Courtney Ellis Rangeley LD 716

I am a lifelong resident of Maine, an avid hunter, and a registered Maine Guide. The majority of my free time is spent in the Maine woods, where I have witnessed firsthand the beneficial impact of the current coyote hunting season dates on both wildlife populations and the health of the coyote population.

While I understand the challenges of balancing emotions with effective wildlife management, shortening the coyote hunting season would only have negative consequences for everyone—prey species, domestic farm animals, pets, and even coyotes themselves.

Maintaining consistent hunting pressure on coyotes is one of the most ethical ways to help control disease, reduce coyote attacks on pets, and keep prey animal populations in balance.

I urge you to set aside personal feelings about coyote hunting and focus on science-based management and its crucial role in maintaining ecological balance.