

PROJECT COYOTE

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



Statement in Support of LB 1293 to Ban Coyote Killing Contests

Signed by more than 70 conservation scientists

On behalf of Project Coyote's Maine members and supporters, our Science Advisory Board and the undersigned scientists, we express our support for Maine LD 1293 to ban coyote killing contests—events in which participants compete to kill coyotes and other wildlife for prizes or entertainment. These events are promoted throughout the United States.

The most general reason to prohibit coyote killing contests is that hunters and wildlife managers believe, as a community, that killing animals without an adequate reason is unjustified and unsportsmanlike. Killing coyotes for a monetary prize or trophy constitutes killing without an adequate reason. Inasmuch as killing contests are primarily motivated by killing for a prize or trophy, they are wrong.

Some advocates of coyote killing contests argue that they are important for achieving management objectives for other species, especially game species. There is no credible evidence that indiscriminate killing of coyotes or other predators effectively serves any genuine interest in managing other species.

If leaders in the hunting and wildlife management community believe that killing contests, in general, serve important objectives, then the principles of wildlife management mandate that (1) these objectives be articulated and vetted by the best-available science, and (2) some reasonable, science-based case be made to justify a killing contest as an appropriate means for achieving these objectives. In the absence of such an evaluation, these events should be prohibited.

Advocates of killing contests might argue that they are an important means for realizing one or both of these objectives: (1) decrease the loss of livestock to depredation, and (2) increase the abundance of prey species in the interest of maximizing hunting success by humans.

With respect to objective (1), a great deal of science has been developed on how to effectively manage depredations, including both lethal and non-lethal methods. Lessons from that science include:

- (i) Indiscriminate killing is ineffective and it is plausible, perhaps likely, that when associated with a killing contest it would lead to increased risk of depredations. A primary reason for this concern is that only some, often only a few, individual predators participate in depredation. Indiscriminate and “pre-emptive” killing of predators associated with these events can lead to the disruption of predators’ social structure and foraging ecology in ways that increase the likelihood of depredations. In hunted (exploited) coyote populations, for example, the number of surviving pups that must be fed by the alpha parents and the number of transient individuals may increase. These factors may predispose more coyotes to depredate livestock.
- (ii) The indiscriminate killing associated with a coyote killing contest does not target: (a) the offending predator, (b) the site where depredation has occurred, and (c) the time when

depredation has occurred. This renders the competitions ineffective as a means of depredation control.

While managing to reduce the loss of livestock is a common goal for all stakeholders, coyote killing contests do not contribute to this goal and may work against it.

With respect to objective (2), a large body of science indicates that killing predators, especially under circumstances associated with killing contests, is not a reliable means of increasing ungulate abundance. The circumstances most likely to result in increased ungulate abundance are also the circumstances most likely to impair important ecosystem benefits and services that predators provide. Even when predators are killed to the point of impairing the ecosystem services, there is still no assurance that ungulate abundance will increase. The reason being is that ungulate abundance is frequently limited by factors other than predators—factors such as habitat and climate.

Beyond objectives (1) and (2), which focus on affecting game populations and livestock depredations, lies a need to better recognize and celebrate the predators' valuable contribution to the health and vitality of our ecosystems. For example, predators serve human interests through beneficial effects such as rodent control and disease prevention and promoting diverse plant communities and soil fertility. Thus, reduction of the distribution and numbers of apex predators can have detrimental ecological effects.

Some advocates of killing contests might also believe that killing coyotes is vitally important for preventing coyote populations from growing out of control. This concern is unjustified. Science demonstrates that unexploited coyote populations self-regulate their numbers by means of dominant individuals defending non-overlapping territories and suppressing subordinate pack members from breeding.

Opposition to wildlife killing contests is growing rapidly. Ten states — Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Vermont and Washington — have already outlawed wildlife killing contests within their borders. Six states prohibited killing contests through state wildlife agency rulemaking (AZ, CA, CO, MA, NM, OR, WA), three did so through the state legislature (NY, MD, VT). Local governments in Arizona, Michigan, New Mexico, Wisconsin and other states have condemned the events.

