



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- **Baseless Myths:** Killing contests are justified by an outdated prejudice against native carnivores rooted in fear and misunderstanding.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/EndKillingContests/](https://ProjectCoyote.org/EndKillingContests/) to learn more.**