

Petition to end wildlife killing contests in Nevada



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

What are wildlife killing contests?

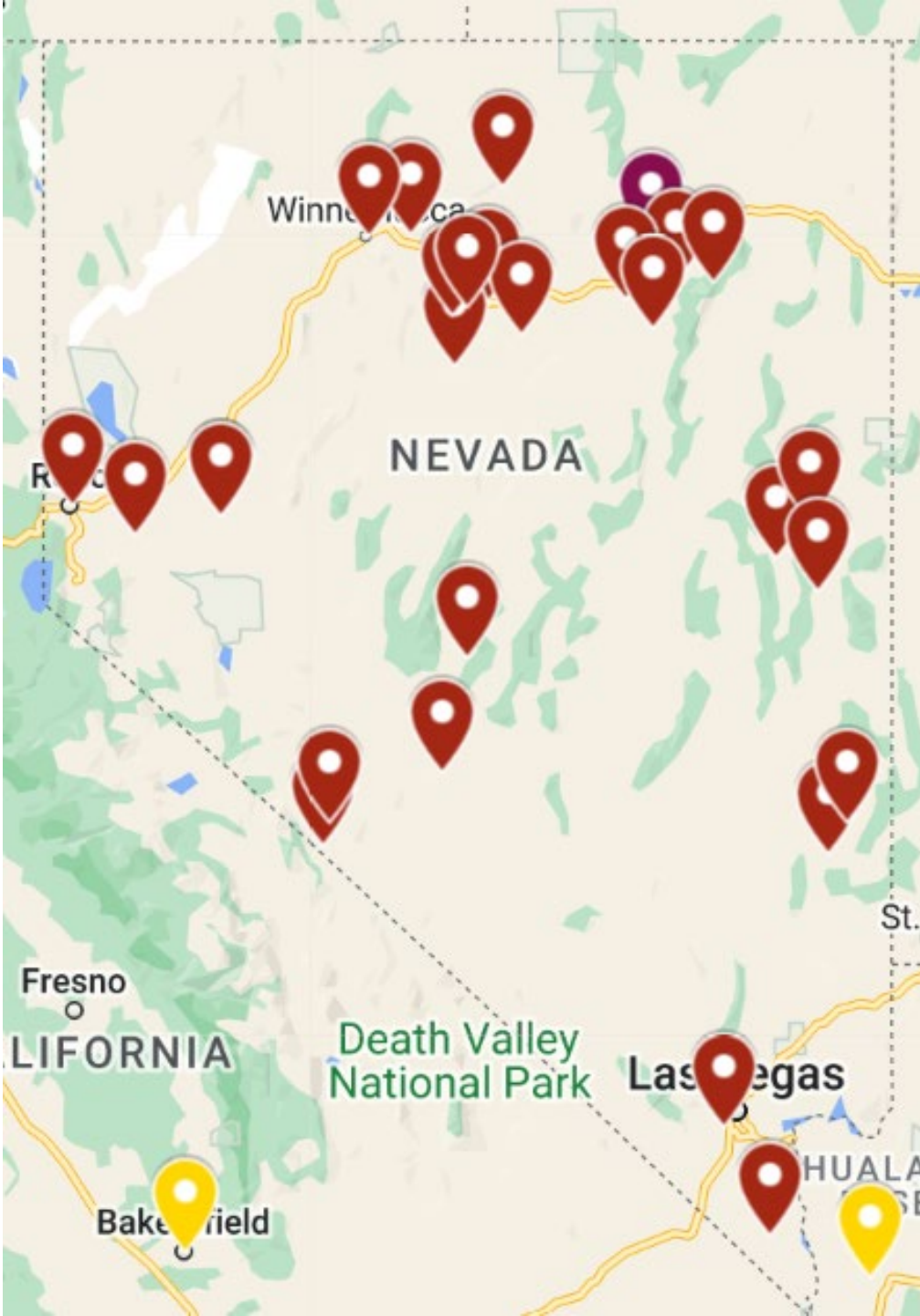
Organized events in which participants compete for prizes for killing the most, the largest or the smallest animals within a specified time period.



