Nonlethal Techniques for Managing Predation: Primary and Secondary Repellents, *Conservation Biology* 17, no. 6 (2003); N. J. Lance et al., Biological, Technical, and Social Aspects of Applying Electrified Fladry for Livestock Protection from Wolves (*Canis Lupus*), *Wildlife Research* 37, no. 8 (2010); Andrea Morehouse and Mark Boyce, From Venison to Beef: Seasonal Changes in Wolf Diet Composition in a Livestock Grazing Environment, *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 9, no. 8 (2011).

<sup>26</sup> Melodie Edwards: “Killing Coyotes Is Not As Effective As Once Thought, Researchers Say.” Wyoming Public Radio, June 14, 2019. <https://www.npr.org/2019/06/14/730056855/killing-coyotes-is-not-as-effective-as-once-thought-researchers-say>

<sup>27</sup> C.A. DeYoung, *Population dynamics, in Biology and Management of Whitetailed Deer* 147 (D. G. Hewitt, ed. 2011); J.C. Kilgo, et al, *Coyote removal, understory cover, and survival of white-tailed deer neonates*, 78 *J. Wildlife Mgmt.* 1261 (2014); North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, *Evaluation of Deer Hunting Seasons and Structures and Deer Management Units in North Carolina* (2015). Available at: <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Regs/Documents/Evaluation-of-Deer-Hunting-Seasons-and-Mgt-Units.pdf>.

<sup>28</sup> C.J. Bishop, et al., *Effect of Enhanced Nutrition on Mule Deer Population Rate of Change*, 172 *Wildlife Monographs* 1 (2009). Available at: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=27710&inline=true>; Hurley, M. A., et al., *Demographic Response of Mule Deer to Experimental Reduction of Coyotes and Mountain Lions in Southeastern Idaho*, 178 *Wildlife Monographs* 1 (2011); T.D. Forrester and H. U. Wittmer, *A review of the population dynamics of mule deer and black-tailed deer *Odocoileus hemionus* in North America*, 43 *Mammal Review* 292 (2013); K.L. Monteith, et al., *Life-history characteristics of mule deer: Effects of nutrition in a variable environment*, 186 *Wildlife Monographs* 1 (2014).

<sup>29</sup> See, e.g., Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations: 2018-2019*. Available at: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/documents/hunttrapdigest.pdf>; Travis Dufour, *Living with Coyotes*, Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Wildlife. Available at: [http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/publication/34726-living-coyotes-low-res/living\\_with\\_coyotes\\_low-res.pdf](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/publication/34726-living-coyotes-low-res/living_with_coyotes_low-res.pdf); Missouri Dept. of Conservation, *Coyote*. Available at: <https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/coyote>; West Virginia Dept. of Natural Resources, *Eastern Coyote Impacts Of The Eastern Coyote On Wildlife Populations*. Available at: <http://www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/CoyoteResearch.shtm>; Dave Rippe, *Predator Control and Wildlife*, Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., *Habitat Extension Bulletin: No. 57* (July 1995). Available at: <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/Habitat/Extension%20Bulletins/B57-Predator-Control-and-Wildlife.pdf>.

agency finally accepted the reality that predator control does not work. . . . To pretend that predator control can return small game hunting to the state is a false prophecy . . . [Predators] don't compete with our hunters for game."<sup>30</sup> In addressing wildlife killing contests, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department similarly stated: "we do not believe such short-term hunts will . . . bolster populations of deer or other game species."<sup>31</sup> Regarding the effect of coyote control on deer and game bird populations specifically, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation found that "random removal of coyotes resulting from a year-round hunting season will not . . . result in an increase in deer densities."<sup>32</sup>

In a 2014 deer harvest report, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources concluded that trying to control coyotes to manage deer predation was ineffective.<sup>33</sup> North Carolina researchers evaluated deer harvest numbers in South Carolina, North Carolina, Ohio, Florida, New Jersey, and New York and found that coyotes are not limiting deer numbers in those states, and that coyote removal programs do little to increase regional deer numbers.<sup>34</sup> The West Virginia Department of Natural Resources has found: "[p]redator control of coyotes because of wildlife predation is unwarranted and unnecessary."<sup>35</sup> Regarding game birds, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission found that coyotes actually benefit game bird species because they suppress populations of smaller predators and because "most coyote diet studies document low to no prevalence of wild turkey or other gamebirds in diets."<sup>36</sup> These findings demonstrate that this common rationale for holding coyote killing contests is scientifically unfounded.

#### V. **Wildlife killing contests contravene hunting principles and damage the reputation of Oregon sportsmen and sportswomen.**

Wildlife killing contests also harm the hunting community because they violate fundamental hunting principles. The concept of fair chase is frequently disregarded in these events, and the carcasses of the animals killed are often wasted.<sup>37</sup> Permitting these cruel and wasteful contests could gravely taint the image of Oregon sportsmen and sportswomen and of hunting in general.

State agencies, officials, and professionals in the field of wildlife management have acknowledged the damage that killing contests inflict on the tradition of hunting. Some recent examples include:

- Mike Finley, former chair of the **Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission**, stated: "Killing large numbers of predators as part of an organized contest or competition is inconsistent with sound, science-based wildlife management and antithetical to the concepts of sportsmanship and fair

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<sup>30</sup> Jeff Mulhollem, *Pennsylvania Game Commissioners Reply to Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania on Predator Questions*, Outdoor News (July 33, 2016). Available at: <https://www.outdoornews.com/2016/07/22/pennsylvania-game-commissioners-reply-to-unified-sportsmen-of-pennsylvania-on-predators-questions/>.

<sup>31</sup> Vermont Fish & Wildlife, *Eastern Coyote Issues – A Closer Look* (Jan. 2017). Available at: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/sites/fishandwildlife/files/documents/Hunt/trapping/Eastern-Coyote-Position-Statement.pdf>.

<sup>32</sup> New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation, *The Status and Impact of Eastern Coyotes in Northern New York* (June 1991). Available at: <http://www.nysenvirothon.org/Referencesandother/coyotes.pdf>.

<sup>33</sup> Charles Ruth, 2014 South Carolina Deer Harvest Report, South Carolina Dept. of Natural Resources. Available at: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/deer/2014DeerHarvest.pdf>.

<sup>34</sup> Eugenia V. Bragina et al., *Effects on white-tailed deer following eastern coyote colonization*, 83 J. of Wildlife Mgmt. 916 (2019).

<sup>35</sup> West Virginia Dept. of Natural Resources, *Impacts of the Eastern Coyote on Wildlife Populations*. Available at: <http://wvdnr.gov/hunting/CoyoteResearch.shtm>.

<sup>36</sup> North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, *Coyote Management Plan 16* (2018).

<sup>37</sup> See KOAT: "Dozens of dead coyotes were left on dirt road in Valencia County." March 22, 2019 <https://www.koat.com/article/coyote-dumping-ground-found-in-valencia-county/26912997#>; WBTV: "Man charged days after Charlotte neighbors find pile of dozens of dead coyotes behind subdivision." Feb. 22, 2019 <https://www.wbvtv.com/2019/02/22/charlotte-neighbors-find-pile-dozens-dead-coyotes-behind-subdivision/>; Kitty Block: "Undercover investigation exposes senseless rush to kill coyotes at New York wildlife killing contest." March 3, 2020 <https://blog.humanesociety.org/2020/03/undercover-investigation-exposes-senseless-rush-to-kill-coyotes-at-new-york-wildlife-killing-contest.html>

chase.”<sup>38</sup> He also called the contests “slaughter fests” and “stomach-turning examples of wanton waste.”<sup>39</sup>

- In support of a ban on killing contests, Kelly Susewind, director of **Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife**, said: “part of my job, and frankly part of my soul, is to promote hunting, to get our youth hunting, to really have this be a core piece of what our society supports. And frankly, that job is a lot harder if we’re condoning these types of contests, and for that reason, I personally support this language.”<sup>40</sup>
- Also in support of Washington’s ban on killing contests, **Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission** member Brad Smith said: “I am a hunter, I’ll clarify that, and I’ve never perceived hunting as a contest. I think these are not hunting contests, they’re killing contests.”<sup>41</sup>
- Dan Gibbs, hunter and executive director of **Colorado Department of Natural Resources**, stated: “For me, hunting contests don’t sit well. As a sportsman I’d never participate in one personally. Hunting is an important reverent tradition in Colorado and powerful management tool but I also think wildlife killing contests give sportsmen and sportswomen a bad name and damage our reputation.”<sup>42</sup>
- Tony Wasley, hunter, director of the **Nevada Department of Wildlife**, and president of the **Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**, said: “Killing contests are ethically upsetting by virtue for most members of society. Hunting should not be a competition as such behavior ultimately degrades the value of life and undermines respect for the animals being hunted ... In my ethics as a hunter I hope to defend a deeper and more profound sense of hunting than what I fear coyote contests say to the general public about hunters and our ethics.”<sup>43</sup>
- In its position statement on wildlife killing contests, **The Wildlife Society**, which promotes science-based management and conservation, urges professionals and managers in the field to “[r]ecognize that while species killed in contests can be legally killed in most states, making a contest of it may undermine the public’s view of ethical hunting.”<sup>44</sup>
- The **Arizona Game and Fish Commission** similarly advised that “[t]o the extent these contests reflect on the overall hunting community, public outrage with these events has the potential to threaten hunting as a legitimate wildlife management function.”<sup>45</sup>
- **Vermont Fish and Wildlife** has stated that “[c]oyote hunting contests are not only ineffective at controlling coyote populations, but these kinds of competitive coyote hunts are raising concerns on the part of the public and could possibly jeopardize the future of hunting and affect access to private lands for all hunters.”<sup>46</sup>
- The **Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife** has also concluded that “public controversy over this issue has the potential to threaten predator hunting and undermine public support for hunting in general[.]”<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Testimony by Mike Finley to the Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee, March 18, 2019. Available at: <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/200547>.

<sup>39</sup> Todd Wilkinson, *A Death of Ethics: is hunting destroying itself?*, Mountain Journal, Dec. 12, 2018. Available at: <https://mountainjournal.org/hunting-in-america-faces-an-ethical-reckoning>.

<sup>40</sup> Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting, August 1, 2020 <https://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2020081003>

<sup>41</sup> Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting, August 1, 2020 <https://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2020081003>

<sup>42</sup> Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting, April 30, 2020 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5V7k7x\\_gxSPY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5V7k7x_gxSPY)

<sup>43</sup> 2021 Nevada Department of Wildlife November Wildlife Commission Meeting, Nov. 5, 2021, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELXWYyLr\\_f8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELXWYyLr_f8)

<sup>44</sup> The Wildlife Society: “Issue Statement: Wildlife Killing Contests.” Approved March 7, 2019 [https://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/TWS-IS\\_WildlifeKillingContest\\_ApprovedMarch2019.pdf](https://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/TWS-IS_WildlifeKillingContest_ApprovedMarch2019.pdf)

<sup>45</sup> Arizona Game and Fish Commission, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Title 12. Natural Resources Chapter 4. Available at: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/azgfd-portal-wordpress/azgfd.wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/25093742/R12-4-303-NPRM.pdf>.

<sup>46</sup> Vermont Fish & Wildlife, Eastern Coyote Issues – A Closer Look (Jan. 2017). Available at: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/sites/fishandwildlife/files/documents/Hunt/trapping/Eastern-Coyote-Position-Statement.pdf>.

<sup>47</sup> Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, “Proposed Regulations to Ban Predator Contests and Prohibit Wanton Waste,” July 25, 2019 <https://www.mass.gov/news/masswildlife-proposes-regulations-to-ban-predator-contests-and-prohibit-wanton-waste>

Other professionals have similarly acknowledged the lack of sportsmanship and science-based wildlife management principles behind these contests:

- Dr. Robert Wielgus, Bend resident and retired professor of Wildlife Ecology and director of the **Large Carnivore Conservation Lab at Washington State University**: “The use of coyote killing contests for predator control in Oregon is inhumane and ineffective for reducing predation on livestock and game species. The science is unequivocal.”<sup>48</sup>
- Jim Zieler, hunter and chair of the **Arizona Game & Fish Commission**, said: “There has been a lot of social outcry against this, and you can kind of understand why. It’s difficult to stand up and defend a practice like this. It’s just not enough to say, ‘Science will tell us it doesn’t have a significant impact on the predator population.’”<sup>49</sup>
- Mike Sutton, hunter and former president of the **California Fish and Game Commission**, states: “Awarding prizes for wildlife killing contests is both unethical and inconsistent with our current understanding of natural systems. Such contests are an anachronism and have no place in modern wildlife management.”<sup>50</sup>
- Ted Chu, former wildlife manager with **Idaho Fish and Game**, has stated: “Hunting is not a contest and it should never be a competitive activity about who can kill the most or the biggest animals.”<sup>51</sup>
- Ray Powell, the former **New Mexico Commissioner of State Lands**, has said: “The non-specific, indiscriminate killing methods used in this commercial and unrestricted coyote killing contest are not about hunting or sound land management. These contests are about personal profit, animal cruelty...It is time to outlaw this highly destructive activity.”<sup>52</sup>
- The late Jim Posewitz, biologist with the **Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks** and author of *Beyond Fair Chase: The Ethic and Tradition of Hunting* and *Inherit the Hunt: A Journey into American Hunting*: “Competitive killing seems to lack the appreciation of and the respect for wildlife fundamental to any current definition of an ethical hunter.”<sup>53</sup>

These important voices from this field have made clear that coyote killing contests do not only contravene the best available science, but ultimately harm the reputation of the State and its hunting community.

## VI. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, we respectfully request that the Commission adopt the proposed rule to ban wildlife killing contests for unprotected mammals. We have attached sign-on letters in support of a ban on killing contests from state lawmakers, veterinarians, and scientists. Thank you for your consideration.

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<sup>48</sup> Testimony by Dr. Robert Wielgus to the Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee, May 17, 2019 <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/205765>.

<sup>49</sup> “Coyote-killing contests face growing outrage, state bans,” *Washington Post*, May 17, 2019, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2019/05/17/predator-hunting-contests-face-bans-amid-backlash-several-states/>

<sup>50</sup> Ted Williams, “Coyote Carnage: The Gruesome Truth about Wildlife Killing Contests,” *Yale Environment* 360, May 22, 2018 <https://e360.yale.edu/features/coyote-carnage-the-gruesome-truth-about-wildlife-killing-contests>.

<sup>51</sup> Todd Wilkinson, *Shoot biggest wolf, win trophy and cash*, *Jackson Hole News & Guide*, Dec. 18, 2013. Available at: [https://www.jhnewsandguide.com/opinion/columnists/the\\_new\\_west\\_todd\\_wilkinson/article\\_260cbc66-0bf6-544b-bcf2-b5e9220247bb.html](https://www.jhnewsandguide.com/opinion/columnists/the_new_west_todd_wilkinson/article_260cbc66-0bf6-544b-bcf2-b5e9220247bb.html).

<sup>52</sup> Ray Powell, Letter to Mark Chavez, owner of Gunhawk Firearms, Nov. 15, 2012.

<sup>53</sup> Karen E. Lange, “Better off alive” *All Animals* (Sept. 1, 2018) (available at <https://www.humanesociety.org/news/better-alive>)

Sincerely,

Kelly Peterson  
Oregon Senior State Director  
The Humane Society of the United States

Amy Stuart  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist (retired)  
Great Old Broads for Wilderness  
Bitterbrush Broads & Bros Leadership Team

Sophia Ressler  
Staff Attorney  
Center for Biological Diversity

Wally Sykes  
Co-Founder  
Northeast Oregon Ecosystems

Adam Bronstein  
Oregon/Nevada Director  
Western Watersheds Project

Cary Smith  
Program Specialist  
Wildlife Land Trust

Cierra Buer, DVM  
Oregon Director  
Humane Society Veterinary Medical  
Association  
Lark Ranch Rescue and Rehabilitation

Danielle Moser  
Wildlife Program Director  
Oregon Wild

Johanna Hamburger  
Director and Senior Attorney  
Terrestrial Wildlife Program  
Animal Welfare Institute

Nancy Warren  
Executive Director  
National Wolfwatcher Coalition

Brooks Fahy  
Executive Director  
Predator Defense

Renee Seacor  
Carnivore Conservation Advocate  
Project Coyote

John Rosapepe  
Pacific Northwest Field Representative  
Endangered Species Coalition

Sally Compton  
Executive Director  
Think Wild

Su Libby  
Facilitator, PNW Wildlife Google Group  
Cyndi Anderson  
Willamette Valley Broadband Co-leader  
Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Brian Posewitz  
Founder/Director  
Humane Voters Oregon

Quinn Read  
Director of Conservation  
Portland Audubon

Bethany Cotton  
Conservation Director  
Cascadia Wildlands

Jennifer Hauge  
Legislative Affairs Manager  
Animal Legal Defense Fund

Sristi Kamal  
Deputy Director  
Western Environmental Law Center

Sharon Harmon, CAWA  
President and CEO  
Oregon Humane Society



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CVT, VTS (ECC)  
Derry, NH

December 12, 2022

**RE: VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR A RULE TO PROHIBIT COYOTE  
KILLING CONTESTS IN OREGON**

Dear Chair Mary Wahl and Commissioners:

Veterinary professionals are stewards of animal welfare. Within the scope of our daily practice, we seek to minimize the pain and potential suffering that may befall our patients.