Moreover, concerns over wildlife killing contests have reached the national policy agenda, as evidenced by the introduction of the Prohibit Wildlife Killing Contests Act of 2024 (H.R.8492) to the United States House of Representatives by Congressman Steve Cohen (TN-09), with 19 co-sponsors. The bill makes it unlawful for any person(s) to organize, sponsor, conduct, or participate in wildlife killing contests on public lands, with limited exceptions for wildlife management purposes. However, this bill needs reintroduction in the new congress and would only apply to federal public lands, and therefore state action is still needed to prohibit such contests on state lands

In 2018, hunter and Chairman of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Mike Finley condemned wildlife killing contests as “slaughter fests” and “stomach-turning examples of wanton waste.” Former President of the California Fish and Game Commission and waterfowl hunter Mike Sutton denounced the events as “unethical” and “an anachronism [with] no place in modern wildlife management.” The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department stated, “coyote 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.” The Wildlife Society issued a position statement in 2019 recognizing 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” and discouraging “contests that portray hunting in an unethical fashion.”

Thank you for considering our concerns on this important wildlife conservation issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Camilla H. Fox
Founder & Executive Director
Project Coyote

ON BEHALF OF:

Michael Paul Nelson, PhD
Corvallis, OR
Professor, and Ruth H. Spaniol Chair of Renewable Resources
Oregon State University
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

William J. Ripple, PhD
Portland, OR
Distinguished Professor of Ecology
Oregon State University

David Johns, PhD
Portland, OR
Professor (retired)
Portland State University

Bob Ferris, MA
Eugene, OR
Former Executive Director, Cascadia Wildlands

John A. Vucetich, PhD
Houghton, MI
Associate Professor
School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science
Michigan Technological Univ.
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

David Parsons, MS

Albuquerque, NM
Carnivore Conservation Biologist, Rewilding Institute
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Michael Soulé, PhD (In Memoriam)

Paonia, CO
Professor Emeritus
Dept. Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz
Co-founder, Society for Conservation Biology
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Paul Paquet, PhD

Meacham, Saskatchewan
Senior Scientist Carnivore Specialist, Raincoast Conservation Foundation
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Jeremy T. Bruskotter, PhD

Columbus, Ohio
Associate Professor School of Environment & Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Marc Bekoff, PhD

Boulder, CO
Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado, Boulder
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Bradley J. Bergstrom, PhD

Valdosta, GA
Professor of Biology, Valdosta State University
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Shelley M. Alexander, PhD

Calgary, Alberta
Associate Professor, Geography, University of Calgary
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Adrian Treves, PhD

Madison, WI
Associate Professor
University of Wisconsin-Madison

John Hadidian, PhD

Gaithersburg, MD
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Rick Hopkins, PhD

San Jose, CA

Principal and Senior Conservation Biologist
Live Oak Associates, Inc.
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Joanna Lambert, PhD, FLS

Professor, Environmental Studies Program
Faculty, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
University of Colorado - Boulder
Boulder, CO

Jennifer Wolch, PhD

Berkeley, CA
Dean, College of Environmental Design
Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Becky Weed, MS

Belgrade, MT
Thirteen Mile Lamb and Wool Co.
Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Chris Schadler, MS, MA

Webster, NH
Wild Canid Specialist
NH & VT Rep., Project Coyote

Paul Beier, PhD

Flagstaff, AZ
Regents' Professor, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff AZ
Past President, Society for Conservation Biology

David Mattson, PhD

Livingston, MT
Lecturer and Senior Visiting Scientist, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
USGS Colorado Plateau Research Station Leader (retired)
USGS Research Wildlife Biologist (retired)
Past Western Field Director, MIT-USGS Science Impact Collaborative

Melissa Savage, PhD

Los Angeles, CA
Professor Emerita
University of California, Los Angeles

Philip Hedrick PhD

Tempe, AZ
Ullman Professor of Conservation Biology
Arizona State University

Megan Isadore

Forest Knolls, CA
Co-founder and Executive Director
River Otter Ecology Project
Member, IUCN Otter Specialist Group
Founder, Good Riddance! Wildlife Exclusions, LLC

David Fraser, PhD

Vancouver, Canada
Professor
University of British Columbia

Bernard E. Rollin, PhD

Fort Collins, CO
University Distinguished Professor
Professor of Philosophy
Professor of Animal Sciences
Professor of Biomedical Sciences
University Bioethicist

