Why **KILLING** Doesn’t Work

Shoot or poison coyotes and you will have just as many again within a year or two. Kill one or both members of the alpha pair (A)—the only one that normally reproduces—and other pairs will form and reproduce. At the same time, lone coyotes will move in to mate, young coyotes will start having offspring sooner, and litter sizes will grow.

**KEY**

- **PACK FEMALE**
- **PACK MALE**
- **OUTSIDER MALE**
- **PUP**
- **YEARLING**

**STABLE PACK**
Only the alpha pair reproduces, and its litters are small. Pack members are less likely to eat sheep.

**KILLING**
Cuts numbers by half, but only temporarily.

**PACK DISRUPTED BY LETHAL CONTROL**
Survivors, joined by males from outside, start reproducing. Litter sizes increase. The need to feed many pups can lead adults to prey on sheep.

[The Humane Society of the United States]

[humanesociety.org/coyotes]