

Citizen Resolution # 490122

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Ban Coyote Killing Contests

Coyote killing contests promote and reward indiscriminate killing of the species with the use of calls, traps, hounds, and high-tech tools. 40+ Wisconsin contests, most all targeting coyote, have been identified via tavern fliers and social media; the annual Moondog Madness being the largest. Petitions, billboards, LTEs, and more recently undercover contest footage have raised public awareness and support for ending these events. In response, organizers now operate in secret using private forums, code words, undisclosed weigh-in locations, and virtual video check ins. Cash and prizes, including weapons, award teams killing the most, biggest, smallest, ugliest etc. coyote. A ban on contests would not impact lethal take of coyote for livestock protection, or any form of hunting including fishing derbies and "Big Buck" competitions. The DNR does not monitor/regulate contests and have not released any statement supporting contests. Wanton cruelty and waste, and illegal disposal of carcasses on public land have been reported to and documented by WIDNR (e.g., 5/2018 Morgan Falls area, Ashland County; 4/2019 Old HW 2, Bayfield County; 2/2017 Shiocton). Contest photos of mutilated, bullet-ridden furs indicate many pelts are useless. Increasing support for this resolution shows hunters and non-hunters alike do not endorse indiscriminate killing for fun, prizes, and cash. This divisiveness over contests is evident on social media; many hunters express concern that public support for traditional, ethical, humane, fair chase hunting is at stake. 7 states have banned competition killing, all citing 70 conservation scientists' 2018 findings that indiscriminate killing serves no effective management tool.

Does the WCC support advising the WDNR to develop and seek legislation to ban coyote killing contests?

Additional Information provided by author:

https://www.projectcoyote.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/SAB-Letter-Against-WKCs__FINAL_2021.01.13.pdf

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Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.