Malcolm R. MacPherson, PhD

Santa Fe, NM
Retired Scientist
Member AAAS and the Society for Conservation Biology

Simon Gadbois, PhD

Halifax, NS, Canada
Director of the Canid Behaviour Research Team
Dalhousie University, Canada

Zoë Jewell, MA, MSc, Vet. MB, MRCVS

Sydney, Australia
Adjunct Faculty, Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University
Associate Academic, Center for Compassionate Conservation,
University of Technology, Sydney, Australia

Chris Dairmont, PhD

Victoria, BC
Hakai-Raincoast Professor
University of Victoria

Dale Jamieson, PhD

New York, NY
Professor of Environmental Studies, Philosophy, and Bioethics, Affiliated Professor of Law, Director of the
Animal Studies Initiative
New York University

Kevin Crooks, PhD

Fort Collins, CO

Monfort Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology
Colorado State University

William Lynn, PhD

Marlborough, MA
Research Scientist
Marsh Institute, Clark University

Jonathan Way, PhD

Osterville, MA
Eastern Coyote Research
Research Scientist, Clark University

Geri T. Vistein, MS

Belfast, Maine
Carnivore Conservation Biologist
Executive Director and Founder, Coyote Center for Carnivore Ecology and Coexistence

Lisa Micheli, PhD

Santa Rosa, CA
Executive Director
Pepperwood's Dwight Center for Conservation Science

Winston Thomas, PhD

Founder and CEO, Canine Genetics, LLC
San Mateo, CA

Megan M. Draheim, PhD

Washington, DC
Visiting Associate Professor
Virginia Tech Center for Leadership in Global Sustainability
Director, The District Coyote Project

Stephen F. Stringham, PhD

Soldotna, AK
Predator Biologist
President, WildWatch Consulting
Chair, Advisory Committee, BEAR League

Bonny Laura Schumaker, PhD

La Canada, CA
Physicist & Technical Manager, Retired
(Theoretical Astrophysics and Remote Sensing)
California Institute of Technology / Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Founder and President, OnWingsOfCare.org

Rolf Peterson, PhD

Robbins Professor of Sustainable Environmental Management

School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science
Michigan Technological University

Thomas L. Serfass, PhD

Frostburg, Maryland
Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Chair, Department of Biology and Natural Resources
North American Coordinator, IUCN Otter Specialist Group
Frostburg State University

Robert Schmidt, PhD

Salt Lake City, UT
Associate Professor, Dept. Environment and Society
Utah State University

Arnold Newman, PhD, Executive Director

Sherman Oaks, CA
The International Society for the Preservation of the Tropical Rainforest

Susan E. Townsend, PhD

Oakland, CA
Wildlife Ecology and Consulting

Ian R. MacDonald, PhD

Tallahassee, FL
Florida State University

Martin B. Main, PhD

Gainesville, FL
Professor, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Associate Dean and Program Leader, Natural Resources Extension
University of Florida

Guillaume Chapron, PhD

Sweden
Associate Professor
Grimsö Wildlife Research Station
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Jill Sideman, PhD

Tiburon, California
Environmental Management Consultant

Richard P. Reading, PhD

Denver, CO
Department of Conservation Biology
Denver Zoological Foundation

José Vicente López-Bao, PhD

Spain
Research Unit of Biodiversity (UO/CSIC/PA)
Oviedo University

Francisco J. Santiago-Ávila, MEM, MPP

Madison, WI
Graduate Research Scholar, PhD Candidate
Carnivore Conservation Lab
University of Wisconsin - Madison

Alexandra Pineda Guerrero, MS

PhD Student, Environment & Resources
Carnivore Coexistence Lab
Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Miha Krofel, PhD

Slovenia
Assistant Professor and Wildlife Researcher
University of Ljubljana
Biotechnical Faculty, Department for Forestry and Renewable Forest Resources

Brian Schuh, MS

Madison, WI
Carnivore Coexistence Lab
University of Wisconsin - Madison

Andrés Ordiz, PhD

Norway
Faculty of Environmental Sciences and Natural Resources Management
Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Alejandra Zarzo-Arias, PhD