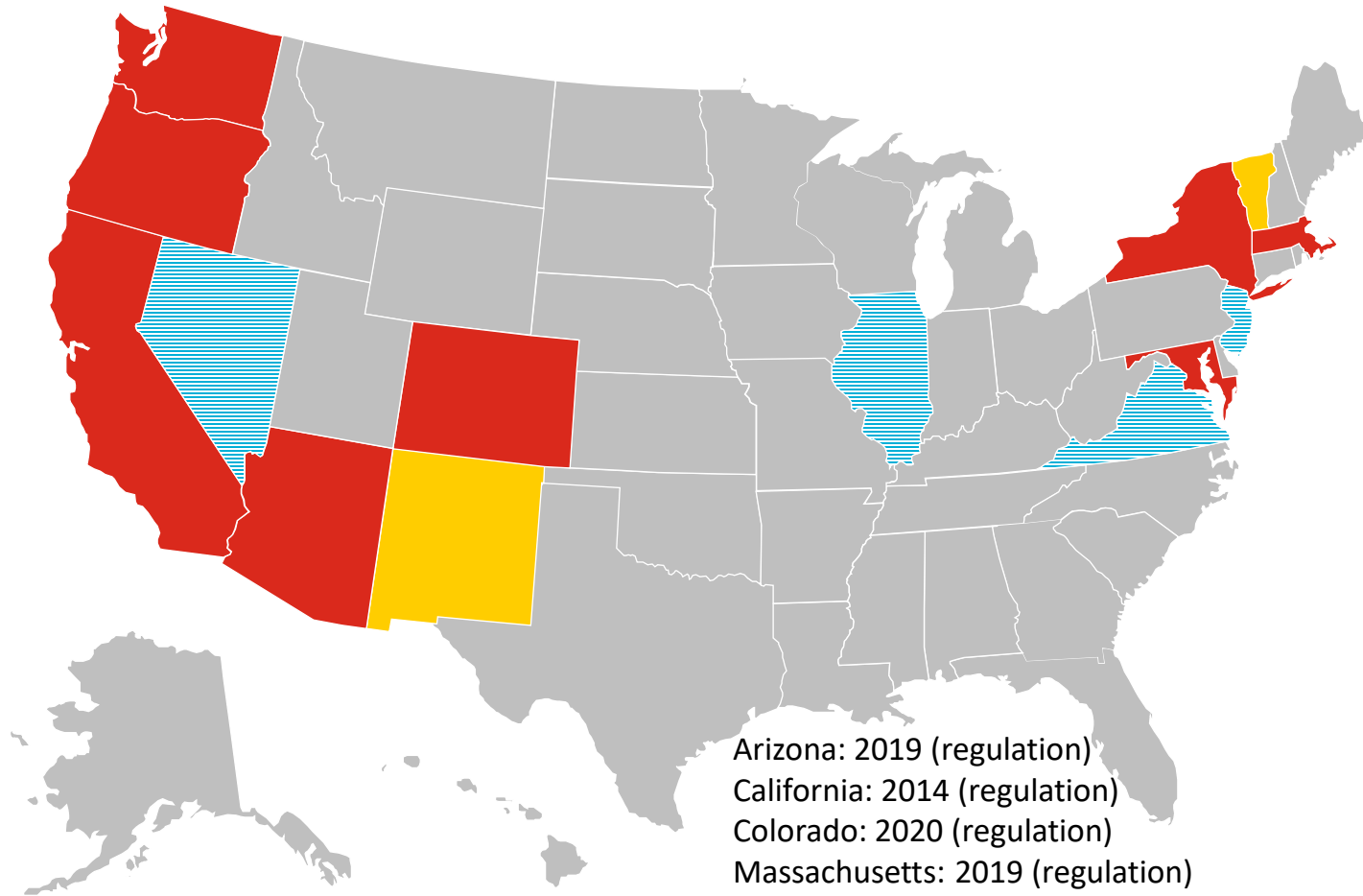
Species
targeted

(Known) recent wildlife killing contests in Nevada

15-20 per year



States that have banned wildlife killing contests



 Ban on furbearer and small game killing contests

 Ban on coyote killing contests

 Pending legislation or regulation to ban killing contests

Arizona: 2019 (regulation)
California: 2014 (regulation)
Colorado: 2020 (regulation)
Massachusetts: 2019 (regulation)
New Mexico: 2019 (legislation)
Vermont: 2018 (legislation)
Washington: 2020 (regulation)
Maryland: 2021 (legislation)
Oregon: 2023 (regulation)
New York: 2023 (legislation)

Proposed rule language

Add a new section to Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING; MISCELLANEOUS PROTECTIVE MEASURES):

NAC 503.196. Wildlife Killing Contests.