In light of the animal welfare and ethical issues that arise from coyote killing contests, we, the undersigned Oregon veterinary professionals, write in strong support of a rule to prohibit these competitions statewide. Indiscriminately killing unlimited numbers of coyotes for prizes and entertainment is fundamentally inhumane.

It is difficult to imagine a more callous disregard for animal suffering than that displayed during coyote killing contests, when participants vie for cash and prizes for killing the most, the heaviest, or sometimes even the smallest coyotes within a specified time period.

Coyote killing contests serve no purpose. They are done with disregard for modern wildlife management science, which indicates that ecosystems are disrupted when many animals in a localized area are indiscriminately removed. Participants in the competitions claim they are aiding coyote population control. However, wildlife science research shows that although numbers may temporarily decline, coyotes ultimately experience an *increase* in their numbers after such removal, resulting from decreased competition for mates and resources, among other factors. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department has found that, "Prevention is always the best medicine when it comes to avoiding, minimizing or correcting problems with coyotes."

Coyotes are valuable members of the wildlife community. ODFW says, "Coyotes play an important role in the food chain by controlling mice, rats and other rodents and scavenging on dead wildlife that otherwise could spread disease." It has noted that coyotes help reduce gopher and geese populations, which is beneficial in urban areas and on agricultural lands, and that coyotes prey on feral cats who harm songbird numbers.

The other cash-competitive blood sports involving animals, such as dogfighting and cockfighting, are among the most condemned of all animal welfare



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ASSOCIATION.

violations nationally. Consequently, they have strong laws and penalties against them in all 50 states.

In summary, coyote killing contests are cruel, wasteful, and harmful to our ecosystems. They do not reflect the values or wildlife appreciation enthusiasm of most Oregonians, nor do they comport with our state's ethical hunting principles of sportsmanship and fair chase. With this in mind, we respectfully ask you to end these inhumane contests in Oregon.

We applaud and thank the Commissioners for continuing to evaluate the standards and regulations with objective measures. We compel you to make the necessary changes to adhere to the basic standards of animal welfare and conservancy.

Sincerely,

Cierra Buer, DVM, Powell Butte, Oregon  
HSVMA Oregon State Representative

And the following Oregon veterinary professionals:

Maria Becket, Veterinary Technician, Grants Pass  
Dr. Crystal Bloodworth, Veterinarian, Bend  
Sarah Bowers, Veterinary Technician, LaPine  
Savannah Bowles, Veterinary Student, Corvallis  
Brianna Bryan, Veterinary Student, Colton  
Diane Carpenter, Veterinary Technician, The Dalles  
Dr. Laura Chang, Veterinary, Portland  
Dr. Patricia DeVore, Veterinary Springfield  
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Reagan Jagosh, Veterinary Student, Corvallis  
Cassandra Jenkins, Veterinary Technician, Eugene  
Dr. Nancy Johnson, Veterinarian, Eugene  
Dr. Ingrid Kessler, Veterinarian, Eugene  
Dr. Lisa Last, Veterinarian, Eugene  
Sierra Lepiane, Veterinary Student, Milton-Freewater  
Dolores, Matthys, Veterinary Technician, Gearhart  
Dr. Patti Mayfield, Veterinarian, Bend



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Dr. Louise Mesher, Veterinarian, Lake Oswego  
Tuesday Neuman, Veterinary Technician, Redmond  
Beth Palmer, Veterinary Technician, Terrebonne  
Gwendy Reyes-Illg, Veterinarian, Milwaukie  
Heaven Rodrigues, Veterinary Technician, Bend  
Dr. Giovanna Rosenlicht, Veterinarian, Corvallis  
Dr. Cydria Schaefer, Veterinarian, Beaverton  
Dr. Gwen Schneider, Veterinarian, Terrebonne  
Dr. Patricia Shea, Veterinarian, Eugene  
Dr. Ellie Shelburne, Veterinarian, Clackamas  
Shauna Sherick, Veterinarian Technician, Newberg  
Hannah Walker, Veterinary Student, Corvallis  
Brooke Weinstein, Veterinary Student, Corvallis  
Rachel Wells, Veterinary Technician, Portland

December 7, 2022

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Salem, OR 97302

***Re: Support Coalition Petition to Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests***

Dear Chair Mary Wahl and Commissioners:

As state lawmakers who value all of Oregon's wildlife, we are writing in support of the wildlife petition before your agency to prohibit coyote killing contests in Oregon.

Oregon's wildlife is managed for the enjoyment and benefit of all its citizens, both present and future. Thus, we can all appreciate Oregon's strong hunting tradition without supporting practices that waste wildlife. Coyote killing contests violate the spirit and tenets of responsible stewardship, sportsmanship, and respect for the public's wildlife.

More than 1,000 coyotes have been killed in these contests in Oregon over the last four years, and more than 10 such contests have been held in Oregon during this time. These contests offer cash prizes and/or guns for the winner who kills the most, the largest, or the smallest coyotes over one or two days.

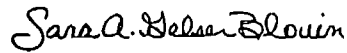
Coyote killing contests are also not supported by modern, science-based wildlife management principles. Numerous research studies, including those recently cited in [Oregon Small Farm News](#), an extension of Oregon State University, underscore that the indiscriminate, mass killing of coyotes is not an effective means of reducing conflicts with livestock or pets, or increasing numbers of game species.

Contests that incentivize the indiscriminate killing of large numbers of animals are deeply at odds with the conservation values of Oregonians, in both urban and rural areas. In fact, a recent poll by the [Remington Research Group](#) underscores those values with a strong majority of Oregonians across all five Congressional districts supporting legislation to ban coyote killing contests.

Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and to allow wanton waste of a wildlife species as part of a contest is an abdication of the state's responsibility to protect the public's wildlife. To that end, we encourage you to approve the wildlife petition to ban coyote killing contests in Oregon. This is an issue that aligns well within the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission's mission to protect and conserve the state's wildlife for present and future generations.

Thank you for your service and dedication to Oregon's wildlife and for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,



Senator Sara Gelsner Blouin, SD 8



Senator James Manning, SD 7



Senator Michael Dembrow, SD 23



Representative Mark Meek, HD 40



Representative Paul Evans, HD 20



Rob Nosse  
State Representative



Senator Jeff Golden, SD 3



Senator Deb Patterson, SD 10



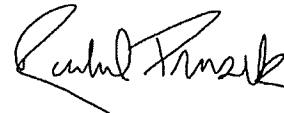
Representative David Gomberg, HD 10



Senator Floyd Prozanski, SD 4



Senator Chris Gorsek, SD 25



Representative Rachel Prusak, HD 37



Representative Dacia Grayber, HD 35



Representative Tawna Sanchez, HD 43



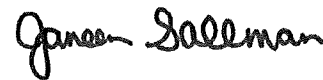
Representative Ken Helm, HD 34



Representative Sheri Schouten, HD 27



Representative Zach Hudson, HD 49



Senator Janeen Sollman, SD 15



Representative Paul Holvey, HD 8



Representative Brad Witt, HD 31

December 15, 2022

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Salem, OR 97302

**Re: Scientific justifications in support of Coalition Petition to Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests**

Dear Chair Mary Wahl and Commissioners:

The undersigned scientists of Oregon respectfully urge the Commission to end coyote killing contests. It is well-established, based on the best available scientific evidence, that coyote killing contests do not achieve any legitimate wildlife management objective. Instead, they are held for the sole purpose of killing coyotes for the chance at cash and prizes. Prohibiting these ecologically harmful events will instill confidence in the public that the Commission makes wildlife management decisions based on sound science.

**I. COYOTE KILLING CONTESTS ARE NOT AN EFFECTIVE TOOL TO MANAGE WILDLIFE POPULATIONS**

Indiscriminate killing of coyotes in the form of killing contests will not effectively manage their populations. Ironically, killing coyotes, even in large numbers, can increase their populations in the long term. While lethal control temporarily reduces coyote pack size, coyotes respond to this reduction by rebounding to—or even exceeding—the original number of territories that contain the breeding pair.<sup>1</sup> Food, habitat and territorial defense by resident family groups limit coyote populations when coyotes are left alone. In a typical coyote pack, only the dominant pair reproduces, which suppresses reproduction among subordinate members of the pack. But when a member of the alpha pair is killed, these breeders are quickly replaced by subordinate pack members or a loner coyote from outside the pack and then mating proceeds.<sup>2</sup> Roughly 90 percent of breeding adults are replaced within one year. Furthermore, the temporary reduction in pack size results in reduced competition for food among the pack (meaning there is more food available for each pack member). This results in increased litter survival—more pups surviving to adulthood—because there is now more food available in the territory and fewer pups die from starvation. While normally about 2 pups out of a litter size of 6 would survive to maturity, in exploited coyote packs about 4 or 5 pups out of 6 will survive. This increase in pup survival and combined with the rapid replacement of breeders increases recruitment which allows the coyote population to bounce back to pre-exploitation levels within one year.<sup>3</sup> These factors can ultimately increase coyote numbers following exploitation events like killing contests and can result in increased predation on domestic livestock and game populations.

**II. COYOTE KILLING CONTESTS CAN INCREASE CONFLICTS WITH PETS AND LIVESTOCK**

Because indiscriminate killing of coyotes disrupts their pack structure, killing contests can increase wildlife conflicts. An article in *Oregon Small Farm News* points to USDA studies showing that “for many types of predators, there is a paradoxical relationship between the number of predators removed and the number of livestock killed” and that as more predators were removed, more livestock were killed.”<sup>4</sup> As explained in Section I, disordered coyote families tend to have more pups surviving to adulthood—exploited packs may have double or triple the number of pups compared to unexploited packs. To feed these hungry pups, coyotes may switch from killing smaller prey such as rodents and rabbits to killing larger prey such as sheep.<sup>5</sup> Killing contests also do not target specific animals that are causing problems for farmers and ranchers.

**III. COYOTE KILLING CONTESTS WILL NOT BOOST BIG GAME, GAME BIRD, OR SMALL GAME SPECIES**

Science does not support claims that killing coyotes will increase populations of game species for hunters. With regard to deer, the key to their growth and survival is ensuring sufficient nutrition and the protection of breeding females.<sup>6</sup> Many state commissions and agencies, including those in Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming, have concluded that reducing predator numbers will not enhance populations of ungulates, small game animals, and game birds.<sup>7</sup> Studies have shown that coyotes can increase survivorship of game bird species like ducks<sup>8</sup> and quail<sup>9</sup> because they help control smaller carnivores like raccoons and skunks that are more likely to prey on nests, and can lessen the effect of those carnivores on other bird species.<sup>10</sup>

#### **IV. COYOTE KILLING CONTESTS REMOVE ANIMALS WHO PROVIDE FREE, ECOLOGICAL SERVICES**

Mass removal of vital coyotes from the environment strips us of the benefits these animals provide to both urban and rural communities. Coyotes control rodent and rabbit populations, which in turn helps keep cities clean, protects crops and reduces the transmission of zoonotic diseases such as Lyme disease and hantavirus.<sup>11</sup> Coyotes also consume animal carcasses, remove sick animals from the gene pool, disperse seeds, indirectly boost plant and wildlife biodiversity, and protect ground-nesting birds.<sup>12</sup>

**For these reasons, we strongly support the Coalition Petition to Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests in the state of Oregon.**

Sincerely,

**Robert Crabtree, PhD**

Co-Founder & Chief Scientist  
Yellowstone Ecological Research Center

**Sheanna Steingass, PhD, M.S.**

Courtesy Professor, OSU Dept. Of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Science  
Affiliate Professor, OSU Marine Mammal Institute  
Affiliate Professor, OSU Comparative Health Sciences

**Robert Wielgus, PhD, M.S.**

Professor of Wildlife Ecology (retired)  
Director of the Large Carnivore Conservation Lab (retired)  
Washington State University

**Randy Comeleo, M.S.**

Ecologist  
Affiliate Professor, OSU Comparative Health Sciences  
Corvallis, OR

**Amy Stuart**

Fish & Wildlife Biologist (retired)  
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

**Ted Chu**

Wildlife Biologist  
Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game (retired)  
Nehalem, OR

**Michael Gerdes**

Wildlife Biologist (retired)  
U.S. Forest Service

**Michelle McSwain, M.S.**

Hydrologist (retired)  
Bureau of Land Management  
U.S. Forest Service  
Prineville, OR

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<sup>1</sup> F. F. Knowlton, E. M. Gese, and M. M. Jaeger, "Coyote Depredation Control: An Interface between Biology and Management," *Journal of Range Management* 52, no. 5 (1999); Robert Crabtree and Jennifer Sheldon, "Coyotes and Canid Coexistence in Yellowstone," in *Carnivores in Ecosystems: The Yellowstone Experience*, ed. T. Clark et al. (New Haven [Conn.]: Yale University Press, 1999); J. M. Goodrich and S. W. Buskirk, "Control of Abundant Native Vertebrates for Conservation of Endangered Species," *Conservation Biology* 9, no. 6 (1995); S.D. Gehrt. 2004. Chicago Coyotes part II. *Wildlife Control Technologies* 11(4):20-21, 38-9, 42; F.F. Knowlton. 1972. Preliminary interpretations of coyote population mechanics with some management implications. *J. Wildlife Management*. 36:369-382.

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- <sup>2</sup> F.F. Knowlton. 1972. Preliminary interpretations of coyote population mechanics with some management implications. *J. Wildlife Management*. 36:369-382.
- <sup>3</sup> Robert Crabtree and Jennifer Sheldon, "Coyotes and Canid Coexistence in Yellowstone," in *Carnivores in Ecosystems: The Yellowstone Experience*, ed. T. Clark et al. (New Haven [Conn.]: Yale University Press, 1999)
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Sept 10, 2023

Chair Mary Wahl  
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
4034 SE Industrial Drive  
Salem, OR, 97302

RE: SUPPORT for Rule to Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests in Oregon

I will comment strictly on the science of coyote killing contests to reduce livestock and deer predation. Contrary to statements made by some non-scientists, the use of coyote killing contests for predator control in Oregon is ineffective for reducing predation on livestock and game species. The scientific evidence is unequivocal.

I quote from Oregon Small Farm News, Spring 2018, Using Coyotes to Protect Livestock, Oregon State University Extension Service. "Surprisingly, these researchers found that as more predators are killed, more livestock are killed". "killing coyotes is kind of like mowing the lawn, it stimulates vigorous new growth" via increased reproduction and immigration." "well behaved coyotes can actually prevent livestock losses by defending a territory that may include sheep".

John Shivik, USDA Wildlife Services Scientist, the nation's preeminent researcher on coyote control reported that non-lethal control is much more effective than killing coyotes (Shivik J.A., A Treves, P. Callahan. 2003 Non-lethal techniques for managing predation: primary and secondary repellents. Conservation Biology, 17:1531-37. In his book: The predator paradox, ending the war with wolves, bears, cougars, and coyotes, 2014. Beacon Press, Shivik states "the cost of broad predator control did not provide a return on investment in the form of more deer. No actual increase in deer populations occurs". "Coyote control preferentially removed the "good" coyotes, and left the repeat offenders" in livestock depredations. Basically, killing resident coyotes simply results in an influx of even more new coyotes - to quickly take their place, and the new predators are often more likely to prey on livestock.

Ekland et al. 2017 reviewed the scientific literature from 1990 to 2016. I quote "unselective predator removal may reduce livestock losses UNLESS the removed individuals are instantly replaced or represent part of the population that does not kill livestock. In this case predator removal may be completely inefficient". A. Ekland. J.V. Lopez-Bao. 2017. Limited evidence on effectiveness of interventions to reduce livestock predation by large carnivores. Scientific Reports 7, Article number 2097.

Megan Draheim said in Scientific American May 2017. "why would predation increase after predators are killed? When pack animals such as coyotes are killed, the social structure breaks down. Packs protect territories, so breaking up a pack allows new animals to come in".

Kilgo et al. 2017. said both "immigration and reproduction increase after killing- rendering lethal control ineffective". Reproductive characteristics of a coyote population before and during exploitation. Journal of Wildlife Management, 2017, 81(8): 1386-1393.

In summary, the vast majority of scientific studies have concluded that mass killing of coyotes, such as in killing contests, are not effective in reducing predation on either livestock or game animals.

Dr. Wielgus is a former (retired) Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Director of the Large Carnivore Conservation Lab at Washington State University. He obtained his Ph.D. at the University of British Columbia, MS at University of Idaho, and BS at Brandon University.

He has studied the effects of killing large predators on conflicts with humans, prey, and livestock for over 40 years. He has published over 35 peer reviewed scientific papers on predator/human interactions and is an internationally recognized expert in his field.

### **REFEREED SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL ARTICLES ON EFFECTS OF KILLING PREDATORS BY DR. WIELGUS**

- <sup>1,2</sup>Maletzke, B., <sup>1</sup>Kertson, B., Swanson, M., Koehler, G., Beausoleil, R., **Wielgus, R.**, and <sup>1</sup>Cooley, H. 2017. Cougar response to a gradient of human development. *Ecosphere*. July 2017 volume 8(7), Article e01828.
- Wielgus, R.B.** 2017. Resource competition and apparent competition in declining mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*). *Canadian Journal of Zoology*. 95: 499-504.
- <sup>2</sup> Maletzke, B.T., **Wielgus, R.B.**, Pierce, D.J., Martorello, D., and Stinson, D. 2016. A meta-population model to predict occurrence and recovery of wolves. *Journal of Wildlife Management*. 80 (2): 368-376. DOI: 10.1002/jwmg.1008.
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- <sup>1</sup>Keehner, J.N., **Wielgus, R.B.**, Maletzke, B.T., and Swanson, M.E. 2015. Effects of male targeted harvest regime on sexual segregation in mountain lion. *Biological Conservation*. 192:42-47.
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## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Cary Smith (she/her) <csmith@wildlifelandtrust.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 7:20 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Statement in support of proposed administrative rule to ban wildlife killing contests in Oregon  
**Attachments:** Wildlife Land Trust statement on proposed OR killing contest ban 2023.pdf

You don't often get email from csmith@wildlifelandtrust.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

On behalf of our Oregon members and supporters, the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust requests your support for the proposed rule to prohibit wildlife killing contests in Oregon.