Spain
Research Unit of Biodiversity (UO/CSIC/PA)
University of Oviedo

Jennifer A. Leonard, PhD

Seville, Spain
Doñana Biological Research Station
Spanish National Research Council

Jorge Echegaray, MSc

Spain
Wildlife Researcher for Spanish Conservationist NGOs
Director of the Project "Wolf in the Basque Country"

Bridgett M. vonHoldt, PhD

Princeton, NJ
Assistant Professor
Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
Princeton University

Carles Vilà, PhD

Seville, Spain
Doñana Biological Station
Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)

Klaus-Peter Koepfli, PhD

Washington, D.C.
Conservation Biologist
Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

Robert Long, PhD

Seattle, WA
Senior Conservation Scientist
Woodland Park Zoo

Alberto Fernández-Gil, PhD

Estación Biológica de Doñana (CSIC)
Spain

Rich Bard

Portland, ME
Wildlife Biologist

Franz Camenzind, PhD

Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote

Brad Purcell, PhD

Science Advisory Board, Project Coyote
Australia
The Dingo Tracker – Wildlife & Ecological Consulting

Chris Mowry, PhD

Mt. Berry, GA
Associate Professor of Biology
Berry College
Department of Biology

Ryan Bell, MA Biology

Phoenix, AZ
Miami University

John Miles, PhD

Bellingham, WA
Professor Emeritus
Huxley School of the Environment
Western Washington University

Susan Morgan, PhD

Arroyo Seco, NM
President
The Rewilding Institute

Omar Ohrens, PhD

Madison, WI
Visiting Assistant Professor
Carnivore Coexistence Lab
University of Wisconsin – Madison

Alejandro Estrada, PhD

Instituto de Biología
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Amanda Stronza, PhD

Anthropologist and Professor
Ecology and Conservation Biology
Joint Appointment in Rangeland, Wildlife and Fisheries Management
Co-Director | Applied Biodiversity Science Program
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Faculty Affiliate, Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
Co-Founder, Ecoexist Project, Botswana

Herbert H. Covert, PhD

Professor of Anthropology
Director, Baker Residential Academic Program
University of Colorado Boulder
Boulder, Colorado
Member of the Executive Committee of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group
Director, Baker Residential Academic Program
Professor of Anthropology, CB 233
University of Colorado Boulder

Michelle Sauther, PhD

Boulder, CO
Professor, Faculty in the Department of Anthropology
University of Colorado Boulder

Joel Berger, PhD

Professor, Department of FWCB

Barbara Cox Anthony University Chair in Wildlife Conservation
Colorado State University

Colin Chapman, PhD

Department of Anthropology
Center for the Advanced Study of Human Paleobiology
Royal Society of Canada, Killam Fellowship
Conservation Fellow WCS
Velan Humanitarian Award
The George Washington University

Paul Alan Garber, PhD

Professor Emeritus
Department of Anthropology
Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology
University of Illinois

Thomas H. Struhsaker, PhD

Department of Evolutionary Anthropology
Duke University

Appendix A. Additional Literature Cited

Here we provide additional scientific explanation (with citations) for two ideas expressed in this letter.

(1) Some advocates of wildlife killing contests (WKC) believe they are necessary or beneficial for effective management of livestock depredation. We indicated that WKC are unlikely to have this effect. The reason why is that most individual predators do not participate in livestock depredations (Gipson 1975; Knowlton et al. 1999; Sacks et al. 1999a, 1999b; Linnell et al. 1999; Stahl and Vandel 2001; Blejwas et al. 2002; Treves et al. 2002; Treves and Naughton-Treves 2005). 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 (Gipson 1975; Sacks et al. 1999a, 1999b; Smith et al. 2000; Bangs and Shivik 2001). WKC do not represent the kind of targeted effort required for effective management of livestock depredations.