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may not conduct or participate in a contest, competition, tournament, or derby that has the objective of taking unprotected mammals as defined in NAC 503.035, or fur-bearing mammals as defined in NAC 503.025, for prizes or other inducement.
2. The remains of any unprotected mammal or fur-bearing mammal killed during the course of a contest or competition conducted in violation of this regulation shall be forfeited, and the remains of such wildlife shall become the property of the department.
3. This section does not affect competitive field trials for hunting dogs as authorized under NRS 503.200, or the taking of fur-bearing mammals causing damage to property as authorized by NRS 503.470.

The proposed rule:

- **Will not** affect the otherwise lawful, regulated hunting of coyotes or any other wildlife species
- **Will not** impact laws related to the lethal control of carnivores to protect livestock, property, people or pets
- **Will not** prohibit big buck contests or fishing tournaments
- **Will not** ban hunting field dog trials



TWS ISSUE STATEMENT: WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS

Killing contests differ from typical regulated hunting by the very nature of the organized public competition and prizes being given specifically for killing the largest, smallest, or most animals. “Big Buck” pools or organized record books differ from killing contests because the animals recognized in these competitions are harvested consistent with ordinary and generally accepted hunting practices and then introduced to the competition.

Contravenes the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation

TENET 1: Wildlife resources are conserved and held in trust for all citizens.

TENET 2: Commerce in dead wildlife is eliminated.

TENET 4: Wildlife may only be killed for a legitimate, non-frivolous purpose.

TENET 7: Scientific management is the proper means for wildlife conservation.

Tenet 4:

Wildlife may only be killed for a legitimate, non-frivolous purpose.

6 Pack Predator Hunters Presents...



Second Annual

Coyote Challenge

24 hours!

1-3 Man Teams

4 Man Team with
Child Only!

**\$40 a person
\$20 a child
(12 and under)**

Cash ONLY accepted!

January 4, 2019

463 E Aultman St. Ely, NV @ 7pm-9pm.

Hunt will begin right after rule reading
@9:15pm

Check in will be

January 5, 2019 @ 7pm

Sharp! Must have dogs
there no later than 7pm!

\$20

Each

**Big Dog
Small Dog
Lucky Loser**

\$10 Kids Pot Buy-in

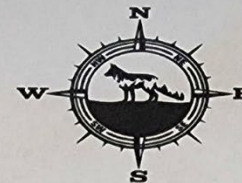
\$100 Calcutta Buy-out

Any Questions please call Ben 775-560-8940 or Troy 775-530-3166

2nd Annual Wild Wild West Coyote Calling Contest w/ ADDED MONEY!!!

Money Raised Supports the Tonopah Jr/Hs Rodeo Club

Ring in the New Year with Family & Friends all Competing
in a Coyote Calling Contest!!!!



Tonopah Elks Lodge-241 Central Street, Tonopah Nevada

***** 24 HOUR HUNT *** *** \$100 PER TEAM *****

Large Dog \$25, Small Dog \$25, Calcutta Auction & Lucky Loser

Saturday-Dec 31st 5:00pm Team Registration, Rules, Hunt

Sunday-Jan 1st 5:00pm Check In, Dinner, Awards

* Winning Team Receives **Custom Buckles Plus More!!!!**

* Large Dog Winning Team Receives \$\$\$ * Small Dog Winning Team Receives \$\$\$

* Lucky Loser Team Receives **Secret Gift!** * Calcutta Auction Team Receives \$\$\$

* Added money will be dispersed between **Winning Team, Large & Small Dog Pots***

**CALCUTTA: Buy your own team for \$100.00 (Teams that are not bought at registration
must stick around and will be auctioned off after registration)**

2-3 Man Teams (Kids Welcome to Hunt)

(1 Adult or 2 Adults or 3 Adults or 2 Adults & 1 Kid or 1 Adult & 2 Kids, or 1 Adult & 1 Kid)

Information contact Chrissy Pope 775-277-0149 or email popechrissy@hotmail.com

**Registration will be accepted over the phone or by email. Teams
must show up to sign the waiver and pick up hunt rules before
you can begin hunting.**



kadenevans99 • Follow



kadenevans99 2 dogs during the night hunt and went to pound town during the day, we killed 10 dogs in 6 hours day calling. Couldn't ask for a better day! Was a super fun contest. didn't come out on top but we gave her hell #nvboys #nvstatecallingchampionship

68w



cooper_spivey Killers!!!! 🔥



68w 1 like Reply



jwaite32 Holy crap that's a lot!



