Resolutions and proclamations opposing wildlife killing contests

County:
Dane County, Wisconsin
Yavapai County, Arizona
Coconino County, Arizona
Pima County, Arizona

City:
Dewey-Humboldt, Arizona
November 20, 2018
Tucson, Arizona
Flagstaff, Arizona
Albuquerque, New Mexico
St. Paul, Minnesota
2018 RES-502
URGING LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO BAN WILDLIFE ANIMAL KILLING CONTESTS

Moondog Madness and other Wisconsin-based organizations hold contests that are recreational hunts of targeted predators. The contests promote calling, hounding, and shining of predators such as coyotes, bobcats, foxes and other species in order to shoot and kill them indiscriminately.

Predators are an integral part of the ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice and other rodents. The indiscriminate killing of these predators, even when done legally, does not serve any legitimate wildlife management purpose and instead upsets the natural balance of the state’s parks and public lands, and violates the North American Model of Conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine.

Wildlife killing contests appear to encourage the wanton taking of life by its attendees that is contrary to the treatment of all creatures in a humane and respectful manner. Killing contests do not reflect the values of humane treatment of animals.

Currently, Wisconsin statutes allow the use of hounds in these killing contests.

Residents and visitors use the extensive public lands throughout Wisconsin for hiking, dog walking, bird watching, seasonal game hunting, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem. The activities of killing contest attendees pose a threat to their safety and well-being,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors urges the Wisconsin Legislature to develop and support changes to statutes to ban any and all future wildlife animal killing contests.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Dane County legislative delegation, Governor Tony Evers, and Department of Natural Resources Secretary Preston D. Cole, as well as to the Wisconsin Counties Association for inclusion in their legislative agenda.
OPPOSING THE INDICRIMINATE KILLING OF WILDLIFE IN THE FORM OF WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS

WHEREAS, Yavapai County strives to meet the highest standards of humane animal care and husbandry and to promote responsible pet ownership through public education and outreach; and

WHEREAS, Yavapai County recognizes and supports hunting and fishing events for properly licensed hunters and anglers; and

WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests that are conducted for profit, entertainment, prizes, and for the “fun of killing” glorify killing for its own sake, and are unacceptable;

WHEREAS, predators, including coyotes, are an integral part of the ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice and other rodents; and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors use the extensive public lands in Yavapai County for hiking, dog walking, bird watching, seasonal game hunting, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem, and the activities of killing contests may pose a threat to their safety and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes wildlife killing contests conducted in Yavapai County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors have hereunto set our hand and caused the seal of the county of Yavapai, Arizona to be affixed this 19th day of December 2018.

Rowle P. Simmons, Chairman
Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Kim Kapin
Yavapai County, Clerk of the Board
RESOLUTION 2019-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA, OPPOSING QUANTITY-BASED PREDATOR HUNTS AND ENCOURAGING THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH COMMISSION TO ENGAGE IN RULEMAKING TO REGULATE QUANTITY-BASED PREDATOR HUNTS

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing have been a part of the fabric and history of the communities of Coconino County throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, Coconino County values hunting as a method of food gathering, recreation, ecosystem balance, and protection of private property, just as the County values humane animal care and husbandry and responsible pet ownership; and

WHEREAS, predator management is an important tool for agriculture, recreation, hunting, and conservation; and

WHEREAS, wildlife management and conservation in Arizona is and has been guided by the North American Conservation Model comprised of seven basic tenets: 1) Wildlife as Public Trust Resources, 2) Elimination of Markets for Game, 3) Allocation of Wildlife by Law, 4) Wildlife Should Only be Killed for a Legitimate Purpose, 5) Wildlife is Considered an International Resource, 6) Science is the Proper Tool for Discharge of Wildlife Policy, and 7) Democracy of Hunting; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Game & Fish Commission and Department are the lawful managers and regulators of wildlife and conservation efforts in the State of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, the purposes and goals of many quantity-based predator hunting contests are profit and prizes, which are not legitimate purposes compatible with tenet 4 of the North American Conservation Model;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Coconino County Board of Supervisors opposes quantity-based predator hunts which offer prizes of any kind for a quantity of animals harvested;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Coconino County Board of Supervisors strongly encourages the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to engage in rulemaking to prohibit the predator hunts which engage in prizes or compensation for harvesting animals.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Board of Supervisors have hereunto set our hand and caused the seal of the county of Coconino, Arizona to be affixed this 26th day of March 2019.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Coconino County this 26th day of March, 2019.