Moreover, indiscriminate killing of predators is likely to exacerbate risks to livestock. The reason is that killing social carnivores like coyotes (and wolves) can lead to the disruption of predators' social and foraging ecology in ways that increase the number of transient individuals (Bjorge and Gunson 1985; Haber 1996; Treves and Naughton-Treves 2005; Brainerd et al. 2008). These transient individuals that have not been acculturated (aversively conditioned) to living in areas with livestock may be more likely to kill livestock. Studies by USDA's Wildlife Services clearly indicate that many, if not most, depredations are inflicted by the breeders (i.e., alphas) in coyote social groups (Knowlton et al. 1999; Sacks et al. 1999b). Even if the offending individuals are removed, they can be replaced by other members of the social group or from populations outside the area where the WKC is occurring. In some cases, this can also increase reproductive performance in coyotes (Crabtree and Sheldon 1999; Knowlton et al. 1999; Moll et al. 2024). Scientific evidence is increasingly suggesting that harvesting predators can exacerbate losses to livestock (Collins et al. 2002; Treves et al. 2010; Peebles et al. 2013; Wielgus and Peebles 2014).

(2) Some advocates of wildlife killing contests believe they are necessary or beneficial for increasing the abundance of ungulate populations. We had indicated in our letter that WKC's are unlikely to have that effect. The reason why is two-fold:

- (i) Killing predators cannot result in increased ungulate abundance in cases where the ungulate population is not limited by predators, but is instead limited by other factors, such as climatic conditions or food availability (Sæther 1997; Forchhammer et al. 1998; Coulson et al. 2000; Parker et al 2009). Without careful study, the claim that killing predators will improve wild ungulate populations is simply an unsupported assumption. Moreover, scientists are not good at understanding the conditions that cause a population to be limited by predators as opposed to other factors (Vucetich et al. 2005; Wilmsers et al. 2006). For example, an experimental study in Idaho (Hurley et al. 2011) found that annual removal of coyotes was not an effective method to increase mule deer populations because coyote removal increased neonate fawn survival only under particular combinations of prey densities and weather conditions.
- (ii) Even in cases where predators do limit prey abundance, human-caused mortality (HCM) could only lead to an increase in prey abundance if the rate of HCM was sufficient to result in a significant reduction in predator abundance. Human-caused mortality is not a reliable means of reducing coyote abundance unless the rate of HCM exceeds 70% (Connolly and Lonhurst 1975). It is difficult to imagine that any set of WKC's would be intense enough or frequent enough to result in that rate of HCM.

Finally, the interest of some advocates of WKC's (i.e., increased ungulate abundance) is antithetical to good natural resource management practices in cases where increased ungulate abundances present a risk of overbrowsing (e.g., Côté et al. 2004).

Thank you for allowing us to further explain ourselves. If additional explanation on this or any other topic would be of value, please let us know. We would be eager to provide any such explanations.

Literature Cited:

1. Bangs, E., & Shivik, J. A. (2001). Managing wolf conflict with livestock in the northwestern United States. USDA National Wildlife Research Center-Staff Publications, 550.
2. Blejwas K.M., Sacks B.N., Jaeger M.M., McCullough D.R. (2002). The effectiveness of selective removal of breeding coyotes in reducing sheep predation. *J Wildl Manage* 66, 451-462.
3. Brainerd, S. M., Andrén, H., Bangs, E. E., Bradley, E. H., Fontaine, J. A., Hall, W. & Wydeven, A. P. (2008). The effects of breeder loss on wolves. *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, 72(1), 89-98.
4. Bjorge, R. R., and J. R. Gunson. (1985). Evaluation of wolf control to reduce cattle predation in Alberta. *Journal of Range Management* 38:483-486.
5. Collins, G.H., R. B. Wielgus, And G. M. Koehler. (2002). Effects of sex and age on American black bear conifer damage and control. *Ursus* 13:231-236.
6. Connolly, G. E., and W. M. Longhurst. (1975). The effects of control on coyote populations: A simulation model. Division Agricultural Science, University of California, Davis, Bulletin 1872.
7. Côté, S. D., Rooney, T. P., Tremblay, J. P., Dussault, C., & Waller, D. M. (2004). Ecological impacts of deer overabundance. *Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics*, 113-147.
8. Coulson, T., Milner-Gulland, E. J., & Clutton-Brock, T. (2000). The relative roles of density and climatic variation on population dynamics and fecundity rates in three contrasting ungulate species. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. Series B: Biological Sciences*, 267(1454), 1771-1779.