The Wildlife Land Trust has 117 sanctuaries across the U.S. and Canada that span more than 21,085 acres, including our largest property in Lake County, Oregon. We work to permanently preserve and connect habitat, protecting the homes of all species of wildlife. And each of those species, including native carnivores like coyotes, play their own, uniquely important role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Coyotes provide trophic cascade benefits such as indirectly protecting ground-nesting birds from smaller carnivores and increasing the biological diversity of plant and wildlife communities.<sup>1</sup> By keeping rodent populations in check, coyotes also help to protect crops and control tick-borne diseases such as Lyme.

In addition to our work to protect wildlife habitat, we strive to create a world in which wild animals are respected for their intrinsic value and humane solutions are sought to human-wildlife conflicts. Scientific studies have amply demonstrated that the random killing of coyotes, such as in these killing contests, is not an effective method of mitigating potential conflicts with livestock, pets, and humans. In fact, it can increase problems. By disrupting the stable and limiting breeding structure of coyote packs, more reproduction will occur—resulting in more coyotes than there were to begin with. USDA studies have also found that the random killing of non-predating coyotes, who were living in proximity to livestock herds and not causing problems, can trigger conflicts where there were none previously.<sup>2</sup> Nonlethal livestock protection methods, including the use of fencing, fladry, guard animals, and birthing sheds, have proven very effective in preventing conflicts with wild carnivore species.<sup>3</sup>

With all of this in mind, the Oregon members and supporters of the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust ask that you approve this proposal.

Thank you.

<sup>1</sup> S. E. Henke and F. C. Bryant, "Effects of Coyote Removal on the Faunal Community in Western Texas," *Journal of Wildlife Management* 63, no. 4 (1999); K. R. Crooks and M. E. Soule, "Mesopredator Release and Avifaunal Extinctions in a Fragmented System," *Nature* 400, no. 6744 (1999); E. T. Mezquida, S. J. Slater, and C. W. Benkman, "Sage-Grouse and Indirect Interactions: Potential Implications of Coyote Control on Sage-Grouse Populations," *Condor* 108, no. 4 (2006); N. M. Waser et al., "Coyotes, Deer, and Wildflowers: Diverse Evidence Points to a Trophic Cascade," *Naturwissenschaften* 101, no. 5 (2014).

<sup>2</sup> Randy Comeleo, "Using Coyotes to Protect Livestock. Wait. What?" *Oregon Small Farm News*, Vol. XIII No. 2.

<sup>3</sup> Adrian Treves et al., "Forecasting Environmental Hazards and the Application of Risk Maps to Predator Attacks on Livestock," *BioScience* 61, no. 6 (2011); Philip J. Baker et al., "Terrestrial Carnivores and Human Food Production: Impact and Management," *Mammal Review* 38, (2008); A. Treves and K. U. Karanth, "Human-Carnivore Conflict and Perspectives on Carnivore Management Worldwide," *Conservation Biology* 17, no. 6 (2003); J. A. Shivik, A. Treves, and P. Callahan, "Nonlethal Techniques for Managing Predation: Primary and Secondary Repellents," *Conservation Biology* 17, no. 6 (2003); N. J. Lance et al., "Biological, Technical, and Social Aspects of Applying Electrified Fladry for Livestock Protection from Wolves (*Canis Lupus*)," *Wildlife Research* 37, no. 8 (2010); Andrea Morehouse and Mark Boyce, "From Venison to Beef: Seasonal Changes in Wolf Diet Composition in a Livestock Grazing Environment," *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 9, no. 8 (2011); and Fox, C.H. and C.M. Papouchis. 2005. Coyotes in Our Midst: Coexisting with an Adaptable and Resilient Carnivore. Animal Protection Institute, Sacramento, California.

**Cary Smith**

Program Specialist, Wildlife Land Trust

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**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
**WILDLIFE LAND TRUST**

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jamie St Mark <gottagit@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 7:07 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from gottagit@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jamie St Mark <gottagit@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 7:07 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

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Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Kirk & Becky Stock <beckyandkirk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 7:03 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from beckyandkirk@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

I had an old time rancher friend who grew alfalfa. He said without coyotes he's over run with rabbits. He worked the land and this example of the balance of nature is one I will never forget.

Remember Malhuer - public lands are everyone's land, and Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens. We cannot allow a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Please stop these cruel and irresponsible killing contests.

Becky Stock  
1250 SW Wheeler Place  
Bend, OR 97702  
775-848-7095

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jonister <jonister10@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 5:54 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Cc:** askcal@themeateater.com  
**Subject:** Coyote killing contests

You don't often get email from jonister10@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am a hunter in Oregon and I STRONGLY OPPOSE enacting a ban on coyote killing contests. I have never participated in such a contest. I feel it is a cultural heritage in the state that should be preserved. Moreover, coyote numbers are not on the decline and are doing very well in most areas.

I am a licensed trapper and have spent many a morning checking traps for calf-killing coyotes. They cause damage to our big game populations, cattle herds, and pets. Science backed research has substantial information on coyote population resilience and has proven they are nearly impossible to eliminate. Harvest competitions do not have enough impact to destroy a population but can be used as a healthy tool to curb damage to resources.

This ordeal is sponsored by animal rights "activists" and should be thrown out entirely. The commission should make "unprotected animal killing competitions" a legal right. These special interest groups are undermining the American model of wildlife conservation and should not be given a seat at the table. Don't let this commission turn into what Washington State has.

Kind regards,

Jonah Kubecka

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Sara Moran <sm709@humboldt.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:51 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Killing Contests Input

You don't often get email from sm709@humboldt.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I'm reaching out to express my support for the ban on wildlife killing contests.

There is no scientific evidence that indicates killing contests reduce overall population numbers, particularly of coyotes. Populations balance out over time unless there are situations where large numbers die quickly, as in killing contests. In fact, a large decrease in a population may cause a spike in following years. Here is an NPR episode about this: <https://www.npr.org/2019/06/14/730056855/killing-coyotes-is-not-as-effective-as-once-thought-researchers-say>

Furthermore, killing larger carnivores like coyotes may cause an over-abundance of other species, creating an imbalance in the ecosystem.

Killing contests are not wildlife management, but a game. In a time with environmental needs being looked over, it's important to look at wildlife with a management perspective and not a profit perspective.

Thank you,  
Sara Moran

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** russell953@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:45 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Written Comments ODFW prohibiting Wildlife Killing Contest; Hearing Sept. 15, 2023

You don't often get email from russell953@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Distinguished Chair Wahl and Members of the Commission:

My name is Kristi LaHaye, and I live in Portland, Oregon. I am a proud Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) Humane Policy Volunteer Leader and long-standing volunteer at Oregon Humane society. I am writing my comments herein on behalf of bringing an end to wildlife killing contests in Oregon.

These killing contests represent some of the most egregious and barbaric hunting tactics still in practice. This is not an ethical contest, but an indiscriminate killing. The use of high-tech equipment and electronic calling devices that mimic the sounds of young coyotes in distress allows animals to be manipulated for easier kills. This contest goes against the values that we here in Oregon hold for how we steward our land and wildlife. More than half our state population is not in favor of these contests.

Coyotes are a key component of the ecosystems they live in. To assume these animals can be killed in vast quantities for entertainment and financial reward is presumptuous. Making a game out of mass killing is not an effective way to address conflicts with livestock. Instead, their populations should be maintained and managed in the way that other animal populations are handled.

Scientific studies have shown that the indiscriminate killing inherent with these contests can have adverse effects on coyote population management efforts. Randomly killing coyotes allows more coyotes to reproduce larger litters and encourages new coyotes seeking space and resources to move in on the territory. Studies also show that randomly killing coyotes can increase coyote-livestock conflicts, because to feed a litter of pups born out of indiscriminate killing, either orphaned or of a larger size, adults in the pack who would normally prey on rodents will resort to targeting larger livestock to survive.

Sadly, Oregon is the only state on the west coast that hasn't banned these cruel contests, and it's why I'm grateful for this opportunity today to join our neighbors and other states across the nation to cease these wildlife killing contests.

Coyote killing contests have no place in modern wildlife management, increase conflicts with livestock, and demonstrate little ethical standards. Please vote to end these pointless and unsporting contests in our beloved state of Oregon.

Thank you for your time.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Gary Ligi <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:44 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please Adopt Proposed Regulations of Wildlife Killing Contests

OR Fish & Wildlife Commission,

I strongly support the proposed rule ending wildlife killing contests on public lands in Oregon and strictly regulating them on private lands.

Please adopt the wildlife killing contest rule at your September meeting.

Thank you.

Gary Ligi  
garyligi@mac.com  
45986 NW Hartwick Rd.  
Banks, Oregon 97106

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Leanna Valdes <leannataylor75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:33 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please ban the coyote killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from leannataylor75@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. It is cruel and promotes a wanton waste of wildlife. Killing coyotes like this can disrupt a stable family pack potentially causing even more conflicts with livestock. Also, it is cruel and undermines responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship and respect for our public wildlife. Coyotes play an important role in our environment too. They help keep rats, mice, and other pests as well as feral cat populations in check.

The fact that our state supports this kind of killing of wildlife sickens me. We now know how important our predators are in the natural cycle, why would we blatantly disregard this information just to give some people a disgusting glee from a celebratory mass killing. Disgusting.

Also, nature studies have shown that coyotes will breed even more when their populations have been significantly reduced. These mass killings are not doing any good in nature but just promoting more mass killings.

Please ban these contests. This isn't ethical hunting, this is a mass killing.

Thank you,

Leanna Valdes

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Julie Buer <julie\_buer@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:01 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from julie\_buer@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

The targeting of a vital member of a healthy wildlife community is barbaric and cruel. This is blood sport trying to hide under the thin veil of "livestock protection". I live on a ranch in Powell Butte amidst hay fields and livestock. The coyotes, as they should be, are here as well. When we see them, they are out in the hay fields hunting all those critters who are the bane of the hay field. We see them traveling without causing distress through birthing cows to clean up afterbirth secretions. Never have we seen them attack a cow or calf, or even our dogs who sometimes feel emboldened to run out and stake a claim. The coyotes are smarter than they are given credit for. Our chickens are properly housed, and coyote intrusion free. Our goats, pigs, peacocks, turkeys and cats are all accounted for. When we do have a carcass, we haul it out to a remote location and leave a game camera nearby. We watch gratefully as the coyotes, vultures, eagles, and an occasional bob cat dispose of the carcass. In other words, I testify, in this first person account, that coyotes are vital to this ecosystem and are not the livestock attacking predator they are portrayed as being.

I would add one second person account. A neighbor came to our home one day to look for members of a dog pack which had been harassing his cattle. Apparently the dogs were let out each morning and would congregate to chase the herd for fun. They were causing real damage; broken calf legs, trampled calves, distress to the herd, and other real problems. I asked him if he had coyote issues. He said, "Heaven's no. Coyotes don't chase for sport. They know they can't take down a calf with a mother present. They do me a service, however, when a cow or calf dies, by cleaning it up."

It is long overdue that we stop allowing myth to drive decision making. In particular, it is long overdue that the coyote killing contests be banned. Please make it so.

Sincerely,

Julie Buer  
1570 NW Serrano Lane  
Powell Butte, Oregon 97753

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Gary Madison <garymadison@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:01 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote calling contest meetings

You don't often get email from garymadison@me.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

### **FACTS.**

Awarding prizes and money for wildlife killing contests is both unethical and inconsistent with our current understanding of natural systems. Such contests have no place in modern wildlife management.

Coyote killing contests are growing in Oregon at this time with as many as 600 contestants over a weekend. These competitive killing events are simply a blood bath for entertainment, money and a chance for gambling. Participants glorifying their own habit of killing.

Participants typically dump bodies having no need for them after the prizes are awarded. Investigators of these contests saw chilling scenes of participants dragging the bodies of dead coyotes, grinning next to their bloodied animals, sharing gruesome jokes about their kills. The event ends with a big celebration where participants are awarded prizes and bragging rights.

### **CONCLUSION**

The majority of people believe coyote killing contests are cruel and not necessary. They give hunters a bad name and undermine the public view of hunting. A judge in Harney County years ago stopped coyote killing contests, The events have started up again.

The fish and wildlife is in the business of selling sports hunting license. Coyote killing contests are in conflict with this. The contest lets lots of coyotes called escape and they are educated to calling. This makes for difficult and discouraging calling experience for the sports caller.

The killing contest numbers show it is all about the money. Up to 600 people are competing in contests and pay between \$100 and \$200 per man. That is big money that can encourage unscrupulous methods of hunting.

Finally. Many states around Oregon have stopped coyote killing contests. It is time Oregon does the same!

Respectfully submitted

Gary Madison  
541/589/1084

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Georgina Cole <gigicole0202@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:59 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from gigicole0202@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. If herds need to be culled then that's one thing, but to make a contest out of it is cruel and unnecessary. And it will bring out every nutjob with a gun. I can't believe this even needs to be said.

Georgina Cole  
Bend, Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** dearmolly@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** NO on wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from dearmolly@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To ODFW:

I am writing to urge you to adopt the proposed rule on wildlife killing contests on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest allowed by law.

Oregon's wildlife belongs to all residents, and allowing a small group to engage in senseless waste of a wildlife species as part of a contest neglects the state's duty to protect the public's wildlife.

A strong majority of Oregonians across Congressional districts supports public policy to ban wildlife killing contests.

Science does not support indiscriminate, large scale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species.

Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife.

Thank you,  
Ann Bakkensen  
1141 SW Mitchell Lane  
Portland, OR 97239

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Sandy Barnette <sandy.barnette@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from sandy.barnette@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...I am totally against killing for sport!!!

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jon Thorn <jonrthorn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from jonrthorn@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

This is entirely unnecessary and wasteful. Such activities promote attitudes and behaviors we don't want to foster in our communities where we are striving for a much more symbiotic and supportive relationship with our surrounding wildlife. As we continue to expand and develop, we need to put more and more effort into creating sustainable solutions for a fragile ecosystem that is already in collapse, posing a danger to us all that will continue for generations.

Thank you very much for bringing up this ban. I sincerely hope it is successfully passed and marks a big step towards the future we want to be a part of.

Thanks for your time,  
- Jon Thorn

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Eleanor Murphey <emurphey@bendcable.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:11 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from emurphey@bendcable.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...Killing Contests are a cruel , disgusting, thuggish practice by people who have no respect for our natural environment. These animals deserve our protection not our condemnation. I live in Deschutes County and in the last 20 years I have seen a decline in Coyotes and the increase in the rodent population. They have a good job to do, so let us help them do it. We need proper wildlife management not this foul slaughter of these creatures. Perhaps we need to start controlling the population of our own species. We are pushing these animals out of there natural habitats as we spread ourselves like concrete swamps, and then kill the animals we displace because they don't fit. Are we Human or Inhuman, that is the question. Do the right thing and ban killing contests.

E. Murphey

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Becky Merchant <beckymerchant@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 9:52 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from beckymerchant@bendbroadband.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why... the idea of coyotes being orphaned by a bunch of people only interested in the sport in the money is appalling to me.

I support all of the reasons stated on your poster. Sincerely, Becky Merchant, Tyler Merchant, and Mitch Merchant.

Sent from my iPhone

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** braddtucker7 <braddtucker7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 9:11 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** No ban on derbies

You don't often get email from braddtucker7@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'm sure you've received many emails bemoaning coyote killing contests, but I doubt any of those arguments are based in science, as to my knowledge there is no evidence derbies have population level impacts on coyotes. I know of no county and no State that has eradicated coyotes from their jurisdiction. In fact, coyotes elluded Federal prosecution in the early 1900s and colonized America, a much different fate than their larger cousin the Grey Wolf, who were effectively eradicated from the West, including Oregon.

None of the story of coyotes' resilience should be news to ODFW, coyotes adapted to prosecution of wolves first, and those same adaptations allow resistance to our prosecution, including derbies.

It's my understanding ODFW is tasked with scienced based management of wildlife at the population level, meaning ODFW has a responsibility to keep coyote populations healthy across the State, but is not tasked to protect any particular coyote from a rifle shot. As such, I hope ODFW resists the emotional pleas to end derbies and continues with science based management for all species, providing as much hunting opportunity as sustainable for all species.

Regards,

Bradd Tucker

ODFW ID# 4484896

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jody Tuttle <Jody@thegarnergroupp.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from jody@thegarnergroupp.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...It doesn't work. The goal of killing coyotes is to reduce the population. Previous reports have shown that coyotes respond by increasing the number of puppies in a litter. This creates a revolving door scenario. Dogs and humans are a better deterrent.

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**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Caroline Read-Mullins <caroline@thinkwildco.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 8:45 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from caroline@thinkwildco.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why: it has not proven to work. It is extremely naïve and shortsighted. There's no stopping coyote conflicts. It's like a rodent, when you kill one another one will move in. Would it not be better to set an example to our Oregon community to figure out solutions that does not result in brutal inhumane violence. Solutions are innovative and productive. Killing for the sake of killing is backwards.