68w 2 likes Reply



traviscashdean 😱



68w 2 likes Reply



107 likes

November 13, 2022



Add a comment...

Post

Source: [instagram.com/p/Czm5TKMpp0U/?hl=en&img_index=2](https://www.instagram.com/p/Czm5TKMpp0U/?hl=en&img_index=2)

High tech equipment

- Electronic calling devices
- Spotlights
- Night vision & thermal scopes



COYOTE[®]
REAPER
SPOTLIGHT





YouTube

Everything Outdoors with Les Johnson · 34:03



Coyote Calling Contest Tips- How Calling Contests Work! Part 1

[Watch >](#)

Uploaded: Feb 5, 2017 · 100K Views · 2.37K Likes

“Hunting contests for these species are not necessary to provide an adequate, flexible and coordinated statewide system of wildlife management, or to maintain adequate and proper populations of wildlife species, nor are hunting contests for these species necessary to protect, preserve, enhance and manage wildlife for the use, benefit, or enjoyment of the state or its visitors.

”

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting

April 2020

Slaughtering Illinois coyotes in contest hunts is poor sport

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD
FEB 21, 2017 AT 11:15 AM

Animal welfare group blasts hunt that it says killed roughly 60 coyotes in Indiana

Sarah Bowman and Emily Hopkins Indianapolis Star
Published 4:25 p.m. ET Feb. 10, 2021 | Updated 8:14 a.m. ET Feb. 11, 2021

Animal rights activists and hunters face off in Hyannis over coyote hunting contest

By Jeremy C. Fox Globe Correspondent, February 10, 2018, 7:33 p.m.

Coyote hunting contests spark protests, legislation

Humane society shares images of dead canines in trash bins but sportsmen say the hunts are necessary

Rick Karlin
March 9, 2020 | Updated: March 10, 2020 3:11 p.m.

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Slaughtering wildlife for prizes is not sport; Hunters, animal advocates need to work together to stop it

Linda Valdez The Republic | azcentral.com
Published 11:20 a.m. MT Dec. 14, 2018 | Updated 4:21 p.m

Coyote Carnage: The Gruesome Truth about Wildlife Killing Contests

BY TED WILLIAMS · MAY 22, 2018

Coyote-killing contests face growing outrage, state bans

By Karin Brulliard

May 17, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. EDT

Georgia Coyote Killing Contest Called 'Inhumane and Unwise' by Wildlife Groups

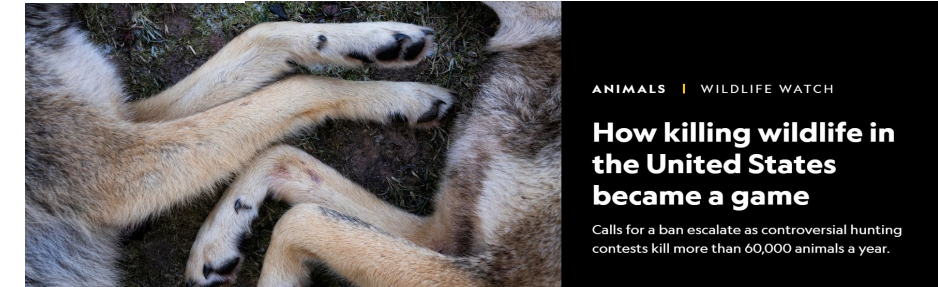
BY KRISTIN HUGO ON 6/24/18 AT 11:34 AM EDT

A 'Squirrel Slam' Lures Hunters and Protesters to Western New York

By Jesse McKinley



A team of women known as "squirrel girls" helped weigh animals on digital scales at the annual Squirrel Slam in Brockport, N.Y., on Saturday. Mike Bradley for The New York Times



ANIMALS | WILDLIFE WATCH

How killing wildlife in the United States became a game

Calls for a ban escalate as controversial hunting contests kill more than 60,000 animals a year.



