

**From:** Kate Westcott [mailto:katewestcottvt@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 10:30 AM  
**To:** Porter, Louis; Christy Ketchel; Daniel Noyes; Matthew Hill  
**Subject:** Vermont's coyotes need protection

I'm unable to attend the *Committee on Fish & Wildlife's* meeting today from 4-6, but I'm writing to send a message on behalf of the discussion in favor of ENDING the open season on coyotes, and especially the shameful coyote "Killing Contests" that reward the most lethal thrill-killers with prizes like...a new gun.

I really can't understand the mindset that supports or tolerates such senseless and wanton death-dealing ~ WHY? To encourage Vermonters to slaughter our wildlife in this barbaric way is NOT conservation, it does nothing to lower the coyote population, it denies any value to animals' lives, and it emboldens those among us who just want permission to kill *anything*. *It's simply wrong*.

I'd like to think that those entrusted with the management of wildlife in Vermont would want to provide the animals they oversee with enlightened consideration and advocate for their protection, but it seems they work only to support the desire of the killers to kill.

Please, use the compassion I believe you possess to consider the lives of the coyotes, and all Vermont wildlife, and ensure them protections they so badly need.

Kate Westcott  
Johnson VT

**From:** Alice Roberge [mailto:alice.roberge@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** Christy Ketchel  
**Subject:** Please help

Dear Committee Members,

Please help to stop the senseless and cruel slaughter of coyotes by banning the open season and outlawing coyote - killing contests.

Thank you,  
Sincerely,  
Alice Roberge  
84 Simpson Brook Road  
Waterford, VT 05819

**From:** SandBhreagh Farm [mailto:sandbhreaghfarm@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 12:07 PM  
**To:** Christy Ketchel  
**Subject:** Hearing on Coyotes this afternoon

To the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife,

I am respectfully submitting my public opinion for the January 25th afternoon hearing regarding the unethical hunting contests for coyotes and the unlimited hunting season for coyotes in Vermont. I request that these coyote trophy hunting contests be made illegal in Vermont. They are cruel and serve to destabilize the ecological balance of wildlife populations. They also damage our state's reputation and image.

In addition, I request that the legislature regulate coyote hunting using scientifically-based facts, and abolish the present unlimited coyote hunting season. A hunting season should be determined which supports a balance in all wildlife populations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Donna Goldberg  
105 Taylor Valley Rd.  
Vershire, VT 05079  
802-685-4819

**From:** Rosalind Finn [mailto:rosalind.e.finn@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:44 PM  
**To:** Christy Ketchel  
**Subject:** Reforms to coyote hunting

I was present for some of the meeting this morning in Room 47. I would like to tell you about my 20 years as a sheep farmer in South Strafford, Vermont. In all those 20 years we never lost a sheep.

We had a guard dog and a guard llama with the flock at all times. But, more importantly, we took care of our animals. At lambing time all the ewes were kept in small pens near the house, with high electric and wooden fencing around the pens. They would then be put out into a field right next to the house until the lambs were weaned.

All our fields had excellent fencing and we constantly patrolled all the boundaries to check that it was in good condition. At night, all the year round, all the flock would be brought up to the barn and its outside enclosure and not released until morning.

Many nights we would hear the coyotes howling as the pack raced through the woods beyond our farm but - and I repeat - we never lost an animal. Coyotes are extremely clever and will take advantage of any chance to get a good meal. The way to defeat them is NOT to kill them - especially in wanton killing contests - but to be good, caring, active and hardworking husbanders.

Please vote to end the open killing season and wildlife killing contests. Coyotes are a necessary part of our environment and need our protection, as does all wildlife.

Many thanks for reading this.

Rosalind Finn, South Strafford, Vermont.

From: RoseAnn Johnson [mailto:rojohnmidd@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 9:57 PM  
To: Christy Ketchel  
Subject: Stop the coyote killing

Please

Roseann & Larry Johnson  
Rochester, VT

**From:** Jane Fitzwilliam [mailto:jbfitzwilliam@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 7:37 AM  
**To:** Christy Ketchel; David Deen; Porter, Louis  
**Subject:** In consideration of coyotes

Please support:

1. A limited season for coyote hunting
2. Banning coyote killing contests

I am concerned that Fish & Wildlife has so far refused to initiate any changes in policy.

Thank you, Jane Fitzwilliam  
Westminster West Vermont  
05346

**From:** [Kathy Kingston](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 7:52 AM  
**To:** [ddeen@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ddeen@leg.state.vt.us)  
**Subject:** Statement for Committee for Nat Res, Fish and Wildlife

To the Chair of the Committee for Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife,  
David Deer

This statement is addressed to the Committee for Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife.

My name is Katherine Kingston, I live in Westminster, Vermont.  
I am speaking for myself and several neighbors who would like to see an end to open season on coyotes and killing contests.

I oppose the open season on coyotes for many of the reasons voiced today at the hearing which I attended. Vermont wants to encourage a healthy ecosystem, the open season does nothing to improve the health of wildlife populations or forests. While I support hunting of deer, turkeys and other prey animals I do not want people hunting or trapping predators on my land. The open season, and killing contests, have made me, and some neighbors, consider posting our land. This does not help people who are hunting in order to feed themselves or the deer overpopulation problem.

Vermont needs to come into the 21st century and stop killing contests in the state. I am shocked that a state that is progressive in so many ways would allow such blatant disregard for the lives and wellbeing of animals.

Thank you for reading and recording my statement. Thank you for your time.