Do some research. Pretty easy to find data on the ineffectiveness of mass shooting coyotes.

Caroline Read, CVT

--  
Caroline Read-Mullins, CVT  
Wildlife Veterinary Technician  
Think Wild



**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** michelendickson@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 8:42 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban coyote killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from michelendickson@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Yes! Coyote killing contests on public lands are an abomination. We need to be protecting wildlife and our natural ecosystem over economic interests and certain peoples idea of "sport". Ban coyote killing contests.

– michele dickson

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** NANCY GREEN <np\_green@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 8:29 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from np\_green@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. The practice of coyote hunts is inhumane and counter-productive to wildlife management practices. Many who kill believe they are lowering the coyote population but instead they are further disrupting the ecosystem which causes coyotes to increase their breeding.

Eight states have already banned this practice for good reason. Oregon should join this group and stop this inhumane killing.

It is important that humans learn to manage their lives around the natural world instead of detrimentally manipulating nature to fit their needs. Banning coyote killing would be a positive step in this direction.

Thank you,  
Nancy Green

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** April Lucas <april75bend@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 7:36 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from april75bend@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I completely 100% support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

Coyotes produce more pups when they are being killed. When left to do normal breeding, they produce smaller litters. The more people kill them, the more they produce. How about we just let them do what they do well which is rodent population control and stop slaughtering them for fun!! I also believe that these killing contests only add to the unhealthy mentality in humans to kill, kill, kill!! Killing in this manner doesn't work and is completely inhumane.

“Research shows that when aggressively controlled, coyotes can increase their reproductive rate by breeding at an earlier age and having larger litters, with a higher survival rate among the young. This allows coyote populations to quickly bounce back, even when as much as 70 % of their numbers are removed. Shoot or poison coyotes and you will have just as many again within a year or two. Kill one or both members of the alpha pair (A)—the only pair who normally reproduces—and other pairs will form and reproduce. At the same time, lone coyotes will move in to mate, young coyotes will start having offspring sooner, and litter sizes will grow.”

Thank you for your consideration of such an important change.

April Lucas~

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Debbie Schlenoff <debschlenoff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 12:33 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Lane County Audubon urges support of ruling to end wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from debschlenoff@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the Lane County Audubon Society to express strong support for the proposed rule ending wildlife killing contests on public lands in Oregon. Coyote indiscriminate killing contests undermine modern, science-based wildlife management principles and are not an effective wildlife management tool. The best available science shows that many wildlife populations depleted by unnatural means simply reproduce more quickly due to the sudden drop in competition for resources and changes to social structure from the loss of individuals.

Allowing a small group of individuals to engage in the cruel slaughter of a wildlife species as part of a contest is an abdication of the state's solemn duty to protect the public's wildlife, which are held and managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all Oregonians. A 2019 poll by the Remington Research Group found that a strong majority of Oregonians, in all of the state's congressional districts support public policy to ban wildlife killing contests. End cruel, wasteful, and unsporting coyote killing contests in Oregon.

Thank you for your service in protecting Oregon's fish and wildlife for all of us.

Debbie Schlenoff, Ph.D.  
Conservation Chair  
Lane County Audubon Society

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Skye Kimel <skyekimel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from skyekimel@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

First off, it's just gross and inhumane. Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its residents, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the State's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Moreover, wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.

Please stop the killing contests.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Lisa Webb <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 11:54 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please, Ban Senseless Killing Contests

OR Fish & Wildlife Commission,

Hello, I am writing to you as not only a citizen of Oregon, but as a lover of fishing, hunting, foraging, and farming. Ever since I was little I have held the deepest love and respect for the outdoors, our Mother Earth, and all the creatures that live here, including us humans. There is no reason at all for there to be killing contests, especially not for apex predators. I want to tell you a story, about the state I grew up in. I have been an Oregonian for ten years, but I grew up in Maryland. In Maryland, my ancestors exterminated the wolves. The result was not a more balanced ecosystem, the result is that the populations of white-tailed deer have exploded to an unmanageable, unfathomable number in the past 300 years. There are open seasons all year long sometimes, and it's still not enough. Everyone in Maryland has a close family member that has hit a deer with their car, and that's no small deal. It can be deadly to humans in the car. In fact, once, I was hit by a deer that jumped into the side of my car on the highway. Literally. I didn't hit her, she crammed into the side of my vehicle. These are the things that happen when humans unnecessarily exterminate large animals that are keystone species in our environments. Wolves are absolutely keystone species.

We are the younger brothers of Creation, and we need to use our gift of knowledge and free will to protect our ecosystem. We need to learn from the wolves and the foxes and the fish, we depend on them for our survival. Ranchers need to be educated in wolf management plans that do not harm the wolves. Pet owners need to be educated on how to safeguard their beloved companions. I am a dog mom and cat mom, I love my babies, AND I have no fear of them being taken by coyotes or wolves because I keep them safe.

We are able to live in harmony with apex predators. We should be following indigenous knowledge, the Tribes of the Northwest have so much knowledge that they are willing to share if we only give them back the autonomy to manage the land they've been living on for the past 40,000 years. Please, ban these contests.

Lisa Webb  
l.webb56@gmail.com  
1510 NE 68th Ave  
Portland, Oregon 97213

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Gary Madison <garymadison@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:24 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** coyote calling contest

You don't often get email from garymadison@me.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Attention Commissioner Mark Labhart

### **FACTS.**

Awarding prizes and money for wildlife killing contests is both unethical and inconsistent with our current understanding of natural systems. Such contests have no place in modern wildlife management.

Coyote killing contests are growing in Oregon at this time with as many as 600 contestants over a weekend. These competitive killing events are simply a blood bath for entertainment, money and a chance for gambling. Participants glorifying their own habit of killing.

Participants typically dump bodies having no need for them after the prizes are awarded. Investigators of these contests saw chilling scenes of participants dragging the bodies of dead coyotes, grinning next to their bloodied animals, sharing gruesome jokes about their kills. The event ends with a big celebration where participants are awarded prizes and bragging rights.

### **CONCLUSION**

The majority of people believe coyote killing contests are cruel and not necessary. They give hunters a bad name and undermine the public view of hunting. A judge in Harney County years ago stopped coyote killing contests, The events have started up again.

The fish and wildlife is in the business of selling sports hunting license. Coyote killing contests are in conflict with this. The contest lets lots of coyotes called escape and they are educated to calling. This makes for difficult and discouraging calling experience for the sports caller.

The killing contest numbers show it is all about the money. Up to 600 people are competing in contests and pay between \$100 and \$200 per man. That is big money that can encourage unscrupulous methods of hunting.

Finally. Many states around Oregon have stopped coyote killing contests. It is time Oregon does the same!

Respectfully submitted

Gary Madison  
541/589/1084

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jan Maddron <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:21 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please Adopt Proposed Regulations of Wildlife Killing Contests

OR Fish & Wildlife Commission,

Please vote to ban animal-killing contests in Oregon.

Thank you.

Jan Maddron  
janmaddron@gmail.com  
63670 Martin Rd,9  
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Gary Madison <garymadison@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:18 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** coyote calling contest

You don't often get email from garymadison@me.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

attention. Commissioner Becky Hatfield

Awarding prizes and money for wildlife killing contests is both unethical and inconsistent with our current understanding of natural systems. Such contests have no place in modern wildlife management.

Coyote killing contests are growing in Oregon at this time with as many as 600 contestants over a weekend. These competitive killing events are simply a blood bath for entertainment, money and a chance for gambling. Participants glorifying their own habit of killing.

Participants typically dump bodies having no need for them after the prizes are awarded. Investigators of these contests saw chilling scenes of participants dragging the bodies of dead coyotes, grinning next to their bloodied animals, sharing gruesome jokes about their kills. The event ends with a big celebration where participants are awarded prizes and bragging rights.

### **CONCLUSION**

The majority of people believe coyote killing contests are cruel and not necessary. They give hunters a bad name and undermine the public view of hunting. A judge in Harney County years ago stopped coyote killing contests, The events have started up again.

The fish and wildlife is in the business of selling sports hunting license. Coyote killing contests are in conflict with this. The contest lets lots of coyotes called escape and they are educated to calling. This makes for difficult and discouraging calling experience for the sports caller.

The killing contest numbers show it is all about the money. Up to 600 people are competing in contests and pay between \$100 and \$200 per man. That is big money that can encourage unscrupulous methods of hunting.

Finally. Many states around Oregon have stopped coyote killing contests. It is time Oregon does the same!

Respectfully submitted

Gary Madison  
541/589/1084

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Lynne Ouchida <Lynne@hscsco.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Support for a ban on wildlife killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from lynne@hscsco.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Wildlife killing contests are unethical and not science-based wildlife management. Oregon should be amongst those states joining the ban on wildlife killing contests. These killing contests are cruel and irresponsible. They do not promote responsible sportsmanship and respect for wildlife. Wildlife killing contests are cruel, and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

Sincerely,  
Lynne Ouchida  
Bend, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Bee Paulson <mizbeep@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from mizbeep@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

All wildlife is vital and the slaughter of coyotes or any other creature is inhumane and totally unnecessary. Please do not allow these contests to be legal, much less promoted. These animals are integral to the ecosystem and their needless executions are an affront to anyone sharing this planet. Please allow the ban to be approved. Thank you, Bee Paulson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Rachel Day <rachelday@urbannestpdx.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:04 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please... ban wildlife killing derbies in Oregon :(

You don't often get email from rachelday@urbannestpdx.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am an Oregon Native and am shook to the core that this debauchery is still permitted.

Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation centered values.

Eight states, including five in the west—Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado—as well as Maryland, Vermont and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests, primarily through their state wildlife commissions.

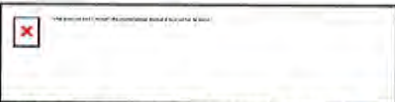
Wildlife killing contests are CRUEL and UNDERMINE responsible sportsmanship and respect for the public's wildlife.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important ban.

Rachel

**RACHEL DAY**  
**URBAN NEST REALTY**  
Real Estate Broker

**email:** [rachelday@urbannestpdx.com](mailto:rachelday@urbannestpdx.com)  
**cell:** 541.212.6383  
**website:** [urbannestpdx.com](http://urbannestpdx.com)



follow us on Instagram: [@urbannestpdx](https://www.instagram.com/urbannestpdx)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Donna Johnson <donnaraej@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote killing opposition

[You don't often get email from donnaraej@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Commissioners,  
Please vote against these animal killing contests. OR is the land of respect for nature as is. We don't need type of regulation affecting our lives and the environment.  
Thank you so much!  
Donna Rae Johnson  
Bend

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Martha Swain <swainmartha13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 1:37 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from swainmartha13@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'd like to add my voice to the effort to encourage the commission to ban contests that involve the killing of wildlife, such as coyotes. Such archaic contests have no place in the world where we know taking care of the natural environment is our top priority. Sincere thanks.

Martha Swain  
Bend OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Linda Jean DeMartini <info@email.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 1:16 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please Stop Cruel Coyote Killing Contests.

OR Fish & Wildlife Commission,

I strongly support the proposed rule ending wildlife killing contests on public lands in Oregon and restricting them on private lands (aka the "Derby Prohibition for Taking Unprotected Mammals") rule. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all the state's people. Wildlife killing contests are a violation of the state's solemn duty to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians. A 2019 poll by the respected, bipartisan Remington Research Group found that a strong majority of Oregonians, in all of the state's congressional districts, support public policy to ban wildlife killing contests.

Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for Oregon's wildlife. Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards rather than sound science. They are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation centered values. Thank you for directing staff to draft these rules. It is past time that Oregon joined the other states, including our neighbors in California and Washington, that have already banned cruel wildlife killing contests. I am appalled and frankly embarrassed that Oregon has not done so earlier.

I'm asking you to please adopt the wildlife killing contest rule at your September meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Linda Jean DeMartini  
rainbowabu@gmail.com  
50350 Cowen Rd., Slip 15  
SCAPPOOSE, Oregon 97056

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Susan Dyer-Preston <sdp\_3@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 1:06 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from sdp\_3@msn.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

These "contests" are cruel and inhumane. The animals are slaughtered without dignity for life. This does not represent the best of who we are as Oregonians.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dale Pilon <djpilon@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:41 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from djpilon@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

1. **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
2. **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

These along with many other reasons make no sense to disrupt the Coyote population. Unlike the large snakes in the Florida Everglades, Coyotes are native to Oregon and help maintain the balance of Oregon's wildlife and natural lands.

I strongly urge you to ban coyote killing contests in Oregon

Dale Pilon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Tegan Allen <teganrae225@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:58 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban Wildlife Killing Derbies in Oregon

You don't often get email from teganrae225@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear ODFW,

Adopt the proposed rule. Do the right thing. Please, please do the right thing.

Tegan

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dianne Ensign <Roughskinnednewt@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:26 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban inhumane and ecologically dangerous wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from roughskinnednewt@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote to adopt the proposed rule and ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its residents and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in wanton waste of a wildlife species as part of a contest neglects the state's duty to protect the public's wildlife, which are held and managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all Oregonians.

Science does not support indiscriminate, largescale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species. It can even lead to an increase in coyote numbers by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their rate of reproduction.

These gruesome contests brutally kill mass amounts of animals and treat their bodies like nothing more than trash. Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation centered values.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dianne Ensign  
Portland, OR 97219

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Amber Bourne <abourne@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:55 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Re: I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from abourne@live.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Here is what sent if you want to tweak it a little and send one. Has to be in by 5 tomorrow.

On Sep 10, 2023, at 8:52 PM, Amber Bourne <abourne@live.com> wrote:

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

As a native Oregonian's we strongly encourage you to consider putting an end to wildlife killing contests. These contests are cruel, inhumane, and no longer viewed as an appropriate way to manage wildlife. We know for a fact that killing a large number of predators in a small area creates a vacuum that will quickly be filled by other predators. We see value in all of the wildlife that call Oregon home, and would like them to be here for future generations. We have the knowledge and scientific evidence to do better by our wildlife. Please put an end to the unsportsmanlike killing of OUR wildlife. Thank you for your consideration.  
Heath and Amber Bourne

**\*\*text below was copied from Thinkwild\*\***

1. Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management: Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. Public Ownership of Wildlife: Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
3. Strong Public Support: A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests.
4. Ineffectiveness and Harm: Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.

5. National Precedent: Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. Ethical Concerns: These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. Cruelty and Irresponsibility: Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Amber Bourne <abourne@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:52 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from abourne@live.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

As a native Oregonian's we strongly encourage you to consider putting an end to wildlife killing contests. These contests are cruel, inhumane, and no longer viewed as an appropriate way to manage wildlife. We know for a fact that killing a large number of predators in a small area creates a vacuum that will quickly be filled by other predators. We see value in all of the wildlife that call Oregon home, and would like them to be here for future generations. We have the knowledge and scientific evidence to do better by our wildlife. Please put an end to the unsportsmanlike killing of OUR wildlife. Thank you for your consideration.

Heath and Amber Bourne

**\*\*text below was copied from Thinkwild\*\***

1. Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management: Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. Public Ownership of Wildlife: Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
3. Strong Public Support: A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests.
4. Ineffectiveness and Harm: Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.
5. National Precedent: Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. Ethical Concerns: These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. Cruelty and Irresponsibility: Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Amy Cullen <amycullen2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:31 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from amycullen2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

1. **Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management:** Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. **Public Ownership of Wildlife:** Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
3. **Strong Public Support:** A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests.
4. **Ineffectiveness and Harm:** Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.
5. **National Precedent:** Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

Thank you for reading and listening.

Amy

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Karon Johnson <karonjguam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 7:52 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from karonjguam@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. In this day and age, it's astonishing to me that anyone would support the mass killing of predators which excel in catching rodents. Leave the coyotes alone! No mass killing!

Karon Johnson  
61250 King Solomon Lane  
Bend, OR 97702

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Karen Kindel <k.kindel@att.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 6:30 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from k.kindel@att.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am adamantly opposed to wildlife killing contests.

At a time when we are trying to protect wildlife and they are struggling under so many disadvantages, how can such archaic and cruel activities exist?

So archaic and senseless.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** anne mccormack <acmccormack@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 6:17 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote/ animal derbies.

You don't often get email from acmccormack@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

i can't believe this is Still an issue. With Alot of oregon in the fire plain/zone, please consider All the animals that are trying to survive in the new developments , the gun nuts, and all the other shoot to kill whack jobs.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Stephanie Farac <sfarac13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 5:44 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban wildlife killing contests

[You don't often get email from sfarac13@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I am very saddened and ashamed that wildlife killing contests are still legal in our state. I ask you to please ban this practice. These contests are not ethical and un-sportsmanlike. They only serve the purpose of allowing a few individuals to kill for fun. This damages the ecosystem for all of us!! We can't enjoy a healthy ecosystem. The carcasses as a result of the contest are thrown in the trash. We are better than this. Wildlife deserves better. This barbaric practice needs to be banned! Thank you!

Stephanie Farac

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Andra Bobbitt <andra.bobbitt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 5:43 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from andra.bobbitt@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Coyotes are part of an ecosystem where they play a big part in keeping the population of other animals such as rabbits in balance. I understand that they may take occasional farm animals and ranchers should take precautions to secure their domesticated animals well being. Full on hunts to kill wild animals will have adverse consequences on keeping the rest of the ecosystem, out of the fence bounds, in balance.