13 Unlucky Animals That Are Killed for Fun

Wildlife killing contests are still legal throughout much of the United States

COYOTE VICTIM OF A WILDLIFE KILLING CONTEST | PHOTO COURTESY PROJECTCOYOTE.ORG

BY SAM SCHIPANI | JUN 23 2018

Facebook Twitter Email

Tenet 7:

Scientific management is the proper means for wildlife conservation.

Carnivores are
hated,
feared
and
misunderstood



Elena
2011

USDA data show *all carnivores combined*—including dogs, coyotes, and wolves—are responsible for less than 0.5% of cattle and sheep losses.



CONSERVATION POLICIES 2022

I) Predator Control

- 1) The League recognizes the intrinsic value of predatory species and their important ecological roles.
- 2) There is no justification for widespread destruction of animals classified as predators.



“ 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.’ ”

Jim Zieler

Then-Chair, Arizona Game & Fish Commission

2019

BOTTOM LINE:



Carnivores are ecologically vital.

Tenet 2:

Commerce in dead wildlife is eliminated.

Tenet 1:

Wildlife resources are conserved and held in trust for all citizens.

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



Senate & Assembly Joint Natural Resources Committee February 14, 2013



Wildlife as Public Trust Resource

The 1842 Supreme Court ruling in *Martin v. Waddell* laid the groundwork in U.S. common law for the principle that wildlife resources are owned by no one, to be held in trust by government for the benefit of present and future generations. Coupled with the advocacy of sport hunters and other conservationists concerned with the dramatic declines in wildlife, the Public Trust Doctrine became the legal bedrock for state and federal governments in the U.S. to establish regulatory authority over wildlife.



Social scientists: America's Wildlife Values



Traditionalist (Utilitarian or Domination) – “uses” and “manages” animals



Mutualist – includes animals in one's social community - they deserve rights like humans



Pluralist – embraces both domination and mutualism - by circumstance



Distanced – one who doesn't relate to animals

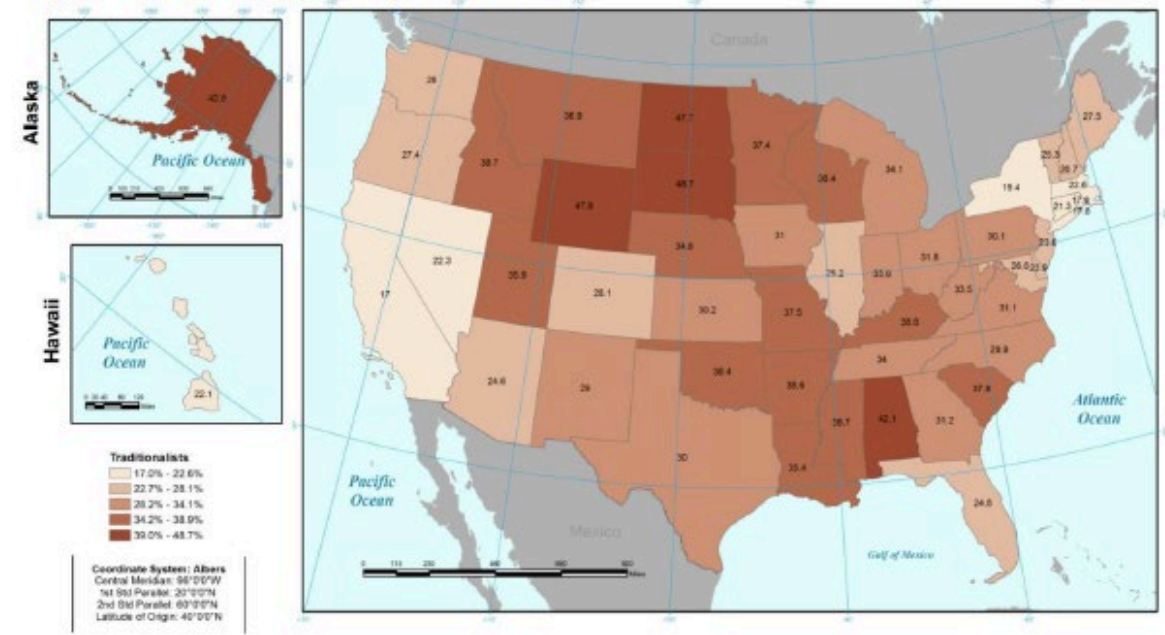
Kellert (1984); Teel et al. (2004); George et al. (2016); Manfredo et al. (2018); Manfredo et al. (2021)

