



# END WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS



## KILLING CONTESTS: THE HIDDEN WAR ON WILDLIFE

While blood sports like dogfighting and cockfighting have been outlawed nationwide, thousands of native carnivores and other species perish every year in killing contests across the country. In these barbaric events, contestants win prizes for killing the most or the largest of the targeted species.

- **Baseless Myths:** Killing contests are justified by an outdated prejudice against native carnivores rooted in fear and misunderstanding.

- **Counterproductive to Sound Wildlife Management:** Mass killing of native carnivores disregards the critical role that these species play in healthy ecosystems and creates chaos in the family structures of the targeted species, which may result in increased conflicts with livestock, pets and people.
- **A Violation of the Public Trust Doctrine:** This doctrine maintains that wildlife is a shared public asset that must be conserved for future generations.

- **Cruel and Unsporting:** Countless animals are injured or orphaned during these events, and the use of lures and distress calls to attract target animals removes any notion of fair chase. Pets and endangered wildlife may also be harmed.
- **A Chilling Message:** Contest organizers are increasingly encouraging youth participation, which teaches children that killing is fun, life is cheap, and wild animals are disposable.

**Visit [ProjectCoyote.org](http://ProjectCoyote.org) to learn more.**

# KILLING GAMES

WILDLIFE IN THE CROSSHAIRS



## END WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS

Project Coyote is co-founder of the growing National Coalition to End Wildlife Killing Contests that is comprised of more than 50 national and state organizations. Our mission is to permanently abolish contests that promote the mass killing of coyotes, wolves, bobcats, foxes and other species for sport and prizes. Wildlife killing contests are still widespread across the U.S. — the majority of states still allow these gruesome events.

***We need your help to put an end to wildlife killing contests everywhere!***

Here is what you can do:

- Host a screening of Project Coyote's documentary film *KILLING GAMES ~ Wildlife In The Crosshairs*, and invite stakeholders to attend.
- Ask your state & local legislators and/or your state's wildlife management agency to ban killing contests.
- Write letters to the editor of your newspaper that raise awareness about killing contests and encourage readers to express their opposition to their lawmakers.
- Shut down individual contests in your state by firmly, but politely, urging the event hosts and sponsors to stop supporting killing for fun and prizes.
- Spread the word about killing contests on social media while encouraging your network to take action.
- Donate to Project Coyote to help us put an end to killing contests.