Thank you,  
Andra Bobbitt  
9580 NW Egret  
Seal Rock OR 97376

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Sue Cheatham <suecheat@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from suecheat@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why killing wildlife is just wrong! It's cruel and evil. Please ban these killing contests.

Sue

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*Sue Cheatham*  
541-639-1042

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Shawneen Finnegan <shawneenfinnegan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 4:00 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please ban wildlife killing derbies

You don't often get email from shawneenfinnegan@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing to ask that you please adopt the proposed rule and ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law.

As someone who spends a lot of my time watching wildlife I really detest these derbies. Wildlife has as much right to belong here, actually more so, than we humans do.

We need predators to keep nature in balance. Science and history has shown that killing off predators hurts the environment in the long run. I am not at all sympathetic with pet owners that let their animals out, particularly cats, that are by far the worst predator we have.

Please join the other states that have already banned wildlife killing contests.

There are so many reasons to prohibit this type of killing.

Thanks very much for your consideration.

Shawneen Finnegan  
Beaverton, Oregon

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Emily J. Schnipper <emily.schnipper@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from emily.schnipper@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to adopt the proposed rule and ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands. I support a total ban (including private property) but understand that might not be on the table now, so I would encourage you to put heavy restrictions on these activities occurring on private land, and to work with law enforcement to make sure the rules are followed. These contests are cruel, outdated, not at all scientific, and contrary to ODFW's role as a responsible wildlife steward. There are better ways to control wildlife populations instead of damaging ecosystems because a few people think killing coyotes is fun.

Sincerely,  
Emily J Schnipper

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Patricia Scarci <pascarci@usa.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 1:37 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Stop Oregon Wildlife Killing Contests

You don't often get email from pascarci@usa.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Members, I am strongly urging you to stop cruel Wildlife-killing derbies and contests in Oregon. As a fifth generation Oregonian that has spent a lifetime enjoying Oregon's wildlife and nature I was shocked to learn these cruel contests existed. Research shows that they do not help livestock, they are counter-productive to science-based wildlife management principles, and are simply a bloodbath for entertainment.

I have also learned that one of the most chilling features of wildlife killing contests is the use of electronic calling devices to attract coyotes and foxes into rifle range with sounds that imitate the cry of their prey, a fellow coyote or fox or even their young in distress. These wild canids, like humans, feel a strong bond to other members of their species and when they hear this cry for help, they come to investigate. Manipulating the natural compassion of animals to lure them in for an easy kill is a reprehensible practice condemned by hunters and non-hunters alike.

Your own web site states: "ODFW plays a crucial role in protecting the state's fish and wildlife species, and the habitats they depend on." Please take one more step to fulfill this goal and stop these cruel killing contests. Thank you for your time and consideration. Patricia Scarci

652 Hamilton Street, Springfield Oregon

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Kathy TC <pepperoni9817@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 1:05 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from pepperoni9817@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

We are writing in support of the proposed ruling on a ban of coyote killing contests in Oregon. There are several reasons for this.

Not only is this cruel to animals but there are reasons to condemn this behavior; perhaps some justify it thinking it will control the population and rebalance the ecosystem. Several states have found that a significant reduction in predators such as coyotes does not affect or improve the balance of nature, such as bringing back more game birds, smaller game animals and the like.

Oregon should join the several other states in banning wildlife killing contests. Actually, these remind us of the dolphin killings and dog killings held in SE Asia. They are bloody and animals suffer to the extent that it is tortuous.

We can't imagine that there is a significant number of humans that seriously take part in these contests that are contrary to good sportsmanship and stewardship of land. Public support is significant in numbers when asked about banning such killing contests. We have moved beyond such behavior, haven't we? And there now has been enough time to have implemented and analyzed studies that show such contests are ineffective when it comes to wildlife management.

This should not offset rights of landowners to protect their land should coyote predation affect their assets.

Thank you,  
Dallas and Kathy Coon

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Shelly Ricci <shellyaqlm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 12:34 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from shellyaqlm@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why:

The killing of any animal for fun, pleasure or to show machoism is barbaric.

It surprises me that such old barbaric activities still take place in 2023.

Coyotes are an important part of our ecosystem. They eat rodents and the weak larger animal population.

I am for hunting if the animal is used for food but to just go out and kill anything for fun is ridiculous. There are other ways to use guns in a fun way. If a person feels the need to go kill something and be in a group activity then they need to look into playing paintball where you're still trying to find the opponent and shoot.

Please BAN this barbaric tradition!

Thank You,

Shelly Rainey-Ricci

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Molly Honea <molly.honea@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from molly.honea@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. These contests are inhumane and do not reflect the values of Oregonians and our stewardship of the land and wildlife.

Please vote to pass this ban on wildlife killing contests!

Sincerely,

Molly Honea

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** rawhide@olympus.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:24 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife killing contest meeting

You don't often get email from rawhide@olympus.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commission,

The hearing for prohibiting killing contests in Oregon on Friday, September 15 at 1 pm holds preponderance: extinction and imbalance of nature reflects on humans, as we've demonstrated our abilities to maim, torture, kill, and violate each other and many other species for a variety of reasons. This one, for the fun of it, or to help manage a dwindling population (coyotes) is an example of careless husbandry at best. It is nothing short of guns for entertainment and a moving target to excite a psychological disposition- that plays out I would say, daily. Do we need to provide an opportunity to kill? Where sharing numbers is rewarded. If we don't like something, someone, how is this different than the impulse to kill those.

Whoever funds the derbies, instead fund education in problematic history that has prevailed unexamined. 'Ecology' is a word not everyone understands and it is time to connect the dots that have made Americans the most violent nation. I do not support acts of killing as a social; an activity that attracts and allows behavior that does more harm than good.

Warm regards,

Launa Santi

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** MARNIE BROWN <dogtec@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from dogtec@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

The loss of even one healthy species of animal is an uneducated approach to these senseless contests, resulting in an overgrowth of another group of animals also regarded as pests and change in a balanced ecosystem.

Stop these senseless acts of killing contests that are thinly disguised killing for pleasure.

Very sincerely,

Marnie Brown

541 598-4102



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jefferson Tilley <tilleyjefferson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:47 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from tilleyjefferson@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Removing them upsets the balance of nature for no legitimate benefit to anyone.

Jefferson Tilley  
tilleyjefferson@gmail.com  
973-723-6330

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** DON Kliewer <donkliewer@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from donkliewer@msn.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. It is unethical and does not follow my teachings as a hunter.

I live in the country and appreciate all the wildlife around my house.

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Lynda Bell <lyndabell@me.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Your vote sept 15

You don't often get email from lyndabell@me.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the Commission,

I was horrified to read that there are such things as wildlife, killing derbies. This activity is so in opposition to all that we value in the Pacific Northwest that prides itself on the appreciation and conservation of nature.

I urge you —and even more— I implore you to vote to adopt the proposed rule and to ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands and also to restrict such derbies on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by the law.

Thank you for you conscientious vote.

Sincerely,  
Lynda Bell  
Portland resident

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Pamela Lindsey <pamron625@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from pamron625@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...coyotes (all of our wildlife) have rights to LIVE! they have the right to thrive in a healthy environment, not one that is only for humans or humans using them for sport when they have no say in the competition. when i read this article about killing contests, i was deeply saddened, as i am more so every day of the behavior of humans. please stop this terrible and unnecessary treatment of coyotes (all wildlife for that matter). they need the voices of people who truly care about the natural world....humans don't OWN it to do whatever they please...it should be treated with appreciation and respect.

thank you for reading this.

sincerely, pam lindsey

"In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous"

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Birgit Novak <bn289293@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:04 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from bn289293@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why. Enough of killing animals in the wild. The building sprawl and loss of habitat these animals incur when wildfires devastate their area, should be enough to stop encroachment of these coyotes and any other wild animals.

Birgit Novak  
1748 NW Kingwood Ave  
Redmond, Oregon 97756

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Carol Wilt Spears <caroljspears@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from caroljspears@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...  
Killing derbies are indicative of the human condition. When other humans are inconvenient will we hold human killing derbies? There are other ways to compassionately try to balance nature, which man is the major component of unbalancing it.

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Laura Carr <lcarr333@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:43 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from lcarr333@live.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Life is life and death is death. Just as pagans of old sacrificed their children on the burning altar of the god Molleck, modern Oregonians are sacrificing their coyotes on the altar of death for no other reason than the joy of killing for a prize. This is simply barbaric behavior that has no place in the 21st century. If people want to win a shooting prize, let them shoot at non-living targets. Have we not yet learned the lesson that every living thing has its place in the ecosystem? Let us not tamper with the web of life our creator has established. We do so only at our own peril. All life is to be appreciated and celebrated. To do less is to denigrate our own souls. You have the opportunity to act humanely and to vote for justice for our planet. Please don't blow that opportunity to preserve our coyote population.

Sent from my iPhone

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Dena Turner <denaturn62@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:20 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from denaturn62@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To ODFW:

Wildlife killing contests simply have no place in Oregon. It is unconscionable that at this time when wildlife are threatened on every front from habitat loss, habitat degradation by pollution, and drought and fire made worse by climate change that the State of Oregon allows wildlife killing contests. If anything in our society is despicable, it is the deliberate killing of already threatened wildlife.

Please take the morally right step. Say no to wildlife killing contests. Protect wildlife for those of us whom nature and wildlife provide so much enjoyment simply by their presence.

Thank you

Dena Turner  
1122 SE 60th Ave  
Portland, OR 97215  
503-953-3109

--  
Dena

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Teal Horsman <teal@3pzworks.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 6:59 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Cc:** Teal Horsman  
**Subject:** Prohibit Wildlife Killing Contests

You don't often get email from teal@3pzworks.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

ATTN: Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Commission

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support in banning wildlife killing contests in Oregon. It is a violation of the state's duty to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians when individuals are allowed to wantonly kill wildlife as part of a cruel wildlife killing contest.

Killing contests violate fundamental hunting ethics and damage the reputation of responsible hunters. These contests are not only cruel, but they undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife.

There is no credible evidence that the killing of coyotes (the most common targets of wildlife killing contests) serves any genuine interest in managing other species. These contests do not decrease the loss of livestock to depredation, as advocates of wildlife killing contests may argue. Instead, indiscriminate killing of predators associated with these events can lead to the disruption of their social structure and foraging ecology in ways that increase the likelihood of depredations. Further, the indiscriminate killing associated with these contests does not target the offending predator, the site where the depredation has occurred, nor the time when depredation has occurred, rendering the competition an ineffective means to depredation control.

Opposition to wildlife killing contests is growing rapidly in the United States. I believe it is important that Oregon join the states that have already outlawed these cruel competitions. I support adopting the proposed rule and banning wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Thank you for your persistence and continued commitment to ensuring we end these cruel killing contests in Oregon.

Thank you,

Teal Horsman

Resident of Bend, Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Marlene McCormack <tigerlilydragonfly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 6:31 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from tigerlilydragonfly@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...  
They are part of the ecosystem and mass killing disrupts the balance.  
It's cruel, it's inhuman and it promotes the desensitization of any concern by humans for wildlife.  
What a terrible example to set for all citizens and for children.

Where I live, I can hear their calls in early morning not far from the city limits. They are not the problem but our encroachment on their territory is.

You can do better. Ban killing contests would be a good step in doing better.

Marlene McCormack  
541 222-0273  
Sisters, Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** P J Layton <feenixthecat1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:49 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please ban coyote killing contests

[You don't often get email from feenixthecat1@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

I am writing to you to urge you to ban the abhorrent and frankly sadistic coyote killing contests.

Other states and municipalities have taken a hard look at this issue and made the right choice to stop it from going on. The argument that it is necessary to maintain populations at a certain level has been proven to be false. It appears that under intense hunting pressure coyotes just make more coyotes to compensate.

Wanton killing of wildlife is wrong as it stems from a cruel and abusive attitude toward a resource that we as Oregonians are supposed to be able to all enjoy. Banning these contests; recent efforts to eliminate poaching; building of safe highway crossings are examples of a way forward that respects the right of other creatures to exist on the land.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,

Patrick Layton

Shedd,Or.

feenixthecat1@gmail.com

Thanks for reading.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Ron Rock <faduhman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:44 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from faduhman@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...because we have to do better. Flagrant disregard of life on any level shows a gross misunderstanding of life on all levels. We rationalize our way to justifying this type of activity and rely on shortsighted views of the past to sanction this atrocity.

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Mike House <mchouse@live.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:41 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from mchouse@live.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

I support hunting for the purpose of subsistence, food, animal products, etc. But thrill killing or casual killing of wildlife, and killing competitions such as coyote killing contests have no place in responsible wildlife management. Please ban all hunting competitions.

First, it's just gross and inhumane. Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its residents, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the State's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Moreover, wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.

Please stop the killing contests.

Regards,

Mike House  
541-279-9892

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Bill Sharp <sharp3223@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:22 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** In support of the proposed ban of wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from sharp3223@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife:

I am a 71 year-old retired lawyer who spends a great deal of time outdoors. I have always appreciated the work of ODFW. I usually have found myself agreeing with its decisions or at least, I've tried to understand ODFW's point of view even when mine might have varied.

For this particular issue--the proposed prohibition of wildlife-killing contests--it is inconceivable how there could be any reasonable dispute. Even in cases of nuisance or overpopulation of certain species, to turn any population control effort into a "fun, competitive event" seems so barbaric that words cannot capture my revulsion.

I should add, while I do not hunt anymore, I have hunted, usually in Eastern Oregon, in the past. I have nothing but respect for hunters and anglers who abide by our laws and regulations, and who approach hunting with an ethical frame of mind. Maybe there are a few out there, but no true hunter I've ever known or hunted with would take part in such hideous activities.

As a society that endeavors to be civilized, the time for a ban against such killing contests is long overdue.

Thank you for reviewing this correspondence.

Bill Sharp  
Eugene

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Mike Flaningam <mikeflanny@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:05 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote killing contests

[You don't often get email from mikeflanny@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

ODFW,

I'm writing in strong opposition to coyote killing contests. I recognize the point of view of ranchers affected by coyotes, but I am horrified by reports that there are organized events that promote, celebrate, and even reward with prizes the killing of coyotes.

I feel so fortunate to have moved to Oregon several years ago, for many reasons, but as much as any is this region's strong ties to Indigenous people and culture. This culture recognizes that we share our world with many other living creatures, and that no one being, including humans, is more important than the others. Also, Indigenous people strive to live in balance with other creatures, even the ones they hunt. When they kill an animal, they honor it by giving thanks for what it provides and offer a gift back to nature in order to keep a balance in the world.

These contests are an inhumane contrast to the Indigenous culture that is so ingrained in our region. If in ODFW's wisdom it is felt that it's ok for people to kill coyotes - or any creature - I ask that you honor the culture of the people who lived here for thousands of years prior to colonization and at least ensure that the killings are done with respect. I hope that ODFW has Indigenous members and if not, is consulting Tribal members on their opinions on this matter. Thanks for giving consideration to the opinions of me and fellow Oregonians.

Dr. Mike Flaningam

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Lindsay Virk <lindsay.renee1978@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:46 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from lindsay.renee1978@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Lindsay Virk  
Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dale Pilon <djpilon@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:41 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from djpilon@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

1. **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
2. **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

These along with many other reasons make no sense to disrupt the Coyote population. Unlike the large snakes in the Florida Everglades, Coyotes are native to Oregon and help maintain the balance of Oregon's wildlife and natural lands.

I strongly urge you to ban coyote killing contests in Oregon

Dale Pilon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Tegan Allen <teganrae225@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:58 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban Wildlife Killing Derbies in Oregon

You don't often get email from teganrae225@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear ODFW,

Adopt the proposed rule. Do the right thing. Please, please do the right thing.

Tegan

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dianne Ensign <Roughskinnednewt@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:26 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban inhumane and ecologically dangerous wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from roughskinnednewt@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote to adopt the proposed rule and ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its residents and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in wanton waste of a wildlife species as part of a contest neglects the state's duty to protect the public's wildlife, which are held and managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all Oregonians.

Science does not support indiscriminate, largescale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species. It can even lead to an increase in coyote numbers by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their rate of reproduction.

These gruesome contests brutally kill mass amounts of animals and treat their bodies like nothing more than trash. Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation centered values.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dianne Ensign  
Portland, OR 97219

**From:** Amber Bourne <abourne@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:55 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Re: I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from [abourne@live.com](mailto:abourne@live.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Here is what sent if you want to tweak it a little and send one. Has to be in by 5 tomorrow.

On Sep 10, 2023, at 8:52 PM, Amber Bourne <abourne@live.com> wrote:

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

As a native Oregonian's we strongly encourage you to consider putting an end to wildlife killing contests. These contests are cruel, inhumane, and no longer viewed as an appropriate way to manage wildlife. We know for a fact that killing a large number of predators in a small area creates a vacuum that will quickly be filled by other predators. We see value in all of the wildlife that call Oregon home, and would like them to be here for future generations. We have the knowledge and scientific evidence to do better by our wildlife. Please put an end to the unsportsmanlike killing of OUR wildlife. Thank you for your consideration.  
Heath and Amber Bourne

**\*\*text below was copied from Thinkwild\*\***

1. Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management: Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. Public Ownership of Wildlife: Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
3. Strong Public Support: A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests.
4. Ineffectiveness and Harm: Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.