AVES:
NOS:
ABSENT:

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(SEAL)

____________________________
Art Babbott, Chairman

ATTEST:
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

____________________________
Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board

____________________________
Rose Winkeler
RESOLUTION NO. ___  

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH COMMISSION’S PROPOSED NEW RULE TO BAN WILDLIFE-KILLING CONTESTS

WHEREAS, the Arizona Game and Fish Department is responsible for conserving wildlife for the benefit of Arizona residents, and

WHEREAS, wildlife-killing contests are not “management tools” driven by science and they disrupt Arizona Game and Fish Department efforts to manage wildlife using sound scientific principles, and

WHEREAS, wildlife-killing contests are unethical blood sports as they promote the indiscriminate killing of as many animals as possible, and

WHEREAS, wildlife-killing contests violate the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and serve no reasonable purpose, and

WHEREAS, wildlife-killing contests are not legitimate hunting because contest participants do not eat the animals they kill and because the contests are unsporting—they do not follow the principles of fair chase, often employing electronic call devices or attractants to lure animals into shooting range, and

WHEREAS, wildlife-killing contests are a danger to our public lands and to people and domestic animals that use them for recreation or forage, and

WHEREAS, the zeal of wildlife-killing contestants can jeopardize threatened or endangered species in the areas where contests take place, and

WHEREAS, wildlife-killing contests reflect poorly on the overall hunting community, stirring public outrage that has the potential to threaten hunting as a legitimate wildlife-management function,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the Arizona Game and Fish Commission’s proposal to amend its Rule under ARTICLE 3. TAKING AND HANDLING OF WILDLIFE, R12-4-303, to ban wildlife killing contests in this state and submits this resolution for the record.

Passed by the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, this day of __________, 2019.

Richard Elias, Chairman
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  

Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  

Andrew Flagg, Deputy County Attorney
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, OPPOSING COMPETITIVE PREDATOR HUNTS IN FLAGSTAFF, AZ AND COCONINO COUNTY.

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing have been a part of the fabric and history of the communities within and around the City of Flagstaff throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, an organization that promotes recreational calling of predators such as coyotes, bobcats and Foxes in order to kill them indiscriminately, and

WHEREAS, there has been advertised as “March Madness” competitive “Coyote Calling Contest” in Coconino County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff values hunting as a method of food gathering, recreation, wildlife management, ecosystem balance, and protection of private property, just as the City values humane animal care and husbandry and responsible pet ownership; and

WHEREAS, predators, including coyotes, bobcats and Fox, are an integral part of the ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice, and other rodents; and

WHEREAS, predator management is an important tool for agriculture, recreation, hunting, and conservation; and

WHEREAS, the purposes and goals of many competitive predator hunts are profit, entertainment, prizes, or gambling and not for goals of personal consumption, protection of property, or the ethic of conservation.

WHEREAS, residents and visitors use the extensive public lands in the surrounding public lands of Flagstaff, AZ for hiking, skiing, dog walking, bird watching, seasonal game hunting, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy environment, and the activities of the killing contest attendees pose a threat to their safety and well-being.

ENACTMENTS:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the City Council of the City of Flagstaff hereby opposes any and all future competitive killing hunts conducted in the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 19th day of February 2019.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY
RESOLUTION NO. 18-133

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DEWEY-HUMBOLDT, ARIZONA, OPPOSING COMPETITIVE PREDATOR HUNTS IN DEWEY-HUMBOLDT AND YAVAPAI COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the Town of Dewey-Humboldt was incorporated to recognize and protect its special rural country character and the unique ecosystem of the Agua Fria River region, and

WHEREAS, an organization that promotes recreational calling of predators such as coyotes, bobcats, foxes and coati mundi in order to shoot and kill them indiscriminately, and

WHEREAS, there has been advertised a “Holiday” competitive coyote “calling and kill” in Dewey-Humboldt, and

WHEREAS, predators are an integral part of the Dewey-Humboldt/Agua Fria ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice and other rodents, and

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate killing of predators, even when done legally, does not serve any legitimate wildlife management purpose and instead upsets the natural balance of the area’s ecosystem, and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors use the extensive public lands in Yavapai County for hiking, dog walking, bird watching, seasonal game hunting, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem, and the activities of the killing contest attendees pose a threat to their safety and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Dewey-Humboldt opposes any and all future competitive killing hunts in Dewey-Humboldt and Yavapai County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Dewey-Humboldt, Arizona this 20th day of November, 2018.