America's Wildlife Values

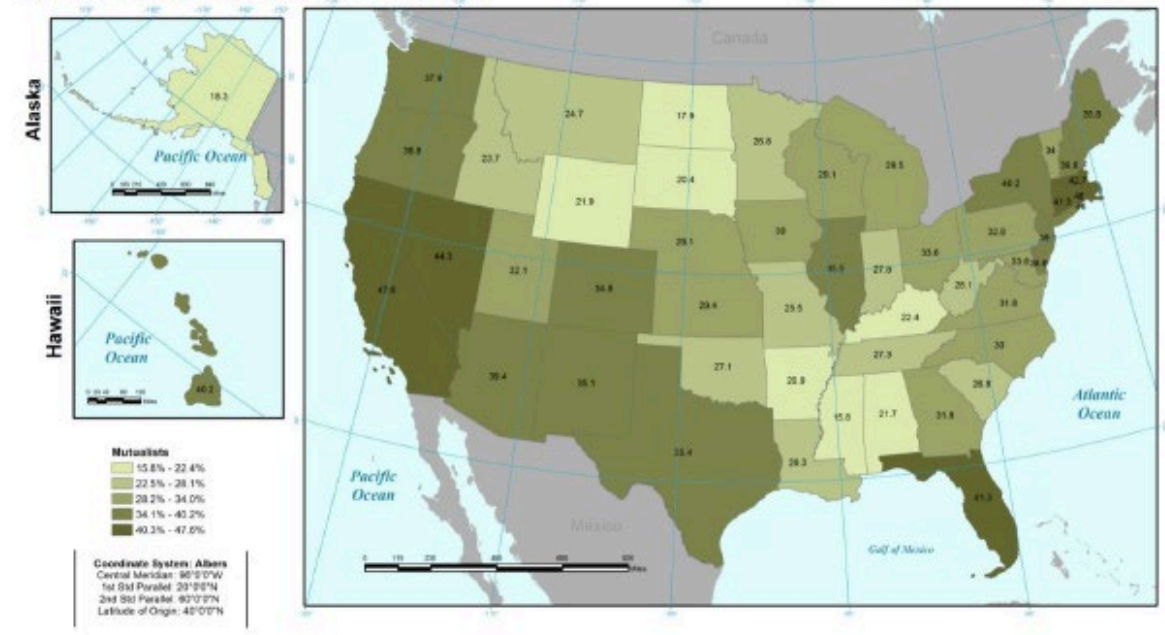
The Social Context of Wildlife Management in the U.S.



Map 1: Percent of Traditionalists by state, 2018



Map 2: Percent of Mutualists by state, 2018



Social scientists: Shift in wildlife values in Nevada



22% Traditionalist



44% Mutualist

Americans' positive attitudes toward coyotes grew by

47%

between 1978 and 2014.