5. National Precedent: Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. Ethical Concerns: These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. Cruelty and Irresponsibility: Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Amber Bourne <abourne@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:52 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from abourne@live.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

As a native Oregonian's we strongly encourage you to consider putting an end to wildlife killing contests. These contests are cruel, inhumane, and no longer viewed as an appropriate way to manage wildlife. We know for a fact that killing a large number of predators in a small area creates a vacuum that will quickly be filled by other predators. We see value in all of the wildlife that call Oregon home, and would like them to be here for future generations. We have the knowledge and scientific evidence to do better by our wildlife. Please put an end to the unsportsmanlike killing of OUR wildlife. Thank you for your consideration.

Heath and Amber Bourne

**\*\*text below was copied from Thinkwild\*\***

1. **Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management:** Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. **Public Ownership of Wildlife:** Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
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4. **Ineffectiveness and Harm:** Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.
5. **National Precedent:** Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Amy Cullen <amycullen2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:31 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from amycullen2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

1. **Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management:** Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. **Public Ownership of Wildlife:** Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
3. **Strong Public Support:** A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests.
4. **Ineffectiveness and Harm:** Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.
5. **National Precedent:** Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

Thank you for reading and listening.

Amy

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

---

**From:** Karon Johnson <karonjguam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 7:52 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from karonjguam@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. In this day and age, it's astonishing to me that anyone would support the mass killing of predators which excel in catching rodents. Leave the coyotes alone! No mass killing!

Karon Johnson  
61250 King Solomon Lane  
Bend, OR 97702

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Karen Kindel <k.kindel@att.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 10, 2023 6:30 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from k.kindel@att.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am adamantly opposed to wildlife killing contests.

At a time when we are trying to protect wildlife and they are struggling under so many disadvantages, how can such archaic and cruel activities exist?

So archaic and senseless.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** June Hemmingson <hemmingsonjune@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 9:23 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** wildlife

You don't often get email from hemmingsonjune@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am shocked at the contests in Oregon to kill wildlife and demand that these contests be banned. Thank you. june hemmingson 4777 Becker Circle SE Albany 97322

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Bob Fulton <notluf10@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:53 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from notluf10@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why... This is simply a leftover, hideous killing for its own sake — nothing at all sporting about and lacking in any real necessity.

Robert A. (Bob) Fulton.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Ruth Martin <rapidruth@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:49 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from rapidruth@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Stop the killing of coyotes for sport and pleasure. It is a bad practice for many reasons. It disrupts eco systems.

Ruth Martin, Bend, OR

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Colleen Merickel <cmerickel@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:48 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote killing contests

You don't often get email from cmerickel@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commissioners,

I urge you to put an end to Oregon's cruel and senseless coyote killing contests.

Coyotes are an integral part of our ecosystem and fill a valuable niche in our wildlife balance. These contests underscore the misguided priority of recreational killing over stewardship of our land and wildlife. They have no relationship to respectable hunting.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Merickel

Bend, Oregon

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## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Kathleen Johnson <kj@roundaboutbookshop.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from kj@roundaboutbookshop.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

My belief is that Killing Contests (coyotes) are nothing more than that...Killing. While culling of a species may be 'legitimate' & lawful, reasons for the need of culling often circle back to the humans who are responsible for the imbalance of a population. Why KILL? I don't know, maybe it's an American Thing and can there be another remedy? I was part of the movement to stop these killing contests on Cape Cod a few years ago which successfully banned the practice there.

Get a grip. Killing/culling/wiping out of a local species isn't an answer. I am aware ranchers and others may have the right to protect their property and animals. Contest? Nah. Cruel and wasteful ...

Thank you for your in-depth thought and work on this question.

Kathleen M Johnson  
[kjohnsson56@gmail.com](mailto:kjohnsson56@gmail.com)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** my240 <my240house@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:40 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from my240house@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the ODFW:

It's long past time to ban wildlife killing contests. This inhumane practice has been banned in several states, and as a respector of wildlife, it's time for Oregon to do the same.

Thank you.

Brenda Kame'enui  
Eugene

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Elizabeth Collins <circle2square@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from circle2square@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

As Oregonians, we hold values that prioritize the stewardship of our land and wildlife. These contests are completely contrary to those principles. Lifelong hunters recognize that these killing contests deviate from centuries-long standards of respectable hunting. The manner in which animals are killed in these events raises serious ethical questions, as the carcasses are disposed of carelessly after serving as a mere scorecard to win prizes.

It's important to remember that these animals are not being hunted for any purpose beyond the competition itself. Nothing is harvested from their bodies; instead, they are piled up like trash to be carted away.

The repercussions extend beyond the individuals that are killed. Coyotes play a crucial role within the ecosystems they inhabit by balancing prey species populations. The indiscriminate killing of hundreds of coyotes for entertainment orphans young and abruptly changes the balance of local habitats. Instead, we should manage their populations responsibly, just as we do with other animal species.

Thank you for your time.

Elizabeth Collins  
3625 NE Alberta Ct.  
Portland, OR 97211

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Charles Ciecko <cciecko51@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:27 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife Killing Contests

[You don't often get email from cciecko51@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Please add my voice to the many I'm sure you've already heard from. Please BAN wildlife killing contests.

Thank you,  
Charlie Ciecko  
3630 SE Hosner Ter.  
Gresham, Or 97080

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Madalene Anderson <madaleneclaire@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:22 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Killing derbys

[You don't often get email from madaleneclaire@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

I am requesting that you consider doing what you can to eliminate these events.  
Thank you

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Wildwash1 <wildwash1@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:08 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from wildwash1@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why:

- \* We have been taking over their living space for way too long
- \* The fires have already had an adverse effect on their quality of life
- \* They are part of the natural cycle of life so we can't let more of them die
- \* We are more advanced that to accept that killing contests are OK
- \* We need to go back to respect the wildlife and not kill it for pleasure

To just name a few reasons.  
Thank you for this opportunity to express our opinion.

Long life nature!  
Michele and Karl Kogler  
La Pine Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Adam Logan <adamlogan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:00 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban Wild-life killing Derbies Please

You don't often get email from adamlogan@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I support banning wild-life killing derbies in Oregon.

Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation-minded values.

Respectfully,

Adam Logan, of Monmouth Oregon, Polk County.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Liz Smith <lizzly89@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:00 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** A Plea to Ban Wildlife Killing "Contests"

You don't often get email from lizzly89@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioners,

I hope this e-mail finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding coyote hunting and wildlife hunting contests, and to strongly advocate for their immediate ban.

While I understand that hunting has been a part of our cultural heritage for generations, I believe it is essential to reassess our approach in light of our evolving understanding of wildlife conservation and the environment. Coyote hunting, particularly in the context of organized contests, raises several pressing issues that warrant our attention as it is CRUEL, BARBARIC and UNNECESSARY.

First and foremost, coyote populations play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance. These intelligent creatures help control rodent populations and contribute to overall ecosystem health. Indiscriminate hunting, like the killing sprees that occur during contests that incentivize the killing of as many animals as possible. This practice causes chaos in the coyote family structure. Cubs are left to fend for themselves, and remaining adults under stress breed more. It is in a pisspoor attempt at population control at best, and inhumane animal cruelty at worst.

Wildlife hunting contests often encourage unethical, and wasteful practices. Participants may prioritize quantity over quality, leading to a disregard for animal welfare, swift and painless deaths, and a pure lack of respect for these animals. The needless suffering and loss of life that result from such contests are ethically troubling and run counter to the principles of responsible hunting and conservation.

Dan Gibbs, hunter and executive director of Colorado Department of Natural Resources, said, "For me, hunting contests don't sit well. As a sportsman, I'd never participate in one, personally. Hunting is an important, reverent tradition in Colorado and powerful management tool, but I also think wildlife killing contests give sportsmen and sportswomen a bad name and damage our reputation."

I believe that a ban on these contests would demonstrate our commitment to responsible wildlife management, conservation, and perhaps most importantly ETHICAL treatment of animals. No animal deserves to die in a "contest" as they feel pain, fear and have emotions just like we do.

I kindly request that you move to follow Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington which have all made the progressive choice to outlaw killing contests for coyotes, foxes, bobcats and other species, and several other states are considering similar action. There is simply no place for wildlife killing contests in modern society.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Smith

Bend, OR RESIDENT since 2008

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Ann jamison <awjamison@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:58 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from awjamison@bendbroadband.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. These "contests" should be banned as they are cruel and do not serve any valid wildlife management purpose. Hunting to provide food makes sense. These animals are killed solely for ego. These contests destroy wildlife families destabilizing the packs and families. Nine other states have instituted similar bans.

I agree with the statement made by Sally Compton of Think Wild "As Oregonians, we hold values that prioritize the stewardship of our land and wildlife. These contests are completely contrary to those principles. Lifelong hunters recognize that these killing contests deviate from centuries-long standards of respectable hunting. The manner in which animals are killed in these events raises serious ethical questions, as the carcasses are disposed of carelessly after serving as a mere scorecard to win prizes."

It's important to remember that these animals are not being hunted for any purpose beyond the competition itself. Nothing is harvested from their bodies; instead, they are piled up like trash to be carted away.

The repercussions extend beyond the individuals that are killed. Coyotes play a crucial role within the ecosystems they inhabit by balancing prey species populations. The indiscriminate killing of hundreds of coyotes for entertainment orphans young and abruptly changes the balance of local habitats. Instead, we should manage their populations responsibly, just as we do with other animal species."

Thank you for considering this input. Please adopt this ban.

Ann

Ann Jamison  
60605 Golf Village Loop  
Bend, OR 97702

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** David M. <edm\_austin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:54 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Respecting our resources

You don't often get email from edm\_austin@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Greetings,

I am a hunter and have been my entire life. Fond memories of days afield with my Father. He taught me the importance of wildlife and nature. There was a rule; if you shot it, you ate it.

I've recently learned wildlife killing derbies are still legal in Oregon. This practice has got to stop. Harvesting a pheasant or deer is one thing. Killing for the joy of killing another altogether. Our natural areas are dwindling fast enough without these slaughters.

You have the power to stop this. Exercise that power.

David Michalek  
541-645-5406

"Its not that socialism threatens democracy but that democracy threatens capitalism." -Michael Parenti

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Meghan Bowman <bowman.megs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:32 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** RE: Prohibit Wildlife Killing Contests

You don't often get email from bowman.megs@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

ATTN: Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Commission

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support in banning wildlife killing contests in Oregon. It is a violation of the state's duty to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians when individuals are allowed to wantonly kill wildlife as part of a cruel wildlife killing contest.

Killing contests violate fundamental hunting ethics and damage the reputation of responsible hunters. These contests are not only cruel, but they undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife.

There is no credible evidence that the killing of coyotes (the most common targets of wildlife killing contests) serves any genuine interest in managing other species. These contests do not decrease the loss of livestock to depredation, as advocates of wildlife killing contests may argue. Instead, indiscriminate killing of predators associated with these events can lead to the disruption of their social structure and foraging ecology in ways that increase the likelihood of depredations. Further, the indiscriminate killing associated with these contests does not target the offending predator, the site where the depredation has occurred, nor the time when depredation has occurred, rendering the competition an ineffective means to depredation control.

Opposition to wildlife killing contests is growing rapidly in the United States. I believe it is important that Oregon join the states that have already outlawed these cruel competitions. I support adopting the proposed rule and banning wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Thank you for your persistence and continued commitment to ensuring we end these cruel killing contests in Oregon.

Meghan Bowman  
Bend, Oregon

--

Meghan Bowman  
she/her/hers

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Kim Kahl <kimkahl44@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:10 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from kimkahl44@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

**There are so many reasons why I am against these cruel, inhumane and just plain horrible so called killing contests which have absolutely no redeeming qualities but the following are just a few of the reasons I condemn the wanton killing of coyotes:**

- (1) Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.
- (2) Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.
- (3) A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests. Since Oregonians want these horrible killing contests to end, why is our state still supporting the mass murder of coyote's? I am so ashamed of my state's support of such cruelty! I had always been proud of being an Oregonian but no longer feel that way about my state. Several Western states have outlawed the cruel killing contests of coyote's as well as other wildlife and it is shameful that Oregon is still supporting such a cruel and inhumane activity. It says a lot about ODFW in Oregon for allowing cruelty by a few to have precedence over what is humane and right.....it is outright shameful!!

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** daigerj@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:03 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from daigerj@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. We are stewards of our land in central Oregon. The land means everything that lives from and on it. To have contents for killing is the exact opposite of our stewardship goals. Coyotes are vital parts of the ecosystem in Oregon, they control smaller animal populations and without them those would go out of control. We need to ban these contests immediately.

Sincerely  
Jess daiger

Sent from my iPhone

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Mary Siani <mjsiani64@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 6:56 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from mjsiani64@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

1. **Counter-Productive to Wildlife Management:** Wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. They promote the wanton waste of precious wildlife resources.
2. **Public Ownership of Wildlife:** Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.
3. **Strong Public Support:** A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed strong public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for banning wildlife killing contests.
4. **Ineffectiveness and Harm:** Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.
5. **National Precedent:** Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already banned wildlife killing contests through their state wildlife commissions.
6. **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are driven by financial incentives and contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation.
7. **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

Please ban these contests. They do nothing good for our communities or the wildlife community. They are senseless and cruel.

Mary Siani  
[mjsiani64@gmail.com](mailto:mjsiani64@gmail.com)  
Sage Hound Farm

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Joanne Bigman <JoanneBigman@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 6:33 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote contests

You don't often get email from joannebigman@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have an idea!! Why kill the coyotes? Contests could be patterned like bass tournaments. Live trap the critters, weigh and measure them and then set them free after the results are verified. Even more coyotes left for next contest! Happy coyotes...happy animal righters...happy contestants. LOL LOL LOL

Joanne Bigman

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Doug <dab830@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 6:24 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from dab830@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Doug

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Diane Harrell <catlover@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 1:22 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from catlover@bendbroadband.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I fully support the *proposed ban on killing contests* in Oregon. Here's why...

There is no respectable "sport" in attempting to **decimate** an entire species. Wildlife killing contests are **cruel** and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife. Oregon's wildlife belongs to **all** its citizens, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians. These contests are driven by financial incentives and **contradict principles** of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation. They promote the **wanton waste** of precious wildlife resources.

Ban them now!  
Diane Harrell  
Bend, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Kath Fuller <kath.fuller3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:04 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from kath.fuller3@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

This kind of inhumane slaughter of publicly owned wildlife has no place in Oregon. No wildlife should ever be killed unless it is terribly injured, sick or is needed for food and then taken only with gratitude and respect. These animals are killed just for a prize. They are not providing food, clothing, shelter or any other need of the "hunters" that take them. Their bodies are piled up just to be "thrown away." Sorry, but that is totally unethical and sick.

Please manage wildlife populations responsibly.

Katherine Fuller  
Newport, Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Debby Patten <debby.patten@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:56 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Rule against Wildlife Killing Derbies

You don't often get email from debby.patten@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will vote on a proposed rule to prohibit wildlife killing derbies on public land on September 15.

Please vote to eliminate Wildlife Killing Derbies.

Thank you,  
Debby Patten  
Milwaukie, OR  
Sent from my iPhone

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Diana Hopson <hodia@rocketmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 6:08 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from hodia@rocketmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

I am AGAINST killing ANY living thing. I don't even kill spiders, I catch them and put them somewhere that they will be ok and so will I. Coyotes, are intelligent animals and should be allowed to roam. . The killings do not, in the long run, reduce the numbers and will actually increase the numbers of coyotes, because as their number is diminished in the contest they will breed to replenish their numbers,

To repeat I'm against the killing of any living being. I became vegetarian plus/minus 40 or 50 years and counting and have never looked back. I'm now almost 92 years old.

I'm against the heinous ways chickens are hatched and killed. Killing of the roosters right out of the shell. KILLING , IS KILLING no matter who does it or who it's done to, and I'm especially against the heinous blood "sport" of killing coyotes just for the sake of killing. It's my belief that ANYONE who can kill a coyote just to count the poor creature to win some useless prize, would and will kill a human being.

I'm against the eating of meat of any sort, because it means killing some sort of creature that doesn't deserve it. And, in the end it will also be the killing of the human species as the farmland, water used to raise animals and to raise fodder for those animals and the methane gas produced will eventually overtake nature and the human animal will die out.

There can be NO JUSTIFICATION for killing animals of any kind, sort or description. These types of contests is killing JUST for the sport of KILLING.

**STOP THE BLOOD SPORT OF KILLING CONTESTS. STOP THE KILLING OF ALL WILD LIFE.**

You may use my name: Diana Hopson  
2552 SW 35th Court  
Redmond, Oregon 97756  
Phone: 541-633-0950  
email: dhopsonbend@gmail.com

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Joy McBride <jemcbride@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 5:55 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from jemcbride@bendbroadband.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. As a lover of wildlife in its many forms, the wholesale slaughter of coyotes in the name of some perversion of the idea of a "contest" sickens and repulses me.

To borrow from Sally Compton's insightful comments published in today's Bend Bulletin:

- Lifelong hunters recognize that these so-called contests are inconsistent with centuries-long standards of respectable hunting practices;
- Serious ethical questions arise from the manner in which these animals are killed;
- These killings serve no ecological purpose and in fact result in orphaned young and abrupt changes in the balance of local habitats.

I urge you to vote to prohibit these senseless, harmful killings.

Thank you,  
Joy McBride  
60605 Golf Village Loop  
Bend, OR. 97702

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** James Herndon <jdherndon19@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 5:41 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from jdherndon19@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why... killing for game is taking a life for no reason. People act like we're more important due to humans having a conscious that speaks. But all lives are equally as important. If aliens went around killing humans for a game because we're "lesser" I'm sure we wouldn't think it's humane in the slightest. This kind of thing is disgusting and it spreads cluelessness about what lives are. Lives are energy. Those coyotes feel pain, they feel fear. Just because they can't speak doesn't mean they're any lesser than us. When in reality they play a more crucial part to the ecosystem than 99% of all humans.