9. Crabtree, R. L., and J. W. Sheldon. (1999). Coyotes and canid coexistence. In *Carnivores in ecosystems: The Yellowstone experience*, ed. T. W. Clark et al., 127–163. New Haven: Yale University Press.
10. Forchhammer, M. C., Stenseth, N. C., Post, E., & Landvatn, R. (1998). Population dynamics of Norwegian red deer: density–dependence and climatic variation. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. Series B: Biological Sciences*, 265(1393), 341-350.
11. Gipson P.S. (1975). Efficiency of trapping in capturing offending coyotes. *Wildlife Management* 39, 45-47.
12. Knowlton F.F., E. M. Gese, Jaeger M.M. (1999). Coyote depredation control: An interface between biology and management. *Journal of Range Management* 52, 398-412.
13. Haber, G. C. (1996). Biological, conservation, and ethical implications of exploiting and controlling wolves. *Conservation Biology* 10:1068-1081.
14. Linnell J.D.C., Odden J., Smith M.E., Aanes R., Swenson J.E. (1999). Large carnivores that kill livestock: do problem individuals really exist? *Wildl Soc Bull* 27, 698-705.
15. Moll, R.J., Green, A.M., Allen, M.L. and Kays, R. (2024), People or predators? Comparing habitat-dependent effects of hunting and large carnivores on the abundance of North America's top mesocarnivore. *Ecography* e07390. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecog.07390>
16. Parker, K. L., Barboza, P. S., & Gillingham, M. P. (2009). Nutrition integrates environmental responses of ungulates. *Functional Ecology*, 23(1), 57-69.
17. Peebles, K. A., R. B. Wielgus, B. T. Maletzke, And M. E. Swanson. (2013). Effects of remedial sport hunting on cougar complaints and livestock depredations. *PloS ONE*. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0079713.
18. Ritchie EG, Elmhagen B, Glen AS, Letnic M, Ludwig G, McDonald RA. (2012). Ecosystem restoration with teeth: what role for predators? In: *Trends Ecol. Evol.* 27(5):265-271.
19. Sacks B.N., Blejwas K.M., Jaeger M.M. (1999a). Relative vulnerability of coyotes to removal methods on a northern California ranch. *J Wildl Manage* 63, 939-949;
20. Sacks, B. N., M. M. Jaeger, J. C. C. Neale, and D. R. McCullough. (1999). Territoriality and breeding status of coyotes relative to sheep predation. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 63:593-605.
21. Sæther, B. E. (1997). Environmental stochasticity and population dynamics of large herbivores: a search for mechanisms. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, 12(4), 143-149.
22. Smith, M. E., Linnell, J. D., Odden, J., & Swenson, J. E. (2000). Review of methods to reduce livestock depredation II. Aversive conditioning, deterrents and repellents. *Acta Agriculturae Scandinavica, Section A-Animal Science*, 50(4), 304-315
23. Stahl P., Vandel J.M. (2001). Factors influencing lynx depredation on sheep in France: Problem individuals and habitat. *Carnivore Damage Prevention News* 4, 6-8.
24. Treves A., Naughton-Treves L. (2005). Evaluating lethal control in the management of human-wildlife conflict. pp. 86-106 in R. Woodroffe, S. Thirgood, A. Rabinowitz editors. *People and Wildlife, Conflict or Coexistence*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.
25. Treves, A., R. L. Jurewicz, L. Naughton-Treves, R. A. Rose, R. C. Willging, and A. P. Wydeven. (2002). Wolf depredation on domestic animals: control and compensation in Wisconsin, 1976-2000. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 30:231-241.
26. Treves, A., K. J. Kapp, And D. Macfarland. (2010). American black bear nuisance complaints and hunter take. *Ursus* 21:30–42. doi: 10.2192/09gr012.1
27. Vucetich, J. A., Smith, D. W., & Stahler, D. R. (2005). Influence of harvest, climate and wolf predation on Yellowstone elk, 1961-2004. *Oikos*, 111(2), 259-270.
28. Wielgus, R. B. And K. A. Peebles. (2014). Effects of Wolf Mortality on Livestock Depredations. *PLoS ONE* 9(12): e113505. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0113505.

29. Wilmers, C. C., Post, E., Peterson, R. O., & Vucetich, J. A. (2006). Predator disease outbreak modulates top-down, bottom-up and climatic effects on herbivore population dynamics. *Ecology Letters*, 9(4), 383-389.