Changes in attitudes toward animals in the United States from 1978 to 2014

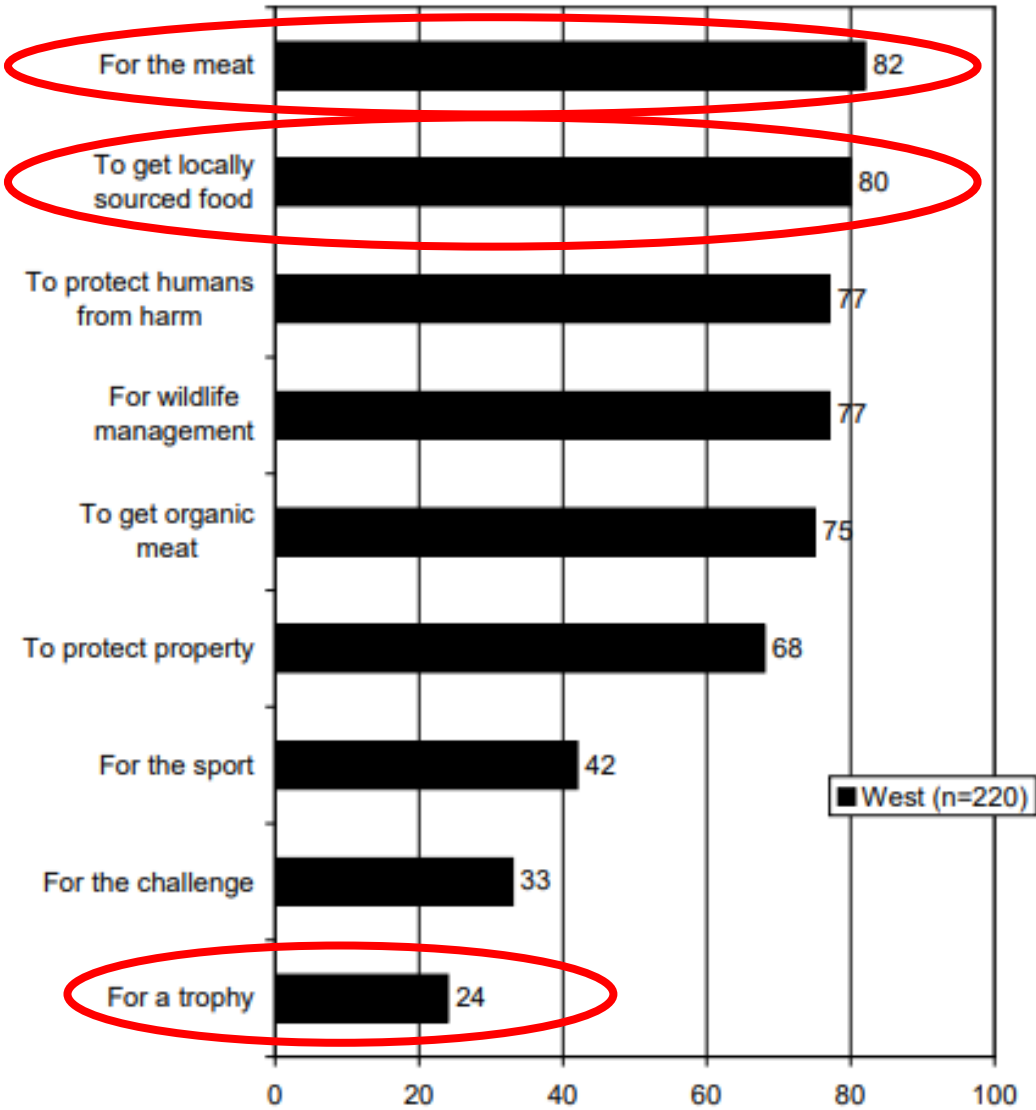


Kelly A. George ^{a,b,*}, Kristina M. Slagle ^a, Robyn S. Wilson ^a, Steven J. Moeller ^b, Jeremy T. Bruskotter ^a

^a The Ohio State University, School of Environment & Natural Resources, 2021 Coffey Road, Columbus, OH 43210, USA

^b The Ohio State University, Department of Animal Sciences, 2029 Fyffe Court, Columbus, OH 43210, USA