Sent from my iPhone

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** June Stephens <junebirdart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 5:19 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote and Wildlife Killing Contests

Dear Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife,

I am asking you to develop administrative rules to ban all wildlife killing contests/derbies to the fullest extent of the law.

Allowing a group of individuals who enjoy killing Oregon's wildlife for "fun and prizes" is cruel and inhumane.

Oregon is renowned for its wildlife and for the State to allow such wanton killing of wildlife is against what we Oregonians stand for! Whether it be coyote or wolves these animals deserve to live without being harrassed, injured, maimed, and needlessly slaughtered,

Science does NOT support indiscriminate, largescale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species. It is well established that such indiscriminate killing will result in an increase in coyote numbers due to the disruption of stable family packs, thus increasing their rate of reproduction.

Eight States: Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Vermont, and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests, primarily through their State Wildlife Commissions. These States have set ethical examples that Oregon can and should follow:

- Wildlife killing contests are a violation of the State's *duty* to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians. With the current growth and development occurring in Oregon, resulting in loss of habitat for our wildlife, educating the public how to live alongside urban wildlife should be a priority. This could easily be achieved through publicity in creating "*Respect for Wildlife*" awareness and appreciation programs within our numerous parks, community centers, and schools.
- Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation centered values.
- Wildlife killing contests are cruel, inhumane, and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife. *Furthermore, they set a bad precedent for future generations.*

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to permanently ban cruel and inhumane coyote and other wildlife killing contests within the State of Oregon.

Respectfully submitted,

June Stephens  
Beaverton, Oregon



## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Melissa A. Baines <melissabaines@lclark.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 5:17 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** support the rule: wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from melissabaines@lclark.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

September 8, 2023

To the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I am writing today in **support** of ODFW's proposed administrative rules to prohibit wildlife killing contests in Oregon. **I urge the Commission to adopt the proposed rules**; however, the proposed rules would benefit from the amendment noted following this comment.

I support ODFW's proposed rule because 1) wildlife killing contests are cruel and inhumane, 2) wildlife killing contests harm Oregon's science-based wildlife management principles, 3) wildlife contests prioritize the desires of a few contrary to the will of the majority, and 4) Oregon has a duty to protect all wildlife.

- 1.
- 2.
3. Wildlife killing contests create an unnecessary incentive for people to trap, shoot,
4. injure, maim, and kill countless animals for no justifiable reason. Animals may be lured out of hiding for an easy kill using electronic calling devices, meaning the animals are already in distress when answering the call that leads to their slow or quick
5. death, depending on how accurate the contestant is with their weapon of choice.
- 6.

These contests do not address specific animals who have been causing problems to a rancher's livestock, nor are they killed for food, their pelts, or any other necessary reason that could justify a person taking their lives. The practice of killing the largest, smallest, or heaviest animals over a period of days does not demonstrate sportsmanlike codes of conduct; in fact, this practice undermines the notion.

- 2.
- 3.
4. Scientific studies show that the mass killing of coyotes is an ineffective means of controlling
5. their population numbers in an effort to reduce conflict between coyotes and pets or livestock. The National Institute of Health published a
6. [study](#)
7. in 2008 that showed the unique ability of coyotes to maintain their populations in response to their environments; if we kill too many coyotes, the remaining population will have larger litters to compensate.
- 8.

- 3.
- 4.
5. According to a Remington Research Group
6. [poll](#),
7. the majority of Oregonians throughout all congressional districts agree that wildlife killing contests should be banned. These contests are not in line with Oregon's conservation values, nor are they in line with the will of Oregonians.
- 8.

- 4.
- 5.
6. Wildlife is the property of the state, and the majority of the state of Oregon does not
7. agree with their property being harassed, tortured, and killed in the name of a contest that will benefit a few solitary individuals.
- 8.

- 5.
- 6.
7. Oregon is often at the forefront of good animal stewardship and protecting animals through
8. legislation and regulations. The states of Washington, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Maryland, Vermont, and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests already. It is time for Oregon to be added to this list so that we can maintain our
9. status of being ahead of the pack when addressing these animal-related issues.
- 10.

I appreciate you taking my comments under consideration. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Baines Keipper

**Amendment Suggestion to:**

**634-050-0050**

**Definition 3: "Furbearers or furbearing mammals"**

To protect against the introduction of new species to facilitate wildlife killing contests, this definition should include the language "and all other furbearing mammals" at the end of the enumerated list.

In addition, beavers are known to be extremely beneficial to their ecosystems, particularly in their ability to clean water. The exception for killing contests involving beavers should be removed.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Lisa Mirhej <lfmirhej@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 5:07 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Proposed rule to ban wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from lfmirhej@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commissioners,

As an Oregonian, I would like to encourage you to support the proposed rule to ban wildlife killing contests on public lands and to significantly restrict them on private lands. These contests are unsportsmanlike in so many ways, including luring animals with electronic devices that mimic distressed calls of their young. They are also cruel and uncivilized, encouraging a mad killing frenzy of Oregon wildlife. Finally, they have been proven to be ineffective and even harmful in managing wildlife conflicts with livestock.

Thank you very much for your consideration and work to help protect Oregon's wildlife!

Lisa Mirhej  
Eugene, OR

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** robert williams <firebasebob@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Support for hunting contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from firebasebob@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will vote next week on whether to prohibit wildlife hunting contests in Oregon. If passed, this proposed regulation would make coyote hunting derbies and other such contests illegal in the state of Oregon. This is a critical moment to share your opinion on the matter. The Commission meets next Friday, September 15, at 7th Mountain Resort in Bend, and are accepting public testimony on the proposed ban.

I hear the WEF/Soros lackeys have been mobilized to flood the zone in support of a ban on hunting contests despite the dire need for more innovative means of pest and predator control. This is just part of their unceasing effort to ban hunting/fishing/trapping, to remove what *they* feel is the only justification to own a firearm, with an eye to removing guns by any means possible.

Below is my honest and heartfelt response. Please respond to the commission in time to be heard. Please share with any Oregonian or someone who might have some in their circle of friends.

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support hunting contests in Oregon. Predators have exceeded carrying capacity to the detriment of native species, game and non game. My farms and the rangeland behind my place is overrun with coyotes, foxes year around, and cougar in winter. We have a pack of 4 un-collared black wolves literally living in our rural neighborhood. They are not mentioned in the ODFW ranchers wolf sighting portal.

We have lost most of our mule deer herd, there are few pronghorn left, I haven't seen elk down in the winter (which used to be a common occurrence) in 8 or 10 years save for snowmegeddon. Cougars kill the deer that take refuge on farmland routinely in winter, once within rock throwing distance of my home. My neighbor has 5 female barn cats that have had two litters apiece the last 3 years. Perhaps 4 of the kittens have made it to adolescence, one to adulthood because I picked him up after being mauled and paid the vet to patch him up. I cannot let him out at night because the coyotes and foxes come around every night despite the fact we keep NOTHING edible out of doors.

Twenty years ago I had coveys of 50-60 quail around all year long. I have one covey this year of lucky juveniles from a single successful hatch. I haven't seen a pheasant (in what was the pheasant capitol of Oregon) in 10 or so years. I haven't seen Huns, once common in winter but once in the last 30 years. Grouse? Not in the 43 years I've been farming and ranching here. I haven't seen a jackrabbit in at least 5 years and the only cottontails around are those that survive taking refuge under my equipment containers where the foxes and coyotes can't get at them.

There was a reason we had predator control programs, bounties, aerial gunning and trappers all working together to manage predators. It was because we prioritized productive hard working farmers and ranchers and their investments of money, blood, sweat and tears in their land and livestock.

Now, it seems, the priority has shifted to uninvolved or politically motivated activists bent on promoting an agenda of war against agriculture and animal husbandry under the guise of a fabricated

and fictional "climate crisis", "global warming", "animal cruelty" all driven by monstrous corporations, bankers, and oligarchs in big ag, big pharma, big chem, big processors all intent on monopolizing the means of production to impose their "Great Reset", "Agenda's 2010, 2020, 2030 et al.

The WEF's members stranglehold has governments across the globe enacting climate, energy, water, agriculture, range, forest, fishing and food processing edicts and laws that are not in their "constituents" (subjects) best interests, but are intentionally and pointedly harmful to them in manifold ways. Their goal is diminished health, longevity, fertility and independence of their subjects.

Given the array of assaults on independent producers of farm, forage and animals is it too much to ask for common sense predator control to at least give nature and natural processes a fighting chance with our help?

Robert Williams  
3903 Reed Rd  
Vale OR, 97918  
541-473-2880

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Amber Israelsen <aisraelsen@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from aisraelsen@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I write to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the continuation of coyote killing contests within our beloved state of Oregon. These contests not only raise serious ethical concerns but also have far-reaching ecological, social, and ethical consequences that demand immediate attention and action.

- **Ecological Impact:** Coyotes are vital components of our ecosystems, serving as nature's balance keepers by regulating prey species populations. The indiscriminate killing of hundreds of coyotes for mere entertainment disrupts these fragile balances, leaving behind orphaned young and upsetting the natural harmony of our local habitats.
- **Contradiction to Wildlife Management:** Wildlife killing contests directly contradict science-based wildlife management principles. They encourage the wanton waste of our precious wildlife resources, undermining the very foundations upon which responsible conservation and stewardship are built.
- **Public Ownership of Wildlife:** Oregon's wildlife is a shared resource, owned by all its citizens. Allowing a select few to engage in these contests undermines our state's duty to safeguard these resources for the collective benefit of all Oregonians. It is our collective responsibility to protect and preserve our wildlife for future generations.
- **Overwhelming Public Support:** A 2019 poll conducted by the bipartisan Remington Research Group revealed robust public support across all of Oregon's congressional districts for the banning of wildlife killing contests. This represents a clear mandate from the people of Oregon to prioritize ethical and responsible wildlife management practices.
- **Ineffectiveness and Harm:** Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control lacks scientific validity and can lead to unintended consequences. It can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially result in more conflicts with livestock, exacerbating existing challenges.
- **National Precedent:** Eight states, including several in the western United States, have already recognized the detrimental impact of wildlife killing contests and have taken action by banning them through their state wildlife commissions. Oregon should follow suit in setting a responsible and humane precedent.
- **Ethical Concerns:** These contests are primarily driven by financial incentives and contradict the principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's core values of conservation. We must uphold our state's commitment to ethical treatment of wildlife.
- **Cruelty and Irresponsibility:** Wildlife killing contests are inherently cruel, undermining responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the creatures that share our landscapes. They tarnish the image of our state and its commitment to humane treatment of animals.

In light of these concerns, I implore you to take a firm stance against wildlife killing contests in Oregon. We have a moral and ecological duty to protect our state's natural heritage and uphold the values of compassion, stewardship, and science-based wildlife management.

I kindly request your support in introducing and championing legislation to ban these contests, ensuring a brighter, more sustainable future for Oregon's wildlife and the communities that cherish them.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter.

Sincerely,

Amber Israelsen

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Valerie Fercho-Tillery <quilt\_snob@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 4:22 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from quilt\_snob@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

We are supposedly a civilized society. What civilized society shoots and kills animals for fun, and worse yet, for prizes? This is a disgusting practice and should be stopped.

I viewed the photos of the massacred coyotes and it sickened me, but mostly saddened me. Who can do that to these beautiful animals? Please stop this barbaric practice and bring Oregon into the civilized society category.

Thank you for your consideration.

Valerie Fercho-Tillery  
Sisters, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Katy Williams <katywilliams11@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 4:20 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote Contests

[You don't often get email from katywilliams11@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Stop trying to control every aspect of our lives.

You literally recently post about the mule deer decline, yet promote and protect wolves, cougars, etc and now want to try and take away events that actually help keep the predator population down to local farmers and fawns.

Let people make their own decisions. If you don't want to participate, don't participate, simple as that.

Katy Steinbrecher

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** cher66ry@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:56 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from cher66ry@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

It's in human and used not as a means to hunt but to kill for a prize . This is not moving forward in humanity but backwards. The animals on this earth need to be protected from such cruel sports. Every living thing animal or human has a role in the universe.

Please support the ban.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Fellers

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Courtney L Dillard <cldillard@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:51 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please vote to ban wildlife killing contests!

You don't often get email from cldillard@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Commissioners,

As part of an animal advocacy network, it has come to my attention that the Commission will vote on a proposed administrative rule this Friday. I am emailing to let you know of my support for a ban on wildlife killing contests. This is a very good example of the situation where the vast majority of Oregonians are opposed to a practice that only a handful of Oregonians are participating in. Please represent the majority of Oregonians by banning these activities.

Sincerely,  
Courtney Dillard  
2083 NW Johnson St., Apt. 56, Portland, OR 97209



**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dave Ruud <daveagg@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:31 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife Derbies

You don't often get email from daveagg@msn.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I support any and all efforts to ban these as much as possible. They are outdated, inhumane, and not anything the ODFW should support.

Thank you.

Dave Ruud  
14139 NW Charlton Rd  
Portland, OR, 972312  
503-621-3939

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Margi F <mfinch76@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:30 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from mfinch76@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon. I hope this message finds you well.

Please adopt the proposed rule to ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Oregon's wildlife belongs to all of us. Allowing a small group of individuals to engage in wanton waste as part of a contest neglects the state's duty to protect the public's wildlife, which are held and managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all Oregonians.

A 2019 poll by the respected bipartisan Remington Research Group found that a strong majority of Oregonians, in all of the state's congressional districts, support public policy to ban wildlife killing contests.

Science does not support indiscriminate, largescale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species. It can even lead to an increase in coyote numbers by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their rate of reproduction.

Eight states, including five in the west—Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado—as well as Maryland, Vermont and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests, primarily through their state wildlife commissions.

Wildlife killing contests are a violation of the state's duty to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Thank you for your time.

Margi Finch  
Bend, Oregon

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** dbeau at efn.org <dbeau@efn.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:23 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Support rule to prohibit wildlife killing contests

You don't often get email from dbeau@efn.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

### Members of the Commission:

Over the many years I've enjoyed and benefited from exploring and photoing on the public lands in Lake County and Harney County. Along with my sons, as they were growing up, I often encounter wildlife and livestock. There is a place for both certainly. I do believe it is our joint obligation to protect when possible animals natural to this Oregon country. We owe this to future generations. This is especially critical during these times of changing climates and landscapes.

Therefore, I support the proposed rule to prohibit wildlife killing contests on public land and to limit when possible such contests on private land.

Thank you,  
Douglas Beauchamp  
Eugene, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Robyn <robynleah@bendcable.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:22 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from robynleah@bendcable.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship of the land and respect for our public wildlife. We need predators on our land to balance Nature.

Please, stop this inhumanity.

Native Oregonian,  
Robyn Tatom

Sent from my iPad

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Mark Dierbeck <mldierbeck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:05 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from mldierbeck@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. It seems wrong to make hunting/shooting of an animal into a competitive sport. Often these species are filling in a beneficial role in our environment such as controlling rodents.

Thanks,  
Mark Dierbeck  
Bend, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** artscraft <artscraft@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 2:41 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Stop Wildlife Killing Derbies

You don't often get email from artscraft@protonmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please ban wildlife killing derbies. There are plenty of places to hunt & contests for money on public lands should not be allowed. At this time when wildlife is under so much pressure from shrinking habitat, global warming, .... This is a particularly disgusting thing to allow. Please put an end to it

Brenda Bradt

Sent from Proton Mail for iOS

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jen Nitz <grizzalo@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 2:32 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Wildlife Killing Contests

You don't often get email from grizzalo@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Wildlife killing contests are counter-productive to science-based wildlife management principles, offering cash prizes and/or guns for the winner who kills the most, the largest, or the smallest animals over one or two days. Participants lure coyotes and other wildlife in for an easy kill using high-tech electronic calling devices that mimic the sounds of prey or pups in distress. Oregon's wildlife is held and managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all Oregonians. Allowing a small group of individuals to engage in wanton waste of a wildlife species as part of a contest is an abdication of the state's duty to protect the public's wildlife.

A 2019 poll by the Remington Research Group found that a strong majority of Oregonians, in all of the state's congressional districts support public policy to ban wildlife killing contests. Science does not support the indiscriminate killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing the number of game species. It can lead to an increase in the coyote population by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their reproduction rate.

Eight states, including five in the west; Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Vermont, and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests, primarily through their state wildlife commissions. Wildlife killing contests violate the state's solemn duty to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians, and are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation-minded values.

Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife. Reject all wildlife killing contests under all circumstances.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** tyler.kujala86@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban Wildlife Killing Derbies

[You don't often get email from tyler.kujala86@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I am writing to urge you to vote to ban wildlife killing contests on public lands, and to restrict them to the fullest extent on private lands. These contests are unethical and serve no beneficial purpose. They promote a negative, harmful view of many species, especially coyotes, through celebrating and making an event out of killing them.

I believe this runs contrary to ODFW's duty to protect and preserve the state's native wildlife populations. I also believe it goes against the values of many Oregonians, as was seen in a 2019 poll by the Remington Research Group, where a strong majority of Oregon residents supported a public policy to ban these contests.

Wildlife killing contests serve no positive purpose, they only serve to foster a negative view of our state's wildlife, and because of this among many other reasons, I again urge you to vote to ban them.