______________________________
Terry Nolan, Mayor

ATTEST: APPROVED AS TO FORM:

______________________________
Julie Gibson, Town Clerk

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Susan Goodwin, Town Attorney
RESOLUTION NO. 22365

RELATING TO PREDATOR MASTERS; JOINING PIMA COUNTY IN OPPOSING "PREDATOR MASTERS" HUNTS IN PIMA COUNTY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson is a party to an Intergovernmental Agreement with Pima County for the operation of the Pima Animal Care Center; and

WHEREAS, the Center strives to meet the highest standards of humane animal care and husbandry and to promote responsible pet ownership through public education and outreach; and

WHEREAS, Predator Masters is a Utah-based organization that promotes recreational culling of predators such as coyotes, bobcats, foxes and feral hogs in order to shoot and kill them indiscriminately; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 convention of Predator Masters was held in Pima County and its attendees participated in recreational hunts of target predators; and

WHEREAS, these predators are an integral part of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice and other rodents; and

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate killing of these predators, even when done legally, does not serve any legitimate wildlife management purpose and instead upsets the natural balance of the area's Sonoran Desert ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors use the extensive public lands in Pima County for hiking, dog walking, bird watching, seasonal game hunting, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem, and the activities of Predator Masters attendees pose a threat to their safety and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Pima County Board of Supervisors on February 17, 2015 unanimously adopted Resolution 2015-8 in opposition to any and all future Predator Masters hunts in this County.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City of Tucson Mayor and Council join the Pima County Board of Supervisors in opposition to any and all future Predator Masters hunts in this County.

SECTION 2. The various City officers and employees are authorized and directed to perform all acts necessary or desirable to give effect to this Resolution.

SECTION 3. WHEREAS, it is necessary for the preservation of the peace, health, and safety of the City of Tucson that this Resolution become immediately effective, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, ______March 3, 2015______

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM: REVIEWED BY:

CITY ATTORNEY CITY MANAGER

MHR

3/10/2015
CITY of ALBUQUERQUE
TWENTY-THIRD COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-18-5 ENACTMENT NO. __________________________

SPONSORED BY: Diane G. Gibson and Cynthia D. Borrego

1 RESOLUTION
2 CONDEMNING ANIMAL ABUSE IN THE FORM OF COYOTE KILLING
3 CONTESTS AND URGING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE TO PASS
4 LEGISLATION PROHIBITING CONTESTS ORGANIZED, ARRANGED OR
5 SPONSORED FOR THE PURPOSE OF KILLING COYOTES FOR PRIZES OR
6 ENTERTAINMENT.
7 WHEREAS, the City recognizes and honors hunting and fishing events for
8 properly licensed hunters and anglers; and
9 WHEREAS, the City strives to meet the highest standards of humane
10 animal care and husbandry, and to promote responsible pet ownership; and
11 WHEREAS, the City and surrounding communities strive to treat all
12 creatures humanely and prevent the unnecessary suffering and death of
13 animals to the greatest extent possible; and
14 WHEREAS, the desert environment is home to a diverse range of animals
15 of many different species, each of which occupies its own place in the fragile
16 balance of natural ecosystems; and
17 WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests are conducted for profit, entertainment,
18 prizes and simply for the fun of killing, which are not unlike blood sports like
19 dogfighting or cockfighting and are at odds with Components Nos. 2 and 4 of
20 the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and with the values that
21 rank-and-file sportsmen profess; and
22 WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that coyotes are native to the New
23 Mexico and play an important role in maintaining the balance of natural
24 ecosystems by controlling populations of prey species such as rabbits and
25 mice, which may be carriers of hantavirus, leptospirosis, lymphocytic
26 choriomeningitis (LCMV), Tularemia and Salmonella; and

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WHEREAS, many American Indians regard the coyote as one of several sacred animals, playing a major role in animal symbolism through its mating for life, patience in hunting, and guidance on how to lead a life of balanced happiness; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico law does not recognize coyotes as game species and there are no bag limits or seasons for hunting them; and

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate killing of coyotes, while legal in New Mexico, does not serve any legitimate wildlife management purpose; and