**Percent that strongly or moderately approve of hunting for each of the following reasons:
(West Region)**



**AMERICANS' ATTITUDES TOWARD HUNTING,
FISHING, SPORT SHOOTING, AND TRAPPING**



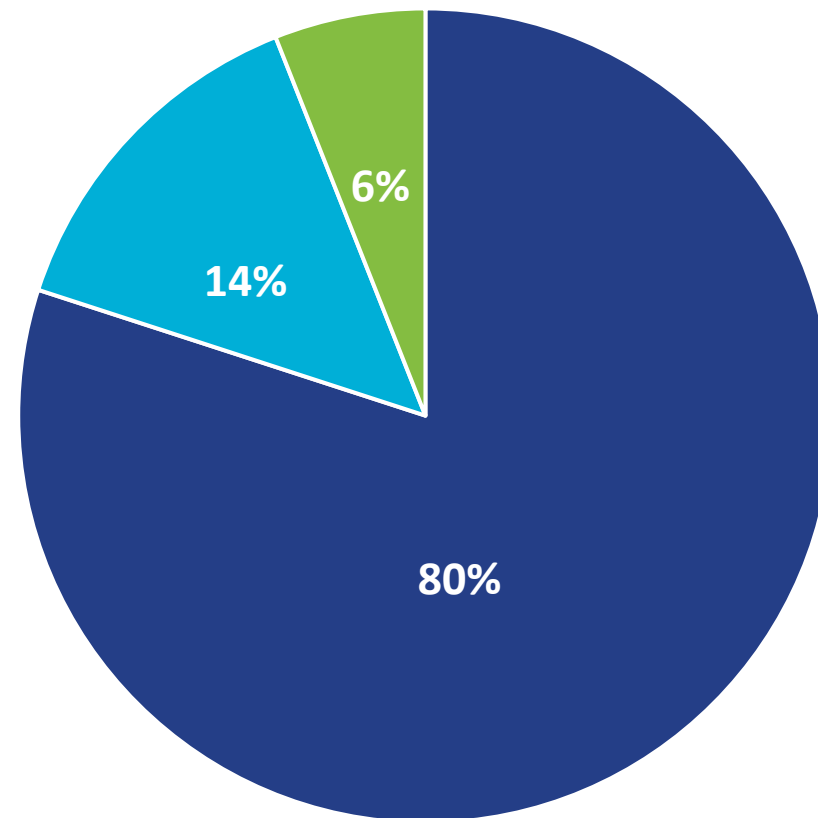
Conducted for the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Under Multistate Conservation Grant Number F19AP00100

Responsive Management and the National Shooting Sports Foundation

2019

National Poll

Do you support or oppose wildlife killing contests?



■ Oppose ■ Support ■ Not sure



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

January 2022

3.3%

of Nevadans were paid hunting license holders in 2023

[About
NBWC](#)

[Public
Notices](#)

[Meetings](#)



[Policies &
Regulations](#)

[Appeals &
Petitions](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners is responsible for establishing policy for the management of Nevada's wildlife ensuring that future generations will be able to enjoy all of the outdoor beauty and abundance this great state has to offer.



Fish and Wildlife Relevancy Roadmap (v1.0)

Enhanced Conservation Through Broader Engagement

“In the midst of all this change, we in the fish and wildlife profession must ask ourselves, “Are we still relevant to the people we serve?” If the answer to that question is “no” or “maybe,” then we may need to seriously evaluate what we are doing, how we are doing it and for whom we are doing it.”

- Ed Carter, Then-President, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (2018-2019)

What do wildlife killing contests say about Nevada and Nevada's hunters?

Killing for cash, prizes and bragging rights

Whoever can kill the most wins the game

Killing without consideration for the animal, the animal's habitat, or the impacts on the ecosystem

Aldo Leopold's American Game Policy (1930)

Use of poison, bounties, national advertising, organized competition, or other methods unlikely to discriminate between species or between varying local conditions should be resorted to only in emergency or under careful safeguards.



TWS ISSUE STATEMENT: WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS

1. Discourages contests that adversely affect the wildlife resource or the public appreciation of wildlife resources.

4. Discourage contests that portray hunting in an unethical fashion.

7. Recognize 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.

“Killing contests are ethically upsetting 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.”

Tony Wasley

Then-Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife
2021

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Kelly Susewind:

“[P]art 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.**”

Colorado Department of Natural Resources Exec. Dir. Dan Gibbs:


“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.**”

Arizona Game and Fish Commission:

“To 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.**”

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission Chair Mike Finley:

“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 chase.**” They are “slaughter fests” and “stomach-turning examples of wanton waste.”



“Those of us who value hunting don’t need [animal protection groups] to give hunting a black eye. . . . We’re doing that all by ourselves, against ourselves, with the proliferation of self-promoting videos on Youtube and selfies of people posing with dead animals on Facebook and other forms of social media. We’ve become our own worst enemy.”

Jim Posewitz

Hunter, conservationist, and author of *Beyond Fair Chase: The Ethic and Tradition of Hunting*

Quote from the article, “A Death of Ethics: Is Hunting Destroying Itself?”
by Todd Wilkinson in *Mountain Journal*, December 12, 2018.

Photo: Roberto Nickson

3.3%

of Nevadans were paid hunting license holders in 2023

Questions?