Thank you

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Anne Buckley <aebuckle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Cc:** Anne Buckley  
**Subject:** Please Ban Wildlife Killing Derbies in Oregon

You don't often get email from aebuckle@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To ODFW -

I urge you to adopt the proposed rule and ***ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law.***

Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for the public's wildlife. These contests are a violation of the state's duty to protect wildlife for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Wildlife killing contests are motivated by financial rewards and are grossly out of step with the principle of fair chase, modern, science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's conservation centered values.

Science does not support indiscriminate, large-scale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species. It can even lead to an increase in coyote numbers by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their rate of reproduction.

Eight states, including five in the west—Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado—as well as Maryland, Vermont and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests, primarily through their state wildlife commissions.

Again, I urge you to end these cruel killing contests in Oregon.

Thank you.  
Anne Buckley

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Julie C <jsappeace@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from jsappeace@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why... it's cruel and inhumane.

Julie Carlton

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** shawn29.92@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 1:36 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote killing contests

[You don't often get email from shawn29.92@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

While I find the idea on contests distasteful, is there any science that states these animals are threatened or endangered? Do people enjoy shooting coyotes? Is there a threat to future generations access to coyotes? Why spend money on trappers when you can have the public take care of nuisance animals for free. This is a feel-good initiative that is counter to ODFW's mission statement. Knock off the grandstanding and get to work with habitat enhancement.  
Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Inge Eriks <iseriks@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from iseriks@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*Inge S. Eriks*

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why... I believe that wildlife killing contests promote a terrible waste of precious wildlife resources and run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles in Oregon. Wildlife belongs to all its citizens and allowing a small group to engage in contests undermines the state's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians. Additionally, these contests contradict principles of fair chase, modern science-based wildlife management, and Oregon's values of conservation. In short, they are cruel irresponsible. Please pass this ban now.

Sincerely,

Inge S. Eriks

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** jadedemeral@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 1:07 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from jadedemeral@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Beth Melville <bethmelville@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 12:45 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Cruel and Wasteful Wildlife Killing Contests

You don't often get email from bethmelville@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please vote to adopt the proposed rule and ban wildlife killing contests or derbies on public lands, with restrictions on private lands to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Science does not support indiscriminate, largescale, mass killing of coyotes as an effective means of reducing coyote populations, minimizing conflicts with pets or livestock, or increasing numbers of game species. It can even lead to an increase in coyote numbers by disrupting stable family packs and increasing their rate of reproduction.

Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its residents and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in wanton waste of a wildlife species as part of a contest neglects the state's duty to protect the public's wildlife, which are held and managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all Oregonians.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Tim Murphy <murpht12@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** End Coyote (And All) Killing Contests Now

You don't often get email from murpht12@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern,

I am emailing to demand an end to the coyote killing contests in Oregon. It's a cowardly, inhumane practice that undermines the ecosystems that depend on coyotes. It's not based in any kind of science. Just in fear. It's a stain on our state. And it's your job to remove it.

It's outrageous that our government oversees, and profits from, senseless slaughter of these beautiful animals. The majority of Oregon residents don't support it. And it's the upending the health of already threatened wild places. We entrust you — and fund you with tax payer dollars — to protect these lands and the animals who live in them. Do your job.

Do we really need to kill to feel alive? Or can we just coexist with these creatures who were here long before us and appreciate their beauty? End these contests now. It's pathetic. It should haunt you.

Sincerely,  
Tim Murphy

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Skyla L <skylajade22@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from skylajade22@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

It's cruel and unethical. Oregon is a place of love. This is abuse! Do better.

-Skyla Lamartine

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jenifer <jenifersteppat@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:44 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from jenifersteppat@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife.

Please ban this horrible practice!

Jenifer and Eddie Steppat  
Bend Oregon  
551 948-6189

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Allison Murphy <steadyhomefarm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:43 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from steadyhomefarm@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

The wild lives here. We share space with the wild, we shouldn't attempt to control it. Humans have impacted wild existence in ways we can't even begin to quantify.

Folks would love to use agriculture as the first example of what wildlife needs to be controlled and mitigated, but as the manager of a small family farm in Deschutes County raising a variety of proteins, I can attest that our predation rates have dropped to zero by simply protecting our livestock better.

We have had animals taken by bobcats, coyotes, and owls; all predation has stopped without the killing of a single predator because we took the appropriate steps to protect our livestock. It is possible to live in balance with the wild world. In fact, the nights would feel hollow without the yips and howls of coyotes and the days shallow without the hawk's shadow swooping overhead.

Killing contests are the epitome of violent waste.  
Please vote to ban all killing contests.

Allison Murphy  
541-350-8511

{{{ Typed on the phone - please excuse typos and/or brevity. }}}}

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** McCullough <mccullough@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:43 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from mccullough@bendbroadband.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. There is no sport in killing contests. It's inhumane and reflects a total disregard for the responsible management of animals in the state. I can't fathom any reason that killing contests fall under the category of true wildlife biology.

Please ban it.

Kindly,  
Mike McCullough  
Bend

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jenifer <jenifersteppat@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from jenifersteppat@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Karen Cheatham <karen\_cheatham@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:07 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from karen\_cheatham@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why:

First off, it's just gross and inhumane. Wildlife killing contests are cruel and undermine responsible sportsmanship, good stewardship, and respect for our public wildlife. Oregon's wildlife belongs to all its residents, and allowing a small group of individuals to engage in such contests undermines the State's duty to protect these resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Moreover, wildlife killing contests run contrary to science-based wildlife management principles. Mass killing of coyotes as a means of population control has no scientific backing and can disrupt stable family packs, increase reproduction rates, and potentially lead to more conflicts with livestock.

Please stop the killing contests.

Karen Cheatham  
(541) 390-9711

Sent from my mobile

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Lisa Rhodes <lisarhodes020@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 11:06 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Coyote killing contests

You don't often get email from lisarhodes020@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

The subject of this email is enough said. What kind of a society even says this out loud? Coyote "Killing Contest" Yay...let's go have a killing contest! WTF? And I live on a large ranch in Oregon so I do understand how nature works. There are plenty of protector animals to mix in with your herds. People just don't want to be bothered. They would rather complain and kill. Seriously, does anyone have a thought out there?

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jefferson Tilley <tilleyjefferson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from tilleyjefferson@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Removing them upsets the balance of nature for no legitimate benefit to anyone.

Jefferson Tilley  
tilleyjefferson@gmail.com  
973-723-6330

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Margaret Thompson Weaver <margarethompson@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:48 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from margarethompson@mac.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Prey animals are essential for habitat co-regulation, improving the qualities and health of our wild spaces. I know hunting is a way of life and sport for many, I do not practice this myself but can respect that it is an important way of life for others. At the end of the day however, hunting is taking a life, which should be approached with the utmost respect for the life you are taking and its affect on their immediate family and ecosystem they are apart of. Contest encourage competition, lust for power, greed to be the best! Do the most! Competitions can be good, but when concerning another life, competitions can't be further from the respect these creatures deserve. The humanity these creature deserve.

Thank you for your time in considering this.

Peggy Thompson  
541-499-2867

Sent from my iPad

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Mitzi Tate <mitzitate73@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:47 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from mitzitate73@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon.

I was appalled by this. I have lived in Oregon since 1993 and had never heard of such a thing! I believe we as humans are better than this and have moved on from such barbaric practices. Please vote to make this unbelievably horrific practice end.

Thank you,  
Mitzi Tate

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** D Beal <dbeal1286@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Comments RE: OR Wildlife Killing Contests

You don't often get email from dbeal1286@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife:

Our family is writing to strongly encourage you to please BAN wildlife killing contests statewide.

There is no scientific evidence that indiscriminately killing coyotes reduces their populations, protects livestock or increases populations of "game" animals. In fact, it can actually have the opposite effect due to the fact that killing coyotes disrupts their pack structure, which can increase their populations. Preventing conflicts by utilizing humane, non-lethal solutions is more effective.

In the last four years 1,000+ coyotes have been indiscriminately and brutally killed in killing contests across our state. The majority of Oregonians support public policy to ban coyote killing contests.

Coyotes targeted by killing contests play an important ecological role in healthy ecosystems. They reduce rabbit and rodent populations, scavenge animal carcasses and increase biodiversity. These killing contests disregard ecological health and sound management.

Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado as well as Maryland, Vermont and Massachusetts have banned wildlife killing contests. Several other states are also considering bans. Americans are increasingly demanding an end to this barbaric practice. Killing contests damage the reputation of responsible hunters by violating fundamental hunting ethics. Countless animals are injured or orphaned during killing contests and these events kill non-target species.

From a moral perspective, these contests are a bloodsport for thrills and prizes with no respect for the animal's intrinsic or ecological value. These contests are senseless violence and waste. People who hunt and eat what they kill, we respect...killing for the heck of it, that's not hunting.

The issue of Public Trust must not be ignored. Oregon's wildlife is managed in trust for all Oregonians... not for serving a small minority. Allowing individuals to wantonly kill wildlife as part of a cruel bloodsport is a grave violation of the state's obligations to hold wildlife as a public trust for all its citizens.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our comments.

Warmest regards,

The Beals

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** Matt Christensen Christensen <MattChristensen8@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:28 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Please ban animal hunting contests

You don't often get email from mattchristensen8@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to voice my support of a ban on organized hunting contests.

While I understand that hunting has been a part of our cultural heritage for generations, I believe it is essential to reassess our approach in light of our evolving understanding of wildlife conservation and the environment. Coyote hunting, particularly in the context of organized contests, raises several issues that warrant our attention.

First and foremost, coyote populations play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance. These intelligent creatures help control rodent populations and contribute to overall ecosystem health. Indiscriminate hunting, especially during contests that incentivize the killing of as many animals as possible. This practice causes chaos in the coyote family structure. Cubs are left to fend for themselves, and remaining adults under stress breed more. It is ineffective population control at best, and inhumane animal cruelty at worst. Furthermore, wildlife hunting contests often encourage unethical and wasteful practices. Participants may prioritize quantity over quality, leading to a disregard for animal welfare and a lack of respect for these animals' lives. The needless suffering and loss of life that result from such contests are ethically troubling and run counter to the principles of responsible hunting and conservation.

Dan Gibbs, hunter and executive director of Colorado Department of Natural Resources, said, "For me, hunting contests don't sit well. As a sportsman, I'd never participate in one, personally. Hunting is an important, reverent tradition in Colorado and powerful management tool, but I also think wildlife killing contests give sportsmen and sportswomen a bad name and damage our reputation."

Indeed, these contests have contributed already to negative public perceptions of hunting, potentially harming the reputation of ethical hunters who prioritize conservation and sustainability. It tarnishes the reputation of hunting as an ethical form of wildlife conservation. Public support for hunting as a tool for wildlife management will continue to erode as more people witness the excessive and inhumane practices associated with these contests.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the ethical, ecological, and social implications of coyote hunting and wildlife hunting contests. I believe that a ban on these contests would demonstrate our commitment to responsible wildlife management, conservation, and the ethical treatment of animals.

I kindly request that you move to ban these contests in Oregon. Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington have outlawed killing contests for coyotes, foxes, bobcats and other species, and several other states are considering similar action. There is simply no place for wildlife killing contests in modern society.

Thank you,  
Matt Christensen

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Ruth Mallen <ruthmallen13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:10 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from ruthmallen13@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

Sent from my iPhone

## BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW

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**From:** joy newhart <joynewhart@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from joynewhart@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

I fully support Ms. Compton's words on not allowing killing contests. Please do not let this continue.

"As Oregonians, we hold values that prioritize the stewardship of our land and wildlife. These contests are completely contrary to those principles. Lifelong hunters recognize that these killing contests deviate from centuries-long standards of respectable hunting. The manner in which animals are killed in these events raises serious ethical questions, as the carcasses are disposed of carelessly after serving as a mere scorecard to win prizes."

It's important to remember that these animals are not being hunted for any purpose beyond the competition itself. Nothing is harvested from their bodies; instead, they are piled up like trash to be carted away.

The repercussions extend beyond the individuals that are killed. Coyotes play a crucial role within the ecosystems they inhabit by balancing prey species populations. The indiscriminate killing of hundreds of coyotes for entertainment orphans young and abruptly changes the balance of local habitats. Instead, we should manage their populations responsibly, just as we do with other animal species."

Calli Madrone

Bend OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Kate Dworman <katedworman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Ban Wildlife Killing Contests

[You don't often get email from katedworman@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Good morning,

As a proud former Lake Oswego resident with family members still living in the state of Oregon, I am writing to urge you to ban any type of wildlife killing contest that might take place in the state, and to support the eradication of such killing contests throughout the Pacific Northwest, as well as in Northern Rockies when given the opportunity. These events are barbaric, and quite frankly, extremely embarrassing as Americans. The majority of our country does not support such actions, and it is the influence of small but powerful interest groups that keep such contests occurring. If you have not done so already, I urge you to watch a video of how these animals are killed or go online to view photos. They are not difficult to find on the internet and extremely disturbing.

I appreciate your time and consideration of my request.

Kate Dworman  
President Tailwinds Charitable Foundation President RAVEN Fund Member Sierra Club

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** joshbakj@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 9:59 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from joshbakj@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. I feel this is senseless and inhumane!

Thank you,  
Josh Bak-Jensen

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Heather Bak-Jensen <hhbakjensen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 9:59 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from hhbakjensen@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. I am against the senseless killing of coyotes and these killing contests.

Sincerely,

Heather Bak-Jensen

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Carey Logsdon <icareypax@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

You don't often get email from icareypax@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. I agree with

Sally Compton, when she says:

"As Oregonians, we hold values that prioritize the stewardship of our land and wildlife. These contests are completely contrary to those principles. Lifelong hunters recognize that these killing contests deviate from centuries-long standards of respectable hunting. The manner in which animals are killed in these events raises serious ethical questions, as the carcasses are disposed of carelessly after serving as a mere scorecard to win prizes."

It's important to remember that these animals are not being hunted for any purpose beyond the competition itself. Nothing is harvested from their bodies; instead, they are piled up like trash to be carted away.

The repercussions extend beyond the individuals that are killed. Coyotes play a crucial role within the ecosystems they inhabit by balancing prey species populations. The indiscriminate killing of hundreds of coyotes for entertainment orphans young and abruptly changes the balance of local habitats. Instead, we should manage their populations responsibly, just as we do with other animal species."

Carey Logsdon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** goseland@bendbroadband.com <goseland@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 9:48 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from goseland@bendbroadband.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

Coyotes have grown in number since the early 70's', when I was first introduced to this great state.

They kill game birds and small game, Rabbits, squirrels etc.

They run crazy, like at the Heart Mtn Refuge, and the decimation of the Antelope heard.

We have Cougars in town, and the imported wolves increasing each year.

The big game' is being decimated.

We need some serious predator control, beyond hanging bells on our fences.

Please do not stop the contests.

Thank you.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Rachel H <rachelheim09@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 9:45 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** I support a ban on killing contests in Oregon

[You don't often get email from rachelheim09@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission,

I support the proposed ban on killing contests in Oregon. Here's why...

The killing contests are unethical, counterproductive for healthy ecosystems, and are on par with the senseless slaughter of whales you see around the world.

Any time an animal is killed for sport and no part of it is utilized for consumption, you must take a step back and analyze why such a tradition exists, and if it is worth continuing.

These contests are not in line with the values of so, so many Oregonians, and do not display proper stewardship of our public wildlife.

I vehemently oppose the existence of these contests, and fully support a ban on them.

Sincerely,  
Rachel

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Randy and Pamela Comeleo <rottyler@peak.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission \* ODFW  
**Subject:** Contest Prohibition for Taking Unprotected Mammals Testimony  
**Attachments:** Contest Prohibition for Taking Unprotected Mammals Testimony RComeleo 091523.pdf

Dear Chair Wahl and Commission members:

I am a co-founder of and advisor to the Benton County Agriculture and Wildlife Protection Program ([AWPP](#)). This county taxpayer-funded program provides grant funds to farmers for the purchase of non-lethal wildlife deterrents to proactively protect livestock from predators.

The grant program was created because farmers in our county were saying that killing coyotes and other wildlife to protect livestock was not working. Many farmers also said they appreciated the ecological role of predators on their farm or simply did not want to kill wildlife.

The program has been in operation for six years and there are now about 30 participating farms scattered throughout the Coast Range. Importantly, no livestock have been killed at any participating farms even though coyotes, cougars and other predators are regularly seen on these farms.

*Video: Benton County Agriculture & Wildlife Protection Program*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=bTa8IzuZS\\_o&t=1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=bTa8IzuZS_o&t=1s)

Predation management experts know that randomly killing coyotes can increase livestock depredation rates because coyotes compensate for reductions in population with increasing immigration, reproduction, and especially pup survival rates.

Studies have shown that in areas where coyote populations have been reduced, pup survival rates into summer can be two to three times higher than normal. In order to sustain larger numbers of pups, new breeding adults often seek larger prey like unprotected sheep and goats, rather than mice and rabbits.

While killing contest sponsors and outfitters may benefit economically from these contests, it is livestock producers in killing contest areas who may bear the negative economic impact of increasing livestock losses months or even a year after the killing contests have ended.

I believe that ODFW has a responsibility to help guide farmers toward more effective livestock husbandry practices that will also conserve wildlife. I also believe it would be unethical for a wildlife agency to recognize wildlife killing contests as an effective method for reducing livestock losses.

I ask that you adopt ODFW's proposed administrative rule to prohibit wildlife killing contests.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

Randy Comeleo  
Corvallis, OR