

Alison Dibble  
Brooklin  
LD 1293

Dear IF&W Committee Members:

Regarding L.D. 1293, I wish to register my support of a reasonable approach to coyote management that does not have unlimited harvest involved. While I recognize there are many good reasons why the coyote population should be controlled in some parts of Maine, I live in the Blue Hill area where deer are in the roads throughout the year and present a danger to the driving public. We need coyotes to keep the deer down. The hunters are not doing enough to make a difference, in southern Hancock County.

Because young coyotes learn to avoid human contact from their parents, it is counterintuitive to kill the adults when they are rearing their young. There will be fewer coyote/human conflicts if coyote management reflects this basic principle.

LD 1293 might not solve all problems. It is a start toward recognizing that eastern coyote has a role in our society and is being denied that role by senseless persecution. Let's be smart about this and move toward conservation-minded coyote management based on data and common sense instead of indiscriminate harvest of a necessary predator, just for the sake of protecting abundant white-tailed deer.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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