WHEREAS, annual coyote killing contests appear to encourage the wanton taking of life by its attendees that is contrary to the treatment of all creatures in a humane and respectful manner and to living in harmony with our environment; and

WHEREAS, based on the accounts of past hunts, many participants lure coyotes using electronic callers that mimic prey animal sounds, then are encouraged to shoot as many coyotes as they can, without utilizing the pelt, meat, or any other part of the animal, while disposing of carcasses in a manner that has not been proven safe or sportsmanship-like; and

WHEREAS, Section 9-2-4-6 ROA 1994, provides for the improper disposal of animals as being "unlawful to dispose of the body of an animal by dumping the corpse on public or private property, roads or rights-of-way"; and

WHEREAS, public lands are also enjoyed by many people for hiking, horseback riding, dog walking, bird watching, hunting, and other outdoor activities possibly posing a threat to the safety and well-being of the City's residents and their animals; and

WHEREAS, a bill to prohibit coyote killing contests, HB 316 of the 51st Legislature of the State of New Mexico (2013), passed the House Judiciary Committee; and

WHEREAS, two bills to prohibit coyote killing contests, SB 253 of the 52nd Legislature of the State of New Mexico (2015) and SB 268 of the 53rd Legislature of the State of New Mexico (2017), passed the New Mexico Senate with bipartisan sponsorship and support, along with the support of thousands of New Mexicans, Animal Protection of New Mexico, Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club, Southwest Environmental Center (Las Cruces), Wildlife
Conservation Advocacy Southwest (Valencia County), and other national organizations.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:

Section 1. The Albuquerque City Council opposes future events organized, sponsored, arranged or held within the City of Albuquerque or its immediate vicinity as coyote killing contests are not representative of the killing of desert wildlife in a manner that is humane, respectful and safe.

Section 2. The City Council supports the introduction and passage of legislation prohibiting coyote-killing contests throughout the State of New Mexico.
St. Paul, Minnesota

Title
Opposing the indiscriminate killing of wildlife in the form of wildlife killing contests.

Body
WHEREAS, hunting and fishing are valued as methods of food gathering, recreation, and wildlife management in St. Paul, Ramsey County, and the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, contests, including the “1st Annual Coyote Hunt” in Oak Grove, the “West Metro Coyote Tournament” in Watertown, the “Annual Dogs Days of Winter Coyote Hunt” in Sacred Heart, the “Predator Hunt” in Madison, and the “Ortonville VFW Predator Hunt,” have offered prizes for the mass killing of foxes and coyotes for cash and prizes, and allow the calling and harassing of those species in order to shoot and kill them indiscriminately; and

WHEREAS, the purposes and goals of many wildlife killing contests are profit or prizes, and not personal consumption, protection of property, or the ethics of conservation; and

WHEREAS, wild carnivore species, including coyotes and foxes, are an integral part of Minnesota’s ecosystem and play a critical role in maintaining a healthy balance of plants and animals in the ecosystem by preying on species such as rabbits, mice and other rodents; and

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate killing of wild carnivore species, even when done legally, does not serve any legitimate wildlife management purpose and instead upsets the natural balance of Minnesota’s ecosystem, and violates the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine; and

WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests encourage a wanton taking of life that is contrary to Minnesota’s hunting ethic of fair chase and respect for the hunted; and

WHEREAS, young children are at times encouraged to participate in wildlife killing contests, sending the dangerous message that the only objective of hunting is to randomly kill animals for cash, prizes, and bragging rights; and

WHEREAS, wildlife killing contests that encourage the indiscriminate killing of wildlife for cash or prizes are unacceptable because they glorify killing for its own sake and do not reflect Minnesota’s humane values; and

WHEREAS, killing contests that encourage the unlimited and indiscriminate killing of furbearer species for prizes differ from “trophy deer” or “big buck” competitions, because Minnesota deer are hunted only under strict regulations that dictate seasons, methods of take, and bag limits, and are then submitted for judging; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul residents and visitors use its public lands for hiking, dog walking, wildlife watching, seasonal game hunting (e.g., deer bowhunting at Crosby Farm Park and Battle Creek Regional Park), and other outdoor activities compatible with maintenance of a healthy ecosystem, and the activities of wildlife killing contests may pose a threat to their safety and well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that St. Paul hereby opposes wildlife killing contests conducted in Minnesota and supports changes to Minnesota statute or regulations to ban any and all future killing contests that target furbearer and unprotected mammal species.